



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION
ANNOUNCEMENT

FEB 28 1986

AFTER ACTION REPORT (AAR)

☆☆☆☆☆ **SOAR IX** ☆☆☆☆☆



"Les Montagnards"

"" THE YARDS ""



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

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SOAR IX

AFTER ACTION REPORT

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COVER: The photograph on the cover was taken at the large CIDG Training Center near Danang, where over 5,000 Montagnard were trained as strike forces, village defenders, border surveillance teams, mountain scouts and special operational detachments during "OPERATION SWITCHBACK, 1962-1963."

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Tom Ratcliffe

Les Hughes

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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.

WORLD OPERATIONS REPORT

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The following is a summary of the operations of the World Operations Report for the year 1961. The report covers the period from January 1, 1961, to December 31, 1961. The report is divided into four main sections: General Information, Operations, Financials, and Miscellaneous. The General Information section provides a brief overview of the company's operations and financial performance. The Operations section provides a detailed description of the company's operations, including a breakdown of the company's revenue and expenses. The Financials section provides a detailed description of the company's financial performance, including a breakdown of the company's revenue and expenses. The Miscellaneous section provides a brief overview of the company's operations and financial performance.

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SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

The President's Message

As we enter into 1986, we are aware of a dramatic change in feelings and attitudes within our association. Through our adopted philosophy of basic fun and no politics, we have purged our antiquated membership scrolls. We now have an active current membership roster, which is addressed in the Membership Committee's Report. If anyone was scratched, it was only after considerable effort was made to locate them or their new address.

I have received some mail making reference to our inability to run even a dug-hole. That may be so in some people's eyes, but nobody is throwing their name in the hat to change your dug-hole. So once again, soldiers and sailors, some people make the dug-hole operational, even if messy, and there are others who just use the facilities and bitch. Our unpaid staff, whose geographic locations stretch from coast to coast with a mail box in between, however do like reading your mail.

On the lighter side, the Reunion was a great success. There were more attendees and more wives who accompanied the members. Our guest speaker and life-member, G. Gordon Liddy, exuded paragraph after paragraph (without breathing) of his political diversity and how to maintain proper etiquette while serving twenty years.

The Navy Parachute Team (Leap Frogs) honored us with an exciting performance on Saturday morning. Admiration shone in everyone's eyes as those young men, using new types of chutes, performed daring arial formations. I, along with the rest, secretly wished for the chance to do that one more time. I, possibly more so because I helped form that Jump Team and was the first Officer in charge.

There is a comraderie that is ever so present in this organization. Members remembering their friends they made during their tours, may send cards via us, give weapons, prizes, perform skills, and donate time and even money just to see our type of association continue. I would like to acknowledge a few of those guys and gals who are leading in the perpetuation of our Special Operations Association. There is no order of preference of importance attached to this list - it is as a name comes to mind and if your name doesn't appear, you've got one coming from me.

Roy Riddle	weapons, time	Adam Husor	time
Ben Squires	gifts, time	Ben Lyons	time
Clyde Sincere	time, secretarial	Steve Wilson	time

(CON'T)



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.

STUDY OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

1000 10th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004

The Association's Purpose

As we enter the 1980's, we are faced with a dramatic change in the nature and character of our work. The study of human behavior and the application of this knowledge to the solution of human problems is no longer a luxury. It is a necessity. We have known for many years that the study of human behavior is essential to the development of a more humane and more effective society. It is only when we understand the human mind that we can hope to improve the human condition.

I have received many letters asking me to do something to help. I have tried to do so in many ways. I have written books, I have given lectures, I have tried to organize a study of human behavior. But I have not been able to do much. I have not been able to get the study of human behavior taken seriously. I have not been able to get the study of human behavior taken seriously. I have not been able to get the study of human behavior taken seriously.

On the other hand, the study of human behavior is a very important part of our lives. It is a part of our lives that we cannot ignore. It is a part of our lives that we cannot ignore. It is a part of our lives that we cannot ignore. It is a part of our lives that we cannot ignore. It is a part of our lives that we cannot ignore.

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P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

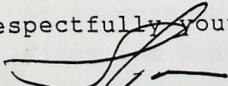
Page 2 -The President's Message

George Morton	time, advise	Ralf Miller	time
Jim Kennedy	computer, time	Eric Wilson	time
Bob Burton	mail, time	Summa Corp.	space
Keith Messenger	money, time	Jim Butler	time
Cliff Newman	time	Jim Bryne	gift
Clayton Scott	time	Ray Narville	Coors beer
Harry (Hat) Munch	cards	Arlene Lyon	many hours
Jake Jacobson	time	John Thomas	time
Maxim Hotel	gifts, space	John Gallagher	flag
Jim Mohoghan	time	Floyd Mulvany	time
Shirley Stoner	time	Earl Johnson	gift
Frenchy Amundson	money	Mike Farrell	gift
Jack Abraham	time	Bob Johnson	plaque
Richie Stoeschoh	gift	Al Mar	gift
Dave Johnson	gift	Tom Roubedeaux	gift
Jim Cipolla	gifts	Jim Hetrick	gift
Robert Parrish	gift	Mark Cockfield	gifts
Jim Anderson	nickle plating	Jim Hawke	time
Gene Bland	time	Kit Auburn	time
G. Gordon Liddy	time	Jim Pollock	much money
Parker Auburn	money, flag	Bob Stafford	money, flag
Ed Clough	time	Leslie Sandberg	money, time
Doug Kenderson	weapon		

Thank you one and all for being the backbone and supporting one of the greatest groups of people in this free nation.

In closing, I want you to consider thoroughly the opportunity being presented to SOA to go back to Bangkok. The quoted price is unbeatable; the planned tour, great. You owe it to yourself and your family to take them. *Special Note* We will hold a special drawing on 15 September 1986 for free tickets (air fare only) to Bangkok. To be eligible you must have committed your money for the air fare and your 50% down on your hotel room. The winners will have their committed money returned prior to departure. Make SOAR X the biggest, best yet. Further information regarding SOAR X is in the Bangkok section.

Respectfully yours,


 Scott R. Lyon, President
 Special Operations Association



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SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

SOAR IX

4-8 December 1985

AFTER ACTION REPORT

Insertion was at 1000 hours on 4 December 1985 by the Reunion Committee: Scott Lyon, Clyde Sincere, John Thomas, Ben Squires and Ron Patterson. Not one person in the Las Vegas area or the Maxim Hotel/Casino saw those push carts loaded with a five foot high wall of booze being in-placed. Within minutes, signs were up throughout the controlled area, the 17th floor was occupied by the President and his staff and, along with the troops, were sampling the bounty. A regimented watch was maintained throughout the night, guarding the bounty and stuffing registration envelopes, while Amy, our pretty bartender maintained order.

With the dawn on 5 December, a new operation area was taken in the same fashion, (a cart with a five foot high wall of booze) only this time headaches and queazy stomachs kept the operation from being completely stealthy. So a frag order was issued and a frontal assault was launched on the chosen site as the new Hospitality Suite. Amy oversaw the whole attack, keeping the machinery well oiled. After securing this new watering hole, reinforcements seemed to arrive like flies. Untold stories of valor permeated the battlefield; daring feats of bravery held the assault troops speechless but Amy, Sharon, Cindy and Brandy Rae came to the rescue with Cuba Libre's, Scotch, Gin and beer.



By 6 December it seemed like the fun would never stop. In fact, the registration committee was late. This made the arriving members jumpy. Why? They saw Amy, Sharon, Cindy, Mary and Brandy Rae and they wanted their Scotch, Gin and beer. Registration finally went smoothly, except that half of the envelopes were stuffed wrong. (We blamed it on Amy).

That evening your Board of Directors met without Amy, Sharon or Cindy but Brandy Rae did bring a few loud mouths. The Board appointed Les Silvernail and Ed Clough to protect the members from each other during the Reunion. Clyde was appointed to run the raffle during the dinner, which he did outstandingly. The Board talked about a Special Operations Association Artifacts Room. This has been a difficult problem to deal with. It was decided to rent an area in Las Vegas to store all of our artifacts to date and we have plenty I am told. These artifacts would be displayed at all SOAR'S. Scott Lyon, with the help of Don Devere, would become the curators. Starting 1 March 1986, send all momentos you wish to be displayed forever, to the Special Operations address attention "Museum Display". Please enclose all information about yourself, what you are donating and the circumstances around the object. If pictures are sent, please have them framed and ready to hang.

Other ideas entertained were the Scholarship Fund, future speakers and the possibility of holding some SOARS on the East Coast. Some input from the membership would be welcomed on this issue.

Here is a blow by blow description of the General Meeting:

07 December 1985-0800 hours-Dominican Room-Maxim Hotel/Casino

1. Meeting called to order by President, Scott Lyon.
 - a. Pledge of Allegiance led by George Morton.
 - b. Invocation delivered by Bob Burton.
 - c. Announcements by President, Scott Lyon.
2. Treasurer's Report by Cliff Newman: The SOA is financially solvent and the SOA Memorial Scholarship Fund is in good order. (Note: A copy of the Treasurer's Report is included in the AAR).
3. Membership Report by Ben Lyons: (Note: A copy of the Membership Report is included in the AAR).
4. SOA Memorial Scholarship Award Report by Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.: Mr. Sincere announced that the 1985 SOA Memorial Scholarships, presented in honor of MAJ Samuel Kamu Toomey, III, HQ MACV-SOG, MIA in Laos since 30 November 1968, was awarded to Lance G. Morton and Patricia Messinger, son and daughter of George C. Morton and Keith Messinger, who are attending The Citadel and Brigham Young University respectively. (Note: Updated application forms for the 1986 SOA Memorial Scholarship Award are included in the AAR).
5. Old Business:
 - a. Life Membership Card: (Note: A full explanation of the reason for the delay in issuing Life Membership Cards is included in the AAR).
 - b. Terry Leverton Headstone: (Note: The heretofore thought missing \$1000 for the Terry Leverton headstone was inadvertently placed in the Scholarship Fund and will be directed to the right cause in 1986.
 - c. The SOA Flag: President Scott Lyon presented the new SOA Flag to the general membership and expressed appreciation to Bob Stafford and Parker Auburn for having the flag produced.
 - d. Nomination Committee: Adam Husar, Chariman of the Nominating Committee, stated that confusion had resulted from the addition of names for various positions subsequent to distribution of the initial ballot. As a consequence, all ballots previously issued will be destroyed and new ballots will be mailed to all members for a new election in February 1986.
 - e. Resolution for POW/MIA Support: A resolution was proposed by George Morton to support the President of the United States in his position to establish as a national priority the full and complete accountability for

our POW/MIA in the Vietnam War, and to recognize the National League of Families of American POW/MIA in Southeast Asia as the primary organization of families dedicated to the return or accountability for U.S. POW/MIA in Indochina. There was some disagreement in the wording and a new draft will be submitted in the AAR for the consideration of the general membership.

- f. SOAR X-Bangkok: The general membership was briefed by Clayton Scott and by Travel Brokerage C.L. Thompson Express International on details of air travel from CONUS to Bangkok for SOAR X in December 1985. A good representation of the membership immediately signed up for the trip at SOAR IX and details will be provided to the general membership in the AAR. SOAR X promises to be a once-in-a-lifetime reunion at minimum cost both for air travel and accommodations in Bangkok.

6. The meeting adjourned at 0945 hours.

At 1030 hours the Navy Parachute Team "Leap Frogs" gave us one of the best aerial shows seen. If those guys are an example of the future Special OP's personnel, we can all sleep good at night. A big HooYah to the UDT/SEAL LEAP FROGS.

Along about 1600 hours with everybody all scraped and clean and fitted into their Sunday Go-to-Meetins', the dinner meeting started and went like this:

07 Dec 1985-1616 hours-SOAR IX Dinner Meeting-Dominican Room

1. Meeting called to order by the President, Scott Lyon.
 - a. Pledge of Allegiance led by Ed Clough.
 - b. Invocation delivered by Bob Burton.
 - c. Welcome to SOAR IX by the President, Scott Lyon.
2. Dinner served buffet style with the navy Parachute Team starting the chow line.
3. Introduction of guests:
 - a. Las Vegas City Manager and wife.
 - b. Undersheriff of Las Vegas, Eric Cooper and wife.
 - c. Rolande "Frenchy" Amundson. At this time, Frenchy donated a check in the amount of \$500 towards the Scholarship Fund and challenged anyone to match the amount.

4. Announcements: By Scott Lyon
 - a. Thank you to Bob Stafford for making the SOA Flag and to Parker Auburn for carrying it at the Veteran's Memorial March in New York City.
 - b. Recognition of The Leap Frogs - The Navy Parachute Team for their contribution and spectacular show earlier in the day.
 - c. Rick Powers of the Navy Parachute Team presented framed lithographs of the Team to G. Gordon Liddy, Scott Lyon and to the SOA.
 - d. Recognition of Bob Burton as a person in print who had a feature article in the September, 1985 Soldier of Fortune Magazine.
5. The Scholarship Committee selected two recipients this year to receive the SOA academic award of \$1000 per year for a four year period to Lance G. Morton, son of George C. Morton and Patricia Messinger, daughter of Keith Messinger. Lance G. Morton received his scholarship award on 15 August 1985 at the Fort Belvoir Officer Club. He is currently attending the Citadel. Patricia Messinger attends Brigham Young University and formally accepted her award at the SOAR dinner meeting. Clyde Sincere presented a POW/MIA bracelet to Patricia and asked that it be worn by her in memory of the POW/MIA's still unaccounted for in Southeast Asia. Patricia graciously accepted her award and thanked the SOA for the honor.
6. Scott Lyon announced to the membership that Jim Pollock was not able to make it to this year's SOAR IX due to his mother taking ill. His books, 'MISSION MIA', 'CENTRIFUGE' and his latest, 'CROSSFIRE' are a must reading for any member of the SOA. We hope that your Mom has recovered, Jim.
7. Scott Lyon introduced the guest speaker for the evening, G. Gordon Liddy, who gave an extremely informative lecture followed by a question and answer period.
8. Scott Lyon presented a plaque to G. Gordon Liddy in appreciation for being our guest speaker at SOAR IX.
9. A special thank you was issued from the membership to the cocktail waitresses: Amy, Sharon, Cindy and Brandy Rae.
10. Scott Lyon announced that the sign-up sheet would be available after the meeting for those who had not as yet signed-up to attend SOAR X in Bangkok, Thailand.
11. Scott Lyon displayed the Beretta pistol, engraved with the SOA insignia, which will be raffled off during the summer of 1986 as a moneymaking project towards the Scholarship Fund.

