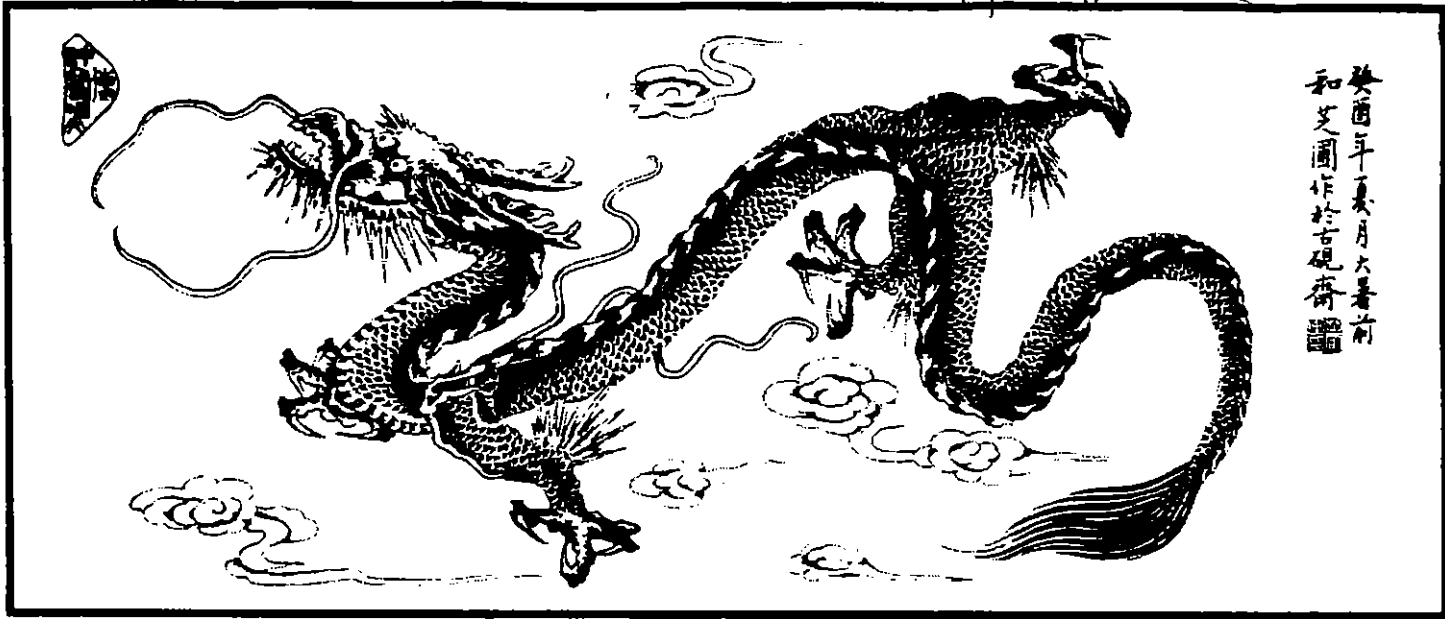


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- KLEI MRÀO MRANG SITREP #22 BẢO CÁO TÌNH HÌNH SỐ 22
 ကလေး မြေကွေ့ မြေကွေ့နီမာကျ XOV XWM TSHAJ TAWN ၂၂ ၂၂ ၂၂

The SITREP is the quarterly publication of COUNTERPARTS/TUONG HUU ĐÔNG NAM Á, an association of those serving in any counterpart role, as part of their assigned duties, during the Indochina Wars of 1954-1975, or beyond. Full membership available to anyone serving in this capacity, in a military or civilian role, in what was perceived as an effort to halt militarist expansion in SE Asia. Associate memberships also available. Membership inquiries: Ben Myers, 6105 Rainbow Circle, Lake Worth, Florida, 33463. All other correspondence: Steve Herberth/Adjutant, P.O. Box 22791, Louisville, Kentucky, 40252-0791.

OFFICERS

- Grant McClure
Commander
- Steve Herberth
Adjutant
- Charlie Thurmond
XO
- J.C. Fischer
Locator/
Historian
- Ben Myers
Membership/
Locator
- Quách Huỳnh Hà
Locator/L.O.
Việt Nameese
Community
- Mike Little
L.O., Highlands
Assistance Proj.
- Bill Laurie
Editor
- Advisory Council
Kok Ksor
Quách Huỳnh Hà
Roy Russell

Another Reunion under our belts, and by all accounts it was a good one. Many thx to J.C. Fischer for his assiduous efforts in putting everything together, even as he was performing Locator and Historian duties. Reunion After Action Report follows in next SITREP. Astute readers may wonder why SITREP is still cranked out by Bronze Age manual letter-banger. Answer: Printer is on the way, and editor still emerging from Bronze Age. Things could be worse. Could be clay tablets and cuneiform. We're getting there.

Membership continues to grow and aside from typical problems generated by expansion, we're doing fine, plan to do better. Pour yourself a cup of cà-phê sữa or cà-phê đá, and read on....

Following submitted by member Bobby Jackson:

On the weekend of 23-24 July, before our Killen reunion, a celebration was held honoring the 34th Anniversary of the RVN Rangers, better known as Biệt Động Quân. Hosted in Houston by the Việt Nameese Ranger Assn. of Texas, the weekend included social events and many informal sessions. The commemoration was attended by more than 300 RVN Rangers and their families. I had the privilege of attending with two other BÐQ Cổ Vans, Roy Lombardo (41st Rgr Bn and 4th Rgr Group, 1967-1968) and Mike Martin (32nd and 44th Rgr Bns, 1965-1966). Mike coauthored THE BLACK TIGERS, an excellent historical account of the BÐQ. The honored guest and keynote speaker was General Đỗ Kế Giai, the last RVN Rgr Commander, only recently released by the communists after 17 years in the labor camps.

BDQ Commemoration(cont.)

I was fortunate and extremely pleased to meet several RVN BDQ comrades with whom I served in 1967. As a representative of COUNTERPARTS/TUONG HUU ĐÔNG NAM Á, and the US Army Ranger Assn., I was honored to be in the presence of the elite and dedicated Biệt Động Quân. Needless to say, the event was an extremely rewarding experience.'

An excellent commemorative publication, ĐẶC SAN MŨ NÂU, was passed out at the event, containing many stories and anecdotes of BDQ history and accomplishments, and a short piece by member Mike Martin. Stories included accounts of TĐ 92(92nd Bn), who withstood a 510 day siege at Tổng Lê Chân(1972-1974), last battle of TĐ 58(58th Bn), TĐ 52 exploits, TĐ 30 ops in Mồ Vet/Parrot's Beak, and sobering accounts of 'life' in the infamous Trại Cải Tạo/POW camps. Of additional interest to COUNTERPARTS/THĐNA members is a short piece on our Member in Memoriam, Đại Tá/Col. Hồ Ngọc Cẩn, BDQ and Chương Thiện Prov. Chief in 1975. Cẩn refused to surrender, yet was captured shortly after the final capitulation, uttering these decidedly undiplomatic words:

'Tôi không đầu hàng, các ông cứ bắn tôi đi. Nhưng trước khi bắn, tôi xin được mặc quân phục và chào lá quốc kỳ của tôi lần sau cùng.'

(I do not surrender, you can go ahead and shoot me. Before you shoot, I ask to wear my uniform and salute my national flag one final time.)

Upon receiving his death sentence before a tribunal in Cần Thơ, Cẩn told his captors:

'Đừng bịt mắt tôi. Hãy để tôi được nhìn đồng bào tôi trước khi chết.'

(Don't blindfold me. Let me see my people before I die.)

Article will be translated and submitted to Mike McMunn, Archivist for our Members in Memoriam. Any members having served w/Cẩn are encouraged to send additional recollections to Mike, so that Cẩn will be remembered not merely as a name, but as an individual whose admirable attributes should influence and inspire our actions today.

A crisp salute to the RVN Ranger Assn. of Texas/Hội Ai Hữu Biệt Động Quân, Texas, for sponsoring and organizing this event, and for their excellent work in preserving heretofore ignored history.

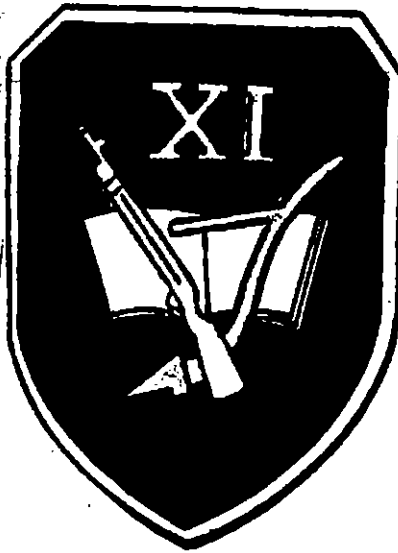
Historical background: as a service branch on return of 30 RVN Ranger programs at Ft. Benning established at Sông Mao, a year later consolidation was also conducted in Benning. From this units expanded in number other feats, TĐ 37 was Citation in 1966, w/ honors for LBJ. Member ally decorated by Gen. During its 15 year active (Tuong/General, except as Tôn Thất Xứng, Phan Xuân Nhuận, Trần Văn Hai, Đại tá/Col. Trần Công Liễu, and Đỗ Kế Giai.



