SIXT SOLDIER





Winter, 1990

President — Robert Sigholtz Vice-President — Edward Proffitt Secretary — COL Kenneth Smith Treasurer — Michael Schwartz

Vol. 5, No. 1

offitt Treasurer — Michael Schwart
Editor — Gene Weeks

"THIS IS WHERE WE GET OFF"

No. 74 OPERATION WASHINGTON



Name of Operation

1. OPCRD 5-65
2. OPCRD 5-65
3. OPCRD 5-65
3. OPCRD 5-65
6. OPCRD 8-65
8. FRAG ORDER 1-65
9. FRAG ORDER 1-65
9. FRAG ORDER 2-65
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1. FRAG ORDER 1-65
0. OPCRD 19-65
1. FRAG ORDER 1-65
0. OPCRD 18-65
0. OPCRD 26-65 (BRUM HOPE)
0. OPCRD 26-65 (BRUM HOP

5. Operation "DARBY TRAIL"
7. Operation "DARBY MARCH"
8. Operation "STING RAY"
9. Operation "DARBY PUNCH III"
0. Operation "WASHINGTON GREEN"
1. Operation "GREENE LIGHNING"
2. Operation "GREENE STORM"
Operation "GREENE STORM"
Operation "GREENE STORM"

For the
50th Anniversary
of the Airborne
and the
25th Anniversary

of our deployment to Vietnam July - 1990

Hook-up and Watch for the Green Light!

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Sky Soldier . . .



Perhaps your memory is of early days in-country. Or of Operation Junction City. Or of Dak-To and its aftermath. Or of Washington Green. Or any of dozens of other Herd actions in Vietnam.

Perhaps you find yourself looking skyward at the sound of chopper blades slicing the air, remembering other choppers. Or walking along in a cloudburst remembering other rains. Or saying goodbye to someone you've grown close to, while recalling other goodbyes among friends grown close in combat.

Maybe you've begun to sense that Vietnam has a place in America's history, a place that is not all good or bad. Maybe your tour of duty was easy. Maybe it was rough. But if you're like most of us, it was an important part of your life, one which has shaped you since.

We want you to come and share with us. The 1990 Reunion marks the 25th Anniversary of the 173d's deployment to Vietnam. Our place in history is even more important as the U.S. Airborne Forces mark their 50th Anniversary. From World War II through Vietnam and up to Panama, the Airborne Forces have been a key to our military capabilities. You deserve to claim your place in both celebrations. If these were separate, you'd probably want to be part of both. They are conveniently (if coincidentally) at the same place and time. So hook up!

Whether you served as an EM, an NCO, or an officer, you'll find fellow Sky Soldiers who can relate to your experience, share memories, and join in building a future in which we continue to stand proudly for all that is best in the Airborne tradition.

Our program is full of action but packed with time to share with comrades. The Nation's Capital is at your doorstep in the convenient Mayflower Hotel; the Fourth of July and the Airborne Retreat at RFK Stadium bracket a week of renewing old friendships and building new memories.

Please return the enclosed registration form. We want you there; we need you there. If you're Herd, you belong with us.

Sincerely.

Col. Robert Sigholtz International President Robert Finan 1990 Reunion Committee

Registrations Top 200 1990 Brigade Reunion

1990 offers a once-in-a-lifetime Airborne opportunity — the 25th anniversary of the Herd's landing in Vietnam and the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Airborne will be marked together in our Nation's Capital at our Nation's birthday next year.

This exciting reunion includes:

- historic Airborne Parade on Constitution Avenue, Saturday, July 7;
- 50th Airborne Anniversary Celebration and Memorial Service at RFK Stadium on Sunday, July 8;
- 173d Banquet on Friday, July 6 at the historic Mayflower Hotel, with Hollywood entertainers Phyllis Diller and Norm Crosby;
- a spouse program including tours, luncheons, and a reception at the Australian Embassy;
- and most important, a major turnout of Herd members.

As you can see from the list below, many Herd members have already made plans to attend. Join in, the sooner the better. Many major events are limited attendance, and first come, first served is the rule. Many registrants are making

this a family event. Hotel rooms at bargain rates should be reserved right away. Sign up now if you want the convenience of a prime downtown hotel!

Here's a partial list of those who've registered to date.

(* indicates Herd member is bringing one or more guests).

John Barnes* Robert Beemer Daniel Bennett' Arlen Bertrand Lewis Blenard August Bono Dennis Bowen* Samuel Boyd* Bruce Burgess*
Dominick Cacciatore Edwin Carns Galen Christ Walter Cole* Michael Cosmo Gary Cox* Hugh Cunningham* David Curtin* Wayne D'Agostino Kenneth Danieli John Deane* Duarte Gerald Early Frank Elliott*

Harry Everitt* George Farris Robert Florez Charles E. Fox Lanny E. French Richard Gamache Kenneth Gaudet Thomas Girouard Victor Halme Eric Hitchcock Leo Hill Edward J. Hogan* David Hoh* Allen Holder James Hopkins Mike Ignasiak* John Jeakle Frank Jenkins* Thomas K. Kaulukukui John Keliher Jack T. Kelley Thomas Kelly William J. Kelso, Jr.

Debra W. Kincheloe Roger Krauel* George Krause* Stanley Kuzminski* Jim Lakatos* Patrick Linehan* Joseph Logan* Kevin Lombardo Lance Lombardo* Roy Lombardo Tom Marrinan* Bruce Matthews* Donald McAfee* Larry McCorkle* Edward M. McGlynn* Arthur Marguess Kay Masi* Howard Melvin Frank Miceli* Sam Mingle Terry Modglin* Michael Montie* Emery L. Morriss Patrick Morrissev Frank Muller Michael Nelson John Nicholson John Norr Lawrence Okendo Lowell Olds* Kenneth Onufrock Alfred Ortiz* Joseph Parra Kenneth Pasquale*

Jack Peckett Ronald Puls Sam Raher Alfred Rascon James Ratz* Ron Ray Troy Roper Michael Rossetti' Walt Russo* Jack Schimpf Michael Schwartz* Tom Sharkeu' Leroy Simpson Patrick Sirmeyer John Slovenz Kenneth Smith® Robert Sodergren Lee Surut John Tyler* Robert Vance* Frank Vavrin* Bill Vose Richard Waldroup William Walker' Gene Weeks Roy Wheelock* Ellis Williamson* James Wing Charles Wright



1990 — 173d AIRBORNE CONVENTION 5 July — 8 July



50th Anniversary of The Airborne

25th Anniversary of our Deployment to VN

1990 Reunion Facts

Location and Room Reservations:

The Mayflower Hotel, 1127 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. (202) 347-3000.

Rates: \$75.00 (limited number available) to \$150. per night

Make room reservations directly with the hotel. Rooms are available on a first come, first served basis. To guarantee reservations in case of late arrival, please provide your credit card number.

Registration:

Space is limited at most functions; register early to be sure of tickets.

Rates: Adult or young adult (15 and up) — \$95.00 each / Child under 15 — \$65.00 each

Adult/young adult fee includes formal banquet, Sunday brunch, RFK stadium gathering, hat, shirt, commemorative programs. Child fee includes all except banquet. Registration is confirmed only after payment in full is received. Postmark determines date of receipt.

Spouse Program:

Thursday welcome reception and fashion show is free and open to all who request a ticket. Separate tickets are available at \$20.00 each for the luncheon on Friday. All other events are available via complete package only (\$30.00).

Thursday — Welcome reception and fashion show

 VIP tours of FBI Headquarters and State Department Luncheon/Guest Speaker (TBA) Friday

Reception/Tour at Embassy of Australia

Optional Tours:

Two optional tours on Friday, July 6, will be suggested; escorts will be provided. Participants pay their own transportation and other expenses.

Morning (9:00 a.m. - Noon) - National Zoo

Afternoon (3:00 - 5:30 p.m.) — Tourmobile around various monuments and national buildings

Fiftieth Anniversary of the American Airborne Parade

(Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.): The Brigade has been limited to 350 men in its marching unit. The first 350 active members (dues current) who pay the registration fee and mark "yes" to parade participation on registration form will comprise that unit. Special identification will be given to allow access to parade staging area. A special parade uniform will be worn; details will be provided to those who march. Active duty personnel may wear prescribed uniform (NO fatigues). Names of those in marching unit will be printed in the Spring 1990 National Newsletter.