12. Clyde Sincere officiated over the scholarship raffle, door prizes, regular raffle and the reverse raffle. The donated items and winners are as follows:

SCHOLARSHIP RAFFLE

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DONATED</u>	<u>WINNER</u>
Winchester Model 70-Cal.308 light weight carbine w/case	Roy Riddle	Shirley Stoner
Beretta Pistol	SOA	Larry Kruse
Ingram MIOAIS Semi-Auto Pistol, 45 ACP w/case	Roy Riddle	Ray Whittington
Ingram MIOAIS Semi-Auto Pistol, 45 ACP w/case	Roy Riddle	Mike Duggan
<u>DOOR PRIZES</u>	<u>DONATED</u>	<u>WINNER</u>
Maxim Jacket	Maxim Hotel/Casino	Fred Zabitosky
Randall Knife	Jim Byrne	Charles Steffler
DELTA Team Lithograph	Tom Roubideaux	Brandy Rae
Maxim Golf Putter-24K Gold	Maxim Hotel/Casino	Pat Patterson
Black MCR 11" Knife w/belt	Dave Johnson	Bill Curry
SOA plaque - Large	Jim Cipolla	Keith Messinger
Air Weight Knife	Al Mar	Ed Wainwright
Maxim Jacket	Maxim Hotel/Casino	Shirley Stoner
SOA plaque - Small	Jim Cipolla	Larry Trimmel
Explorer Wilderness II Survival Knife	Dave Johnson	Frenchy Amundson
Maxim Jacket	Maxim Hotel/Casino	Betty Schaible

REGULAR RAFFLE

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DONATED</u>	<u>WINNER</u>
Apollo Scope	Jim Hetrick	Bill Bray
Swedish Bayonet, 1890 Modified as a survival knife w/belt	Dave Johnson	Ben Squires
Sere Knife (designed by Nick Rowe)	Al Mar	Roy Ashworth
Apollo Binoculars, 10 x 22	Richie Stoeschak	Roy Peterson
Armoured Binoculars	Richie Stoeschak	Steve Wilson
9MM Smith & Wesson SNH A-790973 w/case	Benn Squires	Rudy Cooper
RP 8" Survival Knife	Robert Parish	Fred Zabitosky

REVERSE RAFFLE

Ithica Deerslayer Rifle w/SOA Emblem--Perpetual Rifle	Keith Messinger
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13. Scott Lyon acknowledged and thanked those persons who generously donated gifts and weapons for the raffles.
14. Bob Johnson presented a plaque to Scott Lyon for the 2nd Annual SOA Jump from the Charter Members of the Jump Team.
15. Leslie Sandberg led the membership in the singing of 'The Green Beret'.
16. Meeting adjourned at 2005 hours. Hospitality Suite Open..

After dinner people headed to the four corners of Las Vegas for the final night of glamor and glitter.

On 8 December the Hospitality Suite was closed and a parade of members was seen taking signs, sodas and left-over booze down to be stored until 1987. Some members were not leaving until Monday, so they took enough beer and booze to last until the big bird came to collect them. That's it for SOAR IX REUNION. Remember, "They are grizzled, likeable, fantastically experienced, tough old bastards and they don't apologize to anyone for the wars they have fought and the things they have done. They are U.S. Special Forces and Seals who perform Special Operations."

"THE PRES"

SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION
Financial Statement
Period Ending 1/10/86
Mid-Year Statement

Income	1985	1986
Revenue (1)	\$14,017	\$14,844
Interest	1,205	514
SOA Scholarship	7,916	1,616
Total Income	23,138	16,974
Expenses		
SOAR	5,129	6,359
Office Supplies	619	63
Postal	2,454	513
Phone	462	1,131
Travel	2,356	566
Printing/Copying	3,751	60
SOA Scholarship	165	1,159
Secretarial/Clerical	764	706
Refunds	45	60
Miscellaneous	1,757	805
Total Expenses	17,502	11,422
Merchandise purchases	1,258	768
Scholarship Award	1,000	2,000
Net Gain (Loss) for Year to date	3,378	2,784
Plus Previous Year Increase (Decrease)	19,778	23,156
Retained Earnings	23,156	25,940

BALANCE SHEET

	Assets	1985	1986
Cash		\$23,156	\$25,940
Inventory		852	1,075
Total Assets		24,008	27,015
	Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		Ø	Ø
	SOA Equity		
Retained Earnings		\$24,008	\$27,015
Liabilities and Retained Earnings		24,008	27,015

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

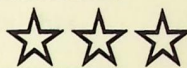
- (1) Revenues consist of dues, contributions, income from SOAR and merchandise sales



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCEMENT



ELECTION RESULTS



1986

SOA Officers and Directors

The Tally Committee has informed the President of the Special Operations Association that as the result of a count of the revised official ballot for election of officers and directors for 1986, the following individuals have been elected to the positions indicated:

SOA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Scott Lyon
1ST VICE PRESIDENT	George Morton
2ND VICE PRESIDENT	Jim Kennedy
SECRETARY	Robert Burton
TREASURER	Cliff Newman

SOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT	Scott Lyon
PAST PRESIDENT	Chuck Darnell
SECRETARY	Robert Burton
TREASURER	Cliff Newman
AT LARGE	Clyde Sincere, Jr.
AT LARGE	Jim Monaghan
AT LARGE	Walt Shumate



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

A shot of sentiment just hit me. So allow me a few lines to explain this.

Back in November of '77 I heard through that proverbial grapevine that there was going to be a "Special Operations" reunion in "Vegas." So I headed out, thinking that this bash would be a one time affair, punctuated with enough tales of "daring do" and whore house "experiments" to last a lifetime or two. But then again I didn't know Jim Butler and Les Chapman that well either. Needles to say, I missed that "thinking" by a country mile.

So Jim and Les, I'd like to take this moment to thank both of you for creating the vehicle that WELCOMES as EQUALS the individuals that routinely and with a presence of professionalism second to none volunteered to take on those extra, long miles. Thanks again Jim and Les.

As of SOAR IX we have 410 paid members. Earlier this year we sent out 205 notices of a pending cancellation of membership to those that were delinquent by a year or more. I don't have the figure on those that decided to renew, but let's hope they all decide to "come home." No back dues owed, to boot!

Renewals for General and Associate members are due between our reunion and March 1st for this membership year.

If you desire a LIFE status, the charge is \$200. You can pay in one lump sum or in consecutive payments (i.e.: \$50 every three months). We don't have a sophisticated finance system so limit your payments to FOUR or less. The Treasurer will really appreciate it.

We still have the "LOCATOR SERVICE." If you want to contact a fellow member and the phone doesn't hack it, you still have a shot via a letter. We stopped publishing in our roster the addresses of our members to prevent "junk mail" from being sent to you and me. This unfortunate incident happened three years ago and once is enough. See the "LOCATOR FORM" enclosed in this AAR for instructions.

If you don't want your name or phone number listed in a future roster, notify the Membership Committee. I don't know when we'll have enough in the treasury to print another roster for general distribution, but as the saying goes: "We aim to please."



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.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

(cont'd)

A new APPLICATION-REQUIREMENTS for MEMBERSHIP & GUIDELINES for the DEFINITION of "Special Operations" units was adopted at last years Board of Directors meeting. We've matured to the point that a detailed application is a must in order that we continue to accept the great v.s. the "best." This committee expects (read: hopeful) that we'll experience an above normal flow of new applicants (35 new members for '85) due to the publicity of our trip to Bangkok in '86. So do yourself and this committee a big favor and carefully go over the new application thats enclosed in this AAR. The punchline here is that I've had to refuse the processing of quite a few applications because they didn't follow directions. So if you recommend a friend, make sure he knows what's happening.

A closing statement: Steven Wilson will be running this committee for '86 and one couldn't find a better man. I've been blessed with the opportunity to have some input as to where this VERY SPECIAL ride is going v.s. just being on it. So with that: God/Buddha/TAC AIR bless; keep your powder dry and your pecker wet (if applicable) and ya'all enjoy a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

Ben Lyons
Chairman,
Membership Committee



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP STATUS (12-31-85)

General/Life	342
Associate/Life	62
Honorary	<u>6</u>
	410

Voting Members

General/Life	342
Associate/Life	<u>55</u> (Prior to 12-84)
	397

We have five missing applications. Would the below members please fill out an application form provided in this AAR. This will set all records straight, and our books will be in order. We apologize for the inconvenience.

- 1) Oliverio Gomez
- 2) Vann Slatten
- 3) Mike Stern
- 4) William Springer
- 5) Fred Wunderlich



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SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION



MEMBERSHIP STATUS

General/Staff 200

Associate/Staff 100

Student 100

Life 100

Other Members

General/Staff 100

Associate/Staff 100

Student 100

Life 100

100 (Total 100-100)

100

100

100

100

100

100

100

100

100

100

100

100

100

100

100

100

100

100

100

We have five standing applications. Should the below requests please fill out an application form provided to this office. This will not be an automatic, and our board will be in order. We apologize for the inconvenience.

- 1) Director General
- 2) Vice Director
- 3) Chief of Staff
- 4) Chief of Security
- 5) Chief of Operations





SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

(Part one of two part application)

GUIDELINES FOR THE DEFINITION OF "SPECIAL OPERATIONS" UNITS

1. The unit/project **must** have or had been composed of military/paramilitary personnel.
2. A unit organized **specifically** to conduct special/or unconventional operations.
3. A unit with a mission of conducting covert and classified combat and/or reconnaissance operations as its **normal** function, deep within hostile territory and forward of the area of influence of conventional ground support units.
4. A unit with the mission of conducting counter-terrorist operations as its **primary** function.
5. Units that on a **ROUTINE** basis provided or provide **DIRECT** combat support (fire-transport-forward air control) to organizations meeting the above criterion and approved by the Special Operations Association. This definition applies only to those that **actually crewed** these land, sea or air craft.
6. Since the interpretation of "Special Operations" and the above guidelines may be relative to each applicant, the final definitions shall rest with this Association.

REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP AND THE THREE TYPES OFFERED

- A. **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP** (see part two for units recognized)
This is a VOTING membership and the dues are \$20.00 (U.S.) assessed annually.

REQUIREMENTS

1. The applicant must have been assigned to one of the units recognized by this Association.
2. The **ROUTINE** (normal) duty of the applicant while at this assignment **MUST** have placed the applicant in **DIRECT THREAT/EXPOSURE** to hostile fires.
3. The applicant must be specific concerning dates of assignment and duties performed while at this assignment. This information will be cross-checked with General Members.
4. The applicant must supply government authored documentation proving assignment to one of these units. A "Request for Records" form will be provided with the application for your use. This Association is **NOT** responsible for obtaining your qualifying document.
5. Part four may be **waived** if part three includes the name of at least one **GENERAL MEMBER** who can **VERIFY** your assignment and regular duty.
6. Foreign applicant should send enough documents so that the Membership Committee can determine if you meet the standards outlined above.
7. If you are from a country where it would be impossible to acquire the necessary records (i.e. Rhodesia - So. Vietnam) submit as much background information on your duty as you deem adequate for the Membership Committee to make an educated decision.

B. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

This is a NON-VOTING membership and the dues are \$20.00 (U.S.) assessed annually.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Government authored documentation assigning you to one of the units recognized by this Association. Remember that if your normal duty at this assignment put you in direct threat/exposure to hostile fires, you are qualified for a General Membership. If not, then you are qualified for an Associate Membership.
2. **OR** - Sponsored by **FOUR** General Members in good standing. You don't have to know all four, but you must have at least one General Member who will get three others to co-sponsor you.
3. **OR** - Send your name, address, branch of service to include units, dates served, rank, occupation, and age, to the Membership Committee. They will, on a first come first served basis, put all the above information except your address, along with others in a separate, limited spaced section of our information packets that are mailed to the membership, at large, bi-annually. If recognized by a General Member, that member can contact the Membership Committee and they will forward to you an application along with the name and address of your sponsor. Keep in mind, requirement #2 still applies. Military service is **not** mandatory.

IMPORTANT: Dues for new members will be pro-rated at \$5.00/quarter and you won't be charged for the quarter(s) you missed. (EXAMPLE: envelope post-marked in February=\$20.00 due; in May=\$15.00 due). There after all annual dues will be paid in full to the Treasurer between our reunion in December and March 1 for the following membership year.

C. HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

This is a NON-VOTING membership and awarded free of charge.

REQUIREMENTS

1. This membership is reserved for the individual who has contributed SIGNIFICANTLY to COVERT and CLASSIFIED Special Operations and whose membership would add prestige to the Special Operations Association.
2. Any member may propose in writing, to the Membership Committee, the name of an individual who they believe meets the above criterion.
3. This proposal will be considered by the Membership Committee and forwarded, with their recommendation to the Board of Directors for final action.

LIFE STATUS

A one time charge of \$200, (U.S.), paid in one full return or within four consecutive quarters (i.e.: \$50.00 every 3 months).

REQUIREMENTS

1. Any General or Associate Member in good standing.
2. Your Life Membership won't be granted until you're "paid in full".



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PART TWO OF TWO

TYPE OR PRINT IN DETAIL

1. NAME _____ DATE _____
 LAST FIRST MIDDLE
2. RESIDENCE _____
 PHONE () _____ LISTED _____
3. BUSINESS _____ PHONE () _____
4. DATE OF BIRTH _____ SOCIAL SECURITY # _____
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. UNITS RECOGNIZED BY THIS ASSOCIATION
No exceptions without approval! If you think your unit is qualified and not listed; send to the Membership Committee all the unclassified background information you can. We encourage the acceptance of new units! Space does not allow us to include units that provide(ed) **direct combat support** as described in part one, number five of this two part application.
PRE-1954 — O.S.S. / 8240th A.U. / Merrill's Marauders / U.S.M.C. Raiders /

1954-present — Combined Studies / MACV Studies and Observation Group / B-52 / WSMITT / Project Oak / 404 / PRU / CT / Mobile Strike Force / B-56 / Mobile Guerrilla / B-50 / CIA (Indo China only - during Vietnam War) / SOCPAC (Vietnam only) / U.S. Navy S.E.A.L. Teams 1 & 2 (Vietnam War only) / Air Commandos (North Vietnam) / U.S.M.C. Force Recon Companies (Vietnam War only) /

8. SEE "MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION" PAGE BEFORE CONTINUING.

9. TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP APPLIED FOR: GENERAL _____ ASSOCIATE _____

0. IF ASSOCIATE: MILITARY SERVICE: NONE _____ PRIOR _____ ACTIVE _____

BRANCH / UNITS / DATES: _____

SPONSORS If applicable -
(Only General Members can
sponsor) See part one for
more information on
Associate Memberships.

1. If **General**: Include your **branch of service**, (if applicable), next to your unit. Foreign applicants include your country and if need be, supply relevant information on separate sheets.

UNIT	DATES OF SERVICE	DUTIES	LOCATION
	FROM:		
	TO:		

REFERENCE (Only a General Member can reference and be sure he / she can **verify** your claim.

NAME

UNIT

2. If you applied for a General Membership but don't qualify because of your routine duty(s), will you accept an Associate Membership? YES _____ NO _____ This applies only to the applicant that was / is a member of a recognized unit.

13. We only put phone numbers (unless unlisted) in our roster. If you **don't** want your name entered, check here. _____

14. Make check or money order payable to the "S.O.A." and mail to:

Attn: Membership Committee
SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOC.
5130 E. CHARLESTON BLVD.
SUITE 5-583 F
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89122

15. REVIEWED BY: _____ DATE _____

16. IF RECLASSIFIED / DISAPPROVED - REASON: _____

REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS

Please read instructions on the reverse. If more space is needed, use plain paper.