QLVNCH BDQ was established 1 July, 1960, following the officers from their training Ranger training centers were Nha Trang and Đà Nẵng, and ed at Duc My. BDQ training Malaysia, Panama, and Ft. small beginning, RVN BDQ and in proficiency. Among awarded a Presidential Unit Gen. Westmoreland doing the Nguyễn Văn Chính was personally Westmoreland in the ceremony. history, BDQ Commanders were noted): Phan Trọng Chinh, Lam Sơn, Trần Văn Hai, Đại tá/Col. Trần Công Liễu,



PATCH A



PATCH B



PATCH C

ID help requested. Clement Kelly, publisher of Viet Nam Insignia Collector Newsletter(quarterly, \$15.00/year, checks payable to Clement, not VICN, 501 W. 5th Ave.; Covington, Louisiana; 70433) asks if any or members can ID patches illustrated above. Patch A is blue, w/white anchor, and crossed swords & star within yellow flower blossom. Clem notes it resembles JGS(Joint General Staff)BTM insignia, but still differs enough to raise doubts. Patches B & C are both green, w/white borders and black edge. Roman numerals are yellow, as is plow. Rifle and book are white. Patch C has a yellow long house. Clipped upper corners typically denote school or training camp. Maybe RD cadre? Anyone knowing origen of these patches invited to write Clem at his address cited above. Consider subscribing to the VICN; it's a one of a kind publication, w/abundance of historical info. Thx again to Clem for permission to photoplagiarize patches/insignia from VICN.

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'The Supreme Court's interpretations of the Constitution are sometimes like Spike Jones' interpretations of music. Only it's not as funny when the Supreme Court does it.'

-Thomas Sowell

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LOCATOR

Peter Scott found Trung tá/LTC Thach Quyen, former Dist. Chief in Tri Tôn, Châu Đốc Prov. LTC Quyen spent 10 years in NVN prison camps, and then went across Cambodia, w/surviving members of his family. After stays in Thai and Philippine refugee camps, they made it to US, now live in San Francisco. Pete also located former 188 RF Co. CO, Chau Reap, who arrived in Tacoma a few months ago. Đại úy Reap was seriously WIA by B-40 in 1969, received treatment in US hospital, and returned to command the 188th. Dr. Larry Kammholz scanned new member list from recent SITREP, seeing Bill Yantis, who commanded Det. B-41 at Mộc Hóa(Kiến Tường Prov.) when both served there. (Reminder: Dr. Kammholz has written a book, appropriately titled MOC HOA, describing his tour in this sometimes inundated province town ensconced in the Plain of Reeds. Many photos, in color. \$16.95 pp. from: Starboard Publishing; 955 Starboard Court; Oshkosh, Wisconsin; 54901. It's a good read.)

Locator requests:

Trần Viet Nha was w/Kiến Hòa (AKA Bến Tre) PRUs from 1968-1970. He is now stuck in Indonesian refugee camp, needing confirmation of his service. He remembers an advisor named Pomar (as spelled in request). Any former Kiến Hòa people able to help Nha? Without confirmation he may be sent back to VN, where former PRU members are not given veteran's preference for employment. Nha can be contacted at: Boat #LI.0313/276; Galang Refugee Camp Site 2; Tanjung Pinang; Riau 29112; Indonesia.

Mike Logan (6732 21st Ave. NW; Seattle, Washington; 98117-5709) is looking for anyone who knew his Father, Maj. Donald G. Logan, with Adv Tm 96, Cần Thơ, 1963.

Page Brown looking for 'Lee To' (perhaps Ly Tho?), former interpreter for Cõ Vãn w/TĐ 65 BĐQ (65th RVN Rgr Bn). Had been in Tây Ninh, and may now be in US. P. Brown at: 43 Heights Rd.; Stratham, New Hampshire; 03885. 603 778-4877.

Send new Locator requests to (one copy to each):

J.C. Fischer
100 Red Oak Circle
Temple, Texas
76502-3503

Ben Myers
6105 Rainbow Circle
Lake Worth, Florida
33463

Le Nguyen Binh also searching for former Châu Đốc S-2, then-Đại úy Abdul Aziz, joining Peter Scott and Frank Brown. As previously noted, Đại úy Aziz was a Moslem Cham, a number of whom were in Châu Đốc.

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'A human being should be able to change a diaper, plan an invasion, butcher a hog, conn a ship, design a building, write a sonnet, balance accounts, build a wall, set a bone, comfort the dying, take orders, give orders, cooperate, act alone, solve equations, analyze a new problem, pitch manure, program a computer, cook a tasty meal, fight efficiently, die gallantly. Specialization is for insects.'

-Robert Heinlein

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MEMBER PROFILEFrank Brown... 'I was born and raised in a small town in the Delaware Valley. After high school I briefly attended college, then worked as a reporter for local newspapers, before joining the Navy. Never had cause to regret that, and 28 years later I'm still steaming at flank speed.

War is said to hold a romantic attraction for young men, and I was no exception, wanting to get to Việt Nam in the worst way, a dream which was realized twice, through a device euphemistically known as the 'Master Việt Nam Volunteer List'.

My first tour was in the 7 Mountains region of Châu Đốc, in the western reaches of the Delta, where I served as assistant district team medic in Trì Tôn Dist., 1969-1970. It was a scene direct from Kipling: mud forts, fierce ethnic tribesmen, remote temple complexes surrounded by nipa palms, and small hamlets w/exotic names like Krang Preas, Thnot Chrom, Obalay, etc. Much of my work was with a squad of Kit Carson Scouts, all ex-VC of Khmer ancestry. Our district had 8 RF companies, 20 PF platoons, and about 4,000 PSDF, the latter utterly lacking in weapons and training but not in bravery,; and of course, our Scouts. We dealt w/three NVA regiments (18-B, 95-A, 101-D), plus remnants of

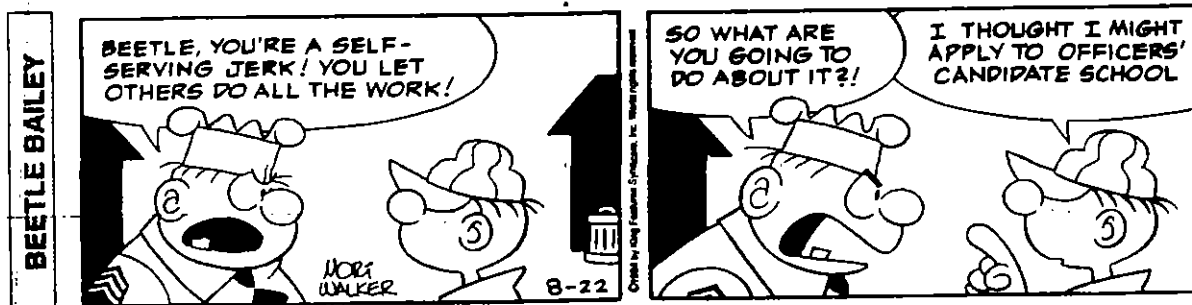
the C-804 VC local force company, led by the notorious Chau Kem. We were outnumbered, outgunned, and always short of supplies---and never gave an inch. We took what the VC/NVA threw at us, and gave it back. Many memories stand out in my mind. The time we almost shot Chau Le by mistake because, in his eagerness to close with the enemy during a night ambush and pursuit, he went well beyond our skirmish line. Or the time Chau Got saved my butt by pushing me out of the line of impending AK fire during a daylight foray into the abandoned hamlet of Kok Khvao. Or the hideously wounded Cambodian kid Greg Horan and I worked on for hours to keep alive, only to have him expire 10 minutes after a medevac chopper picked him up.

My second tour, in the Đà Nẵng/Hội An area, began in fall of '71. When the Easter Offensive erupted, I was sent to Quảng Trị, w/the 1st Air-Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, where we were directly involved w/the 'BAT-21' rescue. Far too little has been written about this offensive, especially about the role played by RVN Marines, and the performance of PF and RF troops along the Thạch Hãn River in the opening days.

In spring 1975, I was attached to the 3rd Marine Air Wing, El Toro, California, when the end came in Việt Nam. Soon, I and an interpreter were boarding packed-to-gills aircraft, performing medical screenings on refugees. I remember the widespread media speculation of Việt Namees and Khmer refugees arriving w/gold bars and suitcases full of dollars. I saw none of that. Absolutely none. Most of the folks I saw were lucky to get out with the clothes on their backs; some carried small overnight bags. Many family members were dispersed between Guam, other refugee sites, or even still in Việt Nam.

