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 BÁO CÁO TÌNH HÌNH ၂၃၂၃၂၃၂၃ ၂၃၂၃၂၃၂၃ XOV XWM TSHAJ TAWN

The SITREP is the quarterly publication of COUNTERPARTS/TƯỜNG HỮU 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 and correspondence: Ben Myers; P.O. Box 6019; Lake Worth, Florida; 33466-6019.

OFFICERS

-open-
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Adjutant
(Acting)

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XO

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Locator/
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D.C. Liaison

Mike Roberts
PIO

Chúc các hội đồng viên và gia đình hưởng một năm mới an lành và hạnh phúc, thịnh vượng. A happy Tết to all and good luck, health, and prosperity in nam Ất Hợi, the Year of the Boar.

1995 reunion scheduled for August, and another special event in Washington, D.C. on 30 April. Some heartening Locator finds in past months, though fate of refugees in Hong Kong, Malaysian, Philippine, and Indonesian camps looks bad, w/US and UN bureaucrats doing best job to ignore current deplorable conditions and bogus screening process.

New admin procedures: send all dues and mail to Ben Myers (address above). J.C. Fischer filling in as acting Adjutant, and we still need nomination for Commander position, now technically vacant. Grant McClure, past Commander, staying on to handle some chores, and XO Charles Thurmond teaming up to take on admin chores and organizational matters.

Getting down to business.....

Two special events scheduled, notices for which on last page. The first, on 30 April, is a commemorative salute to the Southeast Asians with whom guest-country parties were allied, whose service and sacrifice is too often overlooked or misconstrued. Time: 1:00 PM, Sunday, 30 April, 1995. Location: Mall adjacent to Việt Nam



Veterans Memorial in Washington. Grant McClure heading this up. Read over accompanying publicity flyer, and try to attend.

Special event #2: Dedication ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, 10:00 AM, Sunday, 12 November 1995, for memorial of US Biệt Động Quân/Ranger Cố Vấn and QLVNCH BẾC Counterparts. Member Bobby Jackson working on this. Details on accompanying flyer. Donations for memorial plaque are welcome. Try to make it if at all possible.

LOCATOR The cook samples his wares, and J.C. Fischer, with help of new member Đỗ Văn Phúc (Mike) located two former comrades, Nguyễn Văn Kính and Nguyễn Thiện Tường. J.C. served with both during his time w/Adv Tm 75 (later redesignated 66) on river boats in the Mekong Delta town of Mỹ Tho. Learning of J.C.'s search for them, both



former Đại úy

immediately wrote, ending nearly 25 years of lost contact. Both were long time 'guests' of the forced labor camps, only recently arriving in US. J.C. has recently traveled to San Jose to meet w/former Đại úy Tường; a trip report is expected. Many thanks/cảm ơn van bời to Đỗ Văn Phúc (AKA Mike) for running photos in his Austin, Texas newspaper, Lửa Việt; making this welcome event possible. Photos at left show Tường in 1982, and in 1994.

Peter Scott tracks down and visits former counterparts Col./Đại tá Thạch Quyên, and Chau Reap, in San Francisco and Tacoma respectively. In addition, with assistance of member Lê Nguyễn Bình, Pete has discovered that former counterpart Abdul Aziz

is alive (no small feat for a former S-2, and member of religious minority, who had avid dislike for the hammer and sickle boys), and in Saigon. Pete has Abdul's address and should be in contact w/him at this writing. All is not 100% vui/happy however. Chau Reap, after capture in 1975, was placed in a conex container for 18 months; he emerged blinded from the experience. Eight of Reap's former counterparts chipped in, and Reap has had an operation which has restored partial vision. On a more sombre note, Col. Quyên told Pete that three of his former counterparts had been executed: Chau Got, Chau Krech, and Ut Le, after the 'end of the war' in 1975. Another Chau Con, is also thought to have been executed. He had named his son, Chau Scott, after Pete.

Our regrets are extened to Col. Quyên, whose wife and two daughters died, denied medical treatment and food, while Col. Quyên was in the concentration camps, and were buried in unmarked, unlocatable graves.

Pete's locator finds are a welcome help in his writing efforts, which are to produce a book (publisher on-line) on his experience with the Khmer Krom Scouts in Châu Đốc Province. Col. Quyên also working on a similar book. Both will be fascinating reading when done.

LOCATOR(cont.)

Other Locator finds:

Capt. George A. Lynn for Jimmy D. Evans(both Armor/Thiết Giáp C6 Vans to 20th Armor Regt.

Capt. Cleveland Huggins and Maj. Peyton, for Trung tá/LTC Nguyễn Văn Lan, 81st Airborne Commandos(all three were at An Lộc in '72).

Thanks to J.C. and Ben for their assiduous efforts in locating former comrades, and to Đỗ Văn Phúc(Mike) for running notices and photos in Lửa Việt. If this assn. does nothing else at all, which is far from the case, our role in reuniting former comrades makes it all worthwhile. Additional thx to Col. Lê Nguyễn Bình for immediately notifying Peter Scott of Abdul Aziz's existence and address.

Yet the work isn't over:

Nguyễn Ngan looking for Sgt. Van Hall. Both served at FOB 2, Kontum in '68. Hall w/5th SF Grp.

Peter Scott looking for anyone who knew or served with Son Ngoc Thanh, Khmer Krom leader, and, for a brief time, Prime Minister of Cambodia. Pete also looking for Gen. Mike Healy and a Col. Morton, both of whom served w/Khmer Krom.

Bob Topp looking for anyone who served with Mong Van Vien, CIDG after 1966. Bob served two years w/Vien through 1966, but that isn't enough to qualify Vien for Orderly Departure. Anyone serving from 1966-1967 w/Vien at camp A-430/Don Phuc, and C-4 Cần Thơ Mike Force; and 1970-1973, B-40(43) Long Hai, and remembering Vien, please contact Bob IMMEDIATELY: Rt. 1, Box 212; Roseland, Virginia 22967(804 277-8535). If Vien's additional service cannot be confirmed he will not qualify for obtuse ODP procedures.

Trần Ngọc Khoe is looking for anyone who served with him, for same reasons cited above. Khoe, AKA 'Jimmy' served 12 years w/US SF, was WIA a number of times, and is subjected to exclusionary policies(putting in mildly) in VN, and denied badly needed medical treatment. Anyone serving with Khoe should IMMEDIATELY contact SF Association New Mexico Zia chapter(818 Rio Vista S.W.; Albuquerque, New Mexico; 87105; 505 842-8640).

Tom Crowley looking for anyone who served w/Đại Úy(Capt.) Lương Đình Chi, Đất Đỏ Dist., Phước Tuy Prov., 1966. Capt. Chi died shortly after his 13 years in concentration camps, and his wife and family, now in a Hong Kong refugee camp, were harassed by authorities in VN, and will mistreated if forced to return, against their wishes. Member Doc Turnbull served w/Chi, and is writing to Tom, but additional backup will be useful. Contact Tom immediately: Apt. 7B, Tower II; Regent on the Park; 9A Kennedy Road; Hong Kong. Thx to member Bill LeGro for prompt relay of this info.

Former Captain Cal Jones, 5th SF Grp, MACV Tm 28, Tuy Hòa, 1969-1971 looking for former counterpart, Lt. Sung Jarai village chief at Son Hoa, Tam; and Phan Thị Tuy Oanh, whose father owned the Four Seasons restaurant at Tuy Hòa.

All above info sent to J.C. Mike ĐỒ, and Ben. Please check in your AO, checking phone books, asking around.

Nguyễn Ngan, cited above, makes and sells beautifully crafted unit insignia plaques with painted, scroll cut wood overlays, ranging in size from 12" x 12" to 12" x 24" (approx). Costs vary, but are in the \$50.00 range. His display in Santa Ana 'little Sài Gòn' market included framed 81st BK, Đà Lạt Military Academy/Võ Bị Quốc Gia, Không Quân/Air Force pieces; he can do any unit patch, and does it well. POC: Nguyen Ngan; 2613 W. St. Andrew Pl.; Santa Ana, California; 92704(714 641-3523).