DATE OF REQUEST

PRIVACY ACT OF 1974 COMPLIANCE INFORMATION. The following information is provided in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(3) and applies to this form. Authority for collection of the information is 44 U.S.C. 2907, 3101, and 3103, and E.O. 9397 of November 22, 1943. Disclosure of the information is voluntary. The principal purpose of the information is to assist the facility servicing the records in locating and verifying the correctness of the requested records or information to answer your inquiry. Routine uses of the information as established and published in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(4)(D)

include the transfer of relevant information to appropriate Federal, State, local, or foreign agencies for use in civil, criminal, or regulatory investigations or prosecution. In addition, this form will be filed with the appropriate military records and may be transferred along with the record to another agency in accordance with the routine uses established by the agency which maintains the record. If the requested information is not provided, it may not be possible to service your inquiry.

SECTION I—INFORMATION NEEDED TO LOCATE RECORDS (Furnish as much as possible)

1. NAME USED DURING SERVICE (Last, first, and middle)		2. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.		3. DATE OF BIRTH		4. PLACE OF BIRTH	
5. ACTIVE SERVICE, PAST AND PRESENT (For an effective records search, it is important that ALL service be shown below)							
BRANCH OF SERVICE (Also, show last organization, if known)		DATES OF ACTIVE SERVICE		Check one		SERVICE NUMBER DURING THIS PERIOD	
		DATE ENTERED DATE RELEASED		OFF-CEER IN-LISTED			
6. RESERVE SERVICE, PAST OR PRESENT If "none," check here <input type="checkbox"/>							
a. BRANCH OF SERVICE		b. DATES OF MEMBERSHIP		c. Check one		d. SERVICE NUMBER DURING THIS PERIOD	
		FROM TO		OFF-CEER IN-LISTED			
7. NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERSHIP (Check one) <input type="checkbox"/> a. ARMY <input type="checkbox"/> b. AIR FORCE <input type="checkbox"/> c. NONE							
a. STATE		b. ORGANIZATION		f. DATES OF MEMBERSHIP		g. SERVICE NUMBER DURING THIS PERIOD	
				FROM TO		OFF-CEER IN-LISTED	
8. IS SERVICE PERSON DECEASED						9. IS (WAS) INDIVIDUAL A MILITARY RETIREE OR FLEET RESERVIST	
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO If "yes," enter date of death						<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

SECTION II—REQUEST

1. EXPLAIN WHAT INFORMATION OR DOCUMENTS YOU NEED, OR, CHECK ITEM 2; OR, COMPLETE ITEM 3			2. IF YOU ONLY NEED A STATEMENT OF SERVICE check here <input type="checkbox"/>	
3. LOST SEPARATION DOCUMENT REPLACEMENT REQUEST (Complete a or b, and c)	<input type="checkbox"/> a. REPORT OF SEPARATION (DD Form 214 or equivalent)	YEAR ISSUED	This contains information normally needed to determine eligibility for benefits. It may be furnished only to the veteran, the surviving next of kin, or to a representative with veteran's signed release (Item 5 of this form).	
	<input type="checkbox"/> b. DISCHARGE CERTIFICATE	YEAR ISSUED	This shows only the date and character of discharge. It is of little value in determining eligibility for benefits. It may be issued only to veterans discharged honorably or under honorable conditions; or, if deceased, to the surviving spouse.	
	c. EXPLAIN HOW SEPARATION DOCUMENT WAS LOST			
4. EXPLAIN PURPOSE FOR WHICH INFORMATION OR DOCUMENTS ARE NEEDED		a. REQUESTER		
		a. IDENTIFICATION (check appropriate box)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Same person identified in Section I <input type="checkbox"/> Surviving spouse		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Next of kin (relationship) _____		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____		
		b. SIGNATURE (see instructions 3 and 4 on reverse side)		
5. RELEASE AUTHORIZATION, IF REQUIRED (Read instruction 3 on reverse side)		7. Please type or print clearly — COMPLETE RETURN ADDRESS		
I hereby authorize release of the requested information/documents to the person indicated at right (Item 7).		Name, number and street, city, State and ZIP code		
VETERAN SIGN HERE <input type="checkbox"/>		TELEPHONE NO. (Include area code) <input type="checkbox"/>		
(If signed by other than veteran, show relationship to veteran)				

NOTE: Unless you were discharged from an approved unit, your DD-214 won't suffice.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Information needed to locate records. Certain identifying information is necessary to determine the location of an individual's record of military service. Please give careful consideration to and answer each item on this form. If you do not have and cannot obtain the information for an item, show "NA," meaning the information is "not available." Include as much of the requested information as you can. This will help us to give you the best possible service.

2. Charges for service. A nominal fee is charged for certain types of service. In most instances service fees cannot be determined in advance. If your request involves a service fee you will be notified as soon as that determination is made.

3. Restrictions on release of information. Information from records of military personnel is released subject to restrictions imposed by the military departments consistent with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act of 1967 (as amended 1974) and the Privacy Act of 1974. A service person has access to almost any information contained in his own record. The next of kin (see item 4 of instructions) if the veteran is deceased and Federal officers for official purposes are authorized to receive information from a military service or medical record only as specified in the above cited Acts. Other requesters must have the release authorization, in item 5 of the form, signed by the

veteran or, if deceased, by the next of kin. Employers and others needing proof of military service are expected to accept the information shown on documents issued by the Armed Forces of the United States a service person is separated.

4. Precedence of next of kin. The order of precedence of the next of kin is unmarried widow or widower, eldest son or daughter, father or mother, eldest brother or sister.

5. Location of military personnel records. The various categories of military personnel records are described in the chart below. For each category there is a code number which indicates the address at the bottom of the page to which this request should be sent. For each military service there is a note explaining approximately how long the records are held by the military service before they are transferred to the National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis. Please read these notes carefully and make sure you send your inquiry to the right address. (If the person has two or more periods of service within the same branch, send your request to the office having the record for the last period of service.)

6. Definitions for abbreviations used below:

NPRC—National Personnel Records Center PERS—Personnel Records
TDRL—Temporary Disability Retirement List. MED—Medical Records

SERVICE	NOTE	CATEGORY OF RECORDS	WHERE TO WRITE ADDRESS CODE	
AIR FORCE (USAF)	Air Force records are transferred to NPRC from Code 1, 90 days after separation and from Code 2, 30 days after separation.	Active members (includes National Guard on active duty in the Air Force), TDRL, and general officers retired with pay.		1
		Reserve, retired reservist in nonpay status, current National Guard officers not on active duty in Air Force, and National Guard released from active duty in Air Force.		2
		Current National Guard enlisted not on active duty in Air Force.		13
		Discharged, deceased, and retired with pay (except general officers retired with pay).		14
COAST GUARD (USCG)	Coast Guard officer and enlisted records are transferred to NPRC 3-6 months after separation.	Active, reserve, and TDRL members.		3
		Discharged, deceased, and retired members (see next item).		14
		Officers separated before 1/1/29 and enlisted personnel separated before 1/1/15.		6
MARINE CORPS (USMC)	Marine Corps records are transferred to NPRC 4 months after separation.	Active and TDRL members, reserve officers, and Class II enlisted reserve.		4
		Class III reservists and Fleet Marine Corps Reserve members.		5
		Discharged, deceased, and retired members (see next item).		14
		Officers and enlisted personnel separated before 1/1/1896.		6
ARMY (USA)	Army records are transferred to NPRC as soon as processed (about 30 days after separation).	Reserve, living retired members, retired general officers, and active duty records of current National Guard members who performed service in the U.S. Army before 7/1/72.*		7
		Active officers (including National Guard on active duty in the U.S. Army).		8
		Active enlisted (including National Guard on active duty in the U.S. Army) and enlisted TDRL.		9
		Current National Guard officers not on active duty in the U.S. Army.		12
		Current National Guard enlisted not on active duty in the U.S. Army.		13
		Discharged and deceased members (see next item).		14
		Officers separated before 7/1/17 and enlisted separated before 11/1/12.		6
		Officers and warrant officers TDRL.		8
NAVY (USN)	Navy records are transferred to NPRC 6 months after retirement or complete separation.	Active members (including reservists on active duty)—PERS and MED		10
		Discharged, deceased, retired (with and without pay) less than six months, TDRL, drilling and nondrilling reservists	PERS only MED only	10 11
		Discharged, deceased, retired (with and without pay) more than six months (see next item)—PERS & MED		14
		Officers separated before 1/1/03 and enlisted separated before 1/1/1886—PERS and MED		6

* Code 12 applies to active duty records of current National Guard officers who performed service in the U.S. Army after 6/30/72.

Code 13 applies to active duty records of current National Guard enlisted members who performed service in the U.S. Army after 6/30/72.

ADDRESS LIST OF CUSTODIANS (BY CODE NUMBERS SHOWN ABOVE)—Where to write / send this form for each category of records

1	USAF Military Personnel Center Military Personnel Records Division Randolph AFB, TX 78148	5	Marine Corps Reserve Forces Administration Center 1500 E. Bannister Road Kansas City, MO 64131	8	USA MILPERCEN Army DAPC-PSR-R 200 Stovall Street Alexandria, VA 22332	12	Army National Guard Personnel Center Columbia Pike Office Building 5600 Columbia Pike Boulevard Falls Church, VA 22041
2	Air Reserve Personnel Center 7300 East 1st Avenue Denver, CO 80280	6	Military Archives Division National Archives & Records Service General Services Administration Washington, DC 20408	9	Commander U.S. Army Enlisted Records and Evaluation Center Ft. Benjamin Harrison, IN 46249	13	The Adjutant General (of the appropriate State, DC, or Puerto Rico)
3	Commandant U.S. Coast Guard Washington, DC 20590		Commander U.S. Army Reserve Components Personnel & Administration Center 9700 Page Boulevard St. Louis, MO 63132	10	Chief of Naval Personnel Department of the Navy Washington, DC 20370		National Personnel Records Center (Military Personnel Records) 9700 Page Boulevard St. Louis, MO 63132
4	Commandant of the Marine Corps Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps Washington, DC 20380	7		11	Naval Reserve Personnel Center New Orleans, LA 70146	14	

IMPORTANT!! If you were in the USAF or USA prior to 1960, your records were probably destroyed in a fire. The NPRC can rebuild, in most cases and with enough background information these records. Contact NPRC for the specifics.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

LOCATOR SERVICE

LOCATOR SERVICE

LOCATOR SERVICE



If you can't contact a fellow MEMBER over the 'phone, this form may well be the answer. And I want to emphasize that this service is for MEMBERS ONLY. Since we don't publish addresses of our membership: Mainly to insulate all of us from those opportunistic few that will use a complete roster for their own gains (ie: Sending members junk mail pushing their company/cause). And on a less ominous but just as serious side: Some members have unlisted numbers. Below you will find instructions for using this service.

1. PLEASE TYPE or PRINT.
2. Enclose a STAMPED envelope with your RETURN ADDRESS in the upper, left corner. We will address your envelope.
3. Do yourself/us a favor and make copies of this form. We don't have the resources to provide extras.
4. We also don't have the capability to trace your party. If a member moves and doesn't provide us a forwarding address, which has happened in the past; we are both in the same boat.
5. Send your inquiry to:

ATTN: MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE (LOCATOR)

SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION
5130 East Charleston Blvd.
Suite 5-583F
Las Vegas, Nevada 89122

Send this section to the Membership Committee.

1. The FULL name and phone (if unlisted, state so) of the member you wish to contact: _____
2. PLEASE CONTACT: your name: _____
address: _____
phone: () _____
3. Use the rest of this section for a short message, etc.



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.

STATE OF TEXAS

1911



Be it remembered that on this day, the _____ day of _____, 1911, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, personally appeared _____, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this _____ day of _____, 1911.

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas.

1. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	2. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	3. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	4. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	5. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	6. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.
7. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	8. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	9. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	10. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	11. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	12. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.
13. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	14. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	15. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	16. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	17. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	18. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.
19. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	20. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	21. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	22. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	23. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.	24. The undersigned, _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original instrument filed for record in my office on this _____ day of _____, 1911.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The purpose of this scholarship is to perpetuate the memory of those personnel who served in a Special Operations Unit during the Vietnam War, and who were Prisoners of War or Missing in Action (POW/MIA) and are still unaccounted for in Southeast Asia.

Toward this end, the Special Operations Association annually awards a scholarship grant to those applicants who most nearly meets the established criteria for the furtherance of their formal education in an accredited institution of higher learning.

As such, the Special Operations Association will maintain a permanent fund within its treasury with ample monetary reserves to honor each and every scholarship obligation as approved by its members.

The scholarship grant awarded by the Special Operations Association for 1986 shall consist of two (2) awards of \$4,000 each, payable to each student at the rate of \$1,000 per annum, provided that the awardee maintains satisfactory passing grades acceptable to the institution attended by the awardee.

SCHOLARSHIP GRANT CRITERIA

1. A high school graduate or a high school student anticipating graduation during the year of application, unmarried and under the age of 21 years at the time of application.

Applicants over the age of 21 years who have attended an accredited institution of higher learning may credit each year of successful attendance towards reducing their age year for year to meet the age limitation. Only a maximum of four (4) years will be allowed as credit to satisfy this age requirement.

2. Applicants must be able to prove academic ability, interest in scholarship and leadership in relation to school and community affairs.

At least three (3) letters of recommendation must accompany the application, two (2) of which must be from faculty members of the school that the applicant is presently enrolled in or in the case of graduates, of the school last attended.



ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN COLLEGE WOMEN

SPECIAL OPERATIONS SECTION - MEMBERSHIP

The purpose of this scholarship is to encourage the study of those persons who are in a financial position to study the history and the culture of the United States and who are also interested in the study of the history of the United States.

Each year the Special Operations Section awards a number of scholarships to those applicants who have shown the greatest interest in the study of the history of the United States and who are also interested in the study of the history of the United States.

Each year the Special Operations Section awards a number of scholarships to those applicants who have shown the greatest interest in the study of the history of the United States and who are also interested in the study of the history of the United States.

The scholarship grant awarded by the Special Operations Section for 1955 will consist of two (2) awards of \$1,000 each, payable in two equal installments of \$500 per annum, provided that the student is a member of the Association of American College Women and is also a member of the Special Operations Section.

MEMBERSHIP GRANT CRITERIA

1. A high school graduate or a high school student who is at least 17 years of age at the time of application and who is also a member of the Association of American College Women and is also a member of the Special Operations Section.
2. Applicants must be able to give evidence of financial need and of interest in the study of the history of the United States and of the history of the United States.
3. Applicants must be able to give evidence of financial need and of interest in the study of the history of the United States and of the history of the United States.
4. Applicants must be able to give evidence of financial need and of interest in the study of the history of the United States and of the history of the United States.
5. Applicants must be able to give evidence of financial need and of interest in the study of the history of the United States and of the history of the United States.
6. Applicants must be able to give evidence of financial need and of interest in the study of the history of the United States and of the history of the United States.
7. Applicants must be able to give evidence of financial need and of interest in the study of the history of the United States and of the history of the United States.
8. Applicants must be able to give evidence of financial need and of interest in the study of the history of the United States and of the history of the United States.
9. Applicants must be able to give evidence of financial need and of interest in the study of the history of the United States and of the history of the United States.
10. Applicants must be able to give evidence of financial need and of interest in the study of the history of the United States and of the history of the United States.

