



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCEMENT

SOAR VII



SOA Scholarship presented by Mr. Clyde Sincere
and Senator Roger Jepson to Benjamin S. Redman



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

On 21 July 1983, the first Scholarship from the Special Operations Association was awarded to Benjamin S. Redman of Norwalk IA in the name of Major Larry A. Thorne, MACVSOG's first missing-in-action.

The association flew Ben and his mother, Mrs. Sharon Long to Washington D.C. on 20 July 1983 where they were picked up at Dulles International by Travis Mills. On 21 July 1983, a luncheon was held at Bullfeathers on Capitol Hill attended by:

Benjamin S. Redman
Mrs. Sharon Long
Mr. Clyde Sincere
Mrs. Mary Sincere
Mr. Travis Mills
Miss Donna Fuller

Mr. Patrick Mahoney
Mr. Fred Smith (aid to Larry McDonald)
Mr. Charlie Norton
Mr. George C. Morton
Mr. James E. Butler
Mr. Brett S. Butler

After a hearty meal, the group walked up the hill to the prestigious Capitol Hill Club (arranged by Larry McDonald) for the presentation of the Scholarship award which was performed by Mr. Sincere and Senator Roger W. Jepsen (R-IOWA), Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee for Preparedness and Tactical Warfare.

Following the Scholarship award, Senator Jepsen and Ben Redman were presented with SOA coins. Colonel Charles M. "Bill" Simpson presented Ben with a personalized and autographed copy of his book "Inside the Green Berets: The First Thirty Years." Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres were then served to all attendees.

It was indeed a succinct pleasure in meeting and being in a position to help such a fine young man as Benjamin S. Redman.

James E. Butler



You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

TARGET: HOTEL "7"
DECEMBER 9, 10, and 11, 1983
MAXIM'S HOTEL & CASINO
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

SOAR VII will undoubtedly be the finest, most heavily attended reunion in our short history.

COST: REGISTRATION FEE \$100.00. FOR THIS YOU GET:

1. Guaranteed reservation at more than a 70% reduction of normal rates.
2. Mama Bick's greetings and shuttle to and from the airport.
3. Maxim's complimentary play book.
4. Free booze, snacks, war stories and classified sit-reps in the beautiful hospitality suites which will be open 24 hours per day (minus short clean-up periods.)
5. 1984 Membership rosters.
6. Guest speakers--to be announced.
7. Business meeting brunch.
8. Interesting exhibits.
9. Daily sick-calls.
10. Gorgeous door prizes.
11. And MUCH, MUCH MORE (which basically are too despicable to write about.)

GUEST REGISTRATIONS: Male \$115.00, female \$75.00.

ROOM ACCOMODATIONS: We are very fortunate again to have Maxim's Hotel & Casino hosting this years Soiree. Enclosed is a reservation envelope which is self-explanatory in that each attendee will be responsible for his/her and their guests own room reservation and payment thereof. All you have to do is fill in the appropriate boxes and send them a check in their POSTAGE FREE ENVELOPE by 25 October 1983. Individuals will forfeit their first night's deposit should they cancel their room less than 48 hours prior to arrival.



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DOOR PRIZES

1. This year, as in years past, the Special Operations Association will raffle off several distinctive prizes among the attendees as well as the members who cannot make the proceedings:

DOOR PRIZE #1: "Reverse Raffle": as last year, the reverse raffle drawing will be open to all members on a restricted basis. The prize this year will be a personalized high-powered hunting rifle mounted with the new leatherwood ART II 3 X 9 scope donated by Roy Riddle. As in the past, there will be 900 tickets printed: a limit of (3) tickets per individual at \$10.00 each. The SOA will again maintain 10 tickets for auctioning off at strategic times amongst the attendees. Six hundred tickets will be eliminated on Friday, 250 on Saturday, and at strategic times throughout the business meeting the remaining tickets will be drawn. The last number not to be covered wins. 6 of the held out tickets will be auctioned off when there are 20 numbers remaining and the remaining four will be auctioned off when there are ten numbers left. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO WIN.

There are over 537 card carrying, dues paying members as of this letter, there are not enough tickets to go around and they will be sold on a first come, first serve basis. THIS PRIZE IS WORTH OVER \$2,000.00.

2. Member at large PRIZE #2, Roy Riddle has also graciously donated two Leatherwood/Ingram M12 Machine Pistols worth \$400.00 each, but these are worth quite a bit more for their serial numbers are:

SOAR VII ~ 1
SOAR VII ~ 2

- A. SOAR VII - 2 will be raffled off the membership at large at \$5.00 per ticket and completely handled by mail. NO tickets for SOAR VII - 2 will be available in Las Vegas. (See enclosed form.)
 - B. SOAR VII - 1 will be raffled off to the attendees in Las Vegas and only those members who attend will be eligible to take a chance on this incredible weapon.
3. Member at Large PRIZE #3 is donated by Jim Byrne and is a Model #14 Randall knife. Chances on this beauty will be available to non-attendee and attendees alike at \$1.00 per ticket. All proceeds to benefit the special Operations Association Scholarship Fund.

There also will be many other door prizes and raffles with an additional value of over \$2,000.00 to be given away.



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P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
TELEPHONE NO: _____ MEMBERSHIP NO: _____
NO. OF GUESTS: _____ (MALE: _____ FEMALE: _____)
ROOMS TO BE RESERVED: _____ (SINGLE: _____ DOUBLE: _____)
NUMBER OF DAYS/DATES ROOM(S) TO BE RESERVED: _____

(NOTE: Remember to reserve additional days with hotel!)

REGISTRATION FEE: \$ _____
REVERSE LOTTERY FEE: \$ _____ (3 tickets per member)
GUEST FEE(S): \$ _____
SOAR VII-2 (INGRAM/LEATHERWOOD) \$ _____ (No limit on tickets)
RANDALL KNIFE \$ _____ (No limit on tickets)

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Send your check or Postal Money order for the total amount due to the SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION (or SOA), P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922.

Please remit Registration fees and Raffle fees not later than 25 November 1983. If you cannot meet the deadline but plan to attend, call Jim Butler at (408) 373-3773. Reservations are limited.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS, REQUESTS, ETC. _____



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SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

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SUBJECT: RESOLUTION TO FORM A STEERING COMMITTEE

During the past six years, the growth of the Special Operations Association has been phenomenal as well as intelligent. The press that we have received and the high esteem that we are held in aptly reflects the positive direction that we have taken.

As our membership has grown and our reputation and decisions have become more and more influential in forming public opinion, I believe that it is time to set up a governing committee--i.e. Steering Committee.

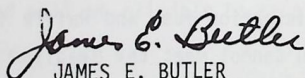
The responsibility of this committee will encompass future direction, housekeeping, political objectives, and other projects that they deem worth while. The committee would meet once a year at a place to be determined and paid for by SOA funds when available.

This committee is critical to the SOA and keeping it in the forefront of all veteran associations. As most of you know, most of the decisions that have been made so far have been done by a committee of one who happened to be in the right place at the right time with the right idea. Fortunately, the stamp of excellence has been awarded each of our decisions, but the odds are getting shorter. Therefore, I propose a steering committee be formed.

The committee would meet once a year, preferably during the summer for three days to discuss situations, directions, etc., which will allow us to continue to be the front-runners in all our endeavors.

Your comments will be appreciated, and if you decide that this idea has merit and that you want to participate, please check the appropriate box on the back of the Ballot sheet and fill in your nominees.

Fraternally,


JAMES E. BUTLER
Secretary



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BALLOT ** ELECTION OF 1984 OFFICERS

** To be returned NO LATER THAN 25 November 1983 to the SOA Tally Committee,
P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922.

I cast my vote for the Nominating Committee selections ~



I would like to nominate:

President	_____
1st Vice-President	_____
2nd Vice-President	_____
*1st Secretary	_____
*2nd Secretary	_____
Treasurer	_____
Sergeant-at-Arms	_____
Sergeant-at-Arms	_____

* The 1st Secretary will handle those duties that are usually the corresponding secretaries duties.

* The 2nd Secretary, will handle the newsletter, bulk mailouts, and the SOA paraphernalia that we sell. Both of these jobs are extremely time consuming, but if you have the time and the desire, please drop me a line so that I can inform the nominating committee.



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RESOLUTION

That, under the provision of our Constitution, the SOA establish a steering committee.

FOR

☐

AGAINST

☐

I would like to nominate the following members for duty on the the steering committee:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____



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June 30, 1983

The Special Operations Association takes great pride in presenting its first Academic Scholarship to Benjamin S. Redman of Norwalk, Iowa. This Scholarship is presented in memory of Major Larry A. Thorne (Lauri Torni); the Special Operation's first listed Missing-In Action casualty.

Major Larry A. Thorne, Headquarters MACV Studies and Observations Group was born on 28 May 1919 in Finland. He enlisted in the Finnish Army at the age of nineteen and served with incredible distinction. During World War II and the attempted Russian annexation of Finland, Thorne earned every valor award that Finland could bestow upon him, to include the Mannerheim Cross twice. It's equivalent is the Congressional Medal of Honor.

As a member of Special Battalion 4, Thorne led parties of 4 to 10 men penetrating as far as 200 miles behind Russian lines. He was inserted via parachute, amphibious vehicles or skis. In one of his most memorable adventures, he spent approximately six months with sixty men behind Russian lines attacking communication systems, and ammunition dumps. On one such operation, he led his unit twelve miles behind Russian lines and engaged a 300 man Russian element and completely demolished them without suffering a single casualty.

When the overwhelming odds and sheer numbers of the Russians forced Finland into capitulation, Captain Thorne organized an underground army and waged a guerilla war so devastating to the Russians that they offered a \$75,000 for his capture, dead or alive.

It was during this period that Thorne sought German help in combating the Russian take-over. Germany trained Thorne at their School for Sabotage and Guerilla Warfare in January 1945. He was to return to Finland on completion of the course, but the Germans were unable to provide transportation.

Thorne, unable to return to Finland, did the next best thing. He joined a group of Germans on the Eastern Front. This group continued fighting for three days after Germany's surrender. The German Marines quit fighting and surrendered to elements of the 17th Airborne Division and as they were marched back through the British zone, Thorne was recognized by British Intelligence and imprisoned to appease the Russians.

Thorne escaped less than one month after his capture and covered the 200 miles to the Danish border on foot and then made his way back to his homeland.



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Reaching Finland in August 1945, his joyous homecoming was interrupted by the Russians again. They coerced the Finnish Government into preferring charges against him for his wartime activities and he was again imprisoned. He escaped twice and was recaptured, but his third attempt was successful and he escaped to Sweden.

He left Sweden as a crewman on a ship to Venezuela, remained there for six (6) months, and then because of his hatred for communism made his way to the United States where he sought to enlist in the U.S. Army. He contacted a friend of his in New York City, who was a former Finnish diplomat. His fellow countryman arranged for him to stay in America while Congress was considering his application for American citizenship.

Thorne received his first citizenship papers and that day he enlisted in the U.S. Army for six (6) years - 28 January, 1954. He underwent basic training at Fort Dix, N.J. and was a mountain climbing and winter warfare instructor at Fort Carson, Colorado, before being assigned to the 77th Special Forces Group at Fort Bragg, N.C. in late 1954.

He was commissioned as a 1st Lt. in the fall of 1956 and was assigned to the 10th SF Gp from 1958 - 1962.

Thorne was an expert boxer, skier, and mountain climber. He became the first American to graduate from the Italian Carabinieri Mountaineering School and commanded the Special Operations team that recovered the bodies of three Americans lost in a plane crash in Iran's highest mountains in 1962.

He returned to Fort Bragg in 1963 and was assigned to the 7th Group but went under the Operational Control of Combined Studies Group, the parent of SOG. His valor earned him a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart. As soon as he returned home he requested to be reassigned to Vietnam and was assigned to Headquarters, Military Assistance Command Vietnam Studies and Observations Group. This extraordinary fighting man who spent twenty-eight years of his life fighting oppression continuously volunteered for the most hazardous missions with SOG. It was while he was on one of these missions that Major Larry A. Thorne, while engaged in an operation near Kham Duc, disappeared and consequently was reported Missing in Action on 18 October 1965.