Despite all the fiction and fabrications about Việt Nam, I believe the tide is turning--albeit slowly--but nonetheless turning. This is due in large part to Việt Nam veterans who have refused to toe the politically correct line. Veteran authors like John Del Vecchio, 'Jug' Burkett, Peter Scott, Malcolm McConnell, and a host of others. Men of principle committed to telling the truth about Viet Nam, and America's role there. In addition, as a charter member of COUNTERPARTS/TUÔNG HỮU ĐỒNG NAM Á, I can truthfully say I've never felt more 'at home' in any other group, and am quite happy to be in the company of those who fully comprehend what Việt Nam meant, and means, to me.'

Cám ơn rất nhiều Frank, not only for your recollections, but for sticking w/this outfit from its embryonic days when we had 18 names on the mailing list.



LOST-IN-TRANSLATION-DEPT. Signs in..

Rome laundry: 'Ladies, leave your clothes here and spend the afternoon having a good time.'

Swiss restaurant: 'Our wines leave you nothing to hope for.'

Bangkok dry cleaner: 'Drop your trousers here for best results.'

NEW MEMBERS Warm welcomes to....

LTC Jay D. Gerding, USAF, Ret.
AFATs 1 & 5, '70-'71
7605 W. Summer Sky Dr.
Tucson, Az 85743

James W. Pramlet
Adv Tm 64, '69-'70
4336 E. Kachina Trail
Phoenix, Az 85044-5583

James F. Alkek
Tm 46/DIOCC '69-'69
4107 Solway Lane
Houston, TX 77025-2013

Hoc Pham Hai
1/50 Inf
12938 Newbrook Dr.
Houston, TX 77072-3810

Anthony J. Montesa
519 MI(Tinh Bao), '69-'70
119 Cox Dr.
Harker Heights, TX 76543-2407

Larry H. Pogue
164 CAB, '68
123 Windridge
Harker Heights, Tx 76543

Lt. Robert G. Kay, USN, Ret
RAG 21, Coastal Gp 41
720 Putnam Pl
Turnsville, NJ 08012-1327

James E. Carter Jr.
Tm 96/G-4, '67
3007 Oakwood Dr.
Killeen, TX 76542-8770

Lawrence W. Caber
MAT II-8, '69-'70
19300 Springdale Rd.
Leavenworth, KS 66048-7619

LTC Robert E. Bent, USA, Ret.
Tm 95, '67-'68
6809 Clowser Court
Springfield, VA 21150-3050

Edmund B. Canby
RAGs 23, 31
2340 Goldridge Dr.
Reno, NV 89509-5076

Richard S. Hancock
MAT II-42/43
Rte 1 Box 369H
Martin, TX 76661

Albert Navarro
Adv Tms 1, 15, '67-'68
8941 Gaylord St., Apt. 205
Houston, Tx 77024-2916

Luis Vargas
Tm 51, '71-'72
118 Pineview Ln., B1
Brandon, MS 39043-9729

Charles T. Stevens
Tm 83, Go Cong, '66-'67
1203 Fairview Rd.
Columbia, MO 65203

Dr. Ronald R. Nelson
Tm 86, Tinh Bao/Intel
Laan Van Meerdervoort 51
2517 Ae Den Hagg
The Netherlands

As always, new members encouraged to jump right in, avail themselves to our Locator services, and feel free to contribute ideas, comments, suggestions, etc. Glad to have you on board.

On the subject of addresses: new address for member Jim Vincent:
456 Carnegie Rd.; Virginia Beach, Virginia; 23452. SDT: 804 498-7953.

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PHILIPPINES UPDATE: As reported last SITREP, powers that be have decided to close the doors on screening process for refugees in Philippine, Malaysian, and Hong Kong refugee camps. This, despite ample testimony from former UN refugee workers, Father Bob Crawford (a priest in Philippine camps), and refugees themselves that the screening process is fraudulent, poorly managed, and not the least bit concerned with its stated objectives. US govt. pays UN to run process, UN hires contract interviewers, who know nothing of VN/conditions there, and interviewers subsequently both the job (a seven minute interview determines nothing) and/or engage in extortion, exacting bribes in exchange for political refugee status. Complaints to US Dept. of

elicit response that entire matter is a 'UN problem' conveniently overlooking fact that US pays for process, and pays again for those sent back to VN, or Laos. 'Inquiries' go no further than questioning those in the system, rather than those confronted with it. One need only consider the case of Maj. Nguyen Quy An, awarded a DFC for saving 4 US lives in Laos, later a double amputee in another combat action. Good enough to come to US? US Dept. of State said no, as did INS. Maj. An could not have made it here following the official process, and, with ample documentation in hand, was only reprieved by the noble and tenacious efforts of Col. Noboru Masuoka(USAF, Ret), and then only as a one year parolee. He may still be sent back in Jan 95.

If Maj. An's story is any indication, and there is good reason to believe it is, than refugees presently in the camps will be sent back, regardless of their legitimate claims for political refugee status, and because of present policy which has specific objective to accomplish just this. US UN Delegation Madeleine Albright complicit in process, saying UN screening procedures are just fine, ignoring evidence to the contrary.

In sum, the entire process is a case of cosmetic political expediency, with US leadership(sic) casting aside the ample diplomatic and financial leverage which can be quickly and easily applied against UN bumbling and malfeasance. One suspects a hidden desire to sweep this all under the carpet and get on with the business of selling hamburgers and soft drinks in VN. Presently, there is one group doing its best to shed light on odious policies and injustices they produce: The Boat People S.O.S. Committee(P.O. Box 2652; Merrifield, Virginia; 22116. Landline: 703 204-2662). Dr. Nguyen Dinh Thang, Executive Director, is leading a delegation to Capitol Hill for three days, 19-21 September, attempting to generate some support and force an examination of a highly flawed screening process. The Veterans of the Viet Nam War, Inc. (not VVA) is lending full support, and their Region 6(NW US) director, Nicholas Rock(1916 Pike Pl., Suite 12-616; Seattle, Washington; 98101-1056. 206 220-7905) has been lending energetic support, absorbing considerable copying/postage expenses to get the word out. Dr. Thang needs all the help he can get. Members Mike Martin and Mike Little and Kok Ksor, have been contacted and requested to notify the Society of VN Rangers and Montagnard Foundation respectively(one of Dr. Thang's priority cases is Lam A Lu, a Montagnard Protestant clergyman held in Hong Kong camps). The Saigon Mission Association, whom Father Crawford initially contacted, is also making an effort. James Webb, VN Vet, author, former Sec. Navy, who has previously spoken out on this issue, has also been contacted. Our membership needs to pitch in with letters to elected officials, US State Dept., and US delegate to UN.

Do NOT simply register a complaint, as the answer will come back, 4 months later: 'We looked into it, everything is OK'(using 387 words). Instead, request an inquiry in which refugees themselves are interviewed, not simply the functionaries and bean-counters in charge of the program. Cite information provided by Boat People S.O.S. Committee which clearly establishes fraud, extortion and malfeasance in the screening process. Do NOT bother asking why US govt. resettled 4,000 Iraqi POWs in US, while letting former allies wallow in oblivion; you'll get same apoplectic response one gets when throwing Holy Water on a vampire. The truth hurts. So, grab pen, paper, word processor, etc., and go to town, as there's still hope. A Federal Court forced the US State Dept to comply w/its own guidelines in screening Hong Kong refugees,

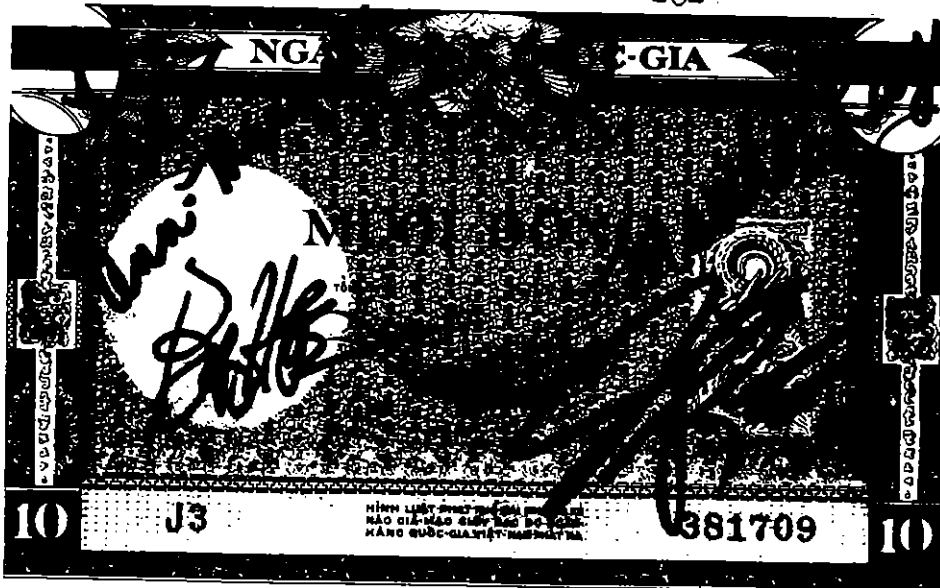
(Thx to efforts of Boat People S.O.S. Committee), so there's obviously a break in State's perimeter of verbal/rhetorical tanglefoot and concertina. Your letter need not be long, yet should clearly state that available evidence does NOT support official State Dept. statements. As is always the case, the Boat People S.O.S. Committee could use donations to cover their mailing/photocopying/admin expenses, and would also appreciate copies of letters sent to elected officials, or bureaucrats.