3. Applicants must be willing to appear before the Awards and Scholarship Committee of the Special Operations Association at the time, place and date of the Committee's choosing should it be deemed necessary by the Committee.
4. By submitting a formal application for this scholarship, the applicant or in the case of minors, the applicant's parents or legal guardian agrees with the following conditions:
 - a. All documents submitted as part of the scholarship application or directly concerning any part of the scholarship offered are the sole property of the Special Operations Association.
 - b. The use of all awardee's names, pictures and other personal information for the purpose of promotion, advertising, and news releases is granted to the Special Operations Association without any promise of favor or remuneration.

In this regard, all such names, pictures and personal information shall be used only for the betterment of this scholarship grant or for the recognition of the awardee. All releases shall be in good taste without maliciousness that will mar the Special Operations Memorial Scholarship Grant or any of the awardees.

- c. The choice of the recipient or recipients for this grant rests with the Special Operations Association. This choice shall be final and binding and all efforts to contest this choice shall be mute.
5. In the event that two (2) or more applicants most nearly meet the established criteria, preference will be given according to the listed order:
 - a. A son or daughter, natural or adopted, of an individual who served in a Special Operations Unit during the Vietnam War, or who is currently a member of the Special Operations Association in good standing, and who meets the scholarship grant criteria indicated above. Priority will be given to the sons and daughters of those individuals who were POW/MIA and are still unaccounted for in Southeast Asia.
 - b. All other applicants.

SCHOLARSHIP GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Annually, the Awards and Scholarship Committee with the approval of the Association membership will insure the adequate announcement of the availability for this scholarship grant through the various educational institutions, news media and other mass communications systems as needed.

This announcement shall not be made earlier than 15 January or later than 15 April of the year that the award is intended to be granted. All announcements shall be documented and included in the Awards and Scholarship file which will be maintained by the Association's Secretary upon the completion of the project.

The Association may be willing to sponsor before the Senate and House of Representatives of the Special Operations Association at the time, place and date of the Association's choosing should it be deemed necessary by the Association.

By submitting a form/ application for this membership, the applicant agrees to be bound by the Association's bylaws or legal binding agreement with the following conditions:

1. All documents submitted as part of the membership application are the property of the Special Operations Association.

2. The use of all member's names, pictures and other personal information for the purpose of promotion, advertising, and other related activities is granted to the Special Operations Association without any promise of favor or compensation.

In this regard, all such names, pictures and personal information shall be used only for the best interest of this Association and shall not be used for the recognition of the member. All releases shall be in good faith without malice and shall not be used for the promotion of the member's interests.

3. The choice of the recipient or recipient for this grant shall be the Special Operations Association. This choice shall be final and binding and all efforts to contest this choice shall be null.

4. In the event that two (2) or more applicants were equally qualified, the Association will be given authority to choose among them.

5. A son or daughter, natural or adopted, of an individual who served in the Special Operations Association during the Vietnam War or who is a member of the Special Operations Association in good standing, and who meets the requirements of the Association's membership criteria will be given priority in the award and distribution of these benefits and will be given priority in the award and distribution of these benefits.

6. All other applicants.

SCHOLARSHIP GRANT AWARD

Annually, the Senate and House of Representatives of the Association will award the highest number of the Association's scholarship grants through the various educational institutions and other ways of compensation as needed.

This scholarship grant shall not be made earlier than 12 months after the date of the grant is awarded to the recipient. The recipient shall be determined and included in the system and information shall be maintained by the Association's Secretary and the recipient of the grant.

SCHOLARSHIP GRANT APPLICATIONS

The deadline for all informal inquiries and application information is 15 May of the year that the grant is intended to be awarded. All informal inquiries and application information requests shall be answered within ten (10) days of the postmark on such requests. Requests for application forms and for information pertaining to the SOA scholarship should be addressed to:

Special Operations Association Memorial Scholarship
5130 E. Charleston Boulevard
Suite 5-583F
Las Vegas, Nevada 89122

The deadline for the submission of all formal applications is 15 June of the year that the grant is intended to be awarded. Within seven (7) days after this deadline, the Awards and Scholarship Committee will consolidate all applications in recommended order and present them to the SOA Board of Officers for approval.

SCHOLARSHIP GRANT RECIPIENT NOTIFICATION

Within seven (7) days after the selection of the scholarship recipient, appropriate notification shall be made by mail. Acceptance of this award by the recipient must be acknowledged in writing and return mail within seven (7) days after notification of selection.

Notification of all other applicants who were not selected shall be made within ten (10) days after the recipient is selected informing them of their non-selection and thanking them for their participation.

Should the recipient decline the award for whatever reason, then the first alternate shall be notified as being selected for the award without delay.

SCHOLARSHIP GRANT PRESENTATION

The awarding of this scholarship grant must be performed in such a manner that honor and dignity for the award prevails. The award shall take place as soon as possible after acceptance by the recipient.

If possible, the presentation should be made at a formal occasion such as a class graduation or school assembly to insure proper recognition for the recipient. If this is not possible, then a ceremony shall be arranged by the Awards and Scholarship Committee to fit the occasion.

SCHOLARSHIP GRANT ADMINISTRATION

An account known as the Special Operations Association Memorial Scholarship Fund shall be maintained in a federally insured financial institution and will not be co-mingled with the funds of the general treasury of the Special Operations Association.

SCHOLARSHIP GRANT APPLICATION

The deadline for all federal, state, and institutional applications is 12:00 noon on the day of the grant. All applications must be received by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Room 100, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

Special Application Instructions for Agricultural Economics
1. Fill in the following information:
a. Name of applicant
b. Address of applicant
c. Date of application

The deadline for the submission of all federal applications is 12:00 noon on the day of the grant. All applications must be received by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Room 100, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

SCHOLARSHIP GRANT APPLICATION

Students must fill out the application of the scholarship recipient. The recipient must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. The recipient must be a student at the time of application. The recipient must be a student at the time of application.

Notification of all other applicants who were not selected shall be made within 10 days after the recipient is selected. The recipient must be a student at the time of application.

Should the recipient decide the award for whatever reason, then the later date shall be notified as being selected for the award within 10 days.

SCHOLARSHIP GRANT APPLICATION

The recipient of the scholarship grant must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. The recipient must be a student at the time of application. The recipient must be a student at the time of application.

If possible, the presentation should be made to a local institution such as a college or university. The presentation should be made to a local institution such as a college or university. The presentation should be made to a local institution such as a college or university.

SCHOLARSHIP GRANT APPLICATION

An applicant must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. The applicant must be a student at the time of application. The applicant must be a student at the time of application. The applicant must be a student at the time of application.

SUBJECT: SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
PAGE 4

This scholarship fund will accumulate monies earned, donated, bequeathed or raised for that specific purpose. The Treasurer of the Special Operations Association shall be the trustee of this fund according to the By Laws as set forth by the Board of Directors, Officers and General Membership of the Special Operations Association.

APPLICATION: SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

(Type or print all information)

Name of Applicant: _____

Residence Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Social Security Number: _____

Birthday: _____ Sex: _____ Marital Status: _____

Country of Citizenship: _____

High School(s) Attended/Year(s): _____

Date of High School Graduation: _____

College/University Attended if Any: _____

Total College/University Semester Hours Earned: _____

(Note: Twenty-four semester hours equals 1 year of college/university attendance.

Proof by college/university transcript required)

College/University Where Enrollment is Contemplated: _____

Name and Address of Parents or Guardian: _____

Other than this scholarship, how do you plan to finance your education? _____

Please use the space below to describe your interest in higher education and this scholarship grant. In addition, list what you consider to be your significant participation and accomplishments to date (include school, home, family, community and/or organization related activities). _____

(If this space is not adequate, attach supplemental page(s),

Are you a son or daughter, natural or adopted, of a past or present member of a Special Operations Unit who served in Vietnam? Yes _____ No _____

If yes is indicated, complete the following information:

Name of Special Operations Unit: _____

Rank: _____ Social Security Number: _____

Special Operations Unit Last Assigned: _____

Dates of Special Operations Assignment: _____

Present Address: _____

(Type or print all information)

Name of respondent

Business address

Home address

Telephone number

Business telephone number

Home telephone number

City

County or District

State (Abbreviate)

Name of high school

College/university attended in 1961

Name of respondent's present place of business

Name of respondent's present place of business (if different from above)

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SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 221820, Carmel, California 93922

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

We hope every voting member took advantage to select the member of their choice to lead the Special Operations Association in 1986. This same method will be used in the early fall to select the officers and Board of Directors for 1987.

Those seeking office or wish to be on the Board of Directors or head a committee should submit via letter of intent. Attached to that letter should be a brief statement on how you can qualify, i.e. do you have or have access to a typewriter, xerox, computer, etc.

These letters must be at the below address by July 25, 1986:

Nominating Committee Chairman
P.O. Box 185
MT Eden, CA 94557

For planning purposes, the airline schedule in Enclosure I refers to current round trip air fares. However, United Airlines' 1986 revision of the American Pacific flight routes is expected to create an Air-Water Bridge by which will raise those fares even more.

While U.S. departure locations shown are "general" cities, SIA refers United departure from west coast CDMX airports to those airports generally meeting. Fares are based on locations being subject to change as part of the international drive.

It is important to note that because of the uncertainty over fares that SIA is requesting significant confirmation from the scheduled schedule all requests not be possible.

By March 30, April 1, 86 a final schedule and price list will be mailed to the membership with instructions on route selection. This schedule will show the CDMX or either money order or major credit card number must be submitted by September 1986; tickets will be returned by 1 October by certified mail.

To assist SIA to make group reservations, a local selection list with prices will be included in the March/April mailing. All-time travel packages will not be required but will be an individual responsibility to complete.

Information on tours, shopping, restaurants, etc. is contained in Enclosure II; additional information will be provided in the next mailing.

Enclosure I & II



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

SOAR X

By unanimous vote of the Board of Governors and directive by the Association President, SOAR X will be held in Bangkok, Thailand from 8 to 13 December 1986.

SOAR X will be headquartered in a first class hotel in the central part of Bangkok. Attendees will have their choice of several hotels in the vicinity of the convention headquarters. Through special arrangements, depending on the hotel, prices will range from approximately \$12 per day for a single room to \$50 per day for a double room.

The convention agenda will include: a membership dinner with a Thai military VIP guest speaker, a cocktail party with some of our former Thai friends and counterparts, a general membership meeting, and maximum time for touring and shopping.

For planning purposes, the airline schedule at inclosure 1 reflects current round trip air fares. However, United Airline's 1986 assumption of Pan American's Pacific flight routes is expected to create an Asia-wide price war which will reduce these fares even more.

While U.S. departure locations shown are "gateway" cities, SOA fares include departure from most major CONUS airports to these gateways; generally speaking, fares are based on locations being either east or west of the Mississippi River.

It is important to note that because of the extremely low fares the SOA is receiving, significant variations from the attached schedule will probably not be possible.

In March or April 1986 a final schedule and price list will be mailed to the membership with instructions on route selection. This schedule with FULL PAYMENT by either money order or major credit card number must be submitted BY 1 September 1986; tickets will be returned by 1 October by certified mail.

To enable SOA to make group reservations, a hotel selection list with prices will be included in the March/April mailing. Advance hotel payments will not be required but will be an individual responsibility in Bangkok.

Information on tours, shopping, passports/visas, etc. is contained in inclosure 2; additional information will be provided in the next mailing.

Inclosures 2 a/s



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



Page 1

The mission of the Special Operations Association is to provide a forum for the exchange of information and ideas among its members. The Association was founded in 1964 and has since then grown to become one of the largest and most active organizations in the field of special operations.

The Association's primary concern is the advancement of the art and science of special operations. This is achieved through the publication of a journal, the holding of conferences and seminars, and the provision of a wide range of services to its members. The Association also maintains a library of books and documents on special operations, and it is active in the field of research and development.

The Association's journal, "Special Operations", is published quarterly and contains articles on a wide range of subjects related to special operations. The journal is widely read and is considered one of the most authoritative sources of information on the subject. The Association also holds conferences and seminars on a regular basis, and these provide an excellent opportunity for members to exchange ideas and information.

The Association's services to its members are extensive and include the provision of a wide range of information and advice on special operations. This includes the provision of information on the latest developments in the field, and the provision of advice on the planning and execution of special operations. The Association also provides a range of other services, including the provision of a library of books and documents, and the provision of a range of other services to its members.

The Association's journal, "Special Operations", is published quarterly and contains articles on a wide range of subjects related to special operations. The journal is widely read and is considered one of the most authoritative sources of information on the subject. The Association also holds conferences and seminars on a regular basis, and these provide an excellent opportunity for members to exchange ideas and information.

It is important to note that the Association is not a political organization and it does not take any political stance. Its sole purpose is to provide a forum for the exchange of information and ideas among its members, and to advance the art and science of special operations.

In 1964, the Association was founded by a group of men who were all active in the field of special operations. Since then, the Association has grown to become one of the largest and most active organizations in the field of special operations. It has a wide range of services to its members, and it is active in the field of research and development.

The Association's journal, "Special Operations", is published quarterly and contains articles on a wide range of subjects related to special operations. The journal is widely read and is considered one of the most authoritative sources of information on the subject. The Association also holds conferences and seminars on a regular basis, and these provide an excellent opportunity for members to exchange ideas and information.

Additional information will be provided in the next issue of the journal. The Association is committed to providing its members with the best possible service, and it is active in the field of research and development.

Enclosure 1 of 1



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

TOURS. Tours offered will be to local sites of interest (i.e., the Floating Market, Thai classical dancing, Thai boxing, Buddhist Temples and river cruises) up-country (to Chaing Mai, Lopburi or Kanchanaburi); and ocean resorts (Pattaya, Hua Hin or Phuket). The prices for the tours will range from \$8 per person (local tours) to \$200 per person (Phuket, round trip air fare only).

SHOPPING. A list, recommending merchants who are honest, can provide quality merchandise and agree to special SOA discounts will be provided to attendees upon arrival in Bangkok. This list will include tailors, jewelers, shoe makers, bronze and furniture dealers and other groups as may be requested by the attendees. Also provided will be a list of restaurants offering various cuisine and prices.

PASSPORTS/VISAS. Passports will be an individual responsibility. Fifteen day visas for Thailand can be obtained upon entry into Thailand, while visas for longer stays must be obtained from the Thai Embassy in Washington, D.C. prior to travel. Visa requirements of other countries visited enroute vary and will also be the responsibility of the individual. Check with your local travel agent and PLAN AHEAD!

CLOTHES. You should travel light and remember that dry cleaning facilities in Thailand are limited. Wash and wear clothing is recommended.

U.S. FACILITIES. APO/commissary facilities are not available to us. Mailed packages will have to go through Thai postal channels (air or surface) and can require up to ten weeks for delivery. You may wish to take an empty suitcase with you.

ELIGIBILITY. The Special Operations Association will make this trip available to: 1) all of its members and their families, 2) paid up members of the Special Forces, National Associations, and all chapters, 3) paid up members of the Fraternal order of the UDT/SEALS. *NOTE* Membership applications are available by writing to Special Operations Association, 5130 E. Charleston Blvd., Suite 5-583F, Las Vegas, Nevada 89122 - Fee \$20 annually.

All inquiries from outside the Special Operations Association itself will be conducted through each organization's individual national representatives. DO NOT CONTACT THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION ITSELF FOR BANGKOK INFORMATION; only membership applications. A reminder, airline tickets and 50% down on your hotel room must be in by 1 September 1986. Further information will be released to all associations no later than 1 June 1986.