It is in his memory that the Special Operations Association (the survivors of MACVSOG and other related units) proudly dedicate our first Academic Scholarship to Larry A. Thorne, our first Missing-in-Action and present it to Benjamin S. Redman, the son of Darrell Redman who was assigned to CCC, MACVSOG.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES MILITARY ASSISTANCE COMMAND, VIETNAM
STUDIES AND OBSERVATIONS GROUP
APO San Francisco, 96243

MACSOG

3 November 1965

Colonel A. K. Marttinen
Chief, Operations Division
Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff
for Military Operations
Washington, D. C. 20310

Dear Colonel Marttinen:

I understand and share your deep concern for Captain Larry Thorne and will give you the best information I have on hand at this time.

Larry was assigned as operations officer of a special project of the Studies and Observations Group. On the evening of 18 October 1965, he was to launch a combined reconnaissance patrol of ten personnel into an area of heavy Viet Cong activity to search out and confirm suspected targets for attack by air. Due to the nature of the mission and the suspected density of Viet Cong activity in the area, it was decided that the patrol would be air-lifted into the target area utilizing helicopters. Introduction of the patrol would be accomplished at last-light, contour flying through the mountainous terrain enroute in order to allow minimum detection of the patrol.

As the hour for launch approached, it became apparent that the weather would be marginal at best. A rather extensive cloud build-up had occurred along the flight route and in the target area. Most of the higher land masses were partially obscured by low cloud cover. It also appeared that ground fog might become an every increasing danger. Considering the importance of the mission, it was decided to delay any weather decision until the last possible moment in hopes of being able to proceed with the mission.

Based on the prevailing weather conditions and the likelihood of heavy ground fire enroute to the landing zone, it was determined that a third H-34 helicopter should trail the troop lift aircraft as chase ship. In the event of mishap, the aircraft would attempt recovery of downed personnel. Since VNAF aircraft and crews were being utilized, there existed a requirement for one US advisor to accompany the aircraft for control purposes. In view of the extremely hazardous conditions under which this mission was to be conducted, and to ensure maximum control,



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Larry volunteered to fly this mission himself. Thus he would be able to confirm the secure situation of the patrol on the ground prior to departing the area with the chase ship. A procedure had been established whereby the ground patrol would report by radio upon successfully landing and making a hasty check of the landing zone for security.

At approximately 1745 hours, the USAF FAC aircraft which were in support of the operation, departed the field site to make a check of the weather along the flight route. Weather continued marginal. The FAC aircraft were unable to fly the entire route due to cloud cover and visibility and held slightly north of the target area. At this point they would rendezvous with the air cover. It was decided, however, that the helicopters would be able to make it in to the landing zone by flying at low level.

At 1800 hours, the helicopters departed the field site enroute to the landing zone. Along the route into the landing zone, the helicopters began to receive heavy ground fire from several locations. They also experienced some difficulty with the weather and visibility. Exercising a maximum of flying skill, the helicopters reached the landing zone and safely deposited the patrol without opposition. As planned, all aircraft except the chase ship departed the immediate area enroute to the field site. Larry remained to receive the report from the patrol and render immediate assistance if required.

Due to a heavy cloud bank which had closed in, the aircraft were unable to return on the planned route. With minimum light and visibility remaining, the other aircraft climbed to 8500 feet, topped the clouds and proceeded to home base. Within the several moments that Larry lingered in the landing zone area, the weather closed in completely. The visibility and ceiling were zero. He had become completely separated from the remainder of the aircraft. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, he remained on station awaiting the team report.

At approximately 1820 hours, having received the patrol's report, Larry's aircraft attempted to find an exit route. All routes were obscured and the field site was closed due to weather. On the advice of the other aircraft, the helicopter attempted to climb out over the clouds. Last contact with the aircraft indicated that it was on a bearing of 120 degrees and climbing out. Within five minutes thereafter, a constant keying was heard on the FM frequency being used by the aircraft. This keying continued for about thirty seconds and then stopped. As of this time, the aircraft has not been found and is presumed downed with no survivors. An extensive search of the area has been conducted with negative results.

Larry's unselfish dedication to duty, and concern for the welfare of his men had caused him to linger in the target area sufficiently long to determine the secure position of the patrol. This he did willingly and with complete disregard for the apparent hazards attendant to the weather and ground fire.

As of this date there is no report on the aircraft or its occupants. My feeling is that if Larry was not seriously injured or killed he would have an excellent chance of walking out considering his exceptional skill at cross country travel. Obviously, however, as time elapses that possibility becomes slimmer and slimmer.

Until we locate the aircraft we will continue to search and maintain some hope that he may be alive.

Sincerely,

DONALD D. BLACKBURN
Colonel, GS
Chief, SOG

* * * * *

NEW MEMBERS

#503
David J. Paul
4029 Mill Road
Borset, Ohio 44032

#504
Michael Murphy
777 East Main Street
Branford, Conn. 06504

#505
Lewis Millett, Sr.
P. O. Box 1752
Idylwild, Ca. 92349

#506
Rudolph W. Cooper
9242 E. 30th Street
Tucson, AZ 85710

#507
Terry W. Sorsby
3800 Valhalla
Burbank, Ca 91508

#508
Michael E Koessick
500th MI Group, Box 20
APO San Francisco, Ca 96343

#534
Senator Roger W. Jepsen
120 SROB
Washington, DC 20510

#509
John N. Tobin
7611 Applewood Lane
Charlotte, N.C. 28212

#510
Dennis A Draffone
5 Justine RR
Plymouth, Mass.

#511
Melvin C. McIntire
S.F. Det - Korea
APO San Francisco, Ca 95301

#512
Don R. "Doc" Anderson
P. O. Box 917
Zapata, Texas 79076

#513
Le, Van Me

#514
Tom Garcia
Box 15186
Tucson, AZ 85708

#535
Roy A. Petersen
4231 N. Major Avenue
Chicago, Ill. 60634

NEW MEMBERS CONTINUED

#536

Kenneth L. Robinson
1208 S. Braddock Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15218

#515

Edward L. Blyth
21195 Big Basin Way
Boulder Creek, CA

#516

James C. Cipolla
153 Mass Avenue
North Andover, MA 01845

#517

Garry D. Crossman
P. O. Box 529
East Hamstead, N. H. 03826

#518

Alfred Arellano
351 B. Antietam Street
Ft. Devens, MA 01433

#519

J. Frank Burkhard
1010 N.E. 8th Avenue, #B-8
Del Ray, Florida 33444

#520

Allyn L. Steinhardt
2701 Strickland Avenue
Brooklyn, N. Y. 11234

#521

William M. Hatchett
10501 Curran Road, Apt. 20A
New Orleans, LA 70127

#522

George R. Haley
Box 981
Monomet, MA 02345

#523

George W. Hill
Box 132
Effie, MN 56639

#089

Fred C. Wunderlich
1645/28 SOI Mantana
Charun Sanit Wong Road 43
Bangkok 7, Thailand

#524

Fred Lindenfeld
2185 Porpoise Street
Merritt Island, FL 32952

#525

Paul Glenn Laycock
2 Barons Court/Dawkins Road
Hamworth-Poole
Dorset, England

#526

Frank H. Fowler
1815 Reid Street
Lehigh Acres, FL 33936

#527

Thomas O. Livingston, Jr.
P. O. Box 322
Red River, N. M. 87558

#528

Richard Hoffman
60 Hillcrest Drive
Wayne, N. J. 07470

#529

Stephen M. Sanders
130 North Concord
Olathe, KS 66061

#530

William De Lima
296 Bonanza Drive
Fayetteville, N. C. 28303

#531

James F. Morris
551 Pacific Street
Brooklyn, N. Y. 11217

#532

Eric V. Bleicken
215 Gold Thorn Way
Sterling, VA 22170

#533

Shirley A. Stoner
901 North Olive Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91801



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

NEW MEMBER ADDED TO MAILING LIST

Mr. Tom L. Gibson
Force Recon Association
4688 Oregon Street
San Diego, CA 92116

CHANGE OF ADDRESSES

James Monahan
774 Rose Avenue
Long Beach, CA 93183
(213) 594-5438
1-800-372-6591

Lemuel (Mac) McGlothlin
7547 Carrollberg Drive
Fayetteville, N.C. 28303
(919) 867-0271

John F. Mullin
2011 Jones Street
Wichita Falls, Texas 76309

Antonio J. Coelho, Jr.
Brittany Place Apartments
Fayetteville, N. C. 28304

Ben Lyons
727 Cyprus Chase Drive, #175
Arlington, Texas 76011

Floyd R. Mulvaney
P. O. Box 310
Tahoe Vista, CA 95732
(916) 546-2083

Robert Johnston
374 Walnut Lane
Gilroy, CA 95020
(408) 847-1195

William P. Coughlan
11 Wooden Bridge Drive
Yorkville, Illinois 60560
(312)553-0254

Robert I. Simpson
C/O Pablo Martinez
Apartado De Cotreos
N 207 Marbella (Malaga)
Spain

Jimmie Johnson
3521 W. McElroy Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33611
(813) 831-4365

Cliff Newman
500 Ximeno Avenue #122
Long Beach, CA 90814
H. (213)439-6625
W. (213)627-6496

Robert R. B. Burton
(805) 569-0604

William A. O'Rourke
6908 Vantage Drive
Alexandria, VA 22306

Daniel O'Connell
976 Elkland Place #3
Venice, CA 90291



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CURRENT EVENTS

We now have 527 members of our association which is an increase of over 100 new members from last year at this time.

Letters have gone out to forty-seven members who are two years or more in arrears on their dues which under the provision as outlined by our By-laws is cause for suspension. As Chuck Darnell, so eloquently pointed out, our mailing costs alone are reaching well over \$1,000.00 per year, and our efforts to upgrade our publications and other endeavors cost money. For example, last years AAR cost over \$3,000.00, for publication and mailing. It should be less now, because we have received Non-profit bulk mailing permits.

The project to fill in the blanks as to personnel who performed at the C & C's is coming along terrifically. The input from CCC and CCS as well as the updates, photos and names I missed at CCN will soon be the subject of our next AAR. I would especially like to thank Mr. Charles T. Cadenback of CCC; Larry Trimble from CCN; Fred Camacho of CCN; Melvin McIntire of CCS; for their amazing amount of documentation and memories.

On 30 June 1983, The SOA was notified of the passing away of Col. Richard Reisch on 15 June 1983. Col. Reisch served with Delta project and commanded Sigma Project and was a member of the SOA. He was interned at Arlington National Cemetery with full Military honors.

Kent White recently had his book Prairie Fire published. I read it and felt that it captured the essence of our combat and brotherhood. Kent was a one-one at CCC. If you're interested in getting it, it costs \$4.95 from Daring Press with \$1.50 handling charge. Send checks or money orders to:

Daring Press
Box 526, Dept. 383
Couton, OH 44701



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SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

Mr. Terry O. Leverton passed away in Reno, Nevada on 25 June 1983. As a member of Special Operations and Special Forces, Terry was one of the finest Troopers we had. He was a charter member of the SOA and served on our scholarship committee. It was his last request that donations in his memory be sent to the Special Operations Association Scholarship fund. We received over \$1,200.00 in his name. The world will sorely miss our Terry Leverton.

Two areas which we have had immense problems this year, are the belt buckles and the SOA patch. We have sent the buckles back time and again and expect them to be right the next time. I have not received a status on the Blazer patch recently, but will send them as soon as I get them. I do know that the buckles will probably cost a little more then previously anticipated.

As most of you are aware, we received some miserable coverage from NBC. They put our Crest on a drugged up Punk Rocker and let it parade around the screen for an hour. Well, I wrote a letter and received the reply from NBC which is printed at the end of this newsletter.

I received a copy of the Official Special Forces MIA/POW list as presented to the League of Families by the Federal Government. Most of our POW/MIA's are omitted. It's time that these discrepancies get updated. Is this also true of our Seals and Forced Recon? Have they also been cut off the lists of units which they served so well?

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE WAITING FOR YOUR ORDERS, I APPRECIATE YOUR PATIENCE. I AM CURRENTLY NEGOTIATING TO HAVE A PROFESSIONAL DISTRIBUTOR HANDLE ALL OF OUR PARAPHERNALIA. THE ONLY REASON I HAVE ATTEMPTED TO HANDLE IT MYSELF IS FOR MORE MONEY FOR THE ASSOCIATION.

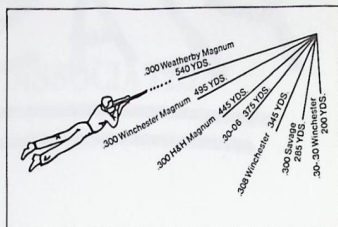


You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know.