DO SOMETHING

In a related case, members will recall the cases of Nguyen Tan Tri and Tran Quang Liem, naturalized US citizens who arrested and detained at an official economic development conference held in Saigon last December. A letter sent to Sen. John McCain, among others. McCain answered with promise to query State Dept. Months later, State came back and said they 'deplored' the situation (which means you need not do anything about it but wish to appear as if you wanted to), and had advised Hà Nội that no liaison or interest office would be opened until US citizens, held in VN jails, were advised of the charges on which they were held, and US officials were allowed to meet with these individuals. One week after this response, US officials announced agreement w/Hà Nội to open diplomatic missions in each other's capital. Tran Quang Liem and Nguyen Tan Tri remain in jail. As the old VN saying goes, 'Nói khác, làm khác', or 'say one thing, do something else'.

What makes this all the more repulsive is simple fact that US has ample diplomatic leverage vis-a-vis Hà Nội, and has failed to use it to support Human Rights causes the present administration claims to hold dear, mocking the old adage 'You are what you do, not what you say'.

Item: 42% of the current administrations ambassadorial appointees are political supporters (i.e., financial contributors). Corresponding figure for previous administration: 23%. Average for past 30 years: 30%. Source: Thomas Omestad, associate editor of Foreign Policy.



Photocopy of souvenir item, sent in by Bobby Jackson. Note signatures of Bob Hope Ann Margaret, Martha Raye, and Johnny Rivers. Obviously from a USO show, date/location unk.

'Talking about your troubles is no good. Eighty percent of the people don't care, and the rest are glad to hear of them.'

-Tommy Lasorda

HUMANITARIAN PROJECT Tom Harvey, our former Liaison Officer w/Pearl Buck Foundation, through which we'd sponsored VN orphan Nguyen Manh Hung, received a letter from Hung, reprinted here:

'Dear Tom,

It's been a long time since I've written and today I must drop a note to see how you and your family are doing. I hope you are all doing well, and enjoying good health.

Things are changing for me now, and I am in vocational training at an electrical workshop. I've been here eight months now and everyone treats me like a younger brother, helping me study and learn. Work has been picking up and we are going to be very busy.

Well, I need to get back to my work, and once again extend best wishes for health and happiness to you and your family. It is always good to hear from you.

Respectfully,

Nguyễn Manh Hung'.

Hung had been sent other letters, in VN, from COUNTERPARTS/THDNA members, generated no response, perhaps because he is no longer living in an orphanage assisted by the Pearl Duck Foundation, to whom our donations were sent. There is almost universal agreement that we can do more good by supporting Tran Van Ca's Việt Nam Assistance to the Handicapped program, providing prosthetic devices/wheelchairs to former RVN personnel, as well as the Highlands Assistance Program, which brings medical, educational and economic programs to the Highland People. We've brought Mr. Hung through most of his teen years and are no longer involved with Pearl Buck Foundation, whose beneficial programs enjoy much more funding and support than the two agencies cited above.

PUBLIC SERVICE NOTICE Amerasian children seeking their fathers, or Americans seeking Amerasian children should contact:

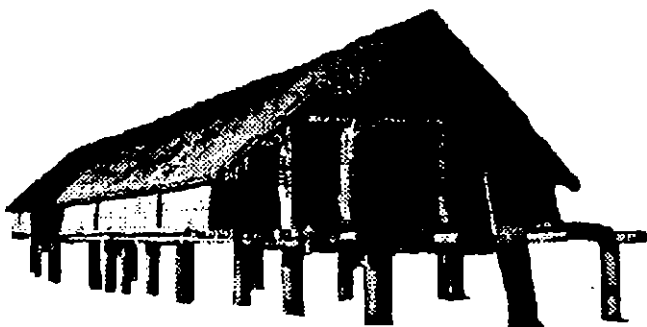
Asian America Initiative
343 Marvin Ave.
Brooks, NY 40109
502 955-8047

and Pearl S. Buck Foundation
P.O. Box 181
Perkasie, PA 18944
1-800-220-2825

and Amerasian Network
Ron Bradley
702 877-9688

All of whom have had some success in finding people. Interested parties need specify whether they are looking for a parent, or child.

Thx to Brian Zawacki and Chicago's Southeast Side Viet Nam Vets for running this in their newsletter, 'The Short-Timer', and for passing it along to COUNTERPARTS/TRUNG HUU ĐÔNG NAM Á.



HIGHLAND ASSISTANCE PROJECT/MONTAGNARD FOUNDATION... H.A.P. Director just back from a 30 Aug-14 Sept trip to VN and the Highlands, visiting hospitals, leprosariums, Đại Học Tây Nguyên (Highlands University), and meeting w/various officials in Kontum, Ban Mê Thuột, Pleiku, Đà Lạt, and Bảo Lộc, consolidating and planning for growth of existing programs.

All in all, a successful and worthy program, deserving our support.
Individual donations to:

Highlands Assistance Project
Kay Reibold, Director
P.O. Box 12287
Raleigh, North Carolina 27605.

Tell Kay you're a member of COUNTERPARTS/TƯƠNG HỮU ĐÔNG NAM Á.

'Living in Exile', an hour video documentary produced by Kay and Chey-
ney hales, aired on PBS, and also available(\$22.95, pp) from:

North Carolina Public TV Station
P.O. Box 12231
Research Triangle Park
North Carolina 27709.

Mike Little has seen it, says it's excellent and well worth the price.

Excerpts from 'Montagnard Longhouse', quarterly publication of the
Montagnard Foundation(P.O. Box 17064; Spartanburg, South Carolina;
29301): Hydroelectric dams, and impoundments resulting from same,
have been dislocating Dega people in the past 15 years. The Dega
realize that change is inevitable, yet a recent proposed project,
the Jrai Ly River dam, causes great concern due to the magnitude of
consequences. Its construction awaits international funding.
...Decade of Indigenous People, a UN program, begins in 1995,
addressing destruction of indigenous traditional populations at the
hand of economic 'progress'. UN will be closely monitoring situation
worldwide, and developing programs to ameliorate adverse impact of
culture collisions... ...The Montagnard Foundation petitions for
UN NGO(Non-Governmental Organization) status, expecting favorable
response. ... Member Kok Ksor has been advised the White House may
be willing to include his contributions in future foreign policy
briefings, or so says White House staffer, Doris Matsui, US Information
Agency extends same invitation. Thx to Longhouse editors for nice
writeup on our Killeen reunion. Article discussed our demand for
historical integrity, concern for human rights, and efforts to reunite
old friends and comrades. Much appreciated.

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Early QLVNCH units and shoulder patches:



Left to right: Airborne Group, 1st Field Div., 2nd Field Div.,
3rd Field Div. Thx to Clem Kelly for permission to use VICN material



POW/MIA Update 30th joint US/Hanoi site search began in late June, with immediate objective of examining 23 crash sites, and cases of 45 other MIAs. Later, Hanoi signalled a willingness to do more to resolve cases, in return for diplomatic recognition and trade privileges. Somewhere, somehow, the unconditional aspects of POW/MIA search and resolution has apparently slipped between the cracks.

Hanoi told visiting US delegation it would set up its own team to search documents and archives which might shed light on the matter. No word as to how this team's efforts might be monitored. Release of POW photos, some depicting grim portrayals of US personnel KIA, causes an uproar, with some activists claiming US Govt. has concealed info; Govt. responds its objective was to preserve privacy and dignity of families and US KIAs. Wall Street Journal correspondent Barry Wain writes convincing article alleging Hanoi has been warehousing remains, and releasing them at politically opportune moments, and at sufficient pace to keep US negotiators interested. Wain supports his argument by stating 65% of 287 repatriated remains show distinct signs of having been in storage: minimal bone-mass loss, commingling w/remains of others lost in different areas, and detectable preservative coatings. Wain further contends search teams excavating crash sites will not and cannot solve the entire problem, and that only Hanoi's full cooperation will bring resolution. The 5th joint team search began in late August, producing possible remains of a US Marine who died in captivity in Quảng Ngãi. LTC Melvin Richmond Jr., head of US MIA office in Hà Nội, expresses his hope that significant progress is being made. Sept 9th issue of 'Popular Mechanics' has article on POW/MIA search, focusing exclusively on crash site investigation and forensic procedures used to confirm ID of located remains.

POW/MIA Postage Stamp Contest: Though repeated calls for a second POW/MIA commemorative stamp have been rejected, efforts continue to influence decision makers to change their minds. LTC Robert F. Sawallesh, USA, ret, is sponsoring a contest to select a new stamp, which will be forwarded to the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee in DC. Rules:
 1. Propose a POW/MIA theme/subject, presumably w/rough sketch; 2. Explain why POW/MIA theme should be honored on a stamp, in 50 words or less; 3. Include sketch/drawing (cleaner the better); 4. Send entries to:

POW/MIA Stamp Contest
 2541 Brimhollow Dr.
 Valrico, FL 33594

before 31 October. LTC Sawallesh is

to be commended for his diligent efforts in this area. Our thanks and best wishes for success. It's time. Didn't seem all that tough to get an 'Elvis' stamp. Priorities anyone?