Fact: A muskrat can and will kill a mink, on land. A muskrat can be, and will be, killed by a mink, in water.

'It is awfully important to know what is, and what is not, your business.'

Gertrude Stein

It is most apparent that current business of US State Dept. is stonewalling, denying any, and all, allegations that refugee screening process is a travesty. Forced repatriation continues, and State fends off all inquiries with warm and fuzzy generalizations, never looking into the questions raised, or examples of specific malfeasance if not outright corruption on the part of UN-hired interviewers. Father Bob Crawford, who served in VN and is now in Philippine camps, has been in direct and frequent contact with Veterans of Việt Nam War Inc. (NOT more widely known VN Veterans of America), the Saigon Mission Association, and Boat People SOS Committee, providing ample and substantive examples of gross inequities in the screening process. Nicholas Rock, Regional VoVNW Coordinator, and Jim Charles, VoVNW National Commander, have been working hard on this, and urge letters to Congressman Christopher H. Smith (NJ) (address: 2370 RHOB; Washington, D.C.; 20515/SDT (landline): 202 225-3765). In addition, thoughts should be sent to Congressman Benjamin Gilman (Chairman, House International Relations Committee; 2449 RHOB; Washington, D.C.; 20515; 202 225-3776), and Congressman Doug Bereuter; 2348 RHOB; House Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs; Washington; D.C.; 20515; 202 225-4806. At this point, ONLY congressional pressure will cut through the entangling goo of bureaucratic indifference, if not underlying disdain and contempt, to the issue.

It is incumbent upon us to grab pen in hand and write these people immediately. Time is running out. Dr. Nguyễn Đình Thang, Executive Director of the Boat People SOS Committee (P.O. Box 2652; Merrifield, Virginia; 22116; 703 204-2662) and his hard working people have driven a wedge in defensive perimeter of verbiage, and need all our

help, in the form of letters, and any donations for their expenses. Dr. Thang's latest efforts are to increase the pressure on both US State Dept. and UN High Commissioner for Refugees, with latter outfit receiving letter signed by 12 US Senators expressing grave concern for those denied refugee status, and for the corruption and bribery institutionalized in the screening process.

We no longer have to dodge bullets/shrapnel, wade through mud, or endure war's hardships to help out; we need simply write strong and emphatic letters, and need to write them now. If Nguyễn Quý An, who saved four American lives, earning DFC in the process, and Mong Van Vien(see. p.3) are stiffed by State and INS people, other equally deserving people can, and are, being similarly denied.

Father Crawford reports that former QLVNCH military cannot officially marry, educational opportunities are denied their children, and that even their grandchildren are subjected to discriminatory policies, in conformance with Ho Chi Minh's theory that it takes three generations to wipe out 'counter-revolutionary' mindset.

Send Dr. Thang some spare change. Write some letters. Today.

Presently, the screws are being tightened in refugee camps. Food, medical supplies, water and electricity are being withheld or denied, in effort to make life(?) so miserable that forced repatriation is accepted. Camp inmates at Morong, Philippines threatened mass suicide if repatriation proceedings continued. Authorities relented, allowing all 260 people to remain-with no running water or electricity. Earlier, 70 people in a Hong Kong camp refused cash incentives to return to VN; they were deported nonetheless.

It is most apparent that US State Dept. dictionary does not contain the words ethics, honesty, integrity, etc. It behooves all of us to insist upon a modicum of justice. Write elected representatives; ruin a bureaucrat's day; now.

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'Modern opinion resists this truth, but great battles, won or lost, change the entire course of events, create new standards of values, new moods, new atmospheres, in armies and in nations.'

-Winston Churchill

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Early QLVNCH/RVN patches, from left to right: 132nd, 133rd, 135th, and 136th Regional Force Regts./Trung Doan Dia Phuong Quan. Courtesy of Viet Nam Insignia Collector Newsletter, a quarterly published

by Clement V. Kelly, Jr. (VN Vet); 501 W. 5th Ave.; Covington, Louisiana; 70433. VNICN an excellent source of historical info, and invaluable guide to avoiding abundance of fake 'souvenirs' now flooding the market. Thx to Clem for permission to use his reproductions. Interested subscribers need only send \$15.00 (checks payable to Clement V. Kelly Jr.) for informative reading, as well as list of legitimate VN, Lao, US, Cambodian insignia dealers.

Having proved their mettle in battle, these South Vietnamese marines exude confidence and esprit de corps.



Photo: BY SEA, AIR AND LAND, An Illustrated History of the US Navy and the War in Southeast Asia, by Edward J. Marolda; US Govt. Printing Office (More info on following pages).

Hội Đồng Viên mới nhập ngũ/New Recruits....

A resounding welcome to:

Paul J. Willett
4th Armor Bde, '70
P.O. Box 399
Danville, Arkansas 72833

Donald D. Slesnick II
CORDS, I Corps, '71
827 N. Greenway Dr.
Coral Gables, Florida 33134

John R. Halfmoon
Tm 44, '69-'70
3220 SE Raymond
Portland, Oregon 97202

Don C. Steiner
Tm 84/MAT IV-33, '68-'69
1012 Lunaai Pl
Kailua, Hawaii 96734

Thomas R. MacCallum
8th Cav, '67-'68
1014 Pacific Ave., #1
Waukegan, Illinois 60085

Leo F. McGoff Jr.
National Police, '68-'69
10500 W. Runion Dr.
Peoria, Arizona 85382

Đỗ Văn Phúc (Mike)
2nd Air Div, PolWar (CTCT)
11205 Bending Bough Trl.
Austin, Texas 78758

Burt L. Levin
4th Riverine, '67-'68
227 Rockwell St.
Norwich, Connecticut 06360

New Members(cont.)

Stephen Sperman
Tm 21, G-3 Airy, '67-'67
7 Jade St.
New York, N.Y. 10956

Jack O. Graves
Tm 60, 509 RR Gp, '71-'72
19907-113th St., East
Summer, Washington 98390

Capt. Peter S. Robinson, USN, Ret.
RVNN Fleet Cmd, '68-'69
1431 Camino Pablo
Moraga, California 94556

Maj. Raphael P. Parry Jr, USA Ret.
Tm 11, V ALC
2150 Savoy St.
Corpus Christi, Texas 78414

Robert Boyke
Phoenix/Phung Hoang
13353 Point Rider Lane
Herndon, Virginia 22071

Robert J. Winzinger Sr.
Tm 18, Hue, RF/PF, '69-'70
3 Wildwood Road
Congers, New York 10920

Nguyễn Văn Danh
QLVNCH, MAT IV-57
130 N. Dudley St.
Camden, New Jersey 08105

Edwin C. Hodges
Tm 33, 8th Cav, '68-'69
1148 107th St.
Arlington, Texas 76011

Byron H. Bahl
USAID, QK IV(IV Corps)
4317 Windom Pl. NW
Washington, D.C. 20016

Robert R. Heinen
Tm 68
1075 Silverhill Dr.
Lafayette, California 94549

Bruce H. Matthews
MAT II-72
2409 S. Lois Ave.
Tampa, Florida 33629

Michael Logan
Son of Tm 96 Member
6732 21st Ave. NW
Seattle, Washington 98117

Col. Karl H. Lowe, USA, Ret.
Tm 99, 1/46 Regt, '67
5101 Portsmouth Road
Fairfax, Virginia 22032

David C. Carrad
Signal School, '69
528 Beech Tree Lane
Hockessin, Delaware 19707

Jon C. Dawson
Tm 31, '68
2210 Tasha Dr.
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

BG John T. Quinn, USA, Ret.
SA, 41st Regt, 22nd Div; 20th Rgr Bn
553 Le Master Dr.
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida 32082

Charles R. Irwin
Tm 27, RF/PF(ØPQ, NQ)
P.O. Box 700390
San Antonio, Texas 78270

Col. Carl F. Bernard, USA, Ret.
PSA, CORDS, RF/PF, '68-'69
3008 Doeg Indian Court
Alexandria, Virginia 22309

Col. Lee A. Harmon USA, Ret.
Tm 155, 20th Tank Regt., '72
5143 Pony Soldier Dr.
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80917

Richard D. Miller, DBA
Tm 18, CORDS, '68-'69
5929 Kimble Ct.
Falls Church, Virginia 22041

John R. Baird
Tm 89
P.O. Box 322
Lugoff, South Carolina 29078

Robert Hemphill
Tm 60
9718 Swift Creek Ct.
Fairfax, Virginia 22039

Gregory L. Olney II
MAT II-32, Tm 49
1301 4th St. N.
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

Vaughn R. Hock
Naval Adv Gp
1736 Wright Dr.
Kingsville, Texas 78363

New Members(cont.)

