



ឈ្មោះសមាជិក      ឈ្មោះសមាជិក      KLEI MRÃO MRANG # 17  
 BÁO CÁO TÌNH HÌNH SỐ 17/Mua Thu      SITREP # 17/Fall 1992  
 XOV XWM TSHAJ TAWN/Caij Ntuj No

Grant McClure  
Commander

The SITREP is a quarterly publication of COUNTERPARTS/TƯƠNG HỮU ĐÔNG NAM Á, an association of serving in a counterpart role, as part of their assigned duties, during the Indochina Wars of 1954-1975. Full membership is available to anyone having served in this capacity, military or civilian, in what was perceived as an effort to halt militarist expansion on the Indochinese Peninsula. Membership information: Steve Herberth, Adjutant, P.O. Box 22791, Louisville, Kentucky, 40252-0791

Steve Herberth  
Adjutant

Paul Brubaker  
XO

SITREP is late, for multitude of reasons. It's been very busy, and we've had a number of issues on the front burner. Brief notes before getting into meat of this issue. Grab a hot cup of coffee. First off, best wishes for speedy recovery to J.C. Fischer, our dauntless and diligent Locator, who just emerged from bypass surgery. J.C. is on the mend and getting back in stride. Also, get-wells to Jim McDaniel's mother-in-law and Bob Patrikios' brother, both of whom had hospital stays.

J.C. FISCHER  
Locator/Historian

Quách Huyh Hà  
Locator

Bill Laurie  
Editor

Notes on past issue: several readers questioned validity of statement that present day average height of Japanese is 10" taller than present day VN, indicating former is 6' 4". 10" variance was as reported by NY Times article, and should have been so noted. Obvious discrepancy does not mitigate fact that nutrition is poor in VN, as verified by Ha Noi's own data and UN economic studies. ....One member asked about search request for Đại úy Abdul Azziz, asking how a Moslem found his way to VN. Capt. Azziz was member of Cham minority, and served as S-2 in Châu Đốc Prov., in the Delta. Cham people found there as well as in coastal lowlands of II Corps, remnants of 10th-15th century Cham empire. Finally, members were subjected to far more typos than should be associated with a class outfit like this. You deserve better, and you will get it.

Mike Little  
L.O., Highlands  
Assistance Project

Tom Harvey  
L.C., CUVA &  
Pearl Buck  
Foundation

(Open)  
Humanitarian Proj.

Advisory Council  
Kok Ksor  
Quách Huyh Hà

OK, on to new business.....

We received commo(see following page) from contingent of former RVNAF personnel, now residing in Malaysian refugee camp, who have been denied political refugee status and are now faced with mandatory repatriation to VN. A full roster was included, revealing that many of these people had been associated with units

or organizations forever damned by Hà Nội's vengeful paranoia: Rangers, Marines, Airborne, PolWar, Military Security Service, etc. In addition, one might have been a PF and, as one of our members has found out, still found deserving of lengthy imprisonment on basis of his or her history of pronounced and visible anti-communism.

Counterparts responded to this letter, writing Tran Ngoc Bay, Chairman of the Malaysian group, as well as Asst. Sec. State Ken Quinn, Sen. John McCain, and US State Dept. refugee coordinator in Malaysia, Mr. Louis Mazel (USEmb, Kuala Lumpur, State Dept. Pouch 4210, US Dept. of State, Washington, D.C. 20520-4210). No response from official US sources to date. Two letters received from Malaysia, one from Nguyen The Hung and another from Nguyen Van Chien, both of whom seek contact with former fellow RVNAF personnel as well as US counterparts (details in Locator section). Silence from US sources/officialdom is ominous, and identical to that preceding forced repatriation of Nung Boat People from Hong Kong. Members are strongly encouraged to write elected officials, State Dept., UNHCR and any others involved with refugee matters. From all appearances, there is a 'glass wall' policy, invisible to the public eye, yet effectively blocking emigration of political refugees. Counterparts members will also be provided with information on other measures to assist our comrades in Malaysian camps, as they await confirmation or denial of requests for refugee status. Member suggestions openly solicited and welcome.

In a related matter, contact established with VIET NAM ASSISTANCE FOR THE HANDICAPPED, an organization based in D.C. with purpose of assist prosthetic clinics in VN. 23 August 1992 edition of 'Parade' magazine described efforts of founder Tran Van Ca and his colleague, US VN Vet and author, James Webb. During their initial visit to a Càn Thơ clinic, over 100 disabled former RVNAF veterans assembled, many of whom have been denied medical treatment and prosthetic devices because of their background and QLVNCH service. A VNAH flyer accompanies this SITREP. Member donations are encouraged for this worthy cause. Copies of 'Parade' article available. Please send SASE to editor.

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Orderly Departure Program (ODP) matters...since 1990, about 50,000 former concentration camp prisoners and family members have emigrated to US under ODP. 50,000 more are expected in the next three years, when ODP ends. Many new arrivals have endured long years of labor camps, long separation from families, health and economic hardships, only to encounter unexpected difficulties in US. A 14 Nov NYT article describes hardships of several QLVNCH personnel who toughed it out for years and now can find only menial jobs, at best, in fast paced America. Send editor SASE for copy of article. Efforts underway to contact individuals cited in article, and others derived from other sources. Members are encouraged to send in similar articles, and attempt to contact former counterparts described therein. Try contacting reporter, c/o newspaper, if all else fails. It works, and can lead to positive results, particularly if former counterparts can be reunited. Happened before. Further, culture shock can be mitigated by simply having a friend on hand, if only to talk things over.





VETERAN ASSOCIATION of "THE REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM" <sup>2110</sup>

SUNGEI BESI REFUGEE CAMP

MALAYSIA

June 16th, 1992.

Respectfully to: MR. GRANT MC. CLURE  
Commander of "COUNTERPARTS"  
PO.Box 43  
Archeville, WV.26804  
(In care of Ex-Colonel QUACH HUYNH HA)

Dear Sir,

We find it a great luck to come to know you and the "COUNTERPARTS", thank to the introduction of our Former Professor/Ex-Colonel Quach Huynh Ha in the issue of "DA HIEU#25" bi-weekly magazine on Christmas Day 1991.

First of all, we'd respectfully send to you and "COUNTERPARTS" the warmest greeting of us, the Ex-Military Servicemen, Civil-Servants and US Agency employees who are presently residing in Sungei Besi Camp, Malaysia.

The purpose of this open letter is to ask you and "COUNTERPARTS" for assistance so that over 100 Ex-Servicemen whose refugee status was denied, could be rescued.

Dear Sir,

We find it also a great luck to be able to contact with you and "COUNTERPARTS" since during the war in Vietnam, you did fight for freedom together with us, and some of you did sacrifice their lives to our country, therefore you experienced the same sufferings with us, the men of failure. It was true that with your strong helps, we had ever numerous of glorious victories and we did dominate in every battle-fields. However, unfortunately, we were deprived of our country by the wicked Communists at the last minute. As the men of failure, we are even grateful to you and the US Veteran who took part in the Vietnam war, for your wide ranging assistance.

Recently, the leadership of our VN Veteran Association in the refugee camp has been elected. Now we aim to search for help to rescue our unlucky screened-out members. At the thought that besides "COUNTERPARTS" and "US VETERAN FEDERATION" no other organization could succeed to submit our petition to the higher authorities in the US Government.

Presently, there are 154 of 1,300 members whose refugee status was denied. They all were considered "Economic Migrants". They have been living in a constant anxiety for their uncertain future and among them, we find a depressing atmosphere. They have been obsessed with the strict decisions under C.P.A. (Comprehensive Plan Action). In fact, with the Aid-Program of UNHCR and the

European-Economic-Community (E.E.C.), they could repatriate comparatively safely, but it is certain that nobody can be sure whether they can survive in a Communist Country and that the question what would happen to them is still being raised.

We now write to you for the following reasons:

- We would like to be in regular contact with "COUNTERPARTS" and receive your publications.
- We would like to ask for your helps for the ex-army men, the ex-civil servants of the Republic of Vietnam and the ex-employees of US Agencies and Firms. Is it possible for "COUNTERPARTS" to bring the situation of these people to the attention of "AMERICAN VETERAN" and US Government Officials.
- Can you help to find a solution for these people while they are still in the camps in the country of first asylum.
- We have recently set up a few youth organizations for our children (Boy Scout and Sport Movement). A financial contribution for these activities would be most welcome.


Dear Sir,

We really don't know who else to rely on and ask for rescue but you and "COUNTERPARTS". We look forward to your kindness, and now we all are waiting for your action which is considered as a flash at the end of a tunnel.

By the way, please instruct our leadership the best way to achieve our target.

Awaiting for your reply, we remain.

Faithfully yours,



---

TRAN NGOC BAY  
Chairman

Enclosing:

- The list of 154 members who were rejected.

Please contact with:

TRAN NGOC BAY  
MC.492035  
ID.165506  
Sungei Besi Camp  
MALAYSIA.

We still lack a Humanitarian Project Officer to coordinate association efforts, and will gladly assist any volunteer willing to assume this position. Much needs to be done. Think it over and check with CO Grant McClure if interested.

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Your association played a contributing role in bringing happy ending, of sorts, to a potentially lethal situation. This past September a group of 400 Dega surfaced in NE Cambodia, having waged a guerrilla war of survival against Hà-Nôi depredations since 1975. With little food or ammunition remaining, surviving Dega were placed under protective custody of a Uruguayan contingent of UN troops, a precarious situation at best. Counterparts aligned itself with other groups and individuals demanding prompt action, knowing full well Dega lives were in immediate jeopardy.

Letters and phone calls were directed to UN authorities in NY and Cambodia, as were US State Dept. officials in D.C. and Phnom Penh, advising of concern over distinct possibility for bloodshed if not massacre. An earlier and less fortunate group of Dega had been caught by Khmer Rouge, and sold to Hà Nôi's legions for \$300.00/person. Charles

Twining, top US representative in Phnom Penh, reportedly was a 'friendly', and helped grease skids for accelerated emigration approval (in clear and distinct contrast to State Dept. cryptic silence and immobility regarding Boat People). To make a long story short, the first contingent of Dega will arrive in North Carolina by 19 Nov; last group scheduled for 3 Dec. CO Grant McClure will be on hand to greet 1st arrivals. Max Lund, Mike Little, Kok Ksor, Roy Russell and Ken Swain all put their shoulders behind this one, and Counterparts/THDNA made itself known as a group which is deeply concerned with Human Rights in VN, Laos and Cambodia. Contacts were developed in UN and US govt. agencies, opening new avenues of approach and points of leverage in related matters cited above. Text of relevant correspondence is contained in appendix of this report. We are still a young outfit (in our present life, a resurrection of earlier efforts), and are well short of having 10,000 active members, but we kicked some shins and opened some drooping bureaucratic eyelids, never firing a shot. It can be done, and more needs to be done. Keep the heat on elected officials with your letters and phone calls. As you read this, Dega clergymen are detained in prison cells, several hundred counterparts are held in Malaysian refugee camp limbo, and civil/human rights are low priority items on Hà Nôi's agenda. Ain't over just yet.

