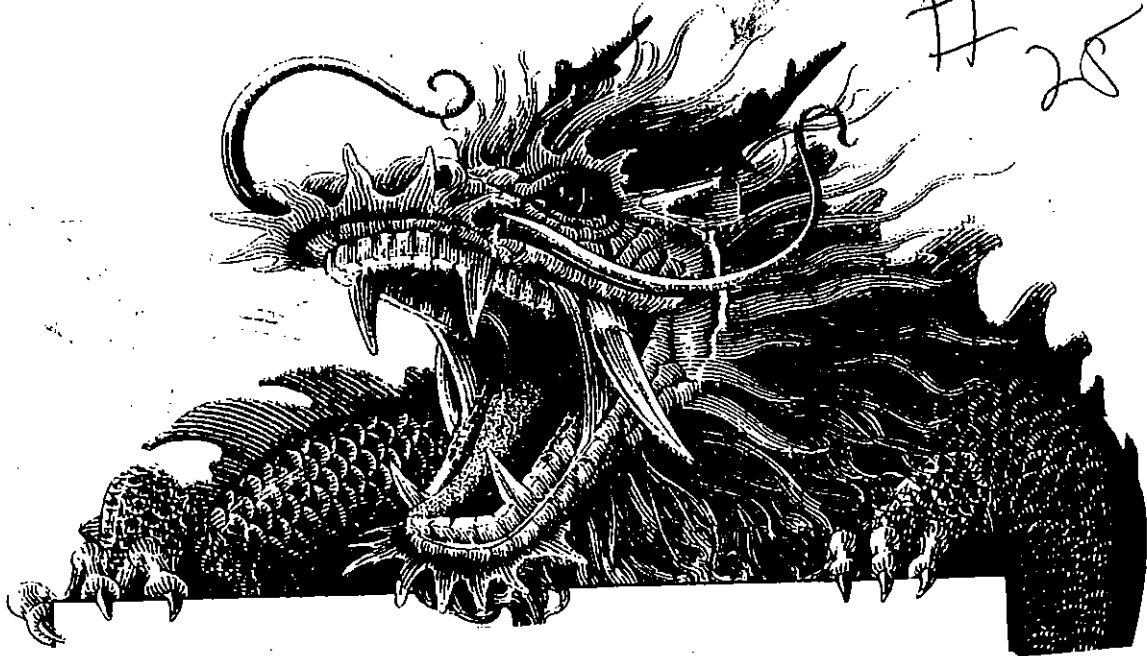


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BÁO CÁO TÌNH HÌNH $\pi \omega \rho \lambda \epsilon \upsilon \theta \eta \delta \epsilon \omega \pi \lambda \mu$ **XOV XWM TSHAJ**
 $\omega \epsilon \mu \alpha \alpha \delta \omega$ **KLEI MRÁW MRANG** **SITREP**

OFFICERS

Commander
(Acting)
Ed Abraham

**Adjutant/
Historian**
J.C. Fischer

XO
Charlie Thurmond

Membership
Ben Myers

Locator
Ben Myers
Laura Harris

Quách Húynh Hà
VN Locator/L.O.
VN Community

L.O./Highlands
Assistance Prod.
Mike Little

Editor
Bill Laurie

Advisory Council
Kok Ksor
Quách Húynh Hà
Roy Russell
Grant McClure
(also D.C.
liaison)

PIO
Mike Roberts

The SITREP is the quarterly publication of COUNTERPARTS/TƯỜNG HỮU ĐỒNG 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.

This issue starts off with very welcome good news... Tom Hargrove has been released by his Columbian narco-terrorist abductors. Thought our hearts and prayers were w/Tom and his family, the impotence of not being able to do anything more was frustration in the extreme. This one worked out, and we are all grateful.

Other good news: ample planning time for next year's reunion, to be held 2-4 July, 1996, in Santa Ana, California, in conjunction with Việt Nameese Armor Assn. gathering. Members Hugh Mulvaney (1419 Evergreen Ave.; Plainfield, NJ/07060) and Joe West (637 Grambling Ct.; Merced, California/95348) have volunteered to ramrod this event. Also, we now have the benefit of a PIO, in the form of Mike Roberts, enabling us to get the word out to a much greater extent than ever before. Thank you gentlemen. Your fellow members are rất biết ơn/ extremely grateful for your willingness to undertake this task. Anyone having ideas/suggestions is welcome to pass them on to Hugh, Joe and Mike (1822 Sundown Dr.; Killeen, Texas/76543). Reunion planning updates to come in future SITREPs.

Colombian rebels release American after 11 months

BOGOTA, Colombia — An American scientist held captive for 11 months by leftist guerrillas has been freed, apparently without any ransom being paid.

Thomas Hargrove, 51, of Rotan, Texas, rolled into his house in the southern city of Cali on Tuesday evening to his family's surprise, said a spokesman for his company, the International Center for Tropical Agriculture in Cali.

Hargrove, who was abducted Sept. 23, was released this weekend in a remote area and walked and hitched rides for two days to get home. It was not immediately known why rebels decided to release him.

1995 Reunion summary.... Minutes, Acting Adjutant's Report, and Finance Report included this SITREP; final six pages. We still do not have an elected Commander, though Ed Abraham has since nominated himself for this position, for which he is due our thanks. Expediency dictates following 'election' procedure: unless 51% or more eligible members mail in a 'no' vote, Ed will become our new Commander. No mail in vote represents each member's approval of this procedure, necessitated by compelling circumstances: we need one more elected officer to maintain our tax-exempt status, and we need a dedicated individual to exercise command and control over the collegium of officers and worker bees. We must move quickly on this, and are not trying to pull a fast one. Fact is, it has been extremely difficult to ^{get} enough mail in votes, and assemble enough warm bodies at a reunion, to assemble a quorum. If opposed to Ed's election, please send your 'no' vote to J.C. Fischer (100 Red Oak Circle; Temple, Texas; 76502) no later than 1 Dec. Until then, Ed is acting Commander, pending receipt of 51% or greater no vote. If you are in favor, do nothing, send no vote.