Gary H. Cummings
Tm 42
1350 Mount Vernon Rd.
Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Col. Paul W. Hamblin, USA, Ret.
J-1, '64; G-1, OK/MR II, Tm 21, '65
4596 Sharon Valley Ct.
Atlanta, Georgia 30338

Col/Đại Tá Nguyễn Đình Bang
TT/Prov. Chief
6705 S. Richmond Ave., #550
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136

William J. Kyle
Tm 22, 3/47 Regt
337 E. Holmes Ave.
Mesa, Arizona 85210

Michael A. McDonnell
Tm 40, '70-'71
701 Kim Ave.
Copperas Cove, Texas 76522

Robert G. Topp
SF Det 428, 430/IV Corps Mike Force
Rte 1, Box 212
Roseland, Virginia 22967

MG Joseph McChristian, USA, Ret.
J-2, MACV HQ, '65-'67
119 Gomez Road
Hobe Sound, Florida 33455

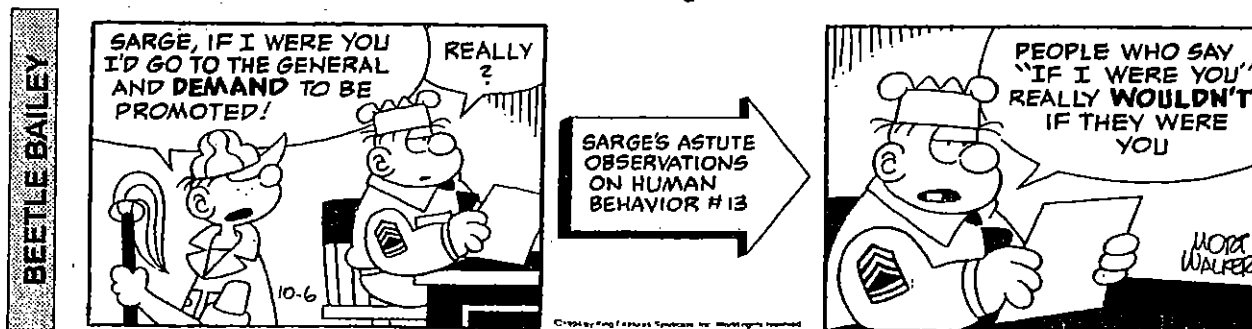
Thomas J. Wood
Tm 75, '67-'68
1905 Kirk Ave.
Killeen, Texas 76543

Here's hoping all new members can make it to our 30 April assemblage in D.C., and the August reunion. Special thx to Herm Lange for his assiduous recruitment efforts.

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DAV member Bernie Elmore collects donated cancelled postage stamps for stamp collector veterans in VA hospitals around the country. Tear off stamps, gather a pile, and send to Bernie: P.O. Box 398; Depew, New York; 14043-0398. Hats off to Bernie for his efforts.

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'I would rather entrust the government of the United States to the first 400 people listed in the Boston telephone directory than to the faculty of Harvard University.'

-William F. Buckley Jr.

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COUNTERPARTS LITERATURE Steve Sherman, after reprinting all issues of SF/LLDB in-country magazine, continues on, and is in process of preparing booklets covering the following:

- 7th SFGA TDY Teams in RVN
- 5th SFGA TDY Teams in RVN
- 1st SFGA TDY Teams in RVN
- 46th SF Co. & TDY Teams in Thailand

- CCS(RVN), incl. C-5, B-50, B-56
- CCC(RVN), incl. FOB2, TF2AE
- MACV-SOG, incl. CSD, STDAT, SMAG
- CCN, incl. FOB/MLTs 1, 3, 4, NKP

These compilations are researched from orders and other documents, providing names of those serving in these elements. Steve has also published similar studies on HOTFOOT/WHITE STAR(SF in Laos, '59-'60), and UITG/FTC(SF training Khmer Army in RVN, '70-'73); an SF Order of Battle, SE Asia, 1957-1975 also in the works.

Steve asks all former SF to send in copies of orders, rosters, awards, etc. which will be helpful in his research and writing. Finished copies of 8 studies cited above will be available by the end of this year, and deadline for prepublication purchase, at \$100.00, was 15 March 1995. Check w/Steve on post-deadline orders: Steve Sherman; RADIX Press; 2314 Cheshire Lane; Houston, Texas; 77018. If this publishing venture is successful, next project will zero in on CIDG Camps, Mike Forces, etc.

War Stories of the Green Berets

by Hans Halberstadt



You won't find the inside dope that's in this book anywhere else— unless you plan to attend a Special Forces convention or a meeting of the Fort Bragg Over the Hill Gang. And if you're not SF, you *can't* attend either one of them!

So sit back, relax, and listen to SF troopers recount tales they haven't shared with anyone, including wives and children, and certainly not with civilians or "leg" soldiers. You'll hear stories tinged with sadness or raunchy barracks humor; stories of remarkable heroism (although they may not think so) and near screw-ups; tales that only a member of the "community" could have experienced. You'll discover what SF means to these men to this day.

Meet a trooper whose girlfriend helped him man a machine gun during a brutal firefight. He knew right away "that was the girl for me" and they're still married today!

Want to know what made SF soldiers different? Read their stories about Khe San. Or the pets a Green Beret might keep...or what he might eat, to stay alive or to show his respect for initiation into a Montagnard tribe...or what one of them did to survive 5 years at the Hanoi Hilton.

You'll hear about the fine art of scrounging, proper poker etiquette during a mortar attack, and why Martha Raye ("Maggie") holds a special place in every SF soldier's memory. You'll meet men who saw and treated combat as "my job," personified by the Top Sergeant who decided, "I'm bored. We haven't been shot at in two weeks. Let's go do something."

What they did is here for all to read. *More than 70 illustrations.*
063065 Pub. Ed. \$19.95 Members' Edition \$15.95

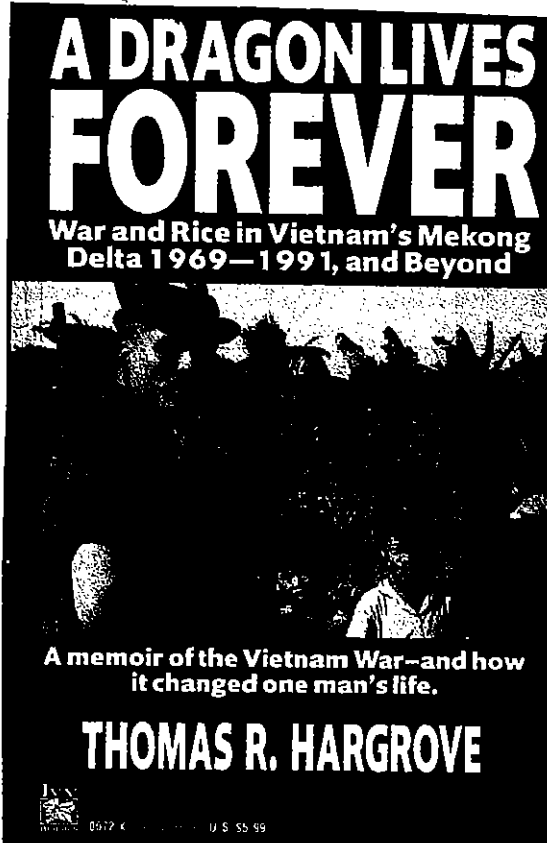
Another SF book, as described by Military Book Club. Members invited to submit review if they've read this one.



