



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCEMENT

SOAR XI



SOAR XI
3-6 December 1987
Maxim Hotel & Casino
Las Vegas, NV

Enclosed with this packet is a reprinted copy of the Bangkok after-action report. The initial copy was essentially cost free but the photos reproduced so poorly we decided to reprint it.

Also enclosed are the following forms and the addresses they need to be mailed to:

<u>Form</u>	<u>Mailing Address</u>
SOAR XI Registration	Clayton S. Scott 1040 Sycamore Dr. Millbrae, CA 94030
Hotel Registration	Maxim Hotel & Casino 160 E. Flamingo Rd. Las Vegas, NV 89109
1988 Ballot	George Morton 4317 Amblerwood Road Arlington, VA 22309
1988 Membership Dues (Those unable to attend Soar XI)	SOA Attn: Secretary 5130 E. Charleston Bl. Suite 5-583F Las Vegas, NV 89122
Memorabilia Order Form	SOA Attn: Secretary 5130 E. Charleston Bl. Suite 5-583F Las Vegas, NV 89122

(Cover)

Unk								
Art	Clay * Richard	John	Herb	Rick	Bob	Pete	Dick	
Wilbur	Scott Riester	Thomas	Siugzda	Nantker	Woods	Laurence	Sommers	

SOAR XI

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>MAXIM'S LOCATION</u>
2 DEC	1200	MOVE TO HOLDING AREA	17th FLOOR SUITE
4 DEC	EST 0900	MOVE TO HOSPITALITY SUITE	DOMINICAN ROOM
4 DEC	0900-2100	REGISTRATION	DOMINICAN ROOM
4 DEC	1700-1900	BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING	17th FLOOR SUITE
5 DEC	1000-1200	GENERAL MEETING	DOMINICAN ROOM
5 DEC	1600-1715	DINNER	DOMINICAN ROOM
5 DEC	1715-1930	GUEST SPEAKER, RAFFLE	DOMINICAN ROOM
6 DEC	0900-1100	BUFFET BRUCH	MAXIM
6 DEC	1000	SECURE SOAR XI	

THE HOLDING AREA SUITE ON THE 17th FLOOR WILL OPEN, 1200, 2 DEC AND CLOSE, 0900, 4 DEC TO RELOCATE TO THE DOMINICAN ROOM. IT WILL REOPEN ASAP AND REMAIN OPEN TILL SECURING SOAR XI AT 1000 ON 6 DEC.

IF YOU HAVE NOT SIGNED UP FOR THE SUNDAY BRUNCH PRIOR TO REGISTRATION YOU WILL HAVE TO PAY AT THE DOOR, COSTS ARE \$5.00 PLUS TAX.

HE COCKTAIL GIRLS AND BARTENDERS ARE WORKING FOR TIPS ONLY. PLEASE TREAT THEM WELL; IT'S HARD TO GET SOMEBODY TO WORK FOR NOTHING. THE SOA OFFICERS RECOMMEND A 50¢ MINIMUM PER DRINK TIP. THE GIRLS WILL BE HERE 24 HOURS A DAY.

BRING ALL COMPLAINTS TO A MEMBER OF THE SOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS. DO NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES CONFRONT AN EMPLOYEE OF THE MAXIM HOTEL WITH A PROBLEM.





SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 E. CHARLESTON BLVD., SUITE 5-583F
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89122

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SOAR XI should be the best reunion yet. Meeting in Bangkok last year precluded many of us from being together for two years therefore, with the wisdom of time past, our memories have faded and the war stories improved accordingly. Since that last meeting we've recruited a number of new members who are anxious to be an active part of the Association and plan to attend SOAR XI. The old timers owe it to each other to check into the net and both project and protect their image.

A number of noteworthy events took place in 1987 in which the SOA was represented both officially and otherwise.

In April, a General Cooperative Montagnard Association (GCMA) meeting was hosted on behalf of the Montagnards at Gene Bland's Asteroid Aviation in Asheboro, NC. SOA members sponsoring the event included Gene Bland, Ron DeCarlo, Dirty Shirt Johnson and Ben Lyons. In spite of absolutely miserable weather, approximately 50 yards showed up and a cow was butchered to celebrate the event.

Gene advises the yards are adjusting well but financial support is always a keen consideration. Donations may be sent to the Montagnard Resettlement Fund, Rte 3, Box 115, Asheboro, NC 27303.

On 9 May the City of Los Angeles held a West Coast celebration and parade in honor of Vietnam Veterans; an SOA contingent albeit a small one (cover), was there displaying our colors with pride. Even though the news media chose to essentially ignore the 10,000 veterans participating in the parade and the estimated 100 thousand spectators, the event was a great success.

Taking advantage of the assembled members and the opportunity to hold Maggie in one spot, we officially presented her with the hot tub which the general membership had approved in Bangkok. Under the frequent supervision of Tommie and Lisa Ponder, Chuck Darnell prepared the area and purchased and installed the hot tub. While this not-the-least-bit covert operation was going on, Maggie was given the cover story that she was paying for all this work. At the presentation with over 50 members and guests in attendance, we dispelled this rumor and explained that the tub was a gift from a grateful Association to the lady that has watched over us for all these years. Maggie was presented with a large brass plaque which has since been mounted beside the tub commemorating the SOA's gift.



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.

Very special thanks to Spider Parks for obtaining the plaque, to Chuck Darnell for his countless hours installing this beast, to Tommie and Lisa for their morale support, and to John Fryer, Dave Ryder and Richard Sommers for their extremely generous contributions toward this project.

At the end of June a sizeable mob assembled under the tutorage of Jake Jacobson and Woody Woodworth in Tacoma, WA to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the 1st Special Forces Group (ABN); a high percent of the 300 people in attendance were SOA members. Unfortunately, enough beer was consumed that no one can accurately report the events of the reunion. The hangovers were such that all concerned report that it must have been great fun.

From Tacoma a majority of the attendees continued west to the Special Forces Association reunion in Honolulu, HI. Again, we had good participation including SOA being assigned to tend bar one evening. Needless-to-say; a mistake! Frenchy Amundson, Steve Wilson, Pete Laurence, Alex Jongbloed, John Fryer, Ray Whittington, Don Green, Jim Martin, Fred Camacho, Mike Taylor, Lee Dunlap, Cliff Newman and I all consumed more than we served.

Enough members of the SOA Board of Governors were present in Hawaii to hold a special meeting for which the minutes are attached. In addition, by telephone poll, the Board of Governors also voted to adopt a resolution similar to the one adopted by the Special Forces Association, in opposition to the movie "Platoon".

During the following month and the Iran-Contra hearings, the Board was again polled and voted to send LTC Oliver North a \$100 legal fund donation. It was also agreed to offer LTC North an honorary membership to the Association but rather than join the clamoring hordes it was deemed prudent to wait for a more appropriate time to present our offer.

August first signified the 25th anniversary of the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam (AATTV), it was celebrated in Sydney in typical Aussie style: 60 gallons and 37 cases of beer were consumed the first day! Gene McCarthy arrived after midnight and his consumption wasn't even included in the total. Of the initial 1000 Australian's assigned to the Training Team an estimated 700 are left; 300 of those attended, a number of which were in the Mike Forces. Accordingly, SOA membership applications were distributed and a couple of folks assured me that they would try to make SOAR XI. During our fleetingly sober moments we were hosted in grand style. As was expected the hospitality was unsurpassed and in spite of the enormous distance involved, we were able to renew and strengthen our ties with these old friends.

On October 17th, Northern and Southern California Special Forces Association Chapters along with the Arizona Chapter, are holding a joint weekend get-together. However, all SF Association and SOA members are invited. The event is to be held at Ming Lake on the Kern River in Bakersfield, CA where there's 50 camp or trailer sites, a lake suitable for fishing, free water ski boat, volleyball facilities and picnic area; a golf course is adjacent to the lake. Camp sites are \$10 per day and a nearby Easy Eight Motel at 2604 Pierce Rd., Bakersfield, (805) 322-1901, is \$19.00 single and \$22.00 double. Hotel (not camp site) reservations are an individual responsibility! The official get-together starts at about noon on the 17th and for \$12.00 per person you get beer, soft drinks or liquor, deep pit and/or chicken barbecue, beans, french fries, salad, rolls and home made dessert; as well, we've even got a live band. Unofficially, the event will begin on Friday but you'll be on your own then for food and booze. Again, reservations for camp sites are \$10.00 per day, Saturday's food and booze is \$12.00 per person; both must be paid in full by 10 Oct 87 - NO EXCEPTIONS.

SOA member Art and wife Sharon Wilbur have been gracious enough to single-handedly coordinate this entire event. Although they won't admit it, the up-front money is theirs. It is imperative that advance reservations be made so that they know how many people to purchase food and booze for. Reservations and money must be sent to arrive not later than 10 Oct to Clayton Scott, 1040 Sycamore Dr., Millbrae, CA 94030; make checks payable to SFA Chapter XXIII. This promises to be a fun weekend and a good opportunity to practice for SOAR XI; hope to see you there.

Last of the news: in order to eliminate the burden of preparing and issuing a renewable SOA ID card each year we've adopted a new plastic card. Annual members will receive a one-time issue silver colored credit-type card with an adhesive expiration date sticker. Each year a renewal sticker for paid members will be included with the convention after-action report. Not only is this card a first class product that we can be proud of but it also greatly reduces both our administrative requirements as well as our annual cost of printing and mailing. Life members will receive an identical card but in gold and with 'Life Member' in place of the annually expiring date sticker.

Congratulations are in order for this year's scholarship recipients. Their awards are in honor of SFC Gary R. LaBohn. To quote from Shelby Stanton's The Green Berets at War, Gary LaBohn, recon team member CCN "Born 28 December 1942 in Madison, Wisconsin. Entered service on 29 December 1966 in Detroit, Michigan. Missing in action since 30 November 1968, 10 miles inside Laos east of Tchepone when returning from patrol aboard a Vietnamese H-34 helicopter, which was hit by 37mm anti-aircraft fire; aircraft fell out of control from altitude of 3,000 feet and exploded upon impact with ground. No ground search was initiated because crash site was located in a denied area."

This year's SOA Scholarship recipients, in honor of Gary LaBohn, are:

Benjamin Redman
Christie Redman

Alan Shumate
Don Winkler

While Association Operating funds are largely generated from dues and in part, from donations and proceeds from fund raisers, Scholarship funds are raised entirely from contributions. As of 1987 we have an \$8000 commitment to support qualified young men and women deserving of this award. To help fulfill our financial requirements, both operational and scholastic, a number of friends and members of the Association have provided generous donations to be used for fund raising. Our sincerest thanks are extended to these selfless donors; without their generosity we would be unable to continue the proud traditions that our Association is based upon. They and the members that support these fund raisers provide us the ability to assist the deserving young people who now study in the memory of our missing comrades. Many thanks.

Ok, SOAR XI, Maxim's Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, NV, is upon us; 3-6 Dec 87. Our guest speaker is LTC Dick Meadows (Ret). Dick will discuss his involvement as the one-man advance party for the Iran Raid as well as his current activities in South America. I am confident we will have an informative as well as an enlightening presentation.

Depending on attendee interest, both golf and/or a parachute jump will be scheduled. It is important that we know in advance those persons wishing to participate in these events as we'll only schedule them if there's enough interest; but keep in mind that if you commit to an event, you will be counted on to in-fact participate.

We're also considering a dinner Friday night, 4 Dec 87 at a yet-to-be determined but good restaurant (est. \$30 ea) followed later by a show at one of the hotels. Indicate on the reservation form if you're interested so we can make appropriate arrangements.

We've already received commitments for a number of raffle and door prizes for SOAR XI. Thus far we've received:

1*	Ithaca Model 37 Deerslayer Shotgun	perpetual
1	American Historical Society SOG knife	Roy Riddle
2	Ingram semi-automatic pistols	Roy Riddle
1	Winchester Model 70 .308 cal. rifle with ART 2 3x9 power telescopic sight	John Fryer
1	Gutmann Cutlery Explorer Survival knife	anonymous
1	Cold Steel Knife, The Tanto Combat survival knife	anonymous
TBD	Assorted knives	Al Mar
1	Randall knife	Jim Byrne

* Although this weapon is permanently retained by the Association each years winner is authorized up to \$750 towards the wholesale price of a weapon of his choice.

Associate member Jim Pollock, Mission MIA, Centrifuge and Crossfire, is currently writing a history of MACV-SOG. Jim is interested in talking to anyone with information concerning SOG and is seeking photos of SOG/C&C operations. He will be at the convention this year but may also be reached by calling (804) 295-4518 or writing to him at 1200 Zack Ln, Charlottesville, VA 22901.

Member Shelby Stanton, Green Berets at War, Vietnam Order of Battle, Rise and Fall of an American Army, et al, is working on a history of elite US military forces, e.g. SEALs, Force Recon, SOG and Mike Force. Anyone who has unique information and/or photos concerning these activities is requested to contact Shelby at (301) 229-4416 or write to him at 6020 Wilson Ln, Bethesda, MD 20817.

Finally, the really important stuff: If you arrive at the Maxim on the 2nd or 3rd of December, you should first check in at the Hotel's reservation desk. Place your gear in your room and report to the 17th floor to join the crew. The rest of that day or evening should fall in line.

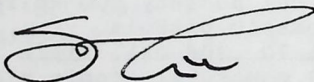
If arriving on the 4th, after checking in, report to the Hospitality Suite in the Dominican Room on the 2nd floor, where you will receive:

- a. Schedule of Events
- b. I.D. Badge
- c. FREE Gaming Booklets
- d. SOAR XI Goodies
- e. Door Prize Tickets - to be awarded periodically.
(you need to be present) to a registered participant.
- f. Raffle tickets for Shotgun, Rifle, Knives, etc.

The Hospitality Suite will open on the 17th floor at 1200 hours on the 2nd of December and then move to the 2nd floor Dominican Room location at 0900 hours on the 4th and remain open until 1000 on the 6th.

This will be a super event for renewing old acquaintances and getting together for a first class convention. Both Maggie and Frenchy have been invited and thus far it looks like we'll have an extremely large turn out. Hope to see you there.

Best,



Clayton S. Scott
President



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 E. CHARLESTON BLVD., SUITE 5-583F

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89122

Memorandum for Record

On 3 July 1987 in Honolulu, Hawaii, the following members of the Special Operations Association Board of Governors met:

Clayton Scott	President
Cliff Newman	Treasurer
John Fryer	Member
Clyde Sincere	Member

Subjects discussed and actions taken are described below. By telephone poll, the concurrence for these proposals was individually obtained from the remainder of the Board.

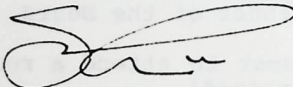
1. In order for a guest to attend a reunion, the sponsor must also attend. (Approved)
2. Any Montagnard who applies and is found qualified for membership will be granted a free honorary membership. (Approved)
3. The Board of Governors should investigate the use of a plastic membership card with annual validation by date-stamped adhesive label. Purchase of up to \$1.00 per card authorized. (Approved)
4. Frenchy Amundson and Martha Raye will be provided air fare and hotel accommodations to attend all Las Vegas reunions they desire to attend.
5. BOG should investigate commercial advertising in such publications as The Drop, VFW, American Legion, Army Times, Static Line, etc. Expenditure of up to \$75 per advertisement authorized. (Approved)
6. Facilities permitting and with the case by case approval of the BOG, vendors will be allowed to sell memorabilia to the membership as a free service to the members; voluntary donations to the Association by the vendors will be encouraged. (Approved)



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7. The Association President should attempt to consolidate all Association memorabilia for storage/display at Scott Lyon's home in Las Vegas. (Approved)
8. Finalization of the Terry Leverton issue. (Cliff Newman will investigate)
9. Clyde Sincere has a Randall knife which was donated for SOAR XI. (No action required)
10. A \$750 ceiling was placed on the equivalent value of the weapon selected by the annual raffle winner in lieu of the Ithaca shotgun which is raffled but retained by the Association. (Approved)
11. The BOG voted to adopt the attached resolution concerning the motion picture "Platoon". (Approved)

Subsequent to the 3 July meeting, the BOG voted to award LTC Oliver North \$100 toward his defense fund and an Honorary Life Membership in the Association.



Clayton S. Scott
President



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 E. CHARLESTON BLVD., SUITE 5-583F

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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS; Members of the Special Operations Association served in the Vietnam War in both large and small unit operations, went into combat with indigenous and American infantry units, and knew the villages, jungle, combat, enemy and Americans as well as anyone. We hereby state our position on the movie PLATOON.

WHEREAS; This heavily promoted film is Hollywood slander of America's soldiers. It is a technicolor propaganda which couldn't have been more slanted if it had been made by Hanoi. Fooling some viewers with scenes of leeches, mosquitos, sweat and fear, it depicts a malicious litany of Americans as ignorant, untrained, undisciplined, and cowardly. As rapists, dopers, murderers, baby-killers, village burners and, as losers in combat against enemy forces. While it showed nothing positive about America's soldiers, it showed nothing negative about the soldiers of the enemy; no Vietnamese people are shown as being on America's side; the word communist is never used in the movie; and nothing is shown of Americans helping the populace, the military and the government of South Vietnam.