THURSDAY, JULY 5, 1990 Registration Hospitality Suite	Senate Rm Colonial Rm	9:00 a.m 9:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m 1:00 a.m.
Vendor Sales	Colonial Rm	Noon-1:00 a.m.
Spouse Fashion Show	TBA	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
FRIDAY, JULY 6, 1990		
Registration	Senate Rm	8:00 a.m 7:00 p.m.
Vendor Sales	Colonial Rm	8:00 a.m6:00 p.m.
Executive Board Meeting	TBA	8:00 a.m 10:00 a.m.
Spouse Program	Various sites	8:30 a.m 5:00 p.m.
Optional Zoo Tour	Zoo	9:00 a.mNoon
Membership Meeting	TBA	12:30 p.m2:30 p.m.
Spouse Luncheon	TBA	1:00 p.m 2:30 p.m.
Hospitality Suite	Colonial Rm	3:00 p.m5:00 p.m.
Optional Monuments Tour	TBA	3:00 p.m 5:30 p.m.
Cocktail Reception	East/State Rms	6:00 p.m
Formal Banquet	Ballroom	7:00 p.m1:00 a.m.
SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1990		
Registration	Senate Rm	8:00 a.m 7:00 p.m.
50th Anniversary of the	Constitution	Extremely a resolution of the control of the contro
Airborne Parade	Avenue	10:00 a.m 2:00 p.m.
Vendor Sales	Colonial Rm	3:00 p.m 1:00 a.m.
Hospitality Suite	Colonial Rm	3:00 p.m1:00 a.m.
Buffet Dinner	Ft. Myer	
	NCO Club	7:00 p.m 10:00 p.m.
SUNDAY, JULY 8, 1990		
Registration	Senate Rm	8:00 a.m 10:00 a.m.
Buffet Breakfast/Raffle	Ballroom	8:00 a.m 10:00 a.m.
50th Anniversary Observation		
and Memorial Service	RFK Stadium	11:00 a.m 3:00 p.m.

Vendor Sales: Anyone interested in offering items for public sale must contact coordinator Mark Ludlow for instructions, at 703-684-0520 or 800-368-2558

Hospitality Suite: The Hospitality Suite will be operated as a cash bar. The hotel does not allow open hospitality suites to operate out of individual guest rooms (strictly enforced).

Membership Meeting: Attendance is limited to active (paid-up dues) members. Dues can be paid in advance or during registration. Election of International Officers takes place.

Formal Banquet: Tickets included in adult/young adult registration fee. Black tie is optional; dress blues or suit and tie required. Ladies' dress is formal or cocktail. Maximum capacity is 750; event will be closed down when capacity is reached, SO REGISTER EARLY! Guest speaker General Jack Deane; entertainment by Hollywood stars; band for dancing!

Contacts:

Registration and dues	Col. Ken Smith	202-695-4798
Hotel rooms/suites	Mayflower Hotel	202-347-3000
Publicity	Terry Modglin	202-466-6272
Vendor Sales	Mark Ludlow	703-684-0520
Convention chairman	Bob Finan	202-535-5641
Deputy chairman	Gene Weeks	301-933-0724







SIGHOLTZ CAPITOL CHAPTER SOCIETY OF THE 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE SILVER ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM 5 JULY 1990 - 8 JULY 1990

Please read information flyer BEFORE filling out form. Please print/type all information.

Last Name	First Name	M.I.		
Street Address	City	State	Zip	
Home telephone	Membership Status			
	National Chapter #			
Registration Fee for <u>All Adu</u> 15 (not attending the banque	<u>lts</u> (15 +) is <u>\$95.00.</u> Regis st) is \$60.00. REGISTRATION	tration for so	meone younger than MPANY APPLICATION!	
I WISH TO REGISTER THE FOLLO	WING AND HAVE ENCLOSED APPRO	PRIATE FEE (CH	ECK/MONEY ORDER)	
Sponsor's Name	T-Shirt Size	Amount Enclos	ed:	
	S M L XL			
Guest's Name	T-Shirt Size	Amount Enclos	ed:	
	S_M_L_XL_			
Guest's Name	T-Shirt Size	Amount Enclos	ed:	
	SM_L_XL			
Guest's Name	T-Shirt Size	Amount Enclos	ed:	
	S_M_L_XL			
Parade: Only the first 350 determines eligibil	registered can participate in ity. If you are among the f	n the parade (irst 350 regis	postmark date tered, will you:	
	If you qualify to march in			
YES NO	MediumLarge	Extra Large		
Saturday Night Buffet Dinner	- Ft Myer: Limited to firs I wish to attend the buff			
Number attending Buffet Dinner @ \$20.00 each: Amount enclosed \$				
Spouse/Female Program: Lunch Only: \$20.00. Lunch and Tour: \$30.00.				
Number attending lunch on	ly @ \$20.00 each: A	Amount enclose	d: \$	
Number attending lunch &	tour @ \$30.00 each: A	Amount enclose	d: \$	
SPONSOR'S UNIT AFFILIATION				
Company/Battalion	From (Mo/Year)	To (Mo/Year)		

REGISTRATION FEE AND ALL EVENT FEES MUST ACCOMPANY APPLICATION. Make checks payable to Sigholtz Capitol Chapter and mail to: 1990 Convention Committee Sigholtz Capitol Chapter PO Box 27478

Washington, D.C. 20038-0478

From the President

Happy New Year to the Salt of the - all you ex-troopers of the 173rd. Let's start the year by rededicating ourselves to being gung ho in an effort to make the Society of the 173rd Airborne Brigade better than ever.

One of the biggest problems we face is troopers who are delinquent in payment of their dues. The Society has 2,983 members on our mailing list at the end of 1989. Of that number 1,109 had paid dues (of which 244 are life members).

For those who did not attend the 1989 convention, the members voted that anyone whose dues were three years in arrears should be dropped from the rolls of the Society. I am greatly concerned about dropping any members. I believe that once we remove someone from the rolls, we will have permanently lost them.

As we are all aware, leaders in combat do everything within their power to attempt to keep casualties to a minimum. I hurt to think that any of these no-pays will become casualties. We must develop an ops plan to reduce these casualties. I suggest that the president of each of our chapters charge individual members to personally contact these "lost souls" by telephone or by writing to bring them back into the perimeter. The names and addresses of all our members can be found in the newly published Society Roster. If someone in a chapter area is not a chapter member, one of our conscientious members might try to contact him. I implore and challenge each and every member to try to bring at least one delinquent member back into good stand-

If any of these Sky Soldiers cannot afford the dues, there are provisions to permit the dues to be waived. In fact, I bet that within each chapter there are sufficient troopers who will chip in to cover such dues.

On another subject, reunion chairman Bob Finan and his committee are doing a typically outstanding airborne job in planning our 1990 convention in Washington. I am most favorably impressed by the schedule they are arranging. Keep up the good work. I am looking forward to seeing many (I wish it were all) of you great Sky Soldiers at the fiftieth anniversary of the Airborne.

God Bless — All The way — We Try Harder!!!

Robert Sigholtz

(Editors Note: Thanks Manny Rojas for the cover

The Editor's "Hooch"

We are inviting each of you former 173d Troopers to join us in July 1990 for the celebration of Fifty Years of the Airborne Concept. Paratroopers were and are a major part of the totality of the Concept of Airborne.

As far back as 1922 the Army experimented with the idea, but we marked the official beginning with the formation of the Test Platoon at Ft. Benning in 1940.

The fifty year old Airborne family includes the following elements: Parachute; Glider; Air Assault; Air Mobile; Air Landing; Troop Carrier; Special Forces; Seal; Ranger; Special Operations; Paramarine; and, the Test Platoon.

Join us for a once in "Fifty Years" celebration!

> Airborne! Gene Weeks



Operation **Just Cause**

Operation JUST CAUSE, America's involvement in Panama to protect American lives and property, restore democracy, protect the Panama Canal, and apprehend Noriega, was an absolute success in every respect. I will not review the details of the operation, because of the detailed news coverage of the operation. But I would like to offer a few insights of interest to the Society.

The opening phase of the operation included introduction of combat soldiers (an Abn Bde, Rangers, and Special Forces) by parachute. The operation was complicated by the fact that paratroopers came from different posts, flew hundreds of miles to the DZ's, loaded out in ice, and did it all on short notice. Despite what the pundits have said in past years, the effectiveness and efficiency of Airborne forces has been proven once again! Another proud chapter in the History of the Airborne has been written.

Our troops - mechanized, light infantry, airborne infantry, engineers, military police - all performed with effectiveness and efficiency. The vastly complicated operation was executed with extreme effectiveness. The extremely limited number of casualties reflects the tough, realistic training we have today. America can be proud of her soldiers, and we can be proud of our Airborne. ALL THE WAY!

Ken Smith

From the Secretary:

January 1990 - the start of a New Year and a new decade. Time to make and keep resolutions. One should be, I humbly submit, to support the Society and further its ends.

We have come a long way since the first, and very unofficial gathering at Ft. Benning and Ft. Bragg. Our gathering then was to celebrate our survival and to recognize the sacrifices of those whom we had lost

Our scholarship fund, Chicago Chapter's youth camp, the work on a museum display, our contributions to the Airborne Walk, and our plans for a new memorial reflect a measure of progress not envisioned in '69. But there is more to do. We are actively working (and have a high probability of success) to get our Australian counterparts the recognition that they deserve for their commitment and sacrifice. (They were excluded from the Meritorious Unit Commendation which the Brigade received.) We hope to announce very soon that this oversight has been corrected and that our Australian and New Zealand comrades-in-arms are officially entitled to this award.