'Society is at its peak when most of its people practice their own particular code of good manners. The society starts to crumble when more of its people abandon these rules of propriety.'

-Li Chi in Book of Rites (1st century, A.D.)

Far Eastern Economic

REVIEW

Finance  
Minister Hata:  
Japanese Stocks  
Must Rise



## The Rebels Time Forgot



EXCLUSIVE

Our Reporter Ends Nearly  
20 Years of Isolation for  
Anti-Vietnamese Guerrillas



LOCATOR J.C.'s hospital stay understandably caused at halt in the action, but you can't keep those river boat guys down and J.C. is back at it. In a first case instance, member Bob Lockridge found, via another member, counterpart Col. Le Van Nam, who is still in Viet Nam, and has little success with ODP. Bob writes: 'J.C., I need help. After all these years, I have managed to locate my counterpart, Col. Le Van Nam of Long An Prov. For years, my wife and I tried to find Nam. ...Earlier this year, and out of the blue, I received a letter (providing means of contact) that Nam was trying to locate me. We established contact and...can communicate directly. Nam spent 10 years in a 're-education' camp in NVN but is now out and living in Saigon. His son wants to do anything to get his father out of VN. I have tried to contact Immigration but get 'voice mail' and no return calls. Any assistance you can provide would really be appreciated.'

Bob was contacted and directed to another member who's already dealt with Byzantine maze of ODP. We're all hoping for rapid culmination of Bob's long quest, itself emblematic of what THDNA is all about: iron bonds of friendship forged in shared adversity and purpose. Will keep members posted on this one.

Other Locator requests:

Nguyen Van Chien(Malaysia) looking for Both at Căn Thơ(Binh Thuy) Airfield		Nguyen Van Nam(in US)
Nguyen The Hung	" "	Capt. Smith, Sgt. Goodman(both Vinh Long)
Tien Hoang(for Sgt. Tang, still in VN)	" "	M/Sgt. Dobby Dick, Pleiku airfield
Ngo Tan Duc(in VN)	" "	Col.s Hodges, Barth, Phillip, Kaplan, and Thomas Rosell; LTCs Brown, Weatherington
Nguyen Van Thiet(in VN)	" "	Col.s Breakfield, Robb, Mholer(as spelled), all of J4/Ordnance, '52- '69, and Col. West, Capt. Seine, and Maj. Harris, all w/MAAG
Bruce Ferguson	" "	Yang Xiong(Hmong Sky- raider pilot)
Don Washburn	" "	Anyone who served w/him on adv. tms/elements '65 and '69(one of tours in An Xuyên(Cà Mau)
Anne Keegan	" "	Lt. Norman Childs, SF, '60 tour in VN, and a Lt. Ivy and a Maj. Tu, who apparently served together in '69-'70
(Ms. Keegan, a Chicago Tribune correspondent, bought lighters inscribed to these individuals, during May '92 in Saigon markets. Lt. Ivy had lighter-inscribed 'My Good Friend Major Tu')		

Thuan Thanh Huynh (Both w/A-123, Hiep Hoa, 1967)	looking for	Capt. McLaughlin
Thai Hoang Ho and Le Xuan Phong	" "	Anyone w/CNN Recon Co.
K'seo(member of Koho)	" "	Anyone w/B-55, from May 66-Nov 70, and MACV Tm 35(Lâm Đông Prov.). B-55 members remembered: Sgt. Brown, Sgt. Bao, Sgt. Mea- ketha(as spelled), LTC Chamberland, CSM Dancy.

Locator search list is building up, and be it known that J.C. has the most difficult, time consuming and frustrating position in this outfit. We are in process of amending our bylaws in accordance with IRS non-profit rules/regs, and can thereafter pick up a computer to encode search requests, making process easier. Special thx to member Joe Cagney who is using his attorney skills to guide us in this task, and to Paul Brubaker, who is rewriting/amending bylaws. Changes are not substantive and will be subject to member vote.

Special thx also to Ben Myers who has tapped into the 'Prodigy' link, a nationwide computer 'message board' to spread word on THONA, as well as aiding in Locator search effort. Ben made contact with several prospective new members, out of which additional search requests developed:

Alan Miller, then 1Lt., looking for anyone on Adv. Tm 73, Chương Thiện Prov., '68-'69.

Ben's plugging into 'Prodigy' network will be helpful in boosting membership and finding folks. Cảm ơn rất nhiều Ben.

Final locator request:

Larry Jansen(Maj., USMC, ret.) looking for MACV employee, Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ Mai, now aged 47, last known to be in Đà Nẵng, 1972.

Check around your AO, with other vets and vet groups, and do a sit-down recon through local phone books. Eyes and ears of all members very useful in the difficult search for long-lost comrades.

Happy Ending Story Washington Post Magazine, 5 Jul 92, carries cover story of Pham Minh Tam, '74 West Point Graduate, and his odyssey/ordeal before arriving in US as a result of classmate Patrick McBrayer's persistent efforts. After '74 graduation, Tam returned to VN. His brief career as an officer, culminating with Tam's troops emerging victorious in an April '75 recoilless rifle tank kill in Thủ Đức, ended, followed by six years in labor camps. McBrayer, stateside, went to work when Tam's existence and whereabouts became known, finally securing necessary paperwork for Tam and his wife, both now in US. Dogged tenacity pays off again.

'If you have friends, you can endure anything.'

-Helen Keller

MEMBERS IN MEMORIAM

Đại Tá Nguyễn Văn Cu  
Trần Thị But (nurse w/PF-USMC CAP)

Col. Edward J. Cavanaugh  
Lt. Daniel Cassano  
Capt. Joseph M. Berkson  
Maj. Raymond Celeste  
SSGT Wilhelm L. Dammer  
Lt. Kenneth L. Dean  
Capt. Norman W. Heck, Jr.  
SFC John L. McCoy  
Capt. Christopher G. Morbitzer  
SSGT Ralph Mitchel  
Capt. Thomas Sauble  
SSGT James M. 'Pappy' Selix  
SGT Thomas F. Sudlesky  
Maj. Kenneth J. Yonan

(Note: Names immediately above provided by Friends of Viet Nam Memorial, 'In Touch' Program, hoping to place surviving family members in contact with anyone who served with their loved ones. 'In Touch' can be reached at: c/o Friends of Viet Nam Memorial; 2030 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 412; Arlington, Virginia; 22201 703 525-1107



SGT David Boyd, USA/SF  
SSGT Gene Allen Menefee, USA/SF  
SPR William J. Montgomery, USA  
SFC Estel Denny Spakes, USA/SF  
Lt. Stanley M. Baker, USA/SF

SFC Louis D. Briscoe, USA/SF

USMC CAPs

LCPL Michael A. Baronowski  
LCPL Kenneth R. McLeese  
SGT Gary K. More  
LCPL Rae K. Ripetoe  
LCPL William T. Smith  
LCPL Martin Espinoza  
PFC John C. Fife  
SSGT Thomas Underwood  
LCPL Charles Briscoe  
PFC Billy W. Britt  
CPL Andy A. Cabrera  
CPL James H. Clay  
PFC Claude Darden  
LCPL Ferdinand W. Glessing  
CPL Arthur R. Jansen  
LCPL Wesley J. McKinney  
HM2 Thomas P. Moore  
LCPL Ivan A. Ort  
LCPE Henry E. Schanck  
SGT Donald F. Webb  
13 Nghĩa Quân (PF) KIA w/  
6 of above USMC CAP members)

Jamie Sandiecky, USAID

ADV TM 162/Airborne

Capt. Don J. York  
Capt. Thomas W. McCarthy  
SFC Alfred H. Combs  
Capt. Paul R. Windle (USAF)  
Lt. Robert M. Carn, Jr. (USAF)  
Capt. Donald R. Hawley (USAF)  
SFC John E. Milender  
SFC Clifford L. Robinson  
Capt. William T. Deuel  
Capt. Gary H. Bruk  
PFC Michael P. Randall  
Lt. Charles L. Hemmingway  
Lt. Carl R. Arvin  
SFC John L. Church  
Capt. Terrance F. Sage  
Lt. Arthur M. Parker III  
SFC Charles J. Moore  
SP4 Ronald I. Kirkpatrick  
Lt. William E. Bonner  
SP4 Gerald L. Maseda  
Capt. Lee G. Grimsley  
SFC Alberto Ortiz Jr.  
Capt. Glen S. Ivey  
Lt. Grady T. Triplett  
SFC Christian Girard  
Maj. William L. Deane (MIA)  
SSG Elbert W. Bush (MIA)

'We honor our warriors because they are brave and because by seeing Death on the battlefield they know the greatness of life.'  
-Winnebago Tribal Elder



COUNTERPARTS/THDNA has, as seen by Louisville Reunion attendees, our own 'moving wall', upon which are inscribed names of all Members in Memoriam. An appropriate inscription is needed to express our thoughts of gratitude and remembrances. Members are invited to send appropriate literary quotes or to write down their own for consideration.

To extent possible, all Members in Memoriam are given individual writeups with as much biographical data as possible, in a separate volume. Anyone able to contribute is invited to submit inclusions to your editor. Rank, DOB, date KIA and POB all available from 'Wall Book', for US only. Other more important and personal recollections welcome and needed.