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



1. The Association will be an open association of persons (U.S. citizens) who are interested in Special Operations. The Association will be organized as a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of California. The Association will be organized as a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of California. The Association will be organized as a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of California.

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AIRLINE/ GATEWAY	STOPS	ROUND TRIP	ROUND TRIP	REMARKS
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China Airlines
(One free stop in addition to final destination; \$50 per additional stop)

SFO	TPE	HKG	BKK	HKG	TPE	SFO	\$ 893	\$ N/A	
LAX	TPE	HKG	BKK	HKG	TPE	SFO	\$ 893	\$ N/A	
NYC	TPE	HKG	BKK	HKG	TPE	SFO	\$ N/A	\$ 1008	

Singapore
(In addition to destination, HNL stop free; \$50 per additional stop)

SFO	HNL	HKG	SIN	BKK	SIN	HKG	HNL	LAX	\$ 823	\$ 1103	
LAX	HNL	TPE	SIN	BKK	SIN	TPE	HNL	LAX	\$ 823	\$ 1103	Wed., Fri., Sun. only
LAX	TYO	SIN	BKK	SIN	TYO	LAX			\$ 823	\$ 1103	Daily except Wed. & Sun.

Korean
(One free stop in addition to final destination; \$50 per additional stop)

LAX	SEL	HKG	BKK	HKG	SEL	LAX	\$ 811	\$ 874	
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Japan Airlines
(Two free stops total in addition to destination)

SEA	TYO	TPE	HKG	BKK	HKG	TPE	TYO	SEA	\$ 801	\$ N/A	
SFO	TYO	TPE	HKG	BKK	HKG	TPE	TYO	SFO	\$ 801	\$ N/A	
LAX	TYO	TPE	HKG	BKK	HKG	TPE	TYO	LAX	\$ 801	\$ N/A	
NYC	TYO	TPE	HKG	BKK	HKG	TPE	TYO	NYC	\$ N/A	\$ 1063	
ORD	TYO	TPE	HKG	BKK	HKG	TPE	TYO	ORD	\$ N/A	\$ 1063	

GATEWAYS
STOPS/DESTINATIONS

AFO - San Francisco	HNL - Honolulu	TYO - Tokyo
LAX - Los Angeles	TPE - Taipei	NKG - Hong Kong
NYC - New York City	BKK - Bangkok	SIN - Singapore
SEA - Seattle	SEL - Seoul	
ORD - Chicago		

VISA INFORMATION

HOLLAND - Three months w/o Visa with valid passport and plane ticket leaving country.

ITALY - Three months w/o Visa, passport only required, can extend visit for 1 - 3 months at police station.

INDIA - Two applications requested by phone for Visa.

JAPAN - Mail request for Visa application to:

1601 Post Street
San Francisco, CA 94115

THAILAND - Fifteen days w/o Visa.

BRITISH (Hong Kong) - One month w/o Visa with valid passport and plane ticket leaving country.

EYGPT - Mail request for Visa application to:

3001 Pacific Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94110

*Note - Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope with Visa requests.

THESE CONDITIONS

NOTES - These notes are to be read with valid passport and please check leaving country.

NOTE - These notes are to be read with valid passport and please check leaving country. 1 - 1 month as police station.

NOTE - The application submitted by person for visa.

NOTE - Mail request for visa application for

1001 First Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

NOTE - The one day's visa.

NOTE (Note Book) - The notes are to be read with valid passport and please check leaving country.

NOTE - Mail request for visa application for

1001 Pacific Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94103

NOTE - Enclosed mail-addressed stamped envelope with visa request.

PROPOSED (PLANNING) TIME FRAMES

December 6, Sauturday - Depart CONUS
December 7, Sunday - Enroute to Thailand
December 8, Monday - Arrive Bangkok (Registration for SOAR X)
December 9, Tuesday -
December 10, Wednesday -
December 11, Thursday -
December 12, Friday -
December 13, Saturday - Depart Bangkok
December 14, Sunday - Arrive CONUS

REVENUE (MAY 1962) - 1962

December 1, Sunday - 1962
December 2, Monday - 1962
December 3, Tuesday - 1962
December 4, Wednesday - 1962
December 5, Thursday - 1962
December 6, Friday - 1962
December 7, Saturday - 1962
December 8, Sunday - 1962
December 9, Monday - 1962
December 10, Tuesday - 1962
December 11, Wednesday - 1962
December 12, Thursday - 1962
December 13, Friday - 1962
December 14, Saturday - 1962
December 15, Sunday - 1962

DATE 12/17/85

☐ URGENT

FILE NO.

☐ SOON AS POSSIBLE
☐ NO REPLY NEEDED

ATTENTION

SUBJECT SOAR X UPDATE

TO

SCOTT LYON
CLAYTON SCOTT
ADAM HUSAR
CHUCK DARNELL

MESSAGE

LETTER FROM SHEARTON HOTEL, BANGKOK, THIS DATE INDICATES THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO GET ROOMS FOR APPROXIMATELY \$5.00 LESS THAN PREVIOUSLY STATED. THE LETTER BASED THIS ON US TAKING 20 ROOMS. I HAVE WRITTEN THAT WE MAY NEED AS MANY AS 50 ROOMS & ASKED FOR A FURTHER REDUCTION OF PRICES. THEY WILL ALSO GIVE US ONE COMPLIMENTARY ROOM FOR EACH 15 ROOMS WE TAKE. THEIR LETTER STATES THAT THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR CONVENTION ROOM - ONLY PRICE OF FOOD/DRINKS. FOOD PRICES AT HOTEL ARE HIGH, BUT THERE ARE MANY PLACES TO EAT IN THE VICINITY OF HOTEL. HOTEL POLICY IS FOR US TO REMIT 50% DEPOSIT FOR ROOMS 30 DAYS IN ADVANCE W/BALANCE TO BE PAID PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. WILL KEEP YOU ADVISED. JACK ABRAHAM

SIGNED

REPLY

DATE OF REPLY

P.S. TO CLAY, YOU MAY WANT TO CONSIDER HAVING ATTENDEES REMIT THE 50% HOTEL DEPOSIT AT THE SAME TIME THEY PAY FOR AIR LINE TICKETS TO AVOID US HAVING TO TRACK DOWN PEOPLE DURING LAST 35 DAYS TO COLLECT THEIR ROOM DEPOSITS.

SIGNED



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

15 February 1986

SUBJECT: SOA Resolution on the POW/MIA Issue.

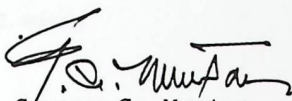
TO: All Members, Special Operations Association.

1. Since its inception in 1977, the Special Operations Association has actively supported the efforts of the U.S. Government and private organizations, working through the government, to obtain a full accountability for our comrades who are prisoners of war or missing in action in Indochina. Miss Ann Mills Griffiths, Executive Director of the National League of Families of American POW/MIA in Southeast Asia addressed our membership at SOAR III, and LTC Jerry Venanzi and Mr. Richard Hebert, Director of the Center for POW/MIA Accountability spoke at SOAR VII.
2. In 1982 the SOA established the Special Operations Association Memorial Scholarship to perpetuate the memory of personnel who served in Special Operations during the Vietnam War, and who were POW/MIA and are still unaccounted for in Southeast Asia. To date, scholarships have been awarded in memory of MAJ Larry Thorne, SP Dale Dehnke and MAJ Samuel K. Toomey, III, all of whom were MIA in Indochina.
3. Despite our demonstrated support for resolution of the POW/MIA issue, the SOA has never formally adopted a resolution on the matter. Such resolutions have been adopted, and are on file at the National League of Families for American POW/MIA in Southeast Asia by the following veterans organizations: The American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Marine Corps League, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Reserve Officers Association, the Air Force Association, Catholic War Veterans, Disabled American Veterans, AMVETS, American Ex-POWs Inc., Jewish War Veterans, and the Special Forces Association. An editorial by Dick Bishop, editor of the SFA "DROP", is attached as inclosure 1.
4. In view of the above, it appears that the SOA should formalize its position on the POW/MIA issue by adopting a resolution on the matter, which will become a matter of record along with those of other veterans organizations. Attached as inclosure 2 is a proposed SOA resolution on the POW/MIA matter.



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.

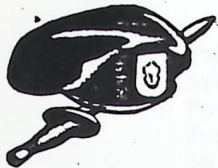
5. It is requested that you read the attached resolution, indicate your desires by filling in the appropriate answers, and return the resolution with your comments to the Secretary, SOA.



George C. Morton
1st Vice President
Special Operations Association

Incls:

- 1 - Editorial, The Drop.
- 2 - Proposed resolution.



EDITORIAL

By Richard D. Bishop



The POW/MIA issue continues to fight as new hope, new disclosures, capture the thoughts of those concerned...the most recent being the cooperative dig at a B-52 crash site between the United States and the North Vietnamese... Interest in POW/MIA's has taken strange turns as individuals and agencies, each in their own way, have tried to keep the issue alive. These efforts have not gone unmentioned within our own ranks as many of the principals have been our people, many of whom have asked where we stand as the association? The answer was documented during the National Convention in 1980 when as a group, we voted full support to the "National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia" as long as that agency operated within the official aims and objectives of the United States Government...in short, the "League" is recognized by the association as the proper focal point, the source from which disclosures concerning the issue must come...the only agency that we, as a group, recognize. But what of other groups and individuals that have expressed equal concern in resolution of the fate of unaccounted for Americans? Of actions that have included open criticism of government officials, private rescue attempts, refusals to accept the findings of the JCRC, lawsuits, veterans vigils, demonstrations, the passing of petitions, the accounts written by former POW's, the works of fiction, both written and film...these too have been generated facts and opinions that will fill volumes and continue to fuel the media...they

have also been discussed within the association and have generated reaction both pro and con. The issue of the true fate of the Americans still unaccounted for has become a complex web of fact and opinion that seems to demand blind loyalty in support of each agency or individual with every new or rehashed disclosure...it has almost reached the point where logic is challenged and the objective thinker doesn't know what to believe. The fact that Robert Garwood came out makes the strongest case in support of the idea that missing Americans are still alive...the disclosure of interrogation techniques using the theme "We can keep you forever" coupled with the fact that no returned POW was badly disfigured seems to lend strong support to the hope that some are still living...But are they really being held against their will? What of those who are broken and went over? Are they now part of the local population? This idea has also been discussed within the association... In closing I feel it wise to mention that, being too close to the issue, too emotionally involved for whatever reason, tends to cloud objectivity. As for who to believe and what action to take...that remains a decision on the part of the individual member, according to demands of his or her conscience...Ed.

PROPOSED POW/MIA RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: The Special Operations Association is a fraternal military organization of former and present U.S. Army Special Forces, U.S. Navy SEALs, U.S. Air Force Commandos, and USMC Force Reconnaissance personnel who fought with distinction on hazardous missions in denied areas in Indochina, and

WHEREAS: Many of our Comrades-in-Arms are missing in action or may still be held as prisoners of war and have not yet been accounted for, and

WHEREAS: The President of the United States has declared that efforts to confirm the existence of live American POWs and full and complete accountability for our missing in action is a matter of the highest national priority

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Special Operations Association supports the President of the United States on his position concerning the return and complete accountability of our comrades who are POW/MIA in Indochina and further, that the Special Operations Association supports the objectives of the National League of Families of American POW/MIA in Southeast Asia as long as that organization operates within the official arms and objectives of the U.S. Government.

NOTE TO MEMBERS:

Please indicate your desires below (circle one):

1. I concur in the resolution as written.
2. I agree that a resolution is desirable, but prefer to word it as indicated on the reverse side.
3. I do not believe the SOA should adopt a resolution.

MAIL THIS RESPONSE TO:

Secretary
Special Operations Association
5130 E. Charleston Blvd.
Suite 5-583F
Las Vegas, NV 89122



