

SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

SOAR XXIII PRE-REUNION PACKET (SOAR XXIII PRP)



PLAZA HOTEL/CASINO, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

29 September - 03 October 1999

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



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION
SOAR XXIII SCHEDULE OF EVENTS, 29 SEPTEMBER - 03 OCTOBER 1999

WEDNESDAY, 29 September 1999

1000 - NLT 0200 - Hospitality Suite
1000 - 1800 - Late Registration

THURSDAY, 30 September 1999

1000 - NLT 0200 - Hospitality Suite
1000 - 1800 - Late Registration
1430 - 1700 - BOD Meeting

FRIDAY, 01 October 1999

0730 - 1230 - Weapons Firing
1000 - NLT 0200 - Hospitality Suite
1000 - 1800 - Late Registration
1200 - 1330 - Lunch - (Hosted by SOA)
1330 - 1430 - POW/MIA Issues-Norm Doney
1500 - 1630 - Lang Vei/Khe Sanh Revisited -
Bob Donoghue/David Smith/
Charles Berg

SATURDAY, 02 October 1999

0900 - 1800 - Hospitality Suite
0900 - 1000 - Late Registration
1000 - 1200 - General Membership Meeting
1230 - 1330 - Lunch - (Hosted by SOA)
1330 - 1430 - SOG/Tailwind Sequel -
John Plaster
1430 - 1530 - SOA Web Site - Bob Golden
1800 - 1900 - Cocktails - (Hosted by SOA)
1900 - 1915 - Posting of Colors/Introduction
of VIP's/Guests
1915 - 2030 - Banquet
2030 - 2045 - Retirement of Colors
2045 - 2100 - BREAK
2100 - 2200 - SOA Raffle
2100 - NLT 0200 - Hospitality Suite

SUNDAY, 03 October 1999

0800 - 1200 - Hospitality Suite
NLT 1200 - HOSPITALITY SUITE
IS CLOSED
NLT 1200 - Hotel Check Out

SEE YOU AT SOAR XXIV - 27 SEPT - 01 OCT. 2000



SOAR XXIII

29 September - 03 October 1999

PRE-REUNION INFORMATION

SOAR XXIII: 29 September - 03 October 1999:

1 - Have you marked your calendar yet? If not, do so immediately! Jack Abraham and his Reunion Committee have completed all SOAR XXIII arrangements. All that remains is for you to phone the Plaza Hotel and make your room reservations (Call toll free: 1-800-634-6575, ask for Reservations, tell them you are attending SOAR XXIII, give them your arrival and departure dates, and secure your reservation with a Credit Card). Next, fill out the enclosed SOAR XXIII Advance (Discount) Registration form completely and mail it ...NOW! Also, remember that those SOA members who attended SOAR I, II and III that have not as yet received a 20-year SOA pin....well, you can receive your pin at SOAR XXIII, along with those members that attended SOAR IV (or joined the SOA in that time frame). I look forward to presenting you with your 20-year pins at the General Membership Meeting on 2 October 1999.

2 - Registration rates for SOAR XXIII remain at \$80 for each SOA member and any guests for early registration - the very same rate as the past several years. In order for you to take advantage of the Advance (Discount) registration, mail your registration form and fees to John McClaskey, SOA Treasurer, postmarked NLT 15 September. All registrations received or postmarked after 16 September will cost you and any guest each \$120. **Why wait till then - do it now!** The reason for the fee increase after 16 September was initiated in order to be better able to compensate for over predicting attendance at the various catered functions. Hotel management insists on knowing exactly how many they are catering at an event or you pay a penalty. In the past the SOA Reunion Committee has had to estimate up to 10% and more to compensate for any late registrations in order to ensure that sufficient catered items would be available to satisfy the entire reunion gathering. In addition to paying your registration fees by check, you also have the option of utilizing your MASTERCARD or VISA charge cards with the SOA. As in past years, the SOA Board has structured the registration fees in order that the reunion will pay for itself. Be advised, should any individual member's personal check be returned due to insufficient funds, the SOA will assess a \$25 penalty and place the issuer of that check on a cash basis for the subsequent reunion. (See the enclosed Advance (Discount) Registration Form for additional details).

3 - Room rates at the Plaza Hotel are \$38+ tax per night. Again, in order for you to take advantage of this special SOA negotiated room rate, you must **call** the Plaza Hotel Reservations **now at the toll free number noted above.** Credit cards will be accepted by phone. Your accommodation request must be received by the Hotel NLT 30 August 1999. If you require



handicapped facilities and/or desire a non-smoking room, you must specify this when making your reservations. If you have been one of the few in the past who neglected to meet the deadline for one of the SOA reserved rooms and had to arrange accommodations at another hotel - do yourself a favor - sit down and make your reservation request now. Don't wait until it is too late.

SOAR XXIII VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE: As in the past, volunteers are required to assist in the conduct of the reunion. Specifically, assistance is required in the management of the SOA Hospitality Suite, SOA Memorabilia Sales Table and on a "as required" basis. Can you assist for a shift or two? Request you indicate your availability on the Advance (Discount) Registration Form. Your assistance will be appreciated by all.

REGISTRATION/HOSPITALITY SUITE:

1 - The SOAR XXIII Registration area and Hospitality Suite are located on the third floor of the Plaza/Hotel Casino. You will experience no difficulties in locating both areas - in that they are located exactly where they have been for the past several years. You are requested that when you complete your registration form, fill in that space that reflects your estimated time/date of arrival and departure time/date. This info will assist the SOA Reunion Committee and SOA registration desk personnel in their overall reunion planning.

2 - Guests of members are more than welcome. However, guests will not be permitted to attend any reunion function without the attendance of the sponsoring SOA member. There have been a few instances in the past where a guest has arrived - expecting their SOA sponsor to be there and he did not show up. Embarrassing, to say the least for all concerned. Be advised, it is imperative that all attendees, members and guests must wear their SOA Reunion Badge to all SOAR XXIII activities.

3 - **GUESTS AT SOAR AND "THE LITTLE PEOPLE":** There has been some close calls regarding safety and liability concerning small children in the Hospitality Suite and Banquet (liquid gel burners being pulled over, etc). The Hotel has their liability constraints when they serve our needs in the Hotel during SOAR. This can run the gamut of booze being served when underage children are present to children being unattended, or even loosely unattended, in the Hospitality Suite or the Banquet. Let's protect the SOA and the Plaza Hotel and NOT bring youngsters under the age of 16 to the Hospitality Suite or to the Banquet. In this litigious society we now live in, we must be super careful. I don't like it, but that's the way it is! And speaking of liability, no more children at the firing range unless all sorts of liability releases are signed.

4 - All SOAR XXIII activities will cease at 1200 hours, Sunday, 03 October 1999. FYI, the Hospitality Suite and Registration area revert to the Plaza Hotel/Casino for their use as of 1200 hours, 03 October. Members are requested to ensure that they have no personal belongings, e.g. luggage, briefcases, etc., are left in the Hospitality Suite after 1200 hours. **SORRY, NO EXCEPTIONS.**



SOAR XXIII GUEST SPEAKERS: A number of guest speakers have already been programmed to address interested SOA members and their guests on Friday, 01 October and Saturday, 02 October. Exact times will be posted in the SOAR XXIII Registration area. If there are any other members or their guests that wish to address a segment of the SOAR XXIII attendees, please contact Clyde Sincere, NLT 1 September 1999 by phone or mail in order that the topic may be added to the SOAR XXIII Reunion Agenda that will be provided to each SOA member and guest during registration check in. You are also requested to advise/specify if you have any special requirements required in support of your presentation.

NORM DONEY: POW/MIA Briefing Update.

JOHN PLASTER: SOG/TAILWIND Sequel.

BOB DONOGHUE/DAVID 'BULLDOG' SMITH/CHARLES BERG:
A report on their latest trip to aid the Bru in the Lang Vei/Khe Sanh areas.

BOB GOLDEN: SOA Web Site.

SOAR XXIII VENDOR ACTIVITIES: Vendors are reminded that the Vendor Fee will remain as in previous years - \$75 per table for the entire reunion. Members desiring to offer items for sale at SOAR XXIII must contact Jack Abraham, Chairman, SOA Reunion Committee NLT 30 August 1999 at: (512) 930-2765 or JackAbraham@insn.com (E-Mail).

SOAR XXIII RANGE FIRING: On Friday, 01 October 1999, the SOA will again operate for the benefit of SOA members and their guests a weapons firing range in the Nevada desert. SOA members and their guests will have an opportunity to fire a number of various weapons. Members and guests are requested to contribute a reasonable monetary donation to the George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Fund based on their total ammunition expenditure following the weapons firing activities. All monies collected are "earmarked" directly to the fund. No monies are used to defray the cost of ammunition. All weapons and ammunition are donated by various SOA members for the enjoyment of reunion attendees.

NOTES:

- a - Range Safety is of paramount interest to the SOA Board and the SOA Membership.
- b - Participants must be 14 years of age or older to fire any weapon on the range. Young adults between the age of 14 and 17 must be accompanied by an adult sponsor while participating in range activities and appropriate liability releases must have been signed.
- c - Buses/Vans will depart the Hotel/Casino at 0730 hours sharp. You can expect to be returned to the Hotel/Casino at approximately 1230-1300 hours.



THE GEORGE C. MORTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND RAFFLE:

Enclosed within the PRP are ten (10) tickets (costing \$5 each) for The George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Fund. As in past years, the SOA will be raffling three (3) U.S. "EE" Savings Bonds valued at maturity at \$2,000, \$1,000 and \$500 respectively. The raffle will be conducted following the banquet on Saturday evening, 02 October 1999. Everyone is requested to support this all important scholarship program - buy - sell, as many tickets as you can. If you require additional tickets, contact David Smith, (336) 475-3908 or bulldogsog@aol.com (E-Mail), John McClaskey (810) 794-1066 or jmccl@futnet.net (E-Mail) or Clyde Sincere (703) 620-0953 or sincere@patriot.net (E-Mail). Also, additional tickets for the George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Fund Raffle will be available at almost anytime at the SOA registration desk and at the banquet just prior to the drawing of the three (3) lucky winners. Ticket sales are not restricted to SOA members. All ticket monies collected directly support the many scholarship grants the SOA provides annually to our young men and women. **You need not be present to win.** Ticket stubs, along with your check for tickets sold, (made payable to the SOA) should be returned to the SOA Treasurer, John McClaskey, 7259 Riverside Drive, Algonac, Michigan 48001-4249, NLT 15 September 1999 or turned in at SOAR XXIII prior to the awarding announcement at the banquet. (You are also requested to return to John any tickets not purchased in order that they can be provided to someone else desiring additional tickets).

RAFFLE AND DOOR PRIZE DONATIONS: If you have an item that you wish to donate to SOAR XXIII for the George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant Program and you will be attending the reunion, please bring the item(s) with you and provide it/them to Clyde Sincere as early as possible in order that he can display the items and members may then have an opportunity to purchase tickets against as many different raffle items of their choice. If you cannot attend SOAR XXIII and you wish to donate either a door prize or a raffle item, you are requested to mail the items directly to the Plaza Hotel & Casino, at Number One Main Street, Las Vegas, Nevada 89125-0760, c/o SOAR XXIII, Attn: Jack Abraham/Clyde Sincere. Again, if timing becomes a problem, contact Clyde Sincere at: (703) 620-0953, or sincere@patriot.net. (E-Mail). He will insure that your gift gets to the reunion. Raffle/Door Prize items are tax deductible. Your support in this area keeps our scholarship program financially viable.

SOAR XXIII GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA: If any member has an item that they wish be added to the General Membership Meeting Agenda programmed for Saturday morning, 2 October 1999, you are requested to contact me NLT 1 September 1999, either by phone at: (210) 666-5122, or FAX at: (210) 666-0525, or RALFMILLER@aol.com (E-Mail). This is extremely important and necessary due to the time constraints established for the entire General Membership Meeting.



AND FINALLY: If you have any questions, suggestions, etc., please give me or any SOA Board member a call. (The SOA Board is listed on Page 1 of your 1999 SOA Membership Directory).

RMM/rmm

Best Regards,

Incls: a/s

Ralf M. Miller

RALF M. MILLER
President, SOA



CSM William Waugh, USA Ret.
Age 69
MACV-SOG Reunion Jump
Memorial Day 1999



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 E. Charleston Boulevard, Suite 5-583F
Las Vegas, Nevada 89122-1003

THE SOA GEORGE C. MORTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

FACTS: The SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grants awarded by the SOA are used only for the "studies" leading towards a Bachelor's Degree. Each Grant is for not less than \$500, nor more than \$1,000 per year. (Maximum of four (4) years and paid at a rate of \$500 semi-annually per year.)

BASIC GRANT CRITERIA AND ELIGIBILITY: A high school graduate or a high school student anticipating graduation during the year of application, unmarried and under the age of 21 years as the time of application. Preference will be given to a son or daughter, natural or adopted, of (1) an individual who served in a Special Operations unit during the Vietnam War (includes POW/MIA status), or (2) who is currently a member of the SOA in good standing, and (3) others that meet the grant criteria.