NEW!

Weatherby

FIBERMARK™ Rifles



Perspective view of maximum performance ranges for the same seven .30 caliber cartridges based on standard factory loads of 150 gr. bullets. This illustrates how increased velocity extends the range from which a lethal effect can be delivered.

Another Weatherby first!

Long noted for its superior hunting rifles, Weatherby has now combined the quality and performance of the Mark V with the lightness and accuracy of fiberglass, to achieve the ultimate hunting rifle.

"The accuracy advantage of fiberglass stocks is a demonstrated fact. In addition to reduced weight, fiberglass stocks are more stable and weather resistant than wood, ensuring a constant, unchanging zero regardless of hunting conditions. I have used fiberglass stocks on my competition rifles for years, and the simple fact of the matter is that you have to have fiberglass stocks to win."

Jim Carmichel
Outdoor Life Magazine

"The advantage of fiberglass stocks, in addition to weight reduction, is stability. The warping and swelling which often afflicts wood are eliminated, and change in impact from one climate to another is rare. Bench rest competitors have proven this superiority by using fiberglass stocks to take most of the top honors in recent years."

Grits Gresham
Sports Afield Feb. '78

"The fiberglass stock ain't much for pretty, but it's tough, light and stable, and that's what counts in the hunting country."

Bob Hagel
Rifle/Handloader Magazine

STOCK:

The Weatherby Fibermark stock is finished with a non-glare black wrinkle finish for a positive grip, even in wet weather. A black recoil pad with a tasteful and subtle white line spacer complements the traditional Weatherby white diamond inlay in the grip cap.

BARRELED ACTION:

The barrel, receiver and floor plate are sandblasted and blued to a rich, no-glint matte finish. The fluted bolt has a subdued satin finish to further reduce glare.

ACCURACY:

By combining the inherent stability of fiberglass with the meticulous hand bedding performed by Weatherby's skilled craftsmen, the Fibermark rifle maintains point of impact under the most arduous and adverse hunting conditions.

With the new Fibermark, Weatherby is continuing to set the industry's standard for the finest rifles in the world!

Description: Weatherby Fibermark RH 24" or 26" bbl.

Calibers: 240 WM, 257 WM, 270 WM, 7mm WM, 30-06, 300 WM, and 340 WM.

Weatherby
Symbol of superiority



NBC

National Broadcasting Company, Inc.

3000 West Alameda Avenue
Burbank, CA 91523 213-840-3584

Richard F. Martin
Director, Broadcast Standards

July 19, 1983

Mr. James E. Butler
Special Operations Association
P. O. Box 221820
Carmel, CA 93922

Dear Mr. Butler:

Your letter complaining about the unauthorized use of your organization's crest in QUINCY episode entitled "Next Stop, Nowhere," originally aired 12/1/82 and repeated on 6/1/82, has been forwarded to Broadcast Standards.

Broadcast Standards is responsible for the review prior to telecast of all entertainment programming to determine whether it meets NBC's standards for taste and propriety.

I have rescreened the cited episode and have identified a large crest, worn on the front of murderess Molly's T-shirt, as probably being the crest in your letter (it was difficult to compare detail on a television monitor from a video cassette). I assure you and your organization there was no intent on the part of NBC, Universal, or Glen Larson Productions to abuse your organization's crest. The QUINCY costumer purchased it from a punk shop on Melrose Avenue in Hollywood, assuming it to be a made-up crest. We believe the initials had been blacked out prior to purchase. We regret this inadvertent exposure of your organization's crest.



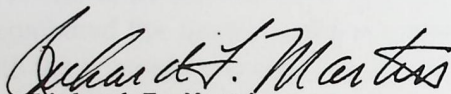
NBC

Mr. James E. Butler
July 19, 1983
Page 2

By copy of this letter and the enclosure of your letter all individuals and companies mentioned in your letter have been informed about the existence of your organization and your understandable desire to protect its image.

Thank you for bringing this to our attention.

Sincerely,



Richard F. Martin

RFM:sd

cc: R. Daniels, M. Goodman, S. McGraw, B. Mendez

Jack Klugman, Glen Larson, David Moessinger, Sam Egan,
Larry Harmell (Frank Cardinal and Judy Truchan)



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Name _____ Date _____
2. Residence _____ Phone ()
 area code

3. Business _____ Phone ()
 area code

4. Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth _____
5. Marital Status _____ Wife's name _____
- 6.
- | Children | Age | Aspirations |
|----------|-------|-------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

(This information is not mandatory! It would be used for possible scholarships and helping hands if needed.)

7. SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNITS SERVED WITH:

				Awards and Decorations while serving with with specific unit
Unit	Location	Dates of Service	Duties	
A.				
B.				
C.				
D.				
E.				

8. **REFERENCES:** Give the name, address, phone and occupation of two individuals who served with you in Special Operations (if possible).

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Unit in which you served together _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Unit in which you served together _____

(If you can add additional names, please do so in order for us to expand the Organization.)

9. **MEMBERSHIP APPLIED FOR** _____

- A. **Charter** - awarded to those persons who attended one or more reunions (SOAR I, SOAR II, SOAR III) and remain a member in good standing.
- B. **General** - served in any Special Operations Unit listed below.
- C. **Life** - any member in good standing may become a life member.
- D. **Honorary** - awarded membership to a person(s) who contributed significantly to Special Operations.
- E. **Associate** - awarded to any person upon approval of the Membership Committee who does not otherwise qualify for General Membership.

If you are applying for any Associate Membership, state reasons for application: _____

10. **PARTIAL LISTING OF SOA UNITS:**

SOG
CCS
HEAVY HOOK
COMBINED STUDIES
SOCPAC
STINGERS
RAVENS
PRU's
AIR COMMANDOS
CIA (SEA ASSIGNED ONLY)

CCN
PROJECTS-DELTA-OMEGA-SIGMA
PHOENIX
STRATA
PEGASUS
OSS
SPECTRES
CT's
UDT/USN SEAL
MOBILE GUERRILLA FORCE

CCC
WHITE STAR-PROJECT 404
PROJECT OAK
82-40
SANDYS
PRAIRIE FIRE NAILS
B-36, B-37 and B-57
FAC COVEY'S FOR SPECIAL PROJECTS
USMC FMF FORCE RECON
SHINING BRASS-SNAKEBITE
1ST SPECIAL SERVICE FORCE

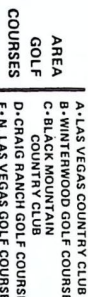
11. **COST OF MEMBERSHIP APPLIED FOR:**

Life - \$150.00
General - \$15.00
Associate - \$25.00
Honorary - no dues

12. **PLEASE MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO THE SOA AND SEND TO:**

THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 221820
CARMEL, CALIFORNIA 93922

Strip
731-4105

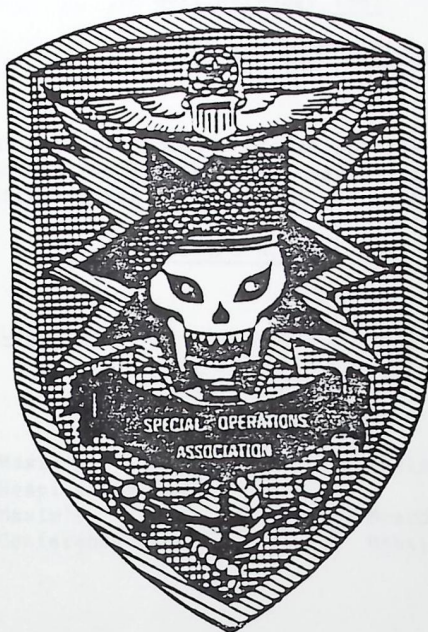


Les Vies

- | STRIP HOTELS & CASINOS | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1-HACIENDA (T) | 14-SILVER SLIPPER |
| 2-TROPICANA (T)(G) | 15-STARBUST (T) |
| 3-20TH CENTURY | 16-RIVERA (T) |
| 4-DUNES (G) | 17-FLORIDA |
| 5-ALABIN | 18-PIGMY CIRCUS |
| 6-FLORIDA INN (T) | 19-SILVER BIRD |
| 7-CASAS PALACE (T) | 20-SAHARA (G) |
| 8-FLAMINGO | 21-HILTON (T) |
| 9-SANDY INN/CASINO | 22-LANDARK |
| 10-HOLIDAY | 23-ROYAL |
| 11-CASTAVAYS | 24-NEVADA VEGAS |
| 12-FRONTIER (T) | 25-SUNMOON |
| 13-DESERT INN (T)(G) | 26-MARINA |
| | 27-FLAMINGO CAPIRI |
| TENNIS COURTS | |
| (G)-GOLF COURSE | |

- POINTS OF INTEREST**
- MT. CHARLESTON
LEE CANYON
RED ROCK STATE PARK
OLD NEVADA
VALLEY OF FIRE
LAKE MEAD
RECREATION AREA
LAKE MOHAVE
LOWER COLORADO RIVER
COURTHOUSE

SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION



Special Operations Association Reunion VII AAR



You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION REUNION (SOAR) VII

8-11 December 1983

AFTER ACTION REPORT

The Seventh Annual Reunion of the Special Operations Association (SOAR VII) was held at Maxim's Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada, during the period 8-11 December 1983. The Meeting Agenda for SOAR VII was as follows:

MEETING AGENDA

<u>DATE/TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
<u>8 December 1983</u> <u>Thursday</u>		
1200-2000	Maxim's Hospitality Room	- Registration Open
2015	Maxim's Conference Room	- Board of Directors Meeting
<u>9 December 1983</u> <u>Friday</u>		
1200-1800	Hospitality Room	- Registration/Camaraderie
1800-1900	Meeting Room	- 60 Minute slide presentation on El Salvador - Phil Gonzales.
1900-	Hospitality Room	- Camaraderie
<u>10 December 1983</u> <u>Saturday</u>		
1000-1130	Meeting Room	- <u>BUSINESS MEETING</u> Introduction: Jim Butler Discussion Leader: Chuck Darnell BALLOT DISCUSSION: Jim Butler - (Nominating Committee Chairperson) - Jim Hawke (Voting by Secret Ballot). (MEMBERS ONLY)
1200-	Meeting Room	- <u>BRUNCH</u>



You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know.

1230-

Meeting Room

- MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:
Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
- Moment of silent respect for our missing comrades-in-arms.
- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Introduction of 1983 officers.

1250-1330

REPORTS

- Treasury: Keith Messinger
- Membership: Jim Butler
- Good of the Order Announcements - Scott Lyon/Clyde Sincere.
- INTRODUCTIONS OF GUESTS - Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
- Invited dignitaries - Las Vegas area.
- COL Martha "Maggie" Raye
- LTC Rolande "Frenchv" Amundson
- LTG Robert C. Kingston
- LTC (USAF) Jerry Venanzi, Principal Advisor for POW/MIA Affairs, Office of the Secretary of Defense.
- Phil Gonzales
- INTRODUCTIONS OF GUEST SPEAKERS:
Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
- LTG Robert C. Kingston - CINC CENTRAL COMMAND.
- Mr. Dick Hebert, President, Center on POW/MIA Accountability.
- LTC Jerry Venanzi, OSECDEF, POW/MIA Affairs.

1330-1545

GUEST SPEAKERS

1545-1600

1984 OFFICERS

- Announcement and introduction of new officers for 1984. (Tally Committee Chairperson) - Adam Husar/Clyde Sincere.

1600-1645

DOOR PRIZES/RAFFLE TICKET

- Drawings - Jim Butler/Clyde J. Sincere/Chuck Darnell.

1645-1700

ADJOURNMENT: Chuck Darnell

- Membership meeting for 1983 adjourned.

1700-

HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN

PRESS RELEASE: A press release announcing SOAR VII, which included the historical background of the Special Operations Association, and biographical sketches of LTG Robert C. Kingston, CINCUSCENTCOM, COL Martha (Maggie) Raye, and LTC Rolande (Frenchy) Amundson, is attached as Inclosure 1.

PRESENTIAL RECOGNITION: A letter from Ronald Regan, The President of the United States, conveying his warmest regards to all members of the SOA attending the seventh annual reunion (SOAR VII) is attached as Inclosure 2. This letter was read to the assembled members by SOA President Clyde J. Sincere, Jr., and was received with enthusiastic approbation by the assembled membership.