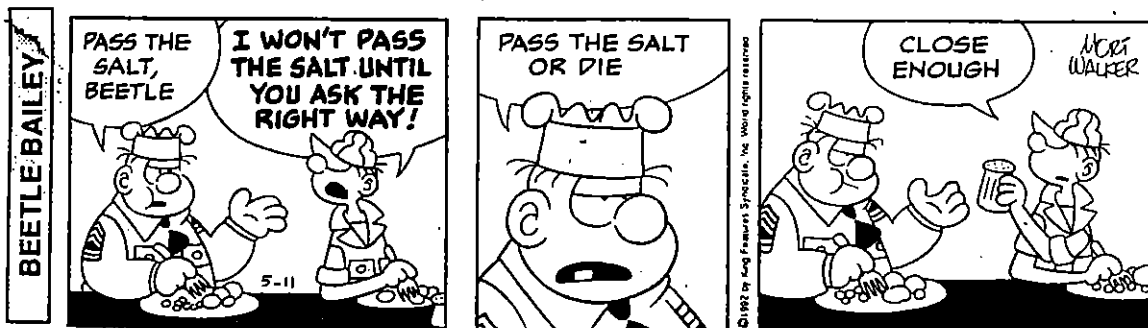
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The Wall celebrated its tenth anniversary this past Veterans Day. COUNTERPARTS/THDNA was present, thanks to shared table space offered by our cousin outfit CUVA(USMC CAP Assn.), for which we are most grateful. CO Grant McClure reports about 20 inquiries from passersby requesting membership information. Later in the evening, at a CUVA banquet, member Tom Harvey(also CUVA member) was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from Counterparts for his inspiration, dedication and efforts in serving as Liason Officer between the two outfits, as well as his lead in setting up our joint sponsorship of Nguyen Manh Hung, a VN orphan. Counterparts members Tran Ngoc Hue, Mike McNunn, Houston Matney, Richard Maus(also CUVA) also thanked for their presence and assistance. Almost forgot Bob Patrikios, CUVA & Counterparts member.

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Humanitarian Project: Sponsorship of Nguyen Manh Hung continues. Our donations, channeled through Pearl Buck Foundation, provide for his school materials, clothing and food in a VN orphanage. Hung was sent a small Christmas stipend, independent of our 'Hung general fund', and two letters in VN language. No response yet. Hung is now 15, an average student, and works in the orphanage farm program, raising pigs and growing vegetables. Counterparts/THDNA intends to fund Hung, at \$300.00/year, until his graduation and entry into the adult world.

Pearl Buck Foundation provides a search service for those seeking contact with Amerasian offspring, as well as for children in search of their fathers, and has now reached an adoption agreement with Hà Nội, pertaining to VN orphans only. Info: PBF; P.O. Box 181; Perkasio, Pennsylvania; 18944-0181. Landline: 800 220-BUCK. These people do a lot of good and are worthy of donations.



'Trying to learn about Việt Nam by watching TV or movies is about the same as trying to get a degree in paleontology by watching Godzilla movies.'

-Earl Miller

A salute to these students, and hats off to Cô Nguyen Vi for her first place entry. One remembers, back in '75, a hue and cry about newly arriving SE Asian refugees and their 'unsuitability/backwardness' in a 'modern'(sic) society. Well? Truth #16 about VN: conventional wisdom is always wrong.

Son of 'counterparts' continues to make good: past issues recounted the ring achievements of 'Saigon' Skipper Kelp, son of a US Sgt. of Blackfoot heritage and his VN wife. Skipper showed athletic prowess by quarterbacking his Colorado high school football team, while weighing in at 132 lbs. He then earned a martial arts black belt, won two national Golden Gloves titles, thence turning pro several years ago. A gutsy hard-hitting welterweight, Skipper had a 15-0-1 record before losing his first fight, by decision, against veteran Dave Gonzales (30-2-1). Speaking with refreshing absence of pro fight bluster ('I got my butt beat'), Kelp still plans to shoot for a world championship and, if politics will permit, have the bout held in Việt Nam.

You'll hear more about Eldrick 'Tiger' Woods, who this year, at the ripe age of 16, became the youngest player ever to play in a PGA tournament. Eldrick's father, former Cô Văn Earl Woods (Bình Thuận Prov.), still seeks his counterpart, Dep. Prov. Chief Nguyen Phong, whom Woods had called 'Tiger' as testimony to Phong's aggressive leadership. Young Eldrick carries the nickname 'Tiger' in hopes that somehow, somewhere, Nguyen Phong will hear of the young golf phenom, make the connection, and thence make contact with Woods Sr. Info is in our search file and we're still at it.

# FREEDOM of SPEECH PAYS OFF

*When it comes to the First Amendment, these five Arizona high school students know better than most that freedom of speech is vital to a democracy.*

*Congratulations to these outstanding writers honored with awards totaling \$450 in the 1992 high school Freedom of Information essay contest.*



*Vi Nguyen  
Greenway High School  
First Place*



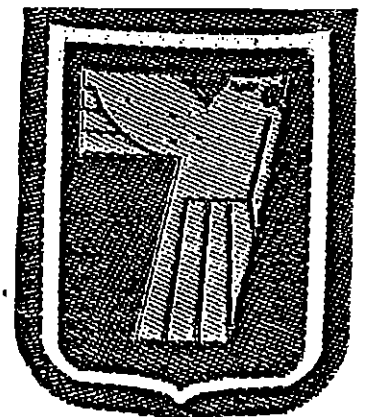
*Cedar Milazzo  
Sinagua High School  
Second Place*



*Marcia Plett  
Paradise Valley High School  
Third Place*



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Left, QLVNCH TQLC (Marine) shoulder patch; SĐ 7 (7th Div.). Photocopies courtesy of Clement Kelly Jr. and his Viet Nam Insignia Collector newsletter, an invaluable bimonthly publication w/abundance of historical info. Clem is VN Vet and Good People. Subscriptions: \$15.00/year (payable to Clem), 501 W. 5th Ave.; Covington, Louisiana; 70433.



'If the television craze continues with the present level of programs, we are destined to have a nation of morons.'

-Boston University President, David Marsh, speaking in 1950

Society of VN Airborne holds reunion. Thx to member Mike George, also SVNA member, for sending article in. Mike also provided Tm 162 Members in Memoriam list.

SVNA is to be commended for keeping its memories, traditions and friendships alive and well. Hats off to a good group of good people.



Jim Ferguson, left, retired Col. Minh Nguyen and Dr. Con Pham look at scrapbooks of memories from their days in Vietnam. They are three of about 150 members of the Vietnamese Airborne Society Association who met for a reunion in Clarksville this weekend.

Staff Photo By Robert Smith

# 'Red Hats' Army Unit Reunites

By BETTINA TILSON  
Of The Leaf-Chronicle Staff  
A lot of Army units claim to be "the best," but American advisers to the elite Vietnamese Airborne were truly the cream of the crop — handpicked from Airborne and Special Forces units during the Vietnam War.  
Known as the "Red Hats," about 150 members of the Vietnamese Airborne Society Association met in Clarksville for a reunion Thursday through today.  
The Vietnamese Airborne Advisory Detachment existed from 1965 to 1973 and

included about 1,200 members.  
"There were only about 120 advisers at any one time," said Paul DeVries, who was a major when he served as an adviser in the early 1970s.  
Most of the advisers were selected from airborne divisions, including the 11th, the 82nd and the 101st. The Red Hats quickly developed a common bond with their Vietnamese Airborne counterparts because they, too, were the elite of their Army. "We shared an immediate comradeship because the (airborne) connotation is the same the world over," said Dick

McDaniel, another Red Hat.  
The Red Hats said no Army units today can be compared to them, but the closest comparison might be with Special Forces units.  
"Adviser" is a term used by the military," McDaniel explained. "Actually, we didn't do a lot of advising." The advisers served more as a support than as teachers, he said.  
In 1961, teams of advisers — consisting of a captain, a lieutenant and a senior noncommissioned officer — were assigned to Vietnamese combat battalions. "When the battalion

COUNTERPARTS LIT  
New member Dr. Larry Kammholz recounts his tour in MOC HOA, a factual narration of his '66-'67 tour in MỘC HÓA, a small delta town in the Plain of Reeds, not far from the Cambodian border. Dr.

attacked, the team attacked," DeVries said.  
The adviser's influence increased as U.S. combat support, including helicopter gunships and Air Force aircraft, began to arrive in Vietnam.  
Advisers assigned to Vietnamese units did not use their U.S. Army uniforms, but wore the same uniforms as the Vietnamese. "If you can have a Caucasian be a Vietnamese, that's what we were," McDaniel said.  
The advisers got their nickname from the maroon airborne berets worn by them and the Vietnamese.  
In battle, the Vietnamese were courageous, DeVries said.

"A real soldier likes to be with fighters, and these guys would fight," DeVries said. "They were tough guys ... They would fight to the death."  
In December 1965, the Vietnamese Airborne Brigade was upgraded to a division with the addition of two more infantry battalions and an artillery battalion.  
The division participated in some of the critical battles of the war, including the Tet Offensive in 1968. By the end of Tet, Vietnamese airborne units had killed more than 2,000 enemies and captured 146 North Vietnamese Army soldiers.  
The political nature of the Viet-

nam War frustrated the advisers, as it did other Americans. "One of the conditions is that we could never go into North Vietnam," McDaniel said.  
Politics dominated the war and set restrictions on combat. "You cannot win a football game if you never go past the 50-yard line," he said.  
"A soldier likes to win like we did in Desert Storm," DeVries said. "Over there, we bombed them to their knees and we ran over them."  
Mike George, who was a command sergeant major in the Red Hats, said that between 70 and 74 percent of the advisers were presented the Purple Heart for injuries received in combat in Vietnam. "The casualties were astronomical because they did fight and they weren't afraid to fight," George

said.  
A total of 24 advisers were killed in the line of duty, and two advisers are missing in action.  
Some of America's most famous soldiers are Red Hats, including Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf. Many are still on active duty, including Maj. Gen. Joe Kinzer, who led the combat jump of the 82nd Airborne Division into Panama during Operation Just Cause. Another former adviser, Lt. Gen. Barry McCaffery, commander of the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized), was scheduled to attend the reunion.  
Association members living in the Clarksville area include Art Lombardi, Ron Carr, Leonard Kruck, Bob Begley, Jerry Colvin, "Snake" Collier and Garland Wright.

Kammholz served with a Military Province Hospital Assistance Program (MILPHAP) team, providing medical assistance to local people, SF and USAID team members, while establishing a medical training program for hamlet nurses and medical staff.

MỘC HÓA, a 103 pp. large format paperback, is replete with color photos, and a straight-forward, unembellished diary, as written then, describing people, events and places, and Dr. Kammholz's impressions of same, warts and all. Few US ever got to MỘC HÓA, an isolated town often inundated by seasonal floods. Beyond normal duties of patching up wounded, helping villagers and building clinics, the MỘC HÓA MIPHAP team had the dubious distinction of hosting a delegation of Dr. Spock's 'Committee of Responsibility', hellbent on finding casualties from napalm, arc lights, etc.,

expressing little interest in 'civilian casualties of the VC, which were in abundance; these would not serve their(the committee's) purpose.'. To his infinite credit, Dr. Kammholz held his own and then some with this group during often acrimonious interchanges. Upon departure, one committee member shook hands w/Dr. Kammholz, saying he 'was able to see some of the falsehood in certain anti-war prop-aganda in the US.' A valuable edition to anyone's VN library, avail-able from Starboard Publishing; 955 Starboard Court; Oshkosh, Wisconsin; 54901. Bác Sĩ Larry continues his work w/SE Asian friends, and has published a 60 pp. medical guidebook for the Hmong population in and around Oshkosh, entirely in Romanized Hmong language, while training younger Hmong as medical technicians and aids. **MỘC HÓA:** was undertaken 'to help counter negative propaganda and with hope that any veteran who read it would feel good. The VN post-Vet was being unfairly puto upon and run down paid by a negative press. Later, Hollywood was to produce negative portrayals. The bravery of SF personnel I had known contrasted starkly with media material.' Amen to that. Thx also to Larry for his provision of Hmong language trans-lations for SITREP(Xov Xwm Tshaj Tawm) for Phooj Ywg Uas Pab Dag Zog(Counterparts/THDNA).