In this new year and new decade, resolve to increase your participation in the Society - at Chapter or national level. There are always jobs in a volunteer organization which need to be done. If you can't afford your time, our most precious commodity, at least pay your dues on time so that those who are willing to work have the resources to get the job done.

Many in recent months who owed for 5 years, have now paid up. If you are in arrears, pay at least for the current year. To all active & retired, from E-4 to 0-10, my personal view is this: IF YOU WEAR NOW, OR WORE WHILE YOU WERE ON ACTIVE DUTY, THE BRIGADE PATCH, YOU SHOULD SUPPORT THE SOCIETY. Give it some thought. The Parachute functions some thought. The range subset if all risers support equally.

Ken Smith

Brigade Roster

A roster of Society members, current through 1 January 1990, is now available. Please send a check payable to the 173d for \$5.00 to cover printing, handling and first class mailing to the National Secretary. Any surplus funds will be placed in the Scholarship Fund.

3/319th Jumps In Panama

The following update was supplied by the current Co of the 3/319th FAR, 82d ABN DIV — LTC Larry Gottardi. We thank LTC Gottardi for taking the time to inform us of the operation.

Another chapter of 173rd Airborne Brigade history was written during the recent invasion of Panama and the over-

throw of the Noriega regime. When the 82nd Airborne Division conducted its combat parachute assault on the Tocumen-Torrijos Airport at 0211 hours on 20 Dec, among the units leaping in the night sky was the Battalion Assault CP and Battery A, 3-319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment..

Dear Troopers

Veterans of the 173rd Airborne Brigade from its activation on Okinawa in 1963 until its redeployment from Vietnam in 1971 will remember that the 3rd Bn 319th AFAR was the direct support artillery battalion for the Brigade and provided field artillery support for all of the Brigade's 14 Vietnam campaigns.

Returned to jump status in October 1985, the 3-319th AFAR was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division when the 319th AFAR was activated at Fort Bragg that same month.

Habitually providing fire support coordination and field artillery support to the 82nd Airborne Division's 1st Brigade (504th Parachute Infantry Regiment) the battalion has accompanied the 1st Brigade on all its deployments to include the "show-of-force" deployment to Honduras in March of 1988.

It was no "show-of-force" this time though as the battalion jumped with the Division's Task Force Pacific onto Tocumen-Torrijos some 45 minutes after the

1st Ranger Battalion.

Assembling on the drop zone with the three infantry battalions comprising the task force (1-504 Inf, 2-504 Inf and 4-325 Inf) the battalion's combat operations began when its Fire Support Teams (the expanded teams that replaced the old F.O. Parties to provide more effective fire support) began to move with

their infantry.

The FIST teams from B/3-319th led the way when 2-504 Inf conducted a combat air assault into the Panama Defense Force (PDF) installation at Panama Viejo. The 2-504 Inf quickly overwhelmed resistance offered by the PDF Cavalry Squadron and elite U.E.S.A.T. (counterterrorist unit), and secured the old fortress ruins. Launching operations from



Paratroopers returning home to Ft. Bragg, N.C. in the proper manner.

there, the unit rescued a number of hostages being held at the nearby Marriott Hotel and began aggressive patrolling and counter-sniper activities to restore

The next air assault saw 1-504 Inf with FIST teams from A/3-319th attacking the PDF barracks at Cerro Tinijotas. Taking heavy small arms fire from an Inf Co (PDF) during the air assault, the A-FIST had a Lieutenant wounded and medevac'd as the 1-504 Inf maneuvered against, suppressed and quickly defeated

In preparation for the final air assault, that of 4-325 Inf (with FIST teams from 2-319th AFAR) A/3-319th had recovered and derigged their howitzers and prime movers and joined an armed convoy with the mission of establishing blocking positions to isolate the final objective, Fort Cimmaron, home base of the airborne/mechanized Battalion 2000.

Enroute the armed convoy was attacked by armed civilians and engaged in a brief but violent fire fight in which three Panamanians were killed and the A battery FDO wounded and medevac'd.

Battery A covered the air assault and ground attack from a firing position short of the fort, and then linked up and joined 4-325 Inf at Fort Cimmaron after it was secured.

For the next several days 1-504 and 2-504 patrolled their areas of operations aggressively eliminating snipers, combatting drive-by shootings by PDF hold-outs and recovering literally thousands of weapons from arms caches and PDF arsenals.

When 4-325 relieved elements of the Rangers at Paitilla Airfield, A/3-319th returned to Tocumen-Torrijos and was attached to 1st Ranger Battalion and assumed responsibility for defense of the Torrijos portion of the airfield.

Subsequently A/3-319th supported 1st Ranger operations in the Cerro Azul area, where there were numerous sighting of PDF units and returned to Fort Cimmaron to support further Ranger operations to the east of the airfield.

The assault CP redeployed to CONUS on 30 Dec, followed by Battery A on 5 Jan and the FIST teams with their supported infantry battalions in a mass TAC on Sicily Drop Zone on 12 January.

Operation "Just Cause" marked a number of firsts and historical coincidences:

- first participation of a former 173rd Airborne Brigade unit in combat since the end of the Vietnam War.

- first deployment of the 3-319th AFAR in combat since Vietnam.

and in a remarkable historical coincidence, the Assault CP and A/ 3-319th conducted a combat parachute assault, just as they had done 22 years earlier with the 173rd Airborne Brigade during Operation Junction City.

In retrospect, the troopers of the 3-319th AFAR are proud to uphold the traditions and continue the history of the 173rd Airborne Brigade, now living in the 503rd Infantry in Korea and the 3-319th AFAR at Fort Bragg.

Editors Note: We are grateful to LTC Larry Gottardi for his after action report.

For the following info I wish to thank my buddy Russ Ward (known as short round in the 319th).

MSG CRAVIS TAYBRON Chapter 5 Vice-President, now with HQ 3d Bde, 82d Abn Div served as Safety on the lead aircraft of the 82d Abn jumpers into Panama. Also making the combat jump into Panama were other former Soldiers" CSM O.R. "Hobo" Hoggard, CSM of the 1/504 PIR; CSM Bill McBride, CSM of the 82d Abn Div. Also making the combat blast was 1SG Greg Duhon, who as a young Sgt E5, was the first recipient of the Sigholtz Leadership Award

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE TROOPERS OF THE 82D AIRBORNE DIVISION FOR A JOB WELL DONE -AIRBORNE!



SEC ARMY APPROVES MUC FOR AUSSIES AND KIWIS



On 21 December 1989, US Armu Chief of Staff General Carl Vuomo recommended and Secretary of the Army Michael P.W. Stone approved the awarding of the United States Meritorious Unit Commendation to the First Battalion Royal Australian Regiment Group. The Australian Embassy has indicated their government would probably accept the award. Australian Ambassador Michael Cook told me he knows of no reason for them not to accept it. Coordination for presentation of the award by the Secretary of the Army or the Chief of Staff at an appropriate occasion is being handled by HQ DA.

General Westmoreland went to bat for us on this in September 1989 by contacting General Vuomo. At the staff level, convincing persuasion turned around the residual negative bias lingering after several former attempts failed to obtain approval of this award. The clincher was that this is an opportunity to give tangible recognition to faithful and loyal allies that is overdue because previous attempts had been thwarted by bureaucrats. Besides, if disapproved again, the 173d veterans were determined to continue resurfacing the issue and raising the ante each time for as long as it takes to receive approval.

The 173d Society will thank General Vuomo, General Westmoreland, Secretary Stone, and in particular, LTC Terry Adkins, the action officer who guided the action.

We anticipate appropriate 173d Society representation at the award presentation.

Jack Nicholson
 Society President
 Emeritus

Editor's Note: We would like to also thank "our own" folks who worked on this project for many years: Gen "Butch" Williamson (Ret)

Gen "Butch" Williamson (R BG John Nicholson (Ret) BG Timmons

"Up Over" From "Down Under"

Australia's Herd Chapter Comes To California

We came bearing gifts, not knowing what to expect or how we would be received, knowing we would be "Legs" among the finest Airborne Soldiers of the U.S. Army. We were confident that we are the only "Legs" in the world who could claim kinship to such an elite unit but there was the space of 24 years and the void that such a long time can produce.

Then, we arrived. What did we find? We found what was there all the time. We found our Brothers, the family of "The Herd". We also found that we can't drink as much now as we could when we were younger, but we had a great time in learning this fact.

Australian Flag, complete with a Slouch Hat resting on it as a mark of respect.

You see, I was one of the Australians in Delta Company, 1 RAR who saw those 49 young men on LZ Princess. I assisted in placing them in those terrible body bags. The young men I wanted so much to honor, were killed in action on 8 November 65 during the epic battle of 1/503 at The Hump.

After Washington, on our way back to Wisconsin, we detoured to another place that I have long wished to see. I walked across the battlefield of Gettysburg and stood at The Angle on Cemetery Ridge. I walked out a small distance from The Angle, and, turning back, saw the position as it must have seemed to them on that long ago July day. You could almost hear the sounds of battle, and I felt my skin tingle standing there. As I had at The Wall, I found myself thinking, "What a total waste is war in any form."