Next, our thanks to the following individuals who stepped forward, taking a great deal of the burden off shoulders of skeletal HQ: Bob Cunningham-Finance Officer; Jack DeBeer-Logistics Officer, and also head of our 'Village Market' retail stand, through which one can order Counterparts coffee cups (\$10.00, pp. from Jack @ 6865 Pine Bluff Court; Wyoming, Michigan; 49509. With Jack on board, we may finally be able to offer discount prices on VN books to our members, an idea discussed from time to time. Also...Jack Simmons-Fund Raising; Dick Williamson-Archivist, maintaining copy of all records, SITREPs, rosters, etc.; Grant McClure-D.C. Liaison and VN community/human rights contact.

Thx to all for your willingness to pitch in.

A sincere Cám ơn van bội/debt of thx to Connie Menefee serving as recording secretary at the Reunion. Nuts and bolts drudgery work, hardly fun, yet vital to our operations. Thx Connie.

While we're thanking deserving people, appreciation extended to Paul Brubaker's sending in numerous publications from which vital info is gleaned, for SITREP, for Locator searches, for Members in Memoriam Roster, etc. Paul dutifully bundles this material up and forwards it, at his own expense, for everyone's benefit.

We can also thank Ben Myers for his prodigious efforts by keeping him posted of any address changes, and any changes in telephone area codes. The courtesy of your assistance is appreciated. Ben has a Herculean task keeping up with membership info requests, locator efforts, maintaining roster accuracy, etc. Keeping addresses/phone numbers current will be of great assistance to Ben, enabling him to direct his energies in more productive areas. Also...dues. Payable every January. Please stay current, and check w/Ben if you are not sure of your status. Thanks to those members who, realizing they had fallen behind, sent in current and back dues. Several of these people report buying winning lottery tickets shortly after catching up w/their dues. Word to the wise. On the subject of good guys... Curt Rich crosses the half century mark recently, holding a 50 mile bike ride for friends and colleagues in the Houston area. Condition for entry: agree to write check, @ rate of \$1.00/mile, payable to either COUNTERPARTS/THDNA or VVA Chapter 343. Curt advised prospective riders that 'either of these two honorable

organizations will put the money directly to relief work without taking out \$300,000.00 salaries and visits to Bimboland.'. True. Many thx Curt. We'll account for every penny of any donation. We can really Thank Curt by making sure any Mercedes aficionados or prospective owners should stop by and see Curt at Star Motors: in Houston(7000 Katy Road), 713-868-6820 landline. Be it known Curt has never asked a 'plug'; he's simply been a very welcome member since our embryonic days, has a wickedly acerbic sense of humor, and knows Mercedes Benz autos inside and out. Curt has done some other good things for Counterparts/THDNA, and for the sake of VN Veterans as a whole. So, if you live anywhere near Houston, and are in market for a Mercedes, give Curt a call.

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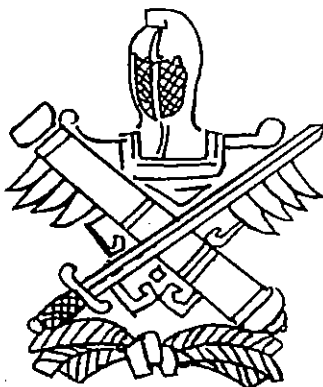
VIETNAMESE CAP/BERET
BADGES

Regional and Popular Forces

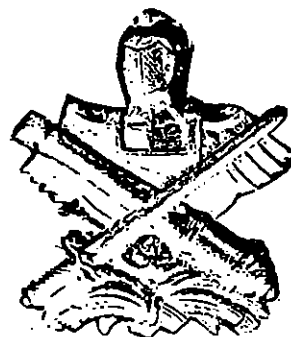
A CONTINUOUS SERIES



136-11



Huy hiệu Mũ Địa Phương Quân và Nghĩa Quân
Cap badge for the Regional Force & Popular Force



136-12

Above graphic as photoplagerized, with permission, from Clement Kelly's Viet Nam Insignia Collector Newsletter, a fine quarterly publication available for \$15.00/year (checks payable to Clem, at 501 W. 5th Ave.; Covington, Louisiana; 70433). Clem has given us blanket permission to use any/all material from VICN, for which we are grateful. Each issue documents instances of fake patches now being sold to unwitting tourists in VN, and elsewhere, so if you're in Saigon, and are offered a genuine 1st ARVN Div/SD 1 patch, know it may well be a fake, and not a rare and valuable piece of history.

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In the letter box...

"According to the New York Times...'..beat people who have already returned have little to fear in Viet Nam.' I wonder if the reporter even knows that two naturalized U.S. citizens are in prison. Maybe that is not fit news to print."

-Jim Sardone

Thx to Jim for sending in NYT article about repatriated beat people. Yes, some encounter no problems, yet others do, such as the seminarian who knows he'll never be ordained as a Catholic priest, there being a Hanoi-mandated quota on ordinations.

(Condensed):

"In SITREPs #23 and #24 you printed my pleas for sworn statements confirming Meng van Vien's service w/IV Corps Mike Force ,

especially during the years 1970-1973. I am very happy to tell you that, because of your help and that provided via a similar notice in the SF Assn. newsletter, I have obtained four sworn statements covering the years 1965-1973, more than enough to get Mong van Vien confirmed as an employee of the US govt. for at least five years.