"Txuag Zam Zam Tshiab"  
"Txuag Siav Siav Ntev"

**Take Care of Yourself**



"If you keep your clothes clean,  
then your clothes will last a long time."  
"If you are careful with your life,  
you will live a long time."

**VIETNAM MEMORIES**

**A young Schwarzkopf demonstrates his bravery and compassion, and shares the agony of the nation**

**A**t the officers' club at West Point, where I was an instructor in 1984, the main topic of conversation was often Vietnam. Most officers scoffed at serving in MACV (Military Assistance Command, Vietnam), the advisory force where most people ended up. There was no glory in it, they argued. I saw nothing wrong with serving as an advisor; my father had been one! I was eager to go.

[Schwarzkopf arranged to join MACV, then finish his West Point assignment.]

In one of the battles I fought with a South Vietnamese airborne unit, three paratroopers had been killed. Unlike some other South Vietnamese units, the airborne went to great lengths to return soldiers' bodies to their families.

When a U.S. Army helicopter landed with ammunition, the Vietnamese soldiers decided to load the corpses on the helicopter for the return flight to Pleiku. "No bodies!" the crew told them, and tried to push the bodies off while the pilot revved his blades. I ran over and climbed on the skid next to the pilot's window. He was a captain. I shouted, "What's going on?"

"We don't take bodies. They get blood and shit all over the flight deck." If they had been dead Americans, he wouldn't have thought twice; that burned me.

"Let me tell you something, sport. Either you take those bodies or you stay here on the

ground, because I'm not gonna get off this skid. If you take off, I'm gonna fall off this airplane and die. Are you willing to take responsibility for that? And second, if you try to take off, I'll shoot your ass!"

Either he didn't realize I was bluffing, or the fact that I was a major focused his attention; they loaded the bodies on.

Without knowing it, I'd endeared myself forever to the South Vietnamese troops. They saw an American who cared enough about them to climb up on a helicopter skid and make the pilot accept their dead.

[Colonel Schwarzkopf volunteered for Vietnam again, as a battalion commander, after studies at the Command and General Staff College, and his marriage in 1969.]



An advisor who cared: Aiding a wounded South Vietnamese paratrooper

**IT DOESN'T TAKE A HERO**, By Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, is now on the stands, and contains sections on Norm's Cố Vấn tour w/VNND (Airborne), a 'Newsweek' excerpt of which is presented here. Much of book deals with Norm's life before and after VN, which in no way detracts from the work,

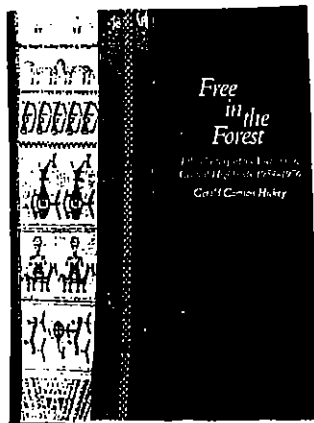
or impact VN had on Schwarzkopf, who had the great-respect for his VN Airborne comrades and then-Col. Ngo Quang Trường (later CG, 1st ARVN Div., then I Corps CG), a photo of whom is in this memoir.

A good read by a good man, who served in a good cause with good people.

COLIN POWELL, by Howard Means. Means, a Pulitzer Prize Winner, tracks Powell's life, from a youth in South Bronx to JCS Chairman. Powell served one tour as an advisor and a second tour with the Americal.

Military Book Club description, at right, does not suggest that advisor tour is covered in depth or detail. No other reviews available. Members welcome and encouraged to submit own reviews and opinions on any books they've read. Gen. Schwarzkopf has attracted more media attention, yet there is little doubt that he and Powell, in equal measure, have earned the respect of all, and embody the professional and personal standards demanded of anyone serving in C6 Vn role. POWELL is in bookstores now.

GREEN BERETS, Hans Halberstadt (Presidio Press, \$12.95). 133 pp. general overview of SF, including brief history, current training and doctrines, w/15 or so pp. on VN. Color and b/w photos, some of VN, taken during opns. Decent enough.



aspirations for autonomy are all discussed in great depth, shedding more light on the Highlands than can be found in any other single volume. 1972 and final debacle in '75 do not make for comfortable reading, made all the worse by author's discussion of Hà Nội 'assimilation' policies after '76 and iron hammer suppression of Dega people and leadership. A 'must have' for any serious student of the subject. Approx. 25 b/w photos, maps, family lineage charts, etc. Yale University Press.

-Largest province in pre '75 VN: Đar Lắc/10.5 Km<sup>2</sup>; smallest: Gò Công, in QK 4(delta)/600 km<sup>2</sup>. Largest late 1960s population: Bình Định/862,000; smallest: Quảng Đức(II Corps)/34,000.

'What one has never experienced, one will never understand in print.' -Isadora Duncan

On the Iraq Army in Kuwait "First, we are going to cut it off. And then we are going to kill it."

## Colin Powell

by Howard Means

The son of Jamaican immigrants, Colin Powell rose from the poverty of New York's South Bronx to become the nation's most prominent military leader. With a reputation as a man with "no bluff," Powell has been tested in some of the worst political fires of our time.

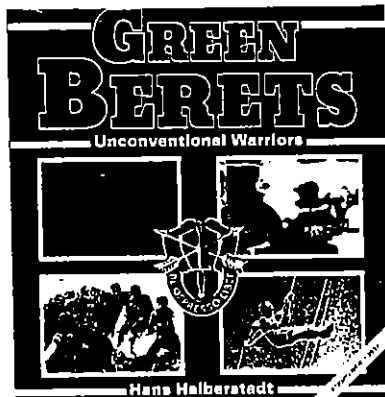
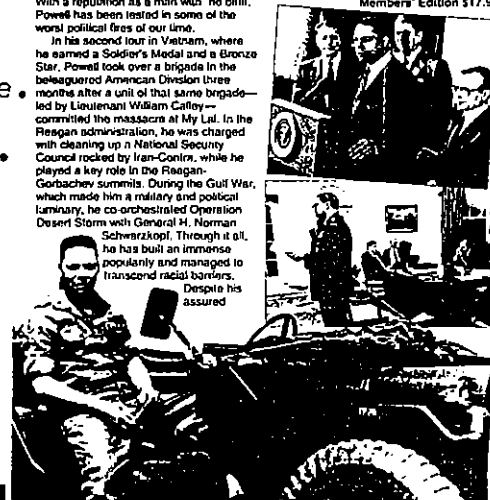
In his second tour in Vietnam, where he earned a Soldier's Medal and a Bronze Star, Powell took over a brigade in the beleaguered Americal Division three months after a unit of that same brigade—led by Lieutenant William Calley—committed the massacre at My Lai. In the Reagan administration, he was charged with cleaning up a National Security Council rocked by Iran-Contra, while he played a key role in the Reagan-Gorbachev summit. During the Gulf War, which made him a military and political luminary, he co-orchestrated Operation Desert Storm with General H. Norman Schwarzkopf. Through it all, he has built an immense popularity and managed to transcend racial barriers.

Despite his assured

public demeanor, it has only come with practice: as a young captain coming home from Vietnam, he was thrown out of a hot dog stand in Georgia for being black.

Written by a Pulitzer Prize winner, this lively in-depth biography probes the life of the first African-American to hold the position of Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff—who may also become the first black to win a position on a national ticket. Based on over 120 interviews with the General, his family and colleagues, Colin Powell is an uncompromising portrait of one of the key military figures of our time. Publisher's Edition \$23.00

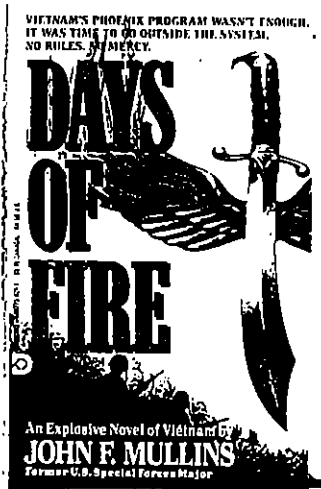
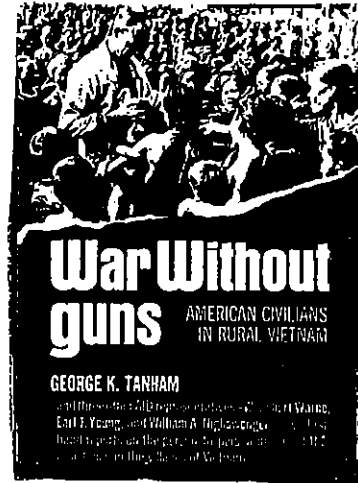
Members' Edition \$17.95



FIRE IN THE FOREST, Ethnohistory of Viet Nam's Central Highlands, 1954-1976, Gerald Hickey. Vol. II of Hickey's magnum opus, a 300-plus pp. work which is more of political/military history than the title would suggest. Hickey was on the scene much of this time, and narrates from direct personal experience. The Diem era, Tết Mậu Thân ('68), political intrigues and Dega

Out of print works.....

**WAR WITHOUT GUNS**, George Tanham. Published in 1966, this book examines the 'other war', i.e. rural development in all its manifestations (medical, economic, agricultural, etc.) in three diverse provinces-Vinh Binh, Phú Bôn, and Quảng Nam. Author went to VN in '64 as Director, Prov. Operations for USAID and, in conjunction with USAID Prov Reps Bob Warne (Vinh Binh), Earl J. Young (Phú Bôn), and William Nighswonger (Quảng Nam) compiles an interesting narrative of how USAID pursued its objectives in the face of VC depredations and inadequate societal infrastructure. Abundance of interesting facts, data, and information. As valuable as this book is, you might not find it in the local library, where decision has been made to 'discard' an obsolete title. Kid you not.