I stood where President Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg Address and was moved. In my own way, I said G'Day to

those who are still there. I left Gettysburg emotionally moved.

Off we went to Tampa, Florida and the unequaled hospitality of our National Vice President, Ed Profitt, and his lovely lady, Gerri. Let there be absolutely no doubt, The American Legion Post with the most hospitality is alive and well and living in Tampa and has a glossy photograph of Ed Profitt on its wall. (Thank you Tampa for a wonderful time, and you, "Mom," for the Apple Pie.)

Out of Washington once more, direct to Los Angeles. Over night stay, then away to Las Vegas and a quick, rather bumpy flight across the Grand Canyon. What a magnificent sight that is. Back to The Golden Nugget overnight. Imagine the excitement, if you will, when Krys won in total, \$2,300 on the slot machines. Very interesting place, that. I'll have to take her back there again one day.

Back to Los Angeles, spending the last couple of days looking around Universal Studios and Disneyland. The world being as small as it is, we were wandering through Disneyland when my name was called. I look to see Ken Gaudet and his lady. Imagine the odds on that.

The time arrived for us to get back on our QANTAS plane and fly upside down (you have to do that to land down here).

A most amazing trip, made all the more memorable and enjoyable by the host of wonderful people we met who made sure our stay was such. I think to say thank you to each one would be to long and I would surely miss out someone, so I will simply say, Thank you America and God Bless.

"All the Way" — Carey McQuillan President, Chapter XI











NOTES FROM THE FIELD

To the Secretary

I finally joined the Society this year and was heartened to see the names of former comrades from time to time. I am currently an investment broker with A.G. Edwards in Denver, Colorado and also the S-4 1/157 FA BDE. Yes, after 21 years I ended up in a leg unit in the National Guard. But every time we drill, at least one soldier comes up and admires my 173rd Patch. I am proud to have served in E CO (RECON) 1/503 and B CO 1/503 during 1969 and 1970. If any of my old comrades want to contact me, my address is.

Ralph D. Barocas 2446 So. Lansing Way Aurora, CO 80014 W-303-850-7900 (1-800-999-7900) H-303-751-2007

Dear Sir:

I noticed the announcement concerning the 173rd Airborne Brigade while reading the Retirement Services Bulletin. I served in the 173rd Airborne Brigade, second Battalion from Feb. 1967 to Feb. 1968 and request further information regarding the anniversary activity.

Jerald F. Knight

Dear "Herd"

Please put me on your mailing list, I am an original member of the 173d, I served with B-2/503 and B-1/503 62-64.

I am now a fire fighter for the city of Detroit, Michigan.

James J. McLean

Dear Sir:

Just got your address. How do I sign up? Is anything planned to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the brigade's arrival in Vietnam?

I served a total of 36 months in the brigade. My last job was at the Adjutant General, from January 1971-January 1972

MAJ (Ret) E.B. Roberson

Dear "Herd":

<u>Veterans information center</u> is a clearing house for information of three types:

- We maintain a national list of veterans from all eras and serve as a locating service for buddies. If we get a request for someone we haven't found yet we will continue looking and notify the requester when his buddy is found.
- Our database of parades, reunions and other gatherings of interest continues to grow and soon we hope to have the most complete list available.
- One of our most important databases is the listing of social and support groups. We hope to be able in the near future to give any veteran at any location the names of several groups near him.

Send us information on yourself: complete name and address, branch of service, dates, units, places served, nicknames used, service number and home town while in service. If you are looking for a buddy please give us as much of this information as possible.

Sky Soldiers

Here is a picture of my new license plates. There aren't a whole lot of people in Bloomington, Illinois who understand what "HERD 173" means, but those who do usually honk or give the raised fist. I was with C Company, 2/503 from 2/70-1/71. I am affiliated with the Elite Forces Chapter out of Chicago.

I was in D.C. in early November for the Marine Corps Marathon, and had the opportunity to meet and shake hands with the Commandant of the Corps, General Gray. I had my Herd cap on, and he told me he had always wanted to be a buck sergeant in the 173D, but had to settle for Commandant of the Marines instead. AIRBORNE!!!



Airborne always, Ray Reed, Bloomington, IL

Dear Gene:

Found more of our people, right here near me by wearing my 173d crest on my coat, this guy came up to me and said, "I sure love that Sky Soldiers crest." Any one knowing him drop a line, and mail a hook up.

Ralph Rivas, wife Pearl 522 E. 245th Street Carson, CA 90745 Phone (213) 549-4677 1st/503d Co. B. 29th Mar., 66-67

Gold Star Mom and Dad Alfred and Jannette Robillard 3055 Gold Star Drive #238 Long Beach, CA 90810 Phone (213) 427-90810

Son — Wilfred R. Robillard, KIA Oct. 10, 1965.

Anyone knowing Wilfred may drop his mom and dad a line anytime, thank you.

Larry "Okie" Okendo

Editor

Since 1983, Battlefield Tours USA has been returning U.S. WWII veterans to their former battlefields in Europe.

We want your organization to know us and to show our enthusiasm and experience in helping keep the history of WWII battlefields alive — your history.

If you or anyone in your organization is interested in this opportunity to see first hand our way of making a battlefield tour something more than just a sight-seeing tour, please give us a call, toll free, at 800-635-5018.

Eddie Polk

"Airborne" Is A Family Tradition

Cadet Richard F. Timmons, Jr., son of Colonel (Promotable) Richard F. Timmons, graduated from Basic Airborne School on August 25th, 1989 at Fort Benning, GA. Cadet Timmons is a Distinguished Military Student at North Georgia College and will be commissioned a 2d LT in the summer of 1990. Colonel (P) Timmons made 5 jumps with his son and was the guest speaker at the graduation ceremony where he pinned silver wings on the new trooper, following remarks.

Colonel Timmons commanded HHC, A, and E companies 4-503d Abn Inf during the 1969-1970 time periods. At

the time of the ceremony he was the Executive Officer to the Secretary of the Army John O. Marsh, Jr.

In a Pentagon ceremony, on the 21st of November 1989, Colonel Timmons was promoted to Brigadier General by the current Secretary of the Army Michael M.P.W. Stone and reassigned to his current position as the Assistant Division Commander-Support, 82d Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Cadet Timmons is the third family member to become a paratrooper since World War II. An uncle served in the 11th Airborne Division in the 1940's.

Sky Soldier . . .

Now





Vietnam Veteran and entertainer Britt Small has performed at World Fair's, state fairs, national and state conventions, corporate parties, VA hospitals, school programs for kindergartners through college seniors, class reunions, veterans reunions, Las Vegas Casinos, and maximum security prisons. This diversity reflects of Britt's ability to direct his vocal styling and his 11-piece band toward any

After serving 18 months as a military policeman with the 118th MP Co (Abn), at Ft. Bragg, NC, Britt joined the 173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate) in South Vietnam. He served as a military police investigator with the 173rd MP Platoon at LZ English from April to December 1970. He received the Purple Heart and the Army Commendation Medal while serving with the 173rd.

Britt graduated from Northwest Missouri State University, in 1972, with a Bachelor of Science in Education in music. The next year he became a full-time professional entertainer. Since 1973, Britt Small & Festival have released 8 albums and 3 single records. Veterans' favorites include "Tattered Flags/Broken Promises" and "America Called!" Britt is currently working on the release of his third veterans-related album.

Britt is a Life member of the American Legion, VFW, DAV, Purple Heart Society, and the Midwest Chapter of the Society of the 173rd Airborne Brigade. He is the Vice-Chairman of the National Vietnam Veterans Coalition, and is on the Board of Advisors for BRAVO. He has received two awards of the Vietnam Veterans National Medal.

Britt's wife and manager, Jonnie K., supports his efforts in both the music industry and veterans issues.

In 1982, Britt paid his first visit to The Wall. Knowing he could be arrested for demonstrating, Britt led his band through the thick crowd, to the apex of The Wall to sing their a cappella version of "America The Beautiful" and "Amazing Grace". Sedating the massive crowd of family members, and calming the angry veterans, Britt turned unsettling emotions toward a positive healing direction. For this action Britt became known to many as the "musical voice of the American Veteran". Britt was shown on the national news while singing and holding a 173rd Gold Star Mother, Mrs. Beda Shafer, in his arms.

Britt has performed free concerts at national and state welcome home events, including National Salute II in 1984, the New York Vietnam Veterans Ticker Tape Parade in 1985, the Chicago Welcome Home Parade in 1986, the Great Texas Welcome Home in 1987, and the Canadian Welcome Home in 1989. Britt has also performed at many unit reunions including the 1985, 1986 & 1988 173rd reunions. He has taken his group back to Washington, DC every year since 1982,

and Then



to perform free Memorial Day and Veteran's Day concerts in front of the Lincoln Memorial.

Britt has developed a unique perspective of the American veteran. Whether he is learning how to deal with and help solve problems within this community. His goal is to bring the older and younger veterans together to give the WWI veterans comfort knowing that in the "final moment" there will be someone there to "fold his flag". Britt is working on a five point agenda: 1) POW/MIA issue; 2) Agent Orange; 3) Homeless Veterans; 4) Hospitalized Veterans; and 5) Incarcerated Veterans.