I received word directly from US Emb., Bangkok, that Mr. Vien, his wife and son, have been cleared for interviews. If they pass, they should be cleared for entry into US within six months. I am very grateful to COUNTERPARTS/THDNA for your kind help.

Because of your help, and that of the SF Assn., and two respondents whom I've never met, I have a well-founded hope that on Independence Day, 1996, I will be able to celebrate the day with my old friend, Mong van Vien, the two of us shaking hands, free men in a free land, God willing.

Please keep up the good work. There are many others to be rescued."

-Robert G. Topp

--We're happy things worked out Bob, and we will keep up our efforts on behalf of others. Please let Vien know he has many friends here, some he's never met yet. Also, you're to be commended for your admirable tenacity in pursuing this matter. Thx for keeping us posted.

"I am very glad when received your letter. I contact the phone you give me, I meet my adviser Maj. Adam Klys. Thank you very much."

-Huyah van Thanh

-We're happy for both of you Thanh, and glad to have helped. That's what we're here for.

And from two other reunited buddies....

"Thank you for your letter concerning Nguyễn Duy Tâm. I am indeed the Gary Shumaker you seek, although I was Army, not AF. Immediately on receiving your letter I called Tâm; we talked for a long time. I have just finished a lengthy letter to him.

Please send me information about membership in your organization.

-Gary Shumaker

And, from Nguyễn Duy Tâm:

Anh BILL thân mến,
Trước hết xin Anh thư thư cho sự thiếu sót không trả lời ngay sau khi đã nhận được thư Anh đề ngày 5 tháng 7 năm 1995. Tôi thành thật biết ơn sự tận tâm giúp đỡ của Anh. nay đã có kết quả mỹ mãn: Tôi và GARY SHUMAKER đã nói lại được chuyện liên lạc sau 20 năm biệt tin nhau. Hôm qua GARY đã gọi điện cho tôi từ Washington DC lúc 20 giờ 30 giờ địa phương Los Angeles. Hai chúng tôi đã nói vui mừng và thân mật lên 1 giờ với đủ mọi chuyện cũ và mới và cũng hứa hẹn sẽ điện thoại cùng như thư từ cho nhau vào những lần tới nữa.

Nguyễn Duy Tâm letter(cont.)

Một lần nữa, thay mặt GARY, chúng tôi thành thật cảm ơn sự tâm tâm giúp đỡ của Anh và cả quý hội Counterparts. Xin nói thêm, Cựu Đại Tá LÊ NGUYỄN BÌNH đã gửi thư về Anh với tất cả những sự tốt đẹp. Riêng về lãnh vực tiếng Việt tôi thành thật chúc mừng Anh đã đạt đến trình độ như một người Việt Nam tri thức.

Tôi đã chuyển cuốn tạp chí HPTHONA/COUNTERPARTS đến các bạn người Việt ở Mỹ, hầu hết bạn tôi đều rất hào huan đón nhận những thông tin chính xác và quý báu này. Chúng tôi cầu chúc quý hội mãi mãi trường tồn và thăng lợi. Riêng chúc Anh, Chi và bạn quý. Sức khỏe tốt và luôn luôn đạt được mọi ý nguyện.
Thân ái biệt ơn

[Signature]
Nguyễn Duy Tâm

Translation: easiest to simply imagine anything good you can dream up about our assn. Tâm expresses his grateful elation at finding an old friend whom he'd not seen in 26 years. All of Tâm's addresses were lost when he was in the labor camps. When Gary called, they talked for an hour.

Tâm also says he's spread the word about this outfit, and has let his friends see a complimentary SITREP he received. All are glad to see a rekindling of bonds established years ago, and see an outfit like this come forth. End brief translation.

Our thanks also to member Lê Nguyên Bình, who told Tâm that he could be confident of the sincerity of our efforts.

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'There's one advantage to be 102 years old: no peer pressure.'

-Dennis Wolfberg

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From left to right: 1st Laotian AF Squadron/Luang Prabang, w/inscription: 'Fight for Victory'; 2nd Laotian AF Squadron/Long Chieng, w/inscription: 'Better to die than fail in your duty'; and 4th Laotian AF Squadron/Pakse; w/inscription 'Fight to the death for Laos.'. All from Clem Kelly's VICN(see mention on previous pages). Clem could not ID these patches until member Stu Beckley and his CO, Mrs. Tahsee Beckley came to the fore w/confirmation and translations. Stu's CO Vân experience is unique in that he served tours in VN, Laos and Thailand.

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'Experience is not what happens to you. It's what you do with what happens to you.'

-Aldous Huxley

COUNTERPARTS LIT: Gen. Colin Powell's MY AMERICAN JOURNEY sells very well, with initial press run of 950,000 copies followed by second run of 200,000 in second sales week. Powell served one tour as Nghĩa Quân /PF Cố Vấn; second w/Americal. Members invited to send in review. Some intriguing excerpts: In 1973, Powell was assigned command of 1st Bn(32nd Inf Div.) in Korea; in more ways than one, the outfit had gone to pot, and had been partially shanghaied by a core of malcontents and trouble makers. One, a Private(!) Odem greeted the arriving Powell thusly:

'I'm really delighted to be here so I can help you out. I think we'll get along fine.'

Powell: 'Oh, we're going to get along fine, you little squirrel ass, because you're leaving tonight. Now get out of my office.'

Ah, the beauty of blunt simplicity. Another excerpt:

'We seem to have lost our sense of shame as a society. Nothing seems to embarrass us; nothing checks us anymore. A sense of shame is not a bad moral compass. I remember how easy it was for my mother to snap me back into line with a simple rebuke: 'I'm ashamed of you. You embarrassed the family.' I would have preferred a beating to those words.'