WHEREAS; A movie truly of "Vietnam the Way it Was", would have to include references to why we went to Southeast Asia and to the communist aftermath that has proven those reasons to have been correct. While not showing Americans as always perfect, such a movie would have to include the tremendous effort helping the people with Civic-Action projects, some of the not uncommon American heroism that resulted in 237 Medals of Honor (still unreported by the Media), and the dominance of America's forces on the battlefield. Such a movie would also have to show the training, weaponry and worldwide protestors supplied by Moscow, the aggression against the South instigated and directed from Hanoi, the tactics, brutality and terrorism of the communists, the fact that America's military had been withdrawn two years before the communists invaded anew, achieving their victory by violating their signed "Peace Accords". And such a movie should show the role played by protestors and the Media in America with their resulting effect on politicians and the outcome of the war.

WHEREAS; PLATOON is a fraud which puts excesses of war into American uniforms, excesses which were the opposite of what was typical and against every stated American policy. PLATOON gives visual portrayals to enemy propaganda which were not available or true during the war, and are no more so today. That the producers of this movie have the gall and lack of integrity to mask this two hours of non-stop insult by dedicating it "to Americans who fought and died in Vietnam: shows the writer's and the movie's promoters complete lack of regard for the truth, and of respect for the vast majority of America's dead.

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED; That the Special Operations Association considers Hollywood's movie PLATOON as an untrue, slanderous insult to every American serviceman who served the United States and the cause of Freedom in Southeast Asia. Furthermore, that the Movie Industry would give this one-sided propaganda its highest award, and that the Major Media would promote this as "Vietnam As It Really Was" (TIME MAGAZINE 1/26/87) is but more evidence of their political bias both now and when they were covering the war.



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SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 E. CHARLESTON BLVD., SUITE 5-583F
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89122

21 July 1987

Oliver North Legal Assistance Fund
P.O. Box 50096
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear LTC North:

Although I deeply regret the necessity of your defense, on behalf of our membership it gives me great pleasure to enclose a check for \$100 to be applied toward your legal expenses.

The Special Operations Association is a fraternal organization of Americans and Allied participants of special military operations conducted deep inside hostile territory in combat theatres. Rest assured that those of us who have shared your involvement in covert operations understand their necessity and support in the defense of this great Nation.

Warm regards,

Clayton S. Scott
President

enclosure

SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION, INC.
5130 E. CHARLESTON BLVD. STE. 5-583F
LAS VEGAS, NV 89122

15 July 19 87 0171

94-38/1224

Pay to the order of LTC OLIVER NORTH - DEFENSE FUND \$ 100.00

ONE HUNDRED and 00/100-----Dollars



First Interstate Bank
of Nevada, N.A.
Harris-Nellis Office 168
P.O. Box 15188
Las Vegas, Nevada 89114

Memo

Treasurer

⑆122400384⑆1680017459⑈17⑈



You have never lived until you



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 E. CHARLESTON BLVD., SUITE 5-583F
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89122

July 17, 1987

Clayton S. Scott, President
Special Operations Association (SOA)
1040 Sycamore Drive
Millbrae, CA 94030

It is with a great deal of pleasure to report to you that the SOA Scholarship Committee has selected four recipients for the SOA academic scholarship awards for the school year beginning the Fall of 1987. Although we normally award only two four-year scholarships (\$1000 per year), this year's applicants needed only 1 to 3 years to complete a Bachelor's Degree and they were found to be fully and highly qualified. Therefore, without exceeding our normal award budget, the Committee selected the following applicants for scholarship awards:

Alan J. Shumate	- Two years
Don V. Winkler	- Two years
Benjamin S. Redman	- One year
Christine R. Redman	- Three years

Providing the appropriate grade point average is maintained, each recipient is to receive \$1000 per year, beginning the Fall of 1987, not to exceed the number of years stated above.

The purpose of the SOA Memorial Scholarship(s) is to perpetuate the memory of the 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/or are still unaccounted for in Southeast Asia.

It is hereby requested that you approve our selections and notify each recipient by letter of their selection. An award(s) ceremony can be arranged at anytime you deem appropriate, but it is requested that the first year award funding be made available to the recipients in time for the Fall '87 school term and not be unduly delayed for a presentation ceremony.

Sincerely yours,

Ralf M. Miller, Chairman
Awards and Scholarship Committee



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.

May, 1987

Clayton S. Scott, President
Special Operations Association
5130 E. Charleston Blvd, Suite 5-583F
Las Vegas, NV 89122

Dear Clayton:

I want to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Special Operations Association for the gift of my hot tub.

The kindness and consideration of your membership are a magnificent prize that I truly cherish. Your friendship and comraderie are highlights of my life.

My association with Special Forces has always been a great honor and source of personal pride. As constantly reinforced by selfless generosity, your thoughtfulness is my greatest honor. I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

God Bless you

Love,

Martha

Martha Raye

Jan 27, 1987

Clayton Scott
1040 Sycamore Drive
Millbrae, CA 94030

Dear Mr. Scott:

I am writing to you in hopes that you may be able to give me information about a Special Forces person.

I found your name in the Drop, and knowing you were connected with the S.O.A. I thought you might be able to help me.

Our son Captain Stephen J. Chaney 5th Special Forces C.C.N. S.O.A. working out of Da Nang, was killed Sept. 23, 1969 on a mission in Laos. My wife and I have been in contact with the two Special Forces men who were with Steve at the time of his death. Both of whom are very fine gentlemen.

The Special Forces person we are trying to locate is, Captain (at the time) Michael D. O'Byrne. He was on the team that extracted the Special Forces team.

Capt. O'Byrne was wounded on or about Sept. 30, 1969. He had returned Stateside and visited with one of the S.F. men and corresponded with the other one.

Capt. O'Byrne's last address that I could obtain was CCN 5th SF Drawer 22 APO San Francisco. Unfortunately I do not have his S.S.N.

We have been in contact with the Casualty Dept. Washington D.C. They have no record of him and assume he has retired or been discharged.

I thought maybe through your Association with the S.O.A. you may have information about him.

Any help you may be able to give us will be greatly appreciated.

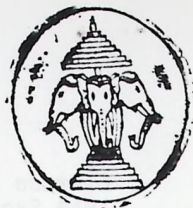
Respectfully Yours -

CSM Kenneth D. Chaney-Ret.
312 Theu Ave.
Marion, Ohio
43302

REGIMENT
PARACOMMANDO



UDON-THANI, 6-15-87.



Hello my Friend,

Better late than never! But very busy over here and there for the moment.

Hope everything O.K. with you and family. I like to ask you if it's possible for you to help US, you know that my people need help (a lot) and we receive a lot of promise but nothing show up, so I have to try by my self.

What I like to ask you, is to find 2d. hand equipment anything and everything, I send the same letter to other of the association, if each of your guys contact only 10 of your friends (army, navy, air force, S.F.) who also contact 10 of their friends etc. etc, I'm sure that we can equip 1.000 Freedom soon.

The situation is very critical for the moment and we need material & equipment very, very soon if we don't, the Freedom Fighters may turn to China for help and then forget about!! you know what I mean.

I know that you understand the reason I ask you for help, and I know also that you going to do all your BEST!! because you be here before and you know about this A.H. Communist.

Thank's in advance, Hope to see you soon, take care and

WHO DARES WINS"



LT. COL JIMMY VOGEELEER
148/1 BAN KAO NOI Rd,
TAMBON NONGBUA 7
UDONTHANI 41000
THAILAND



P.S. THANKS FOR MY "MEMBERSHIP" Proud To Be
Associated with your Group.
your friend Jimmy H. Belgay

1311E DUK, DC MONTAGNARD REUNION



LUNCH - MONTAGNARD
STYLE - REMEMBER THE
GOOD OLD DAYS? HA?



GEORGE ISLAND



AT LAST, A PLACE FOR THE YARDS



DRIVERS TRAINING FOR THE YARDS -

LOS ANGELES



AH, SUSTENANCE
RICK NANKER - POISE & CLASS



RICHARD RIESTER & JOHN THOMAS
CARRYING AN EFFIGY OF A TRAITOR

LOS ANGELES

VETERANS PARADE



SCOTT, NEWMAN, UNK, NANKER, LAURENCE
A YOUNG LADY ATTEMPTING TO CORRUPT OUR
MORALS AND MOLEST OUR BODIES.



CHUCK DARNALL MAGGIE COL & MRS AARON BANKS

SOMEONE REALLY DID LEAD SOME COSS TO THIS
OTHERWISE UNRULY AFFAIR.



LOU MILLET TEACHING MARINES TO SING 'BLOOD ON THE RISERS'



DICK
SOMMERS

HERB
SUEIDA

ROCK
NANKER

LARRY
KIMMEL
MAGGIE

JOE
THOMAS

ALICE
NEWMAN

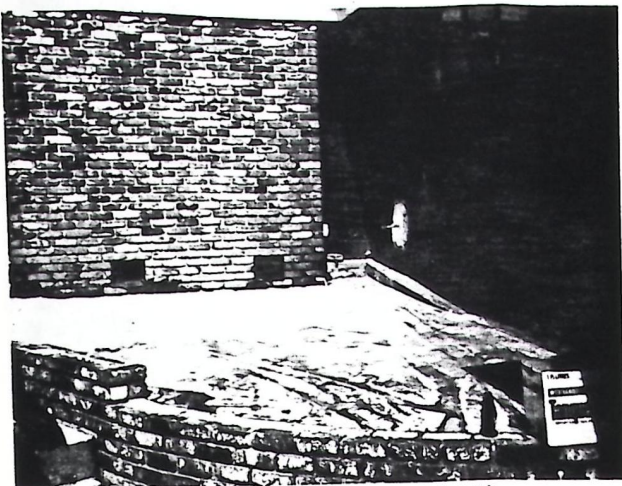
ALAN
SCOTT

PETE
LAURENCE

FRANCY

CHUCK
DARNALL

JOE
GROVER



HALF WAY THRU - BEER BREAK



CHUCK DARDWELL HELPING LISA PONDOR
BEFORE SHE COMPLETES THE JOB BY HERSELF



PETE LEVIN SUPERVISING LISA



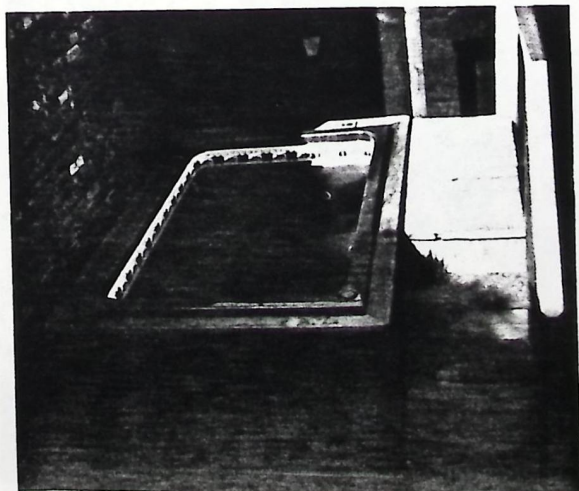
TOMMIE
POUNDER

ALLAN
SHEAR

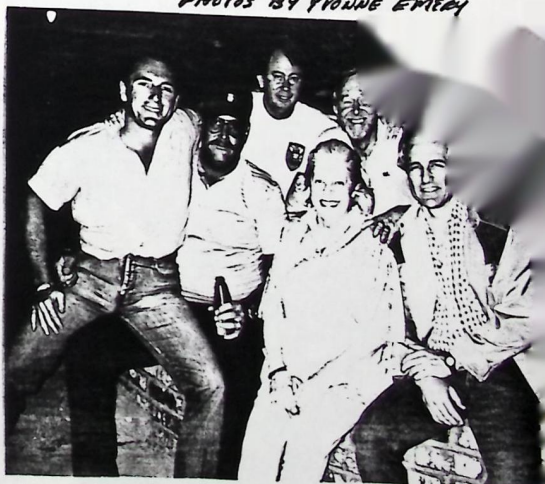
CHUCK
DARDWELL

PETE LEVIN
JIM BIANCHI

PHOTOS BY YOUNG EMERY



Ah - Success



ALLAN SHEAR, PETE LEVIN, TOMMIE POUNDER
MAGGIE, CHUCK DARDWELL & JIM BIANCHI



THE 15 16. Plague



MAGGIE WITH THE END PRODUCT

1st SFG(A) RECEPTION TACOMA



GENE BELL DUMBFORDED CLYDE SCOTT THINKS ITS FUNNY CLIFF NEWMAN SHOOKED WALT SHUMATE ASLEEP

SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION CONVENTION HONOLULU, HI

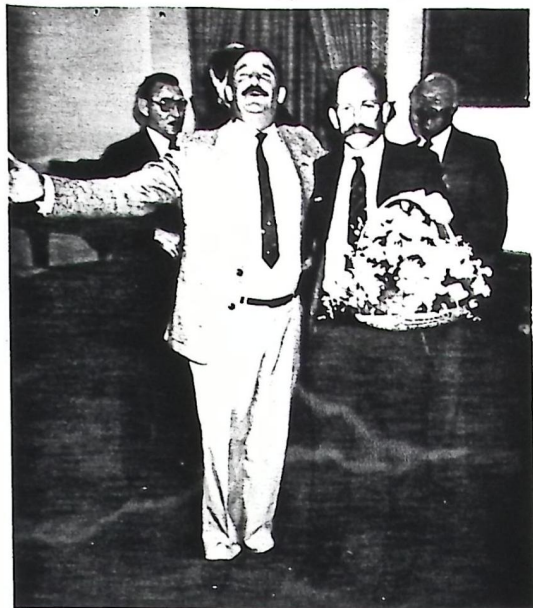


JOHN FRYER CLYDE SCOTT CLYDE SINGRE CLIFF NEWMAN MAKING HEAVY BOARD OF GOVERNORS DECISIONS



NES KAMALL ROY BAHR MIKE TAYLOR

AUSTRALIAN ARMY TRAINING TEAM VIETNAM 25TH REUNION



PETER HARRIS KEITH PETER
PAYNE ROTHWELL
(VC)

DES AYLETT WALLABY WILKES
GENTLEMEN TO THE END
(END WASN'T FAR OFF)



GENE MCCOETHY, WALLABY WILKES
THEIR STANDARD POSE



WIK
WILSON
WILSON
PETER
RATHELL
DES
AVISTE
MARY
McLAUGHLIN
GEORGE
McLAUGHLIN
CLAY
SON
KEITH
PAYNE
FRANK
PALMER

UNK DON PALMER

THERE WERE 2000 ON THE
RIGHT FLANK AND 2000 ON
THE LEFT WHEN WE RAN
OUT OF AMMO ---

SHUE

by MacNelly

GENERAL... AVE
A QUESTION ABOUT
DEFENSE SPENDING.

WHY IS IT, SIR, THAT
I CAN GO INTO ANY
HARDWARE STORE
AND BUY THIS WOOD
SCREW FOR 2¢...

BUT THE AIR FORCE
PAYS \$372.17 FOR
THE SAME SCREW?

IT'S VERY SIMPLE,
MR. FISHHAWK...

YOU PAY TWO CENTS AND
YOU GET A WOOD SCREW...

WE IN THE AIR FORCE
PAY \$372.17, BUT...

WE GET THE M-18 FULLY-SLOTTED,
MANUALLY ACTIVATED, FIBER-INTRUSIVE
MATERIALS SECURING UNIT.

M-18

WHAT THIS
KINGDOM NEEDS IS
A GOOD WAR

WHY?

IT WOULD GET
THE SOCIAL ISSUES
OFF THE FRONT
PAGE

ARE YOU GOING
TO THE ROCK CONCERT
TONIGHT, LOON?

NAH...
I HATE
CONCERTS.

BUT ROCK CONCERTS ARE
DIFFERENT, LOON! YOU
LIE OUT ON A BLANKET
WITH A BOTTLE OF WINE
AND EXPERIENCE!!
YOU'LL LOVE IT!

THIS IS GONNA TAKE MORE
WINE THAN I FIGURED.

AS YOU JOURNEY
THROUGH LIFE...

TAKE A MINUTE EVERY NOW
AND THEN TO GIVE A THOUGHT
TO THE OTHER FELLOW...

HE COULD BE
PLOTING
SOMETHING...

WHAT'S
ALIBONY,
DAD?

ALIBONY IS A SUM
OF MONEY THAT
I PAY TO MY FIRST
WIFE...

WHY DO YOU
GIVE HER
MONEY?

IT'S THE LAW,
SON. A JUDGE
TOLD ME I HAVE
TO...

HMM... THAT'S KINDA LIKE
CONTINUING TO PAY FOR A CAR
THAT YOU'VE ALREADY WRECKED.

I SORRY, DAD...
SORRY, DAD

SENATOR, WHAT IS
YOUR STAND ON CAPITAL
PUNISHMENT?...

YES, WELL... LET ME EXPLAIN
MY POSITION ON THAT ISSUE BY
OUTLINING MY REACTION TO THE
RECENT SUPREME COURT RULING
ON THE MATTER:

AS YOU KNOW,
I AM COMPLETELY
OPPOSED TO THE
MINORITY OPINION
IN THAT CASE...

AND TOTALLY AT ODDS
WITH THE DISSIDENT VIEW
WHICH SUPPORTED UPHOLDING
THE APPELLATE COURT'S ACTION...

STRIKING DOWN A
CIRCUIT COURT RULING
WHICH OVERTURNED A
LOWER COURT DECISION

TO SUMMARILY FAUNCH
THE BLAME OF MOMENTOUS
DIXIT IN THE STATE OF UTAH
VS. JUDGE WARNER...