Britt commented on his service in Vietnam: "I had no idea of the history of the 173rd until I attended the 1985 reunion. It made me more proud of mu unit and my service in Vietnam. My thoughts about my job in Vietnam are thoughts that cannot be printed in the Herd News. I'd like to see the activities of the 173rd made more affordable to encourage increased participation by NCO's and EM of the 173rd. I'd also like to see the Field grade and General grade officers of the 173rd take more responsibility for those 173rd veterans who are confined to the VA hospitals or incarcerated in prisons. I look forward to the day when the 173rd once again becomes the elite organization that it once was, instead of the "elitist' organization that it is now."

News About Sky Soldiers

From Frank Vavrin, Knoxville, TN

(Brigade Chaplain '65-66)

Our military life is still filled with happy memories. The visit from Chaplain Fred Jewell and wife, Kathy, was a delight. Fred was always a "slightly older brother' to me and very, very much appreciated. Born in Oklahoma, he now lives in Washington State. I would have thought it would be the other way around!

From Solvang, CA came Steve and Brigitta Pedersen with teen-ager wonders. Steve worked with me in the Army at Fort Gordon, GA and I have been sort of like a "slightly older brother" to him.

I visited Vietnam buddy, Reverend Jack Koehler, in his parish in Cuba, IL for a three day preaching series. The experience with Jack and family was my re-introduction to preaching. (I wanted to see if I could still do it.) While up there in central Illinois we visited some Lincoln country areas, America's oldest known Indian mounds and graves at Dickson and the Edgar Lee Masters area including the cemetery he made famous by his Spoon River Anthology'

Thomas K. Kaulukukui, Jr. (A/3), who is now a Circuit Court Judge in

Hawaii, writes:

"In 1985, my Platoon (1st, A Co., 3-503), held a reunion in Lafayette, IN. Approximately 17 platoon members, some with their families, attended. All of us were in Vietnam in 1969-70, or thereabouts. In 1987, we had a second reunion in Lake Tahoe, CA. We have tried to keep in touch since we first reunited. Through our grapevine, we have learned of the triumphs and tragedies of our members.

Ed McIntyre, Garrett Clemons, Curtis Baker and Danny Gilbert visited me in Hawaii. This June (89), I performed a wedding ceremony for Danny Gilbert and his bride, Holly, here in Hawaii. I wore my judicial robe, HERD tie, and pinned my jump wings to my robe. It was an Airborne wedding! The happy couple honeymooned here before returning to the Houston area. . . . Curtis "Buddy" Baker of Glendora,

CA lost his leg at Tuy Hoa, RVN, but he is an 8-handicap golfer, one of the top ten handicapped golfers in the U.S. And he has only one leg - no prosthesis! I caddied for him when he was in Hawaii and he is amazing! Another buddy, Norman "Frenchy" LaPlante, is a security officer in the Marshall Islands. . . He is at PO Box 8146, APO San Francisco, CA, 96557. He would like to hear from other Sky Soldiers.

A couple of years ago, Platoon member Charles Mosley found out he had terminal cancer . . . he died within a few short months of his first trip here, but before he died he learned to parasail, took chopper rides around the island, and tried surfing. He had a courageous attitude. Those of us who manage to keep in touch have grown to be strong friends. Our reunions have done us all good, we expect to reunite again in July, 1990, in Washington, D.C.



Sky Soldiers at the '89 Reunion in California.

Franklin S. Fischer (534th Signal Co & D/3-319th-71) is a Reporter with the New York Daily News in New York City.

Ronald R. Combest (D/3 68-69) is a Judge on the Round Valley Justice Court and lives in Covelo, CA.

Michael D. Lormand (H/Bde & E/17 67-68) has Post Office Box 173 in Reading, KS.

Paul R. Decker (HHB/3-319 & H/Bde 70-71) is President, Memphis Convention and Visitors' Bureau, Memphis, TN.

Sheldon M. Dannelly (1-50 69) is Vice President of Special Services Arms Manufacturer, Inc. in Aiken, SC.

Tarlon Mobley (C/3 68-69) is Platoon Sergeant/Senior Instructor, Army Abn School, Ft. Benning, GA.

Michael W. Hopson (H & E/1 68-70), who lives in Bluff City, TN, has Tennessee license plate "173DAB".

Mike Ignasiak (H, Bde & E/3) is a Police Lieutenant in Hollywood, FL.

SFC Frederick Kellerman (C/SPT 70-72) is a Parachute Rigger with the JCSE in Tampa, Florida.

Daniel McIsaac (H/2 68) is a Diagnostic Resource Teacher in Mansfield, LTC Robert Glacel (C/D 3-319 70-71) is currently a student at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Ft. McNair, DC

CSM Jack P. Hardwick (H/2 66-67) is now CSM, JOTC-CSM, JWB-Commandant, NCOA at APO Miami, FL (whatever all this is).

Joseph Humber (C/4 69-70), a double amputee, works for USPS in South Dennis, MA.

Manuel M. Mermea, Jr. (H/1 69-70) is an Institutional parole officer with the Texas Board of Pardons & Parole.

Thomas Monagham (H/D/1 65-66) is with the Department of Corrections in the State of Texas.

Larry S. Moore (C/3 69-70) is a detective with the Atlanta, GA, Police Bureau.

William R. Walker (E/4 69-71) is an Attorney in Athens, OH, and a USAR JAG at Ft. Haves.

Victor N. Carnevale (A/4 70-71) is a pilot for US Air and lives in Fayetteville, NC

Thomas H. Means (D/1 68-69) is an Attorney and lives in Provo, UT. David L. Andrews (B/4 70-71) works

for W.T. Towboat in San Pedro, CA. Howard J.T. Steers (D/H-1 68-69) has been transferred to American Embassy, Bucharest. He writes: "Looks like I'll miss the 50th Anniversary of the Airborne, but I'm giving George Farris a run for your furthest member". (Note: George is in Thailand; we also have a member in Hong Kong! editor)

Paul A. Barron (A/4 67-68) is an Engineer at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, ME.

Sterling T. McCormick (172 MI 69-70) is G2 SGM with the 82nd Abn

SSG(P) Troy L. Poe (D & H/2 70-Deact) is a Signal Platoon Sgt with B/ 82nd Signal Bn at Ft. Bragg

SFC Mayo V. Sorrels, Jr. (E/1 & H/ 3-319 68-69 & 71-Deact) is a Medical Plt SGT at Ft. Bragg. Fred F. McFall (?/2 & ?/4 66-67) is a

recruiter for the Idaho National Guard in Lewiston, ID.

Ken Onufrock (H/1 65-66) is a Detective for the Suffolk County Police Department in Yapuank, NY

BG Henry H. Shelton (H/4 & C/4 68-69) is now Assistant Division Commander, 101st ABN Div (Air Assault).

Charles A. Robinson is now CSM of 1st Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division in Frank Ulissi (B/1 66-67) is now a Police Sergeant in Pennsville, NJ.

Leo J. Horgan (A/3-319 64-66) is a Professional Land Surveyor in Williston, ND.

Charles L. Koscivsko (B/3-319 66-67) is a Sergeant in the New York City Police Department.

William G. Kuhrt (C/1-503 67-68) is a Senior Court Officer of the New York Supreme Court.

Carl L. McElroy (C/3 69) is a case worker for the American Red Cross and lives in Springfield, OR.

Willie J. Owens (B/2 68-69) is a Sergeant Major and Chief Enlisted Advisor, SRAAG-VA in Richmond, VA.

Robert L. Stave (E/17th Cav 64-65) is a Park Ranger at John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park in Key Largo, FL.

Richard J. Stone (A/3-319 70-71) is with HHB, 82nd Abn Div Arty, at Ft. Bragg.

Edward L. Suits (H/4 67-68 & 70-71) now lives in Clinton, SC.

William E. White (Spt Bn 63-64 & 2-503 64-66) is President of Emerson and Associates in Franklin Lakes, NJ.

Father John McCullagh (HHC, Bde 65-66) is at St. Anthony's Parish in Brooklyn, NY.

David E.K. Cooper (1-503 & 2/503 68-69) is Deputy Commanding General of Ft. Dix, NJ, with the rank of Brigadier General. Airborne, sir!

Patrick Cubbage (B/4-503 69) is Bail Commissioner, Philadelphia Municipal Court, PA. (Continued on page 16)

SPECIAL NOTE!!

We would like you to inform us of any sons, daughters, and grandchildren who are presently on active duty with any branch of the military. These service members are continuing the heritage of the 173d – LET'S RECOGNIZE THEM!! Please notify the editor.

17TH AIRBORNE SEEKS TO LOCATE MEMBERS

The 17th Airborne Division Association, composed of men who served as paratroopers and glidermen in the Division during World War II, is conducting a membership drive to locate all former members, including Gold Star mothers and family members of those who were killed in action. If you served with this Division, please contact Edward J. Siergiej, Secretary-Treasurer, 62 Forty Acre Mountain Rd., Danbury, CT 06811.