Again, members invited/encouraged to submit a review, paying heed to anything Powell says about his Cố Vấn experience w/Nghĩa Quân.

SHADOW WAR: THE CIA'S SECRET WAR IN LAOS, by Kenneth Conboy/James Morrison. \$49.95, plus \$4.50 shipping, from Paladia Press; Box 1307; Boulder, Colorado; 80306. Member Frank Brown writes detailed, and highly favorable review in December '95 issue of Soldier of Fortune magazine. SHADOW does not limit itself to Laotian/Pathet Lao/Hmong/NVA matters, but also discusses matters such as Opn 'Leaping Lena', involving insertion of QLVNCH BLOB/RVN SF personnel into Laos, and late 1967 switch from intel collection to 'bang and burn'. Authors researched subject for 10 years, conducting over 600 personal interviews, and combing historical documents. Expensive, but sounds like a good one.

BIG STORY/Peter Braestrup reprinted by Presidio Press, available from Marine Corps Assn. for \$16.95 @ 1-800-336-0291. THE definitive study, thoroughly documented and researched, of journalistic malpractice before, during, and after the Tết Mậu Thân('68) Offensive (actually, by design, and in view of overall situation, a counter-offensive). Braestrup proves that journalist is not a synonym for idiot, and with admirable precision, compares press 'coverage' with actual events, contrasting 'news' with reality. Braestrup does not have an ideological ax to grind, and is simply after that elusive matter that so many other 'Journalists' claim to have found: battlefield realities, factors creating these realities, and consequences of both. Should be required reading for any non-veteran who wishes to comprehend what occurred in VN. Braestrup's implicit conclusion: 'news' may not what it seems to be, and far too many reporters simply did not know what they were talking about. Buy copy for local library, or high school library, if none available to general public. Get copy for yourself if you want ammunition to support statement that news is to reality as old wives' is to quantum physics. Braestrup does not state or imply that everything was just fine in VN; he does verify what many suspect: there was an abundance of ignorant 'journalists in VN'.

COUNTERPART LIT(cent.)... Ly Tong Ba, former TL/CG of 23rd Div., and periodic counterpart of John Paul Vann, is now in US and has written a book, the title of which is unk. at this writing. Copy will be received by next SITREP, w/brief review and info on availability. In tiếng Việt/Việt Namese. Like many other books w/VN authors, this should be translated into English for consumption by US readers. More info next SITREP.

PERIODICALS: Subscribers to Forbes magazine receive a quarterly publication titled 'FYI'. Very recent issue has article by member Peter Scott, titled 'Finding the Colonel', describing Pete's locating and meeting with an old comrade in arms, LTC Tanh Quyen, and the discussions they held when Pete arrived at Quyen's San Francisco apt. Very good piece of writing, w/photos. If you know a Forbes subscriber, bribe/twist arm/threaten/beg for copy of 'FYI' to read this thoughtful and welcome article.

Việt Nam magazine, Dec '95 edition, has article about Mike Force 1967 battle at Tong Le Chan, and bizarre tale of nighttime coffin search by CIA officer in Chương Thiện Prov, to expedite burial of deceased Nung CIA compound guard. Issue also has damning review of recent McNamara book. Speaking of which....

Is it perhaps ironic that McNamara's book shared space on best-selling list with another book titled THE DEATH OF COMMON SENSE(Philip K. Howard)?

and...during intense questioning by attendee at at conference at JFK School of Govt., Harvard, McNamara responded by telling his inquisitor to 'shut up'. Well, THERE'S a proverbial steel-trap mind at work.

Can't-Resist-Dept.: Douglas Pike, respected VN scholar and author, former USIA officer in VN, on McNamara and his book: 'McNamara did not have the VN war straight at the time. He still does not. His ~~is~~ the mind of a Rube Goldberg machine: efficiently complex, fascinating to watch, operationally inexplicable. McNamara does not exhibit one whit of intellectual curiosity about the nature of the war, or the mentality of his enemy and his enemy's strategy, or its meaning for the allied peoples who fought. McNamara remains living testament to the now common observation that we lost the war because we did not understand it.' (Indochina Chronology, April-June '95, p. 13).

Comes-As-No-Surprise-Dept.: Vo Nguyen Giap calls McNamara's book 'a very brave act', and resurfaces demand for \$4.75 billion in war reparations.

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NEW MEMBERS

James A. Lander
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James E. Smith Adv Tm 143(Navy)
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Towson, Maryland 21286

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Seattle, Washington 98101

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Trần Tin
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3709 W. Clover Ave
McHenry, Illinois 60050

*-Life Member

Glad to have you all on board, and thanks for signing on.

At this juncture, it is appropriate to provide newer members with brief outline of the assn.'s history. In 1987, responding to an inquiry as to existence of any advisor/counterpart association, Paul Brubaker, finding none, suggested one be started. A core of perhaps 20 people was formed, never having met face to face, communicating by mail, phone and voice cassette. Progress was slow and tedious, funded by personal contributions and efforts. Membership ranks grew slowly, as publicity efforts were shortchanged by time consumed in drafting bylaws, formulation of general mission statement, etc. 1990 marked the inaugural reunion, held in San Jose. There was much discussion on what we were to be, and why. Merely an assemblage of US Army Advisors? All military Advisors? Including Counterparts? Civilians? After considerable discussion, during which time the assn. carried the name Cõ Văn Mỹ (American advisor, in VN), it was collectively decided that the entire range of counterpart history and experience would define the group, meaning anyone who served in any counterpart role, as part of his/her assigned duties, was eligible for full membership. The reason is simple: all advisory efforts were integral components of an overall program to enable the people of VN and Laos and Cambodia to stand on their own, while confronted with debilitating effects of a bloody war. Further, in view of the fact that many advisors ended up learning as much as they 'advised', and developed strong bonds of friendship and respect for their SE Asian friends and counterparts, it was acknowledged that host and guest country counterparts be accepted on an equal membership basis.