WHICH, IN MY VIEW WAS
THE RIGHT DECISION.

I KNOW THIS MAY BE
AN UNPOPULAR STAND
IN MANY QUARTERS...
BUT THERE IT IS...

THE MAN IS
UTTERLY
BRILLIANT...

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SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCEMENT

SOAR XI



AFTER-ACTION REPORT



★ **BRITT SMALL & FESTIVAL** ★

When BRITT SMALL returned from Vietnam in 1970, his dream was to put his life back together and form a band that combined a rock rhythm section with a large brass section. While in college, he began forming his band and in June 1973, he hit the road with a seven-piece band which quickly grew to the twelve-piece All-American Showband known everywhere as FESTIVAL.

The trademarks of BRITT's performance are his powerful voice and unique vocal styling, combined with his sparkling blue eyes, and gleaming smile. His wide vocal range encompasses the deepest bass to the highest pitched scream. BRITT has an uncanny ability for "reading" an audience, and his exuberance for entertaining and love for his band, make every performance a memorable experience. With his wide vocal range and strong song styling, he makes every song his own and leaves you feeling totally entertained. BRITT is not only a vocalist and bandleader, he is also a composer, arranger, producer and multi-instrumentalist, playing a half-dozen instruments during a performance. BRITT is very interested in developing young talent, and he affords the younger members of FESTIVAL many opportunities to develop their individual performing skills.

Their wide-ranging repertoire and variety of style allow them to perform for young and old alike. BRITT SMALL & FESTIVAL have gained great popularity at colleges, high schools, fairs, and nightclubs all over the country. The FESTIVAL road crew travels in a Greyhound Scenicruiser bus, and is a self-contained unit, complete with lights, sound and promotional materials.

BRITT SMALL's powerful vocal style, and FESTIVAL's ability to combine good music with outrageous comedy, have made BRITT SMALL & FESTIVAL one of the most exciting and entertaining groups in America today.



Contact:

FESTIVAL FAMILY ENTERPRISES, LTD.
Box 87, Skidmore, Missouri 64487
816-928-3631

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Item</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Table of Contents.....	I
President's Message.....	II, III
Tally Committee Report.....	III
Minutes of the General Membership Meeting.....	IV-IX
Annual Financial Statement.....	X-XV
SOAR XI Narrative Report (with attachments).....	1 - 50



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 E. CHARLESTON BLVD., SUITE 5-583F
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89122

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Unlike most organizations, one of the great things about the SOA is that its members do get involved. We rarely have a shortage of volunteers to help with a particular project and the individual generosity of our membership is overwhelming. In addition to some extremely generous raffle prizes this year, following the reunion Steve Byers sent me a video tape of the SOAR X Bangkok Reunion, Ray Dawson donated a commercially produced master and 25 cassette tapes of Lew Millett's speech from SOAR XI (see memorabilia - copies for sale), and the SOAR XI parachute demonstration team: Ian Sutherland, Walt Shumate, Gene Bland and Spider Park's all donated their jump expenses to the General Cooperative Montagnard Association (GCMA) and the SOA Scholarship Fund. Member Tom Rau is pressing our legislators to support the award of VA benefits to those Montagnard's that served with Special Forces in RVN and Pat "Ho Chi" Mahoney's gracious financial contribution and continued pressure for Maggie's Presidential Medal of Freedom has resulted in Congressional Resolution 223 which continues to press for this long overdue and well deserved award.

Our Committees remain behind the scenes but deserve a great deal of thanks and appreciation for their tireless work in support of the operation of our organization. Without the efforts of these dedicated members, little would be accomplished.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

RALF M. MILLER (Ch)
JAMES P. HAWKE
TRAVIS W. MILLS
FREDERICK T. ABT
GEORGE MORTON
STAN "ROCK" MYERS (Alt)

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

ADAM HUSAR (Ch)
LES SILVERNAIL
RUSS MULVANEY
JIM HAWKE

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

JIM CRAIG (Ch)

TALLEY COMMITTEE

GEORGE MORTON (Ch)
RALF M. MILLER
JOHN "SCOTTY" CRERAR

ASSOCIATION ROSTER

JIM KENNEDY



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

I would like to also acknowledge the assistance of Scott Lyon, Clyde Sincere, Jack Abraham, Walt Shumate and Cliff Newman for their work in organizing and preparing for SOAR XI; as well, my many thanks to John Thomas, Art Wilbur, Bill Galloway and the unnamed others who helped make SOAR XI a great success.

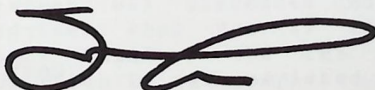
We've come a long way in the past few years and our membership now includes over 500 paid members. In the name of our missing comrades we're sponsoring eight students who this year are each receiving one thousand dollar SOA scholarships to help them through their college; that alone is no small commitment which we should all be proud. As well, unofficially SOA members are the principle supporters of the General Cooperative Montagnard Association and its 200+ Montagnard beneficiaries throughout the country; we really couldn't ask for a more worthy cause.

We're trying to restock our memorabilia and actually publish a catalog of what's available; as soon as we get our stuff together we'll make every effort to promptly fill orders and avoid lengthy delays.

The Australians have threatened to come en masse to SOAR XII; based on our alcohol consumption factor without them, I don't really know if that's good or not. At SOAR XI we averaged about a case of beer per person to say nothing of the pallet of hard liquor we went through. Seriously, plan ahead for 1-3 Dec 88 in Las Vegas, this promises to be a spectacular event and well attended from our friends down-under.

Also, be thinking about who you'd like to see as a guest speaker. We're always open to suggestions especially if you have an inside track to someone in particular; please advise me ASAP if you do.

So ends my banter for the season. Best regards to all and keep your powder dry.

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Clayton S. Scott'.

Clayton S. Scott
President



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 E. CHARLESTON BLVD., SUITE 5-583F
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89122

23 November 1987

Mr. Clayton Scott
President
Special Operations Association
1040 Sycamore Drive
Millbrae, CA 94030

Dear Clayton:

The Tally Committee for the election of officers for the Special Operations Association for 1988, composed of the following SOA members, met at the FT Belvoir Officers Club at 1200 hours, Saturday 21 November 1987, to tally the ballots which had been received as of that date:

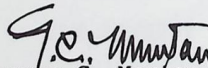
Mr. George C. Morton, Chairman, #059
Mr. Ralf M. Mill, #060
Mr. John "Scotty" Crerar, #681

A total of one hundred fifty-five (155) ballots were received, however, one (1) was from an associate member and was not counted. A tally of the ballots received resulted in the following members being elected as officers for 1988:

President
1st Vice President
2d Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Director
Director

- Mr. Clayton Scott, #571
- Mr. Cliff Newman, #006
- Mr. John R. Fryer, #007
- Mr. Lee Hector, #620
- Mr. George A. Blakey, #551
- Mr. Clyde J. Sincere, Jr., #10L
- Mr. Walt Shumate, #144

Best regards always,


George C. Morton, #059
Chairman
Tally Committee



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

5130 E. CHARLESTON BLVD., SUITE 5-583F
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89122

5 December 1987

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Annual General Membership Meeting

1. The annual general membership meeting was called to order by the President at 1000 hours, 5 December 1987, in a conference room of the Maxim Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada.

a. The following officers were present:

- (1) President: Clayton S. Scott
- (2) First Vice President: Jack Abraham
- (3) Second Vice President: Jesse Siglow
- (4) Treasurer: Cliff Newman
- (5) Directors: Clyde Sincere
Walt Shumate
John Fryer

b. There was a total of 115 members present.

2. The meeting was begun with the Pledge of Alliegance and a Moment of Silence for absent comrades.

3. The minutes from the last general membership meeting, held in Bangkok, Thailand on 10 December 1986 (SOAR X), were discussed and approved as published.

4. The Treasurer submitted a financial statement (published as an appendix hereto) which was discussed and accepted as submitted. Cliff also advised that due to the Association's extremely favorable bank balance, the IRS had required some additional documentation which he had completed. Further, Cliff noted that 8 students are currently receiving scholarships from the Association.



SUBJECT: Minutes of the Annual General Membership Meeting
5 December 1988

5. The President then introduced the following items of old business:

a. The Association received a letter of gratitude from the National League of Families for its continued efforts in support of the identification and return of MIAs.

b. The President read a letter from Ken Miller who is in the process of writing a book on Project Delta and is seeking membership input. (See the AAR narrative for further details.)

c. The President advised that Shelby Stanton, an Association member, is also in the process of writing a book on special operations.

d. The President advised that he had received a number of additional letters to and for the Association to which he had appropriately responded and that anyone wishing to know more about Association correspondence could contact him or the Secretary. (Some of this correspondence is discussed in the AAR narrative.)

e. The President advised that Jim Pollock had begun writing an historical account of the Studies and Observations Group but due to pressure from unidentified government sources had decided to abandon his effort. There was some discussion of Pollock's efforts and whether or not the alleged governmental interference was appropriate. See paragraph 6, this report, for the outcome of that discussion.

f. The President noted that Ray Harris had been single-handedly responsible for the enrollment of nine new members.

g. The President read and discussed an amusing letter from a gentleman claiming to be a New Zealand Army officer who had sought membership in the Association and had alleged, among other things, that he was entitled to be addressed as "Lord" and that he had served with Special Forces and the Special Operations Group in Vietnam. The President advised that a subsequent investigation had resulted in a conclusion that the individual had not served in the units mentioned and does not possess either the requisite military experience nor, interestingly enough, any legitimate claim to any known title (Ed. There was an implication that the gentleman had earned a title from the Association of which he would not be so proud!) and that he, the President, had written the aforementioned applicant a rather direct letter telling him so. (That letter is not included elsewhere in the AAR; we want the women and children to read this!)

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Annual General Membership Meeting
5 December 1988

h. The President noted that there are a number of Australians military and ex-military personnel who have in fact served in and with special operations forces and who have indicated their desire to join the Association. There is even interest in forming an Australian chapter. After some discussion, it was moved, seconded and approved unanimously that the Association further the efforts of these soldiers to join our ranks. Further, it was agreed that the Board of Directors would work out the details of the process for admitting qualified applicants. It was, in addition, noted that the Association would be prepared to depend on certification provided or confirmed by Peter Rothwell, a retired Australian Army officer of unquestionable repute despite the fact that he is not entitled to be addressed as "Lord".

i. The President advised of a letter he had received from the Commander of the Thai Special Warfare Center soliciting assistance for a young parachutist who had broken an ankle during a jump and required some extraordinary medical care. It was decided that, rather than commit funds from the Association's coffers as a matter of routine and thereby set a precedent that might be hard to break, a hat would be passed at this meeting for a one time donation to the unfortunate soldier. A hat was passed and \$427. was raised. The Treasurer was directed to transfer those funds to the requestor with an explanation.

j. A discussion ensued regarding the status of Montagnard personnel desiring membership in the Association and it was noted that the Board of Directors had established a policy of awarding life membership to any Montagnard soldier applying and otherwise qualified for membership in the Association. The membership emphatically supported this policy.

k. The membership was advised that Fred Zabitowsky's son had been killed in North Carolina. Although the details of his death were discussed, they were sufficiently obscure to justify their deletion from this report.

l. Adam Hussar requested that members contact him or any officer or member of the board if they have any interest in serving in one of the officer or director positions. He noted that the nominating committee's job is made much more difficult when members' interests in serving the Association are not known.

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Annual General Membership Meeting
5 December 1987

m. The President introduced the often discussed, never decided issue of sites for future SOARs. A number of suggestions were made and the members reactions were not all that conclusive. It was nevertheless determined that SOAR XII will be held in Las Vegas and SOAR XIII is tentatively being planned for San Juan, Puerto Rico. For the official record, some of the sites suggested and the approximate percentage of members indicating their concurrence are as follows:

(1) Las Vegas, either every year or on alternate years:
75%

(2) San Juan, PR: 25%

(3) Mustang Ranch: 25% (Maybe you shouldn't let your wife read this page if you voted for this!)

(4) Central Florida (Orlando, Disney World): 15%

(5) Grenada: 10%

(6) Washington, DC: 10%

(7) Mexico, either coast: 10%

(8) Atlantic City, NJ: 5%

(9) Two conventions per year: 5%

There was also some discussion of the time of the year in which the SOAR is held; there was absolutely no consensus on a better date.

n. It was noted that membership applications are in short supply but that members can duplicate (xerox is not a verb!) them. An original can be obtained from any Association officer.

o. George Morton, Chairman of the Tally Committee, announced the results of the election for the coming year. They are as follows:

(1) President: Clayton Scott

(2) First Vice President: Cliff Newman

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Annual General Membership Meeting
5 December 1987

(3) Second Vice President: John Fryer

(4) Secretary: Lionel "Lee" Hector

(5) Treasurer: George "Moe" Blakey

(6) Directors: Clyde Sincere and Walt Shumate

6. The following items of new business were discussed:

a. Jim Butler, in a continuation of the discussion of Jim Pollock's book (see para 5e above) suggested that the SOA express its support of Pollock's efforts and encourage him to continue. With the concurrence of the membership, the President agreed to author such a letter for the Association.

b. It was noted that Nabisco, as a result of pressure from veterans groups, had just cancelled an advertising contract with Jane Fonda. The membership applauded the Nabisco decision.

c. Martha Raye's absence was noted and the membership was advised that her attendance had been precluded by her husband's poor health.

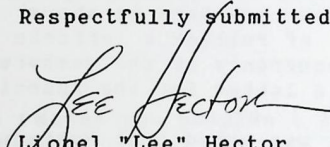
f. Gene Bland was asked for an update on the status of the General Cooperative Montagnard Association in North Carolina. Gene reported that the Montagnards were adjusting slowly but well. He noted that all were doing well in school and other training and were engaged in an endeavor to establish a cottage handicrafts business. He advised that the Lutheran Family Services no longer supports those who settled in the Asheboro, NC area and that their support comes almost exclusively from the contributions of the GCMA. Finally, Gene noted that the majority of contributions to the GCMA come from SOA members, that the directors of the GCMA are all SOA members and, most importantly, that there are never enough funds. (See the AAR narrative for more details.)

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Annual General Membership Meeting
5 December 1988

g. There was a lengthy discussion of the authorized uses and abuses of the SOA logo. It was the general consensus that the Association should obtain a copyright on or otherwise register the official logo to prevent its misuse. The Board of Directors were to investigate this matter further.

5. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1200 hours.

Respectfully submitted:



Lionel "Lee" Hector
Secretary



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 E. CHARLESTON BLVD., SUITE 5-583F

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89122

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Fiscal Year Ended 30 June, 1987



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

BALANCE SHEET

PAGE 1

JUNE 30, 1987

ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
CASH IN BANK-GENERAL	5,055	
BANK - SCHOLARSHIP FUND	25,796	

TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		30,851

TOTAL ASSETS		30,851
		=====
LIABILITIES & CAPITAL		

TOTAL LIABILITIES		
CAPITAL		
RETAINED EARNINGS	29,315	
NET INCOME OR LOSS	1,536	

TOTAL CAPITAL		30,851

TOTAL LIAB. & CAPITAL		30,851
		=====

GENERAL JOURNAL

DATE 6/30/87

CLIENT 1010

SOURCE 55

PAGE 1

	EMP	REF	ACCOUNT	AMOUNT	NET AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
4		63087	401	9,887.00-	9,887.00-	FYE 6/87
5		63087	110	9,887.00	0.00	FYE 6/87
6		63087	402	1,329.00-	1,329.00-	FYE 6/87
7		63087	403	6,700.00-	8,029.00-	FYE 6/87
8		63087	112	8,029.00	0.00	FYE 6/87
9		63087	737	281.00	281.00	SS
10		63087	750	1,260.00	1,541.00	SS
11		63087	751	294.00	1,835.00	SS
12		63087	790	626.00	2,461.00	SS
13		63087	770	3,120.00	5,581.00	SS
14		63087	771	57.00	5,638.00	SS
15		63087	769	216.00	5,854.00	SS
16		63087	752	129.00	5,983.00	SS
17		63087	730	232.00	6,215.00	SS
18		63087	502	6,165.00	12,380.00	SS
19		63087	503	4,000.00	16,380.00	SS
20		63087	110	12,350.00-	4,030.00	FROM SUMMARY SHEET
21		63087	112	4,030.00-	0.00	FROM SUMMARY SHEET
			9,475		0.00	

SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

INCOME STATEMENT

PAGE 1

	JULY 1, 1986 JUNE 30, 1987	%	TWELVE MONTHS ENDING JUNE 30, 1987	%
REVENUE				
DUES, CONT., SOAR, ETC.	9,887	55.2	9,887	55.2
INTEREST ON FUNDS	1,329	7.4	1,329	7.4
SOA SCHOLARSHIP	6,700	37.4	6,700	37.4
	-----		-----	
TOTAL INCOME	17,916	100.0	17,916	100.0
	-----		-----	
COSTS				
PURCHASES - MERCHANDISE	6,165	34.4	6,165	34.4
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS	4,000	22.3	4,000	22.3
	-----		-----	
TOTAL COST OF SALES	10,165	56.7	10,165	56.7
	-----		-----	
GROSS PROFIT	7,751	43.3	7,751	43.3
	-----		-----	
OPERATING EXPENSES				
MISCELLANEOUS	232	1.3	232	1.3
OFFICE EXPENSE	281	1.6	281	1.6
POSTAGE	1,260	7.0	1,260	7.0
PRINTING / COPYING	294	1.7	294	1.7
REFUNDS	129	.7	129	.7
SECRETARIAL/CLERICAL	216	1.2	216	1.2
SOAR	3,120	17.4	3,120	17.4
SOA SCHOLARSHIP	57	.3	57	.3
TELEPHONE	626	3.5	626	3.5
	-----		-----	
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	6,215	34.7	6,215	34.7
	-----		-----	
NET PROFIT OR (LOSS)	1,536	8.6	1,536	8.6
	=====		=====	