ELECTED OFFICERS FOR 1984: The following officers were elected to serve for the year 1984 at SOAR VIII:

President - Charles Darnell
1st Vice President - Scott Lyon
2nd Vice President - George Morton
Secretary - Don Devere
Treasurer - Keith Messinger

APPOINTMENTS FOR 1984: The following individuals were appointed/reappointed to serve for the year 1984 at SOAR VIII:

Chairman, Membership Committee - Ben Lyons
Chairman, Appeals Board Committee - Cliff Newman
Chairman, Scholarship Fund Committee - Jim Butler
Chairman, Scholarship Award Committee - Ralf Miller
Chairman, Nominating Committee - Jim Hawke
Chairman, Tally Committee - Adam Husar
Chairman, Audit Committee - Jack Isler
Sgts at Arms - Les Silvernail & John Fryer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: The following members will serve on the Board of Directors for 1984:

Charles Darnell, President
Don Devere, Secretary
Keith Messinger, Treasurer
Clyde Sincere, Past President
Ben Lyons
Jim Butler
Jim Monaghan

TREASURER'S REPORT: A copy of the Treasurer's Report as of 30 June 1984 is attached as Inclosure 3.

INVITATIONS AND LETTERS OF APPRECIATION: Letters of invitation to attend SOAR VII, together with letters of appreciation to all guests who attended, copies of which are attached as Inclosure 4, were extended to the following individuals:

LTG Robert C. Kingston, principal guest speaker
LTC Jerry Venanzi, OSECDEF for POW/MIA Affairs
Mr. Richard F. Hébert, President, Center POW/MIA Accountability
Mr. Philip Gonzales, guest speaker on El Salvador
COL Martha (Maggie) Raye, honorary member
LTC Rolande (French) Amundson, honorary member

A THANK YOU FROM USCINCENTCOM TO SOA: Subsequent to SOAR VII, LTG Robert Kingston, USCINCENTCOM, forwarded a letter to the President. SOA, thanking him for the invitation to address, the SOA and expressing his pleasure in reminiscing of times gone by. A copy of LTG Kingston's letter is attached as Inclosure 5.

SPECIAL EVENTS OF NOTE:

- LTC (USAR) Robert Brown, publisher of "SOLDIER OF FORTUNE", presented a check for \$1,000.00 to Mr. Clyde J. Sincere, Jr., President of the SOA, for the SOA Memorial Scholarship Fund. LTC Brown is a member and loyal supporter of the SOA, and we desire to express our appreciation for his generous contribution to this worthy cause.
- Rolande "Frenchy" Amundson, our loyal and charming member who came to us with a background in the Free French Resistance, also presented Mr. Sincere with a check for \$1,000.00 for the SOA Memorial Scholarship Fund. For this and for other favors which she has bestowed on the SOA, we desire to say "merci beaucoup, Mlle Frenchi."
- Mr. J. C. Pollock, author of "MISSION MIA", and most recently, "CENTRIFUGE", in which he consistently portrays Special Forces, and particularly Special Operations personnel in the most favorable light, is a loyal and supportive member of the SOA. At SOAR VII, he purchased the first of a special mug cast for the SOA for \$1,000.00, and donated this sum to the SOA in remembrance of our deceased comrade, Terry O. Leverton. In addition, Mr. Pollock, who was winner of the ITHACA Model 37 DEERSLAYER Shotgun at the raffle on 25 May 1984, has returned the DEERSLAYER to the SOA, to be raffled again in an effort to raise additional funds for the SOA Memorial Scholarship, and has contributed a percentage of his royalties from "CENTRIFUGE" to the SOA scholarship fund. Thank you Jim, for your outstanding and generous support to the SOA.
- Mr. Ramon Craig, another loyal and supporting member of the SOA, won the second special mug cast for the SOA at an auction for \$480.00, and contributed the sum to the SOA Memorial Scholarship Fund. Thank you Ramon for your generosity to the SOA.
- Mr. Robert Masterjoseph was winner of the Prize #1 reverse raffle for the Weatherby high powered hunting rifle mounted with the new Leatherwood ART II 3 x 9 scope, which was graciously donated by Mr. Roy Riddle. Mr. Riddle also donated Prize #2, which was two (2) Leatherwood/Ingram M12 Machine Pistols. Prize #3, a Model #14 Randall knife was donated by Mr. Jim Byrne. The SOA desires to express its appreciation to Mr. Riddle, Mr. Byrne and other donors for the prizes that they donated to SOAR VII.

- For the second time since the inception of SOA Reunions, a marriage was conducted during the reunion. Mr. & Mrs. Arnold "Animal" Natalie were married in a solemn ceremony at SOAR VII in which G. Gordon Liddy served as best man and Martha "Maggie" Raye was maid of honor. Good luck to "Animal" and his bride.
- For the first time since the inception of SOA Reunions, our inveterate Sergeant-at-Arms, Lionel Pinn, remained on his feet for the entire duration of the reunion. Lionel brought his charming wife and children to the reunion, and they assisted him in remaining upright in performance of his duties.

THE LITTLE PEOPLE: Steve Byers of Chico, California, penned the following poem during SOAR VII as a salute to "The Little People" who served with MACSOG, and who remain behind in Indochina. We believe that it is a fine tribute to the brave troopers in Indochina who served so loyally and gallantly with MACSOG:

In the jungles they were born
With families taken
Their freedom torn
The little people - forsaken.

They stood with us
And called us friend
From Dalat to Laos
Dak to and Tay Ninh.

We salute our companions
The Nung, The Khmer and The Yards
And at each SOA Reunion
Remember - freedom comes hard.

MILES FROM HOME: George Morton introduced a new book entitled "MILES FROM HOME" which was written by Anna Nguyen Thi Kim-Lan McCauley, one of two little blind girls which the Special Forces found in the Cholon School for Blind Girls in Cholon-Saigon, and sent to America in 1963. Anna graduated from Perkins Institute for the Blind in Watertown, Mass in 1970, and from Emmanuel College in Boston in 1974. She is married to Richard McCauley, who she met at Perkins, and has two children. Information concerning "MILES FROM HOME", and an order blank, is attached as Inclosure 6.

CLOSING COMMENTS: A major objective of the SOA Reunions is to foster camaraderie among a group of individuals who have shared common hardships in combat behind enemy lines, and to perpetuate and honor the memory of those fallen comrades, POWs/MIAs who are no longer with us. We trust that in looking forward to SOAR VIII, all members will reflect upon this objective, and leave animosities behind.

SOAR VII was a good reunion, and we look forward to even a bigger and better reunion in SOAR VIII. If you're not there, we will talk about you!



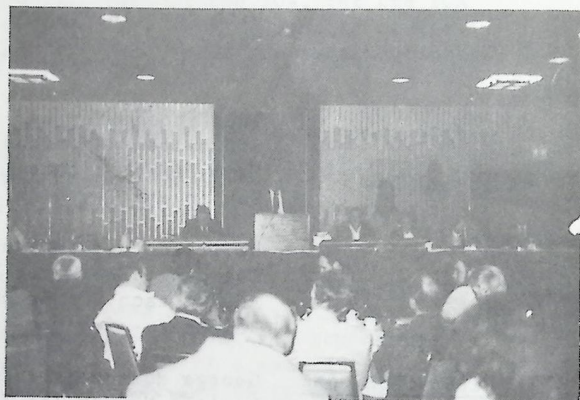
Welcome



Guest Speaker arrives, "lotts a help" heh



President (1982-83) making a "point"



LTG Kingston addressing reunion



President-elect (1984) addressing reunion



Standing ovation for General Kingston



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

The Special Operations Association (SOA) announces its seventh annual reunion (SOAR VII) December 9-11 in Las Vegas.

SOA is a 550 member fraternal organization of American and foreign participants of special military operations in a combat theater, primarily during the Southeast Asian conflict. The group includes World War II and Korean War veterans as well, and is open to those who aided or took part in missions deep inside hostile territory.

SOA membership for the most part is composed of former US Army Special Forces personnel, popularly known as the "Green Berets", but also includes former Air Commandos, Navy Seals, Marine Force Recon, and veterans of other elite organizations, both military and civilian, who were part of special operations.

With the increasing acceptance of the Vietnam veteran, and renewed emphasis on Special Operations in trouble spots around the world, the SOA reunion offers the news media a unique opportunity to interview participants of the most unpublicized and secretive operations of the war in Indo China. Guests of note tentatively include LTG Robert Kingston, Commander, US Central Command (USCENTCOM), which includes the Rapid Deployment Force and has responsibility for the volatile Middle East; COL Charles Beckwith, USA (Ret), former ground commander of DELTA FORCE in the hostage rescue effort in Iran; LTC Jerry Venanzi, USAF, Principal Advisor for POW/MIA Affairs, Office of the Secretary of Defense and a briefing team from the Center for POW/MIA Accountability; and COL Martha "Maggie" Raye, LTC Rolande "Frenchy" Amundson, and several former high ranking officers of American Special Operations.

The reunion will be held at Maxim's Hotel/Casino. Please direct press inquiries to Terry Care (456-7219) before December 9th, or to Clyde Sincere, Chuck Darnell, Jim Butler or Scotty Lyons at Maxim's once the reunion commences.

Inclosure #1



You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

The SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION was founded in December 1977 in Las Vegas, Nevada by former members of MACVSOG.

H I S T O R I C A L B A C K G R O U N D

FORMATION

The MACVSOG (Military Assistance Command-Vietnam Studies and Observations Group) and its subordinate units were formed by a consolidation of the Combined Studies Division of the Joint Chiefs of Staff with the guidance of the Central Intelligence Agency. The Subordinate Units code named: CCN, CCC, CCS, (Command and Control North, Central, and South), Projects Delta, OMEGA, Sigma, and NAD, (Naval Advisory Detachments) were composed mainly of U.S. Army Special Forces, U.S. Navy S.E.A.L.S., and U.S. Marines Forced Recon Personnel for the purpose of conducting clandestine operations behind the lines and over the fence.

These personnel were selected due to their dual background expertise in conventional combat arms and unconventional warfare organizational and developmental capabilities. The majority of these men were veterans of numerous special missions in Laos, South Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, the Middle East, Eastern Europe, South and Central American and the Caribbean.

As the Studies and Observation Group (SOG) doctrine was operationally tested and improvements made, it was decided to broaden the organizational base and increase mission capability and successes by including specialists from other U.S. Armed Services and participating Allied Nations. Thus, a bi-lateral service effort was launched while expanding special operations against the enemy.

The officers and non-commissioned officers who performed these special and often heroic missions were the elite of the Army's Special Forces, U.S. Navy S.E.A.L.'s, U.S.M.C. Force Recon, U.S.A.F. Air Comandos and Special Operations Squadrons augmented by skilled personnel from Australia, New Zealand, indigenous South and North Vietnamese, Montagnard and Meo Tribesmen, Laotians, Cambodians and Chinese.

THE MEMBERSHIP

We all knew one another, if not personally, then by our participation in various military training schools world-wide such as Airborne, Ranger, Special Forces, Language, HALO, SCUBA, S.A.S. Selection, Malasian Jungle Warfare and Man Tracking, Belgian and Turkish Commando, just to name a few. Later, while attending the MACSOG in-house "progressive educational courses for advanced

students" conducted in the Ashau Valley, the Bong Son Plain, Base Area 609, Danial Boone AO, Parrots Beak, Prairefire AO, Nickel Steel AO and the Barrel, our relationships were solidified, ever enhancing our reputations and thus earning the moniker "The Special Operations Suicide Teams", so dubbed by columnist Jack Anderson.

Although our missions were classified, to those who planned and commanded our actions and to the enemies whom we fought, we were an invincible force.

Using skill, knowledge, plain old fashion guts and a little help from lady luck, we outwitted and outfought the best "unbeatable" guerrilla fighters of the National Liberation Front (Viet Cong) and the North Vietnamese Army on their own turf. Our casualties were high but our successes were far greater.

We need and seek no personal recognition. We were dedicated professionals doing our duty and knew first-hand the thrill of victory and the bitter taste of defeat. Hence comes our logo "You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know."

THE ASSOCIATION

In 1978, membership was opened to the air and sea support crews who were dedicated to the protection and saving the lives of the team members who used the code names of "Prairie Fire", "Black Jack" and "China Boy Emergency".

In 1979 we elected to allow the older behind the lines operatives (O.S.S., Jedborough, etc.) to join as they were the founding fathers of OP-Plan 34-A, and personnel of on-going classified projects and other specific specialists.