**DAYS OF FIRE**, John F. Mullins. Novel about Phoenix program. Author cited as 'former US Special Forces Major', with no elaboration on VN tours/experience. Cover cites endorsements by J.C. Pollack (author, MISSION MIA, and other works) and Mark Berent, USAF VN Vet and author (STEEL TIGER, PHANTOM LEADER). Cover promo has hallmarks of shoot-'em-up-bang-bang lit, though publishers often juice things up, otherwise disguising good reading while increasing appeal to those incapable of understanding such. Anyone read it and have comments? Advisor/counterpart lit is sub-genre within VN war lit category, and Phoenix program even less explored. Print date is Sept 1991, which suggests title no longer available on racks.

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**TIDBIT FROM THE PAST**, from John Bailey.....I was DSA in Binh Minh District, Vinh Long Province, in 1970. I healed one of John Vann's reduced district teams so consequently received more than my share of attention from him. During one of his visits,



around the first of December, I commented that we had fresh turkey for our Thanksgiving meal. He wanted to know where I had gotten the turkey, so I told him that we had a small turkey farm in the district. He laughed and said 'b\_\_\_\_\_t', as he climbed in his helicopter to leave. I decided I would send him one for Christmas and make arrangements for a large tom to be brought to me alive. Several days later one of our men had to go to Cần Thơ where John had his CEPCORDS IV Corps HQ. We hung a sign around the turkey's neck: 'My name is Jerome, and I'm a product of Binh Minh District'. My instructions were that Jerome be delivered to Mr. Vann's office. When Pete arrived in Cần Thơ

and CORDS HQ, he found that Mr. Vann was out. Pete told Vann's secretary, Frenchie, he had orders to deliver the bird to Mr. Vann's office, and thereupon escorted Jerome in as Frenchie pointed to a door and said 'There it is.'. Pete put Jerome in, closed the door, and accomplished his mission. Vann himself told me the rest of the story, stating that he returned after dark and was told by Frenchie that he had a visitor from Binh Minh. Thinking it was me, he entered his office but was puzzled because the room was dark. Seeing no one, and in dire need to use the latrine, he entered the bathroom. Unbeknownst to Vann, Jerome had taken up residence in the latrine, and protested invasion of his privacy with a very loud 'gobble'. Mr. Vann went back into his office and turned on the light. Jerome had crapped on his chair, his desk, papers, floor and couch. To my relief he found the whole incident hilarious, stating that it took six people to kill Jerome, one on each leg and wing, one to hold his head, and another to chop. He never told me where he found a latrine after Jerome had startled him so badly.

Thanks to John for sharing this experience and reminding us that somehow, someday, amidst everything to the contrary, a welcome breeze of humor could materialize.

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'Statistics show most accidents occur within 25 miles of home at speeds below 40 mph. Solution: Drive fast, never go home.'

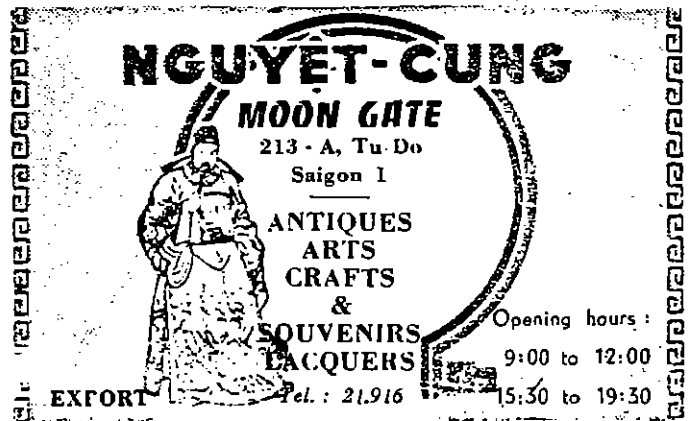
-Member Curt Rich, in 'Curt's Newsletter'

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MEMBER PROFILE Don't have one ready for this issue. Will double up in forthcoming editions.

-0-

PERIODICALS August issue of Viet Nam magazine has story on fall of Ngok Tavak, a SF camp in MR I, early '68. October '92 of same magazine has article by member Col. John Haseman describing exploits of Col. Nguyen Van Cu, 'a genuine patriot and an outstanding soldier willing to die for his beliefs'. Col. Cu, having personally led a fierce counter atk against combined VC/NVA multi-Bn. forces in Mỏ Cây District/Bến Tre (AKA Kiến Hòa) Prov., during '72 Nguyen Hue Offensive, was KIA in a later rocket atk. As Col. Haseman writes: 'He was Việt Nameese, proud of his patriotism, his people, his culture. ....When the moment of reckoning arrived, he died fighting to preserve those things in which he believed most. No man can do more.' Indeed. October issue also has article on the ill-fated Buon Enao Project, a pilot effort to bolster self-defense capabilities amongst Rhade villages in the Highlands, and essentially subverted by Saigon politics.



Dec '92 issue of same publication has article on SF 'muskrat patrol' airboats in the Plain of Reeds, or Đồng Tháp Mười, as well as interview of member John Del Vecchio, who discusses 'Viet Nam Myths', or which there is certainly no shortage.

'Viet Nam' is a worthwhile bimonthly, with \$16.95/annum subscription price. Many of our members have experiences which would dovetail nicely with VN's editorial focus.

Subscription info: Editorial info:  
 Viet Nam Viet Nam  
 P.O. Box 377 602 S. King St.  
 Mt. Morris, Illinois Suite 300  
 61054-7959 Leesburg, Virginia  
 22075

Other periodicals...

'Rock & Ice', a magazine devoted to rock, mountain, glacier, etc. climbing, Jul/Aug '92 issue, has article describing, w/photos, interesting vertical rock climbs undertaken near Hạ Long Bay and in Vinh Bình Prov.

'Backpacking' magazine reportedly had recent article on hikes along the old Đường mòn HCM, or Ho Chi Minh Trail.

HORIZONS, a quarterly literary magazine of Việt Nameese Thought and Experience, has come out with issue #3, offering broad spectrum of interesting articles: demographic data on VN in US, visits of young VN to the homeland they never came to know, VN folklore, and very worthwhile insight into VN culture as a whole. Horizons also cites related publications received, and ordering info for related books. Editor Cao Thanh Huy was kind enough to mention TIDNA/Counterparts in issue #3, explaining our purpose and membership requirements. Cảm ơn vạn bội to Anh Huy. Subscriptions(\$14.00/annum):

Horizons  
 45 S. Park Victoria  
 Suite 350  
 Milpitas, California  
 95035

'When society is orderly, you protect yourself with justice; when society is confused, you project justice by yourself.'  
 -Advisors to King of Huai Nan, a small 2nd century B.C. principality in China.

'Statistics are like a bikini. What they reveal is interesting, what they conceal is essential.'

-Cheryl D. Meese



Label: Sea Horse Medicinal Whiskey

## of Vietnamese Thought and Experience Horizons

Volume 1 ♦ Number 3

Autumn ♦ 1992

### MAMA TINA'S CHILDREN

The Street Kids of Vietnam  
 Glenn A. Menseheimer

### DEMOGRAPHICS

of Vietnamese in the U.S.  
 U.S. Census Statistics

### FISHES AND FISHERMEN

Females and Males in  
 Vietnamese Folklore  
 Huynh South Thong

### THE TRANSFER SUBJECT

Thao Dinh Vo



This journal is student and a revolutionary... depicting the highest U.S. peak... a girl who swallows a seed... another kid swallows her... a big and small kids create... a Viet river... a Vietnamese... a Vietnamese... a Vietnamese...

© Horizons Publications

\$1.75



NEW MEMBERS A hearty and appreciative welcome on board to:

Thomas L. Brown  
Adv Tm 52  
806 795-3271

Nguyen Phung Hoa (Col.)  
Dir., Plans & Policy  
Pacification  
713 645-4267

James F. Ellis  
Adv Tms 96 & 22, and  
Four Party Commission  
817 774-9021

Ed T. Upchurch  
MACCORDS  
818 306-6172

\*Jack C. De Boer Jr.  
Adv Tm 96  
(No phone # listed)

Gary R. Chittester  
Sr. Adv, 52nd Rgr Bn  
Sr. Adv, Biên Hòa RF/PF  
615 226-4029

Richard B. Ross  
US Navy, RAD Proj.  
504 283-4454

Robert W. Lockridge  
Sr. Adv, Long An Prov.  
901 754-2802

Thomas L. Brown  
Adv Tm 52 (Vinh Long)  
No phone # listed

James F. Ellis  
Adv Tms 22 and 96  
Four Party Commission  
817 774-9021

\*Life Member

Address Changes/Roster Update

Joseph B. Mucelli, listed as Project 404 (Laos) Tm member, also served w/Adv Tm 38, VNCH.

Kok Ksor is our newest Life Member (#21)

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MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Bui Quang Lam, TD 52, BDQ (52nd Rgr Bn) assists in presentation of memorial wreath at Phoenix, Az. Viet Nam Veterans Memorial, on behalf of Viet Nameese Community and RVN Military Association of Arizona. It bears repeating that Lam has provided inestimable assistance to THDNA/COUNTERPARTS by absorbing all SITREP reproduction costs in his print shop. Know any big corporate or institutional clients who want good quality four-color printing? Lam's shop can handle it, and we owe him one.

'If you've never been lost, you've never been far from home.'

-Gene Hill

*Paying tribute*



Michael Meister/The Arizona Republic  
South Vietnamese veterans Hung Nguyen (left) and Lam Bui place a wreath at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Phoenix.

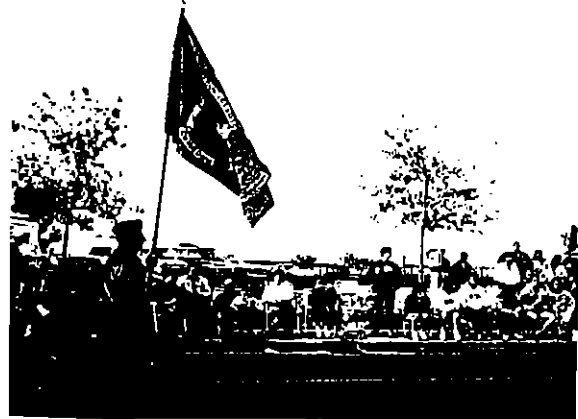
Willie Williams Jr. (Life Member #13) employs his multiple talents as TV producer/director, author, poet and commentator in addressing veterans issues as well as fundamental Constitutional matters. Publications include: 'Free Enterprise, an American Invention', 'Communism, Enemy of All Freedoms', 'Management Contract for Entertainers/Performers' and 'Our Freedom's Documents'. Some available on audio cassette. Price list from Willie at: Black Star Productions, P.O. Box 173; New Haven, Connecticut; 06513-9998. Land line: 203 562-7618. Hats off to Willie for persistence in positive and constructive community involvement, and eternal war against dumb stuff.