GENERAL LEDGER

PAGE 1

SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

CLIENT 1010

YEAR TO DATE

DATE	ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	REF	SC	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE
	110	CASH IN BANK-GENERAL				.00
6/30	110	BTB	63086	9		7,518.00
6/30	110	FYE 6/87	63087	55	9,887.00	
6/30	110	FROM SUMMARY SHEET	63087	55	12,350.00CR	
		TOTAL			2,463.00CR	5,055.00
	112	BANK - SCHOLARSHIP FUND				.00
6/30	112	BTB	63086	9		21,797.00
6/30	112	FYE 6/87	63087	55	8,029.00	
6/30	112	FROM SUMMARY SHEET	63087	55	4,030.00CR	
		TOTAL			3,999.00	25,796.00
	320	RETAINED EARNINGS				.00
6/30	320	BTB	63086	9		29,315.00CR
		TOTAL			.00	29,315.00CR
	401	DUES, CONT., SOAR, ETC.				.00
6/30	401	FYE 6/87	63087	55	9,887.00CR	
		TOTAL			9,887.00CR	9,887.00CR
	402	INTEREST ON FUNDS				.00
6/30	402	FYE 6/87	63087	55	1,329.00CR	
		TOTAL			1,329.00CR	1,329.00CR
	403	SOA SCHOLARSHIP				.00
6/30	403	FYE 6/87	63087	55	6,700.00CR	
		TOTAL			6,700.00CR	6,700.00CR
	502	PURCHASES - MERCHANDISE				.00
6/30	502	SS	63087	55	6,165.00	
		TOTAL			6,165.00	6,165.00
	503	SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS				.00
6/30	503	SS	63087	55	4,000.00	
		TOTAL			4,000.00	4,000.00
	730	MISCELLANEOUS				.00
6/30	730	SS	63087	55	232.00	
		TOTAL			232.00	232.00
	737	OFFICE EXPENSE				.00
6/30	737	SS	63087	55	281.00	
		TOTAL			281.00	281.00
	750	POSTAGE				.00
6/30	750	SS	63087	55	1,260.00	
		TOTAL			1,260.00	1,260.00

GENERAL LEDGER

PAGE 2

SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

CLIENT 1010

DATE	ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	REF	SC	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE
						.00
6/30	751	PRINTING / COPYING	63087	55	294.00	294.00
	751	SS		TOTAL	294.00	
						.00
6/30	752	REFUNDS	63087	55	129.00	129.00
	752	SS		TOTAL	129.00	
						.00
6/30	769	SECRETARIAL/CLERICAL	63087	55	216.00	216.00
	769	SS		TOTAL	216.00	
						.00
6/30	770	SOAR	63087	55	3,120.00	3,120.00
	770	SS		TOTAL	3,120.00	
						.00
6/30	771	SOA SCHOLARSHIP	63087	55	57.00	57.00
	771	SS		TOTAL	57.00	
						.00
6/30	790	TELEPHONE	63087	55	626.00	626.00
	790	SS		TOTAL	626.00	
						.00
		NUMBER OF JOURNAL ENTRIES = 21		TOTAL	.00	.00



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 E. CHARLESTON BLVD., SUITE 5-583F
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89122

10 December 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERSHIP

SUBJECT: After Action Report, SOAR XI

It is absolutely never appropriate to begin any kind of report with an apology or an alibi. This is both. First the alibi. I attended SOAR XI and I knew that I had to write this narrative. In truth, I was there the entire time and I observed everything which took place within sight or hearing (GO #1, yes?). What I probably didn't do, however, partly because I passed the "Lieutenants always have a pen and a piece of paper with them" stage a number of years ago, partly because I never was very good at taking copious and detailed notes anyway, and partly because age teaches one that a poor memory is not always a bad thing, is concentrate on being able to provide the most detailed after action report in the world. And so, to those of you who missed SOAR XI through no fault of your own, I do apologize in advance if my reporting seems to leave something to be desired. And to those of you who attended and don't get honorable (or dishonorable) mention herein for something you consider worthy, Adam Husar's telephone number is (watch me get this wrong!) 415-887-2383 and he is anxious to hear from volunteers to be next year's secretary. So there you have it, an alibi and an apology. Maybe two wrongs will make a right! (but probably not!)

Lionel Lee Hector
Secretary

Although SOAR XI didn't officially begin until the 4th or 5th of December (first indication of accuracy!), the organizers, workers and assorted escapees from domestication began arriving (or, in one or two cases, just went AHOL from somewhere else in Vegas) as early as the the 2d. (We suppose that there may have been one or two hard core members who were there earlier; we apologize for not highlighting their earlier accomplishments whatever they were!)

As usual, Scotty Lyon gets first billing for his organizational efforts. Scotty lives in Las Vegas and just about everything that needs to be accomplished prior to the arrival of the first beer and ice haulers falls to him as our resident point of contact. Residency notwithstanding, the following serious reunion workers/organizers and beer and ice haulers were instrumental in having things set up prior to the arrival of the main party: Clayton Scott, Cliff Newmann, Walt Shumate, Art Wilbur, Clyde Sincere, Jack Abraham, wild Bill Galloway and "Ho Chi" Mahoney.



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



John & Marylee Lear, G. Gordon & Fran Liddy, Sully Fontaine, George & Ah Maracek, Dick Meadows (obscured) Scotty & Arlene Lyon, Some of us were having fun, weren't we? (3)



Russ & Barbara Mulvaney, Lynelle & F.M. Ritchie, a couple of unidentified guests, Mike Matteson and Ian Sutherland looking satiated to say the least. (4)

There were without doubt others but those of us who cannot take an entire month off for the SOA reunion weren't there to welcome them personally and we are therefore required to rely on the memories of some of the workers themselves. And, given the nature of the "pre-convention" work, we are obliged to acknowledge and accept that some of these memories aren't as good as they might once have been. So, if you didn't get honorable mention here, chances are we'll give you the business somewhere later in this report. Stick with us.



Bill Bray, Lew Millett and G. Gordon Liddy. A sense of history? (2)

The 3d of December constituted the first full day of "hospitality suite" operation. We are told that the hospitality

suite began operations with 40, count 'em, 40 cases of beer which ran out sometime before sundown on Friday, registration day.

To the credit of the planners who obviously forgot that Las Vegas lies right in the middle of a terribly (well, warm will do) and undeniably dry desert, the "hard stuff" lasted somewhat longer. On the other hand, accuracy demands that we report that the good bourbon ran out on Saturday but you could still get a Bloody Mary on Sunday morning if you didn't mind cheap vodka. And there were a number of takers too, we are told!



Roy Bahr, Jim Cipolla and George Morton enjoying the attentions of the camera. (6)



What do Sherie Lawrence and Lynelle Ritchie know that Dick and Ellie Sommers do not? Or maybe its the other way around? (5)

Of not insignificant note was the Sushi Bar trip on Thursday evening. We are told that the same Sushi Bar survived an earlier onslaught of the SOA on a preceding evening; that lies beyond the purview of this report. Again, bear in mind that these revelers were the advance party and it was clear to the attendees on the following evening that the advanced party had done a fine job of native pacification.



Jim Cipolla, Y Tlur Eban and Gene Bland were really happier most of the time. (7)



Peter, Peter, Peter...right in the middle of a formal photo session? Tch Tch... Mary & John Duffy, Greg & Cindy Rodriguez, enduring Sherie and Dick & Ellie Sommers. (9)

Sometime during this revelry we were reminded that Clayton Scott was about to celebrate his (let us guess: fiftieth? Well, who cares anyway?) birthday and that enlivened things a bit (much to the chagrin of one or two other sushi aficionados who were clearly members of "the protected" and therefore not privy to an understanding of why anybody would give a damn one way or the other.)

This crew retired to the hospitality suite at about the same time the general sushi eating public had had enough (sushi, that is) and it is rumored (we could hardly be expected to witness) that many of these diehards actually watched the sun rise over the Rocky Mountains some few hours later. In any event, registration day had begun!

For those of you who have made two or more reunions, we don't have to tell you who "Mr. Registration" is. But for those of you have not or have, on the outside chance, missed observing a tradition, the SOA reunion begins for most of us with a view of Clyde Sincere presiding over registration. Although we've known Clyde for a number years and have become accustomed to this and his many other important contributions to the Association, there is still something incongruous about being greeted by a well groomed and manicured executive who, not very many years ago, enjoyed a reputation for being one of the greatest hell raisers of all time. Time has indeed mellowed Clyde Sincere and, at least for those of us who had trouble keeping up with him in the "old days", that ain't all bad.

Absent Clyde, there isn't very much more to be said about the registration process. Some 115 members and 48 guests (now talk to me about accuracy, I ask you!) registered on Friday and Saturday, but 8 members who planned to make it, didn't.

On Friday night, thanks to Scotty Lyons' organization, those who chose to do so ended up at a pre-show dinner at Ferdinand's Restaurant where, believe it or not, the group's behavior--there must have been 40 or more of us, more than enough for a majority--was thoroughly acceptable to our fellow diners. Our next stop was the world famous Riviera and the stage spectacle "Splash". Needless to say, one of the real benefits of a Las Vegas reunion is the opportunity to see these fantastic shows and "Splash" was certainly worth the trip. Presented on a stage upon which is the largest aquarium we've ever seen, "Splash" is a variety show involving everything from seals and underwater shenanigans to, are you ready for this, a ventriloquist with a couple of marionettes. This latter act, the name we have already forgotten, included a chicken and a clown marionette which were as lifelike and as funny as anything we've ever experienced. At the very least, it caused a near emergency on the part of one of the weaker bladdered ladies in the party who, quite spontaneously but unintentionally, added to the hilarity of the evening by announcing her rather tenuous condition smack dab in the middle of one of the funniest parts. There is just nothing like laughing until you can't breathe. To be sure, no one came away disappointed!



The Friday night bash before "Splash". Art Wilbur (in the center) presides. The "lady in red" (I guess black and white reproduction will ruin this) sitting to the right front is Alice Connors, with Pat Barrett, Bob Masterjoseph and Bob's mom behind her. Bob and Barbie Johnston, Bernie Bright and Mike & Lucy Duggan adding a little dignity on the left. (16)



The Ginders, Bill Galloway, Ray & Dolly Whittington and John McClaskey. Why is it when we start putting names on these photos taken by God knows who, we cannot come up with the names of some of the better looking women? Could it be that we weren't introduced? (14)



The photographer probably thought G. Gordon and this covey of quail was photogenic; I'd like to know what in hell the picture in the background represents! (13)



This motley crew: Bill Boggs, Jim Butler, Larry Kimmel, Jim Muir, Roger Cherry and Bernie Frye. (11)



One night before winning his third or fourth straight prize in the SOA raffle, Ray Whittington shows some hostility toward Lee Hector who had nothing whatsoever to do with the raffle, to the amusement of Art Wilbur and Clay Scott. (12)

One of the real problems of a well organized event is that it's hard to pick a highlight. Three events of the evening, each a highlight in and of itself, made this evening spectacular. And just so nobody can accuse us of favoritism, we'll discuss them alphabetically. (Are we clever, or what?)

Dick Meadows was the evening's featured speaker. A brief introductory biography can be found elsewhere in this report. Dick spoke on Peru and his experiences there, his opinion of Peru's importance and the potential for the collapse of democracy in that country in the absence of U.S. intervention. Beyond the timeliness of Dick's information, his credibility as an active participant in the kinds of operations with which we are all familiar made his presentation excitingly relevant and thoroughly captivating.



Dick Meadows addresses the SOA reunion. (24)



Lew Millett and "Song of a Soldier"; makes a man want to wipe "something" from his eye. (26)

Again, for those of you who have never attended a SOAR, its hard to tell you of the impact of our second highlight of the evening. Lew Millett, holder of the Nation's highest award for valor, remains without a doubt one of our most impressive members. Each year, Lew recites for us his original poem entitled "Song of a Soldier". We've reproduced Lew's poem elsewhere in this report for those of you who've heard it and wanted a copy. But you can read the poem until you're blue in the face and you've still missed something if you haven't heard Lew's very own personal version.

While we all know that men don't cry, its hard to imagine a qualified member of this organization who, at some time during Lew's presentation, doesn't find himself swallowing a little harder or wiping the occasional "something" from his eye. There is a special place in heaven for guys like Lew, not because of their heroism, but because they have some special ability to make us remember with reverence things that many of us either routinely ignore or tend to remember altogether too casually. Thanks Lew! You make SOARs important for lots of us!



Walt Shumate, Clayton Scott and Lew Millett in a more serious moment. (22)

For the lucky among us, another real highlight of the evening is the raffle. As most of you know, attending members have the opportunity to purchase all sorts of raffle tickets when they register and some raffle ticket sales continue right up to the moment the raffle starts. We aren't lucky and we never win anything ever. So, not only do we not consider the raffles a highlight, we wouldn't mention them at all were in not for one extremely significant fact. Raffles make money for the Association and therefore result in contributions to some very worthwhile causes. And the reason for the success of the raffles is that a bunch of our members contribute the raffled prizes. So, while we aren't going to say too much about those lucky so and so's who win (with a couple of minor exceptions) we are obliged to recognize a debt of gratitude to our donors. Here follows then a list of the prizes which were raffled and the donors of each:



OK, who spilled the peanuts and how the hell did my finger get stuck in my mouth? (18)

With the exception of sunrise and breakfast, the formal activities of the first day of the reunion began at 1000 hours with the call to order of the general membership meeting. The minutes of that meeting are found elsewhere in this report. It probably won't hurt to add here that the meeting was an interesting one, a lot of information was disseminated and, thanks to Clay Scott's mastery of the art of meeting control (I swear he told me to use that phrase!), it didn't drag on beyond its allotted time. And I am absolutely certain that the imminence of a football game had nothing whatsoever to do with it!

The next significant activity of SOAR XI was the traditional parachute demonstration. Fortunately, not all of us have gotten so old that we no longer jump out of perfectly good airplanes, but the number of "active" jumpers has indeed dwindled over the past few years. This year's demonstration was presented and sponsored collectively by Ian Sutherland, Gene Bland, Spider Parks and Walt Shumate who, despite perhaps the worst drop zone in the Continental United States west of St. Mere Eglise, proved once again that age is simply a state of mind. And like all demonstration jumps, there were a couple of minor incidents which, in the interest of editorial accuracy, demand recounting. The first noteworthy event was the loss of a smoke grenade which, by all accounts, plummeted to earth about a half a mile away from the DZ. Failing a report of finding (not to mention damage), the loser of the offending grenade was quietly admonished (we're told) and forgotten.

Of somewhat greater significance, at least in terms of the excitement it provided the spectators, was Walt Shumate's arrival. Despite the absence of a pea pit (the smallest pea on the DZ was a one ton chunk of discarded construction concrete), three of the jumpers managed to land in respectable proximity to each other and the spectators. Walt, may his canopy never fail, apparently felt that three jumpers in one place on that DZ was sufficient and he decided to pick his own landing place somewhat removed from the others. What made his choice somewhat more spectacular were the particularly remarkable high power lines above and near which he appeared to be making his final turn and approach. All ended well, however, when Walt successfully missed turning himself into a conventional (as opposed to a nuclear) crispy critter and those of us who had remained safely on the ground (did that make us "Huffos"?), out of deference to his "active jumper" status, very deliberately and tactfully avoided mentioning the word "out" or any other reference to time or distance calculations. Unfortunately, editorial license permits such comments now that Walt's too far away to do us an harm. Sorry Walt!

It goes without saying that the highlight of all SOARs is the formal dinner and this year was certainly no exception. For those of you who have never attended a SOAR, you shouldn't be put off by the word "formal". While we do indeed have members who like the opportunity to compete with Liberace and Wayne Newton at these events, they constitute an exception, albeit a thoroughly acceptable one. Somewhat less acceptable are those members to whom "formal" means a

clean T-shirt. Of course, there are no dress standards in Las Vegas so if you are one of those who cannot afford both a plane ticket and a shirt and tie, or you really don't mind if the waiters and waitresses are better dressed than you are, you'll not be out of place no matter how you dress. (I think we were told not to say that; call it editorial license!)

As in past years, this year's formal dinner consisted of a buffet of amazing proportions. While we imagine that there are other hotels and restaurants that can do equally as well, we heard no one complaining about Maxim's effort, and rightly so. Only a real culinary expert could do justice to a description of that meal. Suffice to say, no one went hungry!