ANNOUNCEMENT: The "announcement" of the availability for this George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant is made through various educational institutions, the news media and fraternal organizations.

APPLICATIONS: The deadline for all informal inquiries and application information is 15 March of the year that the grant is intended to be awarded. The deadline for the submission of all formal applications is 15 April of the year the grant is intended to be awarded.

AWARDS: Approximately 1 May of that year, selectees/recipients of a George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant will be appropriately notified by mail.

INFORMATIONAL: As of August 1998, 81 young men and women have been awarded a scholarship since the commencement of the program in 1983.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND APPLICATION FORMS, PLEASE CONTACT:

JAMES HAWKE
Chairman, SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Committee
7801 Southmoor Circle
Reno, Nevada 89502-8679
(702) 857-3477
jhawke@memnet



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 E. Charleston Boulevard, Suite 5-583F
Las Vegas, Nevada 89122-1003

FACT SHEET

The SOA is a 1600+ member fraternal organization of American and Foreign participants of special military operations in combat theaters, primarily during the Southeast Asian conflict. The group includes World War II and Korean veterans as well as those from the more recent conflicts. Membership is limited to Free World forces who aided or personally participated in missions deep inside hostile territory in a combat capacity.

For the most part, the SOA is composed of U.S. Army Special Forces personnel but, Also includes USAF Air Commandos/FAC's, Navy Seals, Marine Raider and Force Recon personnel and veterans of other elite military and civilian organizations who were a part of Special Operations.

The specific and primary purposes of the SOA are:

- a. To unite fraternally all veterans who have or are now conducting or supporting classified "Special Operations" deep in hostile enemy territory or have been assigned to military units which conducted such operations; and,
- b. To perpetuate the Special Operations "*esprit de corps*"; and,
- c. To commemorate fittingly the memory of those who have given their lives in defense of the Free World and to those who served in Special Operations units and are still unaccounted for as POW/MIA; and,
- d. To perpetuate the memory of Colonel George C. Morton, the first Commander of U.S. Army Special Forces in Vietnam through the management of the George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant Fund. Since 1983, over \$248,500 has been awarded thus far to 81 deserving young scholars.

The Special Operations Association is recognized by the Department of Defense and by the IRS as a non-profit veterans organization operating on tax deductible donations. Annual membership dues are \$25 U.S. Lifetime membership fee is \$250 U.S. The organization has no meetings other than its annual reunion. The primary organizational correspondence is the Spring Newsletter, the Pre-Reunion Packet and the Special Operations Association Reunion After-Action Report.

The SOA will hold its twenty-third annual reunion (SOAR XXIII) in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Plaza Hotel and Casino during the period 29 September - 03 October 1999. We anticipate in excess of 500 members and guests.



SOA HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

Abraham, Jack B., SOA # 365-GL		\$1,500.00
Abraham, Jack B., SOA # 365-GL	(IMO Bill O'Rourke)	\$ 250.00
Abraham, Jack B., SOA # 365-GL	(IMO Richard Sommers)	\$ 250.00
Adcock, Gene, SOA # 925-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Aderhold, "Heine", SOA # 900-GL	(SOM)	\$ 200.00
*Amundson, Rolande, SOA # 098-GL		\$1,000.00
Anonymous	(IMO Jack Long)	\$ 150.00
Anonymous	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Anonymous		\$ 450.00
Anonymous	(IMO Paul Tracy)	\$ 100.00
Augustin, "Gus", SOA # 1016-GA	(SOM)	\$ 500.00
Bahr, Roy W., SOA # 315-GL		\$1,000.00
Bahr, Roy W., SOA # 315-GL	(SOM)	\$ 900.00
Baker, C. "Ben", SOA # 897-AL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Baker, C. "Ben", SOA # 897-AL		\$ 656.00
Barker, Geoffrey T., SOA # 919-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Beard, Jim, SOA # 156-GL	(IMO Dale Denke)	\$ 500.00
Benjamin, Donald C., SOA # 899-GL		\$4,975.00
Bennett, Dale R., SOA # 910-GL		\$ 600.00
Berg, Charles L., SOA # 031-GL	(IMO FOB-3, "The Siege")	\$ 602.00
Berg, Charles L., SOA # 031-GL	(SOM, IMO Robert Scully)	\$ 250.00
Bernard, Woodie, SOA # 1281-GA		\$ 460.00
Bilitzke, Joseph M., SOA # 1139-GL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Birdsall, Hank, SOA # 1241-GA	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Blakey, George, "Moe", SOA # 551-GL		\$1,200.00
Boggs, Bill D., SOA # 667-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Bost, Robert, SOA # 1409-GA	(SOM)	\$ 400.00
Browder, William, SOA # 645-GL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Brubaker, Paul, SOA # 596-GL		\$2,600.00
Butler, James E., SOA # 001-GL		\$10,500.00
Camacho, Fred, SOA # 133-GL	(SOM)	\$ 200.00
Camacho, "Ike", SOA # 1209-GL	(SOM)	\$ 200.00
Camacho, "Ike", SOA # 1209-GL	(IMO Dick Meadows)	\$ 500.00
Chambers, Ray, SOA # 627-GL		\$ 500.00
Chambers, Ray, SOA # 627-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Charette, Will, SOA # 1410-GL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Clayton, Chuck, SOA # 1267-GA		\$ 120.00



Clough, Ed, SOA # 043-GL		\$16,400.00
Cole, James B., SOA # 794-GL		\$1,000.00
Cole, James B., SOA # 794-GL	(IMO Christian Girard)	\$2,500.00
Cole, James B., SOA # 794-GL	(SOM, IMO Christian Girard)	\$2,500.00
Cole, Richard F., SOA # 207-AL	(IMO Paul Tracy)	\$ 100.00
Crane, Fred, SOA # 1199-GA	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Dawson, Ray, SOA # 657-GL		\$ 800.00
de Fontaine, Sully, SOA # 177-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Deacy, John, SOA # 1321-GL	(SOM)	\$2,700.00
Edmunds, John E., SOA # 1197-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Elrod, Harold, SOA # 1239-GL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Estes, Richard, SOA # 597-GA		\$ 100.00
Fields, Arthur T., SOA # 310-GL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Fleming, Allan, SOA # 753-GL	(SOM)	\$ 300.00
*Friend, AL, SOA # 158-GA	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Fronabarger, Carl, SOA # 632-AL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Fryer, John R., SOA # 007-GL		\$2,450.00
Gaudet, Ken, SOA # 964-AL		\$ 775.00
Gavigan, Gene, SOA # 1567-GA		\$1,000.00
Gilstrap, Bob, SOA # 737-GA		\$ 750.00
Ginder, Jerrald, SOA # 618-GL		\$5,160.00
Ginder, Jerrald, SOA # 618-GL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Golden, Bob, SOA # 1282-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Gow, William M., SOA # 955-GL		\$ 100.00
Gow, William M., SOA # 955-GL	(IMO Bill O'Rourke)	\$ 100.00
Graham, Robert J., SOA # 184-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Hall, Gene, SOA # 722-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Hamner, Gene D., SOA # 833-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Hanson, T. R., SOA # 1214-GA	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Hawke, James, SOA # 221-GL		\$ 250.00
Hephner, Patrick, SOA # 1249-AL		\$ 300.00
Herrell, Tony, SOA # 1066-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Herrell, Tony, SOA # 1066-GL		\$ 100.00
Hinsch, Rod, SOA # 073-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Isler, Jack, SOA # 004-GL		\$ 500.00
Isler, Jack, SOA # 004-GL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Kearns, Michael S., SOA # 949-AL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Keaton, LaFayette, SOA # 1168-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Kendall, William L., SOA # 1354-GA	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Kendall, William L., SOA # 1354-GA		\$ 100.00



Kinsler, Mark, SOA # 700-GL	\$10,225.00
Kreuziger, Peter W., SOA # 1389-GL (SOM)	\$ 700.00
LaMotte, Jim, SOA # 552-GL (SOM)	\$ 100.00
Landau, H. H. , SOA # 493-GL (SOM)	\$ 100.00
Laurence, Pete, SOA # 456-AA	\$ 350.00
Lear, John, SOA # 495-GL	\$ 500.00
Lesesne, Edward R., SOA # 614-GL (SOM)	\$ 100.00
*Long, Jack, SOA # 441-GL	\$1,500.00
*Lutz, Joseph C., SOA # 960-GL (SOM)	\$ 250.00
Manes, Larry, SOA # 064-GA (SOM)	\$ 100.00
*Mar, Al/Ann, SOA # 439-GL	\$12,150.00
Marich, Thomas, SOA # 1037-GL (SOM)	\$ 100.00
Martin, James, SOA # 023-GL (SOM)	\$ 200.00
Martin, John P., SOA # 345-GL (IMO Mary Watson)	\$ 100.00
Martin, John P., SOA # 345-GL (SOM)	\$1,000.00
McBroom, C.O. "Bud", SOA #768-GL(SOM)	\$ 100.00
McClaskey, John R., SOA # 621-GL	\$2,345.00
McClintock, Matthew, SOA # 1186-AL(SOM)	\$ 500.00
McGiffert, Peter H., SOA # 854-GL (SOM)	\$ 500.00
Messinger, Keith, SOA # 090-GL	\$6,100.00
Miller, Ralf, SOA # 060-GL	\$1,000.00
Miller, Ralf, SOA # 060-GL (IMO Bill O'Rourke)	\$ 250.00
Miller, William, SOA # 1276-GL (SOM)	\$ 100.00
Millett, Lewis L., Sr., SOA # 505-GL (SOM)	\$ 100.00
Morrell, David, SOA # 905-HL	\$1,350.00
*Morton, George/Lillian, SOA # ,059-GL (SOM)	\$ 250.00
Muldowney, Richard, SOA # 1319-GA	\$ 285.00
Newman, Al., SOA # 952-AA (SOM)	\$ 100.00
Newman, Cliff, SOA # 006-GL (SOM)	\$ 500.00
Nissley, Bob, SOA # 359-GL (SOM)	\$ 100.00
*O'Rourke, Bill/Jan, SOA # 379-GL	\$3,120.00
Owens, John, SOA # 1143-GL (SOM)	\$ 200.00
Parks, Robert, "Spider", SOA # 465-GL	\$ 700.00
Pershing, John, SOA # 1307-AL (SOM)	\$ 250.00
Perchard, John R., Jr., SOA # 341-GL	\$ 300.00
Perchard, John R., Jr., SOA # 341-GL(SOM)	\$ 100.00
*Pierson, Roger, SOA # 644-GL	\$ 100.00
Pinn, Lionel, SOA # 019-GL	\$1,050.00
Place, Elon, A., SOA # 887-GL (SOM)	\$ 100.00
Plaster, John, SOA # 726-GL	\$ 300.00



Platt, Fred, SOA # 825-GL		\$1,695.00
Pollack, James, SOA # 426-AL		\$1,000.00
Ramirez, Antonio, SOA # 561-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
*Raye, Martha, "Maggie", SOA # 097-HL		\$2,780.00
Redman, Darrell, SOA # 1160-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Rheault, Robert, SOA # 215-GA	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Richter, Ken, SOA # 1406-GA	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Roberts, John, SOA #1227-GL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Scholes, Edison E., SOA # 1350-GL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Sherman, Steve, SOA # 759-AL		\$ 500.00
Shippen, Robert, SOA # 540-GL	(SOM)	\$ 200.00
Sholtis, Donald M., SOA # 1174-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Siugzda, Herb, SOA # 030-GL		\$ 500.00
Snyder, Kenneth O., SOA # 816-GA	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
*Squires, Ben, SOA # 356-GL		\$1,010.00
SOA Memorabilia Sales		\$12,500.00
Stern, Mike, SOA # 324-GL		\$ 850.00
Stockdale, Bryan, SOA # 234-GL		\$ 300.00
Sutherland, Ian, SOA # 216-GL		\$1,000.00
Trimble/Lamotte, Larry/Jim, SOA # 163-GL/552-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Van Lerberghe, Ross, SOA # 1394-HL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Van Winkle, H.E. "Rip", SOA # 697-GL	(SOM)	\$ 500.00
Walker, Jimmy, SOA # 846-AL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Wang, Jon, B., SOA # 1092-GL		\$ 100.00
Warkocki, Ken, SOA # 1231-AA	(IMO "Frenchy Amundson)	\$ 100.00
Waskovich, Tom, SOA # 366-GA	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Waugh, William D. "Billy", SOA # 005-GL		\$28,060.00
Waugh, William D. "Billy", SOA # 005-GL	(IMO P.Tracy/A.Fontez)	\$1,000.00
Waugh, William D. "Billy", SOA # 005-GL	(IMO Walt Shumate)	\$1,000.00
Whittington, E. Ray, SOA # 049-GL	(SOM)	\$ 200.00

- Deceased Member

(SOM): Special Operations Memorial Foundation, MacDill AFB, Florida.