-0-

MEMBERS IN MEMORIAM

Tướng (Gen) Nguyễn Việt Thanh
 TL QK IV (CG IV Corps)

Trung Tá (LTC) _____ Phiep
 Quận Trưởng (Dist. Chief),
 Long Mỹ Dist., Chương Thiện

2Lt Stephen Walter Young, USA
 Capt. Howard Maxwell Eakin, USA
 Joe Granger, USAID

SFC Archie Glenn Culver, USA
 SFC Howard Carlton Ard, USA
 1Lt Richard Michael Arnovitz, USA

1Lt Thomas Delano Lipscomb, USA SF

1Lt John Kendrick Hutton Jr, USA

Major Donald G. Logan, USA

SSGT Dillard Brock, USA

1Lt Charles Lynn Hemingway, USA

Capt. David Ronald Devers, USA

MSGT John Joseph O'Neill Jr., USA

And continuing listing of QLVNCH personnel who died in POW camps..

Đại tá Đức Trung
Tây Ninh

Tr/tá Trần văn Thiên
Không rõ đơn vị/unit unk

Th/tá Võ Tín
Không rõ đơn vị/unit unk

D/ta Sơn Thương
Giám Đốc Nha Miền Vu, QK IV
Director, Cambodian Affairs, MR IV

Th/tá Huỳnh Kế Thu
KQ/AF

Nguyễn văn Tố
CSDB, CSQG Định Tường
National and Special Branch Police

Tr/tá Đoàn Việt Thuyền
Võ Bị, Thủ Đức (Thu Đức
Military Academy)

Tr/tá Nguyễn Lễ Tinh
CSQG/National Police

Đ/tá Trịnh Quang Thanh
Giải ngũ/ret. military

Đ/tá Thành
Trung đoàn trưởng/Regt. CO

Th/tá Nguyễn Ngọc Tiếp
Truyền tin/Signal Corps.

Đ/tá Nguyễn văn Tôn
Tỉnh Trưởng, Gia Định (Prov. Chief)

Tr/tá Ngô Thiêm Thăng
Đ/Đ Trưởng, TrĐ 50/SĐ 25
Regt CO, 50/25th Div
Trưởng Đoàn Thanh Tra,
SĐ 7(7th Div IG)

Tr/tá Nguyễn văn Tốt
CTCT, Gia Định (PolWar, Gia Dinh Prov.)

Th/tá Nguyễn văn Thông
Phong Ngan Sach, Cục Quan nhu
Budget Director, Logistics

Th/tá Tấn
BB/Inf, Không rõ đơn vị/unit unk

Th/ta Nguyễn văn Thọ
P2/BTTM/Intel, JGS

Th/tá Huỳnh văn Thọ
Pháo Binh/Arty

Tr/tá Lê Chơn Tinh
PG Hòa Hảo/Hoa Hao Buddhist Leader

Tr/tá Lê văn Thiệu
Không rõ đơn vị/unit unk

Tr/tá Lâm văn Triều
Công Binh/Engineer Corps

Th/tá Lê Cảnh Trọng
Công Binh/Engineer Corps

Tr/tá Khổng văn Tuyên
Truyền Tin/Signal

Tr/tá Thanh
Pháo Binh/Arty

Tr/tá Hùng văn Thạnh
TQLC/Marines

Tr/tá Đào Ngọc Thanh
PI BTTM/Admin, JGS

Tr/tá Tôn
P3 BTTM/Operations, JGS

Đ/tá Lê văn Thọ
CHT Phòng Không, QLVNCH
Commander, Air Defense

Đ/tá Đặng văn Thành
Trung đoàn trưởng SĐ 21/BB
Regt. CO, 21st Inf Div

Đ/tá Nguyễn Bá Thìn
BB, Cựu tỉnh trưởng, Kontum,
Lâm Đồng/Infantry, former
Prov. Chief, Kontum, Lam Dong
Provs.

Bảo Trọng
CSQG/Dept. Commander, National Police

MEMBERS IN MEMORIAM(cont.)

Tr/tá Nguyễn Bá Thích
ANQĐ/Military Security Service

Th/tá Trần Trờ
ĐĐ 10/CTCT/10th BN, PolWar

Tr/tá Nguyễn Văn Thường
P2/QK 4, Intel, IV Corps

Tr/tá Nguyễn Văn Tạo
Công Binh/Engineers

Th/tá Quách Bá Thượng
P2/BTTM, Intel, JGS

Tr/tá Nguyễn Văn Tường
Không rõ đơn vị/unk. unit

Tr/tá Bùi Hiến Tôn
CSQG/National Police

Th/tá Thu
CSQG/National Police

Th/tá Hoàng Tâm
Không rõ đơn vị/unk. unit

Th/tá Đỗ Hữu Tước
VBQG/National Military Academy

Th/tá Trần Văn Thủy
Lâm Đồng Prov. Staff

Đ/tá Đoàn Bội Trân
CTCT/PolWar

Tr/tá Ngô Quý Thuyết
Tòa án QS/Military Court

Th/tá Vũ Văn Tịnh
VBQG/National Military Academy,
served in Kontum

This ends another installment of QLVNCH personnel who were killed or died in POW concentration camps (in which little 're-education' took place. Đ/tá: Col., Tr/tá: LTC, Th/tá: Major. We do not yet have a fitting statement for our own 'moving wall', and will use member Col. John B. Hasemen's closing statement in his moving elegy to friend and comrade 1Lt Nguyễn Thanh Liêm:

'He was merely brave, loyal, a true leader of men, and an honest patriot. He was my friend and teacher, and I will never forget the honor of knowing him and what he stood for.'

Members strongly encouraged to secure copy of June 94 issue of 'Viet Nam' magazine for Col. Hasemen's fitting and evocative recollection of a man of intense dedication, character, and conviction.

Please note following clipping, sent by member Jack Frost concerning Cô Vans David Devers and John O'Neill:

Viet Cong Show, Then Kill Two U.S. Captives

SAIGON (AP)—The Viet Cong hauled two American captives from one village to another, placed them on exhibit, then shot them to death, the U.S. command said Saturday.

grave in a coastal area of Thua Thien Province, in the 1st Corps area in the northernmost portion of South Vietnam, the announcement said. They were executed in front of

THE ORDEAL OF CAPT DAVID R. DEVERS OF PAULDING, OHIO, AND MSGT JOHN H. O'NEILL OF PROVIDENCE, R.I. OCCURRED 41 MONTHS AGO, BUT IT WASN'T UNTIL CHRISTMAS EVE THAT US MARINES FOUND THEIR BODIES.

THEY LAY IN A SHALLOW

a village church north of Hue, the announcement said.

Devers and O'Neill served on a U.S. advisory team attached to the South Vietnamese 1st Infantry Division.

The command held up the announcement until the two victims were identified through dental records and next of kin were notified.

"Reports from residents in the area stated the Viet Cong put the U.S. prisoners on display in several villages before executing them," the statement said. "They had been captured after an action Aug. 13, 1966, and later shot to

★ Los Angeles Times
Sun., Jan. 18, 1970—Sec. A

death by their Viet Cong captors."

The bodies of three South Vietnamese soldiers, also apparently executed, were found in the same grave.

This sent to Mike McMunn, our new Archivist for Members in Memoriam. Mike will compile any/all info, recollections, etc. on each Member, including same-photos if you have 'em- in brief narrative of each individual. It is nice to have a list of names, but more fitting and appropriate to describe who these people were and what others remember of them.

MEMBERS IN MEMORIAM(cont.)

Many members have submitted names, and are hereby requested to provide additional appropriate commentary. Mike is at: 2310 Newberry St.; Williamsport, Pennsylvania; 17701. Phone: 717 321-7102. Internet: MMCMUNN@DELPHI.COM. Please take it upon yourself, in coming weeks, to appropriately honor anyone whose name you've submitted to our Members in Memoriam Roster, including own personal recollections, photos(have copies made), book/article citations, and anything else. New members hereby advised that our 'Moving Wall' is constructed to permit a brass name plate for each member, and can be, regrettably, easily enlarged.

Member Stuart Beckley is compiling a book documenting the ignored and often misrepresented participation of the indigenous people of SE Asia. He has two requests: names of any and all SE Asians KIA, and material for a photo montage color plate in the book's center. In Stu's words:

'I need stories about their lives, diary and letter extracts, old photographs, award citations, operations summaries and maps..anything that will shed light on their service..shoulder patches, insignia, badges, medals, coins or bills, even the bric-a-brac of 'soldier life' and battlefield debris.

A color plate will depict an open dresser drawer, haphazardly filled with memorabilia..a collage of the 'stuff' of memories. Opposite the photograph will be a number key for the reader to match each item in the drawer, with a companion story in the book.