And you thought St. Mere Eglise was a tough DZ! Walt Shumate cleverly avoids becoming a crispy critter. . . Whoops! (8)



Dolly & Ray Whittington, John McClaskey and the same fox whose name we weren't allowed to remember and Jerry and Sara Ginder. (19)



Ben Lyons, Y Tlur Eban and Gene Bland share a lighter moment. How come nobody else is paying attention to the camera? (20)



Chuck Darnell, Yvonne & Al Shear, Lisa & Tommie Ponder, John Thomas & Tobie and Ginger & Bill Stojack (21)



"Frenchy" Amundsen was as young and as beautiful as ever. You'll never know what we had to do to get the usual platoon of admirers out of the way so that we could take this picture. (23)

General Raffle

<u>Prize</u>	<u>Doner</u>
Winchester, Model 70 308 Art II Rifle with Scope, Gun Guard Deluxe, Two Long Gun Case	John Fryer
SOG oil paintings (2)	Doris Chambers
Moose Commemorative Bourbon Decanter	Rudy Cooper
MAC 10 M10A1S Semi-automatic Pistol, Gun Guard Case, Sling, Barrel Extension and extra magazine	Roy Riddle
Gold Leaf SOG Plaque (2)	Jim Cipolla
SOA Logo, Gold Leaf	Jim Cipolla
European wine (3 bottles)	Frank Vaccarillo
Wincherster Model 70 30/06, Tasco Wide View Scope, Weaver Rings and Bases Gun Guard Deluxe, Two Gun Case	Roy Riddle
Miscellaneous wine	Bert Frye
SF Jackets/miscellaneous items	Mark Kinsler

Knife Raffle

Tanto Knife	Anonymous
#3 Randall	Jim Bierne
Al Mar Survival	Al Mar
Marto Brewer Survival Knife	Annoynmous
Hunting Knife	Al Mar
SOG Commemorative Knife	American Historical Society
Survival Knife	Jim Muir

Reverse Raffle

Ithaca Shotgun

Ithaca

Door Prize

Members only- Challenge Coins

Mark Kinsler

We feel compelled to advise or remind the general membership about two things pertinent to these %*#* raffles. First off, John Fryer finally won the Ithaca shotgun. We cannot be absolutely certain about how he did that but it is important to note that the shotgun had been around for a couple of years and had earned the Association its fair share. Whoever designed the "reverse raffle" should, in our opinion, himself be raffled off next year. The second noteworthy thing about this disgusting example of artless gambling is that Ray Whittington is becoming a royal pain in the kazoo. For the third year in a row (could it be four, Ray?) this sod has won a major prize in the raffle. This year it was the bloody rifle. We don't ordinarily begrudge other people's luck, but Ray has to be pushing his. Maybe we could make some money making book on whether Ray wins again next year... and if he does, if he lives long enough to use whatever he wins. Ray, wanna run the book? There really ought'a be a law!

Oh yeah, we forgot one more thing in the way of a technique for wining. (We are loathe to confess that as of this writing we cannot remember who did this; if and when we do, you'll hear about it again later in this report!) One of our fair haired members charged forward with what he claimed was a winning ticket only to have the number caller discover that he (the false claimer) had misread the number on his ticket (or misheard the caller???). To his share of derision, the offending member returned to his seat only to rise, maybe two numbers later, to legitimately claim an even bigger and better prize. There is no justice!



"I'll tell you what, you give me a past president's award and I won't shoot anybody!"...or..."Just who was the guy who thought up that reverse raffle, anyway?" Atta boy, Jimmy!

(25)

Britt Small and Festival is billed as an All American Showband. That they are and more. We don't know at this writing who to credit for discovering this group and engaging them for us, but whoever it was deserves one hell of a round of applause. Strangely enough, Festival is not billed as a patriotic band nor does the promotional literature give any significance to the "All American" aspect of their title. Still, Small is a Vietnam veteran whose band and music reflect more than just a little patriotism, more than just a little pride in "the forces that guard our country and our way of life" (where do we get these gems?), and if you're going to follow Lew Millett with music and you don't have one of the service bands, you'd have to go a long way to find anything better than Britt Small and Festival. And for those of you who worry about too much of a good thing, they are a hell of a showband and danceband without the fireworks too. We can't speak for the powers that be (hell, we can't even speak to the powers that be!) but we suspect that we'll see this group again, maybe next year. We hope so!



Britt Small and Festival; they were "damned good"!



Sully Fontaine and Clyde Sincere; what would SOA be without these guys?
That's Herb Siugzda in the background. (30)

Time flies when you're having fun and by the time Festival finished their second show of the evening, the crowd had thinned down to the disgusting few who haven't yet come to the realization of how old they've become. A visit to the hospitality suite after midnight (a reporter's obligation; not something we wanted to do!) revealed a half a dozen diehards who'd heard that the cheap vodka wasn't so bad after all. We cannot be certain but we suspect that no one saw the sun rise

Sunday morning. The last unofficial event of SOAR XI was the Sunday morning brunch which began late enough and lasted long enough for even the latest revelers to make. Another superb Maxim meal, perhaps made



Anna Gardner, "Frenchy" and Ine Scott (29)

somewhat less appetizing by the necessity to say goodbye to old friends who we don't see often enough and sometimes fear never seeing again. Somewhere behind the scenes, those that put the show together gathered quickly and quietly to take care of last minute details and, believe it or not, begin the planning for next year's SOAR.



Tell us the truth Gordon, did making friends with those dealers improve your odds? (28)

SOAR XI, like each of its predecessors, was a rousing success, made so not by the planners and workers, but by the camaraderie of a society of which there is no other equal on earth, the Special Operations Association. See you in December?



Lew Millett and Dick Meadows. Black and white doesn't do justice to that medal around Lew's neck but he sure does! (31)



Jack Abraham and Clyde Sincere. (33)



Cliff Newmann and Scotty Lyon (34)



Abraham and Liddy: This is enthusiasm! (46)



We cannot explain this other than to say that Bob Burton is a Marine... and Jack Abraham is just littler! (27)

NOTES FROM ALL OVER

One of the nice things about waiting a few months to publish the after action report, other than the fact that the Secretary gets so damned long to do it, is that we have an opportunity to get some feedback from the members and include some information which was not available at the time of the reunion. The following pages include a bunch of additional notes, some about the SOAR but picked up a little later, some not really appropriate to the 'official' narrative, and some pretty interesting stuff we didn't have in December. And, just to get you to read further, we saved some of the better pictures for these pages. So, read on....!



Anybody want to bet that Ine Scott hadn't arrived yet? Clayton demonstrates the skills which earned him the presidency. . . .we think? (40)

For starters, we saved the above picture for this page because Clay assured us that his wife never reads any further in the after action reports than the last official page of narrative. At least, we think that's what Clay said when he was begging us to return this picture. Well Ine, if you happen to find this picture, you can believe us when we say that there was absolutely nothing going on here. And we can prove at least half of that: that's his left hand on the girl's shoulder! And we swear, the girls on his right (your left) always had those kinds of smiles on their faces. Really!



Bob Johnston, Al Friend, Dan "Rock" Myers, Jim Martin, Adam Husar and Bill Bray strike an extremely serious pose...and no wonder! Ultimately we found a woman who would sit with them, but she wouldn't agree to be in the picture with them. (1)



Mo Blakey is clearly drunk; Clyde Sincere is glad. Art Wilbur and Clay Scott haven't the foggiest idea of what's going on and Ray Chambers is studying a bust. Need we say more? (37)

We got a letter from LTC Gerald (Gerry) Averill, USMC, Ret. (#135) expressing his regret for his inability to attend SOAR XI. Gerry's wife is wheelchair bound but he did have a chance to visit Vegas and Maxim's earlier in the year and says he was really impressed by the hospitality. We concur! Gerry also advised that he had a book published last year entitled "MUSTANG, A Combat Marine" which deals primarily with the Corps in World War II and Korea. He pointed out, however, that there might be some member interest in the parts concerning Marine parachute training. Gerry advises that the book should be available in book stores or can be obtained from the Presidio Press, 31 Pamaron Way, Novato, CA 94947

F.C. "Doc" Brown, U.S.N.H., Box 5, FPO San Francisco, CA 96652-1600 writes to advise us that he has an Annotated Bibliography of Viet Nam Fiction which lists some 500 books written on the conflict in Southeast Asia. Copies can be obtained from "Doc" for \$4.00, postpaid.

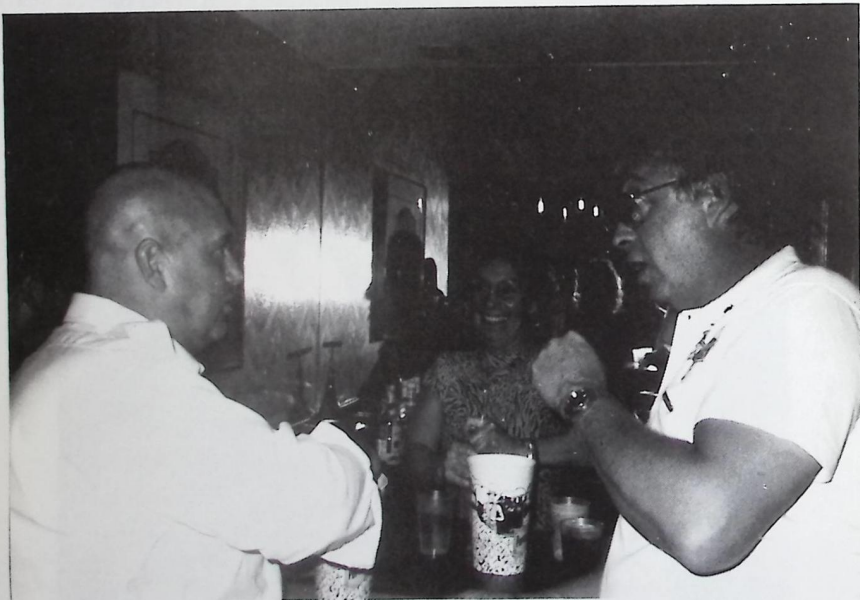
Kenn Miller, 8704 E. Duarte Road, San Gabriel, CA 91775, Tel: 818-287-1748, writes to advise that he is trying to find some old--oops, I meant former--members of Project Delta to complete a book he says he has been commissioned to write in collaboration with LTC Chuck Allen (#413). Unfortunately, Kenn's letter was dated 8 November 1987 and included a request to attend SOAR XI as a guest. We don't have any recollect of meeting Ken at SOAR XI so we are assuming that he didn't get a response and did not attend. Ordinarily we don't spend a lot of space or time on non-members activities, but since Chuck Allen's name was used, we recommend you contact him if you have something of value to contribute. Chuck's address, according to our records, is 1422 Maggie Street, Fayetteville, NC 28303. Hope that's right!



"Anybody know if they got a clearance to jump out here? Tell you what, let's just pretend we're having a picnic!" Nevada is 74% open desert; so guess where these guys decided to jump? Viva Las Vegas! (36)



Sharon Wilbur brought control to Art's life a couple of days into the festivities; despite the help of some of his closest friends, she let him stay till the end! (38)



Bill Galloway taking a shot at Lee Hector. Bill, have you met Ray Whittington? You two have just got to stop drinking! (15)

While we're talking about hoping that we have Chuck Allen's address right, let us take a minute to remind you that we tend to lose track of members who move and don't tell us where they've gone. Those who attend the SOARs usually get their mail for the next year, but there are another 400 members with whom we don't have routine communication. If you are one of our "lost" members, how about dropping us a post card and updating your record. Of course, if you're really lost, you aren't going to get to read this unless somebody else finds you for us. And to that end, here are some people we've really lost. If you know their current address, how about doing them and us a favor and telling us. Thanks!

<u>Member #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Member #</u>	<u>Name</u>
070L	Silk, John	087	Kinsley, Ed
055	McKinney, Richard	016L	Rodriguez, Rick
495	Lear, John	324L	Stern, Mike
093	Wilson, Martin	150	Bennet, Martin
557	Watts, Gregory	382	Treece, Freddie
547	Godwin, Jon	626	Turner, J.R. <i>Found him!</i>
512	Anderson, Don R. "Doc"	230	Jackson, Fred II
002L	Chapman, Les	270L	Vasey, Lewis
684	McElroy, James	407	Block, Mickey
180	Meder, Roland	714	Krempa, William

Every year we depend on members to take pictures at the SOAR and then send them to us for publication. Some guys, Jack Abraham gets an 'atta boy' here, take this responsibility seriously and take pretty good pictures. Others forget to send us any at all and still others send us pictures that our printer just shakes his head at. For the record, next year, we're going to hire a professional photographer and make darn sure we get the right kinds of pictures. If there is anyone out there who is a professional photographer (please guys, willingness in this case is not enough) and who would like to pick up a buck or two while attending SOAR next year, how 'bout dropping us a line. And, since we're going to catch hell anyway, let us just add that color photos don't reproduce very well in these reports which is why some of the ones we're using this time aren't going to win any awards. Sorry guys!

Another thing we want to pay particular attention to for the next SOAR (we're telling you this so that you know we're earning our salaries!) is identifying members and their guests. Only a few of us are involved in assembling the photographs and identifying the people in them and we just don't know everyone. So rather than use an incorrect name, some of the people shown in photographs are simply unidentified. For the record, we don't care about the ugly ones but darned if we didn't miss some of the other kind this year, know what we mean?



If you don't envy Dean Byrnes position, you're either a woman or older than Jack Abraham. (32)



Clayton Scott and Scott Lyons being "supervised" (how come all the pictures of Hector and Clay Scott are in the bar?) moving some of the 200 cases of beer that bit the dust in 3 days. (17)

Then we got Christmas cards from Harris "Harry" and Jean Munck (#312)--they live in Hawaii--and Art and Lura Fields (#1310L) who say their safe house in New Orleans is always open. Neither Harry and Jean nor Art and Lura could attend SOAR XI; we'll look for them at SOAR XII.

Got a short note from J. R. Turner (#626) with whom we had previously lost contact advising that he is doing some charter and flight instruction in the Atlanta area and looking around for other opportunities. He is, incidentally, both rotary and fixed wing rated. He can be reached at Tel: 205-365-7540.

Speaking of scholarships...well, we are now...maybe you'd like to know who the Scholarship Committee awarded our annual \$1,000 scholarships to this year. They are:

Alan J. Shumate	2 years
Don V. Winkler	2 years
Benjamin S. Redman	1 year
Christine R. Redman	3 years

The Scholarship Committee is, incidentally, composed of the following members:

Ralf M. Miller, Ch	James P. Hawke
Travis M. Mills	Frederick T. Abt
George Morton	Stan "Rock" Myers (Alt)

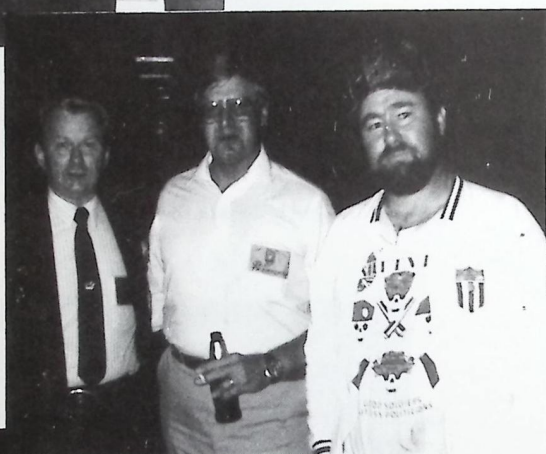
And while we're talking about committees, here are the others:

Membership Committee:	Jim Craig, Ch
Talley Committee:	George Morton, Ch
	Ralf M. Miller
	John "Scotty" Crerar
Nomination Committee:	Adam Husar
	Les Silvernail
	Russ Mulvaney
	Jim Hawke

And while were on the subject, notice two things. First, there's lots of redundancy on these committees; we have 450 paid up members and about two dozen people who do everything. Second, and this is neither the first nor the last time you'll read this, Adam Husar is the guy to tell if you want to join this small group of people and do your share for the Association. OK?



Pat Barrett, John Thomas, Jim Brunni,
Jerry Ginder and son. (45)



"But we are acting naturally! Really!" (47)



"This is a beer, out of which I believe we are running." Would you supply these
guys with beer? Ray Chambers demonstrates his literacy to the amusement
of Adam Husar, Roy Bahr and F.M. Ritchie. (35)



Clyde Sincere and Dan Myers. (44)



Spider Parks explains some of the finer points of parachuting to Clayton Scott.
(43)

PAY ATTENTION TIME !!!

On the opposing page...that, Mr. President, is the next page, and if we did everything right, the one you can see to the right of this one...are some instructions which if you will read and follow, will allow you to make a substantial contribution to the SOA Scholarship Fund over a period of time without reaching into your own pocket at all.

A brief explanation. You can purchase SPRINT[®] long distance service instead of your current long distance service and, according to their advertisement, save money over the cost of your current service while at the same time contributing 1% of the cost of your long distance telephone bill (which you have to pay anyway, right?) to the SOA Scholarship Fund. Over a period of time, that could be a couple of nickels, yes?

SECOND NOTE: No matter what it says on the opposing page, when you pull the page out and complete the application...you can make copies for your friends as well...send the application to either Jesse Siglow, 544 Cajon, Redlands, CA 92373 or Clay Scott at 1040 Sycamore Drive, Millbrae, CA 94030. **PAY ATTENTION PLEASE!!** If you just send these in without sending them to either Jesse or Clay, you may get the 1% back but the SOA Fund won't get it. So do it the right way and some very lucky kids will be eternally grateful, OK?