105



108



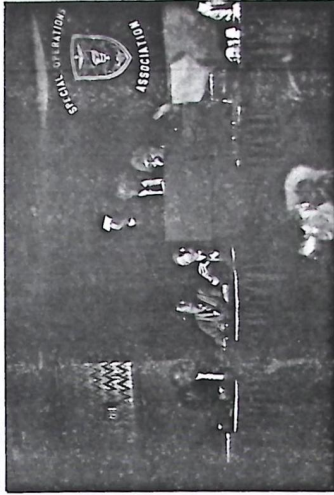
111



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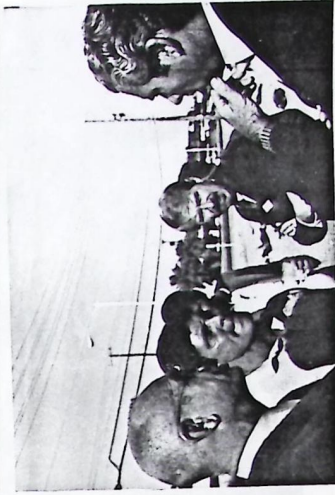
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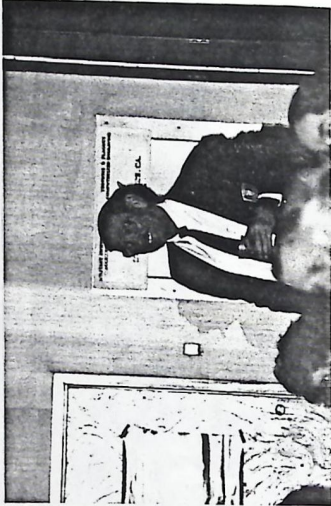
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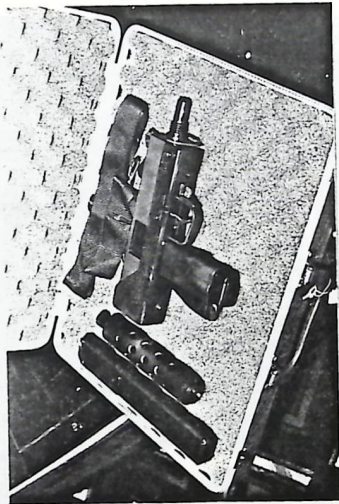
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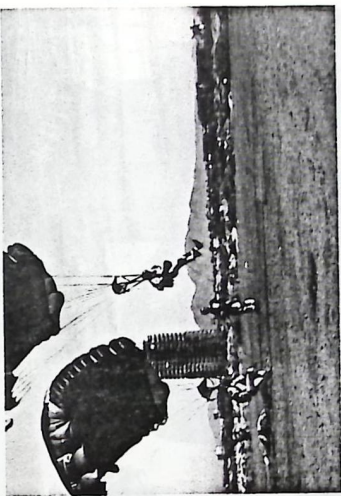
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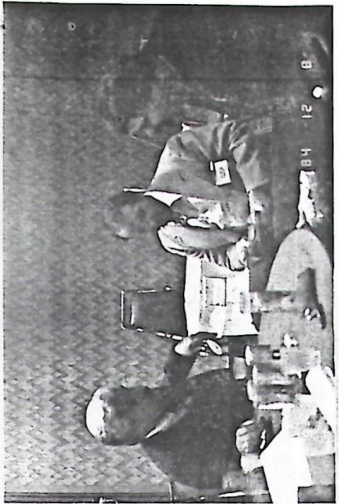
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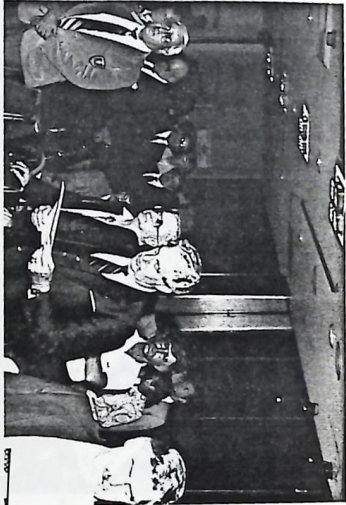
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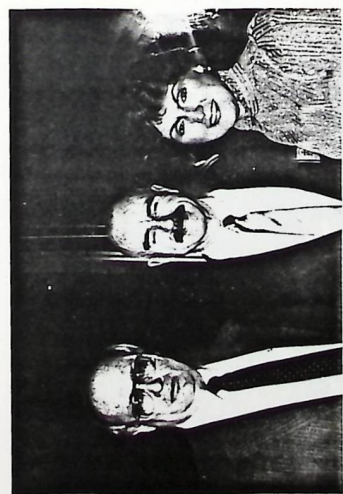
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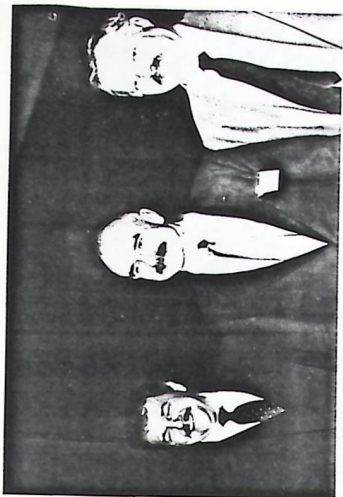
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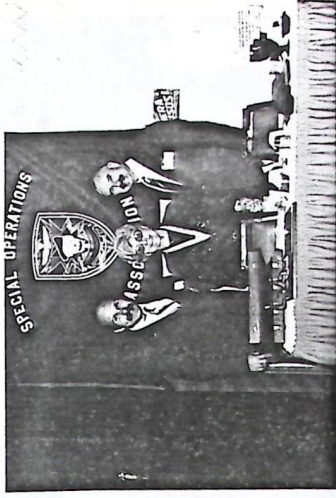
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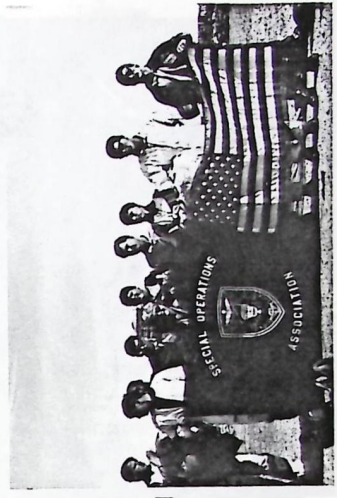
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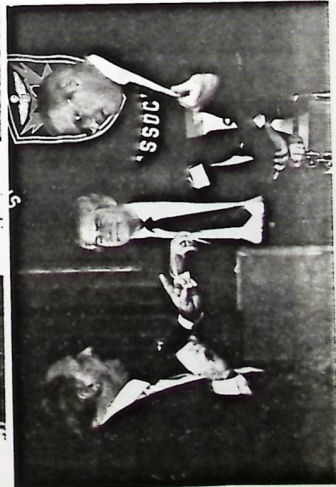
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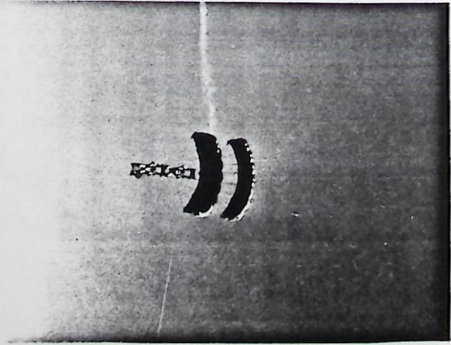
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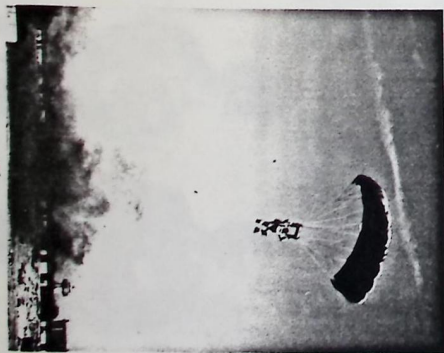
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- Step 1 - Pick out the photos of your choice by number.
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SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

and your name for the purpose of the
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Fix for an SOF Capability That Is Most Assuredly Broken

by Sen. William S. Cohen (R-ME)

In introducing the recent Senate Armed Services Committee staff report on defense organization, Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-AZ) stated that if we had to fight tomorrow, the problems the report addresses "will cause Americans to die unnecessarily. Even more, they may cause us to lose the fight."

Special Operations Forces (SOF), as indicated by the US experience during the Grenada and Iranian rescue missions, are one aspect of the defense establishment that is most assuredly broken and must be fixed. These are also the forces which we must rely on to respond to the conflict scenarios that we are most likely to face—international terrorism and low-intensity warfare. For Special Operations Forces, the "tomorrow" which Sen. Goldwater alluded to is here today.

It is evident that the ills which beset SOF are in part a microcosm of the ills that occasioned the overall Senate Armed Services Committee staff report on defense organization. The thrust of the report, as well as that of the recently published study produced by the Center for Strategic and International Studies, is that the United States still lacks joint military institutions capable of effectively integrating the forces of the different Services in combined operations. According to both of these studies, the Joint Chiefs of Staff are not truly joint, and the Unified Commands are not truly unified.

The problems which result from insufficient integration of the Services have clearly been evident in special operations. As retired Army Maj. Gen. John K. Singlaub noted about the ill-fated mission in Iran, "We tried to bring disparate units from all over the armed forces, from all over the world—and then put them into an ad hoc arrangement to do a very complicated plan." Under these circumstances, it is not surprising that the mission ended in confusion and disaster.

Poor inter-Service coordination, however, is only one of the problems which beset special operations. Other problems include the low priority that the Services give special operations, poor management of special operations programs, and inadequate mechanisms for command and control.

In recognition of these problems, Congress expressed its views of where special operations ought to be in the Fiscal Year 1986 Defense Budget. The sense of the Congress is that:

(1) The Office of the Secretary of Defense should improve its management supervision;

(2) Joint command and control should permit "direct and immediate" access to SOF by the National Command Authorities; and

(3) The Commanders-in-Chief of the regional commands should have sufficient SOF in-theater to execute their war plans and deal with contingencies.

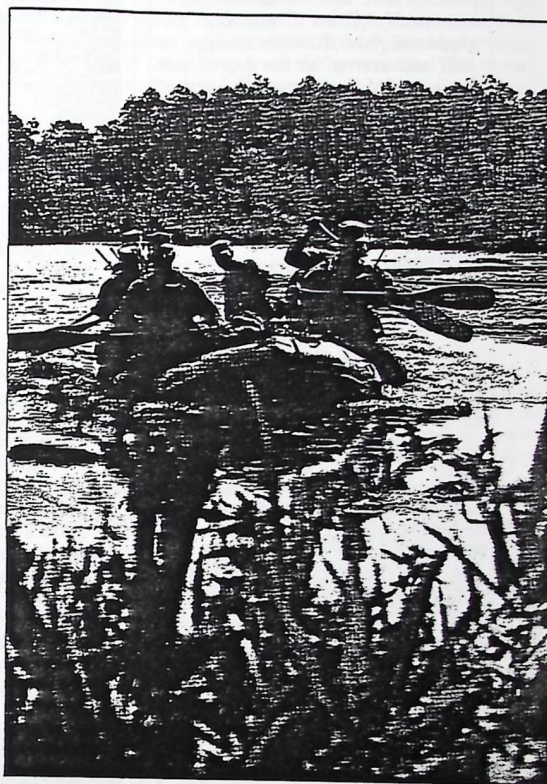
The Status Quo

Despite sweeping changes in defense policy on special operations over the last four years, and large increases in budget allocations, serious problems persist.

The Joint Special Operations Agency (JSOA) was created in 1984 to overcome weaknesses in command and control, but it only "advises" the Joint Chiefs. The JSOA has been regarded as an irritant by the

Services, which are as reluctant as ever to relinquish control over SOF units and resources. As a mere advisory body, the JSOA is in no position to perform the vital task of coordinating SOF activities.

Another relatively recent innovation has been the establishment of Special Operations Commands (SOCs) under each of the Unified Commands (with the exception of the US Southern Command). The SOCs are an important staff element, but they appear to have neither the capacity nor the in-



Common to all the situations we confront is the need to have sufficient numbers of well-equipped and trained SOF, and an in-place joint SOF command and control that can be readily integrated into a large military or civilian effort.

Today we have neither.

fluence to plan for and execute special operations in a theater-wide context.

The SOCs are manned at only a fraction of required wartime strength, and little realistic thought has been given to providing for the near-instantaneous augmentation needed in times of crisis. In reality, the SOCs do little more than perpetuate the ad hoc, task-force approach to SOF that has characterized the entire postwar era.

Moreover, the SOCs are commanded by colonels who must, both in peace and war,

Sen. William S. Cohen (R-ME), elected to the Senate in 1978 after three terms in the House of Representatives, is a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee. He graduated from Bowdoin College in 1962 and received his law degree cum laude in 1965 from Boston University.



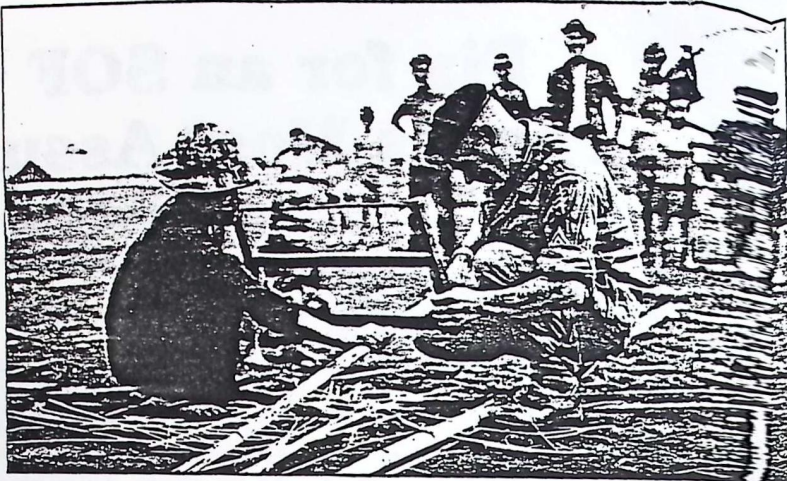
interact with the CinC in the same councils as three-star commanders. Force of personality under such circumstances is not enough. Under these conditions, SOF planning and execution are likely to continue as a neglected sideshow.

The Reagan Administration deserves credit for its initiatives on special operations, including the recent dramatic increases in the number of troops, equipment, and dollars spent. Despite these efforts, however, serious problems remain. Only last year, Noel Koch, the Pentagon official who oversees special operations said, "If anyone thinks we're making real progress and we're on a roll, they are kidding themselves." The recent series of articles on special operations in *Armed Forces Journal* (March, May, August, October 1985) has helped to make this point.

Rep. Dan Daniel (D-VA), Chairman of the Readiness Subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee, has for years been leading Congressional efforts to revitalize Special Operations Forces. Together with Mr. Koch and other members of the Reagan Administration, he has been instrumental in revitalizing special operations. When Rep. Daniel proposed the creation of a sixth Service for special operations in the August edition of *Armed Forces Journal*, he helped to underscore in a dramatic way the continuing frustration felt by many who have been concerned about our special operations capabilities.

In that article, Rep. Daniel focused on the need to find a home for special operations. He cited a number of areas in which there are conflicts between special operations and the conventional force structure in which they are embedded—philosophy, professionalism (promotions), budgets, continuity, unique solutions to unique problems, advocacy, and relationship with the National Command Authorities. In sum, because they lack an effective voice within the system, the unique needs and capabilities of Special Operations Forces are often overlooked. As Congressman Daniel said, "The key problem is a lack of effective advocacy."

As a result, Congressman Daniel recently told *The Washington Post* that his panel has under "serious consideration" legislation to combine Special Operations Forces under a Defense Special Operations Agen-



A clearer organizational line between SOF and conventional forces could make the public more aware of an escalatory firebreak between the use of Military Training Teams, a member of which is shown here in Vietnam in 1967, and a conventional unit such as the 82nd Airborne Division.

cy patterned after the National Security Agency. Daniel's analysis of SOF problems is consistent with that of the Senate Armed Services Committee staff study on defense organization. Among other things, the report points out that:

... the capabilities needed to respond to these threats are not the traditional ones of the Services; (3) the Services have a tendency in force planning to focus on high-intensity conflicts upon which resource programs are principally justified; (4) there is a need to coordinate the activities of the Services as they seek to develop required capabilities in order to avoid unnecessary duplication; (5) there is a need for

innovative thinking and new approaches to these threats. . . .

Given the range of that report, it was not possible for the staff to investigate every possible topic in depth, and the list of problems contained in the staff report is by no means exhaustive. For example, the recent indictment of an Army intelligence officer associated with special operations, on charges of defrauding the government, indicates that Congressional concern over the management supervision of special operations is not misplaced. Of even greater concern are problems related to the command and control of special forces. If anything, these additional problems only reinforce the need identified in the staff study for "... a strong multi-Service, multi-functional, organizational focus for low-intensity warfare and special operations."

In the October edition of *Armed Forces Journal*, Noel Koch argued against a sixth Service and proposed instead to forward-deploy Special Forces Groups to their designated areas of operation. Mr. Koch's views of the problems confronting SOF are similar to Rep. Daniel's, but the emphasis differs, as does his proposed solution.

In a recent interview with *Army Times*, Mr. Koch expanded on his views of the problems confronting special operations. He described the frustration he has experienced in trying to get on the Joint Chiefs' calendar to brief them on the subject of terrorism, the resistance of the conventional military to the concepts of unconventional warfare, and the pressing need for strengthened command and control. "Talk to anybody in the community," Mr. Koch said, "and ask them, 'What keeps you up at night?' They tell you it's command and control."

Mr. Koch's and Rep. Daniel's views offer a fascinating contrast. Both agree that there are very serious problems which need to be corrected, and both generally agree on what those problems are. It is in their



Col. Arthur D. "Bull" Simons talks with his men moments before setting out on the 1970 raid against Son Tay prison camp in North Vietnam. The raid was a tactical success but proved too long in the making—the prisoners had been moved out long before the task force could act.



priorities that they differ. Rep. Daniel, who has battled the Services in Congress, where budget issues are paramount, believes that advocacy is the key problem. Mr. Koch, who has been the champion of special operations on policy matters, believes that command and control is the key. They are each looking at the mountain from a different side, and, not surprisingly, they see a different path to the summit. In order to be effective, we need a solution that can address both problems. "Effective pronouncement" is important. So is forward deployment. But the critical ingredient is preparation. Currently, we are not prepared to fight the most likely wars of the present or the future.