Please look through your momentos. If you find something that might 'fit' the book, please send it along w/a note explaining item's significance. It will be returned via registered mail, as quickly as possible.

Their stories should be told, and I need your help in trying to honor our compatriots.'

Stu's outline summary for Leaves of Stone states objectives to '(be) a soldier's tribute on behalf of forgotten men..the soldiers of Viet Nam, Cambodia, Laos, the Hmong and Montagnards..who were lost in the unfulfilled hopes for Southeast Asia, from 1945-1975. ..It will not glorify war; rather it is a tribute to proud human endeavor..courage and valor in a long war, lost. Leaves of Stone will serve as a poignant reminder of our battlefield allies. It also asks of America the maturity to honor the defiant stands of soldiers and their seasons of death. It cries out only this: 'They served and died in an ill-fated try at achieving a shared vision of human freedom and dignity. They must be forever honored, mourned for their sacrifices.'

A noble, and arduous project. Please do what you can to help Stu: P.O. Box 460346; San Antonio, Texas; 78246. 210 828-4023. Send along a stay well, take it easy card as well, as he went under the knife not too long ago. Stu's credentials for this project are quite appropriate, w/his having served as a Cô Văn (and student, learning as much as advising) in VN, Laos, and Thailand. This does not enhance one's career path, but Stu was doing what he wanted to do, where he wanted to do it. 'Nuf said. Do what you can to help a fellow member.

Journal

of the
Vietnam Veterans Institute

This issue:

Four scholars provide critical analyses
of Neil Sheehan's epic, *A Bright Shining Lie*
plus essays in retrospect

Volume 2, Number 1, 1993

HISTORICAL INTEGRITY Dept. The Viet Nam Veterans Institute (John Deere Building; P.O. Box 386; Timonium, Maryland; 21094; 410 494-9381) is a little-known quasi-think tank dedicated to factual and logical inquiry regarding Viet Nam. They publish a quarterly journal, and are not reluctant to challenge sacred cows of conventional wisdom. A 1993 edition took on the credibility of Sheehan's *A BRIGHT SHINING LIE*, supposedly the be-all, end-all account explaining how and why things happened as they did. As some readers of *LIE* have discovered, there are a number of holes in Sheehan's rationale and description of how history unfolded as it did. It's not necessarily what he says which is questionable, but rather what is left out and how serious these omissions are. Dr. Peter C. Rollins (USMC, VN) sent copy of this issue, along with invite to join. Individual members can send \$4.50 to Dr. Rollins (English Dept.; Oklahoma State University; Stillwater, Oklahoma; 74078) for a copy of Sheehan issue (Vol. 2, No. 1, 1993), and information on membership. Dr. Rollins

had offered to send free issue to each of our members, until advised of numbers involved. Drop him a line. They've requested a copy of our SITREP, and we're happy to comply. Good outfit, deserving of our support.

Mark Moyer recently completed a honors study course at Harvard, during which time he put together a surprisingly honest, well-researched, and objective paper (actually, a small book) on the Phoenix Program. He's trying to interest a major publisher, while expanding on his first edition, and would very much appreciate speaking with anyone who was involved with Phoenix and/or Pacification in any of its many forms. Several of our present members were already interviewed by Mark for his initial study, which in no way, shape or form resembles the phantasmogoric flight of deranged imagination assembled by Douglas Valentine (which Mark himself debunks). If so inclined, contact Mark at 16257 Alderside Drive; Shaker Heights, Ohio; 44120.

REMEMBERING VIET NAM Seminar sponsored by Smithsonian, running once a week from 11 July-15 Aug. Participants included Peter Arnett, Stanley Karnow, Philip Caputo, historian Lydia Fish. Probably some decent content here, sandwiched between cliché compendiums delivered by high priesthood of designated VN 'experts'. No minutes available.

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE VIET NAM CONFLICT (Texas Tech University; Box 41013; Lubbock, Texas 79409-1013) has all hallmarks of a legit effort, and will soon have own facility at Texas Tech. National Council members include Gen. Westmoreland, Wm Colby, Elmo Zumwalt, Bui Diem (someone FINALLY bothers to include VN input), Douglas Pike. 'Friend' of Center membership available for \$25.00/year. 1996 Conference planned. This looks to be THE locus for VN inquiry in the future. Locator J.C. Fischer in contact w/Center Director, and aiding in efforts to assemble history of advisory effort. Vast microfilm library in the works. We'll hear more of them, and they of us.

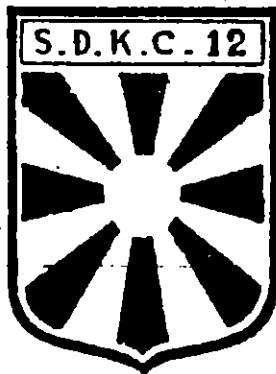
'You can't depend on your judgement when your imagination is out of focus.'

John F. Kennedy

HISTORICAL INTEGRITY(or lack thereof)(cont.) Time/Life books, those same wonderful folks from Time/Warner who published/sold 'Cop Killer' music, and other forms of vomitainment, have now come out with a six video series, 'CIA, The Secret Files', revealing the inner workings of-get ready for this-'America's deepest, darkest secret organization.' As expected, one video is 'Phoenix Rising', an intended expose of the much-maligned Phung Hoang program. Time/Warner advises parental discretion as Phoenix video has 'graphic scenes that you may not want your younger children to see.'. OK, first off, war is a wretched bloody mess to begin with. Secondly, there may never had been a war had not Ha Noi's ideological warriors starting killing non-Communist anti-French nationalists in 1946(as typed), with what can be called VN's very first Phoenix program, and thereafter conducted a ruthless efficient 'Phoenix program' of their own in RVN, long before US/RVN opted to fight fire with fire. Here stands a \$50,000.00 bet that aforementioned historical context is never mentioned in 'full story of the CIA'.

Item: The National Association of Scholars reports that one can receive a degree from 48% of America's colleges/universities, without having taken a single course in American history.

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EARLY QLVNCH PATCHES(Left to right): 12 Light Field Div., 13th Light field Division, 14th Light Field Div., 15th Light Field Div. Graphics courtesy Clem Kelly, VICN(address noted on p.3). Obviously, some of these units evolved into others. In future SITREP editions, we're going to try tracing evolution of units most of came to know.

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MISC INFO(late in two cases): 716th M.P. Assn. held reunion on 2-4 Sept. in Arlington, Virginia. Hope all went well. Former 716th people can contact Duane Hursey; 520-550th(as typed/submitted) St.; Shelby, Iowa; 51570; for more info.

Col. Maggies(Martha Raye) All Services Airborne Drop-In, w/parade, air drops, banquet, held 2-4 Sept in Marina, California. Here's hoping it brought a smile to Maggie's face; she's been in ill health. Info: All Service Airborne; 854 Central Ave.; Salinas, California; 93901-1330. Thx to Brian Zawacki for sending this in.

From J.C. Fischer: Leonard 'Budd' Russell Jr., w/NCO Assn., asks if we can put the word out. Easy. Budd is at 99 Morgan Lane; Millinocket, Maine; 04462-1713. 207 723-4969. He's NCO Assn. locator, and has been helping J.C. and Ben Myers in our own Locator efforts.

ABDUCTED Thomas R. Hargrove, author of A DRAGON LIVES FOREVER, a narrative of his advisory tour in Chuông Thiên, and after, was pursuing his duties with the International Center for Tropical Agriculture in Cali, Columbia when he was abducted by quasi narco-revolutionaries(sic), and is being held for ransom. Dr. Hargrove had been sent a letter about COUNTERPARTS/THDNA, but was kidnapped before it arrived. COUNTERPARTS/THDNA is in direct contact with Michael Lee Lanning, VN Vet, author(THE ONLY WAR WE HAVE, COMPANY COMMANDER, among others) and hopes to receive news of his release. DRAGON is a very worthwhile effort, to be reviewed in next issue.

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REUNION RAFFLE EXTENSION Last-minute mailing of lottery tickets may have shortchanged some from getting tickets in. In addition, some felt prices were too high. Hence, raffle is extended, prices are lowered, and a few additional items have been added. Anyone buying raffle tickets at higher price will be accorded proportional increase of number of tickets bought, i.e. a \$3.00 book raffle ticket now buys three \$1.00 tickets. Here is revised raffle item list and prices; donor in parenthesis:

50th Anniversary Commemorative M-1 carbine(Ken Lord) \$20.00
 Ex Commando Bowie(Tom Regnier) \$2.00
 Five volume compilation of US SF in-country magazine(anonymous) \$2.00

Remaining items are \$1.00/ticket

Actual VC commendation certificate blank(Jim Resau)
 Gen. George Patton's address to 3rd Army troops(3 copies)(?)