We are very active in the POW-MIA areas and contribute whole-heartedly to the League of Families, Project Freedom, and the Center for MIA-POW Accountability.

In 1983, we instituted our scholarship program with the awards in the names of our fallen or missing comrades.

We are actively involved in documenting the covert war for Time/Life's series on Vietnam, "The Vietnam Experience" and offer other technical support to creditable authors in their pursuit of authentic details.

Assistance to our membership is confidential.

The Special Operations Association meets annually for a "reunion" in Las Vegas, Nevada during the month of December.

If you believe that you qualify for membership either as a general or associate member, please fill out the enclosed application and forward it with the appropriate amount to:

THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 221820
CARMEL, CA 93922



The Center for **POW/MIA** Accountability
PO Box 5138, Arlington, VA, 22205, USA

PRESS RELEASE

RELEASE DATE: IMMEDIATE

CONTACT CHUCK ALLEN
(919) 484-2343

POW/MIA FACT FINDING GROUP BECOMES ACTIVE

WASHINGTON DC, 9 March 1983: The "Center for POW/MIA Accountability" (CPMA), a private, non-profit organization became operational today as announced by John K. Singlaub, Chairman, and retired Army general.

Commenting on the Center's activation, General Singlaub, active in POW/MIA matters since his retirement, said, "It is a shocking and tragic fact that today nearly 2,500 American service men remain unaccounted-for from the Vietnam War. Since the war's end in 1975, the grim roster of POWs and MIAs has remained essentially the same despite our government's efforts to persuade Hanoi to honor their promise to provide a full accounting of missing Americans as agreed to in the 1973 Paris Peace Agreement.

"A great deal of evidence exists that the governments of Indochina hold information which could resolve the status of unaccounted for Americans. This fact is supported by the more than 1,700 reports made by Indochinese refugees of which nearly 500 were 'live sightings' which our government has acquired since the fall of Saigon in 1975. More than 200 of the sighting reports of Americans held against their will remain unverified and are under continuing investigation in an attempt to verify the information.

"The Center's purpose is to assist our Government in resolving the POW/MIA issue through a privately funded analytical evaluation of all POW/MIA information," Singlaub concluded.

In pursuit of its goals, the Center is staffed with former military personnel considered experts in operations, research, analysis, and management.

The Center, located in Washington, DC, does not engage in or endorse any activity in conflict with the policies of the United States Government. The Center strongly believes that direct government-to-government efforts offer the most favorable avenues for successful resolution of the POW/MIA matter.



The Center for **POW/MIA** Accountability
910 16th Street, NW • Suite 303 • Washington, DC 20006

Extract: Articles of Incorporation,
Center For POW/MIA Accountability

"The common purposes of the CENTER are: 1) to conduct research, to legally acquire, to aggregate, to analyze and evaluate all information from whatever source, pertaining to American citizens declared by the United States Government (USG), as being or suspected of being, Prisoner of War (POW), or Missing in Action (MIA), personnel resulting from hostilities between the USG and foreign adversaries in Southeast Asia; 2) to utilize the CENTER'S product to educate the general public, foreign and domestic, as well as the USG, so that such knowledge will serve to implement diplomatic programs to resolve the ambiguity of the status of POW/MIA personnel; 3) to assure that USG diplomatic actions provide a full accounting of all POW/MIA personnel, presumed or determined to be alive or deceased, and that those personnel or their remains are returned to USG custody at the earliest possible date.

The corporation shall exist for as long as its purposes remain unfulfilled."

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Headquarters, United States Central Command

LIEUTENANT GENERAL ROBERT C. KINGSTON

UNITED STATES ARMY

Robert Charles Kingston was born in Brookline, Massachusetts on 16 July 1928. He entered the US Army as an enlisted man in November 1948. The following year he attended Officer Candidate School at Fort Riley, Kansas, and was commissioned as a second lieutenant of infantry on 20 December 1949.

Between 1950 and 1954, General Kingston served as platoon leader, company executive officer, and company commander in the 3d Battalion, 32d Infantry in Korea. During his second tour in Korea, he was the Commanding Officer, Far East Command Special Mission Group.

In 1954 and 1955, General Kingston served as Executive Officer, Ranger Mountain Camp, Dahlonga, Georgia. From 1956 to 1959, he served as an Airborne Infantry Company Commander and as the Assistant Division G2 in the 82d Airborne Division. In 1960, General Kingston completed the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. In 1960 and 1961, he served as the Exchange Airborne Officer with the 16th Independent Parachute Group, United Kingdom. During that tour, he commanded C Company, 3d Parachute (Battalion) for nine months.

In August 1961, General Kingston was assigned to the Operations Division, Headquarters, US Army, Europe. In June 1963, he was reassigned to the United States to the Test and Evaluation Group, United States Army Airmobile Test Unit, Fort Benning, Georgia. He attended the University of Omaha in 1965 where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in General Education; the same year he entered the Armed Forces Staff College at Norfolk, Virginia, graduating in January 1966. He was next assigned as the senior advisor to the Vietnamese Ranger Command. Later, on the same tour, for nine months he commanded the 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division. Following this command assignment he served in the Studies and Observation Group, Headquarters, Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, from March 1967 to September 1967.

IN 1967, General Kingston was assigned as Chief of General Planning Branch, Plans and Programs Directorate, Office of the Assistant Chief for Force Development, Headquarters, Department of the Army. During 1968-1969, he attended the National War College, Washington, DC. In 1969, he received his Master of Science Degree in foreign relations from George Washington University. Upon completion of National War College studies, he assumed command of the 3d Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

General Kingston returned to Vietnam in late 1969 as Commanding Officer, 3d Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). He commanded this brigade for six months and subsequently commanded that division's 1st Brigade for an additional three months.

In 1970, General Kingston was assigned as the Deputy Secretary of the General Staff, Office of the Chief of Staff, United States Army. In 1972, he attended the Advanced Management Program for Executives, University of Pittsburgh. In June of 1972, General Kingston returned to Vietnam where he was promoted to brigadier general on 29 December 1972, and served as Deputy Commanding General, Second Regional Assistance Command and as Deputy Senior Advisor, II Corps and Military Region 2. On 23 January 1973, General Kingston assumed command of the Joint Casualty Resolution Center, Nakhon Phanom, Thailand.

Upon his return to the United States, General Kingston assumed duties as Assistant Division Commander, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kansas on 4 February 1974. He was promoted to Major General on 1 September 1975, backdated to 1 June 1973. He assumed command of the US Army John F. Kennedy Center for Military Assistance and the US Army Institute for Military Assistance, Fort Bragg, North Carolina on 1 October 1975. On 20 June 1977, General Kingston assumed duties as the Assistant Chief of Staff, J3, United Nations Command, United States Forces Korea, Eighth US Army, Seoul, Korea. General Kingston became the Chief of Staff of the Tri-headquarters on 28 July 1977. On 1 June 1979, General Kingston assumed command of the 2d Infantry Division, Camp Casey, Korea. He was promoted to Lieutenant General on 16 July 1981 and assumed command of the Rapid Deployment Joint Task Force, MacDill Air Force Base, Florida on 17 July 1981.

On 1 January 1983, General Kingston assumed command of the United States Central Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Florida.

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Distinguished Service Cross
Distinguished Service Medal
Silver Star with first Oak Leaf Cluster
Legion of Merit with three Oak Leaf Clusters
Distinguished Flying Cross
Bronze Star with Valor Device and one Oak Leaf Cluster
Air Medal with 36 Oak Leaf Clusters
Joint Service Commendation Medal
Army Commendation Medal with first Oak Leaf Cluster
Army of Occupation Medal (Japan)
National Defense Service Medal with first Oak Leaf Cluster
Korean Service Medal with nine Battle Stars
Vietnam Service Medal with seven Battle Stars
NCO Professional Development Ribbon with Numeral 1
Army Service Ribbon
Overseas Ribbon with Numeral 2
Order of National Security Merit, Chonsu
National Order of Vietnam (Fourth Class)
National Order of Vietnam (Fifth Class)
Vietnamese Gallantry Cross with Palm (Individual) (Six Awards)
Vietnamese Honor Medal (First Class)
United Nations Service Medal
United Nations Medal
US Presidential Unit Citation
US Navy Presidential Unit Citation
Valorous Unit Award
Meritorious Unit Commendation
Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation
Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross
Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Unit Citation
Combat Infantryman Badge (Second Award)
Master Parachutist Badge, US
Ranger Tab
Gliderman Badge
Korean Parachutist Badge
Parachute Wing, United Kingdom
Cambodian Parachutist Badge
Vietnamese Jumpmaster Badge
Vietnamese Ranger Badge
12 Overseas Bars



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

MARTHA (COL MAGGIE) RAYE

Martha Raye needs no introduction to wearers of the Green Beret, and can not be more eloquently described than in the following words by a former Commander of the 5th Special Forces Group in Vietnam:

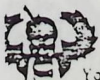
"In time of need American Patriots have always volunteered their time, their energies, their fortunes, their lives in support of America's fighting men. Vietnam made the name of Martha Raye synonymous with Patriot. We are most grateful. She captured the hearts and minds of the special breed of soldier who wore what some thought was 'a funny little green hat.' 'Those brave men' who went to the end of the road and beyond to do what others could never do. Those who jumped and so many who fought and died - 'those brave men of the Green Beret.' Wherever or whoever else she visited throughout the long period of her service to our nation during our involvement in Vietnam, she earned a very special place in the hearts of every one of them. Her beauty that cannot be conveyed in words, her effervescent personality, boundless energy, total commitment to her country and contagious enthusiasm to accomplish the mission at all cost was a most important underpinning in support of the extraordinary efforts and magnificent accomplishments of her Special Forces. She was truly a part of whatever success we achieved. She touched all our lives in a special way. No hand wringing sob-sister, she was tough - she was just a great American lady who brought a touch of home and femininity to a foreign, lonely and sometimes cruel and filthy war-torn land. No one who ever wore the Green Beret in that Southeast Asia hell will ever forget the contribution this magnificent lady made to us individually, our mission and our sense of purpose. So soft and gentle yet never weak, of all who came she alone had an understanding of us and what we were all about. Her love for our nation and for us was most thoroughly manifested when she refused to be evacuated from "A Camps" under attack...that demonstration of really lovely toughness that said to us louder than any words...I care! and proud to be with you...!

On behalf of all the officers and men who proudly wore the Green Beret then and now, I extend sincere, heartfelt appreciation and admiration to you, our 'Colonel Maggie', for helping us write a glorious page of Special Forces history of which you are so much a part...you will always have our love and respect 'Maggie' O'Reed! God bless you and yours always."

12 April 1980

Michael D. Healy
Major General, USA

We are happy and honored to welcome COL Maggie to the SOAR VII Reunion.



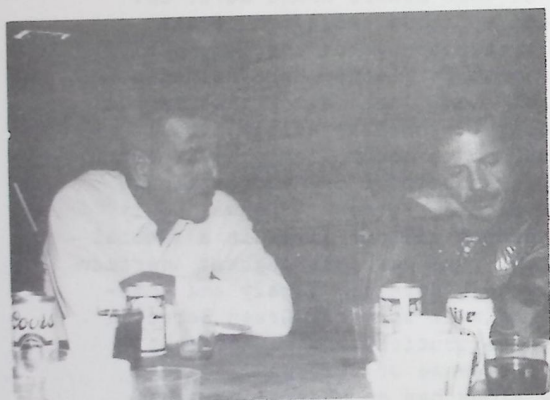
You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know.



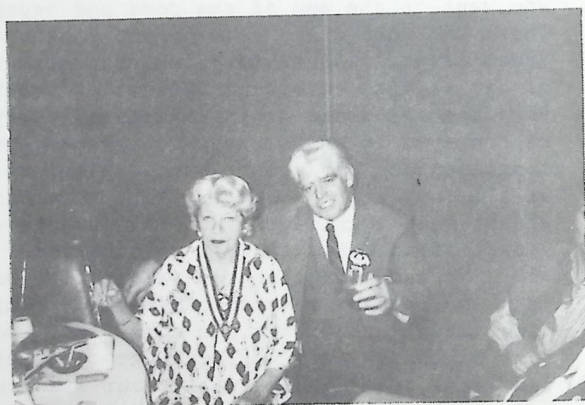
"Complete relaxation"



"Mick" Meehan and Art Fields - what?