BY SEA, AIR AND LAND: An Illustrated History of the US Navy and the War in Southeast Asia, by Edward J. Marolda. Large format, hardbound compendium of US Navy in SE Asia, from Operation Exodus(1954-56 sea transport of VN people from Hanoi to RVN) to 1975, covering every imaginable aspect of Naval involvement, including Naval Advisory Role. Profuse abundance of photographs, though goes well beyond a mere photo book, incorporating well researched narrative describing history as it evolved. No price indicated on review copy received, but safe to figure a \$25.00-\$35.00 range, well worth it for VN bibliophiles. Info: U.S. Govt. Printing Office; Supt. of Documents; Mail Stop SSOP; Washington, D.C.; 20402-9328.

ANGELS IN RED HATS, Paratroopers of the Second Indochina War, compiled by member Michael Martin, following his efforts in BLACK TIGERS(Rgr/BDQ in VN). As in TIGERS, this book focuses on both the Nhảy Dù(Airborne) of VN, as well as US Cõ Vans assigned to Tm 162. Hardbound in leather, w/photos. As described in promotional mailer: 'This is the story of the airborne soldiers of two countries. Their names are Phuc, Nha, Ba, or Phong and Jim, Dick, Dan or John. They come from Håe, Sàigõn, Chu Lai or Cãn Thõ, and Fayetteville, Clarksville, Columbus or New York. They all believed in a common goal and many would lay down their lives

for what they believed. We who served as advisors with the Việt Nameese Airborne forces developed an enduring respect for our gallant comrades. We are proud to say that we wore the Red Beret, the international symbol of paratroopers, and that we served as paratroopers in the Việt Nameese Airborne Division, Sư Đoàn Nhảy Dù.' -Joseph W. Kinzer, MG, U.S. Army, Redhat 7. Available from: Harmony House Publishers; P.O. Box 90; Prospect, Kentucky; 40059. \$39.00, plus \$3.50 p/h.



A DRAGON LIVES FOREVER, Thomas R. Hargrove, Ivy Books. Tom Hargrove went to VN in 1969, and was assigned to the Chương Thiện Prov Adv Tm, serving in an area passing for the Mekong Delta's equivalent to the An Lão Valley, the A Shau, and always hotly contested. Tom's assignment was to introduce miracle rice to Chương Thiện's beleaguered farmers, while periodically engaging in small unit tactics. It was an experience leaving an indelible imprint on his mind, and recounted in this tale, sandwiched between accounts of post-war(sic) visits to Chương Thiện, and his decompression after VN. Well worth the read. Hargrove is an insightful and intelligent man, and his dealings w/rice farmers were a learning experience. His return to VN was bitter sweet, finding former counterparts who had suffered greatly after 1975, and a subsequent search for other Chương Thiện Cổ Vnns rekindled the intense

experiences they shared. Later, he connected with his interpreter, who, in a letter, expressed thoughts shared by many: "I always remember our memories when we worked together in Chương Thiện as 'dangerous and happy.'" Do you remember Mr. Ba Lien, (the) old farmer in Vi Duc.. times we spent in Long Mỹ, Kiên Hùng, etc.? Specially when we stop to visit the sorghum demonstration located the side of road from Hoa Lưu to Vi Thanh--and we are very lucky when we arrived to Vi Thanh and heard the TOC report what was happened after we just left overthere."

Many had such 'dangerous and happy' times, and many were, and are, 'lucky' after having 'just left overthere'. Heavy dose of nostalgia for those who served in the Delta, and enlightening reading for those who served elsewhere. Paperback, \$5.99 off the bookrack.

Hargrove abduction update: As of 13 March, VN Vet/author and Hargrove longtime friend reports Tom is still held captive by narco-revolutionaries in Columbia. Authorities have received a photo of Tom, though negotiations for his release, and ransom, have been unfruitful. Tom was, once again, helping farmers in his position with The International Center for Tropical Agriculture in Cali, Colombia. Say a prayer for him, his family, and for his safe return.

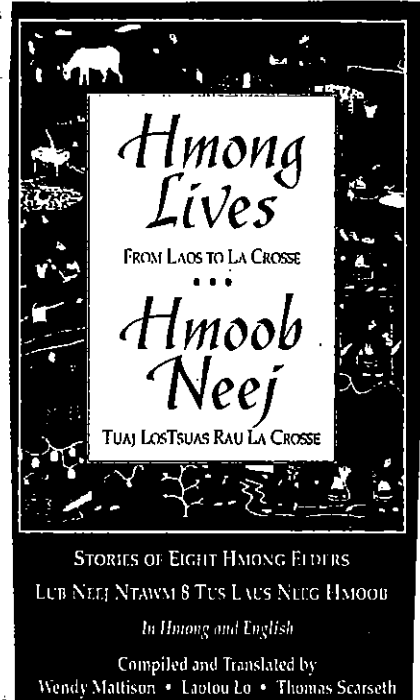
COUNTERPARTS LITERATURE(Cont.)



HOA BLUEBONNET CHO HAI NGUOI, By Pham Ngū Yên; Binh Minh Publishing, Austin, Texas. Yen, a former NCO, presents 12 short stories of his life after 1975, in tiếng Việt/Việt Nameese only. 10 stories in 207 pages. \$12.00, plus \$2.00 postage/handling, from author at: 7929 Gault, #103; Austin, Texas; 78757. SDT/landline: 512 371-7036.

HMONG LIVES, compiled by Wendy Mattison, Laotou Lo, and Thomas Scarseth. Brief life stories of 8 Hmong refugees(1 woman, 7 men) now living in La Crosse, Wisconsin, spanning decades of history, cultural changes, and war. Well done compendium, capturing an abundance of historical, social, military, cultural, and anthrop-

ological information in one volume. Subjects drawn from broad spectrum of Hmong society, from a mother and village woman, to a shaman, to members of SGUs (Special Guerrilla Unit). Noteworthy comments on military ops: 'The reason our company didn't suffer as many casualties as the other companies is that we did our soldiering straightly. We stuck to soldiering; when we saw women, we didn't rape. When we saw animals, we didn't kill them to eat. If people were willing to sell the animals, we would buy them to eat.'(Tong Pao Xiong, who was an SGU member jailed in 1983, after the 'war ended' by Hanoi's legions). Grim accounts of concentration camps, ravaged Hmong society, and blunt observations from a soldier's viewpoint: 'Then, Vang Pao ran out of ideas, and the Americans didn't have the heart to help us.'(After 1973 'Peace'). Excellent work. \$10.00, postpaid, from: Pump House Regional Center for the Arts; 119 King St.; La Crosse, Wisconsin; 54601. 608 785-1434.



Carry Me Home
John M. Del Vecchio
Author of THE 13TH VALLEY

CARRY ME HOME, member John Del Vecchio's 3rd work dealing w/SE Asia, in this case the aftermath, as book's main characters find themselves out of place in the America they returned to. Does not address the counterpart experience as all personalities had served in line units, yet touches upon and then begins to focus on reasons why the US public, and society at large, did not and probably could not comprehend VN/SE Asia because America itself had lost its mental and moral compass, and did not have the wherewithal to either choose or follow a course worth following. Implied message that PTSD magnified and exacerbated, if not in part created, by an infantile society in arrested state of consumer cult adolescence. At your bookstore.