Books

Army Aviation, by H. Halbershadt
 WAR IN CAMBODIA, 1970-1975, by K. Conby
 FACING THE PHOENIX, by Zalin Grant
 THE CIA & POLITICAL DEFEAT IN VIET NAM(author ?)
 THE LONG GRAY LINE, by R. Atkinson(2 copies)
 BOUNCING BACK(post-VN experience of POWs), by G. Norman
 WORLD ALMANAC OF THE VIET NAM WAR, 1932-1975
 BLUES BASTARDS, by Randy Herrod(Oliver North in VN)
 CODE OF CONDUCT, by E. Alvarez Jr.(excellent account of author's long incarceration in Ha Noi)
 VIET NAMESE TRADITION ON TRIAL, 1920-1945, by D. G. Marr
 MANY REASONS WHY, Charlton & Moncrieff(decent multi-source overview and comments on VN)
 SHRAPNEL IN THE HEART, by Laura Palmer(Jim Resau)
 VIET NAM, OUR STORY(50 vets recall VN)(Ben Myers)
 SLOW BURN, Orrin DeForest(Excellent)(Ben Myers)
 LOST VICTORY, by William Colby(Ben Myers)
 STRANGE GROUND, edited by Harry Naurer(oral history, w/input from member Jim Vincent)
14" x 20" prints by VN Vet Michael Kelly(ink drawings):

-Extraction from hot LZ -Self Portrait(grunt)
 -Sgt. Johnson w/friend(skull)

J.C. Fischer handling all raffle ticket purchases; tickets accompany this SITREP. Photocopy if more than four tickets desired. Deadline: 31 January 1995. Thanks to all donors and raffle supporters.

Also, copies of Dr. Jane Hamilton-Merritt's TRAGIC MOUNTAINS, the most comprehensive and thorough account of the war in northern Laos, and resultant decimation of the Hmong, was offered for sale at the reunion, and additional copies are available. Those in a generous mood, and/or winners of a lottery, might also buy a copy for your local school or public library, as this history is otherwise lost to an unknowing public. MOUNTAINS spans decades, describing anti-French Hmong battles, WW II, and seeds of war against Ha Noi prussians, culminating in 'ethnic cleansing' which began after the war was supposedly over. Many b/w photos, hardbound. Send orders to Grant McClure (Checks payable to Dr. Jane Hamilton-Merritt) at P.O. Box 1436; Waldorf, Maryland; 20604-1436. \$29.95 plus \$3.00 p/h. Remember, many schools are now using the PBS 'Complete History of VN War' videos in their classrooms. MOUNTAINS is a long overdue antidote to erroneous conventional wisdom, AKA history by rumor and gossip. Get a copy, let others read it.

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Request from Ben Myers to confirm bona fides of one Sgt. Doug S. Berg and his service with 3rd Cav(VNCH), Kontum, '69-'70. Anyone in this AO and/or Adv Tm recall Sgt. Berg? He has all other documentation of having served in VN, and photos, but nothing confirming his Co Van role or duties. Write Ben at 6105 Rainbow Circle; Lake Worth, Florida, 33463.

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1994 & 1995 Reunion Summary info on 1994 reunion contained in SITREP appendix. No volunteers to ramrod 1995 reunion so Grant McClure has suggested 1995 affair be held in Washington, D.C., as a memorial occasion on 20th anniversary of the 'end of the war'. Tentative plans are to assemble ourselves, in conjunction w/other groups (Air Commando Association, Society of Viet Nam Airborne, Viet Nameese Ranger Assn., etc.) sometime in early summer. More info forthcoming next SITREP. CO: no nominations for CO position, now technically vacant, but w/Grant hanging on in interim. We need a nominee; better yet, several. Give it some thought. Also, Mike Roberts has generously offered his services as PIO, for which we are most grateful. Ideas/suggestions to Mike at: 1822 Pundown Drive; Killeen, Texas; 76543.

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REFUGEE UPDATE Please note accompanying info supplied by Boat People S.O.S. Committee, describing possibility of Congressional Hearings on this subject. Too many of our former friends and counterparts are caught in a blind bureaucratic vise, and these proposed hearings should bring pressure to bear. Write your elected representatives as well as Congressman Benjamin Gilman in favor of this inquiry. If US govt is going to spend \$150.0 million funding refugee screening process, it might as well demand some honesty and accountability (there's a first time for everything). PR claims to the contrary, current administration not overly concerned w/human rights violations, so we humble citizens are obligated to exert effort and influence. Do what you can, as soon as you can.

Out.

BTL THDNA/HQ COUNTERPARTS

Counterparts

Tướng Hữu Đông Nam Á

ADJUTANT
PO BOX 22791 LOUISVILLE KY 40252-0791
(502) 491-8517 FAX (502) 491-5574



15 July 1994

TREASURER'S REPORT (As of 11 July 1994)

1. Previous Balance (As of 28 February 1993): \$4482.23

2. Income:

Dues/Fees:	\$3967.00
Sales:	\$690.25
Account Dividends:	\$102.30
Annual Raffle:	\$200.00
Donations: Humanitarian Fund:	\$30.00
Computer Fund:	\$208.00
Locator:	\$25.00
Unspecified:	<u>\$311.50</u>
Subtotal:	\$5534.05

Total: \$10016.28

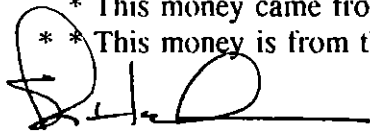
3. Expenses:

Tax Withheld:	\$31.63
Misc Bank Charges:	\$3.81
Purchase of New Patches:	\$1034.07
Postage:	\$1317.98
Office Supplies:	\$126.36
Computer Repairs:	\$139.30
Printer Purchase:	\$463.15
New Years Cards:	\$143.63
PO Box Rent:	\$49.00
Stamps for Locator:	\$316.70
Misc Locator Expenses:	\$80.00
Membership Coord Expenses:	\$100.00
Printing Costs (SITREP):	\$1540.01
Reunion Expenses:	\$522.08
IRS Tax Exempt Application Fee:	\$150.00
Illinois Incorporation Fee:	\$50.00
Donations: Sungei Besi Camp	\$100.00

VN Assist for Handicap	\$100.00	
Montagnard Foundation	\$66.00 *	
Locator	\$25.00 **	
Beckwith Funeral Flowers:	<u>\$101.58</u>	
	Subtotal:	\$6460.30
	Current Balance:	\$3555.98

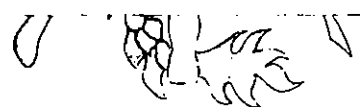
* This money came from the sales of hat pins at the Reunion

** This money is from the donation received at the Reunion



STEVEN D. HERBERTH
Adjutant

26 July 1994



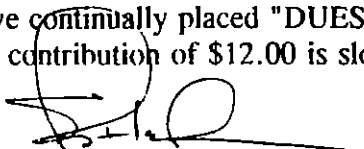
MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The active membership of COUNTERPARTS stands at 332 as of 25 July 1994. This includes 40 Life members.

The membership has increased by 113 Annual Members and eight Life Members since the last Reunion. This increase is due primarily to two factors: The story in the Retired Officers Association Magazine and the "beating the bushes" efforts by Ben Myers and JC Fischer.

We currently have ten members that are listed as "Inactive" due to the fact that they have moved and not provided us with a current mailing address or they have not paid their dues for over three years.

While on the subject of dues, only 117 members have paid 1994 dues (mostly new members). The number of members that owe their 1994 dues stands at 145, while 42 members haven't paid since 1992 and two owe from 1991. COUNTERPARTS relies heavily on the annual dues of our members to cover our expenses (primarily the SITREP printing and postage costs). Although we have continually placed "DUES" notices in the SITREP and on members mailing labels the annual contribution of \$12.00 is slow in coming in.



STEVEN D HERBERTH
Adjutant

Bill,

Some rough notes from which you may be able to patch together some form of '94 C/Parts Reunion After Action Report.