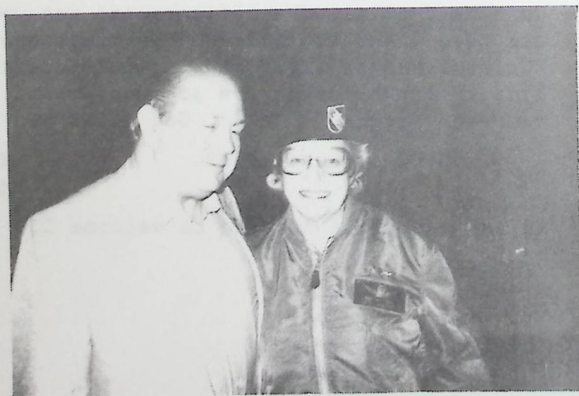
Adam and "Animal" - I'm sure it was an important discussion



"Maggie" and Chuck Allen "Prosting".



Tom Moore and Bob Burton - Army vs Marines
"Arm Wrestling"



"Happy" Art Fields with Maggie



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

ROLANDE "FRENCHY" AMUNDSON

In 1943 Rolande Amundson was 20 years old, and left her native France to train as a paratrooper in Sussex, England. As part of French preparation for underground activities, Rolande, (known as 'Frenchy' in Paso Robles, where she now lives), jumped from "DC-Anythings," including the DC-10 with the Regiment of Chasseur Parachutists, and the DC-3. She jumped to Cherbourg behind enemy lines, infiltrated German operations and reported to the Resistance. Two months was their exposure limit in clandestine missions. She was removed and jumped to Evron, repeating the procedure. On her third jump, instead of meeting Resistance forces at the rendezvous she met German troops waiting for her arrival. Frenchy spent 11 months at the Mattheusen concentration camp near the Czech/Austrian border. The U.S. 65th Infantry rescued inmates, and she was ultimately repatriated to Paris, where she worked with the Allied and U.S. clandestine missions in an Iron Curtain rescue of an escaped Czechoslovakian prisoner's family. At one point during the war, she served briefly as an interpreter for Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower. Working as a hospital attendant in Vietnam in 1949, she was among French forces routed by Ho Chi Minh from the country, watching things burn, leaving with nothing except the uniform on her back. Rolande came to the United States in 1957 and six (6) months later (1958) became an American citizen.

In 1976, while watching an air show at Paso Robles airport near her home, she became acquainted with members of the 3rd Battalion, 12th Special Forces, a reserve Green Beret outfit on the West Coast. The Green Berets, upon learning of Mrs. Amundson's unique background, arranged the following year to make her a surprise guest of honor at their annual banquet in San Francisco, and a lasting friendship developed between her and the troopers. As a result of this friendship, in September 1981, Rolande graciously donated \$10,000 to a new Special Warfare Museum at Fort Bragg, NC.

Obviously an old-fashioned patriot, and a Green Beret in spirit, she believes American military strength should be kept strong, even to the extent of allowing women into combat roles if they can handle the jobs and want them. For her own part, she adds, her life has been strengthened and her determination steeled by things she has encountered - "the degradation of living in a concentration camp ... falling on my knees across a road, after being released, to eat something green that was growing."

She summed up her feeling that spirit must remain indomitable by saying, "Green Berets never die, - they go to hell and regroup."

Rolande is an honorary Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army Special Forces.



You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 8, 1983

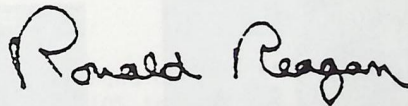
Dear Clyde:

I would like to convey my warmest regards to you and all of those attending the seventh annual reunion of the Special Operations Association. Your membership has contributed greatly to the national security of our nation in the past.

Your current efforts in support of the fullest possible accounting of our men missing in Southeast Asia is also greatly appreciated. The fine work of groups such as SOA in support of official priorities and the families of our missing are critically important for success.

Best wishes for a successful SOA VII.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Ronald Reagan". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized script.

Mr. Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
President
Special Operations Association
Maxim's Hotel/Casino
160 East Flamingo Road
Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

Inclosure #2



Jack "Iceman" Isler receiving
doorprize



Rudy Cooper relaxing at SOAR VII



"Mick" Meehan and "Mac" McKinney - huh



Tom Moore, family, friends
(Vince DeBellis, etc)



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

TREASURER'S REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following Treasurer's Report was prepared for and approved by the Board of Directors at the special meeting convened at the DFW International Airport Marriott Inn, Dallas, Texas on 11 August 1984:

a. Financial Statement:

A financial statement for the period ending 30 June 1984, copy of which is attached as an inclosure, indicates that the SOA has an equity of \$21,347.00. This increased equity is due principally to contributions and ticket sales for the raffle of the M37 Ithaca DEERSLAYER Shotgun for the SOA Memorial Scholarship Fund.

b. Tax Status:

The Special Operations Association (SOA) is a California based non-profit charitable organization. Federal and State laws require that income tax returns be filed every ten (10) years provided the equity is less than \$25,000.00. The SOA exceeded this sum in 1984, and is now required to file Federal and State income tax returns annually.

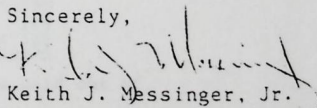
c. SOA Memorial Scholarship Fund:

The SOA Memorial Scholarship Fund currently exceeds \$10,000.00 and is drawing approximately 10% interest.

d. Membership Dues:

The Board of Directors approved a change in membership dues at the special meeting in Dallas on 10 August 1984 and effective immediately, dues for life members will be \$200.00, and \$20.00 annually for general and associate members. Annual dues for general and associate members is included in the registration fee for individuals attending SOAR VIII, however, members who are not able to attend the reunion should send a check at the time they forward their proxy.

Sincerely,


Keith J. Messinger, Jr.
Treasurer

Special Operations Association

GCM/KJM/jec

Incl: Financial Statement



You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION
Financial Statement
Period Ending 6/30/84

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>
Income		
Revenue (1)	\$ 22,953	\$ 25,372
Interest Income	-	183
SOA Scholarship (2)	-	9,395
Total Income	<u>22,953</u>	<u>34,950</u>
Expenses		
SOAR	5,011	6,955
Office Supplies	1,346	912
Postal	2,120	962
Telephone	572	98
Travel	-	1,127
Printing/Copying	3,115	3,993
SOA Scholarship (3)	-	2,287
Secretarial	153	1,570
Refunds	-	260
Miscellaneous	853	1,626
Total Expenses	<u>13,170</u>	<u>19,790</u>
Merchandise Purchases	2,407	3,136
Scholarship Award (3)	<u>-</u>	<u>1,000</u>
Net Gain (Loss) for Year	7,376	11,024
Plus Previous Year	<u>1,378</u>	<u>8,754</u>
Increase (Decrease)		
Retained Earnings	<u>\$ 8,754</u>	<u>\$ 19,778</u>

BALANCE SHEET

Assets

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>
Cash	\$ 8,754	\$ 19,778
Inventory	516	1,569
Other	619	-
Total Assets	<u>\$ 9,889</u>	<u>\$ 21,347</u>

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$ 1,135	\$ 1,569
------------------	----------	----------

SOA Equity

Retained Earnings	\$ 8,754	\$ 19,778
Liabilities & Retained Earnings	<u>\$ 9,889</u>	<u>\$ 21,347</u>

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

- (1) Revenues consist of dues, contributions, SOAR income and merchandise sales.
- (2) Scholarship

IN	Contribution	\$3,300
	Ticket Sales	6,250
	TOTAL	9,550
OUT	Misc. Deductions	155
	Total in Scholarship Fund	<u>\$9,395</u>
- (3) Initial scholarship and expenses were paid out of 1983-84 Revenues (OP Fund)



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

31 October 1983

LTG Robert C. Kingston, US Army
795 Bayshore Drive
Mac Dill Air Force Base, FL 33608

Dear General Kingston:

On behalf of the Special Operations Association (SOA), you are again cordially invited to be the guest speaker at our seventh annual reunion (SOAR VII), which will be held at Maxim's Hotel/Casino, 160 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109, during the period 09-11 December 1983.

As Commander-in-Chief of the US Central Command (USCENTCOM), responsible for implementing US foreign policy in the Middle East, our members will be most interested in hearing about the organization and mission of your command, as well as your evaluation on the situation in the Middle East. A thirty (30) minute dissertation on this subject, followed by a question and answer period, would be most appreciated.

Other guests who have been invited to attend SOAR VII include COL Martha "Maggie" Raye, Rolande "Frenchy" Amundson, COL (Ret) Charlie Beckwith, and officers of The Center for POW/MIA Accountability, including LTC Jerry Venanzi, USAF, Principal Advisor for POW/MIA Affairs, Office of the Secretary of Defense. Biographic sketches of Martha Ray and Rolande Amundson are attached for your information.

The schedule for SOAR VII is as follows:

- 09 December 1983 - Members and guests arrive Maxim's Hotel/Casino, register at hospitality room, renew old acquaintances. (Hospitality room open 24 hours a day).
- 10 December 1983 - Brunch, business meeting, guest speakers, raffle, door prizes, and socialize in hospitality room.
- 11 December 1983 - Bloody Marys and breakfast. Depart for home stations.

The SOA will arrange accommodations for you at Maxim's and we will fully provide for you while you are with us. I am prepared to answer any questions you may have regarding SOAR VII. Please feel free to call me collect at any of the following numbers:

(703) 620-0953 (H)
(703) 385-4515 (O)

Inclosure #4



You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know.

Request that you inform me as soon as possible if you are able to attend SOAR VII, including your airline schedule, in order that I can meet you at the airport in Las Vegas. Please let us know if you would like a pre-paid ticket or if you would prefer to purchase your ticket and be reimbursed by the SOA. We would also appreciate a biographic sketch so that we can properly introduce you at the reunion.

We look forward to seeing you at SOAR VII on 09 December 1983.

Respectfully,

Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
President
Special Operations Association

GCM/CJS/jec

Incls: a/s

cc: Jim Butler
George Morton
File



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

28 November 1983

LTC Jerry Venanzi, USAF
Principal Advisor for POW/MIA Affairs
Office of The Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon, Washington, DC.

Dear Colonel Venanzi:

On behalf of the Special Operations Association (SOA), as a member of the Center for POW/MIA Accountability briefing team, you are cordially invited to be a guest of the SOA at our seventh annual reunion, SOAR VII. The reunion will be held at Maxim's Hotel/Casino, 160 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109 during the period 09-11 December 1983.

Other guests who have been invited to attend SOAR VII include LTG Robert C. Kingston, Commander in Chief, US Central Command (USCENCOM), COL Charles Beckwith, US Army (Ret), former commander of DELTA FORCE, COL Martha "Maggie" Raye, and LTC Rolande Amundson.

The schedule for SOAR VII is as follows:

- 09 December 1983 - Members and guests arrive Maxim's Hotel/Casino, register at Hospitality Room, renew old acquaintances. (Hospitality Room open 24 hours a day). Presentation by the Center for POW/MIA Accountability from 1930-2130.
- 10 December 1983 - Brunch, business meeting, guest speakers, raffle, door prizes, and socialize in Hospitality Room. Presentation by the Center for POW/MIA Accountability from 1000-1200.
- 11 December 1983 - Bloody Marys and breakfast. Depart for home stations.

The SOA will provide two double rooms as accommodations for the center briefing team, and as a guest of the SOA, no registration fee will be required. If you have any questions regarding SOAR VII, please feel free to call me at the following numbers:

Office: (703) 385-4515
Home: (703) 620-0953

For your information, I am attaching the following documents pertaining to SOAR VII:

- a. Letter to Mr. Richard F. Hébert, President, The Center for POW/MIA Accountability from Mr. C. J. Sincere, Jr., President SOA, dated 31 October 1983 (inclosure 1).

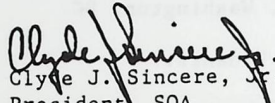


You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know.

- b. Letter to Mr. Clyde J. Sincere, Jr., President SOA, from Mr. R. F. Hébert, President, Center for POW/MIA Accountability, dated 13 October 1983 (inclosure 2).
- c. SOAR VII Meeting Agenda (inclosure 3).
- d. SOAR VII Brochure (inclosure 4).

We look forward to seeing you at SOAR VII on 09 December 1983.