Pat Sherman proudly displays his THONA/COUNTERPARTS Certificate of appreciation in his office, while



Owen Kelly, Pat's colleague in balmy Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, carries THONA/COUNTERPARTS flag in Veterans Day parade



Curt Rich has snagged an agent for his manuscript of UNDER DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES. 'UDC' is a 'no apologies, no whining' novel of VN. Curt also asks if anyone knows of any MACV mylar decals suitable for exterior automobile use, adding that if none are readily available, he may have some made up for purchase by former CO Vans. Large, visible MACV window decals are not to be seen. Sounds like an idea whose time has come. Write Curt or your editor if decal source is known.

John Del Vecchio is near completion of his third VN-related novel, CARRY ME HOME. Manuscript is complete, yet editors reportedly playing the 'slick-it-up-for-typical-Walden-Books-consumer-game'.

Member X may, at own expense, be visiting Sungei Besi Refugee Camp in Malaysia within next 3-4 months, linking up with QLVNCH refugees now stranded there. If this comes off we'll have a report on the situation and more details on what appears to be an 'invisible policy' to deny political refugee status for those who can rightfully claim it. If letters received are any indication, a decision has been made somewhere, for some reason, to sweep everything under the rug.

'Woe to him inside a non-conformist clique who does not conform to non-conformity.'

-Eric Hoffer

Ed Hall, author of VALLEY OF THE SHADOW (Cố Vấn tour in VN), and HARRIET QUIMBY (First licensed female US pilot and first woman to pilot an aircraft across English Channel), has edited a book by WO Gary L. Smith, THE SEARCH FOR MIAs. Smith served w/JCRC in VN during recent years, and provides an on-the-scene first hand account of our MIA search. \$14.70 pp. from: Honoribus Press; P.O. Box 4872; Spartanburg, South Carolina; 29305 (publisher of Ed's other books; ask for publication list).



Mike Little (Highland Assistance Project L.O.) and new member Roy Russel were interviewed in a CNN news broadcast covering expeditious relocation imperiled Dega people from Cambodia to US. Their concern for well being of our comrades was there for all the world to see.

Quách Huyhñ 'Martin' Hà recently returned from a European and Vatican visit, sole purpose of which was to inform powers that be of grievous human rights violations in VN and SE Asia. Martin is also deeply involved with aiding recent arrivals, many of whom have spent years in labor camps, make their transition to US life. His tireless efforts in this area are inspirational. Martin also served as the connection between Đà Lạt Military Academy Alumni Association members and THĐNA/COUNTERPARTS; your association was represented at the Đà Lạt Alumni Association annual reunion by Martin and Stu Beckley.

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1965-68



1968-71



CUVA L.O. and member Tom Harvey sent in this photo of a friendly local US CAP element, CAP 2-3-1, 1970 in Vinh Dien area of Điện Bàn Dist., Quảng Nam. Front, left to right: Lopez, Rodriguez, 'Dink'; middle: friend Diep; rear/standing: 'Doc', Dave Harrington, Jeff Von Speckleson, Chip Hunt (CAP Leader), Ron Ginder, and Barr. Photo from Dave Harrington. Yes, we were young once.....

Congratulations to CUVA on their Veterans Day reunion, a highlight of which was USMC birthday cake, w/ CAC and CAP insignia, prepared by Brenda Maus, CO of CUVA and THĐNA member Rich Maus. Many thx also for invite to THĐNA members.

Tom sent article describing reuniting of two former CAP members, Bob Branscombe and Jeff Freiberg, as reported in 16 Oct 92 edition of Camp Verde, Arizona Bugle.

Some of the quotes are noteworthy, insofar as they do not conform to typical media portrayals: 'The Việt Nameese were good to us. Many times' the (US) Marines simply forgot about us and where we were. We would run out of food and the locals would feed us. We were like their sons.'

Finally, Tom advises he may be able to help locate, in-country, former VN comrades in I Corps(MR I/QK I). CUVA member Dave Harrington is now tracking down a Trung Si Bui who, according to Dave, '...ran the CAP and kept us alive.' Check with Tom(P.O. Box 128; Millboro, Virginia; 24460) if in search of I Corps friends.

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'Nobody is more dangerous than he who imagines himself pure in heart for his purity, by definition, is unassailable.'

-James Baldwin

Item: Wall Street Journal article describes actions of Bluebird lovers who strangle, decapitate, crush and otherwise bash English Sparrows squatting in Bluebird nest boxes.

Item: New York City Police report rash of potted plant and cut flower theft before and on Mother's Day.

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AMERASIANS News coverage of Amerasians has ceased, apparently in keeping with journalistic 'fad of the quarter' practices. No word yet as to why Pearl Buck Foundation has stopped Amerasian programs in VN, while continuing long-established programs in Korea, Thailand, Philippines. Recent book A YEAR IN SAIGON, by Katie Kelly(Simon & Schuster) describes author's pitching lucrative NY media/TV critic job to spend year teaching Amerasians in Saigon, for no other reason than 'to do some little bit of good.' Most eligible Amerasians are now in US.

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POW/MIA Senate Select Committee hearings have drawn to a close, while controversy continues. Committee interviewed scores of people, visited VN on several occasions, and became engaged in a minor 'press leak' war purportedly initiated by Committee aids. Final report due shortly, with dismal conclusion that US POWs were probably left behind in SE Asia, if not Korea. For own copy, write: Senator John Kerry, Chairman; Senate Select Committee on POW/MIAs; US Senate; Washington, D.C.; 20510. Committee members visiting VN have been requested to locate, if possible, the remains of THONA/COUNTERPARTS Member in Memoriam, Rocky Versace(SF), killed by VC in a U-Minh Forest camp, as documented by Member in Memoriam Nick Rowe in his book FIVE YEARS TO FREEDOM. No indication of committee response, or success if a search has been conducted.

Though Select Committee has finished its hearings, there is little likelihood that POW/MIA matters have been resolved with any finality, or that controversy will diminish. Committee proceedings were broadcast on CSPAN, and often devolved into heated and antagonistic duels of veiled insults and accusations. Division between committee members was quite visible at times. Hà Nội's willingness to open heretofore secret files well received by some members, who praised Hà Noi cooperation without asking why 17 years passed before these documents were made available. Finally, two members of the in-country Joint Casualty Resolution Center were expelled from VN, reportedly due to Hà Nội's perception of their spying activities.



Architectural detail, Angkor Wat

CAMBODIA Little new, and little good. UN effort to disarm warring factions and create appropriate conditions for planned May 93 elections continues, without major successes, without debilitating defeat. Khmer Rouge refuse to disarm and have hardly been civil to UN forces. Three UN election workers were WIA in NW Cambodia. Perpetrators Unk., but in Khmer Rouge AO. Khmer Rouge elements subsequently abducted a number of UN peacekeeping teams, ranging from six to 46 people; all but nine have been released. Both UN and Sihanouk grow impatient w/Pol Pot's goons; the good Prince says KR should be excluded from elections. UN calls for trade embargo in KR controlled areas, receiving affirmative vote from PRC, formerly KR supplier. Cambodian economy founders, while UN presence and spending power generates pockets of localized inflation, and corruption. 175 women, among them Western aid/charity workers, lodge complaint w/UN regarding behavior of UN peacekeeping troops, who reportedly engage in too much oafish and crass behavior, especially in the form of sexual entreaties.

Meanwhile, tourism grows in Cambodia. 3,561 tourists reported in 1990, 24,000 in 1991, and 68,000 expected for 1992 total. With tourism comes the great scourge, the renowned and incorrigible international slob, as evidenced by one travel flyer, showing a grinning tourist-klutz, chin firmly set on decapitated statue at Angkor Wat. Next time you're in Rome just plop down in the Pieta's lap pal, and get that photo taken. Too bad the Khmer Rouge....ah, that's not nice.

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LAOS No follow up news after large engagement between Pathet Lao and Lao/Hmong resistance forces earlier in the year. Safe to assume underlying causes still at work. Pathet Lao spokesman: 'Our goal has always been to build the Lao People's Democratic Republic into a peaceful communist nation--a nation like Cuba or Sweden(!) ...the Hmong must lay down their arms and follow our laws or the war will continue until the Hmong are gone.' Unsubstantiated reports indicate 72,000 Hmong and Lao have been killed since 'end of the war' in 1975. 90,000 Hmong now live in US. US State Dept. and Pentagon suggested providing UH-1H helicopters to Laotian govt. to assist in POW/MIA search. Idea scuttled in face of allegations that Hueys will merely be used in drug trafficking. US State Dept. March '92 report: Laos is a major opium and marijuana producer, w/large quantities exported to US.' Amnesty International has adopted Thongsouk Saysangkhi as a prisoner of conscience, urging letters asking for his release to: President Kayson Phomvihane, Office of the President, Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic. Saysangkhi was imprisoned for openly criticizing feudalism and nepotism within Party hierarchy. Long-awaited book on Hmong TRAGIC MOUNTAINS (Dr. Jane Hamilton-Merritt) now in print. Dr. Hamilton-Merritt is a long-time Asian scholar, journalist and photographer with long history of personal involvement with the Hmong, as a champion for their cause. Her book is the first comprehensive examination of the Hmong struggle for freedom and autonomy, and covers 1942 to the present. 448 pages, 50 b/w photos, 6 maps, chronology, glossary, the works. Published by Indiana

though copies available from Dr. Hamilton-Merritt herself: \$29.95 plus \$3.00 for UPS or \$2.00 for 4th class book rate postage. \$3.50 for overseas surface mail. This book should be on many college and high school library shelves, and read by any serious student of SE Asian/Lao/VN affairs. Order from: Jane H. Merritt; P.O. Box 761; Southport, Connecticut; 06490. Check payable to 'Jane H. Merritt'. Commendation and praise to author for undertaking this work, and for her decades of dedication to a people whose plight has long been ignored by the mainstream media and world in general.

Item: 400,000 Lao and Hmong have fled Laos since 1975, approaching 15% of 1975 population and constituting the highest percentage of refugees, of total population, of the three Indochinese nations.

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'I prefer the company of peasants because they have not been educated sufficiently to reason incorrectly.'

-Montaigne

Item: Dr. Robert Thompson, co-chairman of Beaver College's Political Science Dept., uses all of Oliver Stone's films- 'Platoon', 'Salvador', 'JFK', etc. in his political science classes.