Works in progress Member Curt Rich's UNDER DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES still a manuscript in search of a publisher, and perhaps an agent worthy of the name.Peter Scott drives on with research on his book, a story of his experience with Khmer Krom Scouts of Chau

Độc Province, woven into context of Khmer Krom history and culture in the Mekong Delta. Agent has interested publisher lined up, and we should be seeing an excellent book upon completion. Thach Quyen's manuscript about the Khmer Krom of the Mekong Delta, in tiếng Việt/Việt Nameese, awaits publisher and, with luck, a translation for a wider audience...

Periodicals....VIỆT NAM Magazine, Dec 9th issue has personality profile of Member in Memoriam WO Kevin A. 'Dasher' Wheatley, KIA while member of the Australian Army Training Team(AATT). Wheatley's saving a 3 year old VN girl, while under fire and at great risk to himself, was characterized by fellow AATT member Ian McNeil as '...(an) act of bravery and compassion, very much in character...' When Dasher was KIA in a later contact, the RVN/QLVNCH 1st Regt CO paraded his men in a special commemorative service which 'reflected the esteem that his former South Việt Nameese comrades felt for Dasher.' He was posthumously made a Knight of the National Order of the Republic of Việt Nam, and later the Victoria Cross. His citation and photograph are in Ft. Bragg's Hall of Heroes. Feb 95 issue of VIỆT NAM has interview w/ Sgt. Major William T. Craig(Ret.), on his experiences at Lang Vei, the SF camp overrun w/NVA armor in Feb '68. Article concludes w/Craig's statement 'In 1975, when Việt Nam fell to the Communists, I was a command sergeant major at Fort Bliss, Texas. When we heard the awful news, we cried. We all cried that day.'

VIET NAM, a bi-monthly is \$16.95/year in US, \$22.95 elsewhere, from: Viet Nam; P.O. Box 377; Mt. Morris, Illinois; 61054-7959. Members w/stories for publication: send SASE to Editor; Việt Nam; 741 Miller Dr. SE, Suite D-2; Leesburg, Virginia; 22075(703 771-9400).

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TOP 10

The top 10 reasons for being a Vietnam vet instead of a draft dodger:

- 10. If there's ever a plague outbreak, you've already had your shots.
- 9. You learned Vietnamese instead of Swedish. It's a much more useful language. There are very few Swedish restaurants in the U. S.
- 8. People ask you what you think of Oliver Stone movies.
- 7. You know how napalm really does smell in the morning.

- 6. Sometimes over a nice Italian meal you remember the taste of LRRP spaghetti and meat sauce with nuoc mam sauce.
- 5. You can blame old war wounds instead of old age for creaks and rattles.
- 4. You can attend reunions of your old unit and drink beer and tell war stories. Draft dodgers don't have reunions.
- 3. You can march in Memorial Day parades if you can get a uniform which still fits.
- 2. You never needed a Presidential Pardon.
- 1. You don't have to worry about being chosen as a Democratic presidential candidate.

©1994, Curt Rich

Thx to member Curt Rich for use of above copyrighted material

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'We cannot live our lives alone. Our lives are connected by a thousand invisible threads, and along these sympathetic fibers, our actions run as causes and return to us as results.'

-Herman Melville

'All we send into the lives of others comes back into our own.'

-Edwin Markham

Said a different way:

'Payback is a _____.'

-GI VN adage

MEMBERS IN MEMORIAM

Capt. Ferry D. Cordell, USA

Chau Krech
Khmer Krom Scout

SFC Daniel Raymond Phillips, USA

Capt./Đại Úy To Ton Te.
TQLC/Marine

LTC Richard Simpson Schott, USA

Ha Si/Corporal _____ Hen
QB, QLVNCH

Capt. Howard Maxwell Eakin, USA

WO Ronald W. Swanton, AATTVN

Post-war Taps:

Lt. Gen. Richard Stilwell, USA

Capt. Brian Thomas Collins

Chau Got
Khmer Krom Scout
Ut Le
Khmer Krom Scout

Capt. Kenneth Joseph Yonan, USA

LTC Robert Wallace Brownlee, Jr.
USA

SFC Howard Burdette Lull, Jr., USA

BG Richard Joseph Tallman, USA

WO II Kevin Arthur 'Dasher' Wheatle
AATTVN

SFC Elmer Denton

Continuing list of QLVNCH personnel KIA in concentration camps:

Th/tá Phan Mạnh Thuận
Tỉnh Long An(Prov.)

Tr/tá Nguyễn Đăng Tông
Không rõ đơn vị/unit unk

Tr/tá Nguyễn Văn Thanh
SB 9/9th Inf Div

Th/tá Đặng Sĩ Vĩnh
BTL CSQG/HQ Natl Police

Tr/tá Trần Việt Dũng
Công Binh/Engr

Đ/tá Nguyễn Vinh
Không rõ đơn vị/unit unk

Tr/tá Nguyễn Hồng Việt
Không rõ đơn vị/unit unk

Tr/tá Huỳnh Như Xuân
VBQG/Đà Lạt Military Academy

Tr/tá Trần Phước Sáng
Không rõ đơn vị/unit unk

Th/tá Xết
Không rõ đơn vị/Unit unk

Th/tá Phao Lạc Thảo
Không rõ đơn vị/unit unk.

Th/tá Hoang Tam
Không rõ đơn vị/unit unk

Tr/tá Võ Văn Vàng
EĐT:911/BDE CO

Tr/tá Đoàn Xuân Viêm
TĐ 4/4th Regt

Tr/tá Trương Đắc Vinh
Không rõ đơn vị/unit unk

Tr/tá Nguyễn Hồng Vĩ
Không rõ đơn vị/unit unk

Th/tá Nguyễn Đức Xích
PTT, Nội An; Biên Hòa/Asst Prov Sec
Chief, internal security, Biên Hòa

Tr/tá Phạm Minh Xuân
Thiết Giáp/Armor

Tr/tá Trần Như Xuân
TĐ 54/54th Regt



'Not for fame or reward...not for place or rank...not lured by ambition or goaded by necessity... but in simple obedience to duty as they understood it, these men suffered all... sacrificed all...dared all...and died.'

-Confederate monument, Arlington National Cemetery

Th/tá: Major; Tr/tá: LTC; Đ/tá: Col. This completes names off a list of known concentration camp fatalities compiled by the Việt Nameese Committee of Former Political Prisoners, and submitted by member Bui Quang Lam. As previously stated, we have assumed anyone with rank of Th/tá(Major) and above had a guest-country counterpart, being well aware that a number of Đại úy and Trung Úy(capt., 1st Lt) also would qualify; we don't know which ones however. Research conducted by academics interviewing former concentration camp prisoners suggests that as many as 50,000 former QLVNCH personnel may have been summarily executed after 1975; others perished due to disease, or hazardous conditions in the camps.

Jim Baker wrote asking about last issue's mention of Gen. Nguyễn Việt Thanh. Gen Thanh personally awarded Jim his Viet Nameese Crosses of Gallantry, and as Jim says, 'I liked him.'. Gen. Thanh was killed in a helicopter crash. He is mentioned in Gen. Lam Quang Thi's AUTOPSY, and in the Boston Publishing Series on Việt Nam, which described Gen. Thanh as a capable and honest leader, whose death was setback for Việt Nam.

Mike McMunn, our Members in Memoriam Archivist, has taken the bull by the horns, and compiled a complete roster of all known deceased Counterparts, including those passing on following return to US. Many of us have submitted names for this roster, and it behooves all of us to write Mike, providing additional comments, observations and shared experiences which can be incorporated into the roster, making it more than a mere list of names. So, please take pen in hand, and give Mike the info he needs: 2310 Newberry St.; Williamsport, Pennsylvania; 17701. Internet:MMCMUNN@DELPHI.COM. SĐT/landline: 717 321-7102. Send anything, to include photocopies of book or magazine pages, photo reprints, personal narratives, etc., which lets others remember these people as you do.