With best regards,


Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
President, SOA

GCM/CJS/jec

Incls: 4 a/s

cc: Jim Butler
Dick Hébert
George Morton
File



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

31 October 1983

Mr. Richard F. Hebert
President
The Center for POW/MIA Accountability
910 16th Street, NW (Suite 303)
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Dick:

On behalf of the Special Operations Association (SOA), you and your briefing team from the Center for POW/MIA Accountability are cordially invited to be guests of the SOA at our seventh annual reunion, SOAR VII. The reunion will be held at Maxim's Hotel/Casino, 160 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109, during the period 09-11 December 1983. In order to insure that all of our members have an opportunity to attend your presentation, we are scheduling you for both the evening of 09 December and the morning of 10 December 1983.

Other guests who have been invited to attend SOAR VII include LTC Robert C. Kingston, Commander in Chief Central Command (USCENTCOM), COL Charles Beckwith, US Army (Ret), former commander of DELTA FORCE, COL Martha "Maggie" Raye, and LTC Rolande Amundson.

The schedule for SOAR VII is as follows:

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- 10 December 1983 - Brunch, business meeting, guest speakers, raffle, door prizes, and socialize in hospitality room. Presentation by the Center for POW/MIA Accountability from 1000-1200.
- 11 December 1983 - Bloody Marys and breakfast. Depart for home stations.

The SOA will provide two (2) double rooms as accommodations for you and your briefing team, and as guests of the SOA, no registration fee will be required. If you have any questions regarding SOAR VII, please feel free to call me at the following numbers:

Office: (703) 385-4515
Home: (703) 620-0953



Since you and your briefing team, with the exception of LTC Venanzi, are members of SOA, we will not have a representative meet you at the airport. However, "Mama Bick's" Shuttle Service will be available, and we will insure that it meets you if you will provide us with your flight schedule.

We look forward to seeing you at SOAR VII on 09 December 1983.

With best regards,

Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
President, SOA

GCM/CJS/bkf

cc: Jim Butler
George Morton
File



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

04 November 1983

Mr. Philip Gonzales
13 Ann, Sonoma Grove
Rohnert Park, CA 94928

Dear Mr. Gonzales:

On behalf of the Special Operations Association (SOA) you are cordially invited to be a guest of the SOA at our seventh annual reunion, SOAR VII. The reunion this year will again be held at Maxim's Hotel/Casino, 160 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109, during the period 9-11 December 1983.

Other guests who have been invited to attend SOAR VII include LTG Robert C. Kingston, Commander in Chief, US Central Command (USCENTCOM), COL Charlie Beckwith, US Army (Ret), former Commander of DELTA FORCE, LTC Rolande Amundson, Mr. Richard Hebert, together with his briefing team from the Center for POW/MIA Accountability, and COL Martha "Maggie" Raye.

The schedule for SOAR VII is as follows:

- 09 December 1983 - Members and guests arrive Maxim's Hotel/Casino, register at Hospitality Room, renew old acquaintances. Hospitality Room open 24 hours a day.
- 10 December 1983 - Brunch, business meeting, guest speakers, raffle, door prizes, and socialize in Hospitality Room.
- 11 December 1983 - Bloody Marys and breakfast. Depart for home stations.

We have reserved the period from 1800-1900 on Friday, 09 December 1983 for you to give your presentation on El Salvador, and I know that this will be of great interest to the members of the SOA.

The SOA will arrange accommodations for you at Maxim's and we will provide for you fully while you are with us. If you have any questions regarding SOAR VII, please call me at the following telephone numbers:

Office: (703) 385-4515
Home: (703) 620-0953



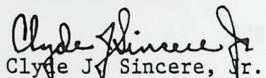
You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know.

I will appreciate it if you will contact LTC Chuck Darnell, USA (Ret) concerning any requirements you may have in connection with your presentation and contact arrangements in Las Vegas. He may be contacted at the following address:

LTC Charles Darnell, USA (Ret)
333 Cobalt Way, Suite 106
Sunnyvale, CA 94086
Tel: (408) 749-0721

We look forward to seeing you at SOAR VII on 09 December 1983.

With best regards,


Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
President
Special Operations Association

GCM/CJS/bkf

cc: Jim Butler
George Morton
Chuck Darnell
File



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

31 October 1983

LTC Rolande Amundson
620 Tucker Avenue
Paso Robles, CA 93446

Dear Frenchy:

On behalf of the Special Operations Association (SOA), you and Sally Brock are again cordially invited to be guests at our seventh annual reunion, SOAR VII, to be held at Maxim's Hotel/Casino, 160 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109, during the period 09-11 December 1983.

Other guests who have been invited to attend SOAR VII include LTG Robert C. Kingston, Commander-in-Chief, US Central Command (CINCUSCENTCOM), COL Martha "Maggie" Raye, COL Charlie Bechwith, former commander of DELTA FORCE, and officers from the Center for POW/MIA Accountability, including LTC Jerry Venanzi, USAF, Principal Advisor for POW/MIA Affairs, Office of the Secretary of Defense.

The schedule for SOAR VII is as follows:

- 09 December 1983 - Members and guests arrive Maxim's Hotel/Casino, register at Hospitality Room, renew old acquaintances. (Hospitality Room open 24 hours a day).
- 10 December 1983 - Brunch, business meeting, guest speakers, raffle, door prizes, and socialize in Hospitality Room.
- 11 December 1983 - Bloody Marys and breakfast. Depart for home stations.

The SOA will arrange accommodations for you and Sally at Maxim's and we will fully provide for you while you are with us. Either Jim Butler or I am prepared to answer any questions you may have regarding SOAR VII. Please feel free to call us at any of the following numbers:

Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
President, SOA
11722 Lariat Lane
Oakton, VA 22124
(703) 620-0953 (H)
(703) 385-4515 (O)

Jim Butler
Secretary, SOA
P.O. Box 221820
Carmel, CA 93922
(408) 625-4247



Please inform us as soon as possible if you are able to attend SOAR VII, including your airline schedule, in order that Jim Butler can meet you at the airport in Las Vegas. Also please inform us whether you desire a pre-paid airline ticket or whether you prefer to make your own travel arrangements and be reimbursed by the association.

We enjoyed having you with us at SOAR VI and we do hope that you and Sally will be able to join us for SOAR VII this year.

We look forward to seeing you at Maxim's on 09 December 1983.

With best regards,

Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
President
Special Operations Association

GCM/CJS/jec

cc: Jim Butler
George Morton
File



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

31 October 1983

COL Martha Raye
1153 Roscomare Road
Los Angeles, CA 90024

Dear Maggie:

On behalf of the Special Operations Association (SOA) you are again cordially invited to be a guest of the SOA at our seventh annual reunion, SOAR VII. The reunion this year will again be held at Maxim's Hotel/Casino, 160 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109, during the period 9-11 December 1983.

Other guests who have been invited to attend SOAR VII include LTG Robert C. Kingston, Commander in Chief, US Central Command (USCENTCOM), COL Charlie Beckwith, US Army (Ret), former Commander of DELTA FORCE, LTC Rolande Amundson, and Mr. Richard Hebert, together with his briefing team from the Center for POW/MIA Accountability.

The schedule for SOAR VII is as follows:

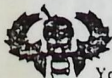
- 09 December 1983 - Members and guests arrive Maxim's Hotel/Casino. register at Hospitality Room, renew old acquaintances. Hospitality Room open 24 hours a day. Maggie reminisces with her troopers.
- 10 December 1983 - Brunch, business meeting, guest speakers, raffle, door prizes, and socialize in Hospitality Room. Maggie sings "The Ballad of the Green Berets."
- 11 December 1983 - Bloody Marys and breakfast. Maggie bids farewell to the troops. Depart for home stations.

The SOA will arrange accommodations for you at Maxim's and we will provide for you fully while you are with us. If you have any questions regarding SOAR VII, please call me at the following telephone numbers:

Office: (703) 385-4515

Home: (703) 620-0953

Please inform me as soon as possible if you are able to attend SOAR VII, including your airline schedule, in order that I can meet you at the airport in Las Vegas. Also please inform us whether you desire a pre-paid airline ticket or whether you prefer to make your own travel arrangements and be reimbursed by the association.



You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know.

We missed you very much last year, and we do hope that you will be able to join us for the SOAR VII this year.

We look forward to seeing you at Maxim's on 09 December 1983.

With best regards,

Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
President
Special Operations Association

GCM/CJS/jec

cc: Jim Butler
George Morton
File



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

20 December 1983

LTG Robert C. Kingston, US Army
795 Bayshore Drive
MacDill Air Force Base, FL 33608

Dear General Kingston:

On behalf of the Special Operations Association, I want to express my deep appreciation to you for taking time out from your busy schedule to be our guest speaker at our seventh annual reunion (SOAR VII) in Las Vegas.

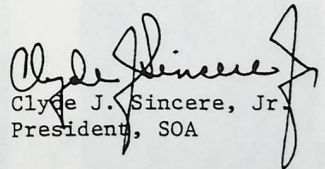
Although operational commitments prevented you from joining us in 1981 and 1982, we consider ourselves fortunate in having you with us this year to provide us with an outstanding discussion of the critical situation in the Middle East, and the role of the United States Central Command (USCENTCOM) in that part of the world as an instrument of US foreign policy.

From a personal standpoint, it was great to be able to see you and talk with you again. We in the Special Operations Association are proud that you are one of us, and we know that with you at the helm in USCENTCOM, our interests in the Middle East are in the best possible hands.

Thank you again for your enlightening discussion on USCENTCOM and the Middle East.

Best wishes to you and Jo for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Respectfully,

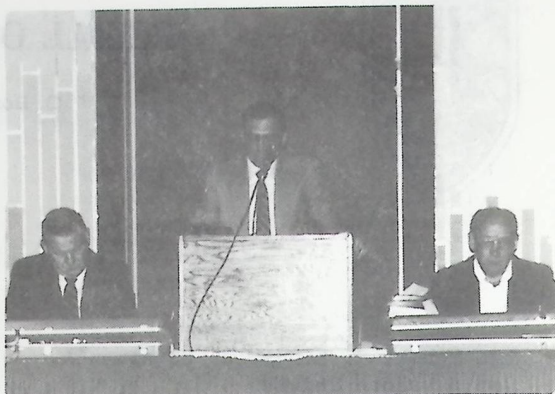

Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
President, SOA



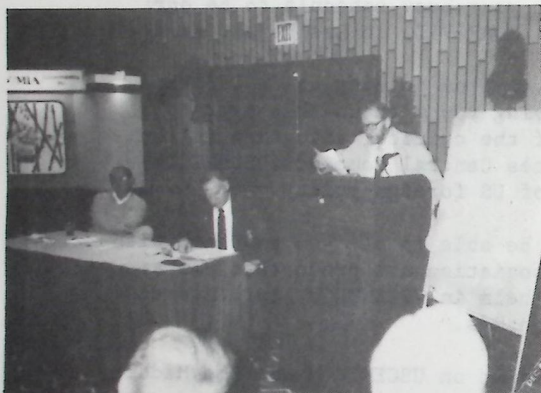
You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know.



Incoming and outgoing Presidents



LT Col. Jerry Venanzi, (former POW)
addressing reunion



Business Meeting, 10 Dec, President-elect
Darnell



Members at General Business Meeting



General Kingston, "Frenchy" and President SOA



President SOA, "Frenchy" and LT Col. (USAF)
Venanzi



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

20 December 1983

LTC Jerry Venanzi, USAF
Principal Advisor for POW/MIA Affairs
Office of the Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301

Dear Colonel Venanzi:

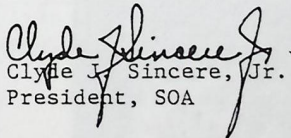
On behalf of the Special Operations Association, I want to express my appreciation to you for the outstanding briefing on the current status of our POW/MIA that you presented at our seventh annual reunion (SOAR VII) in Las Vegas on 10 December 1983.

As you are aware, one of the continuing objectives of the Special Operations Association is to obtain the release of our prisoners of war and/or the fullest accountability for our missing in action in Southeast Asia, resulting from the Vietnam War. It is our belief that this objective can best be accomplished by working through existing US governmental agencies such as the Department of Defense, which you represent.

Please express our deepest appreciation to COL Dick Childress for his support to our Association, and through him, to our Commander-in-Chief, President Ronald Reagan, for the letter that he wrote which was read to the entire assembled membership of the Association at our seventh annual reunion (SOAR VII).