Operations and Resources

Four kinds of situations serve to illustrate the danger we confront. The first is a short-term, time-sensitive response to crisis. The circumstances here unavoidably include a high degree of confusion as planning and execution are compressed. Creation of a task force encompassing relevant military capabilities is the obvious solution in these cases, but it is not necessarily the best, especially where SOF and conventional forces operate in mutual support. Lacking an effective means to participate in the planning and an in-being vehicle with which to coordinate the execution, SOF can be too easily overwhelmed by the conventional juggernaut, or add unnecessarily to the inherent confusion involved in the execution of such operations. The *Mayaguez* rescue attempt and the Grenada operation exemplify the problems that can arise under these circumstances.

The second situation is the more deliberately planned and executed special operation whose essential ingredient is precise interaction among a variety of highly skilled, well-equipped forces. It took six months to prepare for the Son Tay raid in 1970. Coincidentally, it took six months to prepare for the Iranian hostage rescue attempt a decade later. The US cannot afford to wait half a year each time its security and prestige are challenged. It will have to improve on its past performance.

Clearly the risk and sensitivity of such operations involve a number of political and military considerations that unavoid-

ably act to slow our response. It is not necessary, however, to repeat the process of forming a task force time and time again. In the words of the Holloway Commission, the Joint Chiefs had to start "literally from scratch" in their preparations for the Iranian rescue attempt. Time in such cases is not a luxury. Some reforms have been instituted, but as Mr. Koch indicates, there are still significant problems which have to be corrected.

The third situation is low-intensity conflict, which will pose the most immediate challenge to our national interests in the coming years. Here again, time is the central factor, but in terms of protraction rather than compression. In fact, time can be the insurgents' primary weapon, used to psychologically wear down a free society such as ours.

The bulk of the military, rightly, is prepared to respond to large-scale Soviet aggression. The bulk of the military thinkers, in turn, assume that this preparedness translates into a capacity to deal with "less-er included threats." We learned in Vietnam, however, that this is not the case.

Special Operations Forces (SOF), as indicated by the US experience during the Grenada and Iranian rescue missions, are one aspect of the defense establishment that is most assuredly broken and must be fixed.

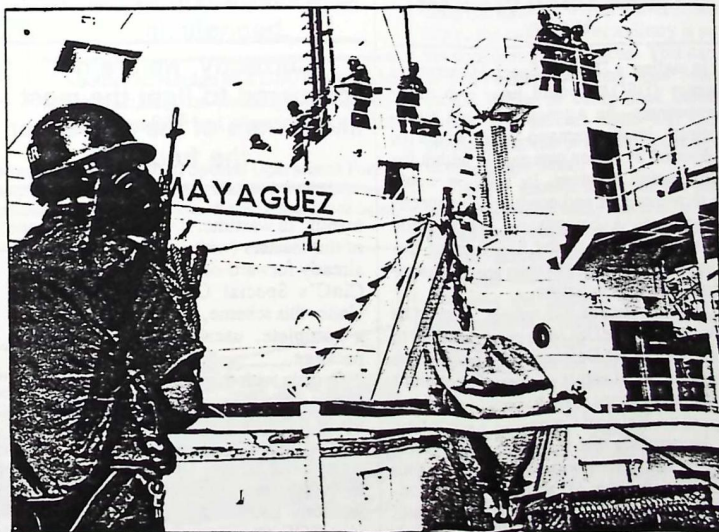
Today we face a situation in Central America which is in many respects similar

to Vietnam, and yet, as Army General Wallace H. Nutting warned us two years ago, we do not understand the nature of the conflict, and we are not organized effectively to deal with it. Ignorance of or indifference to the past is the surest way to guarantee a repetition of our mistakes.

The fourth situation would be a major conflict with the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact allies. Here SOF can make a vital contribution to the overall effort through operations in the enemy's rear area. Such operations can only be effective, however, if they are tightly controlled and closely coordinated with conventional operations. That, in turn, makes absolutely essential a robust command and control system for SOF and a realistic appreciation on the part of conventional commanders of the things SOF can and cannot do.

This brief recitation serves to illustrate a problem unique to SOF. In situations short of war they must be prepared to operate independently of conventional forces if necessary, and respond rapidly in a well-orchestrated manner. In a war, regardless of its intensity, SOF must be effectively integrated into the overall effort and must be utilized in a way that fully exploits their unique capabilities. Given the range of scenarios for which they train, it is no wonder that the original SOF motto was "Anything, Anytime, Anyplace, Anyhow."

Common to all the situations we confront is the need to have sufficient numbers of well-equipped and trained SOF, and an in-place joint SOF command and control that can be readily integrated into a large military or civilian effort. Today we have neither. In sum, there is a very real need to overcome the force structure and readiness deficiencies emphasized by Rep. Daniel, as well as the deficiencies in command and



In the compressed planning for a short-term crisis, Special Operations Forces can too easily be overwhelmed by the conventional juggernaut. This was the case when US Marines stormed aboard the SS *Mayaguez*, a merchant ship captured by Cambodians in 1975, only to find no one aboard.



control which are keeping Mr. Koch and others awake at night.

How might this best be accomplished? I suspect that the answer lies somewhere between the strengthening of the JSOA and the creation of a sixth Service. Common to both of these viewpoints, however, is the need identified in the Senate Armed Services Committee staff study for "... a strong ... multifunctional, organizational focus for low-intensity warfare and special operations."

Some of the organizational reforms currently being considered by the Senate Armed Services Committee may help to significantly reduce the shortcomings in current SOF structure. If, for example, CinCs are strengthened, that should go to overcome the traditional unwillingness of the Services to allocate resources to SOF. If the chairman of the JCS is given more power and influence, then the constraints imposed by the Services on the JSOA may diminish.

At the same time, in the absence of more significant SOF reform, the larger defense effort may serve to obscure SOF agencies without correcting them. The ongoing proposal is consistent with the efforts of the Senate Armed Services Committee staff study and intended to serve as an example of the kind of SOF reform that may be necessary.

A Defense Special Operations Agency

In outline, a Defense Special Operations agency (DSOA) would have two major components—an Agency staff and a subordinate command—and would be a major command within the Department of Defense. Its mission would be to plan, coordinate, and conduct joint special operations. A companion organization within the Office of the Secretary of Defense would be charged with special operations policy formulation.

In the absence of JCS reform, it might be advisable for the DSOA to report directly to the Secretary of Defense. This reflects the highly political nature of special operations and the attendant need to provide a direct link to the National Command Authorities.

Recognizing that in most circumstances special operations will be conducted with the participation of at least some conventional forces, the Joint Chiefs would offer advice and, when necessary, support the Secretary of Defense and DSOA in the conduct of special operations. While this gives the appearance of putting the Joint Chiefs in a unique subordinate role, under



Like the Son Tay raid, the 1980 attempt to rescue the American hostages held in Iran was a task force affair that took a long time to develop. To put together the force which eventually met disaster at Desert One, the Joint Chiefs of Staff had to "start from scratch."

Photo by Michel Phillipot/SYGMA

current circumstances, it may be an important means of enhancing civilian control over SOF.

Command and control of special operations would be exercised through the subordinate joint command. For the sake of argument, call it the Special Warfare Command, or SWC.

All SOF from the Army, Navy, and Air Force (and the Marine Corps?) would be assigned to the SWC in peacetime. Its mission would be to ensure joint readiness, and it would be specifically charged with National Command Authority special operations.

The SWC would maintain liaison elements within each of the Unified Com-

Currently, we are not prepared to fight the most likely wars of the present or the future.

mands. In wartime, it would deploy to one of the theaters (with appropriate forces not already forward-deployed) to serve as that CinC's Special Operations Command. Under this scheme, the CinC would receive a complete, useable special operations package.

In train with the creation of DSOA, each Service would establish a major command for SOF, in many respects similar to (but institutionally more secure than) the Army's 1st Special Operations Command. In peacetime, these commands would maintain and manage the individual Service SOF components. In wartime, they, like the SWC, would deploy separately to the Unified Commands. Taken together, we could thus satisfy the requirements of four (or five) of the CinCs for forces, and

command and control mechanisms.

On the civilian side, an Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations would provide the means through which civilian control of special operations could be exercised. The requirement here is for an authority that can articulate SOF policy and objectives and, more importantly, oversee execution of that policy by DSOA.

There are very real dangers in centralizing policy and military execution in the same entity, especially for something as politically charged as special operations. Independent oversight by an assistant secretary would provide a set of checks and balances.

Hand in hand with command and control would be more effective stewardship of the resources that flow into SOF. Furthermore, the DSOA would at last provide SOF the advocate that it needs within the defense establishment. It might also be appropriate to have a separate line for SOF within the defense budget. As with conventional, strategic, and other components, funding and manpower levels should be set by the Secretary. The DSOA and the nominal assistant secretary would play active roles in monitoring Service SOF programs. In those cases in which certain aspects of SOF are inherently joint (e.g., communications and airlift), they would be included in DSOA's budget rather than the Services'.

The DSOA would develop joint strategy and doctrine, a function now nominally performed by JSOA. We have been wrestling with this problem (and not too well) since the end of World War II. To ensure that the intellectual environment exists to get the job done, it might be appropriate to consolidate activities such as the Army's JFK Special Warfare Center, the Air Force Special Operations School, and the Joint Center for Low-Intensity Conflict into a joint special operations institution similar



Increased civilian control of Special Operations Forces with a Defense Special Operations Agency could help dissipate the introduction of Special Operations Forces into Central America, like this US adviser in El Salvador, would have the same consequence as the introduction of SOF into Vietnam—the eventual commitment of conventional forces.

Photo by Michael Phillips

to existing command and staff and war colleges.

Such an institution could serve as the seedbed for development of a philosophical foundation for SOF within the military (a need identified by Rep. Daniel) and provide the opportunity for SOF and non-SOF personnel to gain an increased appreciation of the relationship between special operations and our overall national security structure.

There are other SOF problems which a centralized agency for SOF could help to address. For example, some Members of Congress believe that oversight of special operations may be insufficient. Whether or not this is currently a problem, the lack of a central focus makes it difficult to monitor SOF activities, and that could cause problems in the future.

Along with a host of conventional forces such as these Marines, Special Operations Forces played a role in the 1983 Grenada action, but some SOF officers claimed that they were used incorrectly. A Defense Special Operations Agency could keep the SOF tool from being misused.

It took six months to prepare for the Son Tay raid in 1970. Coincidentally, it took six months to prepare for the Iranian hostage rescue attempt a decade later. The US cannot afford to wait half a year each time its security and prestige are challenged.

Another advantage of a DSOA would be to help facilitate the exchange of information between SOF and other agencies of the

government. SOF units need good intelligence, which they complain is lacking; on the other hand, they experts at intelligence collection. An organizational focus for special could help to facilitate the flow of information in both directions.

By increasing the diversity of available to top officials, a DSOA increase civilian control of the. This could prove invaluable to Command Authorities in some five in the third world. It is true, as M points out, that another Vietnam is thing the military wants. Nevertheless, the conventional military see conventional solutions. This in SOF either not being used would be or in being used in. Some SOF officers claim that a problem was one of the shortcomings Grenada operation.

There is another aspect of this. It may be historically inaccurate that the introduction of SOF in Vietnam to the subsequent introduction of conventional forces, but like the myths rounding the German General Staff, perception is a force to contend with. For example, a recent publication from Center for Defense Information states "Special Operations Forces training activities in Central America and elsewhere, the Green Berets' training of South Vietnamese troops in 1959, could be the first step on the path leading to direct involvement."

A clearer organizational distinction between SOF and conventional forces increase civilian control, and in the process may help to convince skeptics that the an escalatory firebreak between the two such assets as Military Training Teams the 82nd Airborne Division. Lack of





dence in our ability to control SOF operations can prevent the use of these forces when legitimate US security interests are at stake.

Temporize No Longer

The central problem identified in the Senate Armed Services Committee staff report on defense organization is that we currently have an imbalance between Service interests and joint interests. Reform of special operations is also a question of balance.

Many conventional officers quite rightly point out that there are high costs involved in the maintenance and employment of SOF. For example, many privates in SOF units could be sergeants in the conventional infantry. Or, to provide another example, the training ammunition used by the 1st Battalion, 75th Infantry (Ranger) is comparable to that of the entire 24th Infantry Division.

The problem is that to date the balance has been heavily tipped against SOF. The increasing threat from the lower end of the conflict spectrum has not been met by a proportionate response on the part of the military. Most experts agree that low-intensity warfare is the battleground of the future. If we fail to heed the voices of Mr. Koch, Rep. Daniel, and others, then I fear that as Sen. Goldwater said, these shortcomings "will cause Americans to die unnecessarily. Even more, they may cause us to lose the fight."

The foregoing proposal, along with legislation forming in Rep. Daniel's Subcommittee, may be viewed as too radical by those who believe that the desired goals can be achieved by more modest and evolutionary change. Perhaps. But I am convinced we can no longer temporize on the need to establish a clearer organizational focus for special operations and a clear line for their command and control.

As a Member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, I intend to use the opportunities available to determine what changes are necessary, and to see that the necessary changes are made. I hope that my colleagues in Congress, the stewards of our national security within the Administration, and the American people will support this effort.

■ ★ ■

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Today: Partly sunny. High 50-53, low 30-39. Winds SW 10-15 mph.
 Tomorrow: Partly cloudy. High around 50. Low 27-33.
 Wednesday: AQ: 35. Temp. range 8-44. Details on Page C2.

The Washington Post

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 From District of Columbia (See Post on A1)

Unification of Special Forces Sought

Unification Sought for Elite Units

Hill, Pentagon Move To Improve Forces For Antiterrorism

By George C. Wilson
 Washington Post Staff Writer

A House subcommittee, hoping to streamline U.S. antiterrorist forces and to avoid foustups, such as those that marred the Iranian rescue mission and the Grenada invasion, is preparing legislation to unify the Army Green Berets and Delta force, Navy Seals and other special forces under a single civilian command.

The readiness subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee is aiming to set up a Defense Special Operations Agency that would take over control of the elite forces from the individual services, although they would retain their service identities.

At the same time, the Air Force Military Airlift Command is completing a proposal calling for basing long-range aircraft and helicopters at bases abroad so they could more quickly rush the specialized outfits to the scene of a hijacking or other terrorist action.

The initiatives are part of the most sweeping effort in 20 years to gear up the U.S. military to counter terrorism, to fight "low-intensity" wars like the one in Grenada and to prepare to go behind enemy lines in the first days of a major war to disrupt transportation and organize resistance.

The Senate Armed Services Committee also is calling for reorganization of the special forces activities of the military. And the House Appropriations subcommittee on defense has dispatched a special team, including former combat pilots and FBI agents, to study special forces worldwide and submit a report to shape the Pentagon's budget going to Congress next month.

Rep. Dan Daniel (D-Va.), chairman of the readiness subcommittee, confirmed his panel has under "se-

rious consideration" legislation to combine the elite combat forces under the Defense Special Operations Agency, patterned after the National Security Agency. The NSA deploys teams around the world as part of its electronic eavesdropping effort and earmarks money within the budgets of the various services to finance its activities.

The new organization would have a civilian director and a military deputy and would coordinate the training and deployment of about 10,000 men in the various special forces units of the armed services. The director would report to the secretary of defense.