FYI: The SOA is a Tax Exempt Organization under Internal Revenue Code 501 (c) (19).

The SOA EIN Number is: EIN 74-2619854.



SOA FACTS AND FIGURES

In Memory of: TAPS: Again, it is with regret that the SOA Board reports to the membership that eight (8), yes eight (8), additional SOA members have passed away since those that were last reported in the SOA 1999 Spring Newsletter that was dispatched in April 1999.

WILLIAM S. WOOD, SOA # 1357-GA: Bill passed away in his home in Hillsboro, New Mexico after a very long illness on Tuesday, 13 October 1998. He was 71 years of age. He retired from the US Army in 1970 as a Sergeant Major. He saw combat in WWII, the Korean and Vietnam Conflicts. After retiring from the military he completed his Undergraduate and Master's degrees at Northeast Missouri State College and his Doctorate degree in History at the University of Missouri (Columbia). He is survived by twin daughters, Catherine H. Wood of Orfordville, Wisconsin and Elisabeth DeWitt of Kirksville, Missouri, three (3) grandchildren, Geoffrey, Meghan and Zachary DeWitt, one (1) brother, George Wood and one (1) sister Vera McCarrger, both of Saratogo, Wyoming. He was interred at Fort Baynard National Cemetery in New Mexico. A special thanks to SOA member Chuck Odorizzi for making the effort to locate and provide the particulars on the passing of Bill Wood.

ROBERT L. ACKLEN, JR., , SOA # 883-GL: Bob passed away at the Dallas, Texas VA Hospital on 31 December 1998 apparently of a brain tumor. Bob, a chopper pilot in Vietnam flew many missions in support of CCC and CCN in 1969 and 1970. He also trained Vietnamese pilots in Pleiku in 1971 until he was wounded and medevaced to Brooke Army General Hospital. His awards and decorations included the Silver Star, DFC, Bronze Star with five (5) OLC's, Purple Heart, CIB and the Air Medal with 39 W/V Device. He was interred in Mount Olivet Cemetery in Nashville, Tennessee. Thanks to SOA member Ben Lyons for bringing the passing of Bob to the attention of the SOA. It is important that the membership be made aware of the loss of any comrade.

WILLIAM DALE LIBBY, , SOA # 1059-GA: Dale was killed in a tragic automobile accident on Sunday 02 May 1999. He, his wife Jacquie and son Dale D. Along with his daughter-in-law Loan were traveling to Carlsbad, New Mexico to celebrate their eighteenth wedding anniversary when a trailer broke loose from a pickup striking a bus carrying a number of young girls. Six (6) of the young ladies in the bus were killed and 23 injured. The trailer then careened off the bus striking Dale's vehicle, killing Dale instantly and propelling Jacquie from the rear jump seat to the front seat. Bottom line: Dale was dead, Jacquie was air evacuated to Albuquerque with a broken neck and one or more back fractures; Dale D. who was driving suffered three (3) broken ribs. He attributed his survival to their vehicle airbag. His wife Loan suffered minor



bruises. Chapter LVI (Albuquerque) marshaled their members and resources to assist the family. A funeral mass was celebrated in The Chapel of the Archangel St. Michael. After the mass, Dale's jump boots containing his ashes were interred in the rose garden while Taps were sounded.

JOSEPH C. LUTZ, , SOA # 960-GL: Retired Major General Joe Lutz was born in Indianapolis, Indiana on 17 April 1933, and died in Largo, Florida on 9 May 1999. Joe had recently underwent a second heart by-pass operation and suffered some respiratory complications. He had just turned 66. His military career spanned over 35 years. Joe served two (2) tours with Special Forces in Vietnam as a Mike Force Commander and B-Detachment Commander in III Corps. He served as the Commanding General of the JFK Center for Military Assistance and Commandant of the Institute for Military Assistance at Fort Bragg from 1980 until 1982. In 1982, Joe signed the order activating the Army's 1st Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg, the forerunner of the present-day U.S. Army Special Operations Command, and was its first Commanding General. In 1987 General Jim Lindsay selected Joe to serve as Chief of Staff of the newly created U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) at MacDill AFB, Florida. Since his retirement in 1990 Joe remained active in military and community affairs. Additionally, Joe served as the Chairman of the Special Operations Memorial Foundation. In addition to being a member of the SOA, he was also a member of the Special Forces Association, and the 82d Airborne Division Association. He is survived by his wife Joyce, three daughters, Karla, Krista and Joan and several grandchildren. He is preceded in death by a daughter, Katherine in 1960 and his son John, (JoJo) in 1991. Joe was interred at the Myrtle Hill Cemetery in Tampa.

JEFFREY JUNKINS, SOA # 461-GA: Jeff passed away on Friday, 14 May 1999 in Lajolla, California. The cause of death was not stated, however, he had been in and out of the VA Hospital in San Diego a number of times over the past few years. He was 54 years of age. He ran recon out of Khe Sanh, Mai Loc, Quang Tri and Phu Bai. He is survived by his mother Maggie and a daughter Amber. SOA members, John "Tilt" Meyer and Tim Schaaf assisted Jeff's mother in coordinating the funeral arrangements which did include a small honor guard following the cremation of Jeff's remains. His ashes were interred at Rosecrans on Point Loma, California.

ED WAINWRIGHT, SOA # 143-GA: Ed passed away on Tuesday morning, 25 May 1999 in Chicago, Illinois. He apparently died of a massive heart attack. He was 64 years of age and thought to be in excellent health. Ed's son Craig provided the following on his dad. Ed served his country for 23 years. He completed six (6) tours in Vietnam, two (2) of which were with MACVSOG. He participated in two (2) Joint Operations involving Thai and U.S. Special Forces personnel on/near the Malayan border. Ed is



survived by his wife, Lou Ann, his daughter, Lynn and his son Craig. Ed was interred in Delmont, Pennsylvania on 29 May 1999. Anyone who knew and/or served with him is requested to contact Craig Altmire, his son, at 4650-B Oceanside Street, Chino, California 91710-3969. Phone: (909) 627-4303.

ROGER B. PIERSON, SOA # 644-GL: Roger, 65 years of age passed away after a very long illness that included complications of anoxic encephalopathy late on Thursday evening, 10 June 1999 at the Natividad Medical Center, Salinas, California. Roger traveled extensively in Asia before, during and after his service in the U.S. Military. He graduated from the University of Virginia with a degree in Foreign Affairs and International Economics in 1955. After commissioning in the Army he studied Japanese and Vietnamese languages at the Army Language School in Monterey California. He also served multiple tours in Vietnam during the period 1964-'68, with the 1st, 5th Special Forces and as a G2 Advisor with the 42d ARVN Infantry Regiment. Following his active service, Roger consulted in the field of International Trade in Taiwan. He then returned to California to work for Monterey County assisting disadvantaged youth. Roger is survived by his former wife, Anne B. Tyler of Bayse, Virginia, three (3) sons, Roger Jr., of Castleton, Virginia, Bradley, of Alexandria, Virginia and Mitchell, of Fredericksburg, Virginia and by three (3) grandchildren. Roger was interred at Arlington National Cemetery at a graveside service with full military honors at 0900 hours on 13 July 1999.

JOHN "Jack" W. PERSHING, SOA # 1307-AL: Jack passed away on Monday, 21 June 1999. Jack initially served as an enlisted-man in the USMC. After his discharged he attended Boston University and was commissioned in the U.S. Army. He served in various Special Forces units during his 35 years of active and reserve service. He also served on the Staff of the Secretary of Defense and as a Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army. He was the grandson of General of the Armies, John J. Pershing, Commander of the American Expeditionary Forces in WWI. His brother, Richard W. Pershing was killed in action during the Vietnam War. He is survived by his beloved wife Sandra S. Pershing, step-sons, Alvson Lloyd Taylor and Robin M. Lloyd and a grandson, Hollis C. Taylor. A memorial service was conducted for Jack on Monday, 28 June 1999 in New York City, New York. SOA members, Jack Isler, SOA # 004-GL and Chuck Pfeifer, SOA # 040-GA were in attendance. Jack was interred at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors at 0900 hours on Wednesday, 30 June 1999.

The SOA wishes to express its sympathy to all of their families.

"May the living serve faithfully and the dead rest peacefully"

NOTE: Visit the URL FOR INFO ON ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY:

<<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.com>>

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SICK CALL: First, I'm pleased to report that two (2) SOA members previously reported on the "sick call" list are up and functioning once again. They are, SOA members, **LEW MILLETT, SOA # 505-GL** and **ROCKY NESOM, SOA # 204-GA**. Both were observed recently at SFA Convention '99 in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. We are pleased that their recovery went well. Currently, SOA members, **MICHAEL O'CONNOR, SOA # 624-GA**, **LOUIS AUSTRIA, SOA # 1424-GA**, **LIONEL "Choo-Choo" PINN, SOA # 019-GL** and **JON R. CAVAIANI, SOA # 1000-GL** remain under the weather. Hopefully they all will regain their health and join us at SOAR XXIII.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS MEMORIAL DEDICATION CEREMONY: At 1500 hours, 24 May 1999 at MacDill Air Force Base, Florida the Special Operations Memorial was formally dedicated. Unfortunately, two (2) of its original sponsors, Dick Leandri, SOA # 1393-HL and Major General Joseph C. Lutz, U.S. Army Retired, SOA # 960-GL had previously passed away and were not present to view this awesome and solemn dedication ceremony. The Special Operations Memorial Foundation was organized for the purpose of creating a living memorial for special operations forces from each of the Armed Services. The concept was initially the vision of the late Dick Leandri who was the driving force behind the Ranger Memorial at Fort Benning, Georgia. In 1995, Dick Leandri, began to assemble a team of local civilians and retired military led by the late Joe Lutz, and together they developed a plan to construct a memorial at MacDill AFB. The plan was accepted and approved by United States Special Operations Command and the then, 6th Air Base Wing. During the same time-frame, a parallel effort was initiated by Master Sergeant (Retired) Larry Trimble, SOA # 163-GL of the Special Operations Association to develop and locate a similar memorial in Washington, D.C. Subsequently, the Special Operations Association formed a unique partnership with the Special Operations Memorial Foundation and the dedication on 24 May was the result of their combined effort. Larry and SOA members, John McClaskey, SOA # 621-GL and Roy W. Bahr, SOA # 315-GL were appointed to represent the SOA on the Special Operations Memorial Foundation Board of Directors and should be commended for the time they provided to make this memorial a huge success. The many SOA member donors of "engravings" reflected on the various walls at the Memorial have every reason to be very pleased with the final results. Every SOA member should, when possible visit this living memorial to Special Operations.

COMMEMORATIVE SOG HALO JUMP, MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND 1999:

a. At 1030 hours, 30 May 1999 a number of former CCN Reconnaissance personnel conducted a commemorative HALO jump over Raeford DZ in North Carolina from 12,500 feet in the vicinity of the Raeford Parachute Club owned by Gene-Paul Thacker. The jump was in memory of all of SOG personnel, especially those SOG personnel that personally participated in HALO combat jumps in SEA. One SOG RT HALO jumper who will long be remembered, was Madison Strohlien, KIA following his HALO jump on 15 April 1971 in Laos. In addition to the former SOG HALO members, Mark Meadows and Alan Shumate jumped in honor of their late SOG fathers, Dick



Meadows and Walt Shumate. Also, selected members of the U.S. Army Golden Knights participated by providing air support for those jumpers, specifically, Billy Waugh, Melvin Hill and Jesse Campbell who were teamed each with a Golden Knight, in case "old age" took over as Billy commented during the planning for their free fall jump. It had been quite a few years since they last participated in a HALO drop.

b. Those personnel that jumped on 29-30 May 1999 are:

- 1 - Billy Waugh
- 2 - Cliff Newman
- 3 - Mel Hill
- 4 - Sammy Hernandez*
- 5 - Charles Wesley
- 6 - Robert Castillio
- 7 - Mark Meadows
- 8 - Alan Shumate
- 9 - Rhade Team Member TAK

* Sammy injured his shoulder on the rehearsal jump on 29 May and was unable to jump on 30 May.

c. Billy Waugh orchestrated this affair for the following reasons: (The following are in addition to celebrating his forthcoming 70th birthday).