Dolly Anna and Ah... Sorry guys, but they're taken. But we thought if we put a picture of some good looking women on this page, it would get your attention and that's why we did it. Sneaky but effective, yes? (42)

NOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR ORGANIZATION...WITHOUT SPENDING ANY MONEY! IN FACT...YOU CAN SAVE MONEY! AND EVEN MAKE MONEY IF YOU DESIRE (But you don't need to participate).

Call Any Phone
...Anywhere!



Telecom Express, Inc. (TXI) is marketing the SPRINT and other telephone services directly through the people who **USE THE SERVICE!** By doing this they **SAVE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS** in national advertising...and they are sharing their profits with the people who use their service! (YOU...And Your organization!) What a wonderful idea! SPRINT is an excellent, proven phone service. It's 1 + dialing the same as you have right now, and costs a lot less to use. You can call any telephone in the world with TXI service! **CHECK THESE FEATURES!**

1. Costs *nothing* to join!
2. No extra monthly cost!
3. Your telephone service costs *less!*
4. You receive excellent service!
5. You can **MAKE MONEY** by telling others about the service and giving them an application to join!
6. Your organization will receive 1% of everyone's long distance phone payment every month!
7. You use regular 1 + dialing the same as you do now!
8. The financial support for your organization is *continuous*. Year after year, as long as the supporter continues to make long distance calls.
9. Businesses can join and enjoy great savings on company long distance calls. (And support the organization).
10. TXI **SHARES THEIR PROFITS** with your organization...and YOU! It's modern network marketing. You receive benefits from everyone you sign up through five levels! There's no paperwork for you.

IT'S SO EASY TO GET STARTED! Simply fill out this card and return it to your organization. Remember...it costs you *nothing* to join and it costs nothing extra per month. It will provide you and your organization with a financial blessing for years to come! It's a splendid opportunity!

Telecom Express, Inc.

Authorization Form

I authorize Telecom Express, Inc. (TXI) to act as my primary long-distance carrier for the telephone numbers listed below, and to act as my agent in providing "Dial One" service. I understand that I may incur a minor, one-time charge by my local telephone company for allowing TXI to make these changes.

(Please print or type)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Estimated monthly telephone bill: \$ _____

Present long-distance company _____

Social Security or Federal Tax I.D. Number _____

My main telephone number is: () _____

I also have additional phone numbers that I would like to be assigned to TXI service:

() _____ () _____ () _____
() _____ () _____ () _____

Your signature _____

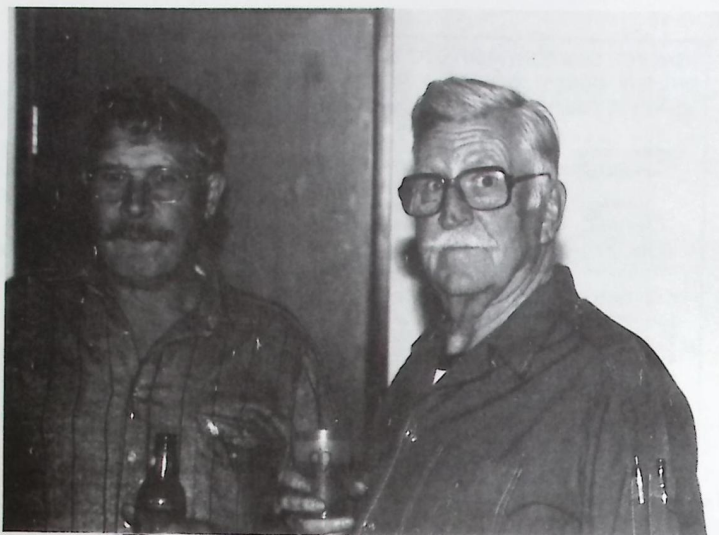
From what organization did you hear about TXI long-distance service?

Name _____ S.S. or Fed. Tax I.D. # _____

Other Information:

I make calls outside the U.S.A. and Canada.

I require travel service.



Walt Shumate and Lew Millett enjoy some of the "hospitality" in the hospitality suite. (39)



Just what the heck are Don Devere and Full House Johnson finding so darn funny? Oh Spider... we're taking a picture here! (10)

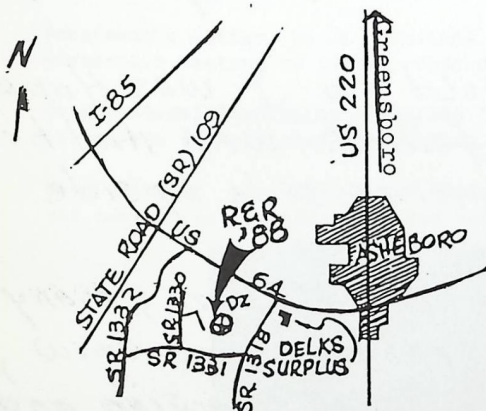
PARTY! R 'N' '88 R



OPEN TO ANYONE WHO WANTS TO HELP

The GENERAL COACTIVE MONTAGANARD ASSOCIATION, INC. is having their third FUND RAISING PARTY TO BENEFIT ALL MONTAGNARDS (DEGA) IN THE USA. This bash will be on: MAY 28TH & 29TH, 1988 (MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND). The party site will be:

Astroid Aviation and Drop Zone (full service)
Route 3, Box 115
Asheboro, North Carolina (919) 241-2207



Motel and hotel accommodations are in Asheboro which is about ten minutes from the drop zone.

- *1. Sir Robert Inn - (919) 629-2101
(a former Holiday Inn)
2. Sir Robert Motel - (919) 625-5171
3. Econo-Travel Motor Hotel - (919) 625-1880
4. Moor's Motel - (919) 625-5450

There are also several small motels in the area. We do not have the means

to block order rooms at any particular place; so you will have to make your own reservations. (*) Most folks hang their hats here.

Like the two previous parties, this get-together is mainly an outdoor, camping affair. Astroid has a basic load of land out there, so feel free to bring your own hootch. But, with comfortable accommodations only ten minutes away you can take your pick of places - EXCEPT STAYING HOME!

There will be a business meeting at noon on the 29th, but the rest of the time the march order will be PARTY BY THE NUMBERS!!

Since all GCMA's profits go directly into the treasury to help the DEGA, we keep the start-up costs of these bashes to a minimum. So to keep the party going we PASS THE HAT WHEN SUPPLIES RUN LOW, so bring some cash.

WHAT WE'VE GOT TO OFFER

1. Plenty of food n' fluid. At the last hoot, there was a 1500 lb. cow to gnaw on. Unfortunately, the lousy April '87 weather "dampened" the party mood so we had about 700 lbs. worth of beef left over. But the weather on MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND shouldn't be a factor so COME ON OUT.

February 24, 1988.

Dear Mr. Clayton,

I am very pleased to let you know, I have received your letter and the membership card of the Special Operations Association -

I don't know how to express my feeling and thanks towards your kindness and regards to the Montagnard people about the admittance of the entry into your dear association -

I, sincerely, told you I was happy to meet many old fellows who had been with me in V.N, fighting side by side against our common enemy -

Sorry, I missed a lot of them; many faces and names disappeared, I know, some of them had been killed in action and I also hope to see one day some of them still alive who may join the association -

Receive my best wishes, God Bless you all -

Sincerely yours -

Y-TLUR-EBAN

Uuuu

The letter on the opposing page was received subsequent to the SOAR and the announcement of the decision concerning Montagnard membership (see the minutes from the general membership meeting). It is published for your information in exactly the form received since we didn't think you'd hear the same message if we reduced it to typewritten form.

Also, we received a nice letter from Alan J. Shumate, one of our scholarship recipients, thanking us for the scholarship, advising that he is doing well in school and that he anticipates graduation in June of 1990 with a commission in Infantry. (Guess he isn't doing all that well after all, eh?) Seriously though, Alan expressed sincere gratitude for the scholarship assistance and says he plans to follow in his father's footsteps. Anybody want to tell him where his father's footsteps were in Las Vegas? Ooooohhh, we just won't leave Walt alone, will we?

OK, on the following pages, there are some things to look for. We mention them here to make sure you get there.

Mike Force Reunion. 3 July 1988, Green Beret Parachute Club, Smoke Bomb Hill, Fort Bragg, NC.

President's Letter to Jim Pollock. This got enough attention at the General Membership meeting to justify reproducing it here.

Congressional Resolution on Martha "Maggie" Raye. Needless to say, we thought you'd like to know what's happening for Maggie.

Reprinting of the Green Beret Magazine. If you're interested in these reprints, you have to get on the stick and tell someone.



Dick Meadow's presentation generated a good deal of interest and after dinner conversation. Some of those who asked questions afterwards looked as though they might be planning a trip to Peru themselves. You, John? (48)

"The First to Fight". Lieutenant Colonel Bob Breen's book on the "diggers" and "Kiwis" of the 173d Airborne. (Colonel Breen is not an SOA member; Peter Rothwell's name (#706) and recommendation (You read about Peter in the general membership meeting minutes, didn't you!) commends the book's mention here.

GCMA Fund Raising Party. 28 and 29 May, 1988, Asheboro, NC. Short suspense!

SOA Plaque available. \$30 for this members only plaque. 50 orders needed to go to manufacture. Will yours be one?

Lew Millett's "Song of a Soldier". We were going to reproduce Lew's poem in its entirety in this report for the benefit of members when we discovered that Lew has a copyright on it and, although he might have permitted its reproduction here, we never asked him. But, clever soldiers that we are, we are not without our alternatives. Our Treasurer, George "Moe" Blakey, 402 Manor Road, Laredo, TX 78041, Tel: 512-724-6028 has what we are told are some excellent recordings of Lew's presentation on cassette. These are available for \$10. from Moe. Call or write today!

And finally, sports fans, we've run out of material for this 1987 SOAR After Action Report and that makes it history. In short order you will be receiving the literature for the 1988 SOAR to be held again in Las Vegas. Get your reservations early and start thinking about how you can make a contribution to the Association. And lets make next year better than ever! See you there!



Tommie and Lisa Ponder just don't miss SOA reunions. (41)

INTRODUCTION

RICHARD J. MEADOWS

Dick Meadows joined the Army in 1947 and served for 30 years in Airborne and Special Forces assignments. He served with distinction with Special Forces on operational duty in Korea, Laos and Vietnam. He was assigned to MACV-SOG in Vietnam where he received a direct commission to Captain. In 1970 he was the assault force leader on the raid on the Son Tay Prisoner of War Camp. He has served and trained in Latin America, the Far East, Middle East and Europe to include a tour of secondment to the British Special Air Service Regiment. He is one of the most highly decorated Special Forces officers.

Retiring as a Major from Army Ranger command in 1977, Dick continued to serve for a further three years as a Civilian Advisor to the Army's Counter Terrorist effort. In 1980 and 81 Dick worked as Project Manager for Ross Perot in the "Texas war against drugs" program. From 1981 to 1982 he was President of Peregrine International Associates, Inc., a special security consultancy based in Dallas, Texas. Dick joined Control Risks, Ltd., as a full-time consultant in April 1983 during which time he operated in Central and South America, providing assistance and advice to families and corporations suffering from terrorist and criminal actions. He became an independent Security Consultant in 1984 and is presently working throughout South America, mainly Peru, as a Security Consultant for national corporations and an international institution.

Thomas H. Rau
47-028 D Hui Iwa Place
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
1 December 1987

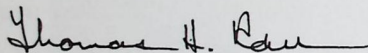
Special Operations Association
5130 E. Charleston Boulevard
Suite 5-583F
Las Vegas, Nevada 89122

Gentlemen:

In November the Veterans Administration Regional Office here in Honolulu conducted a class for Veteran Service Officers. They explained the benefits available for several groups of foreign veterans including Philippine Guerrillas who served under the command of U.S. officers between 1942 and 1946.

I have written to Hawaii's Congressional Delagation, as well as North Carolina's, requesting that they introduce legislation to grant such benefits to Montagnard veterans of the Civilian Irregular Defense Group program. I would like to request that you support this effort, publicize it, and request that the membership write their representatives in Congress requesting their support of such legislation.

Sincerely,



Thomas H. Rau
Member 703-Life

Encl.

100TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 233

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the President should award the
Presidential Medal of Freedom to Martha Raye.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 18, 1987

Mr. DANNEMEYER submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was
referred to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the President should
award the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Martha Raye.

Whereas Martha Raye traveled overseas to provide entertain-
ment and inspiration to members of the Armed Forces of
the United States during World War II, the Korean War,
and the Vietnam War;

Whereas Martha Raye selflessly dedicated herself to entertaining
Special Forces troops in remote regions of Vietnam for 5½
months each year for 9 years during the Vietnam War;

Whereas Martha Raye was the only entertainer to visit secret
reconnaissance teams conducting long range patrols deep in
enemy-controlled territory during the Vietnam War;

Whereas, as a registered nurse, Martha Raye rendered care under adverse conditions to wounded soldiers throughout Vietnam;

Whereas Martha Raye subjected herself to extraordinarily dangerous conditions in bolstering the morale of soldiers during the Vietnam War, and, in the process, sustained wounds to her rib cage and right foot;

Whereas Martha Raye was awarded an Outstanding Civilian Award in 1969 by General William Westmoreland for working 48 consecutive hours aiding overworked medics in Vietnam near the Demilitarized Zone; and

Whereas, in 1985, the Special Forces Association unanimously passed a resolution praising Martha Raye for her 4 decades of personal sacrifices and for her loyalty to the United States: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That—*

3 (1) it is the sense of the Congress that the Presi-
4 dent should award the Presidential Medal of Freedom
5 to Martha Raye in honor of her meritorious service to
6 the United States; and

7 (2) the Clerk of the House of Representatives
8 shall transmit a copy of this resolution to Martha
9 Raye.

○



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 E. CHARLESTON BLVD., SUITE 5-583F
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89122

December 15, 1987

Jim Pollock
1200 Zack Lane
Charlottesville, VA 22901

Dear Jim:

On 5 December 1987, at the eleventh Special Operations Association reunion in Las Vegas, NV, I briefed the assembled general membership on your intention to abandon publication of the history of the Studies and Observation Group. The Association members were unanimous in their position that it is vital you continue your efforts; as well, the assembled membership pledged their support and assistance.

Understanding the pressures you and those who support you may face, and recognizing that there is strength in numbers, I was empowered to appoint you as the Special Operations Association Historian. Accordingly, the Association officially requests you compile a history of its evolutionary predecessor, MACV-SOG.

It's hard to believe that the roots of SOG began almost 25 years ago. With each passing day our memories fade, our friends pass on and we lose more of the history of our Southeast Asian commitment. With this in mind, the membership agreed that we can't leave that legacy to the likes of "Platoon" and abandon this unique phase of our lives. It is important to history and to the American public to show that there really was another side of the Vietnam War; the Special Operations Association is looking to you to fulfill this commitment.

Please feel free to contact me if I may be of assistance or aid you in the course of your research.

Warm regards,

Clayton S. Scott
President



2314 Cheshire Lane
Houston, TX 77018-4023
(713) 683-9076
February 25, 1988

TO ALL SFA CHAPTERS AND SOA

SUBJECT: REPRINTING GREEN BERET MAGAZINES FROM VIETNAM 1966-1970

We are planning to reprint the Green Beret Magazine issued by 5th SFG(A)/I/O from 1966-1970. It will be issued as a five-volume set. Each volume will represent one year and will be about 300 pages. The list price will be \$25 per volume. In order to help defray the initial production cost and help determine the print quantities, we offer the set to SFA chapters and SOA to resell to their membership at a special pre-publication subscription price. Each Chapter should report the number of subscriptions ordered ASAP. After each volume is printed, we will ship the requested number of books to the Chapter for distribution; we ask, at that time, that the Chapter forward payment to us upon receipt of the books. The pre-publication price will be \$15 for each of the five volumes with \$2.50 of that staying with each Chapter. The five volumes will be printed about 3-4 months apart. We cannot accept orders for less than the full set of five volumes. We hope that we have set the pricing attractively enough so all members will want to get at least one set. ACTUAL PRINTING WILL NOT BEGIN UNTIL WE FEEL CONFIDENT THAT WE WILL HAVE ENOUGH IMMEDIATE REVENUE TO COVER PRINTING COSTS, SO YOUR CHAPTER SUPPORT IS ESSENTIAL. We hope that this publication will also encourage lapsed and potential members to join the Associations.

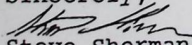
Enclosed you will find the Table of Contents for Volume V (1970) and a very tiny portion of the index which we are just beginning to compile. If we are particularly successful in collecting subscriptions, the last volume will include a special commemorative box at no extra charge and any other freebies we can afford, in appreciation for your support. Other proceeds will go to support SFA projects, including the SF Buddy Search.

Special Arrangements can be made for SOA members and SFA members at large. Orders and payment should be consolidated through the National Association and each issue will be shipped direct, but an additional \$2.00 in postage and handling must be added. This pre-publication offer is meant to put the burden of administration on the Chapters.

We will publish the magazines in reverse order, i.e., from Volume V (1970) to to Volume I (1966). We are still missing a few issues from the 1966-68 period and we hope anyone with issues in that time frame will contact us to check whether or not we still need those issues.