We needed a name which would immediately convey this element of our group 'personality'. 'Cố Vấn Mỹ' was catchy, but could lead some to conclude we were something other than what we intended. This was shown to be true after we began receiving mail from a number of self-appointed para-military groups, some of which had decidedly bizarre agendas, and some of which could be called 'hate groups'. Further, we needed something that might catch the eyes of, and appeal to SE Asian allies. Using the highly sophisticated technique of asking, our VN contingent suggested tagging 'Tướng Hữu Đông Nam Á' w/'Counter-Parts'. Đông Nam Á means SE Asia. Tướng Hữu means even more than comrades in arms, friends, etc., and denotes something akin to case-hardened, battle-tested mutual trust and belief in a common cause. A Tướng Hữu buddy would never leave a friend when things get tough, and is manifested by a statement from a Montagnard to his US counterpart: 'You die, I die.' Was it always this way, everywhere? No. Yet it was that way often enough, and it was what we aspired to.

We had a new name.

Foundation in place, we have since zig-zagged along. Few of those in HQ were retired, and occupational/familial demands on time hampered efforts to become more administratively proficient. Worse, some in HQ took some domestic and/or occupational hits that seemed to have been ordained by Robert McNamara. We have traversed this mire, and seem better positioned than ever to foster and manage association growth, while adding to our list of good deeds: sponsoring a VN orphan under the auspices of Pearl Buck Assn.; donating \$ to worthy causes, advocating the cause of human rights in VN, Laos and Cambodia, and attempting to advance the cause of historical integrity regarding Hanoi's war against 3½ countries in SE Asia (they were fooling around in NE Thailand too). We have much more to do, much more to improve on, but we've gotten this far, have reunited dozens of lost friends, including some who'd either 'heard' or assumed a former counterpart was KIA, and have had some extremely enjoyable times at reunions.

Many ideas remain on the drawing board. Scholarships for counterparts dependents. Assn. group tour to VN, or Laos, or Cambodia. Setting up a chapter in SE Asia, or at least a contact point. Compiling an oral history, interviewing former counterparts, and telling our side of the story, which contrasts sharply with perceptions of the public at large. With continually growing membership (in spite of not having a PIO until Mike Roberts came on board), a beefed up admin section, some of these ideas are within reach. Members are encouraged to dream up more. Send 'em in; we'll put it in SITREP.

That, briefly, is how we came about, and how we got to wherever we are. Time to pour coal on the fire and make it even better. Everyone deserves a pat on the back. Many members send in material, donations, articles, etc.; many have actively recruited, organized reunions, and contributed in dozens of other ways. Hats off to all of us, for what we did then, for what we are doing now.

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'The same battle in the clouds will be known to the deaf only as lightning and to the blind only as thunder.'

-George Santayana



Đại úy Nguyễn văn Giai and SFC(member) Dave Williams. Bac Liêu Prov, 1964



Standing to right of captured wps: Thiếu tá Nguyễn văn Việt, Đại úy Nguyễn văn Giai(Giai on left). Bac Liêu, 1964.

Thx to Dave for sending these in. Thx to Bui Quang Lam for the half-tones. Members invited to submit their photos for SITREP. Wise to send copies if you do not have negatives. All photos returned. Please include names, date, location, other pertinent info. Any good stories to go along with photos? Send 'em in.

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1968-71



1965-68

To our cousin outfit, USMC CAP Unit Assn.: Happy USMC birthday this month.

CAP Assn. member received letter from old friend Miss Van Thi Hue. Cô Hue had this to say: 'Dear Tim, you have fought in Việt Nam for many honorable goals, freedom, peace to Việt Nameese peoples.

As for me, I always remember you with my deep emotion, you are associate with the most beautiful memory of my childhood.' 4 April 1995

Read it again: beautiful childhood memories. In a war. Co Hue's letter to Tim says volumes. Recant CAP newsletter also cites case of former CAP Marine, US ARMY MSGT Dunne, now serving in Haiti, and involved w/CAP-style operations there. Note astute avoidance of any inter-service humor on these pages. Hats off to MSGT Dunne, hats off to the CAPs, where he learned a lot.

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LOCATOR In addition to the finds cited previously, Larry Delp was found for member Jim Baker. Both served in Vinh Bình(Trà Vinh), '68-'69.

New locator requests: Eugene D. Rossel is looking for TSgt Nguyễn Huu Thanh, VNAF Det 2, Biên Hòa, a very good friend with whom he flew many missions in 1962. In addition, and this is going to be a tough one, Eugene is trying to find family members of a VNAF pilot, known only as 'Lt. Hoa', who was KIA on a mission with Capt. Robert Simpson, also KIA, in a 28 Aug '62 shootdown in Ba Xuyên(Sóc Trăng) Prov.

Capt. Simpson's surviving family members would very much like to contact Lt. Hoa's family, and has given Gene full authorization to pursue this quest.

Also, Gene is leading a personal effort to pressure both US and Hanoi to locate remains of Capt. Simpson and Lt. Hoa, both shot down in the same T-28. Crash site was reached following day; neither Capt. Simpson nor Lt. Hoa, nor their bodies, were in aircraft.

Check phone books please: Nguyen Hau Thanh. If found: Eugene D. Rossel; 6083 Resa Ct.; Chino, California; 91710.