- 1 - Honor all former SOG HALO personnel.
- 2 - Honor all former Commanders and men of SOG.
- 3 - Honor all former Special Force personnel that served in the A-Detachments and the various Special Projects in SEA.

d. Billy wished to especially thank the following individuals for their super support:

- 1 - Pete Morakon - Jumpmaster.
- 2 - Gene-Paul Thacker - Provided the aircraft, para-rigs and other miscellaneous support. (Following the jump and photo session, all retired to the G-P Thacker Parachute Bar for refreshments).
- 3 - Those personnel from the U.S. Army Golden Knight Parachute Team that assisted by providing their invaluable expertise to a bunch of "old soldiers".



e. Billy stated that some of the special guests that he remembered being present at this memorable event included:

- 1 - Major General Jack Singlaub, U.S. Army Retired and Former SOG Commander.
 - 2 - Franklin D. Miller, MOH Recipient.
 - 3 - Robert K. Brown - Soldier of Fortune Magazine and Special Forces fame.
 - 4 - Carolyn Campbell - Spouse of Jesse Campbell. She had only been in an aircraft once before in her life and decided that parachuting was not just for men, so with a little assistance from an Army Golden Knight (tandem) she jumped from 12,500 feet. Now she queries Jesse by asking him "How does it feel to go to bed with a Paratrooper"????
 - 5 - Ike Camacho
 - 6 - Henry Corvera
 - 7 - J.D. Bath
 - 8 - Tony Trantennla
 - 9 - Felipe Ahumada
 - 10 - Paul Rafferty - U.S. Army Team World Champion - 12,000 parachute jumps. Not too shabby. He jumped beside Billy - all the way down....
 - 11 - Stephanie Silber + three (3) cameramen from Pacific Street Films in New York.
 - 12 - All and any others he may have neglected to mention.
- f. Next scheduled SOG Memorial Commemorative HALO jump:
May 2001 - 30 year reunion of SOG HALO personnel. Details forthcoming.

CONVENTION PLANNING:

- a. Special Operations Association Reunion (SOAR XXIII):

Plaza Hotel/Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada - 29 Sept - 3 Oct '99.
POC: John McClaskey: (810) 794-1066, Clyde Sincere: (703) 620-0953.

- b. SFA Convention 2000:

Sponsored by Chapter LIV, SFA, Boston, Massachusetts,
1-5 July 2000. Dick Nazzaro: (781) 729-3318.

- c. Special Operations Association Reunion (SOAR XXIV):

Plaza Hotel/Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada - 27 Sept. - 01 Oct. 2000.
POC: John McClaskey: (810) 794-1066, Clyde Sincere: (703) 620-0953.



d. 1st Special Forces Reunion 2000:

North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina ,22-27 Oct. 2000.
POC; Jesse Simmons - (910) 485-5433

e. SFA Convention 2001:

Sponsored by Chapter XXXIX, SFA, Houston, Texas
19-23 June 2001. Mark Kinsler: (281) 568-1919.

SOAR XXIII Sergeants-at-Arms: Each year it is a honor and privilege for the SOA President to select two (2) members of the SOA to lead the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance at the annual General Membership Meeting, the Banquet and for the duration of the reunion, act in the capacity of a Sergeant-at-Arms. The SOA Board has long established that this small, but important gesture, provides an opportunity for the SOA Board and the membership to recognize two (2) of its members, chosen annually, for the unrecognized volunteer efforts during past reunions. Again, the SOA is fortunate to have many individuals that attend every reunion and contribute to the overall success of each SOAR that it is too difficult to thank each one with a honor, such as a SOAR Sergeant-at-Arms. Be assured, the Board, and in particular, Jack Abraham, Chairman of the SOA Reunion Committee thank all volunteers that assist at SOAR, insuring a successful reunion. Final selection of the two (2) SOAR XXIII Sergeants-at-Arms will be determined upon close of Advance Registration on 15 September 1999.

RAFFLE AND DOOR PRIZE DONATIONS: If you are attending SOAR XXIII, and I hope everyone does - request you bring any donated items with you. If you are not, Clyde Sincere will be pleased to get the items to SOAR XXIII for you. Request you call him or email him if you plan to donate either a raffle or door prize in order that he can prepare any necessary paperwork and the various raffle buckets at SOAR XXIII. POC: (703) 620-0953 or sincere@patriot.net E-Mail.

GEORGE C. MORTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RAFFLE TICKETS: In the PRP you will find ten (10) George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship raffle tickets. In the past a few of you have been confused as to how and where you should return the stubs of those tickets you elected to purchase. Folks, please include the stubs of the tickets you purchased in the same envelope that is marked "Dues and/or SOAR Registration", Attn: John McClaskey, SOA Treasurer. Also, in the same envelope return any tickets that you did not elect to purchase. If you wish to purchase additional tickets, contact, John McClaskey or Clyde Sincere. There will also be additional raffle tickets available at the registration desk for those members and guests desiring to purchase them..



LOST SOA FILES: Clyde Sincere continues to assemble an orderly historical record of the SOA. If you have any AAR's, Newsletters, etc., especially from the early years, please get in touch with Clyde or mail them to him. To date John Fryer, Tom Ratcliffe and Jim Martin have located old records and dispatched them to Clyde. Thanks guys.

ATTENTION! BALLOT INFO ATTENTION! Enclosed in the PRP you will find a (BALLOT) proposed change to the SOA By-Laws. The change concerns how a applicant that is eligible for Associate Membership completes his SOA Application Form. It deletes one option that is redundant and not necessary. **The SOA Board unanimously supports APPROVAL of this change.** You are requested to read it carefully and follow the voting instructions as explained on the ballot.

E-MAIL ADDRESS: Included with your PRP you will find a copy of the first SOA E-Mail Address Directory. If you have an E-mail address and it is not reflected, you are requested to furnish it directly to Bill Shelton at: wshelton@email.msn.com. Also, if the E-mail address that is reflected in this first edition of the Directory is incorrect, again, you are requested to inform Bill ASAP. An updated SOA E-Mail Address Directory will be provided to all members as part of the SOAR XXIII AAR.

"SOG: The Secret Wars in Photos": John Plaster's new SOG photo history has been completed and is in the hands of the publisher for editing, typesetting and publication. It will be available in early December. John has requested that credit be given to SOG veterans of all services and the SOA members and families of our lost comrades - hundreds of whom loaned the photos that assembled into a very complete visual history of SOG. This is a LARGE book - more than 500 photos. As a result of so many images, John was able to relate complete stories visually. For example, instead of the standard government portrait of a Medal of Honor recipient, John used field photos of nearly all MOH recipients - Fred Zabitovsky just back from Dak To, ragged and in need of a shave after a recon mission - Bob Howard carrying a wounded NVA prisoner - or, Green Hornet pilot Jim Fleming, sweating and disheveled, having just climbed out of his Huey after his Medal of Honor mission. John went all out on this photo history - even back-channeled to secure photos from our adversaries, the North Vietnamese. For instance, the book includes several shots of Son Tay Prison the day following the raid and a number of outstanding photos of the Ho Chi Minh Trail. Included is a photo of a dead NVA that RT Washington recovered a "killer of Americans" medal from his body and a photograph of the medal itself. Photos of the sapper attack on CCN on 23 August 1968. Photo sidebars on all of the Medal of Honor recipients and a few SOG legends, like Jerry "Mad-Dog" Shriver, Dick Meadows, Larry Thorne, "Babysan" Davidson and Billy Waugh. There is a section on the McGuire Rig including a photo of SGM McGuire being decorated for developing the design. It even has a shot of "Agent Francois", Hanoi's spy in SOG headquarters. Photos of all of our special weapons, from the sawed off RPD's and Gyrojet pistols to the Nightingale firefight simulator and Welrod suppressed pistol. There are also complete chapters on all of our supporting helicopter



units - the Blackbirds and A-1 Skyraider units, plus the Naval Advisory Detachment and their "Nasty" boats. As it relates to "black propaganda", there are (declassified) photos of several forged NVA documents, counterfeit currency, AK's exploded by "Eldest Son" ammo, Peanut radios, etc. This is a BIG coffee table size book. It will not be cheap - John guesses that it will run about \$50. Anyone desiring to reserve a copy now can phone Paladin Press at (303)-443-7250.

THE GEORGE C. MORTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:

a. This year, on behalf of the SOA Board, the SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Committee and the SOA Membership, SOA President, Ralf M. Miller is pleased to announce the following fourteen recipients of a coveted four (4) year George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant:

BIEBER, Benjamin	BRESLIN, Lisa B.	CLAFLIN, Charlotte
DEACY, Jacelyn	FAISTENHAMMER, Wm.	HAMNER, Marian
HERRING, Angela	JALLOWAY, Elizabeth	MONTEZ, Jessica
NGUYEN, Christina	SAKAI, Mark	SMITH, David Cameron
WHITT, Marcus	WOLCOFF, Stefanie	

b. Congratulations to all of the aforementioned young men and women. The SOA is truly proud of their academic achievements and look forward to hearing many great stories from them in the future. Additionally, the SOA is pleased to announce that many, many of the previous recipients have and are doing, outstandingly. We, the SOA is mighty proud of them. Jim Hawke, Chairman, SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant Program and his committee are to be commended for their dedicated efforts in selecting this years recipients for a SOA Grant.

c. The SOA Board wishes to also thank all of the SOA members who have over these many years contributed monies and raffle items that have permitted the SOA to award 95 George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grants to deserving young men and women since the commencement of this program in 1983. Without the tremendous and outstanding support of you - the membership, this worthwhile project could not continue.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION **OFFICIAL SOA BALLOT**

IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE FOLLOWING CHANGE BE MADE TO THE ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS: REFERENCE ARTICLE IV, D, 2, PAGE 3 OF THE BY-LAWS CONCERNING AND DEFINING ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP AND THE OPTIONS ON HOW TO APPLY IF ELIGIBLE, WHICH NOW READS AS FOLLOWS:

2. **Associate Membership** - Associate non-voting membership is awarded to any person, upon application and approval of the Membership Committee, who has served or is now serving, in a Special Operations unit recognized by this Association in a position in which the applicant's routine or normal duty did not involve direct threat or exposure to hostile fire.

The applicant must supply adequate documentation to prove assignment to a Special Operations unit recognized by this Association or one General Member in good standing must verify the credentials of the applicant from first hand knowledge of the applicant while in this assignment. Or, the applicant must be sponsored by four General Members in good standing and receive the unanimous approval of the entire Membership Committee.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE TWO PARAGRAPHS BE CHANGED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

2. **Associate Membership** - Associate non-voting membership is awarded to any person, upon application and approval of the Membership Committee. Applicant must have served or is now serving, in a Special Operations unit recognized by this Association in a position in which the applicant's routine or normal duty did not involve direct threat or exposure to hostile fire.

Having met the eligibility criteria as defined above, the application form must (1) supply adequate documentation to prove assignment to a Special Operations unit recognized by the Association, or (2) one General Member in good standing must verify the credentials of the applicant from first hand knowledge of the applicant while in this assignment.

IN SUMMARY: All this change does is delete the third option on how an applicant can apply, i.e. (".... four General Members etc.,") and better defines, and numbers, the two options that an eligible applicant can use to apply for Associate Membership.

Please send your vote (**YES** or **NO**) to Ralf M. Miller, NLT 1 September 1999, by Email (RALFMILLER@aol.com) : by FAX, (210) 666-0525; by phone, (210) 666-5122 and leave a message; or mail to Ralf M. Miller, at: 7035 Hidden Hills North, San Antonio, Texas 78244-1516. **Note: If you do not respond, we will assume a YES vote and that you approve of the change.**



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 E. Charleston Boulevard, Suite 5-583F
Las Vegas, Nevada 89122-1003

Dear SOA Member,

April 1999

I would first like to recognize the passing of two of our members since the beginning of the New Year.....

TAPS: JIM COLLIER, # 1311GL and PATRICK R. D. MAHONEY, # 499GL. Jim succumbed after a long bout with cancer on 28 Jan 1999 and is survived by his wife, Jackie, two daughters, Laura and Lisa, eight grandchildren, his mother and seven brothers and sisters. He was interred at the Willamette National Cemetery in Portland, Oregon, with full military honors. Patrick passed away at his home in Manassas, VA after a very long battle with cancer on 24 Feb 1999. His wife, Donna, four children from his first marriage and three stepdaughters, a sister, three brothers and six grandchildren survive Patrick, a retired USAF SMSgt and a military consultant for two U.S. Congressmen. The SOA extends its sincere condolences to all of the family members of Jim and Patrick.

SICK CALL: Four of our members are feeling puny and in and out of hospitals. They are Lew Millett # 505GL, a Medal of Honor recipient; Michael O'Connor #624GA; Roger Pierson # 644GL; and, Louis Austria # 1424GA. We wish them all a speedy recovery and hope to see them at SOAR XXIII in September. Rumor has it that my good friend Joe Lutz, # 960GL (MGEN, USA, Ret.) is in the puny column also. Hang in there, Joe, and we'll see you and Joyce in September.

KHE SANH/LANG VEI VISIT: Bob Donoghue, David "Bulldog" Smith and Charles Berg will depart for Vietnam again in early May 1999. In view of the fact that they now have secured the Vietnamese People's Aid Coordinating Committee (PACOM) authorization as a non-governmental organization (NGO), the Cedar Point Foundation, this visit should be easier to coordinate than previous trips. If anyone desires to provide any monetary assistance to the Cedar Point Foundation, a tax exempt NGO, please contact either Bob Donoghue at (413) 782-8265 (email bobdon911@aol.com), or David Smith at (336) 248-2233 (email bulldogsog@aol.com). They will brief all interested members and their guests at SOAR XXIII on the results of their visit.