~~We are also trying to contact the persons whose names appear on Enclosure 3. If you are one of these persons or know of his whereabouts, please contact the undersigned~~

I hope you are looking forward to this collection as much as we are,

Sincerely,

Steve Sherman

Volume V (1970) Consolidated Table of Contents

V.1:1	Cover Photo: Ft. Bragg SF Memorial Statue	V.5:3	"Pop" - Still Going Strong (MSG James H. Brockmon)	V.9:2	Letter of Appreciation from DEP-COMUS-MAVC
V.1:2	Commander's Call (COL Michael D. Healy)	V.5:4	Hot Spring in the Highlands (A-245 Dak Seang)	V.9:3	31st Engineers Build and Maintain
V.1:3	Martha Raye... How Many Has She Hugged.?	V.5:8	A-242 (Dak Pek) and A-101 (Mai Loc)	V.9:6	Yards Light for Peace (A-101 Mai Loc)
V.1:3	Astronaut Borman Touches Down at SFOB	V.5:10	A Scout is Brave, Loyal, Trustworthy... VNSF	V.9:8	Guardians of the Delta (A-402, MSF)
V.1:4	Decorations		Backs Boy Scout Troop	V.9:10	Legend of Monk Muc Kien Lien and Wandering Soul's Day
V.1:5	Ski Award Honors Vietnam Beret (SP4 H.R. Anderson)	V.5:12	RECONDO: "...able to infiltrate"	V.9:14	The Last Outpost: Ben Het (A-244)
V.1:5	ECCI Helps Build Playground (Nha Trang)	V.5:18	Signal Company - Loud and Clear	V.8:16	Where Did All Those Girls Come From? (USO Tour)
V.1:5	Chaplain's Corner: A Matter of Perspective	V.5:20	With a Little Help From Our Friends (Cai Cai Playground)	V.9:18	Animals and Sand - A Farm at Danang
V.1:6	Dup Lap: "Ain't No Danger--Never Was!" (A-239)	V.5:20	Chaplain's Corner: When Was The Last Time You Were Shook	V.9:20	Farewell A-101 (Mai Loc)
V.1:10	One Man's Victory (B-40 Striker)	V.5:20	Personal Field Hygiene Stressed	V.9:22	Decorations
V.1:12	Rebirth at Plei Me (A-225, KB-1, KB-4)	V.5:21	A Soldier and His Girl - SFC Steven Samson	V.9:23	Chaplain's Corner: When Responsibility Begins
V.1:14	Making Soldiers into Farmers (Co D POL-WAR Program)	V.5:22	Adopts Baby Girl	V.9:23	Absentee Voting
V.1:18	TEI:1970 (Local Customs)	V.5:23	Decorations	V.9:24	Back Cover Photo - USO Color Guard
V.1:20	Clay Mountain (A-115)	V.5:23	"Mad Minute" - Exercise at Hon Tre Island	V.10:1	Cover Illustration: "Combat Assault"
V.1:22	The Mets and Peanuts: Letters to the Green Berets	V.6:1	Cover Photo: Buddha Statue in Nha Trang	V.10:2	Letter of Appreciation from DCG-USARV
V.1:23	Gail Tavor - Beret Mate	V.6:2	From the Commander (COL Michael D. Healy)	V.10:3	Courage Belongs Not Only To Soldiers
V.2:1	Cover Photo: VNSF Memorial	V.6:3	What Can I Do for You? (CWO John Tatalazski - Air Movement Chief)	V.10:4	B-55: Its Calling Card is FIREPOWER (5th MSF)
V.2:2	Commander's Call (COL Michael D. Healy)	V.6:4	"For conspicuous gallantry..." SP5 John Kedenberg (Medal of Honor)	V.10:6	Bu Dop... Living Under A Deadline (A-341)
V.2:3	VNSF Command Passes to BG Pham	V.6:5	General Phu Awarded Legion of Merit	V.10:9	SMA Copeland Visits 5th SFGA
V.2:3	Father, Son Team Up w/SF (MSG & WO De-Vere)	V.6:6	Green Grows Dalat (Army Procurement of Fresh Vegetables)	V.10:9	Colonel Ho Tieu Assumes Command of VNSF
V.2:4	Decorations	V.6:8	War of Words (B-43 Chi Lang PSYOPS)	V.10:10	Happiness Is (Children's Mid-Autumn Festival)
V.2:5	Chaplain's Corner: Part of the Problem or Part of the Answer	V.6:10	Building Blocks in Pleiku (SF Cement Block Factory)	V.10:12	Vietnam: Some Thoughts on the Ways and Minds of the People
V.2:5	SKS Authorized as War Trophy	V.6:12	AIRBORNE!	V.10:14	Logistical Support Center Trains ILDB NCO's
V.2:5	New Policy Covers Postal Money Orders	V.6:14	Buddhism - Religions of Vietnam	V.10:16	Band Socks It To 'Em Everywhere - 5th SFGA Band
V.2:5	Mail Delivery Clarified	V.6:16	Sport Jumping in Vietnam	V.10:19	Thuong Duc Valley Has Quieted Down (A-109)
V.2:6	VNSF Marks Seventh Anniversary	V.6:20	E-6s Under Seven Get Promotion Break	V.10:22	Decorations
V.2:7	Giving: One Man's Style (SFC Gene Thomas)	V.6:20	GI Bill Upped	V.10:23	Chaplain's Corner: Prayer
V.2:10	IDC: Web of Protection (Nha Trang Defense)	V.6:20	Safety Does Pay - One Man's Misadventure	V.10:23	The Right to Participate Actively in Your Government
V.2:12	Snake of the Mountain	V.6:20	New Enlisted Efficiency Report System	V.10:24	Back Cover Drawing: Gretta - Cushy Job
V.2:14	MSF: The "Palace Guard"	V.6:21	Chaplain's Corner: A Reverence for Life	V.11:1	Cover Photo: "Go"
V.2:16	"Intruders" Bring Smoke (281 AHIC)	V.6:21	Classroom Dedicated to SP4 Samuel W. Wal-thour	V.11:2	From the Commander (COL Michael D. Healy)
V.2:18	Civil Affairs: Wrap-up '69	V.6:22	Decorations	V.11:3	Tong Le Chon Aids Damp Yards (A-334)
V.2:20	From Rubbish to Residence (B-11 Chu Lai)	V.6:23	Poultry Power: A-431 Cai Cai	V.11:4	Civic Action Medal Presented to Group
V.2:21	Ann-Margret Photo	V.7:1	Cover Painting: "Green Beret"	V.11:6	Duc Hue... Muddy But They're Working for The Future (A-325)
V.2:31	Cover Painting: Patrol	V.7:2	From the Commander (COL Michael D. Healy)	V.11:9	One More Jump And Then... AIRBORNE
V.3:2	DOD Sees Advances in Vietnamization	V.7:3	A Word to the Wise... Combat Orientation Course	V.11:12	Forward Air Controllers - Pros Doing Their Job
V.3:3	Cuban Captain Dons Beret (CPT Juan A. Morientes)	V.7:4	Medics Earn Legion of Merit (A-102 Tien Phuoc)	V.11:16	Trang Phuoc Has Converted But Memories Linger On (A-233)
V.3:4	3rd MSF Finds Record Cache	V.7:5	Nomads Seek Peace (A-236 Bu Prang)	V.11:18	Devil's Brigade: The Storey of The First Special Service Force
V.3:9	Tiger Stripes to Steel Pots (A-246 Mang Buk)	V.7:8	Helping your Brother Help Himself (Co A. CIDG Hospital)	V.11:20	YARDS of B-55 Celebrate Victory
V.3:12	Vietnam Vignettes	V.7:10	Have Drill Will Travel (31st Engineers at Bu Prang)	V.11:22	Decorations
V.3:14	CIDG at the Lanyard (A-331)	V.7:12	Combat Readiness Team Aids and Assists	V.11:23	Chaplain's Corner: Thanksgiving: Let Us Be Grateful
V.3:16	Nowhere to Go (IV Corps CIDG Hospital)	V.7:15	The Wisdom of Confucius Religions of Vietnam	V.11:23	Post-Separation Insurance Coverage
V.3:18	From Mountains to Muck (4th Co. 5th MSF)	V.7:18	Day After Day New Caches Are Found (A-352 Tra Cu)	V.11:24	Veterans Day
V.3:21	Chaplain's Corner: Practical Tests for Every Man	V.7:20	MEDCAP Aids Hoa Binh Village at New Bu Prang	V.11:24	Back Cover Drawing: Gretta Says Mail The Green Beret Home Today
V.3:21	New Enlisted Promotion Policy in Effect	V.7:21	Insurance Benefits Go Up	V.12:1	Cover Photo - VNSF/USASF Combined Color Guard
V.3:22	Decorations	V.7:21	Chaplain's Corner: Peace Be To You	V.12:2	From the Commander (COL Healy)
V.3:23	Gretta Berrett - SSAN 38-33-36 Morale Spec.	V.7:22	Decorations	V.12:3	Green Berets in Vietnam
V.4:1	Cover Photos: CIDG Training	V.7:23	Maggie's Photo	V.12:6	Military Region III (Co A.)
V.4:2	5th Named Meritorious Unit	V.8:1	Cover Painting: CSMA George W. Dunaway	V.12:12	Military Region II (Co B.)
V.4:3	End of an Era CWO George Railey	V.8:2	The Man Who Came to Dinner (George Peppard)	V.12:18	Military Region I (Co C.)
V.4:4	"Judo is Gentleness" (MSG Ramon Ancho)	V.8:3	Been Seeing Double Lately? (Williams Twins)	V.12:24	Military Region IV (Co D.)
V.4:5	The "Duke" Digs Yards	V.8:4	CIDG Learn of Ranger Benefits	V.12:30	Mobile Strikers Have Proven Their Value
V.4:6	New Parachute in the Wind (NSP-1)	V.8:5	A First for the Fifth (SP5 Ronald M. Cosby)	V.12:32	On Patrol: Photos
V.4:7	Down on the Farm (Co B S-5 Farm = Pleiku)	V.8:5	Chaplain's Corner: Living with Our Moods	V.12:34	People of Vietnam: Photos
V.4:10	Museum to Expand (SFOB Museum Seeks Donations)	V.8:6	Ba Xoi: Living Under Fire (A-421)	V.12:38	Montagnards: Photos
V.4:12	Underground A Camp (A-236 Bu Prang)	V.8:10	The House that Papa-San Built (A-107 Dispensary)	V.12:40	Commanders and Sergeants Majors (1961-70)
V.4:14	Circuit Rider: Chaplain Theodore W. Hecner	V.8:11	A Day in the Life... (A-334 Tong Le Chan)	V.12:41	AST: Informing the Staff of SF Activities
V.4:16	The Case of the Portable Dentist (MAJ Edward Hirsch)	V.8:14	Animism - The Religion of the Montagnards	V.12:42	VIPS: Photos
V.4:20	Farm Girl Walks Again (Ninh Hoa)	V.8:22	To Give Them Confidence (Co A. CIDG Rehab Program)	V.12:44	Exemplify Group Traditions: Awards and Decorations
V.4:21	Army Renovates Career Fields	V.8:23	A "Bear" of a Teammate - (Co A. Mascot)	V.12:46	Decorations
V.4:21	Early Out Plan Aids More GIs	V.8:24	Back Cover Drawing: Gretta - SF Diver	V.12:47	Photo Tribute: Maggie. Thank You
V.4:21	A-Teams Group PX Purchases Okayed	V.9:1	Cover Painting: "Humping the Hills"	V.12:48	Photo: "Mission Completed, Sir. What's Next"
V.4:21	CONUS Assignments for Viet Wounded				
V.4:21	Chaplain's Corner: Life's Saving Tension				
V.4:22	Decorations				
V.4:23	Berets Win Airman's Medals				
V.4:23	Berets Treat Orphanage Girls to Beach Party				
V.4:23	Back Cover - Gretta Berrett - Jungle Fighter				
V.5:1	Cover Photo: Recondo Students Practice Hellborne Techniques				
V.5:2	Commander's Call (COL Michael D. Healy)				

GREEN BERET MAGAZINE - INDEX

This is a partial listing incorporating citations from Volume V and part of Volume IV.

(* = Posthumous citation)