And:

Mrs. Le Thi Lon looking for: Capt. David P. Cook
1Lt Dale William(s?)
1Lt James C. Cannon, all of

worked at CICV Operations Branch w/Mrs. Lon, who was later with I.C.C.S. after the 'ceasefire'. Mrs. Lon's husband was in prison camps for 6 years, but they are now here in States, doing well. Capt. Cook believed to be from Oregon, 1Lt William from Florida, 1Lt Cannon from Ohio. This info passed on to assn. Locators, but your help w/Phone book recon most welcome and useful.

Associate member Gary D. Sizemore would contact anyone who served with his Father, SFC William D. Sizemore, KIA 28 June 1967, near Kontum. SFC Sizemore was Có Văn to 2nd Bn, 42nd Regt, 23rd Div. Anyone from Tm 23 or 2/42 who can help? Gary is at 9230 Fairweather Dr.; Large, Florida; 34643. Or: 813 398-5929, 813 539-1600.

As printed in Air Commando Assn. newsletter:

Help Wanted in Reissuing DFC to Viet Pilot

I request your assistance in helping me secure a date or names of people who have knowledge about the following incident;

Major Do Dang NgHia, South Vietnamese Air Force, was assigned to the VNAF 114 Sq., 62nd Wing at Nha Trang Air Base, South Vietnam in late 1968 or 1969. He executed a heroic rescue of one of our pilots who was shot down approximately 10 miles north of

Phan Thiet. While under enemy fire, he landed his O-1 aircraft, jumped from the plane, got the USAF pilot aboard and exited the hostile area.

For this daring rescue he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC) by the United States Air Force.

Unfortunately, after the fall of South Vietnam, he destroyed every shred of evidence that connected him with the USAF. Needless to say, this saved his life but he was still forced to attend an extensive "re-education camp". He has now emigrated to the United States and has asked for

my assistance in securing a duplicate copy of the DFC.

I plan to visit the Historical Research Agency at Maxwell AFB to see if I can find any documentation, but it will take many days unless I can secure an approximate date or the names of U.S. military personnel who remember the incident.

Major NgHia is a hero who deserves our recognition and thanks. Contact Col. (Ret.) Philip J. Conran, 314 Ode Post Rd, Niceville, FL 32578, or telephone (904) 897-4463.

This will be a tough one: Son Sa Mi was born in 1973, the son of legally married US-VN parents. He was with his grandmother in the chaos of 1975 (in Saigon), and has not seen his parents since. He is now in US. Richard Payne, CAP Assn. member, is trying to help Son Sa Mi find his parents. Here's what Son Sa Mi remembers: mother's name: Nguyễn Thị Hoàng Oanh. Grandfather's name: Nguyễn Chí Thức (maternal/paternal?). Rough phonetic rendition of Father's last name: Lam-Yem. If anything surfaces, contact Richard Crowley immediately: 12750 Highway 96, Lane 13; P.O. Box 1000; Crowley, Colorado; 81034-0001.

LOCATOR(cent.) J.C. Fischer, as Adjutant and Historian, no longer handling Locator duties, with this role being filled by Ben Myers, continuing on, and news associate member Laura Harris, who has professional expertise in setting up research data bases and a whiz on ye olde computer. Laura prepared a locator search form which was to have been included in this SITREP. Not enough space; will be in next edition received before Christmas. Anyone wanting one now can send request(SASE appreciated) to Bill Laurie; 1462 W. University; Mesa, Arizona; 85201.

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Members in Memoriam

Nguyễn Văn Ly
(Kit Carson Scout, 196 Inf Bde,
Posthumous Silver Star recipient)

A Nung guard remembered only
by his nickname, Beaucoup Kilo

Sgt. Frank A. Celano, SF
Sgt. John R. Jones, SF
LTC Albert C. Butler, MACV
Captain James G. Lee, MACV
Captain Thomas C. Metsker, MACV
Major Reed G. Jensen, MACV
SSGT EMANUEL F. Drummond, Jr. SF
SFC William D. Sizemore, SF
AFC Arthur E. Bader, Jr., SF
SSGT Michael H. Mein, SF
Capt. Morris A Teets, MAAG

Sgt. David I. Mixter, SF
SSGT Joseph W. Rich, SF
Captain Craig S. Blackner, MACV
GSGT Lee Roy Jones, USMC(w/MACV)
SFC Dorris A. Ivey, MACV
Sp4 Creighton R. Dunn, SF
SFC Warren W. Cobley, SF
1Lt Anthony J. Berrege, SF
SFC Gary R. La Bohn, SF
SFC Klaus D. Scholz, SF
1Lt _____ Hoa, VNAF

'For round me the men will be lying
That learned me the way to behave ..
And showed me my business of dying,
Oh who would not sleep with the Brave?'

Above nomination for our 'moving wall' inscription submitted by member Larry Hewes.

Remember to send any/all Member in Memoriam background data, info, recollections, etc. to Mike McMunn for his continuing compilation in Members in Memoriam archives.

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MONTAGNARD SYMPOSIUM, 8 Dec 95, Asheboro, North Carolina, sponsored by General Coactive Montagnard Assn.(GCMA--does acronym sound familiar?). Objective: explore/map out ways different groups can better help the Dega people. RSVP no later than Thanksgiving: Tommy Daniels(704-884-8844); 124 Chickadee Lane; Brevard, North Carolina. Lodging: Days Inn, Asheboro: 1-800 222-0519/ask for Peggy.

All for net/hết rồi. Please keep Ben updated on address/phone changes; stay current w/dues. Helps a great deal. Next SITREP before Lê Giảng Sinh/Christmas.

HQ/ Counterparts BTL/THBNA

Special thanks to Bùi Quang Lam, who has, once again, absorbed our printing costs.