While you're at it, send duplicate to member Stu Beckley for his book, LEAVES OF STONE(described in last SITREP): 8723 Sagebrush Lane; San Antonio, Texas; 78217-5836(210 828-4023). LEAVES will put in print, and in photos, the same thoughts and comments that surface at a typical COUNTERPARTS reunion. Thx to Stu, member Frank Brown, Clement Kelly at Viet Nam Insignia Collector Newsletter, Mike McMunn, and many others who have contributed to this worthwhile effort.

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Special Forces/LLDB camp, at Cai Cai, in Plain of Reeds/Đồng Tháp Mười from BY SEA, AIR, AND LAND, US GPO.

MEMBER PROFILE Nguyễn Khoa Nam. Drawing from our roster of Members in Memoriam.... Nguyễn Khoa Nam, an Airborne/Nhà Dù Col./Đại tá, was appointed 7th Div CG in 1970, following departure of 9th US Div from their shared AO in the upper Mekong Delta, in and around the always hotly contested Định Tường Prov. Occupying the US 9th's former HQ at Đông Tam, and pitted against such units as the 514C Bn., and 261st Regional Force Bn., the 7th, under Gen. Nam's leadership, set to work. As is always the case, leadership casts a shadow over whatever entity it is responsible for, and Gen. Nam forged a unit as proficient as any which ever fought in SE Asia. Intolerant of corruption, and demanding the best from his officers and troops, Nam's 7th became the lords of the upper Delta, smashing NVA attempted incursions at the VN/Cambodian border, farming out Bns. to handle out of control situations in neighboring provinces, and forcing the NVA to move in the equivalent of a division of NVA troops, in three 'VC' regts. (Z-15, Z-18, and DT-1) in order to preserve and protect the battered 514 and 261st Bns, among others.

Nam and his Div staff knew all too well the sufferings of an infantryman and his family, and constructed a division farm at Đông Tam to alleviate economic difficulties experienced by low paid troops. One could travel the length and breadth of the Delta and never hear of a hint of corruption on Nam's part. The 'common people' held him in high esteem, and spoke of him in virtuous superlatives. After the 'peace' accords of 1973, it was evident that long-entrenched NVA forces needed to be hit hard, and the 7th took aim at an NVA base, Tri Phap, near the tri-border area of Kiến Tường, Kiến Phong, and Định Tường Provinces, thoroughly routing dug in NVA forces. The defeat was of such magnitude that Communist leaders, as revealed in captured documents, declined to protest to the ICCS (International Commission for Control and Supervision), fearing that news of the defeat would demoralize their forces. The 7th, which had been humiliated 10 years prior at Ap Bac, had quickly and professionally routed an equal sized NVA force.

Though revered as an honest man, Gen. Nam suffered fools, and incompetents badly. One story recounts his spotting, while in his C & C chopper, a bridge crossing where fields of fire were uncleared. Setting down immediately, and spying ill-prepared defensive positions, tall weeds and other tactical deficiencies, Gen. Nam immediately demoted the commanding (sic) Lt., appointing/promoting another on the spot, and promising to return, to inspect a well reconstructed and defensible bridge crossing position.

His name remains unknown to most Americans, and he is seldom mentioned in US published books, an omission equivalent to leaving Patton out of WW II history. Once, a prominent US journalist and book author was advised that a story was to be had in Gen. Nam and the 7th, an example of Việt Namization/Việt Nam Hóa working better than anyone might have expected. The journalist, Donald Kirk, was told of the division farm, of Nam's honesty and tactical brilliance, of the NVA expulsion from Tri Phap. Kirk responded with all the interest a muskrat might have ^{for} a 1937 Des Moines phonebook. Nothing was ever written, and history remained untold.

During the anti-corruption demonstrations of early 1975, Gen. Nam was appointed CG for MR IV, with his corrupt predecessor having been thrown to the wolves. A visiting Pentagon general wished to visit with Nam in Cần Thơ, whereupon Nam told him, with emphatic anger, that he had to fight two wars, one against the Communists, and one against corruption. No ambiguity here. To dismiss a corrupt Prov. chief, Nam eventually ordered the miscreant to drive down a road

which was supposed to have been cleared, stating that his(Nam's) C & C chopper would set down at coordinates XT such and such, at 1000 hours, and that the prov chief, in his jeep had damn well better be right there to meet him. As luck would have it, the prov chief survived the no doubt hasty ambush he had to drive through, but with bullet holes in his jeep, and a petrified driver, Nam finally had the grounds to dismiss an incompetent.

Nam and IV Corps fought on, blunting a major NVA offensive in Dec '74, and holding their own in spite of disastrous, if not obscene, aid cutbacks, misconstrued as a way to 'end the fighting'. Infantry units had minimal arty support, POL cutbacks ruled out preemptive strikes along infiltration corridor 1-C in the Plain of Reeds, and all ambulatory wounded were kept in the field. When the end came, Nam refused the surrender order, but was unable to assemble a resistance force before VC/NVA forces surrounded Cần Thơ. On 1 May, 1975, as VC/NVA moved in on Corps HQ, Gen. Nam took his own life rather than accept the indignity of capture, an ultimate act of defiance.

Gen. Nguyễn Khoa Nam was a man of character, dignity and courage. He, and many others, knew his visible and unyielding leadership against the Communists made him a marked man. He burned his bridges early on in his military career, and never looked back. He, and the 7th Div, to the delight of Cố Vấn working with them, mastered and used every trick in the book, and accomplished what 'journalists' refused to believe, or write about. Try as you might, you'll find little mention, if any at all, of Gen. Nguyễn Khoa Nam in US-published books on VN, to include Stanley Karnow's 'Complete(Sic) History of the VN War'. Perhaps, if he had been a communist, he'd be renowned as the 'wily' Gen. Nam(maybe Vo Nguyen Giap's middle name is 'Wily'/Quý Quyết).

Gen. Nguyễn Khoa Nam. Remember him, living your life in such a way as would earn his respect.

Sources: ANH HÙNG NƯỚC TÔI(MY COUNTRY'S HEROES), Đông Tiến Publishers; P.O. Box 4708; San Jose, California; 95150. Personal experiences and recollections of Hội Đồng Viên Tướng Hữu Đồng Nam Á/Counterparts members.

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'No good can come from the cynicism and passivity of the public today. Civilizations die of disenchantment.'

-John Gardner

'The surest sign of intelligent life in the universe is that no such forms of life have ever tried to get in touch with us.'

-Anonymous

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POW/MIA New book, INSIDE HANOI'S SECRET ARCHIVES: SOLVING THE MIA MYSTERY(Malcolm McConnell) heightens controversy with allegation that Hà Nội did not withhold US POWs in 1973, yet did execute a larger number than has ever been suggested. McConnell, and researcher Theodore Schweitzer, conclude that 'hundreds were killed in captivity during the war, mostly in the heat of battle, and that a few died as a result of torture.'. INSIDE, published by Simon & Schuster, cites Hà Nội's reluctance to know of their 'darkest secret' of having '...killed many American prisoners in cold blood.' A vigorous denial is issued by Hà Nội; nothing unexpected there, as Foreign Ministry Spokesman Nguyen Xuan Phong

parroted the conventional line: 'Our consistent policy toward the war prisoners was giving them humanitarian treatment and not to kill them.'