The new agency would finance special forces, many of which would work in forward areas of the world under a theater commander; try to

control crises swiftly by keeping special forces and their aircraft and weaponry on bases in easy striking distance of the likeliest trouble spots; and direct training exercises to rehearse the kind of assaults the intelligence community and military leaders consider most relevant to pressing problems, such as turmoil in the Philippines.

Daniel, who has long sought an overhaul of special forces, formed a panel within his subcommittee to conduct hearings and recommend changes.

"The big problem has been command and control," he said of recent operations in the "twilight zones" where special forces outfits operate.

He said the the Iranian rescue operation and Grenadian invasion suffered from a fractured command structure because the Pentagon allowed each service to carve out a piece of the action. In Grenada, he

said, the services could not talk to each because they had different kinds of radios. And an Army unit, for lack of centralized command, landed at the airport in daylight rather in darkness as planned. "People got killed who shouldn't have gotten killed" because of the foustups in command and control at Grenada, Daniel said, but he called the operation a "success" because the American students on the island were rescued.

The United States must organize for such "low-intensity warfare," Daniel said, "and soon. We cannot wait for reorganization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and reform of the Defense Department."

He said too often the special forces—the Army's Delta counterterrorism team, Green Berets, Rangers, Navy Seals and both Army and Air Force special aviation units—have lost out in Pentagon budget as the admirals and generals spend most of their budgets to prepare for big wars.

"We cannot leave it to the luck of the draw as to who is the chief of staff in a given service at a given time," Daniel said. Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger, Daniel said, "has been completely cooperative" with the subcommittee in the search for a better way to run the special forces, although he has endorsed no specific plan.

The proposal to establish a Defense Special Operations Agency will be introduced early next year, Daniel said, if it continues to pass muster during the closed hearings by his subcommittee.

The Delta force responded to the recent hijacking of an Egyptian airliner but got no farther than Sicily, on its way to Malta because of problems of receiving clearance to land in Malta. Navy Seals had an elaborate plan—and were in position to execute it—from the Marine helicopter ship Guam—for wresting the Italian passenger liner Achille Lauro from hijackers but did not go into action.



dence in our ability to control SOF operations can prevent the use of these forces when legitimate US security interests are at stake.

Temporize No Longer

The central problem identified in the Senate Armed Services Committee staff report on defense organization is that we currently have an imbalance between Service interests and joint interests. Reform of special operations is also a question of balance.

Many conventional officers quite rightly point out that there are high costs involved in the maintenance and employment of SOF. For example, many privates in SOF units could be sergeants in the conventional infantry. Or, to provide another example, the training ammunition used by the 1st Battalion, 75th Infantry (Ranger) is comparable to that of the entire 24th Infantry Division.

The problem is that to date the balance has been heavily tipped against SOF. The increasing threat from the lower end of the conflict spectrum has not been met by a proportionate response on the part of the military. Most experts agree that low-intensity warfare is the battleground of the future. If we fail to heed the voices of Mr. Koch, Rep. Daniel, and others, then I fear that as Sen. Goldwater said, these shortcomings "will cause Americans to die unnecessarily. Even more, they may cause us to lose the fight."

The foregoing proposal, along with legislation forming in Rep. Daniel's Subcommittee, may be viewed as too radical by those who believe that the desired goals can be achieved by more modest and evolutionary change. Perhaps. But I am convinced we can no longer temporize on the need to establish a clearer organizational focus for special operations and a clear line for their command and control.

As a Member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, I intend to use the opportunities available to determine what changes are necessary, and to see that the necessary changes are made. I hope that my colleagues in Congress, the stewards of our national security within the Administration, and the American people will support this effort.

■ ★ ■

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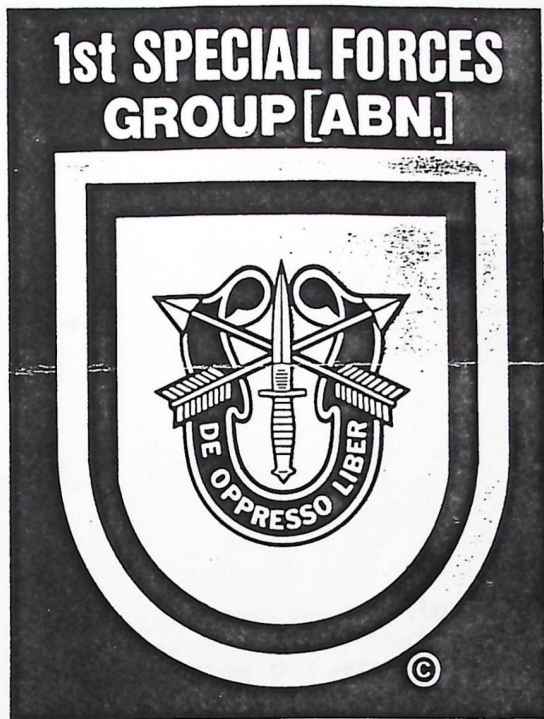
Aircraft Division
Aircraft Group

REUNION ???

REUNION ???

30th ANNIVERSARY 1st SFG

REUNION ???



WHO? All Former Members of the 1st Special Forces Group (ABN).

WHY? 1987 Is the 30th Anniversary of the Activation of the 1st SFG.

WHERE? The 1st Special Forces Gp. is alive and well Currently Station in Ft. Lewis, Washington, How about that area to Marry-up the New and Old.

WHEN? Summer (Of Course) 1987

HOW? We need some good organizers in the Seattle/Tacoma Area, Plus contact people throughout the country and overseas. I can handle the Hawaii contingent which we now estimate at about 15 as openers. So let's kick it around, it's a must that a fine outfit such as the 1st SFG. get together, drink some beer, tell a few lies, watch a couple of fights, Honor our Dead, and bring together the Members of the finest Unit of the Viet Nam War period Bar None! This Reunion should not be affiliated with the SFA. ALOHA

Harold Jacobson
1800 Stokes St, #61
San Jose, CA 95126
(408) 280-6573

Jason T Woodworth
Star Route 13028
Kea'au, Hawaii 96749
(808) 966-9087

CBS NEWS

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New York, New York 10019
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Mr. Clyde Sincere
1172 Lariat Lane
Oakton, VA 22124

January 30, 1986

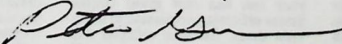
Dear Clyde:

I've enclosed a copy of the New York Times article that I mentioned on the telephone. It only touches, I would imagine, some of the difficult problems that were faced by the Montagnards once the American troops withdrew.

If you can think of any Special Forces members who might remember particular Montagnards, that would be a tremendous help. The article mentions, for example, that Mr. Y-Tlur Eban was an interpreter for special forces in the Pleiku area from 1962 to 1967. Does anyone remember him, or anyone else in the article? Is there anyone who read this article or heard about this story and was interested? What it really comes down to is anyone who has a particularly strong interest in the Montagnards could be helpful.

Thank you very much. Hopefully, something will come of this; I think it's a very moving story.

Sincerely,



Peter Geismar
CBS News
"West 57th"
555 W 57 St
NY, NY 10019

From New York Times, 20 Jan 86.

... But Montagnards Still Wait in a Thai Camp

By BARBARA CROSSETTE

Special to The New York Times

TA PHRAYA, Thailand, Jan. 15 — Y-Tlur Eban remembers them all. "Captain Daniel, Major Findlay, Captain Wood, Captain Penney, Lieutenant Parker," he muses, looking into the distance as he searches his mind for more names. More than 20 years ago, they were his Green Beret officers and he was one of "our Yards."

The Montagnards, the mountain people of Vietnam's Central Highlands, had fought the French and the Vietnamese before casting their lot in the early 1960's with the Americans and against Communism in Indochina. When the Americans left, they went on fighting. But it was a hopeless cause.

"The war is over," said Mr. Y-Tlur Eban, who is also known as Thoraban, a name he says Americans found easier to pronounce. "We would like a peaceful life."

Mr. Y-Tlur Eban is one of 191 Montagnards from Vietnam who recently arrived on the Thai-Cambodian border. Some of them had been wandering for years inside Cambodia, living off the jungle and trying without success to gain Khmer Rouge support for a guerrilla war inside Vietnam.

191 at Refugee Camp

Now exhausted and without hope of continuing their struggle, they are asking the United States to extend a hand to old comrades and give them homes.

These 191 — who are housed in the Site 2 displaced persons camp, where more than 130,000 Cambodians and nearly 5,000 ethnic Vietnamese are also living — are the first group of Montagnards to ask for resettlement in the United States, according to refugee officials. Next week, a team of Americans will begin interviewing them to determine who is eligible for American residence.

The Montagnards at the camp, about 10 miles northeast of this Thai town, do not want to suffer the humiliation of personal rejection, however. They are asking that all of them, or none, go to new homes.

Montagnards, who call them-

selves Dega people, are thought to be of Mon-Khmer or Malaysian-Polynesian descent and are divided into 30 or 40 ethnic subgroups. They settled in the Vietnamese highlands many centuries ago and lived in isolation from the Vietnamese until this century. They were recruited by the United States Special Forces in the early 1960's, before Washington committed combat troops to the Vietnam War.

Cast Lot With South Vietnam

With American military intervention, the Montagnards, who had always wanted autonomy, were eventually brought into an accommodation with the South Vietnamese. When South Vietnam lost the war, the Montagnards knew they would have to fight Hanoi's troops, Y-Bhuat Eban, another Montagnard leader, said today.

By 1979, he said, their cause was clearly lost, and Montagnard leaders, some of whom had escaped from Vietnamese prisons, began to cast around for help from abroad. That led many of them into Cambodia, which Vietnam had invaded late in 1978.

The Montagnards are mostly Christian and anti-Communist but nevertheless thought they would find natural allies in the Khmer Rouge, the Cambodian Communists whom the Vietnamese had ousted from power.

"But instead the Khmer Rouge held many of us almost as prisoners," Mr. Y-Bhuat Eban said. "They planted mines all around our camp so we could not move. They hated us because we were not Communists."

The Montagnards said they were able to escape Cambodia only last year, when Vietnamese troops overran Khmer Rouge guerrilla camps near the Thai border. Many fled into Thailand's northeast.

The Thai authorities moved them to the Site 2 camp late last year and has now given United States officials permission to interview them. Refugee officials will also interview the nearly 5,000 Vietnamese at the camp.



The New York Times/Barbara Crossette

Y-Bhuat Eban, left, Y-Tlur Eban, center, and Cui Be at a camp at Ta Phraya, Thailand. They are among the Montagnards who are asking to come to the United States.

Refugee officials believe that many of the Montagnards at Site 2, plus about 20 others in detention elsewhere in Thailand, may not automatically qualify for American refugee status in their own right because they are too young to have fought with Americans.

The Montagnards estimate that about 30 of their number at the

camp have the strongest cases. Mr. Y-Tlur Eban, for example, served as an interpreter for the Special Forces, mostly in the Pleiku area, from 1962 to 1967.

"It has been a long time," Mr. Y-Tlur Eban said. "We have no news of whether the Americans would welcome us. But we wish, and we hope."

DEAR CLYDE,

I'D CALLED BOB BURTON THE OTHER DAY REGARDING SOMETHING I HOPED COULD BE INCLUDED IN THIS YEARS ''AFTER ACTION REPORT''.

HE SAID HE DIDN'T KNOW IF IT HAD GONE TO THE PRINTERS OR NOT BUT THAT YOU WERE HANDLING IT THIS YEAR AND THAT YOU WOULD BE THE ONE TO ASK.

I'VE BEEN TRYING TO LOCATE ONE OF THE FIRST ISSUE S.O.A. BELT BUCKLES, THE ONES WITHOUT ANY BORDER APPEARING SIMILAR TO THE LOGO ON OUR LETTERHEAD.

ALSO, I'VE BEEN TRYING TO TRACK DOWN A NURSE FROM CAMP PENDLETON NAVAL HOSPITAL WHO CARED FOR SEVERAL S.O.A. TYPES THAT WERE THERE WITH ME.

I WAS THINKING OF SOMETHING LIKE THIS. . . .

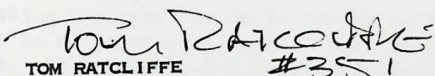
MEMBER DESIRES FIRST ISSUE S.O.A. BELT BUCKLE, SIMILAR TO LETTERHEAD LOGO.

ALSO TRYING TO LOCATE LT. JUNIOR GRADE GAIL CONGDON, CAMP PENDLETON NAVAL HOSPITAL 1968-69, BEL^{IE}AVED RELOCATED TO EAST COAST, PERHAPS MASSACHUSETTS OR CONNECTICUT.

TOM RATCLIFFE S.O.A. 351 818/332-9809

IF IT IS POSSIBLE TO SLIP A SMALL INSERT WITH THE ABOVE INFO INTO THE A.A.R., OR PERHAPS OTHER CLUB COMMUNICATION I WOULD BE GRATEFUL.

SINCERELY,


TOM RATCLIFFE #351

603 S. EDENFIELD
COVINA, CA. 91723

THE NEW YORK TIMES

CLARK GIBBS, A MONTAGNER, DESCRIBES THE MOUNTAIN AND THE MOUNTAIN CAMP

But Montagners Say It's Not a Camp

THE NEW YORK TIMES, NEW YORK, N.Y., MAY 10, 1964. (AP) — CLARK GIBBS, A MONTAGNER, DESCRIBES THE MOUNTAIN AND THE MOUNTAIN CAMP

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CLARK GIBBS, A MONTAGNER, DESCRIBES THE MOUNTAIN AND THE MOUNTAIN CAMP

3617 Larkspur
Ponca City, OK 74604
17 January 1986

Mr. Clyde Sincere
11722 Lariat Lane
Oakton, VA 22124

Dear Clyde:

I thought I would drop you a brief letter to give you an idea of what I am doing with the names of the 8240 vets that you have given me.

I collect the memorabilia, especially uniform insignia, of U.S. airborne and elite units. In addition to collecting, I have a serious interest in the history of the insignia and the units they represent. I have enclosed a copy of an article I wrote that may give you a better idea of my projects.

I am in the process of gathering material for a similar article on the 8240 and its insignia. When I say 8240 I am guilty, to a degree, of using it generically for what I understand were a number of such units involved with special ops during that period. I have found it sufficiently difficult to get information on these units and their activities that it's difficult at times to ask intelligent questions. I have located the report of the study that was done by the O.R.O. (Rossiter et al) and hope to soon have a copy. I spoke with Shelby Stanton (I had heard of him and he of me through our articles on insignia) and found that he is not doing a book on the 8240 but rather a book on the order of battle for the Korean War. He was instrumental, however, in pointing me in the right direction.

First and foremost at this point, I would like to photographically document as many insignia (patches and badges) as I can that are related to the special ops units such as the 8240. The difficult part is locating veterans of the unit. If there is anything that you can do to supply me with names and addresses of these veterans, it will be of great help to me. Phil Vetrone sent me a list of about ten, which is a start. Do you publish a newsletter for your organization? Would it be possible to include a brief statement of what I am trying to do along with a request for assistance from anyone who still might have these items? Let me know if you have any ideas, please.

I've listed a few names below of individuals who served in the 8240. Do you have addresses on any? Any help will be greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,



Les Hughes

Phone: (405) 762-9595

Charles A. Krebs
Paul W. Steinbeck
Michael A. Matzko
Glenn Muggelbert