MINUTES
COUNTERPARTS BUSINESS MEETING
5 August 1995

The meeting was called to order by Grant McClure at 0855 on 5 August, 1995. Quorum was not present for voting, but enough members were present to attend to committee business (see attachment 1, Sign In Roster).

The meeting was then turned over to J. C. Fischer, Acting Adjutant.

An up-date on business activities was presented. Chuck Thurmond, XO, has been running the everyday business of the association because no commander had been elected at the last reunion. J. C. Fischer has been the Acting Adjutant. Grant McClure was acting in the capacity as liaison in Washington, D.C. Chuck Thurmon has aquired the association funds from the past Adjutant, Steve Herberth, and opened an account at the Bank of Clayton, account # 02-16-879, which requires two signatures, to pay for association debits. (see attachment 2, Counterparts Emergency Fund, dated 7/26/95, from Charles Thurmond).

Ben Myers, Membership Chairman reported that at the last reunion we had 347 members and that we now have 422 members. Prior to this reunion, Ben mailed out over six hundred (600) reunion notices in the local area. Ben suggested that each member recruit other advisors they know in their area, he would provide the recruiting packets. His Membership Finance Report is Attachment 3. An audit was completed and approved of these funds.

J. C. Fischer, Acting Adjutant submitted his audited Expense report for the SITREP and the Expense Report for Non-Profit Status (Attachment 4, 3 pages). SITREP is printed by Bui Quang Lam in Phoenix, AZ (at no cost to the association) and mailed to Temple, TX by Bill Laurie, SITREP Editor. Labels are printed by Ben Myers (Membership) and sent to Temple, TX. J. C. Fischer assembles, labels, stamps and mails the SITREPS from Temple, TX. The reason for this is that the Postal Permit is issued from the Temple, TX post office and postal requirements require that the mailings take place at the issuing post office. Prior to receiving the Bulk Rate Permit, it cost the association \$394.00 to mail the SITREP (429 mailings). After receipt of the Bulk Rate Permit, the cost was \$90.40 for the same amount of mailings. The Application Fee was a one time fee of \$85.00 and the Permit fee was \$85.00, which will reoccur each year. After all costs, we still saved \$75.60 in one SITREP mailing, so the permit has paid for its self. The SITREP fund has a balance of \$503.67 and the Non Profit Fund has a balance of \$230.00. Both funds were audited and are attached with attachment 4.

J. C. Fischer, Locator/Historian submitted the Locator/Historian Reports and the audited Expense for both services. J. C. has been reunited with his former Counterpart. In all, 10 searches were completed this year and when possible, the stories will appear in the SITREP. One method of searching is done by Ben Myers by culling names from his U. S. phone book and J. C. "shot guns" search letters to each name. This is a very expensive

method with a few results. Laura Harris of Red Max Locator Service (a new associate member) is helping J.C. (Laura Harris has accepted the task to become the Locator for Counterparts.)

J. C. has completed a 166 page Roster of Known Advisors, about 7000 names. The roster includes the duty assignment and dates of service (when known) and will be available to members for the cost of printing, handling and postage. If it is requested on a diskette, send 2 diskettes (3.5 inch) and pay postage and handling. Please do not release to the public. The Order of Battle of Advisory Teams has been compiled from many sources, one being the National Archives. This is also available under the same conditions.

Mike McMunn, Members in Memorium Chair stated that he still needs to work on this listing and needs the help of the membership. It now contains 605 names and he wishes to add the units as they become known. He encourages members to send in the names that they know of who were Killed In Action. He has a form he will send to anyone requesting it.

A discussion was entered into by one auditor who noted that J. C. was using his personal funds for the Locator/Historian expenses and that J. C. was still \$89.00 in the red for out of pocket expenses. J. C. stated that Chuck Thurmond had the receipts and would refund the money.

A discussion was entered into about who owes dues and how much. At present, the past Adjutant, Steve Herberth, has those records, which it is hoped will be turned over to the new Adjutant ASAP. An increase in dues was discussed but it was noted that it would require a Constitution/by-Laws Ammendment to change the dues. Members were encouraged to make donations if they cared to give more.

The Billing Cycle is every year at TET. It was suggested that the SITREP reflect this on each TET with a symbol on the mailing address, or with a SASE envelope enclosed or a tear-off notice. Life Membership fee is \$120.00.

Positions to be filled this year: Commander and Adjutant. A plea was made, using some comments from Chuck Thurmond's letter (attachment 6). After some discussion and even a suggestion to seek a Commander for only one year, no one would step forward nor were any recommendations made. It was decided to wait till next yeas reunion and ask Chuck Thurmond to remain in control till then. J. C. Fischer volunteered to become Adjutant because the position was vacant. No one else offered. Dick Williamson moved to accept J. C.. It was seconded by Roy Russell. David Marion moved to cease nominations, seconded by Bob Cunningham and passed by the members present. J. C. Fischer was accepted by the members present to fill the position of Adjutant.

It was requested by J. C. Fischer that some members volunteer to assist the small office staff (Chuck and J.C.). The following members volunteered to assist:

Bob Cunningham for Finance Officer—to tend to the financial needs of the association;
Jack DeBoer for Logistics Officer—account for Country Store items and account for
equipment;

Jim Simmons for Fund Raising= set up raffles of donated items for reunions;

Dick Williamson for Archivist=maintain copies of records;

Hugh Mulvaney for Reunion Coordinator=assist reunion chair persons in planning future
reunions;

Grant McClure for Vietnam Coordinator=work with allied associations and communities.

NOTE: 1

Introductions: Laura Harris of Red Max Locator Service, new associate member;

Charles Shaughnessy of the National Archives (Tm 47)

Howerd Feng of the National Archives (new associate member)

Bill Horn of MAT team at Dak To 1970-71

Bob Cunningham moved to form a committee to locate a Commander and XO for election
next year, to be appointed by the adjutant. Seconded by Dick Williamson and passed.