Chapter Activities

CHAPTER I Washington, D.C. — Sigholtz Capitol Chapter, PO Box 27478, Washington, D.C. 20038-0478. Phil Hayden, President.

This Veterans' Day was especially busy, exciting and successful for Chapter I. Colonel Bob Sigholtz, International President, joined Chapter members at business and reunion meetings on Saturday morning, November 11. Excellent attendance — approximately 40 — was rewarded with informative updates on chapter matters and reunion plans.

The main part of the day's agenda was placing of floral tribute, shaped as a Herd patch, at the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial. This has become an annual ritual led by the Sigholtz-Capitol Chapter to honor all our comrades, especially those who made the supreme sacrifice.

As members from the business meeting reassembled at the Wall, they gathered with others wearing the 173d insignia, until the group totaled about 75-100, plus family and friends — more than the 82d Airbornel Remarkable crowds meant that our ceremony had to be conducted in parts — before proceeding to the apex of the Wall and then at the site. A heartfelt tribute led by Chaplain (COL) Hutchins recalled for each of us why we were present.

A side benefit — Russ Ward and other

A side benefit — Russ Ward and other membership moguls got several sign-ups out of the ingathering of Herd alumni!

After the ceremony, members and friends journeyed to the Pawn Shop in Rosslyn, Virginia for libations, lunch, cameraderie, souvenirs and books (at reasonable rates).

One unfortunate note — Walter "Batman" Bantum took a very bad — and unintended — MLF (Metro Landing Fall) on a Metro subway escalator and broke his arm in four places. He's healing but it's a long, slow process. Our best wishes for a complete — and speedy — recovery!

- Chapter is hard at work ensuring a successful 1990 Convention.
- Valentines Day Sweetheart Dance and Dinner 14 Feb.

CHAPTER II New York — 405 Tarrytown Road, Suite 564, White Plains, New York 10607. Michael Schwartz, President.

- 1990 elections Pres. Mike Schwartz, VP Mike Coffas, Sec. Ken Pasquale, Treas. Lou Vecchio.
- · 20 Sky Soldiers marched in the New

York City Veterans Day Parade on 11 November 1989. The parade was cosponsored by the Metro New York Chapter of the Society and the Manhattan Chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America.

- 60 Sky Soldiers and family members attended "West Point Day". Braving hurricane Hugo, these hearty soles watched the Army football team beat Wake Forest. Twice the PA announcer acknowledged the contingent from the Society. After each announcement, the crowd of 35,000 gave a big "AIR-BORNE" cheer to the Sky Soldiers. Plans are under way for "West Point 1990".
- Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to Bob Galindez, Ken Pasquale, and LeRoy Simpson at a recent chapter meeting.

CHAPTER III Ft. Benning/Columbus, GA — PO Box 1977, Ft. Benning, GA 31905-0577. George Perry (SFC Ret). President.

<u>CHAPTER IV Philadelphia/English</u>
— PO Box 345, Ft. Dix, NJ 08640.
George Bembischew, President.

- Chapter meetings have been changed to the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge located at 13th Street & Spring Garden in Philadelphia.
- The Philadelphia Chapter send greetings and best wishes in 1990 to all Sky Soldiers and families.

CHAPTER V Ft. Bragg/Fayetteville
— P.O. Box 71313 Ft. Bragg, NC
28307. COL H. Jack von Kanel, President.

- Tom and Mary Lou Dosier hosted the January 23rd Chapter meeting at their home. Over 50 Sky Soldiers, wives and guests attended the meeting. Mary Lou and Tom prepared tables full of food. Joan Ashton baked a cake, a "Herd" patch that was superb and looked to good too eat, however, it was devoured.
- The next chapter meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 27th, at 7:30 p.m. at the 82d Airborne Division Association Club House located at 606 Johnson St. in Fayetteville. Contact Joe Atkinson (Phone: 919-867-7401) for details.

CHAPTER VI Chicago/Elite Forces
— 1831 W. Algonquin Road, Suite 205,
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056. Benito Garcia,
President.

 Project Uplift has acquired 4.9 acres in northern Wisconsin with lease rights on another 155 acres. This was negotiated with a local utility company for 99 years at \$1.00. Hoping to erect our first building in mid-May 1990 and run a test group of Chapter member children thru during the summer.

 Their annual food donation to the Little Sisters of the Poor was held in November — a truckload of food.

 The Chapter originated a proposal to have the State of Illinois tax laws amended to exempt veteran organizations from sales taxes on purchases.

 The Chapter is developing a highschool history class participation on the Vietnam War. Selected members from the Chapter will participate. The Chapter has also been adopted by a 5th grade elementary class, and were honored by letters on Veterans Day. In appreciation, representatives met with the children and donated a POW flag to the school.

The Chapter Honor Guard has been invited to lead the St. Patrick's Day parade in Chicago on 17 March. In addition, we are working on invitations to participate in color presentations at Chicago Cubs and White Sox professional baseball games, and

numerous other events.

NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY:
Chapter VI is setting the standard for
Service — the same service we always
provided to the Nation. Other Chapters should take note. A big AIR-BORNE! to Chapter VI.

CHAPTER VII Florida — 425 Kingston Road, Satellite Beach, FL 32937. Mike Anderson, President.

- Chapter Quarterly Meeting was held in conjunction with the Florida All-Airborne Celebration at Vero Beach, FL.
- Next Chapter meeting will be held in April (6, 7 & 8th) in conjunction with the Vietnam Veterans of Florida Reunion in Melborne, FL. Contact Mike Anderson (Phone: 407-777-2800) for details. Please plan to attend as new Chapter officers will be elected.

<u>CHAPTER VIII Hawaii</u> — 3043 Lopeka Place, Honolulu, HI 96817. Paul Scheftel, President.

CHAPTER IX New England — PO Box 411, East Hampton, MA 01027. Roy Wheelock, Acting President.

 Chapter Quarterly Meeting was held on January 13th with over 30 Sky Soldiers in attendance. A slate of officers was selected and will be voted in at next Chapter Meeting. Next Chapter meeting will be held on April 21st from 12-2 p.m. with dinner following the meeting. The meeting will be held at the Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge in Nashua, New Hampshire. Please contact Roy Wheelock (Phone: 413-253-5736) for more details.

<u>CHAPTER X Western States</u> — 3013-A Al Hamburg Drive, Cameron Park, CA 95682. Raymond Ramirez, President.

- Hosted one of the best Reunions ever

 in Santa Rosa, Calif. July '89!
- The last Chapter meeting was be held February 17th at Travis AFB (with members of the original 503d PIR). Contact Ray Ramirez (Phone: 213-693-3102) or Ken Gaudet (707-252-6732) for future meetings.

<u>CHAPTER XI Australian (Down Under) Chapter</u> — PO Box 246, Fairfield, N.S.W. 2165, Australia. Tele 723982. Carey H. McQuillan, President.

- Planning underway for 1991 Convention bid! Attractions include: a "Fair Dinkum Aussie Bar-B-Q" (whatever that is); Australian Hospitality and the Great Barrier Reef.
- We send all Chapters and Members best wishes for a very happy New Year and New Decade.

To those who were a part of the original Herd in Vietnam of the 1965-1966 days at Bien Hoa, from the First Australian Combat Battalion Group, we send you our congratulations and best wishes in this the 25th Anniversary of our deployment to the troubled land we knew as South Vietnam.

As the "first in" from our respective countries, we had an enormous responsibility placed upon our young shoulders, a responsibility we each met and maintained during that first, hard year of leading the way. The mistakes we made, the lessons we learned served those who followed us well. We all hope that our learning later saved the lives of our buddies and mates.

We did not ask to be first, nor did we ask for the responsibility of setting the standards. We were and we did. Let History show that in that time of turmoil and uncertainty, one thing was certain — the commitment made by the young men and three nations, American, Australian and New Zealander, who when called stood side by side as had their fathers and their fathers' fathers, to uphold those most cherished virtues of a democratic society, Peace, Freedom and Justice.



In Memoriam

I have been notified of the death of Johnny Dean Bauer, of Yucca Valley, CA. Although not a member of the Society, he Served with the 173d Airborne Brigade in Vietnam from 1968-1970. The Society expresses its condolences to his wife, Madeline. May he enjoy the eternal rest of those who have served their country well.

It is my sad duty to announce the death of an Airborne Soldier, SP4 Edward Lee Suits. Edward was the son of SFC Edward Suits, Sr. (Ret), who served with H/4-503 from 67-68 and again from 70-71. SP4 Edward Suits was killed in a Training Jump at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina on 3 January 1990. Our condolences to Edward, Sr., and his wife, Anna, for the loss of a son in the service of our country. May he have that special peace given to a paratrooper who has served his country well.

It is my sad duty to announce the death of a comrade-in-arms and a member of our Society. John W. Coffield (A/2-503 68-70) died October 17, 1989. Our condolences to his wife Eleanor. May John enjoy the eternal rest of those who have served their country with distinction and their brothers well.