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HIGHLANDS ASSISTANCE PROJECT Progress continues, a testimonial to

profound benefits which accrue to those who never accept 'no' for an answer. Kay Reibold, director, recently delivered one ton of medical supplies directly to a Raglai Leprosarium in Khanh Hoa Prov., and several boxes of books to the University of the Highlands.

In addition, Kay was able to arrange visas for Han Cao Dung, a Highlander paralyzed for the past 12 years due to a spinal defect.



Accompanying Dung was his doctor, Vo Van Thanh, who came along to observe surgical techniques applied to correct Dung's spinal defect and restore mobility. Dung is pictured above in a North Carolina hospital. Kay is pushing hard on this project, ably assisted by our Highland Assistance Project Liason Officer, Mike Little. Donations welcome: Highlands Assistance Project; c/o Mike Little; 1731 Technology Drive, Suite 860; San Jose, California; 95110; OR to the Project directly: C/o Kay Reibold; 4108 Yates Pond Road; Raleigh, North Carolina; 27606. Good people doing good things; support them.

Pictured at right, holding up a Ruby Queen, is new member Bobby Jackson, during his employ as C6 Van to QLVNCH TD 37 BDD (RVN 37th Rgr Bn). Bobby recently got together with member Nguyen Van Chinh, after 25 years, rekindling memories and experiences as they looked over photos from misc. people, places, ops. Bobby also has two full



carousels of slides from his 37th days and plans on bring-same to the '93 reunion for all to see. A hearty thx to Bob for providing J.C. with roster of advisors and other historical info to assist J.C. in his Locator/Historian roles. We're beginning to gain some critical mass with contacts and word of mouth recruiting. Keep spreading the word.

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'To be able to fill leisure time intelligently is the last product of civilization.'

-Unattributed quote from Sid's Exxon Christmas Calendar.

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Population Crisis Committee Index of Suffering, measuring 10 indices of oppression, ranked in order of least oppression; of selected countries:

1 Denmark	54 Thailand
5 US	76 Viet Nam(w/Liberia)
40 Malaysia	84 Cambodia
	87 Laos

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MISC. VN ECON INFO ... 1992 oil production expected to hit 37.0 million barrels, up from 27.0 million in '91. Most exported to Japan. Powell's Book Store, Portland, Oregon received OK to send \$50,000.00 of books to VN, mostly textbooks (computers/medecine/English primers) ..... 1992 VN rice production expected to be 17% over 1991 ..... Taiwan and VN resume air travel agreements, absent since '75..... VN present at Taiwan trade fair, first time ever..... S. Korea opens liason office in Hà Nội as probable first formal step toward normalization..... Infamous Hoa Lo Prison may be torn down to make room for luxury hotel, the 'Hà Nội Tower Center'..... OmniTrak Group, market research outfit, conducts consumer interview survey in Saigon, Hà Nội. Result: US goods are preferred over Japanese/European products.

'Not everything that counts can be counted; not everything that can be counted counts.'

-Albert Einstein

OTHER VET GROUPS Always ready and able to assist other Veterans associations, we advise members of following reunions, asking they spread the word:

25th Inf Div  
5-8 Aug '93 Reunion  
Louisville, Kentucky  
Andy Ansell  
R.D. 1, Box 336  
Acme, Pennsylvania 15610

Mobile Riverine Force Assn.  
Mekong Delta, RVN  
8-11 Jul '93 Reunion  
Chattanooga, Tennessee  
Info: Albert Moore  
Rt. 5, Box 499  
Conover, NC 28613  
704 464-7228

Delta Raiders(D Co., 2/501st 101st Abn Div) is tracking down eligible members and has already held one successful reunion. Contact Ray Blackman, Rt 1, Box 39-A; Valparaiso, Nebraska; 68065. Ray was also driving force in founding the 'Ripcord Report', a newsletter for friends and survivors of FSB Ripcord(Ripcord Assn.; C/o C. Hawkins; 11614 Helmont Drive; Oakton, Virginia; 22124).

All groups above have offered to help THDNA/COUNTERPARTS locate eligible members. It behooves us to reciprocate with like effort.

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HUMAN RIGHTS Beneath all the hoopla regarding untapped markets in Viet Nam, and the Đổi Mới(new life) economic program, a distinct campaign designed to squelch any and all political opposition is underway. Looks like/sounds like a warning and preemptive strike intended to remind any and all that economic freedom is not to be associated with any change in current political atmosphere. Dr. Nguyen Dan Que remains imprisoned for espousing political pluralism, an official crime. Doan Viet Hoat, former vice president of the Buddhist Van Hanh University has been jailed since 1990, for much the same reason. Nguyen Khac Chinh, lawyer, writer and former member of the VN Nationalist Party, has been held in detention since his 27 Dec 1975(as typed) arrest. VN's Buddhist community is engaged in quiet struggle w/Ha Noi ideologues, who have set up a puppet 'Buddhist' hierarchy to subvert and displace actual Buddhist leaders. Meanwhile, Hà Nội has strongly protested a Vatican instruction asking VN's Catholic clergy to avoid affiliation with a similar state-sponsored/controlled 'Catholic Solidarity Committee of Patriotic Viet Namese'. Another shell game.

Members are encouraged to subscribe to the 'Việt Nam Journal', a triannual publication addressing human rights violations in VN. \$6.00/year, from: VN Journal; P.O. Box 1163; Burlingame, California; 94011-1163.

'Television-a medium. So called because it is neither rare nor well done.'

-Ernie Kovacs





The Journal covers far more material than space allows in this publication, and is the only known publication documenting Human Rights violations in VN. Well worth the \$6.00.

Finally, in a little-publicized event, former VNAF pilot Ly Van Tong returned to VN to make his feelings known. Tong had been shot down in his A-37 Dragonfly during the last days in 1975. He spent five years in labor camps, then escaped and embarked on a 17 month trek which ended on the steps of US Embassy in Malaysia. Tong arrived in US, settled in New Orleans, and began post-graduate studies. He later published his auto-biography, BLACK EAGLE, and appeared well on his way to success and prosperity. Tong had other things in mind. On 4 Sept '92 he returned to Thailand, promptly hijacked an Air Việt Nam aircraft, and ordered the pilot to fly low around Saigon while Tong dropped sackfuls of leaflets calling for an end to political oppression and a truly independent, free and prosperous VN. Mission accomplished, Tong parachuted from the aircraft and was promptly captured. He is now in prison and awaits trial.

Letters to your senators, representatives, Hà Nội's delegate to the UN, etc. can have an effect, if only to let Hà Nội know that the world is indeed watching and does not take Human Rights violations lightly. 'Quê Mẹ', a VN publication out of Paris (stateside info: P.O. Box 451512; Garland, Texas; 75045-1512), reprinted a number of letters from US Senators/Representatives sent to Vo Van Kiet, protesting Human Rights violations. In addition to example shown here, Sen. Orrin Hatch, former Rep. Stephen J. Solarz, and entire membership of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus voiced opinions to Mr. Kiet, who is desperate to appease US concerns as condition to diplomatic recognition. Write letters.

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LETTERS 'I reckon that it's bloody great that so many new members are surfacing at last and doing it with dignity. What I have found in Australia and America, to name a few countries, is the real veterans that actually worked with the Việt Nameese people have never held any animosity towards their friends and counterparts, but what really annoys me is the 'pogos', who never saw action, are hell bent on running them down. I just want to see all of us unified again. That'll be good enough for this little black duck, as us Aussies say.

BILL BRADLEY  
SEN. ARIZ.

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3001

May 27, 1992

COMMITTEES  
FINANCE  
ENERGY AND  
NATIONAL RESOURCES  
SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON INTELLIGENCE  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON  
ACORN

The Honorable Vo Van Kiet  
Chairman, Council of Ministers  
Hanoi  
Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing in response to reports I have received about the treatment of religious figures such as Catholic and Buddhist monks and priests. Specifically, I am concerned about reports I have received about five monks who were adopted as prisoners of conscience by Amnesty International: Mr. Thích Huyền Quang, Mr. Thích Quảng Đức, Mr. Thích Đức Nhuận, Mr. Thích Từ Sỹ and Mr. Thích Trí Siêu (Le Danh That). It is my understanding that these men have been imprisoned or placed under house arrest for activities associated with their roles as leaders of the Unified Buddhist Church in Vietnam.

I am also concerned about reports from Amnesty International that Roman Catholic priests have been targeted for persecution. I have been informed that the following priests have reportedly been mistreated for the peaceful expression of their religious beliefs: Tran Ba Loc, Thadeus Nguyen Van Ly, Joseph Le Thanh Que, Nguyen Khac Nghieu, Nguyen Thai Sanh and Vu Duc Tuan.

I am troubled by these reports, as such treatment would represent a violation of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights and the Constitution of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. I know you will agree that the ability to express one's religious beliefs is a key component of international standards on human rights.

I hope that you might investigate these reports and take appropriate measures.

Sincerely,

*Bill Bradley*  
Bill Bradley  
United States Senator

Bernie Newson

Well put Bernie. Now, if you guys 'down under' will just quit accusing us US-born for having funny accents.

'I would like to take this opportunity to speak out some of my concerns and thoughts. I feel content about our new name, Tướng Hữu Đồng Nam/Counterparts and am glad we all had the chance to express our opinions in the survey sheet. ...Taking this opportunity to introduce my friend, Col. Tin Le Tri, used to be Chief of Province and under secretary for the Interior before 1975 event. Col. Tin want to join THONA also. Please contact him for his affiliate processing ASAP. In order to contribute to Counterparts, should I know any humanitarian project to be achieved that I could give a hand to build it up? Please let me know if I could help. I have cooperated in sponsoring former ARVN detainees from different refugee camps in SE Asia, and especially from Việt Nam, especially those with no relatives in SUA for their resettlement request. We have filed lots of petitions for comrades still left behind.

We have a close interaction with US VOLAGs (volunteer agencies) such as USCC, IRC, etc., to help newcomers for their first step. I think Counterparts, with its assistant spirit, could help develop the assistance to these comrades, easing the transition to this promising land of freedom, and lead them to the mainstream of the new life. In turn, we can help them contribute significantly to America and its development in future time, like all US citizens have to. I hope this matter will be considered and brought out openly in the next meeting.

As for the two texts given my Max Lund and Kok Ksor (from '92 reunion regarding Hà Nội oppression of Dega) I fully agree with their true statement about the VN communist misdeed, tyranny, and racial discrimination. Their project must be backed up by all members in doing something useful and helpful to their movement.