LOST SOA FILES: Clyde Sincere is trying to assemble an orderly historical record of the SOA. If you have any AARs, Newsletters, etc., especially from the early years (SOAR I, II, III), please get in touch with Clyde. Our thanks to John Fryer and Tom Ratcliffe for the material they've already provided.

ANNUAL REUNIONS: The most important annual reunion for you to remember and to plan on attending is the **SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION REUNION (SOAR XXIII)!!! 29 Sep - 03 Oct 1999 in Las Vegas!!!** However, for those members interested, here's the dates and contact numbers for other super organizations having their annual conventions:

Air Commando Association - Oct 7-10, phone 850-581-0099.

Force Recon Association - Sep 22-26, phone 760-439-6888.

Fraternal Order of UDT/SEAL - East Coast, Jul 16-18/ West Coast, Aug 20-21, phone 757-363-7490.

Special Forces Association (SFA) - Jun 15-19, phone 717-234-7364.

NEW VCR SETTING FOR THE YEAR 2000: OK, maybe I'm being hoodwinked, but, I'll pass this on anyway "Here is something I bet you hadn't thought would be an issue for Y2K. You won't be able to use the programmed recording feature. DO NOT throw away your VCR in the year 2000. Set it on 1972,



because the days will be the same. Please pass this on because you know the manufacturer will not share this information. They will want you to buy a new one that is Y2K compliant."

TAILWIND: Here's an update on the CNN-funded documentary. The SOA documentary producer, New York-based Pacific Street Films, is now preparing a tentative script which will be presented to CNN in about a month. The documentary, which will include the true story of Operation Tailwind, is slated to be filmed over the next nine months, for showing early in the year 2000. The producer is now checking into dispatching a film crew to North Carolina in May, to film Billy Waugh's reunion jump of SOG's HALO team veterans. Last month a film crew was in Corpus Christi, TX, covering the port call of the USNS Sisler, the ship named for SOG's first Medal of Honor recipient, 1st Lt. George "Ken" Sisler.

SOA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: The timing of this Newsletter and the deadline for submission of Scholarship Applications is going to be a close call. The deadline is April 15 for applications. It has been April 15th every year for the past 20 years or so. Details are always published in the AAR, PRP and Newsletter every year. Jim Hawke is the Scholarship Committee Chairman and the guy in charge. His address is in the Directory and his email is: jhawke@sierra.net.

SOAR XXIII PRE-REUNION-PACKET (PRP): The PRP will be mailed in June or July and will contain all the info you need to attend SOAR XXIII in Las Vegas. ***PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING!!!!*** It's one helluva lot of fun and the rates we get from the Plaza Hotel and Casino make it probably the best good deal in Lost Wages. Besides, you should visit your money now and then!

NINE-DIGIT ZIP CODE: There are still those members that think they don't have one! Or, that we (the SOA) don't need it! **WRONG** on both counts! **Every postal address has a nine-digit ZIP code.** Ask your postman or your post office and then send it to the SOA (Bill Shelton ... his address is in the Directory). It saves the SOA money and time and allows you to get your various SOA publications in a timely manner. And, you wouldn't believe the cards and letters we get complaining of not receiving SOA pubs ... but without exception, most complainants explain that they forgot to send the SOA their new mailing address or their nine-digit ZIP code. The AAR and the PRP are sent 3rd class mail and a nine-digit ZIP code is mandatory. 3rd class mail is not forwarded or returned! So, if we don't have your correct address and nine-digit you will not receive these publications. This newsletter is mailed out first class for two basic reasons: 1st class mail is forwarded and the SOA sometimes receives new addresses when the 1st class letter is returned to us. Help us out ... keep your address current!

THE BY-LAWS AND THE SOA APPLICATION: The SOA By-laws is having some spelling and grammar corrections made. No big deal and it's taken care of by your Board of Directors. If you want a copy of the By-laws they can be obtained by email from the SOA Administrator (bulldogsog@aol.com) or from Ralf Miller (ralfmiller@aol.com). The By-laws will be available by email so make sure you have file download capability. There has been some discussion lately of the wording used on the SOA application... specifically, the term **REFERENCES**. **Let it be crystal clear:** when a General Member (GA or GL) signs his name as a reference for a new applicant, he, by all legal interpretation(s), means he is verifying the information of the applicant that appears on the application form. The By-laws also provide that if a GA or GL member verifies the application of a "new member" who is subsequently found to be fraudulent, the new member/applicant is expelled and so is the General Member (GA or GL) who verified the applicant's application (the guy that signed as a reference). The Bottomline is If you sign as a **reference** for a new member/applicant, **you are verifying** that the information on his application is **TRUE**. If it ain't, you've got a real problem ... like you're outa here, too!!

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY TO THE BOARD OR TO THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING??? If you do, put it in writing and send it me so the Board can consider putting it on the agenda. Please be concise and complete. If you have "New Business" to present at the General Membership meeting, please let me know in advance the subject matter. We are on strict time constraints at the General Membership meeting and if your subject is going to require lots of time or discussion, then you will most likely be deferred to a later time or meeting room that day.

1. The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the work during the year.

2. The second part of the report deals with the results of the work during the year and the progress of the work during the year.

3. The third part of the report deals with the results of the work during the year and the progress of the work during the year.

4. The fourth part of the report deals with the results of the work during the year and the progress of the work during the year.

5. The fifth part of the report deals with the results of the work during the year and the progress of the work during the year.

6. The sixth part of the report deals with the results of the work during the year and the progress of the work during the year.

7. The seventh part of the report deals with the results of the work during the year and the progress of the work during the year.

8. The eighth part of the report deals with the results of the work during the year and the progress of the work during the year.

9. The ninth part of the report deals with the results of the work during the year and the progress of the work during the year.

10. The tenth part of the report deals with the results of the work during the year and the progress of the work during the year.



GUESTS AT SOAR AND "THE LITTLE PEOPLE": There has been some close calls regarding safety and liability concerning small children in the Hospitality Suite and the Banquet (liquid gel burners being pulled over, etc). The Hotel has their liability constraints when they serve our needs in the Hotel during SOAR. This can run the gamut of booze being served when underage children are present to children being unattended, or even loosely unattended, in the Hospitality Suite or the Banquet. Let's protect the SOA and the Plaza Hotel and NOT bring youngsters under the age of 16 to the Hospitality Suite or to the Banquet. In this litigious society we now live in, we must be super careful. I don't like it, but that's the way it is! And, speaking of liability, no more children at the firing range unless all sorts of liability releases are signed.

GUESTS, AGAIN! There has been some correspondence to me lately regarding guests at SOAR. Specifically, a guest that some members think should not attend and that the SOA should go along with that and bar the guest. That won't happen! The SOA is not in the business of passing judgement on what guests should or not attend SOAR. If some members have a problem with a certain guest they deem undesirable, then those members should take that up with the guest's sponsor or with the guest themselves.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS MEMORIAL AT MACDILL AFB, FL: Effective immediately, donations to the SO Memorial Fund should be sent to the SOA Treasurer, John McClaskey (his address is in the Directory). Donations will be forwarded to the Fund and names will be duly entered on the SOA Honor Roll of Donors. Our thanks to Larry Trimble and his wife, Sue, for their tremendous efforts in raising funds and donations for the Memorial at MacDill AFB over the past years.

AND, FINALLY: Let me leave you with the standard admonitions and pleadings ... (1) please pay your dues if you are an annual member (GA-General Annual, or AA-Associate Annual) by 31 December. Life membership (\$250) is the secret to no longer having to remember to do that! (2) Send Bill Shelton (his address is in the Directory) your change of address, new phone, and your nine-digit ZIP code! And, (3) whenever you communicate with the SOA (SOAR registration, payment of dues, check or money order, letters, change of address, etc.) PLEASE include your complete SOA Membership Number on everything!

AND, REMEMBER, SOAR XXIII, 29 Sep - 3 Oct 99! It'll be a blast!

My very best wishes to you all,

RALF M. MILLER,
President, SOA

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SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION SOAR XXIII

Plaza Hotel/Casino, Las Vegas Nevada
29 September - 03 October 1999

CCS at SOAR XXIII



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

NOTICE TO SOA MEMBERSHIP

"The opinions expressed by the writers and editor are entirely their own and are not to be considered an official expression of the Special Operations Association with the exception of the actual SOAR XXIII AAR. Advertisements for products or services do not necessarily constitute an endorsement by the Special Operations Association"



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

SOAR XXIII SCHEDULE OF EVENTS, 29 SEPTEMBER - 03 OCTOBER 1999

WEDNESDAY, 29 September 1999

1000 - NLT 0200 - Hospitality Suite
1000 - 1800 - Late Registration

THURSDAY, 30 September 1999

1000 - NLT 0200 - Hospitality Suite
1000 - 1800 - Late Registration
1430 - 1700 - BOD Meeting

FRIDAY, 01 October 1999

0730 - 1230 - Weapons Firing
1000 - NLT 0200 - Hospitality Suite
1000 - 1800 - Late Registration
1230 - 1400 - Lunch - (Hosted by SOA)
1330 - 1500 - POW/MIA Issues-Norm Doney
1515 - 1615 - Lang Vei/Khe Sanh Revisited -
B. Donoghue/D. Smith/C. Berg
1630 - 1715 - Kham Duc Revisited -
J.D. McLeroy

SATURDAY, 02 October 1999

0900 - 1800 - Hospitality Suite
0900 - 1000 - Late Registration
1000 - 1200 - General Membership Meeting
1230 - 1330 - Lunch - (Hosted by SOA)
1330 - 1430 - SOG/Tailwind Sequel -
John Plaster
1430 - 1530 - SOA Web Site - Bob Golden
1800 - 1900 - Cocktails - (Hosted by SOA)
1900 - 1915 - Posting of Colors/Introduction
of VIP's/Guests
1915 - 2030 - Banquet
2030 - 2045 - Retirement of Colors
2045 - 2100 - BREAK
2100 - 2200 - SOA Raffle
2100 - NLT 0200 - Hospitality Suite

SUNDAY, 03 October 1999

0800 - 1200 - Hospitality Suite
NLT 1200 - HOSPITALITY SUITE
IS CLOSED
NLT 1200 - Hotel Check Out

Revised: 18 September 1999



PRESIDENT PRO-TEM'S MESSAGE

First, let me say I didn't expect to be providing a message to the membership this year. However, circumstances placed me in a position that I believe requires an explanation as to why, especially for those members that unfortunately were not able to attend SOAR XXIII for one reason or another and which by the way was the largest attended reunion to date .

I believe I must first provide you some background that will set the stage for my comments. As my tenure as SOA President was coming to an end on 31 December 1998, I desired to provide as smooth a transition from the 1997-'98 SOA Board of Directors to the new SOA Board of Directors for the term commencing 1 January 1999 as possible. One of my objectives was to insure that as complete a Management Control Review of the entire operation of the SOA to include its financial status be undertaken prior to Ralf Miller assuming the SOA Presidency. I wished to insure that if any deficiencies occurred "on my watch", that they be recognized and corrected in order that they did not occur in the future.

During the conduct of SOAR XXII, I approached Charles Berg, the outgoing SOA Vice-President, to ascertain whether or not he would be available and willing to conduct a Management Control Review of the SOA. I recalled that he had conducted a similar successful review for the Special Forces Association at Fort Bragg. Charles Berg, CFE, CGFM affirmed that he was willing to do so at no cost to the SOA. I then approached the new Treasurer and apprised him of Charles Berg's background and offer. At that time I was not aware if John McClaskey had known of Mr. Berg's MCR review of the SFA. John stated that he was aware and had no objections whatsoever if Mr. Berg conducted the MCR which included an audit of the SOA financials. John McClaskey, a CPA could have on his own requested Charles Berg accomplish this MCR. FYI, in the past during a turn-over of Treasurers within the SOA, it has been the option of the new SOA Treasurer to decide who he desired conduct an audit of the financials prior to assuming responsibility for the SOA finance records. The new Treasurer had, as an option if he so desired, the authority to "go outside of the SOA" and seek an Independent Auditor, (at a cost to the SOA) or accept Charles Berg's offer at no cost. John McClaskey agreed with me to accept Charles Berg's offer. However, I believed then as I do now that I would be adding credibility to the overall process by preparing a "Letter of Engagement" authorizing Mr. Berg to conduct the Management Control Review on behalf of the SOA. I believe subsequent outgoing President's should consider this means to assist the transition from one Board to another.



Mr. Berg commenced his MCR by requesting all former SOA Board of Director members furnish him information relating to their involvement on the SOA Board to include any "comp's" they may or may not have received or any financial dealings whatsoever while acting in the capacity of a SOA Board member. Most did so without question. Two elected to procrastinate - although one eventually did provide the requested documentation, albeit reluctantly.