Kenneth V. Smith Colonel, Infantry National Secretary

The Australian Chapter Members wish you every happiness and success in all you do for the next 25 Years and more.

CHAPTER XII Alaska — PO Box 35158 Ft. Wainwright, AK 99703. SSG William E. Rasool, President.

Newest Chapter is Lucky XIII.

The International Society's Executive Committee just approved on February 10 the chartering of Chapter XIII, the Southwest States Chapter, which includes Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and New Mexico. President of Chapter XIII is Don Ashlock, 1017 Bandera, Garland, TX 75040. Welcome!

SOCIETY OF THE 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP, ACHIEVEMENT, AND ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD

The Society of the 173d Airborne Brigade Memorial Scholarship, Achievement, and Encouragement Award is a living memorial to the Sky Soldiers of the 173d Airborne Bridge who made the Supreme sacrifice in the service of their country. It is living memorial.

Scholarships are open to children, grandchildren, and widows of men who served in the 173d Airborne brigade (or units attached thereto), to continue pursuit of higher education.

Applications must be received by the National Secretary by 1 May 90. To obtain an application, please write to the National Secretary, Society of the 173d Airborne, P.O. Box 27822, Washington, D.C. 20038-0822, Attn.: Scholarship.

173d Monumental Fund

Replacing the flawed 173d Monument located at Fort Campbell is agreed upon. Now, raising the money is proving to be a challenge. Colonel Mike Ekman, a 173d veteran and current Commander of the US Army Training Support Center, has agreed to provide leadership and admin/logistic support to the cause. Mike Schwartz is coordinating the manufacturer of a limited edition 173d necktie of exceptional quality for donors of \$173 dollars or more. Other recognition for donors to the monument fund is being arranged and awards will be publicized.

Jack Nicholson Society President Emeritus

NOTICE

This is to notify Society Members of the requirement to submit proposed changes to the National By-Laws in advance of the National Convention. Any proposed change should be submitted to the National Secretary by 30 March in order to permit publication in the Spring/Summer National Newsletter.

Anyone wishing to run for/nominate someone for National Office should advise the National Secretary by 30 April so that Chapters can be notified. Candidates to be considered, as a minimum, should be notified to all Chapters at least 30 days prior to the national election at the convention. The Bylaws do permit nominations from the floor.

To The Editor

Dear Gene,

- Recommend museum annex and some sort of 173d monument remain at Campbell even if current one is taken away. Like it or not: 1. The Herd's colors were cased at Campbell and it's units remained at Campbell (mostly in 3 BDE for about ten more years); 2. Arms at Campbell named after Lozado-Olive. Street named Joel. Village named Pierce. ENG Mess Hall named after Hawaiian CMH Dinner in 173d ENG Co, Kawamira. Bowling Alley named Eubanks; and 3. Colors and history of 11 ABD remain at Campbell.
- There's room for our history in many places. The fact is the only place in the U.S. that we lived was Campbell and we shouldn't try to rewrite that.

Dana Kwist

Veterans Info

For Veterans Only is a national public television news magazine aired weekly for 30 minutes on PBS stations from coast to coast without charge. "For Veterans Only" is televised in an effort to inform, educate, and enlighten America's veterans, their dependents, and the general public. If the show is not being broadcast by your local PBS station, please call them and request that they schedule the program.

Sky Soldier Donates Spiritual Gift

Sky Soldier Craig R. McLaren (E Co 4/503d Inf) has presented the 173d Society with a "Spiritual Enrollment" of "Fallen Sky Soldiers". As I am a protestant and not totally aware of the significe of this gift, I asked a friend – Jack Nicholson – who is Catholic, to brief me as follows!

The "Spiritual Enrollment" of "Fallen Sky Soldiers" signifies that henceforth and each day, the Order of the Passionist Fathers will pray for our 173d Airborne Brigade Sky Soldiers who fell in battle. In addition to daily prayers, these priests will make sacrifices and do good works in remembrance of Sky Soldiers.

This Spiritual Enrollment is a Perpetual Spiritual Remembrance on behalf of our Fallen Sky Soldiers. The enrollment is a way of seeking the Lord's help retroactively for our deceased comrades.

(I wish to thank Craig, who, though incarcerated continues his years of service to help Vietnam Vets rebuild their lives while serving time in prison. Thanks Craig for this touching initiative.

A thanks to Jack Nicholson who, as usual, takes time out to support the Society. Thanks Jack for making Craig's gift more valuable to us.) The Editor



The 105mm Shell Memorial from Hill 875.

105mm Shell Memorial At Pratt Museum

Pratt Museum, Fort Campbell, now holds a 105mm Shell, a memorial courtesy of an anonymous Chapter VI member.

On our 22nd Anniversary of Dak To, Pratt put into the 173rd ABN. Case the 105mm Shell Memorial (shaped at Tuy Hoa while at stand-down) engraved with the plates:

- 173rd ABN. BDE. In memory of 1,534 Sky Soldiers K.I.A. XII C.M.H. Rep's 1965-1971 R.V.N.
- (2) Hill 875 Dak To, South Vietnam 20th Nov. 1967
- (3) Maj. M. O'Donnell, Epitaph of Dak To: "If you are able save a place inside of you and save a backward glance for the places they can no longer go.

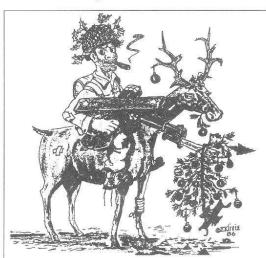
Anonymous

It is my opinion that after visiting both bases and museums that Fort Campbell presently has the largest display, five feet high and ten feet long for 173rd. I was treated very well by staff at Pratt, as well as having Stone Memorial behind left jump door of C-119 is truly an honor. I refuse to even talk about Bragg and the 82nd.

Airbornelll



Who is this Sky Soldier? And where is he now?



Neither Tojo, Hitler, nor Mussolini nor Ho Chi Minh can keep me from wishing you a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year Don Lassen & The "Static Line" Staff



Wish their friends in the Airborne Fraternity A Happy Holiday Season and Prosperous New Year.

From 187th R.C.T. Bill Weber Co-chairman 50th Anniversary Foundation

THE MISSING NAME © As I stand here in front of the Wall, With its thousands of thousands of names, I see my mirrored reflection, And I feel guilt, and I feel shame. Standing here alone, I'm not alone,
As ghosts from the past surround me. Rain is softly coming down And like tears on the Wall, it falls. My mind flashes back to another time, And I'm glad that it is raining, So no one sees my tears. Brothers, I LOVE YOU, And I've never forgot. I remember your faces, And the look in your eyes. I wonder if you know,
Of the "Suffering and Hurt",
Of US who came back "Alive". For long before this "Wall",
I'd tried to walk tall,
And be what you never could. I feel guilt, And I feel shame, Like the Wall is "Missing a Name".

I've tried going on for You, To be what you never could. I've tried and tried, And still I've tried. I feel I've let you down . . . I'm Alive, BUT, my SOUL feels DEAD.

By Crist Nelson Dauberman, 2/503 Inf - 173d ABN

SKY SOLDIERS FIRST THREE YEARS AND THEIR BATTLE JUMPS

This book is designed to accomplish a purpose, to show the complexity, diversity and involvement in Vietnam of the 173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate) and all its subordinate units. To say it like it is. It is impossible to accurately chronicle every deed of valor, gallantry and achievement made by the brave and gallant "Sky Soldiers" I have found that in the first book "Battles of Dak-To" many events were not recorded because they were then forgotten or passed over because of the lapse of time and memory. I will continue to record and preserve all facts and the history of our unit.

An accurate portrayal of the history of the 173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate) requires the widest horizons, even for those who served in the same firefight, the same time frame or conflict. All I can do is preserve and pass on to another who will record our history for posterity.

I will be passing our units history (as I know it) to 1st Sergeant Gene Palidin and Lieutenant Michael Schwartz. They in turn will record and preserve all the information passed on to them.

This, my fellow Sky Soldiers, is a work of love, and without the enormous help, advice and support of all the Sky Soldiers who assisted with letters of encouragement, support, photos and their stories of events in Vietnam, documents, military orders and countless data I could not have made the first book, much less the column I placed in Static Line.

It was not without obstacles. I have been told, show me a man without a friend and I will show you a man without an enemy. Those who work for our unit, those who keep our records and those who work so hard to get us our annual reunions have met the same obstacles: don't let that bug you, we can not let those who are inadequately insufficient stop our progress; just love them and keep up the good work.

Airborne all the way Till we form again Lawrence D. Ökendo Honorary Command Sergeant Major 503rd Infantry Brigade, Korea

Churchill said it well: "We make a living by what we do; we make a life by what we give."

Korean War Veterans' Memorial to Be Sited in DC

Over the years since the termination of combat in Korea, there have been increasing calls for a memorial to recognize and honor the American military who took part in that war. In October, 1986, President Reagan signed into law a measure authorizing the establishment of a memorial for Korean War service on Federal land in Washington, DC. It will commemorate especially those killed or missing in action and those who were prisoners of war.