Pious rejoinder notwithstanding, Hà Nội's brutality toward POWs is a well documented matter of record. Ed Atterberry was tortured to death following an escape attempt (see CODE OF HONOR, LTC John A. Dramesi, USAF; Norton Publishing, 1975); COUNTERPARTS/THỎNÁ Member in Memoriam*met a similar fate in a U-Minh Forest VC camp (see the late Nick Rowe's FIVE YEARS TO FREEDOM). Of course the 5,000 or so bodies exhumed at Hue further attest to Hà Nội's penal philosophies. Sad thing is, there's been little outrage coming forth from US public. Book is seldom mentioned on TV/print news. US govt. response, if any, has been low key in the extreme. Any member having read INSIDE is invited to send in a review. Garnett 'Bill' Bell, former head of US Office for POW/MIA Affairs, Hà Nội, is interviewed in March '95 issue of American Legion magazine, expressing belief that live US POWs were held after 1973, and that official US govt. efforts to resolve the issue have been incompetent at best, duplicitous at worst. Bell cites interesting set of numbers: there were 119 attempted POW rescue ops during the war; 4 people were rescued. Thx to J.C. Fischer for sending article. Forensic recovery teams, digging near F-4 crash site along Cambodian border, may have found body tissue (as opposed to bones, teeth) of US serviceman. 56 sets of remains have been IDed since Jan 92. US Postal Service will issue new POW stamp on 29 May 95; design has not been completed. This is second POW/MIA stamp issued, following a 6-cent, 1970 stamp. Missing Service Personnel Act of 1995: Senate Bill S. 256, introduced by Senators Dole and Lautenberg, and companion House Bill H.R. 945, introduced by Representative Gilman. Endorsed by National Viet Nam Veterans Coalition. Write elected representatives. Request copies of both. Have your Senators call Senators Thurmond and Coats to support hearings on this proposed legislation.

*Capt. Humbert 'Rocky' Versace

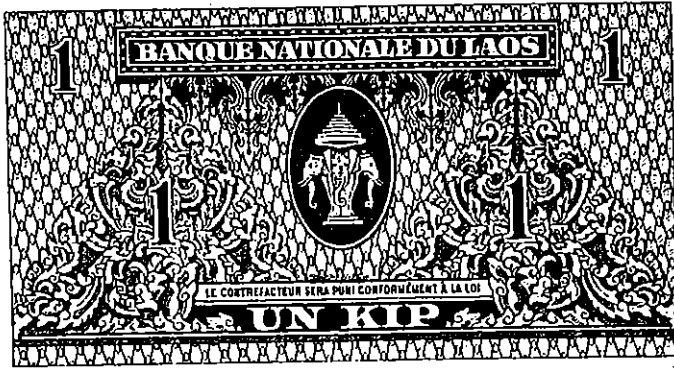
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Nhà Róng BAHNAR

MONTAGNARD matters... little direct news from Highlands recently, though void may be filled w/trip report of one of our members who is on way back from three week jaunt to his old stomping grounds in QK II/II Corps. Hope to have some photos as well. Việt Nam Highlands Assistance Project now in VN, and involved with: supplies to Dakkia Leprosy Hospital, Kontum; working with VN Red Cross to bring medical supplies for Leprosy patients in outlying areas of Kontum; provision of emergency dental treatment to village people in Kontum; plan review for construction of Ayunpa Leprosy clinic and site selection for same facility; discuss plans for water purification system for Ban Mê Thuột Province Hospital. In the process of doing all this, Kay Reibold and H.A.P. also serve notice that the Dega have

not and will not be forgotten by others, and that preservation of Dega culture, language and customs must be taken into consideration in any plans to 'develop' the Highlands. Donations to H.A.P. sent via our Liaison Officer, Mike Little: 2919 Lake Colony Dr.; Missouri City, Texas; 77459-3927. Worthy cause.



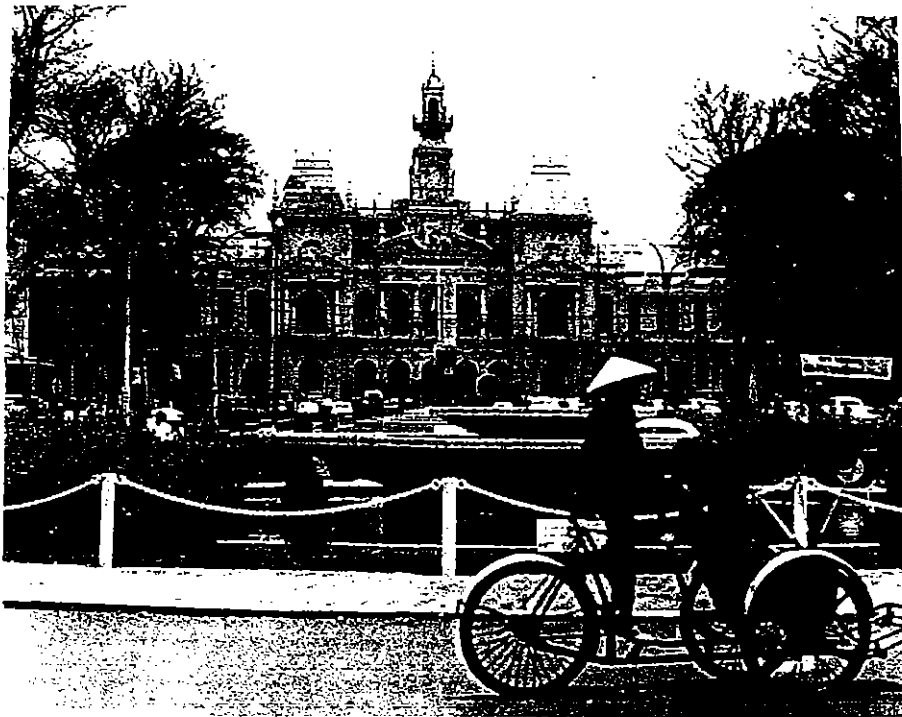
LAOS The 'Red Prince', Souphanouvong, dies at 82, ending his life as a 'revolutionary'. Half brother to Neutralist Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma, the Paris-educated Souphanouvong aligned himself and the Pathet Lao w/Hanoi's legions, and essentially served as a de facto Hanoi surrogate in Laos, never contesting edicts and policies emanating from his 'fraternal socialist' neighbor. He was preceded in death by his cousin, former Laotian King Savang Vatthana, who

perished in the Laotian Gulag. Thailand gears up for expulsion of Hmong from refugee camps, following an earlier effort halted by 'technical problems'. Thai authorities not expecting an easy time of it, amidst reports that Vang Pao's people have journeyed to the camps to implement a resistance plan. US Congressional pressure, such as it is, supports Hmong emigration to third countries; US State Dept. opposed, wants 'em back in Laos. Jan/Feb issue of 'Wildlife Conservation' has article on Laos, citing fears that excessive logging and poaching will jeopardize endangered species and habitat. Laotian military brokered contract w/Japanese logging firm for cutting massive cypress-like conifers on high mountain slopes..

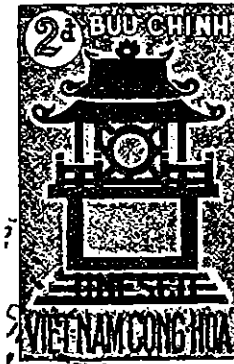
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CAMBODIA remains in post-election doldrums. Khmer Rouge still active, and admit to killing tourists. Three young men, an Aussie, a Brit, and a Frenchmen were executed because KR viewed them as 'spies for the Viet Nameese.'. Later, Susan Ginsburg Hadden, a professor at U. Texas, Austin, and her Cambodia guide were killed near Angkor Wat; KR radio thence indicated killers were rewarded w/money, oxen and water buffalo. KR defectors also state rewards are offered for kidnapping US or Australian tourists. King Norodom Sihanouk advises tourists to stay out as situation is 'clearly insecure'. ...Christopher Riley and Douglas Niven, two US researchers, uncovered 6,000 negatives of 1975-1979 victims of infamous Tuol Sleng prison. Negatives were cleaned up, and new set sent to Cornell University. Many executed at Tuol Sleng were communists themselves, swept up in the paranoia of a Stalin-like purge. One photo shows woman w/infant in her arms. Maj. Gen. Tes Chanthan, Khmer AF Dept. CO, KIA when light observation plane clips tree branches and crashes in central Cambodia.