Finally, I would like to thank Steve and Jeanne Herberth for the '92 reunion, even though I could not be present. Secondly, I thank you for what you are going to do for my suggested consideration of my project mentioned above.

-Vo Dinh Quy

Thank you very much for your personal commitment and actions Quy, all of which embody the objectives of THONA/Counterparts. Your suggestions map out the road we wish to travel. Thanks also for spreading word to other potential members. Your efforts are what we need to help this outfit meet its goals and expectations.

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CLOSING OUT Gratitude and heartfelt thanks to Darryl Nelson for his dedicated and tenacious efforts to procure word processors for THONA, and placing publicity notices in several publications.

Coffee cups...Adjutant Steve Herberth has many COUNTERPARTS coffee cups on hand. \$10.00 postpaid. We've got some \$ locked up in these. Nice cups. Order one. 1993 REUNION: 10-14 March, in Louisville. Members should have received info sheet prior to this. Check w/Steve & Jeanne (masthead address). LATE SITREP: Apologies due membership for delay, w/only consolation being fact that minor cataclysms causing same should not occur again. Next issue goes into print immediately. Look for it in your mailbox 4-5 weeks. Do your all to make the reunion. You'll meet some very fine people, be able to say your piece on what promises to be a very busy year, and, as all prior reunion attendees will avow, have a very rewarding and meaningful weekend. Special thanks to Ben Myers for spreading word via Prodigy computer network/bulletin board. Good speakers, slide shows, all mixed in with plans for a productive year ahead.

SEE YOU THERE.

# Counterparts

## Tướng Hữu Đông Nam Á

Post Office Box 40, Circleville, WV 26804

8 August 1992

### PICNIC AFTER ACTION REPORT

Twenty-one stalwart souls braved the weather to conduct an informal and irregular picnic this day. Thunderheads loomed over Bob Cunningham's farm ... a refreshingly pastoral piedmont setting, which could've accommodated hundreds of guests (next time!) ... but the weather only threatened, like some doomsday communist, and never materialized. There was enough food to have fed the multitudes, from sloppy-joe and potato-salad to prima-vera and spring-rolls, but no one brought 'baked beans' ... probably anticipating that someone else would! Although Tran Ngoc Hue's gourmet egg-rolls were soon devoured, most people didn't seem much interested in eating. They seemed more interested in talking with kindred spirits! Bob Patrikios impressed all the ladies by serving white wine in individually-wrapped, sanitary, disposable plastic-glasses he'd collected from various motels! In lieu of acquiring a talented new wife, Bob traded recipes on some of the finer menus. Our conversation ranged from Navy ice-cream to Army PIRs, from snake preparation to the proper method for catching a monitor lizard (nine hungry Nungs!), but the "winning dish" was offered by Hank Dagenais ... rice with BAT sauce! We contrasted our scrounge diets and meager "care packages" to the laden tables before us ... 'hungry' was different then. After Grant McClure was presented an extra replica of the "MACV medic" unofficial insignia reproduced for our display plaque, the conversation became general ... from dysfunctional uniforms and wartime mufti to old reliable Thompson SMGs and new ceramic-barreled Saco high-velocity rifles. We ranged from old Studebaker Hawks to new five-liter Mustangs, from political embarrassments to campaign promises, from post-military vocations to sustaining avocations. We



realized that most of us didn't drink beer, but brought some for another; and that Grant gets a little woozy if you add a twist of lime to his glass of "yuppie fizz water"! Judd Clemens told us about moose, bear, glacier snakes (really!), and the absence of thunder (truly!!) in Alaska. With pride of ownership, Judd explained the differences between a 'fifth-wheel' and a 'fifth-column' ... but manufacturer's warranties may void his disquisition! Houston Matney gave a brief class on the proper methodology for field-stripping cigarette butts, and its utility in avoiding enemy action! Tom Harvey, Grant, and Hue discussed the complexities of the ODP, and reviewed a refugee roster from Malaysia ... which serious aspects will be covered elsewhere. Jim Baker's daughter, and most of the distaff corps, contributed reinforcement and amplification to many of the topics ... as they too lived through our war, and must deal with its aftermath. We dispersed before sunset, with most of us taking as much as we'd given. We were reminded to support the information booth on the Capitol Mall and C.U.V.A.'s reunion/banquet during Veteran's Day. Enroute home, I marveled at the almost instantaneous comfort I'd felt with virtual strangers; and my "better-half" confirmed the level of trust projected by these fine people. It was a good time! With special thanks to Bob and Rita Cunningham for hosting this gathering, we ought to do it again!

XO sends ... OUT.



# Viet-Nam Assistance for the Handicapped

... Thank you for your efforts in this compassionate project.

**Frank R. Wolf**  
*Member of Congress*

... VNAH represents a unique set of particulars in our desire to both provide humanitarian assistance and overcome many of the animosities of the war itself.

**James H. Webb**  
*Former U.S. Navy Secretary*

... We strongly support the effort of VNAH to assist the prosthetic clinic in Can Tho. This is the first NGO formed by Vietnamese-American to extend humanitarian assistance to Viet-Nam.

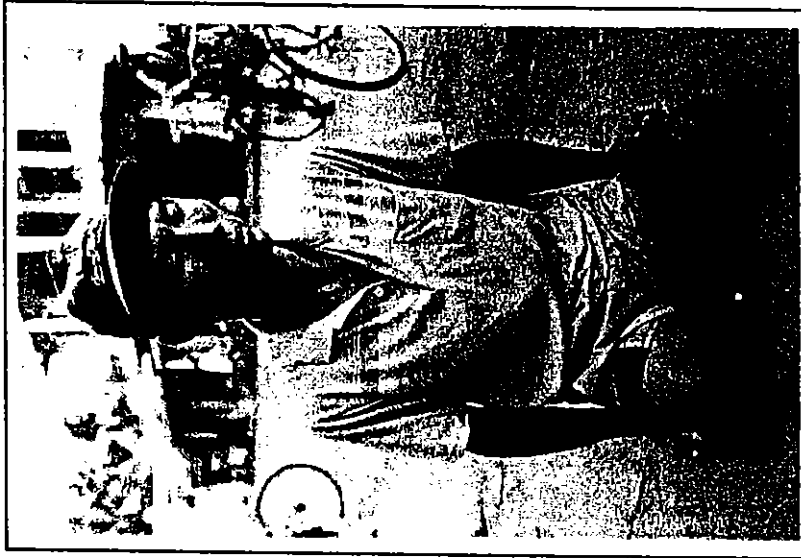
**Richard H. Solomon**  
*Assistance Secretary of State  
for East Asian and Pacific Affairs*

... We just simply can not forget those who fought along side of us.

**Charles E. Joeckel, Jr.**  
*National Adjutant  
Disabled American Veterans*

... I greatly admire and support this humanitarian program...

**Gen. John Vessey**  
*Chairman, JCS (Ret)*



A former South V.N. Soldier in Chu Lai, Viet Nam

P.O. Box 6554 • McLean, VA 22106  
Telephone (703) 847-9582  
Fax (703) 448-8207

*A Nonprofit Organization*

## Viet-Nam Assistance For The Handicapped

P.O. Box 6554

McLean, Virginia 22106-6554

Tel. (703) 847-9582 • Fax (703) 448-8207

THDNA/COUNTERPARTS NOTE: Before clipping coupon, make a master photocopy from which others can be made and distributed to more people. This outfit has good credentials, good people, and is pursuing an worthy and long neglected cause.

# With Your Help, They Can Walk Again...

To VNAH:

Yes, I am willing to help:

- Regular Member \$30 per year       Special Support Member \$100 per year  
 Donation for Limbs: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of limbs @ \$50./each = \_\_\_\_\_  Others \_\_\_\_\_

(A photograph of the recipient will be sent to you for each limb provided)

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State : \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel.: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

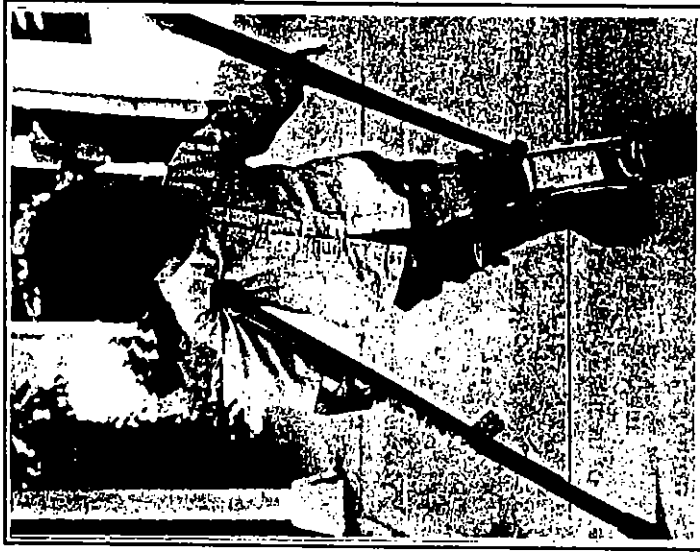
Thank you for your tax-deductible donation.

Please send to:

VNAH  
P.O. Box 6554  
McLean, VA 22106

THONA

Over time, these facilities may be upgraded to produce custom-made prosthetic devices on-site, as well as occupational training.



## PURPOSE

Viet-Nam Assistance For The Handicapped (VNAH) is a nonprofit, nonpolitical, tax exempt charitable organization formed to support prosthetic clinics in southern Viet-Nam. These clinics will fit needy amputees with artificial legs.

## THE NEED

The Southern portion of Viet-Nam alone has an estimated 115,000 amputees, who have lost lower limbs as the result of injuries from landmines and other war-related activities. For these victims as well as hundreds of amputees who have lost limbs due to health problems, or to traffic and other types of accidents, prosthetic care in Viet-Nam is simply inadequate. Most of these victims are forced to go without or use primitive, ill-fitting prosthetic devices.

## ORGANIZATION

VNAH is headquartered in McLean, Virginia. It is governed by a Board of Directors, and assisted by a Board of Advisors that helps formulate goals, policies and budgets. An Executive Committee implements policies set by the Board of Directors.

## THE PROJECT

VNAH will work with existing prosthetic facilities in major urban centers to enable them to fit and provide limbs for amputees. This will include the provision of equipment, training, limbs, and supplies.

## FUNDRAISING

Fundraising for this project will be sought from private individuals, foundations, corporations, and U.S. Government programs. We invite you to be a member, sponsor or supporter.

## SUMMARY

Viet-Nam Assistance For The Handicapped is working to return large numbers of amputees back to the productive life they once had. It is the opportunity for Vietnamese, their friends, and any others who wish to help the less fortunate - by letting them walk again.