The Memorial, being developed under the guidance of the American Battle Monuments Commission with a Korean War Advisory Board, will be located in Ash Woods, a grove of trees on the Mall near the Lincoln Memorial and across the Reflecting Pool from the Vietnam Memorial.

The Memorial must be erected with private funds. To date, nearly \$2.5 million of a \$6 million goal of private funding has been raised. It is held in a special escrow account invested in interest-bearing US Government securities.

If you wish to contribute any amount - \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, please forward your check to The Korean War Veterans Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 2372, Washington, DC 20013-2372. Please mark your check "173d ABN ASSN Donor.



News About Sky Soldiers (Continued from page 11)

Charles P. Davis (HHC/Bde 67-68) is Catholic Chaplain with HHD. USMCA-P, APO New York 09189 - whatever that is. We will try to provide more information next time. Airborne, Father!

Daniel Doherty (H/1 63-64) is a Field Engineer for UNISYS Corporation in Central Islip, NY

Thomas Levins (C/4 67-68) is a Police Sergeant with the Philadelphia Police Department, PA.

William J. Scott (C/1 64-65) is an Orthopedic Technologist in Pottstown,

COL Richard V.N. Ginn, (HQ, 7th MED COM) was promoted to 06 on 1 May 89. PCS from SHAPE, Belgium to Heidelberg as IG, 7th MED COM in June. Completed AWC Mid Course of CSC in June.

Murphy's List of Combat Laws

- You are not supermen. (New graduates of jump school and all fighter pilots, take note.)
- . Suppressive fires won't.
- If it's stupid but works, it isn't stupid.
- Don't look conspicuous it draws
- When in doubt, empty the magazine
- Never share a foxhole with anyone braver than you are.
- Never forget your weapon was made by the lowest bidder.
- If your attack is going really well, it's an ambush.
- No plan survives the first contact intact.
- Try to look unimportant, because the bad guys may be low on ammo.
- If you are forward of your position, the artillery will fall short. (Right, Russ?)
- The enemy diversion you are ignoring is the main attack.
- The important things are always simple.
- The simple things are always hard.
- The easy way is always mined.
- If you are short of everything except enemy, you are in combat.
- Incoming fire has the right-of-way.
- No combat-ready unit passes inspection.
- If the enemy is in range, SO ARE YOU.
- 20. Things that must be together to work usually can't be shipped to-
- Radios will fail as soon as you need fire support desperately.
- Anything you do can get you shot including doing nothing.
- Make it too tough for the enemy to get in, and you can't get out. Tracers work BOTH ways.
- The only thing more accurate than incoming enemy fire is incoming friendly fire.
- If you take more than your fair share of objectives, you will have more than your fair share to take.
- When both sides are convinced they are about to lose, they're both right.
- Professional soldiers are predictable, but the world is full of amateurs.
- 29. Murphy was a grunt.

Cancian's Codicil: The side with the simplest uniforms wins.

(Editors Note: Thanks to Frank Vavrin)

Publications

A Bright Shining Lie

by Neil Sheehan

Published by Random House of New York [A special review of this award-winning masterpiece on America's involvement in Vietnaml

Review by Colonel Paul J. Raising, Jr., USA (Ret)

Neil Sheehan worked sixteen years on A Bright Shining Lie. The book was published in October 1988 and it received instant acclaim. He has received the Pulitzer Prize, National Book Award and the Achievement Award of the Vietnam Veterans Association to name only a few of the awards. The book has been called the definitive work on that period of our history. It is must reading for those who served in Vietnam and for those who want to understand our involvement there.

I met Neil during my first tour in Vietnam in the early Sixties. He was a young reporter for UPI and a strong supporter of the troops in the field. He frequently would accompany me on combat assaults and "Eagle Flights" down in the Delta and the Camau peninsula. Even in those early days the war as reported by officials in Saigon was vastly different than the war being fought in the rice paddies.

One of the most outspoken individuals in Vietnam at the time was an Infantry lieutenant colonel by the name of John Paul Vann. He was Division Senior Advisor with the 7th ARVN Division in the Mekong Delta, just north of our division sector. In telling the story of John Vann, Neil tells the story of America's involvement in Vietnam. And in telling the story of America's involvement, he tells the story of John Vann. Both were 'bright shining lies.'

When Vann returned to the States in 1963, he was shunted to the side in the Pentagon. No one would listen to his insistence that Vietnam was a no-win situation. Vann insisted the South Vietnamese government was corrupt and the Vietnamese people were being exploited by their own officials. Vann deplored our leaders who were still basking in the victories of World War II and who paid short-shrift to this "third rate country." Vann could see that the tactics which brought us victory in Europe and the Pacific in the 1940s were woefully inadequate for the fratricidal tactics of a jungle and rice paddy war with no frontlines and little credibility with the American people.

Vann was a soldier's soldier and abso-

lutely fearless. But he was, as one reviewer put it, "An American Icon with clay feet." His personal life was 'a bright shining lie' and a shambles.

After retiring from the Army he went back to Vietnam for five years as a civilian advisor, becoming the senior U.S. advisor in the Central Highlands. Vann was killed in a helicopter crash in 1972. He was buried at Arlington Cemetary at Fort Myer overlooking the Pentagon and Washington.

They all came to his funeral. Secretary of State Rogers was there. Secretary of Defense Laird attended. Soon-to-be Director of CIA Colby was there, too. Army Chief of Staff Westmoreland, Vice Chief of Staff Bruce Palmer and Lieutenant General Richard Stillwell were pall-bearers. Joe Alsop was there as was Lieutenant General Bill Depuy. Later, President Nixon held a reception for Vann's widow and family in the Oval Office of the White House. Neil Sheehan was there and decided then that the real story of America's involvement needed to be told.

Thus began sixteen years of painstaking research and writing. Neil's great admiration of the American fighting man is evident time and again throughout the book. He describes in brilliant detail many of the battles, both large and small, that were fought from Khe Sanh to the Central Highlands to Camau. Neil's extensive time in country and in the 'boonies' gives the manuscript flawless credibility.

Neil asked me to review the manuscript before publication for technical military accuracy. His years of personal experience in Vietnam and great attention to detail made my task simple. There were few errors.

I strongly recommend that all members of the "Herd" read this remarkable book. When you finish it and lay it down, you will say to yourself "That's what I thought" . . . and at the same time you will feel good about your contribution and your sacrifice in America's longest war

[Colonel Raisig served in the 82nd Airborne and 101st Airborne Divisions before the Vietnam War and commanded the 3/319th Field Artillery Battalion of the 173rd Airborne Brigade in Vietnam in 1968-69. He was the number two man on the Pentagon project which reorganized the Army, in the 1970s. After retiring from the Army, he attended law school in North Carolina. He practices law with the law firm of BARRINGTON, JONES, HERNDON & RAISIG, P.A. in Fayette-ville. His son recently completed Jump School at Fort Benning and was sponsored by the Brigade's Fort Benning-Columbus chapter as a second generation member of the Herd an excellent program to help keep alive the Thundering Herd.]

Herd to Star In Love Story



Debra Kincheloe is currently working on a novel, much of which takes place in Ft. Benning, Ga. and Ft. Gordon, Ga. in 1967-1968. A major portion of the book will be set in 1968-1969 at LZ English, Bong Son, Vietnam.

Mrs. Kincheloe is anxious to correspond with anyone who was stationed there, especially members of the 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade.

In her novel, she hopes to show the reader that the real hero of Vietnam was not the Rambo type. Rather, he was the man who fought because he felt it his duty; who made enormous and far-reaching sacrifices, sometimes at the hand of fate; and who played the hand he was dealt. He returned home, picked up the remnants of his life, and continued living and dreaming his dreams, both accepting his responsibilities and passing on traditional values to his family while making a responsible commitment to his community. Ms. Kincheloe also plans to deal with sacrifices made by those back home

Eventually, she hopes to compile a collection of first-hand accounts from soldiers who served at LZ English during 1968-1969. This work may be expanded to include information from other members of the 173rd Brigade.

Ms. Kincheloe can be reached at 919-443-5622 after 4:00 p.m. Her mailing address is P.O. Box 4713, Rocky Mount, N.C. 27803.

She would be delighted with and grateful to anyone who would respond to her questionnaire or correspond with her in any fashion.

Ms. Kincheloe teaches advanced composition and literature and journalism in Rocky Mount. She holds a masters degree in English from East Carolina University.

Scholarship Applications

Applications for 1990 Scholarships should be sent to National Secretary COL Ken Smith by 1 May 1990. Awards may be modest this year due to fading support for the Scholarship Fund. A committee to evaluate the application is being designated and will be standing by on May 1st.



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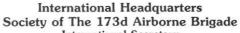
In 1990, the Reunion and National Convention of the Society of the 173d Airborne Brigade will be held July 5-8 in Washington, DC. We want to locate as many people who served with or were attached to the 173d Airborne Brigade (the Herd, aka Sky Soldiers) as possible.

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