- ^ A-101 Mai Loc V.5:4-9; V.9:6-7,20-21
- ^ A-102 Tien Phuoc V.7:4
- ^ A-105 Ngan Son (See A-115)
- ^ A-107 Tra Bong V.8:10
- ^ A-109 Thuong Duc V.10:5,19-21
- ^ A-115 Ngan Son V.1:20-21
- ^ A-233 Trang Phuoc V.11:16
- ^ A-236 Bu Prang V.9:3-4; V.11:5
- ^ A-239 Duc Lap V.1:6-9
- ^ A-242 Dak Pek V.5:4-9
- ^ A-244 Ben Hiet V.9:14-15
- ^ A-245 Dak Seang V.5:4-9
- ^ A-246 Bu Prang (New) V.4:12-13; V.7:5-7,10-11,20
- ^ A-246 Mang Buk V.3:9-11
- ^ A-251 Plei Diereng V.7:10
- ^ A-255 Plei Me V.1:12-13
- ^ A-325 Duc Hue V.7:18-19; V.11:6-8
- ^ A-326 Tra Cu V.7:18-19; V.11:7
- ^ A-331 Loc Ninh V.3:14-15
- ^ A-334 Tong Le Chon V.8:11-13; V.11:3,13
- ^ A-341 Bu Dop V.8:23; V.10:6-8
- ^ A-344 Bu Nard V.10:7
- ^ A-421 Ba Xoai V.8:26-9
- ^ A-431 Cai Cai V.6:23
- ^ Aaron, Harold R., COL V.12:40
- ^ Abellano, Philbert B., SFC IV.8:3
- ^ Abrams, Creighton W., GEN V.6:5; V.12:43
- ^ Abt, Frederick T., LTC V.5:22
- ^ Acosta, Abe Sr., SFC IV.7:22
- ^ Acre, James E., SGT V.5:22
- ^ Acre, Lawrence D., MAJ IV.8:3; V.2:4
- ^ Adair, Morris N., MSG V.12:46
- ^ Adams, Alan L., SP4 V.12:46
- ^ Adams, Charles E., SFC V.2:4
- ^ Adams, Charlie M., SFC V.3:22
- ^ Adams, Frederick G., SGT IV.2:5
- ^ Adams, John C., SGT IV.1:14
- ^ Adamski, Gerald M., MSG V.10:22
- ^ Adkins, John H., SP5 V.5:22; V.7:22
- ^ Adler, Herman, CPT V.12:46
- ^ Aguilar, George Jr., SFC V.6:22
- ^ Albracht, William L., CPT V.4:22; V.6:22; V.8:22; V.9:22; V.11:22
- ^ Alderman, Joe C., SSG V.9:22; V.6:22
- ^ Aleshire, Charles D., SGT V.2:4; V.4:22; V.6:22; V.8:22; V.9:22
- ^ Alexander, Andrew S. III, SGT IV.11:4; V.7:22
- ^ Alexander, Edwin H., SFC IV.9:3
- ^ Alexander, Jerrold M., ILT V.4:22; V.10:22
- ^ Allen, George C. D., SFC IV.1:14; IV.4:4
- ^ Allen, John E., ILT V.9:14
- ^ Allen, Raymond V.2:14
- ^ Allen, Ronald L., SSG V.3:22
- ^ Alliman, Peter J., SGT IV.7:22; IV.9:3
- ^ Alliman, Peter J., SGT IV.7:22
- ^ Almueti, Andy M., SSG V.11:22
- ^ Altman, Richard W., SSG V.2:4
- ^ Amabisca, Joe E., SGT IV.9:3
- ^ Ambrose, Floyd Jr., SSG V.4:22
- ^ Ambrose, Paul E. Jr., SSG IV.4:4
- ^ Ameling, William III, SP5 V.7:22
- ^ Ancho, Ramon, MSG V.4:4
- ^ Anders, Howard G., ILT V.11:22
- ^ Anderson Clinic V.1:11; V.3:16
- ^ Anderson, Herbert R., SP4 V.1:5
- ^ Anderson, Jergen K., ILT IV.11:4
- ^ Anderson, John C., MSG V.3:22
- ^ Anderson, John J., SP5 IV.7:22; IV.9:3
- ^ Anderson, Wayne M., SGT V.2:4
- ^ Andorka, David H., SSG V.12:46
- ^ Andreas, Mark J., SSG IV.1:14
- ^ Andressen, William C., SP4 V.11:22
- ^ Andrews, Donald F., ILT V.6:22; V.7:22; V.9:22; V.10:22; V.11:22
- ^ Angel, William E., MAJ V.3:22
- ^ Angsten, Joseph J. Jr., CPT V.6:22
- ^ Angster, Robert C. Jr., SGT IV.1:14
- ^ Animism V.8:14-17
- ^ Ann-Margret V.2:21
- ^ Aparis, Gilbert, SFC IV.6:22
- ^ Apodaca, Tiberto, MSG IV.3:9
- ^ Apperson, Gerald F., SSG* IV.4:3
- ^ Arbei, Martin L., SSG IV.11:4; V.3:22; V.7:22
- ^ Archer, John B., ILT V.7:22
- ^ Ardison, Larry G., ILT IV.11:4
- ^ Arellano, Morales J., ILT V.5:22
- ^ Ashley, Jr. Eugene, SFC V.12:45
- ^ Aslund, Theodore D., SGT IV.9:3
- ^ Atkins, Robert A., SFC IV.8:3
- ^ Atteberry, Francis S., SFC V.10:22
- ^ Atwell, Ronald G., SP4 V.2:4
- ^ Atwood, Ronald D., SSG V.8:22
- ^ Augsburg, Larry E., CPT V.12:41
- ^ Auriemma, Paul, SGT IV.8:3; IV.11:4
- ^ Austin, Arthur R., CPT V.3:22; V.6:22
- ^ Austin, Frederick E., SSG V.3:22
- ^ Austin, Lawrence D., SP5 IV.8:3
- ^ Avery, David (Pearl River, NY) V.1:22
- ^ Ayers, Anthony, ILT IV.1:9
- ^ Bodt, Lawrence P., SP5 V.12:46
- ^ B-32 Tay Ninh V.4:14
- ^ B-33 Hlon Quan V.4:23; V.11:13
- ^ B-36 3rd Mobile Strike Force V.3:4-8
- ^ B-43 Chi Lang V.6:8-9
- ^ B-51 Dong Ba Thin V.11:9-11
- ^ B-53 Long Thanh V.6:21
- ^ B-55 5th Mobile Strike Force Command V.2:14-15; V.10:4-5; V.11:20-21; V.12:30-31
- ^ Ba Xoai (A-421) V.8:26-9
- ^ Bader, Arthur E. Jr., SGT IV.1:3
- ^ Bagby, Jack A., "Jabo" SFC V.1:6-9; V.2:4
- ^ Bahatka, Joseph A., ILT IV.2:5
- ^ Bailey, Henry M., MSG IV.6:22; V.4:22
- ^ Bailey, Raymond C., SFC V.9:21
- ^ Bain, Ronald L., SFC V.11:22
- ^ Baker, David C., SP4 IV.9:3; V.2:4
- ^ Bakios, Stephen, CPT V.1:10
- ^ Ball, Doug, CPT V.11:13-15
- ^ Ballard, Asa R., SFC IV.11:4
- ^ Balliet, Phillip Q., SGT IV.7:22; V.11:22
- ^ "Bandits" V.2:16
- ^ Banfield, Richard C., SP4 V.7:22
- ^ Barbour, Frederick L., ILT IV.4:4
- ^ Barbour, Sherrill W., SFC IV.1:14
- ^ Barclay, William T., SP4 IV.1:14
- ^ Bargewell, Eldon A., SGT IV.7:22
- ^ Barkstrom, Michael, SGT V.6:22
- ^ Barnes, Jerry E., SP4 V.4:22
- ^ Barnes, Wes, SFC V.6:10-11
- ^ Barnes, William G., SFC V.10:22
- ^ Barnett, Thomas D., ILT V.2:4; V.3:20
- ^ Barney (SW Museum Display) V.8:23
- ^ Barra, Pete, SP5 V.10:16-18
- ^ Barritt, Michael D., SGT V.11:22
- ^ Barta, Dave L. Jr., SGT IV.8:3
- ^ Bartberger, Edward A., SFC IV.11:4; V.2:4
- ^ Bartlett, John W., ILT V.4:22
- ^ Bashore, Frank M., LTC V.5:22; V.10:22
- ^ Batchelor, Thomas D., SSG V.3:22
- ^ Batton, William, SSG V.9:14
- ^ Baudendistel, Winfred P., SSG V.7:22; V.9:22; V.11:22
- ^ Bauso, Phillip A., ILT IV.4:4
- ^ Bayer, Ulrich, SSG V.11:22
- ^ Bayless, Clyde Y., SSG V.6:22
- ^ Beach, John M. Jr., ILT V.11:22
- ^ Bean, John R., SFC V.5:22
- ^ Beasley, Charles A., ILT IV.9:3
- ^ Beaudreau, Donald J., SGT V.12:46
- ^ Bechtoldt, Robert J., SGT V.4:22
- ^ Beck, Andrew J., ILT V.11:16
- ^ Beck, Garry F., CPT V.8:23
- ^ Beck, Manuel R., SGT IV.1:14
- ^ Beck, Travis A., ILT V.6:22
- ^ Becker, Dennis T., ILT IV.1:9
- ^ Beckman, Robert C., CPT* V.3:22
- ^ Beebe, Donale E., MSG IV.2:5
- ^ Belcher, Thomas, SFC V.5:23; V.7:3
- ^ Belima, William, SFC IV.11:4
- ^ Belisle, Albert G., SFC IV.7:22
- ^ Bell, Gene, MSG V.7:22; V.8:22
- ^ Bell, Joe F., MSG V.7:22
- ^ Belletire, Frank L. Jr., SSG IV.6:22; IV.8:3; V.2:4; V.3:22
- ^ Beltran, Pablo, SP4 IV.1:14
- ^ Bemis, Donald, SGT V.10:16-18
- ^ Ben Hiet (A-244) V.9:14-15
- ^ Benjamin, James S., SSG IV.8:3; IV.9:3
- ^ Bennett, Alfred A., ILT V.4:22
- ^ Bennett, Clarence G. Jr., ILT V.3:22
- ^ Bennett, Kenneth M., SGT V.2:4
- ^ Benoit, James D., SGT IV.9:3
- ^ Bernas, Thomas J., SP4 IV.8:3
- ^ Bernier, Robert A., SFC IV.1:14; IV.9:3
- ^ Berretta, Greta V.4:24
- ^ Berry, Alfred J., SP4 V.7:22
- ^ Berry, Michael G., SGT V.8:7-9
- ^ Berry, Vaughn W., SGT V.3:22
- ^ Bertoni, Joseph F., SGT V.10:22
- ^ Bessner, Harry B., SFC V.10:22
- ^ Beswick, William F. Jr., SFC IV.11:4
- ^ Betty, Everett M., SP4 IV.8:3
- ^ Bianchi, Warren K., SSG V.6:22; V.7:22
- ^ Biddle, Charles C. Jr., MSG V.11:22
- ^ Bidwell, Robert L., Jr., CPT IV.7:22
- ^ Biela, Gregory E., SP4 V.9:22
- ^ Bierbaum, Tibor, ILT V.6:22
- ^ Biggie, Martin J., CPT V.11:22
- ^ Bingham, Klaus, SGT V.10:22
- ^ Birchim, James D., ILT IV.1:3
- ^ Bishop, Charles M., SFC V.5:22; V.7:5-6
- ^ Bishop, Richard, CPT V.4:5
- ^ Bithorn, Charles B., SGT V.8:22; V.11:22
- ^ Blaauw, John G., SSG V.2:4; V.9:22
- ^ Black, Charles S., LTC V.7:22
- ^ Black, James T., SGT V.9:22
- ^ Black, Rois H., SFC V.11:22
- ^ Blair, James F., SFC V.8:22; V.9:22
- ^ Blair, Robert E., SFC V.3:22
- ^ Blais, Gerald J., SFC V.9:22
- ^ Blanchard, Charles W., SFC IV.7:22
- ^ Blanchard, Richard J., SP5 IV.8:3
- ^ Blanchard, Robert E., CPT IV.9:3
- ^ Bless, Charles A., SFC V.10:22
- ^ Blough, Ernest G., SFC IV.3:9
- ^ Blue, Donald, SSG IV.4:3; V.9:8-9; V.10:22
- ^ Blyth, Edward L., SSG V.8:22
- ^ Bolen, James E., SSG IV.3:9
- ^ Bolton, Robert L., SFC IV.11:4; V.7:22
- ^ Boman, Elmer L. Jr., SFC IV.6:22; IV.11:4
- ^ Bond, Russell F., SP4 IV.11:4; V.2:4
- ^ Boone, Timothy A., CPT V.10:22
- ^ Booth, Gordon H., ILT V.8:22
- ^ Booth, Michael J., SP5 V.12:46
- ^ Borman, John E., MAJ IV.6:22; IV.7:22
- ^ Borman, Frank, Astronaut V.1:3
- ^ Bostley, Rance F., SP5 V.3:22
- ^ Bounds, Austin C., SFC IV.8:3; V.3:22
- ^ Bourdeaux, Donald, SSG V.8:22; V.12:46
- ^ Bowen, Glen L., SFC V.6:22
- ^ Bowers, Glenn R., SFC V.11:22
- ^ Bowser, Myron J., CSM V.4:2; V.10:9; V.12:40
- ^ Bowwan, Joseph M., ILT V.2:4
- ^ Boyd, Everett L., SFC IV.9:3; V.6:22
- ^ Boyd, Kenneth M., ILT IV.6:22
- ^ Boyd, Paul L., SGT V.10:22
- ^ Boyer, Dick, LT V.11:15
- ^ Boykin, John T., CPT IV.11:4
- ^ Boylan, Stephen L., SP4 V.9:22
- ^ Boyle, William, SFC IV.4:4
- ^ Boyle, William, SSG IV.4:4
- ^ Bozeman, John R., CPT IV.8:3; V.2:4
- ^ Bozikis, Ronald H., SGT V.2:4
- ^ Bradford, Roy A., MSG V.3:22
- ^ Bradley, Anthony M. Jr., SP4 V.7:22
- ^ Bradley, William G., CPT IV.4:4
- ^ Brady, Jan, SP4 IV.8:3
- ^ Brady, William G. III, SSG V.7:22
- ^ Brady, William H., CPT V.9:14
- ^ Bramlette, David L., ILT IV.7:22; IV.8:3
- ^ Brennan, Owen, MSG V.8:11,13
- ^ Brents, Terry R., SGT IV.4:4
- ^ Brevette, James L. Jr., SFC IV.3:9; V.11:22; V.12:4
- ^ Bridgewater, Tom W. Jr., MAJ V.5:22; V.7:22; V.10:22
- ^ Briggs, Thomas E., SFC V.10:22
- ^ Bright, Bernard, SFC V.12:46
- ^ Britton, Frederick I., CPT V.10:22; V.11:22
- ^ Brock, James A., SSG V.9:22
- ^ Brock, Ronald C., SFC V.3:22
- ^ Brockmon, James H., MSG V.5:3

MIKE FORCE REUNION

TIME: 1300 Hours

DATE: July 3, 1988

PLACE: Green Beret Sports Parachute Club, Smoke Bomb Hill,
Ft. Bragg, North Carolina

WHAT: A Meeting Of All Mike Force Personnel

AGENDA

1300-1400 HOURS Signing in with your name, address and
phone number.
(You may drink a beer while signing in.)

1400-1500 HOURS Reintroduction of yourself to old
friends. No lying at this time. Beer
drinking permitted at this event.

1500-1600 HOURS Guest speaker. Yourself. Beer and
lying permitted from here on out.

1600 Until ? From here on out you do your own agenda.

ENTERTAINMENT: Us.

MUSIC: You pay, the juke box plays.

REFRESHMENTS & SNACKS: Whatever they sell over the bar.

WHAT TO BRING: Cash. The next round may be on you.

Anyone who is unable to attend for any reason, please write or call me anyway. We still want to hear from you. My address and phone number are down below. It is not my intent to slight anyone's rank, when I mailed these out, I think all of you know that I had the highest respect for your rank when I was in the service and still do. I do not know what rank you hold now or held when you left the service.

Please attend, and encourage others to attend, you will never regret a single minute of it. This is serious. Bring your Beret, there will be a formation on or about 1100 Hours at the Special Forces statue, outside the Special Forces Museum to pay tribute to our fallen and missing comrades.

My Best Regards,

Bob Gilstrap
20408 Strathern
Canoga Park, CA 91306
(818) 998-2897

Point Of Contact In The South: Bucky Burruss (919) 245-4154, NC
Larry O'Neil (404) 798-6965, GA

MIKE FORCES

TO: ALL FORMER MIKE FORCE MEMBERS

On 19-21 July, 1985 a small group of former Mike Force members met at the Green Beret Sports Parachute Club for the purpose of a reunion. The only means used to advertise the reunion was through?? "The Drop" and the "Army Times" and last but not least by word of mouth. We had approximately 20 members, the majority of which was A503/B55. To say the least we all had a great time.

During our get-together and over a few beers we decided that we were going to do it again, and now that time has come. This time, however, we decided to do it sort of in conjunction with, but so that it wouldn't conflict with the Special Forces Association convention scheduled for 6-10 July, at the Bordeaux Motor Inn. In all probability most of you intend to attend so why not arrive a few days early and meet with us. You won't regret it, I promise you.

What we would like is for this letter to act as sort of a chain letter, you read it, keep a copy and send a copy to every former Mike Force member that you know. If you have their phone number call them.

Remember that only with your support does this get-together stand a chance of making this meeting bigger and better than the last. Cooperate and I'll buy you a beer.

A little name dropping of those who attended last meeting:

BUCKY BURRUSS	CHUCK HINER	LARRY O'NEIL
J.C. COOPER	DICK BISHOP	SAMMY COUTTS
TENNIS (SAM) CARTER	BOB GILSTRAP	

(These names were chosen because they were "safe names" some of the others are on active duty, and I am not sure of their status.)

Advertising: I have run an ad in the "Army Times" and Bucky is going to run one in "The Drop". I have never subscribed to the "Static Line" so I am trying to subscribe and run an ad in there at the same time. It would have been nice to have gotten an ad in "The American Legion Magazine", "The VFW Magazine", and even "The Soldier Of Fortune". If any of you have any influence in this area please feel free to use my name, address and phone number as a point of contact. I do know one man who has the know-how, but I don't want to mention any names, his initials are D.B. Any others, please come forward. We need all of the exposure we can get. Do not, I repeat, do not use my name in conjunction with any advertising bills. Consult me first.

I have rambled on for awhile and feel like it is time to get down to the serious aspects of our reunion, like what we are going to do at our reunion:

THE FIRST TO FIGHT

Australian Diggers and New Zealand Kiwis with
U.S. Paratroopers in Vietnam 1965-66
Lieutenant Colonel Bob Breen

'It is about time someone cut the bullshit and told the story of how we fought in Vietnam'.

Peter Rothwell

Australian veteran of Korea, Malaya and two tours of Vietnam

In 1965, at the very beginning of Australia's commitment in Vietnam, a battalion of diggers (First Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment) and a Kiwi gun battery (161 Field Battery, Royal New Zealand Artillery) were assigned to operate with a brigade of US Paratroopers (173rd Airborne Brigade) as the Vietnam War escalated.

This unique ANZUS force was the first Allied combat formation to fight in War Zone D, the Central Highlands, The Iron Triangle, the Ho Bo Woods, the Michelin and Courtenay Plantations, and the Mekong Delta. They were Westmoreland's 'fire brigade', fighting and dying in seven provinces, learning the lessons of the Vietnam War the hard way, lessons for those who would follow.

The First to Fight tells the story of a fascinating aspect of the early days of the Vietnam War, of a bold experiment in military co-operation, and what that meant to the men of three countries who fought together against a ruthless enemy.

Allen & Unwin Australia, the publishers of *In Good Company: One Man's War in Vietnam* by Gary McKay, and *Australia's War in Vietnam* by Frank Frost will publish Lieutenant Colonel Bob Breen's story of the diggers and kiwis of the 173rd Airborne early in the second half of the bicentennial year. The 350 page book will be lavishly illustrated with photographs and battle maps, and will incorporate a complete roll of the more than 1600 Australian and New Zealand soldiers who served, published for the first time.



I am interested in buying a (✓)

SEND NO MONEY AT THIS TIME
NO OBLIGATION

- ☐ Collector's Special Edition \$60
☐ Hardback Edition \$30
☐ Paperback Edition \$20

(\$43 us)
(\$22 us)
(\$15 us)

when the fully illustrated book, *The First to Fight — Australian Diggers and Kiwis with US Paratroopers in Vietnam 1965/66*, is published in 1988

Name: _____

Address: _____ Post code: _____

POST TO: Allen & Unwin Australia, PO Box 764, North Sydney 2059 New South Wales
AUS. CAPITAL

A "THANK YOU VERY MUCH" is in order from the General Coactive Montagnard Association to all the members/guests at SOAR XI. If you good folks weren't buying a membership or blanket you were asking some important and pertinent questions. And getting the word out about our effort is half the battle toward keeping this project going until the "Yards" themselves are able to step in and run it. The Montagnard lady who made those blankets put around \$300.00 in her and her husband's pockets thanks to your generosity and since they just had a new baby; don't you know that money will come in handy!

Somewhere in this AAR we have a page on our party out at G.M. Bland's drop zone (Astroid) in North Carolina over the Memorial Day (May28-29) weekend, which has all the info. on this bash, so if you think you can make it, come on out!

THANK YOU ALL AGAIN FROM ALL OF US AT G.C.M.A. We really appreciate the support.



A slab of Wyoming white marble is the foundation for this beautiful etching. The frame is wood and painted gold with black accent lines. The border around the marble centerpiece is a rich burgundy felt. The overall dimensions are 9 1/4 x 11 1/4 inches and the marble piece is 5x7 inches. This attractive piece will compliment any wall in your home and the equally attractive price for **S.O.A. members only** will compliment your sense of purchasing an excellent value.

We need at least fifty members who want to buy one before we can place an order with the manufacturer. The price is a low **\$30.00 per piece**.

If you want to order one, send a post card with your name and address to:

Blakey Medical
P. O. Box 2688
Laredo, TX 78044

DO NOT SEND PAYMENT AT THIS TIME. Once we get fifty or more orders, we will notify the company to start production. We will then notify each of you with the appropriate instructions on where to send your payment. If you wish to order more than one piece, please note on your post card. When the company receives payment, they will ship to you, U.P.S. collect, so send us an address that U.P.S. can work with. It takes four weeks for the manufacturer to tool-up for this run, so please be patient. This offer is not available through the general merchandise store at SOA; this is the only way to buy one.