Time passed and Mr. Jack Abraham continued to procrastinate by not furnishing information relevant to Mr. Berg's task. Repeated requests by myself to Mr. Miller, then President, SOA to insist and direct Mr. Abraham accede to requests by Mr. Berg went unanswered. I then informed Mr. Miller that I would make a serious issue of Mr. Abraham's obstructionist attitude at the SOA Board of Directors meeting that would convene during the conduct of SOAR XXIII.

Finally, a few weeks prior to the commencement of SOAR XXIII, Mr. Abraham attempted to by-pass the process and request for documentation by informing the Board that anyone selected by the Board could visit Georgetown, Texas at their own expense to review the documents in question, but, he stated he had no inclination to release any of them for study outside of his residence. I found his offer unacceptable. I continued to insist that he provide the "original" invoices for the MCR to Mr. Berg. I further stated that all records/actions/ accomplishments by an elected or appointed member to the SOA Board conducted on behalf of the SOA to include any "original" invoices/documentation belonged to the SOA and not to any one individual. Mr. Abraham did not agree with that premise. Interestingly, Mr. Abraham had in the past always provided his own J&J business documents (invoices) for reimbursement. I was naive enough to believe that these J&J Invoices of Jack's represented the actual cost of any items he purchased while acting as the SOA Purchasing Agent on behalf of the SOA. When information surfaced that Jack was charging a "markup" and had not previously requested Board approval to do so, I believed it was in the Board's best interest to review all of the "original" vendor invoices in order to ascertain the percentage of "mark up" Mr. Abraham was charging the SOA without Board permission.

Note: To this day the SOA Board has only had the opportunity to compare two "original invoices" against Mr. Abraham's J&J invoices. They reflected a "markup" of 20% and 80% respectively. This "mark up" or any "mark up" was never authorized by the Board. Under the SOA Charter of Incorporation from the State of Texas of which the SOA is obligated to operate under, states in part:

"No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to its trustees, officers or other private persons except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in these Articles".



Had Mr. Abraham requested permission from the SOA Board to place a reasonable "mark up" on the items he purchased on behalf of the SOA, he may or may not have received permission to do so - but it was in the power of the SOA Board to grant it to him if he had requested this take place. Mr. Abraham never, I repeat, never requested permission even after I had on a number of occasions when he threatened to cease doing "favors" for the SOA by purchasing items on behalf of the SOA requested that he come to the Board and explain his rationale for a "reasonable markup" and request permission from the Board to do so. I say reasonable because I cannot believe anyone in his right mind would see a 80% "markup" as being reasonable.

On the evening of 28 September 1999, at the direction of Mr. Ralf Miller, then President SOA, the SOA BOD met in Executive Session to receive a briefing from Mr. Berg relative to the Management Control Review he had conducted. Following Mr. Berg's presentation, the Board again agreed to meet on the evening of 29 September, thus allowing time for the entire BOD to review and decide what action they would elect to follow as it related to the Findings as presented by Mr. Berg. On the evening of 29 September, Mr. Miller assembled the entire Board. He opened the meeting by stating that "*Roberts Rules of Order*", would dictate the conduct of this Executive Session meeting. The BOD was meeting for the purpose of deciding basically the following as it related to the 31 Findings contained in the MCR Executive Summary:

- a. Accept the Findings.
- b. Reject the Findings.
- c. Modify the Findings.
- d. Any combination of the above.

FYI, the entire Board accepted with some modifications all 31 Findings. Within the 31 Findings, there were a couple that were "tabled" pending receipt of certain respective reports mentioned in a Finding, e.g., "Regulations and Codes Related to Veterans Organizations". However, none affected the outcome of the meeting.

NOTE: A MCR Executive Summary has been provided as a part of this SOAR XXIII AAR for your edification.

Following the Board's approval with certain modifications/tabling of the 31 Findings, I then requested that I be permitted to make a number of motions to the SOA Board. One of those motions was that Mr. Abraham be relieved as the Vice-President, SOA and from all responsibilities he enjoyed on the SOA Board to include the Special Operations Memorabilia Sales Oversight and Chairman, SOA Reunion Committee for actions deemed inimical to the Association. That motion



passed by a simple majority. Needless to say, Mr. Abraham was not pleased and immediately returned to Texas on 30 September 1999.

Subsequently, on 30 September 1999 the SOA was scheduled to conduct its SOA Board of Directors Meeting as previously called for by Mr. Miller. Mr. Miller although available, elected not to attend and passed the word that I was to conduct the Board meeting. He subsequently also departed for Texas on 1 October, thereby not available to "Chair" the General Membership Meeting scheduled for 2 October. The SOA Board requested I preside at the GMM.

Also, as a result of the Board actions regarding Mr. Abraham, Directors Lyons and Shelton elected to resign in protest. That is their right and while I personally didn't agree with their rationale, I respect their decision to stand up for what they perceived as too harsh a penalty imposed on Mr. Abraham.

Some of you may also believe that these actions taken against Mr. Abraham were too severe. I say this to you - the SOA is larger than any one of us. The SOA membership voted to elect qualified individuals to the SOA Board that they believed would act judiciously and prudently on behalf of the entire membership. If any individual fails to support the Association and its goals - he no longer can truly represent the Association. The findings of the MCR prove this point conclusively. The SOA Board has taken a number of necessary steps to insure a more positive management of our unique organization. Will mistakes of omission or commission occur in the future? I hope not, but, if so, I believe those checks and balances in place today will insure a stronger and better Association for the future.

Per the authority granted by the SOA By-Laws, Messrs. Bahr, (2 Oct.) Benjamin (1 Oct.) and Van Winkle (1 Oct.) were approached and requested to serve out the remaining Director terms on the SOA Board pending elections in 2000 for a new SOA BOD term commencing 1 January 2001. Currently, there are only seven of the eight positions on the SOA Board that are filled. UP of the SOA By-Laws, Mr. Jim Hetrick was moved up from the senior Director position to fill the position of Vice-President, SOA. Mr. John McClaskey, Treasurer, SOA and Mr. David C. Smith, Administrator, SOA remain in their elected Board positions. Messrs. Bahr, Benjamin and Van Winkle were appointed to occupy three of the four Director positions. It should be noted that Messrs. Bahr, Benjamin and Van Winkle were appointed to the Board following the vote to relieve Mr. Abraham and had no say whatsoever in that earlier decision.

In view of the fact that Mr. Miller refused to "Chair" the SOA Board of Directors Meeting on 30 September and was absent to "Chair" the annual General Membership Meeting on 2 October, he therefore in effect, abandoned his elected position and responsibility. Under the provisions of the SOA By-Laws, the SOA Board unanimously relieved him as President, SOA on 2 October 1999. FYI, under



the SOA By-Laws, the Board can remove any member of the SOA Board of Officers and Directors by a simple majority, however, only the General Membership can elect the President, SOA. Therefore, the Board requested that I serve as President Pro-Tem, SOA for the remaining term of Mr. Miller's office.

Now to some positive news. First, I'd like to thank those many members who have given of their time and effort to insure success after success of each succeeding reunion. I wish to begin by announcing the name of the new Chairman, SOA Reunion Committee, Harry Claflin. Harry, who for many years has "maintained his post" in the Hospitality Suite along with all of his super assistants, Bill Garcia, Bob Golden, Al Newman, Dick Simpkins and Pat Hephner has accepted this most important position on the SOA BOD Special Staff. In the SOAMS area, the SOA was very fortunate to have Bill Gow, Don Benjamin, Ray Chambers, Dan Junevius, Bob Johnston, Tom Tatten, Rick Grabianowski, Harry Munck and Ken Gaudet. Also, this year, SOAR XXIII Sergeants-At-Arms, Jim Cole and Laf Keaton insured the reunion "stayed the course". None of us will forget the outstanding task Ben Baker accomplished in "running" the SOA Range Firing. Wow. I hope Ben is up to it again at SOAR XXIV. A special thanks is also due to Mark Kinsler and D.C. Caldwell for their gracious donation of weapons and ammunition utilized during the conduct of the SOA Range Firing. Also, the list of Guest Speakers continues to grow each year. This year we were fortunate to have as "special speaker guests" SOA Member, Luc Edmonds and his side-kick at the Pentagon Department of Defense POW/MIA office, Major Jon Sweet. Additionally Steve Long, a former POW who had been shot down while flying an O2 over Laos and although badly wounded managed to E&E for four days before he was captured and held in solitary confinement for four and one half years by the North Vietnamese. Steve attended SOAR XXIII as a guest of Jim Hawke. All three gentlemen assisted in complimenting the regular outstanding and all important annual POW/MIA briefing presented by Norm Doney. Also very interesting were the dual briefings relating to Kham Duc being revisited by Jim McLeRoy and the Khe Sanh/Lang Vei revisit by Bob Donoghue, David Smith and Charles Berg. Last, but not least, John Plaster briefed attendees on his new SOG Photo History book and Bob Golden updated everyone on the SOA Web Site. All of these personnel took the time to provide interesting topics and news to interested attendees and should be commended for their efforts.

I believe everyone was aware of the efforts expended by Bob Bechtoldt, Troy Gilley, Ben Lyons and Dennis Gonzales, all former members of CCS. They are to be congratulated and commended for their terrific recruiting of all of the former CCS members that attended SOAR XXIII. By the way, that is quite a motley looking CCS crew on the cover of this report, heh? Due to the width size of the picture, I



had to do a varied split of the photo. Some of you got in twice. Bob informs me that next year at SOAR XXIV they will even have more former CCS members in attendance. In fact, he offers a challenge to CCC and CCN to do better.

A special SOA "THANK YOU" to Jim Hawke and Bill Gow. Chairman, SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant Program and Chairman, SOA Memorabilia Sales Committee respectively. Both gentlemen have resigned to spend more time with their families. They deserve a rest after a number of years supporting the Scholarship and Memorabilia Sales tasks in a truly superb manner. Thank you both.

FYI, Jim Butler and Jim Hetrick have accepted the Scholarship and Memorabilia Sales "Chairs" respectively. I know they will both attempt to surpass the past efforts of these two departing Chairman. I'm sure also that neither Jim Hawke or Bill Gow will complain. In fact, I'm sure that they will expect Jim Butler and Jim Hetrick to do so for the good of the Association.

Additionally, as you are aware, the Special Operations Memorial was completed and dedicated at MacDill AFB, Tampa, Florida on 24 May 1999. The effort expended on behalf of the SOA by Messrs. Trimble, McClaskey and Bahr during these past three years as the SOA representatives on the SOMF Board was outstanding and contributed to the overall success of that "super" memorial to the "Past, Present and Future" Special Operations personnel.

I'll have more to say in the "Odds and Ends" portion of the SOAR XXIII AAR. Stay in touch. See you at SOAR XXIV, 27 September - 1 October 2000.

Respectfully,

CLYDE J. SINCERE, JR.
President Pro-Tem, SOA



THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING** **SATURDAY, 1000 HOURS, 02 OCTOBER 1999**

I. Call to Order:

Presiding Officer

A. The Special Operations Association General Membership Meeting was called to order by SOA Board of Director Clyde J. Sincere, Jr., presiding in the absence of Mr. Ralf M. Miller, President, SOA at 1000 hours, Saturday, 02 October 1999 at the Plaza Hotel/Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada.

B. ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Mr. Sincere informed the membership that due to the absence of Mr. Ralf M. Miller, President SOA he would at the request of the SOA Board preside at this SOA General Membership Meeting. He then read an email from Mr. Miller that had been received at approximately 0930 hours, 2 Oct.'99 in which Mr. Miller wished to inform the membership that personal reasons dictated he return to his home and that he was not resigning as President, SOA. Mr. Sincere then provided the membership with a brief synopsis of the events that had occurred that resulted in specific changes of leadership within the SOA.

II. Pledge of Allegiance:

Mr. Laf Keaton, SOA Sergeant-At-Arms, led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Moment of Silence for Fallen and Absent Comrades:

A. Mr. Sincere requested that the membership remain standing for a moment of silence for our fallen and absent comrades.

B. Mr. Sincere reported to the membership that two members had passed away since the publication and distribution of the SOAR XXIII Pre-Reunion Packet (SOAR XXIII PRP):

Lionel Pinn, SOA # 019-GL
John Thomas SOA # 490-GL

7 August 1999
28 September 1999



C. Mr. Sincere advised the membership that he had inadvertently neglected to publish the passing of Colonel Paul Linh The Ngo, senior Vietnamese member of the SOA in either the SOA 1999 Spring Newsletter or the SOAR XXIII PRP and wished to rectify that error by announcing at this General Membership Meeting that Colonel Paul Linh The Ngo, SOA # 1384- GA, passed away on 25 February 1999 at his home in California.

IV. Roll Call:

A. Mr. Sincere informed the membership that in accordance with the SOA By-Laws and Constitution, that for the purposes of this meeting, the membership present, constituted a quorum for any business purposes.

B. The following named SOA Officers and Directors were present:

John R. McClaskey	Treasurer
David C. Smith	Administrator
*Roy W. Bahr	Director
*Donald C. Benjamin	Director
Jim Hetrick	Director
*Harlan "Rip" Van Winkle	Director
Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.	Director

*Appointed by the SOA Board of Officers and Directors to fill as Directors, SOA the unexpired terms of office of Mr. Abraham, Mr. Lyons and Mr. Shelton.