Again, please accept my heartfelt appreciation for your outstanding presentation on the current efforts being made by DOD on behalf of our POW/MIA.

Yours very truly


Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
President, SOA



You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know.



Jim "Mission MIA" Pollack and Chuck "Bruiser" Allen



"Choo-Choo Pinn and Art Fields
(a long evening)



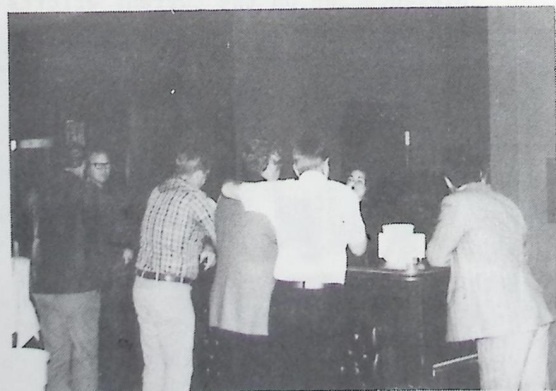
Ms. Conway and Adam Husar - (real serious discussion)



Mary & Tom Sincere digesting POW/MIA material.



What a gathering, heh?



Members "holding up the bar"



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

20 December 1983

Mr. Richard F. Hébert
President
The Center for POW/MIA Accountability
910 16th Street, NW (Suite 303)
Washington, DC 20006

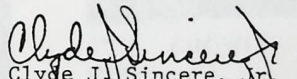
Dear Dick:

On behalf of the Special Operations Association, I want to thank you and the members of your briefing team for the outstanding presentation that you made on the subject of our POW/MIA in Southeast Asia at our seventh annual reunion (SOAR VII) in Las Vegas on 10 December 1983.

Although The Center for POW/MIA Accountability and the Special Operations Association are separate and distinct organizations, we share a common goal in our desire to obtain the release and/or accountability of all personnel who are prisoners of war or missing in action as a result of action in the Vietnam War. We applaud the efforts of the Center for POW/MIA Accountability in behalf of our POW/MIA, and I assure you the full support of the Special Operations Association.

Thank you again for providing us with an illuminating discussion on the current status of our POW/MIA in Southeast Asia.

Very truly yours,


Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
President, SOA



You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know.



Members socializing



Scotty, "Frenchy" and Sully Fontaine



SOA Arsenal



Prestigious group in serious discussion



General Kingston and "Frenchy"



The marriage of "Animal" & Mrs. Natalie



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

20 December 1983

Mr. Philip Gonzales
13 Ann, Sonoma Grove
Rohnert Park, CA 94928

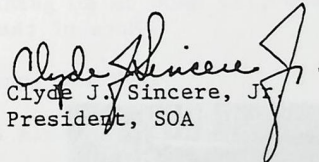
Dear Philip:

On behalf of the Special Operations Association, I want to express my deepest appreciation for the outstanding briefing on the situation in El Salvador which you presented to the Association at our seventh annual reunion (SOAR VII) in Las Vegas on 9-11 December 1983.

Your briefing was most timely and was presented in a most professional manner. It concerned a critical area in Central America which is of great interest to our Association, and an area which is of great concern to our government in attaining our national security objectives. Your briefing provided us with a view which cannot be obtained through the media, and was most valuable in helping us to understand the situation in that beleaguered country.

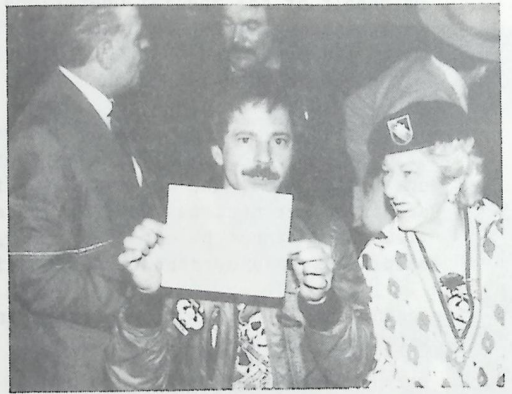
Again, thank you for your outstanding briefing on an area which is of great interest to all of us.

Yours very truly

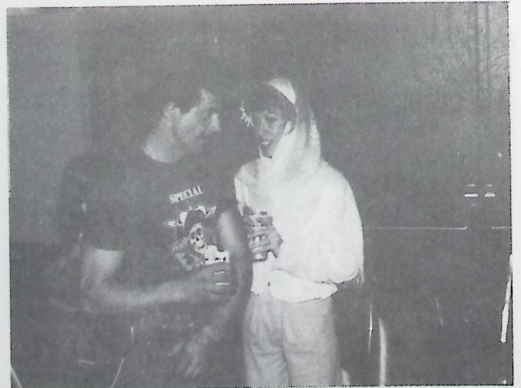

Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
President, SOA



You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know.



More of the same





SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

20 December 1983

COL Martha Raye
1153 Roscomare Road
Los Angeles, CA 90024

Dear Maggie:

On behalf of the Special Operations Association, I want to thank you for accepting our invitation to be with us at our seventh annual reunion (SOAR VII) in Las Vegas, 9-11 December 1983. As always, your presence greatly enhances our annual reunions, and I am confident that you can feel the love and affection which our membership has for you, and the esteem in which you are held by all of us.

I was especially happy that you were able to talk to LTG Robert Kingston, who is an outstanding field commander and a close personal friend of mine. In a letter written after he returned to MacDill Air Force Base, General Kingston specifically mentioned how much he enjoyed talking with you at SOAR VII.

Mary and my son, Captain Tom Sincere, also enjoyed being with you, and I know that Tom will have many stories to tell about you and SOAR VII when he returns to his Air Defense Battalion at Ft Bliss, Texas. And of course Arnold "Animal" Natalie and his bride will never forget the wedding in which you were the charming bridesmaid and G. Gordon Liddy was best man!

Again Maggie, my sincere thanks for joining us at SOAR VII, and for making it a better reunion for everyone.

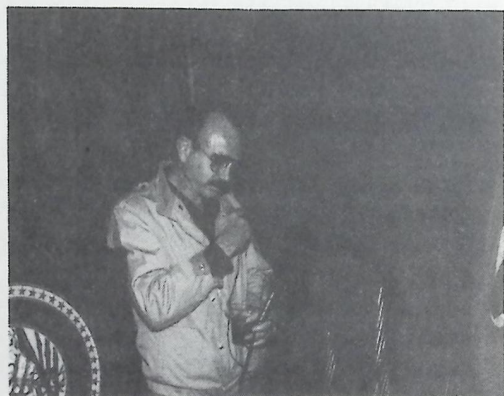
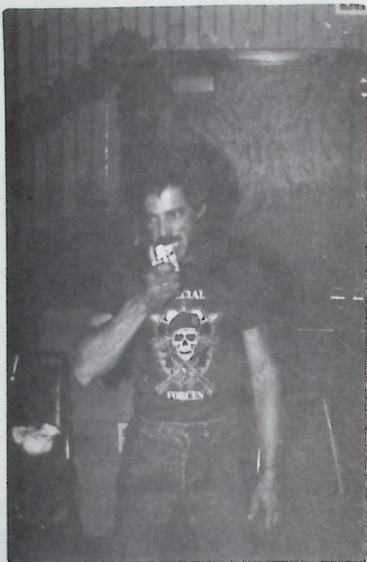
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

With warmest regards always

Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
President, SOA



You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a special flavor the protected will never know.



G. Gordon Liddy - "Plumber"



Bob Masterjoseph
winner of "Weatherby"



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

20 December 1983

Mrs. Rolande Amundson
620 Tucker Avenue
Paso Robles, CA 93446

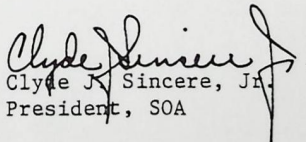
Dear Frenchy:

On behalf of the Special Operations Association, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for accepting our invitation to join us at our seventh annual reunion (SOAR VII) in Las Vegas, 9-11 December 1983. As a former gallant member of the Free French Resistance movement, and as a close associate of the US Army Special Forces, your presence always enhances our annual reunions.

Also, I want to take this occasion to thank you for your generous contribution to the SOA Memorial Scholarship Fund. As you are aware, these scholarships are awarded annually by the Association to perpetuate the memory of our comrades-in-arms who were prisoners of war or missing in action in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War. The recipients of these scholarship awards are primarily the sons or daughters of former Special Operations personnel.

Thank you again for gracing SOAR VII with your presence. On behalf of the Association, I wish you a Joyeux Noel et un Bon Annee!

Yours very truly,


Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
President, SOA



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SPECIAL OPERATIONS SECTION



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FROM: [illegible]

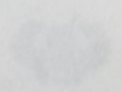
SUBJECT: [illegible]

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COMMANDER IN CHIEF
UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND
MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE FLORIDA 33608

15 December 1983

Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
11722 Lariat Lane
Oakton, VA 22124

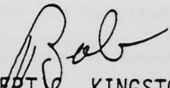
Dear Clyde,

Thank you for inviting me to address the Special Operations Association Reunion VII. It was evident to me that much hard work was done by you and your staff in producing such an excellent program.

It was great seeing old friends and reminiscing of times gone by. I particularly enjoyed talking to you, Mary, Col George Morton, Maggie, Frenchy, and my old friend Sully de Fontaine.

Thanks again for inviting me. I thoroughly enjoyed myself. Best wishes to you and yours for a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Sincerely,


ROBERT C. KINGSTON
Lieutenant General, USA
Commander in Chief

Inclosure #5



MILES FROM HOME

by

Anna Kim-Lan McCauley



When Headquarters, US Army Special Forces (Provisional) was established on Tran Hung Dao Street in Cholon-Saigon in July 1962, it was inevitable that the Special Forces would find the Cholon School for Blind Girls, located nearby, and that they would befriend the twenty-two young blind girls who resided at that institution.

Nguyen Thi Kim-Lan and friend, Le Thi Quang were two of those girls. They had been evacuated from the Dong Bot Orphanage in Hanoi to Saigon, after the defeat of the French by the Viet Minh at Dien Bien Phu, and by 1962 they had completed the six years of education which the government of Ngo Dinh Diem provided to handicapped children. The future for Lan and Quang was not bright unless some way could be found to continue their education, and that was not possible in Saigon at that time.

With the help of Miss Genevieve Caulfield, who had established several schools for the blind in Asia, and Dr. Edward Waterhouse, Director of Perkins Institute for the Blind, Special Forces sent the two girls to America in September 1963, where a new life began for both of them at Perkins Institute for the Blind in Watertown, Mass.

MILES FROM HOME is the touching life story of Nguyen Thi Kim-Lan, and vividly portrays the sadness, confusion, loneliness and emotional experiences of a young blind girl's survival in Vietnam. It contains her earliest recollections of her village of Xuan Lam, near Hanoi, and life with her family in North Vietnam until she became blind and was committed to the Dong Bot Orphanage in Hanoi. It describes her evacuation from Hanoi to Saigon after the defeat of the French at Dien Bien Phu, and her experiences at the Cholon School for Blind Girls, where she met the Special Forces in 1962. It continues with her years at Perkins Institute for the Blind, where she met her future husband, Richard McCauley .. and with her studies at Emmanuel College, from which she graduated in 1974.

It is the other side of the story of what the Special Forces did in Vietnam, and how with their assistance, the life of a little blind Vietnamese girl has turned from one of loneliness and despair into one of joy, hope and fulfillment.

It is a story that every soldier who ever wore the green beret will want to read!

Detach and send with payment

Use this Order Form

Please send me _____ copy (ies) of *Miles from Home* at \$3.95 each, plus \$1.00 for postage and handling.

I understand that I will receive notice of any forthcoming publications authored by Anna Kim-Lan McCauley.

☐ Cash - My check made payable to Anna Kim-Lan McCauley Publications is enclosed

☐ Bill me - Authorized retail outlets only. Please enclose purchase order number.

Name _____

Company _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



ANNA KIM-LAN McCAULEY PUBLICATIONS
42 LAKE STREET
WAKEFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01880

Inclosure #6



THE ORDER FORM

Form No. 100-100-100



THE ORDER FORM is a document which is used to place orders for goods and services. It is a document which is used to place orders for goods and services. It is a document which is used to place orders for goods and services.

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Use this Order Form

1. Fill in the name of the person to whom the order is to be sent.
2. Fill in the address of the person to whom the order is to be sent.
3. Fill in the name of the person to whom the order is to be sent.
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