1996 Reunion: Ben Myers stated that he had talked with Joe West. Ben stated that Joe
West would host the '96 reunion in Santa Ana California on July 4, 1996 in conjunction
with the Vietnamese Armor Reunion.

Pappy Hicks suggested Fort Bragg in 1997.

Edward Abraham suggested Portland, Oregon for 1997.

Bobby Jackson motioned to have the '96 reunion in Santa Ana, Terry Turner seconded.
Passed.

David Marion suggested bi-annual meetings in regions.

J. C. mentioned and asked for support for a Senate and House bill that would change the
date of the start of hostilities in Vietnam from 1964 to 1961.

Handed out information on the War Library.

Offered a letter on the VA budget and that VA is billing private insurance for all Veterans
medical costs, regardless of disability percentage.

Called for other business. None.

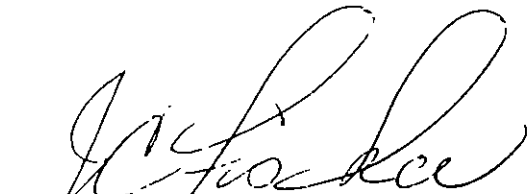
Mike stated that Stu Beckley is about to finish book on Vietnam and is seeking names of
KIA of Vietnamese. He has a very short time to complete this project.

Bobby Jackson mentioned that Tom Hargrove was kidnapped in Columbia. FBI is negotiating ransom but asking for proof that Tom is still alive.

No further business so the book raffle was conducted with the results on attachment 7.

Connie Menefee moved to adjourn, seconded by Jack DeBoer and passed.

Recorded by: CONNIE MENELEE
(Corrected and approved)



Submitted by: J. C. FISCHER

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Note: This is last minute insertion separate from reunion meeting minutes.

Retired Marine GSGT is known to many as one of the most proficient snipers ever serving in VN, or perhaps anywhere else. His wife now has multiple sclerosis, and the Hathcocks are confronted with mounting medical bills.

The Virginia Gun Collector's Assn. is holding raffle to raise funds.

Item being raffled: Remington Model 700, identical model to that used by Hathcock, and others, in VN. Fitted with factory reconditioned Redfield Scope, and Douglas air-gauge barrel, .308 caliber. Glass bedded stock, and sterling silver inlay of white feather. Personally signed by Carlos Hathcock. Drawing to be held 15 Dec 1995. Info:

Carlos Hathcock Fund
Dept. GA
18759 Fuller Heights Road
Triangle, Virginia 22172
703 221-3030

Thx to Jack De Boer Jr. for sending this in.



Counterparts

Tướng Hữu Đông Nam Á

ACTING ADJUTANTS REPORT

Two Account reports are attached. Expenses for the SITREP and Non Profit mailing permit status.

I began the application for the Association to acquire a Non Profit permit from the Postal Service to reduce our mailing costs. The status of this permit is still pending at this time.

The reason for this application is to reduce expenses on the mailing of the SITREP, our quarterly newsletter.

In June, I mailed 429 SITREPs at a cost of .92 each for a total of \$394.68. When I submitted our application on July 3rd, we were permitted to use a Bulk Rate permit until we are either approved or not for the Non Profit permit. The difference being, at regular rates we pay .32 an ounce, while at a Bulk Rate we pay .226 per 3 ounces and at Non Profit we will pay .120 per 3 ounces.

On July 21st, I mailed 400 SITREPs at a cost of \$90.40, using the Bulk Rate permit. Our savings was \$277.60. The permit cost is \$85.00 yearly and there was a one time processing charge of \$85.00, a total of \$170.00. The hand stamps cost us an additional \$32.00. After all costs, our savings are still \$75.60 on one SITREP mailing.

Submitted August 5, 1995.

J. C. FISCHER
Acting Adjutant

07/27

MEMBERSHIP FINANCE REPORT

31 July 95

RECEIPTS

Month	Dues	Donations	Interest	Tranfers	Total
Dec 94	\$318.00	\$13.00			\$331.00
Jan 95	\$146.00	\$13.75	\$.09		\$159.84
Feb 95	\$284.00	\$ 9.00			\$293.00
Mar 95	\$376.00	\$ 1.00			\$377.00
Apr 95	\$196.00	\$123.00	\$3.28	\$538.02(1)	\$860.30
May 95	\$448.00	\$79.00			\$527.00
Jun 95	\$318.00	\$12.00			\$330.00
Jul 95	\$215.00				\$215.00
TOTALS	\$2301.00	\$250.75	\$3.37	\$538.02	\$3093.14

EXPENSE

Month	Printing	Supplies	Mail	Transfer	Total
Dec 94	\$ 84.79				\$ 84.79
Jan 95	\$ 30.69		\$ 10.89		\$ 41.58
Feb 95		\$ 3.35	\$ 61.02		\$ 64.37
Mar 95	\$ 3.02	\$39.74	\$ 18.16		\$ 60.92
Apr 95	\$222.20	\$ 8.47	\$690.83		\$921.50
May 95	\$ 71.02		\$ 49.21		\$120.23
Jun 95	\$ 96.99	\$ 8.46	\$211.12	\$500.00(2)	\$816.57
Jul 95	\$ 8.17		\$ 57.48		\$ 65.65
TOTALS	\$516.88	\$60.02	\$1098.71	\$500.00	\$2175.61

TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$3093.14
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$2175.61
BALANCE	\$ 917.53

*Indited 4 Aug 95
Squid Connect
Mn for
Cliffie Chapman
Capt. K. B. ...*

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Temple, Texas
76502-3505

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