C. The following named SOA Officer was absent:

Ralf M. Miller	President
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D. The following named SOA Officer was relieved by the SOA Board of Officers and Directors from the SOA Board as of 29 September 1999 for conduct deemed inimical to the best interest of the Special Operations Association:

Jack Abraham	Vice-President
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E. The following named SOA Directors resigned in protest as a result of the Board's action relieving Mr. Abraham:

Brendon "Ben" Lyons	Director
William L. Shelton	Director



F. The following named Special Staff Members were present:

William M. "Bill" Gow, Chairman, SOA Memorabilia Sales Committee
James P. Hawke, Chairman, SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant Program Committee.
William "Bill" Lueders, Chairman, SOA Tally Committee.
Charles L. Berg, Special Staff Officer - Management Control Review.
Robert Golden, Special Staff Officer - Manager, SOA Web Site.

V. Business Meeting:

A. Old Business:

1. Minutes of the SOA General Membership Meeting held on Saturday, 3 October 1998 at 1000 hours: Administrator

Mr. Smith informed the members present that the minutes of the 3 October 1998 General Membership Meeting were included in the SOAR XXII AAR. All members having been provided a copy via mail prior to this meeting. A motion was requested, made and seconded that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with and that they be approved as provided. Motion approved.

2. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer

a. Mr. McClaskey reported to the membership that the financial health of the SOA remains sound. As reported to you in the past years, the SOA is financially capable of meeting all of its operational expenses and Scholarship commitments. Currently (through 30 Sept.'99) the SOA had assets in excess of \$208,000 and liabilities of approximately \$135,500. (This includes \$100,500 in Scholarship grants payable through the year 2002 and an estimated \$35,000 in SOAR XXIII expenses that will be paid at the end of SOAR XXIII). Uncommitted SOA assets amount to approximately \$72,500. (These figures do not include any monies collected at SOAR XXIII).

b. Mr. McClaskey advised the membership that in order to better control and track SOA income and expenses, a computer based double entry book-keeping system was established. The SOA is now able to determine exactly when and where SOA resources are collected and/or expended. (In the past this information was never readily available). Additionally, with this system, internal controls are enhanced and the SOA Board of Directors has financial data available that will assist in planning and budgeting.



c. SOA Year-end Balance Sheet and Income Statement depicting current and more specific financial information will be included in the SOAR XXIII AAR.

d. A motion was made and seconded that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as provided subject to audit. Motion approved.

3. The George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Committee
Report: James Hawke

a. Mr. Hawke, Chairman, SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Committee reported to the membership that it had been a great pleasure for him to serve as the Chairman, SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Committee. He wished to comment on the following:

(1) Accomplishments:

96 students have been offered scholarships. 48 are in the program at this time, four in their last year, eleven with two years remaining, ten with three years remaining and thirteen recently awarded. Our maximum liability if all students complete their educational goals will be approximately \$117,000.

(2) Examples of Institutions Attended:

Culinary Institute of America. DeVrys Technical Institute, Stanford, Radford, Smith and several Christian colleges.

(3) Student Profile:

Young Men and Women. Grades range from Salutatorian and Valedictorian to just achieving Junior College entrance qualifications. The parents former military ranks range from E4 to O6. Geographically our students reach all the way from Hawaii to the East Coast of the United States. Physically they range from top athletes to the mobility impaired.

(4) 1999 Scholarships Awarded:

Fourteen grants were offered, thirteen accepted. They are:

Benjamin Bieber	Lisa Breslin
Charlotte Claflin	Jacelyn Deacy
William Faistenhammer	Marinan Hamner
Elizabeth Jalloway	Jessica Montez



Christina Nguyen
David Smith
Stefanie Wolcoff

Mark Sakai
Marcus Whitt

(5) Transitions:

Approximately one third of the students move every semester. Keeping track of their addresses, phone numbers, etc. is a true task. Usually I can use the SOA directory to locate mom and dad. This year we have had a number of students graduate, two have been on academic suspensions for below a "C" average. By the way, during my time as "Chair", every student that has gone on a "grade suspension" has recovered the following semester. One completed an "AA degree in electronics and has joined the Army, one young lady has joined the USMC, and a few have decided that college is just not for them and dropped out.

(6) Eligibility:

As a long-time member of Nevada's Senatorial Service Academy Selection Committee, I am familiar with the rigorous entrance requirements and the extreme level of achievement found in the successful candidate. I have long advocated that the SOA Scholarship eligibility has been earned by their fathers and in some cases, their grandfathers. I would not like to see the SOA selection turn into an academy selection process. During my Chairmanship, the applications we have received have been provided to every member of the Scholarship Committee for review and ranking. This ranked list has been provided to your Board of Directors, through the Office of the President. I am pleased to report that in my three years, the SOA Scholarship account has been able to endow offering all of the eligible students a scholarship grant.

(7) Fund Raising:

This is an area where the scholarship program welcomes and needs everyone's assistance. In the last two months we have received two checks for \$500 each and a check for \$1,000. These checks were unsolicited. At this year's reunion, as always, the purchase of raffle tickets will greatly benefit the scholarship program. We have also greatly benefited from very generous donations from members and from the fund raising efforts of members. I do not wish to embarrass anyone, but, I would like to note that the SOA Scholarship Committee wishes to call to the attention of the membership that members like Billy Waugh, "Big Ed" Clough, Jim Cole and others have "dug deep" into their pockets and by doing so have assisted in the solicitation of funds to support the program by causing others to "dig deep" into their pockets. As I turn the "Chair" of the Scholarship Committee over to the next member to be appointed by the SOA Board, I hope to have more time to help with fund raising and hell raising.



(8) "For the Good of the Order":

This is the wording most often used to call for open comments from a Board of Directors. Today I would like to invoke these words in a different context. The many individuals in this room were selected for special operations based on their abilities, initiative, intelligence, drive, physical stamina and willpower. You were selected to provide the enemies of this country with major pain. In our civilian lives, we now have the skills to be a major pain to each other. I am requesting each of you to remember that the SOA Scholarship program is an accomplishment in which we all share credit. As your Chairman of the Scholarship program, I have been just close enough to the Board of Directors to understand the amount of work they accomplish. They require your strong support if they are expected to continue to work and serve at the level I have witnessed.

(9) "Sincere Thank You to Every Member of the Committee":

Charles L. Berg, SOA # 031-GL
Jon Cavaiani, SOA # 1000-GL
Travis W. Mills, SOA # 044-GL
Ralf M. Miller, SOA # 060-GL
Herb Siugzda, SOA # 030-GL
Billy Waugh, SOA # 005-GL

and to every member of the SOA for your assistance, guidance, encouragement, mental health and financial support.

b. Finally, my family, professional and business obligations necessitate my leaving the position of Chairman, SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Program Committee. During my tenure as Chairperson, and the experience of the last 17 years as a founding member of the scholarship committee, I have been extremely impressed with all of the students selected for this prestigious award. I have also richly benefited from getting to know each of the students selected for this program.

c. A motion was made and seconded that the report of the Chairman, SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Program Committee be accepted and approved as provided. Motion approved.



4. The SOA Membership Committee Status Report:

Clyde Sincere

a. Mr. Sincere reported to the membership that as of 30 September 1999, the Association has a cumulative total of 1662 members. Since 1 October 1998, the Membership Committee has approved 131 new membership applications. There were approximately 70 applications returned, some for further verifications and the remainder were rejections. Some were "wannabees" and a few were not aware of the specific requirements for membership qualification.

b. A total of eighteen members have passed away since SOAR XXII:

Richard Sommers,	SOA # 395	29 Sept. 1998
Francis Brown,	SOA # 261	13 Oct. 1998
William S. Wood,	SOA # 1357	13 Oct. 1998
Roy Benavidez, (MOH)	SOA # 965	29 Nov. 1998
Jim Byrne,	SOA # 563	06 Dec. 1998
Robert J. Acklen, Jr.,	SOA # 883	31 Dec. 1998
James Collier,	SOA # 1311	28 Jan. 1999
Tony Coelho,	SOA # 239	10 Feb. 1999
Patrick Mahoney	SOA # 499	24 Feb. 1999
Paul Linh The Ngo	SOA # 1384	25 Feb. 1999
William Dale Libby,	SOA # 1059	02 May 1999
Joseph C. Lutz,	SOA # 960	09 May 1999
Jeffery Junkins,	SOA # 461	14 May 1999
Edward Wainwright,	SOA # 143	25 May 1999
Roger Pierson,	SOA # 644	10 Jun. 1999
John W. Pershing,	SOA # 1307	21 Jun. 1999
Lionel Pinn.	SOA # 019	07 Aug. 1999
John Thomas,	SOA # 490	28 Sept. 1999

c. The Association has 1113 active members, 395 members are inactive; 107 members are deceased; 21 have been expelled and 14 have resigned. Also, the Association is affiliated with seven other associations/organizations.

d. The SOA Membership Committee consists of the following SOA members:

B. Ray Chambers,	Chairman
Harry Claflin,	USMC
Ray Dawson,	USAF
Bob Gilstrap,	USA
Curtis Williams,	USN
Chieu Ngoc Lam	STD
Steve Sherman	Archivist



e. A motion was made and seconded that the membership report be accepted and approved as provided. Motion approved.

5. SOAR XXIII General Report:

Clyde Sincere

a. Mr. Sincere informed the membership that all SOAR XXIII activities were progressing as scheduled and that SOAR XXIII had already exceeded SOAR XXII in attendance, closing in on 600 attendees.

b. Mr. Sincere reiterated that additional coordination with the appropriate Board/Special Staff members and the hotel staff would continue as required to insure a successful reunion.

c. The current 1999 SOA Reunion Committee Members are:

Harry Claflin

Chairman

Donald C. Benjamin

Bill Garcia

Bob Golden

Pat Hephner

Al Newman

Dick Simpkins

No motion required.

6. Special Operations Memorial Foundation, Inc:

Roy W. Bahr

Mr. Bahr briefed the membership on the latest status of the Special Operations Memorial Foundation, Inc. as it related to his participation during that time he served as a member of the SOMF, Inc. Board of Directors from the SOA:

a. He initially reviewed for the edification of the membership the history of the SOA participation in bringing the Special Operations Memorial to fruition.

(1) The SOA became an active participant in this worthy project In October 1996 as a result of a presentation by Major General (Ret) Joseph C. Lutz and Dick Tappan to the SOA Board of Directors and General Membership.

(2) Three (3) members of the SOA were selected to represent the SOA on the Special Operations Memorial Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors. They were - Larry Trimble, John McClaskey and Bill O'Rourke.



(3) Bill O'Rourke passed away on 26 November 1996 and Roy W. Bahr was appointed as a replacement on the SOMF Board.

(3) The first SOMF Board meeting attended by SOA representatives took place in January 1997 at MacDill AFB, Florida.

(4) Subsequent meetings were held on a monthly basis for the next two and one half years.

b. Mr. Bahr stated that for the majority of that time, cooperation, trust and respect between the SOMF and the SOA directors serving on the SOMF Board was outstanding. At the last meeting that General Lutz attended as Chairman of the SOMF BOD on 21 April 1999, the SOMF Board had agreed that the placement of the individual and unit engravings would be by date received, commencing in the center of the rear wall, concurrently working outward on both sides from the center.

c. General Lutz passed away on 9 May 1999. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the SOMF BOD was held on 19 May. It was at that meeting that Mr. Bahr stated that he learned that other meetings had been held without his knowledge. At those meetings, Mr. Bahr stated that it was decided by the SOMF BOD present that at the center of the rear wall of the memorial the names of all Special Operations MOH/VC recipients would be placed and additional space reserved for future awardees. Everyone agreed that this was an excellent decision. Unfortunately, Mr. Bahr further stated he learned at that meeting that there was to be a special and unique placement for the 284 engravings for SOF KIA/KIT since the first Joint Special Operations mission in 1980. These engravings would be placed not by date received, as had been agreed upon, but, would be located on either side of the MOH/VC engravings, thus placing them in a "special category" than those represented elsewhere on the wall, currently, and in the future. Mr. Bahr stated that he voiced his strong disapproval for this proposal.

d. Mr. Bahr was unable to attend the next SOMF BOD meeting on 16 June 1999 and it was at this meeting that the SOMF Board members in attendance voted to retain the 284 engravings of SOF KIA/KIT on the center on either side of the MOH/VC engravings. Chairman Peter Kreuziger prepared a letter to be dispatched to special operations patrons in order to "survey their opinions on this SOMF BOD decision. His letter was dated 17 June with an "answer by" date of 30 June. His letter in the opinion of many did not provide sufficient time for a response. Mr. Bahr stated that upon learning of this letter he then prepared a response with copies to the leadership of the SOA. He stated that he received email messages from most supporting his position 100%. Unfortunately, the SOMF BOD received information that some in the SOA



leadership accepted the SOMF BOD decision on the layout for the memorial wall. Also, since there was little or no time for other SOA responses, these responses effectively defeated the attempt of Mr. Bahr to correct what he believed to be an unfair and inconsistent action on the part of the SOMF BOD.

e. After a great deal of discussion at the SOA BOD on 30 September, the SOA BOD decided to once again approach the SOMF BOD and express the concerns and consternation of the SOA relating to the method used in placing the engravings on the memorial wall. The SOA position was that the engravings should reflect the desires and understanding of the initial SOA supporters of the memorial.

f. Mr. Bahr went to great length stating that regardless of his personal beliefs as to the placement of engravings on the memorial, that the Special Operations Memorial at MacDill AFB, Florida is in place and looks great. It is an outstanding memorial that the entire SOA can be proud of. It is a "living memorial" and engravings will continue to be added to it, far into the future.