1. J.C. will most likely have a reunion attendance roster.
2. Plenary session convened on Saturday w/ welcome remarks by GAM, followed by call-to-order. Then minute of silence.
 - a. determination of a quorum made w/33 plenary members present
 - b. officers noted as absent from business meeting, Chuck and Steve.
3. Opening remarks about the stellar coordination & Planning of reunion facilities and festivities w/kudos to J.C. mainly, but also special mention of behind the scenes folks: Jerry L. Caballero (see note)
Hotel Staff
Killeen Chamber of Commerce staff
(J.C. notes specific individuals)
Anonymous benefactor: a member who spent much \$ for chartered bus to Ft. Hood. and later to Texas Barbeque on Friday.
- *Note: No raffle. Acknowledged. Via SITREP in short order.
*Note: Ideas for Memorial Plaque offered.
4. Meeting Agenda: see my "year at a glance" notes that I shared with all.
 - a. Not much to cover in the way of organizational matters except for officer positions, namely the C.O. and next year, Adjutant. Noted Michael McMunn offer to assist Bill Laurie with organization of list of members in memorium. Joe Cagney gets THDNA Tax Exempt 2-28-94.
 - b. Treasurers report read. Motion to accept, done and seconded by Ray Battreal
 - c. Election of officer: none volunteered or offered for consideration.
 - d. Humanitarian Projects: decision to drop PBF adoption of Nguyen Hung and continue with support of VN for Handicapped Tran Van Ca effort.
 - e. Ben and J.C. provide simultaneous updates on Membership drive/efforts historian/locator functions, successes, issues.
 - f. Martin Ha presents group with request for assistance with new arrivals
 - g. Unexpected visitor from Austin, TX VN community, see Lua Viet newspaper article. Mr. Phuc Do, President, The Repub. of VN Veterans Assn/Austin
 - h. Tran Ngoc Doa presents next with his sense of perspective of Vietnam political/social status...he also invites a young Vietnamese fellow Nguyen Le to speak to us about his recent visit to VN and how he felt seeing his homeland again where he was a boy, 10 years of age when his family left.
 - i. Upon return from Lunch, Dr. Nghia gives group a presentation/update on activities of ICFV with emphasis on major problem of VN/Americans detained w/out Charge in Saigon since last November. Continuum of assistance needed by all to write letters of concern to legislators.
 - j. Roy Russell and Mike Little recount observations of recent trip to Central Highlands.
 - k. Out of order: Mike Roberts volunteers for PIO Position
 - l. Dr. Jane Hamilton-Merritt delivers keynote address.
Very poignant presentation on highly volatile/contentious issue of forced repatriation of Hmong to Laos. Explains dimension of this colossal human tragedy in the making. Combines interesting slide presentation to give flavor of history, culture, war years refugee crisis in making circa 1975 to present. She receives standing ovation.
 - m. Next reunion: Washington, D.C. plans, time, place etc. pending.
Grant coordinating, hopefully with local help.
1996 reunion recommended for Ft. Bragg
 - n. Also out of order: Will cont. support of Da Hieu magazine.

Year at a glance since last reunion

- 12 June 93 Congressional Human Rights Caucus, re: Religious Repression in VN
Persecution of Leaders of Movement to Unite the People & build Democracy
and Ethnic Cleansing affecting indigenous minority (Montagnards).
- 27 June 93 Inauguration of American Eastern Regional Chapter of ICFV in New York.
Dr. Nghia invites many guests, C/Parts is sponsor. Hmong & Mont. are
represented.
- 4 July 93 GCMA picnic in Ashboro, NC. Grant has reunion with interpreter.
- 19 July 93 Geneva Indigenous Peoples Rights Conference. Kok Ksor, Roy Russell
- Aug 93 C/parts picnic at Bob Cunningham's farm in Culpeper, VA
- Oct. 93 Mexico Summit-Indigenous People's Rights Conference. Kok and Nay Rong.
- 26 Oct. 93 Hmong refugee crisis: C/parts heavily involved w/ Lao H.R.Council
- 27 Nov. 93 Proposal to attend conference in VN with Movement leaders/ ICFV
everyone in detained, some arrested, still being held.
- 15 Jan 94 Two day policy meeting in Washington, D.C. with Montagnard Foundation
leadership and its American Advisors.

* Trade Embargo Lifted by Slick Willie.

- 5 Feb 94 Speech by Kok Ksor for fund raising event in Charlotte, NC
- Mar 94 Letters to White House et al re: VN/Americans detained in VN.
- Mar 94 Proposed UNESCO meeting in Hanoi: participation sought by Kok Ksor
- Mar 94 Jack Jarnigan, Roy and Mike go to VN
- 12 Apr 94 CO of C/parts writes affidavit in support of two VN in NY for asylum.
other similar letters written in support of Major An.
- 26 Apr 94 Hearing: House Subcommittee on Pacific and Asian Affairs
Gary Ackerman: Chairman Grant & Dr. Merritt, Vang Pobzeb, Wm. Colby
Issues of forced repatriation brought forth by VN & Hmong witnesses.
- 3 June 94 Montagnard Foundation with International Committee for Human Rights
apply for "observer status" in UN.
- 3 July 94 Grant & Bob Jackson attend Dalat Mil. Academy Assn. Dinner/Meeting
in Falls Church, VA
- 22 July 94 Washington House created in Alex, VA for Lao/Hmong Community Group
C/parts very actively involved.
- 23 July 94 Salute to Freedom: picnic, followed by tribute at the "Wall" and
political event (see flyers and agenda) sponsored by Mrs. Tho
of Families of VN Political Prisoners Assn.
Grant meets Col Matsuoku and Maj. An.
- 27 July 94 Killeen reunion.

Post reunion activities to date:

Boat People SOS involvment x 5 days.

Attended dinner function with Indochinese Voters.

Worked with Dr. Merritt and the Washington House several occasions and
ongoing.

Many things in process of happening with Mont. Foundation every week since July.

Roy Russell, Charles Printz, Mike Little more active than me right now.

Mont. Foundation has celebration of Fulro Uprising on Sept 25, 1994

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING ON VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE

Congressman Benjamin Gilman (R-NY), soon to be Chairman of the House Committee on International Relations, is considering the possibility of holding a Congressional Hearing on Vietnamese boat people. The hearing could be as early as February, 95. As the issue of Vietnamese boat people will have to compete with other issues for a slot in the Committee's hearings schedule, we need to show to the Committee that there are many interested parties. This can be achieved with the following steps.

I. Write to Congressman Benjamin A. Gilman

- to express concerns about flawed screening, which has caused a large number of genuine refugees to be screened out and to face deportation to Vietnam,
- to call on Gilman to advise Department of State against forced repatriation,
- to call on Gilman to hold a Congressional hearing, and
- to suggest that his Committee sends a delegation to the camps.

Notes:

- A sample letter is enclosed. You may want to make some modifications to this letter to make it original.
- Several organizations may choose to co-sign one letter instead of each writing its own letter.
- Please remember to send a copy of your correspondence to Boat People S.O.S. for future reference.

II. Mobilize Members of Congress and dignitaries to voice their support for a hearing and a delegation.

More information regarding this step will be made available in two weeks.

If you have any question or comment, please contact Boat People S.O.S. at:
P.O. Box 2652, Merrifield, VA 22116, tel & fax: 703-204-2662

December 15, 1994

The Honorable Benjamin A. Gilman
2185 Rayburn House Office Building
S. Capitol Street & Independence Ave., S.E.
Washington DC 20515

Fax: 202-225-2541

Dear Congressman Gilman:

We write to request your leadership in resolving the Vietnamese boat people crisis in Southeast Asia and Hong Kong. Without a strong intervention from you, the situation will only get worse and we fear that more violence and losses of lives will result.

In 1989, the United States signed the Comprehensive Plan of Action (CPA) and has since spent 150 million dollars on its implementation. Regrettably, screening--the key provision of the CPA--is seriously flawed, affecting the integrity of the entire CPA. Designed to sort out refugees from other asylum seekers for protection, the serious flaws in screening have caused many genuine refugees to be denied of refugee status. We are aware of many such cases. There are many troubling reports with ample of evidences of widespread corruption in screening. Local screening officers and several locally hired UNHCR lawyers are reported to have demanded sex and money in exchange for refugee status.

We have also received credible reports that regionwide forced repatriation is being advocated by our Department of State. Without a serious effort to identify and review egregious screening decisions, forced repatriation means sending refugees back to persecution in Vietnam, or "refoulement." We believe that forced repatriation may start as early as January 1995 in the Philippines. Some Department of State officials have signaled to countries in the region that the United States supports this move.

To prevent such a possibility, we urge you to write to Mr. Warren Christopher and advise the Department of State not to support forced repatriation. A letter from you to the Philippine Government might help dispell their false impression of US support.

The above actions will help delay the prospect of "refoulement" but does not resolve the problem of unfair screening. We call on you, as Chairman of the new Committee on International Relations, to hold a Congressional hearing on the issues of flawed screening, forced repatriation, and the need for US leadership in resolving the crisis. We also believe that a Congressional delegation to the region will be valuable. The delegation can make first-hand assessment of the situation and come back with practical recommendations for a fair, just and humane solution.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

RAFFLE TICKETS /Extended Deadline

31 January 1995

Note: Late mailing may prevent some from getting their tickets in on time. To keep things fair for those who cannot attend, J.C. will hold raffle drawing a week after 27 Jul-1 Aug reunion, and mail prizes to winners. Fill in raffle item for which you are buying ticket, and tear off for mailing, w/check, payable to COUNTERPARTS.

Mail to J.C. Fischer 100 Red Oak Circle Temple, Texas 76502

Item _____ Ticket Price _____

Name _____

Address _____

City & State _____ Zip _____

Item _____ Ticket Price _____

Name _____

Address _____

City & State _____ Zip _____

Item _____ Ticket Price _____

Name _____

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City & State _____ Zip _____

Item _____ Ticket Price _____

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Address _____

City & State _____ Zip _____

Item _____ Ticket Price _____

Name _____

Address _____

City & State _____ Zip _____

Thanks again to donors, and to all who can support our raffle.

COUNTERPARTS

Tường Hữu Đông Nam A

Charles C. Thurmond

Executive Officer

PO Box 1324 Clayton GA 30525-1324

A Non-Profit Tax-Exempt Organization