Cyclo đap meanders in front of the thị sảnh, Sài Gòn, in earlier times. From files of member Le Nguyen Binh



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Priorities? What's a priority? Last year, Barbara Schoener was killed by a mountain lion while jogging in California foothills outside of Placerville. State game hunters tracked down and killed the cougar, a female who left an orphaned cub. Zoo authorities received \$21,000.00 in donations so the cub could be raised in good care. A trust fund for Mrs. Schoener's two children attracted donations of \$9,000.00.

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Member Tim Kerr shot many photos during his four years flying slicks in VN, for both VN and US forces, throughout the friendly (sometimes) skies of MRs/QK II, III, and IV. He has a catalog of 11" x 14" enlargements of these photos, and kindly offers a discount to COUNTERPARTS/TUONG HUU ĐÔNG NAM Á members. Catalog is \$2.00: Tim Kerr; P.O. Box 9342; Seattle, Washington; 98109-0342.

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The Dragon sez... You WILL enjoy your TDY at the 6th annual COUNTERPARTS/TUONG HUU ĐÔNG NAM Á Reunion, scheduled 2-6 Aug, 1995, Falls Church, Virginia (or immediate area). Grant McClure and Bob Cunningham now pathfinding/clearing LZ. Details in early May SITREP. We have large contingent of members nearby, and this promises to be one of the largest reunions, if not the largest. As usual, there will be fascinating presentations, and the even more fascinating gaggle of interesting, intelligent people, all with unique tales to tell (and they do get told). Plan on coming.

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Other reunions.... A-37 Combat Dragons, VN; 18-21 May, San Antonio, Texas. Ollie Maier; 306 Village West; San Marcos, Texas; 78666; 512 353-7432. VN AF Security Police Assn, details from John Langley; 150 Aurora Rd.; Venice, Florida; 34295; 813 497-0493. American Ex-POW Assn. Details from Ray Merritt; 688 Saddleback Dr.; Marysville, California; 95901; 916 749-8324.

Reunions(cont.)

Saigon Mission Assn. 28-29 April, 1995. Sheraton National Hotel; Arlington, Virginia. Stan Patrovsky; Box 722; Anacortes, Washington; 98221. SWIFT BOATS 26-29 May; Phoenix, Arizona. Joseph Quartuccio; P.O. Box 1264; Sierra Vista, Arizona; 85636. 602 458-2669. 1st Special Ops Squadron(VN & NKP, Thailand) 19 March, 1995, Las Vegas. Gregg Black(702 294-2364) or Jim Butler(218 827-3600). 95th Evac Hosp! / Da Nang. 6-7 May, 1995, Bloomington, Minnesota. Ray Bonnabeau; 750 Fairmount Ave.; St. Paul, Minnesota 55105(612 291-8974). Mobile Riverine Force Assn. 22-25 June, Louisville, Kentucky. MRFA; P.O Box 706; Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin; 53020-0706.

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

Romanian restaurant: 'Chicken soup with droppings' and 'Chicken roasted in spit.'

Denmark airport: 'We take your bags and send them in all directions.'

Paris hotel: 'Please leave your values at the front desk.'

Rome doctor's office: 'Specialist in women and other diseases.'

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REMINDERS ...Copies of Dr. Jane Hamilton-Merritt's TRAGIC MOUNTAINS, ~~the most~~ detailed account of Hmong battles against Pathet Lao and NVA in northern Laos, still available from Grant McClure; P.O. Box 1436; Waldorf, Maryland; 20604-1436. \$29.95 plus \$3.00 p/h (checks payable to Dr. Jane Hamilton-Merritt. This a product of monumental research, thoroughly documenting what took place in Laos during US involvement, and after 1975 'peace', and PL/NVA extermination campaigns against the Hmong. Well worth the price. Do not forget to write elected officials on behalf of former comrades enmeshed in flawed screening procedures of refugee camps. Congressional pressure necessary to cut through layers of bureaucratic indifference. Please write today. Ben Myers working hard in many areas. Please help him help us by staying current with your dues, and with any address changes. Your individual efforts most appreciated, and vital to smooth operations. Ben's address, once again: P.O. Box 6019; Lake Worth, Florida; 33466-6019. Repeat: all dues to Ben. Hmong National Education Conference, 6-8 April; St. Paul, Minnesota. Info: Tracey Benson; Univ. of Minnesota; 405 Coffey Hall; 1420 Eckles Ave.; St. Paul, Minnesota; 55108-6068.

Try to attend 30 April memorial event in D.C., described on following page, and pencil in 12 Nov for BÐQ/Rgr dedication ceremony; details for both included herein.

Member Darryl Nelson advises all to make sure loans have been cleared from your record upon selling a VA loan purchased home. There have been several instances of lax bookkeeping, and a few horror stories when loans have not been properly entered as paid in full. Check to be sure before selling your hootch. Darryl also circulating petition for an Audie Murphy commemorative stamp, hoping to obtain 100,000 signatures by 1 May 1996. Petition and explanatory letter available from Darryl: 3695 Neal Ave.; Kingman, Arizona; 86401-2343.

Enjoy the Spring weather.

Out.

BTL THÐNA/HQ COUNTERPARTS.

Counterparts

Tưởng Hữu Đông Nam Á

NOTICE OF SPECIAL EVENT

1975 to 1995

Together then...Together again

April 30, 1995 marks the 20th Anniversary for those who shared the fight for freedom during the Second Indochina War. Those who served in the advisory effort, both civilian and military from 1954 to 1975, remember their friends, their compatriots and their sense of mission. It is an appropriate time for reflection and to commemorate the loss of the Republic of Vietnam and the tragic fall of Laos and Cambodia.

It is high time that we acknowledge the proud service and largely unsung sacrifice of our Asian comrades in that shared, failed quest to preserve democracy in Southeast Asia. Please join your comrades-in-arms in a commemorative gathering at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to salute our allies.

Date: Sunday, 30 April 1995, rain or shine
Time: 1:00pm to 2:00pm promptly with assembly beginning at noon
Place: On the Mall, adjacent to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.
Contact: Grant McClure, CO, Counterparts
Day: (301) 856-6718 Eve: (301) 870-5877
Fax: (301) 856-6722

Remember them...



ATTENTION RANGERS!

The valiant struggles of the Vietnamese Army Rangers (Biệt Động Quân) and the contributions of their intrepid U.S. Ranger Advisors will be memorialized in Arlington National Cemetery. To commemorate their contributions and sacrifices, a tree will be planted and a memorial plaque installed in honor of these comrades-in-arms.

A dedication ceremony will be held at Arlington National Cemetery at 10:00 am, November 12, 1995, the day following Veteran's Day. All former Ranger Advisors and Vietnamese Rangers are encouraged to participate in the dedication. Other interested persons are cordially invited to attend the ceremony.

A small group of former Vietnamese Ranger Advisors have joined together to arrange and manage this undertaking. Your contribution, in memory of the Ranger Advisors and Vietnamese Rangers who died in service, will help offset the expenses of the tree and memorial plaque. Please send your donation to:

VIETNAMESE RANGER ADVISOR MEMORIAL FUND
c/o Ranger Roy Lombardo
6824 Windsor Mill Road
Baltimore, MD 21207-4427

If you have any questions regarding this information, please call Rangers Jim Waters (301/365-8207), Roy Lombardo (410/298-3516) or Bobby Jackson (202/861-2882).

"RANGERS LEAD THE WAY"

"BIỆT ĐỘNG QUÂN SÁT!"