No Motion Required.

7. CNN - Operation "Tailwind" Status Report:

Jimmy Dean

Mr. James Dean, SOA # 123-GL and Administrator, SFA briefed the SOA Membership on the status of the one (1) hour documentary relating to Operation "Tailwind".

a. At SFA Convention '99 held in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, the SFA Chapter Presidents and the SFA Membership approved the SFA Board of Officers plan to negotiate for the production of a one hour documentary on Operation "Tailwind". This became necessary when CNN totally withdrew from any plans to produce the historic (true) version of Operation "Tailwind".

b. Negotiations are now concluded, and an agreement has been signed with a production company to produce a one hour television special on Operation "Tailwind". This agreement includes a non-disclosure statement. Further information will be disseminated to all members regarding production status as it becomes available.

c. This agreement was vetted and approved by Attorney David Collins and will be at no cost to the SFA.



d. Negotiations included the following:

- (1) Projected distributions of net profits.
- (2) Ownership of the Special.
- (3) Responsibilities and Obligations, i.e., contents, interviews, still photos, videos and tapes.
- (4) Host for the Program.
- (5) Military Consultant.
- (6) Cost of Production, i.e. research, script, Post-Production, Distribution and Advertisement. (Although the SFA cannot discuss the results of the negotiations on the above subjects, the SFA is convinced the membership will be pleased with the results).

e. FYI, there are still over two dozen participants in Operation "Tailwind" who have not as yet been interviewed, (Ground Force, Marine and Air Force Pilots and Planners from MACVSOG/CCC) that are available. The American public needs to know the true facts involving the operation and the honors won by these brave soldiers, airmen and Marines need to be restored, forever. No motion required.

B. New Business:

1. SOAR XXIV Status Report:

Clyde Sincere

a. Mr. Sincere reported to the membership that SOAR XXIV had Already been coordinated with the Plaza Hotel/Casino Management Staff and provided the following information:

- (1) Dates: 27 September - 01 October 2000.
- (2) Location: Plaza Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada.
- (3) Cost: Hotel Accommodations: \$40. Plus tax per nite.
Deadline for Hotel Accommodations: 26 August 2000.
- (4) Cost: SOAR XXIV: No change for Advance (Discount) Registration. It remains \$80. Per member and for each guest. **Deadline for Advance (Discount) Registration: 12 September 2000.**
- (5) Cost: SOAR XXIV: Effective 13 September 2000, \$120.per member and guest.

NOTE: Attendees and guests will be pleased to learn based on comments from attendees and guests at SOAR XXIII, as it related to desiring something other than a "meat entree" that your comments have been heard. Arrangements have been made to permit four different entree's selections, to include one "meat entree" at the Banquet on the evening of 30 September 2000.



b. Additionally, Mr. Harry Claflin, Chairman, SOA Reunion Committee has also coordinated with the Plaza Hotel & Casion on behalf of the SOA for the following dates and rates for SOAR XXV and SOAR XXVI respectively: NOW YOU CAN REALLY PLAN AHEAD....

(1) SOAR XXV: 26 - 30 September 2001.

Cost: Hotel Accommodations: \$40. Plus tax per nite.

(2) SOAR XXVI: 25 - 29 September 2002.

Cost: Hotel Accommodations: \$40. Plus tax per nite.

2. SOA By-Laws and Constitution Ballot Report: Clyde Sincere

Mr. Sincere reported to the assembled membership that Mr. Miller had informed him that the SOA Ballot dispatched with the SOAR XXIII PRP relating to the proposal change to the SOA By-Laws as it concerned and defined "Associate Membership" and the options on how to apply, if eligible, had been overwhelmingly approved.

a. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP - "Associate non-voting membership is awarded to any person, upon application and approval of the Membership Committee. Applicant must have served or is now serving, in a Special Operations unit recognized by this Association in a position in which the applicant's routine or normal duty did not involve direct threat or exposure to hostile fire".

b. Having met the eligibility criteria as defined above, the applicant must:

(1) supply adequate documentation to prove assignment to a Special Operations unit recognized by the Association, or,

(2) one General Member in good standing must verify the credentials of the applicant from first hand knowledge of the applicant while in this assignment.

No Further Motion Required.

3. Recognition, SOAR XXIII Sergeants-at-Arms: Clyde Sincere

a. Mr. Sincere introduced to the membership the two (2) individuals chosen to represent the membership at SOAR XXIII as Sergeants-at-Arms. Laf Keaton, who led the attendees at the General Membership Meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance and Jim Cole, who will lead the membership and their guests in the Pledge of Allegiance at the SOAR XXIII Banquet. Mr. Sincere requested both individuals rise and be recognized. He also thanked both of them for their outstanding service on behalf of the SOA over the years.



b. Mr. Sincere also explained to the membership that each year just prior to the conduct of a SOAR, the President, SOA has the honor and privilege to designate two (2) SOA members to serve as Sergeants-at-Arms who have, over the years, fully and consistently supported the requirements and goals of the SOA.

No Motion Required.

4. Recognition, SOA 20-years or More Members:

Clyde Sincere

a. Mr. Sincere requested the following personnel having achieved 20-year status or more as members of the SOA come forward and receive their 20-year SOA pins. All personnel who attended SOAR I, II, III and IV were eligible:

WITTINGTON, E. Ray	SOA # 049-GL
PEZZELE, Roger	SOA # 068-GL
DAVIS, Ed	SOA #105-GL
SINGLAUB, Jack	SOA # 108-GL
TRIMMER, Lance	SOA # 117-GA
GRAY, Wiley	SOA # 121-GL
DEAN, Jimmy	SOA # 123-GL
BECHTOLDT, Robert	SOA #146-GL
CURRY, William	SOA # 147-GL
BENNETT, Martin	SOA # 150-GL
TRIMBLE, Larry	SOA # 163-GL
VERMILLION, Mike	SOA # 167-GL
BARRETT, J. "Pat"	SOA # 169-GL
deFONTAINE, Sully	SOA # 177-GL
GRAHAM, Robert	SOA # 184-GL
COLE, Richard	SOA # 207-AL
JAKS, Frank	SOA # 213-GL
HAWKE, Jim	SOA # 221-GL
MYRICK, "Don"	SOA # 223-GA

Congratulations to each of you.

b. Next year at SOAR XXIV, all personnel who attended SOAR I, II, III, IV, and/or V are eligible. If your SOA number falls anywhere between 001-375 you will be eligible to receive this award.

No Motion Required.



**5. Recognition, Larry Kimmel - Executor, "Frenchy"
Amundson's Estate:**

Clyde Sincere

a. Mr. Sincere informed the membership that Mr. Kimmel, SOA # 014-GL was unable to attend SOAR XXIII and that Mr. James Butler, SOA # 001-GL would brief the membership on the status of "Frenchy" Amundson's Estate.

b. Mr. Butler informed the membership that Mr. Kimmel had informed him that there was a "last minute" glitch in finalizing the "Frenchy Amundson Estate and believed by the time the SOAR XXIII AAR was distributed the estate should be settled and the results reported to you in the Spring Newsletter..

6. Recognition, William E. Butterworth:

Clyde Sincere

Mr. Butterworth, aka, W.E.B. Griffin recently was recognized by the National VFW and presented a check in the amount of \$5,000. Mr. Butterworth elected to split that award between his local VFW Chapter in Alabama and the SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Fund by providing each with a \$2500 donation. Thank you Bill on behalf of the entire SOA membership and all of the young men and women your donation will assist in meeting their educational goals.

NOTE: Bill and his lovely wife Pilar had hoped to attend SOAR XXIII, but Pilar recently became seriously ill and they were unable to attend. We can report to you at this time that Pilar is fine and back up on her feet and taking care of Bill as only Bill knows.

7. SOA Nominating Committee - 2001-'02 Term:

Clyde Sincere

a. Mr. Sincere informed the membership that UP Article V, (Board of Directors), paragraph E, (Nominations), SOA By-Laws and Constitution, the outgoing President will chair a "Nominating Committee" which will select qualified candidates and prepare the ballot for the election of the new Board of Officers and Directors for the term of office commencing 1 January 2001 thru 31 December 2002. In furtherance of that effort, Mr. Sincere has selected three (3) past SOA Presidents to assist him in this task. They are Messrs Isler, Newman and Whittington.

b. Also, Mr. Sincere informed the membership that the qualifications to run for a SOA Board member are as follows: UP Article V, (Board of Directors), paragraph B, (Qualifications), SOA By-Laws and Constitution, the Directors of the Association shall be either Life or Annual GENERAL members in good standing and have attended at least two (2) of the last three (3) SOAR's. In addition to those SOA members selected by the Nominating Committee to be approached to ascertain whether or not they desire to compete for a position



on the SOA Board of Officers and Directors, any SOA General member desiring to run for office should seek out any one of the Nominating Committee members and inform them of your desire to run. The SOA Official Ballot will be included as part of the SOAR XXIV PRP. You are requested to pay attention to the "NLT" date for mailing the Ballot in to the SOA Tally Committee "chaired" by Bill Lueders. Any Ballots received after the NLT date will not be counted.

8. Administrative Announcements:

Clyde Sincere

Mr. Sincere wished to inform the Board of certain attendees and guests at SOAR XXIII:

a. **Lew Millett, SOA # 505-GL MOH - Recipient, Korean Conflict.** Lew was accompanied by his son Lee a "Master Sculptor" - Mr. Sincere called everyone's attention to the Medal of Honor series on display in the SOAR Hospitality Suite that had been sculpted by Lee and especially the one that Lew donated bearing his likeness.

b. **Franklin "DOUG" Miller, SOA # 968-GL, MOH - Recipient, Vietnam Conflict** accompanied by his lovely daughter, "Dannie".

c. **Mrs. Jane Sisler, Widow of "Ken" Sisler, first member of SOG to receive the MOH - Vietnam Conflict, Posthumously.**

d. **Major General (Ret) Jack Singlaub, SOA # 108-GL - SOG Commander, 1966- 1968** accompanied by his lovely wife Joan.

e. **Brigadier General (Ret) H. "Heinie" Aderholt, SOA # 900-GL - Senior Air Commando and member of MACVSOG Staff.**

f. **Jimmy Dean, SOA # 123-GL and his lovely wife Dot** representing the Special Forces Association. Jimmy and Dot celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary while attending SOAR XXIII. Congratulations - 50 years, quite an accomplishment - especially on Dot's part, right Jim?

9. Award of SOAR XXIII Door and Raffle Prizes:

Clyde Sincere

a. **Mr. Sincere conducted the awarding of door prizes first and subsequently, awarded the majority of the raffle items. Selected raffle items to include the three (3) U.S. "EE" Savings Bonds, the "Reverse Raffle" and the Las Vegas Quick Draw would be awarded at the banquet.**

b. **Mr. Sincere stated that this year, as in past years, many door and raffle prizes were donated by the membership and/or their guests in support**



of the George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Fund.

c. Mr. Sincere, on behalf of the entire SOA wished to publicly thank all that contributed. Super prizes, many prizes - in fact, Mr. Sincere has it on good authority that Paul Duffy, SOA # 918-GL currently residing in the United Kingdom attempted to purchase every odd type gift, - not really odd - but as many door and raffle prize prior to attending SOAR XXIII that he possibly could carry. Thank you Paul. Again, as in past years, Mr. Sincere stated that he hoped he did not miss recognizing a donor. The following reflects those individuals who donated door and raffle prizes to SOAR XXIII. Thank you one and all:

Don Benjamin	John Plaster	Ray Chambers	Ken Gaudet
Harry Munk	Frank Kennemur	Tom Nicholson	Mark Kinsler
The Plaza Hotel	Ben Baker	"Doc" Padgett	Fred Norris
Pat Hephner	Jim Hawke	Ralph Edens	Paul Duffy
Ernie Acre	Bob Bechtoldt	Dale Bennett	Doug Miller
John Perchard	Bill Sylvester	Clarence Page	Fred Platt
Jim McLuckie	Ron Workman	Mike Walsh	Gary Parsons

d. The Las Vegas Quick Draw was a total success with all 100 tickets purchased. The big \$1,000 in cash was won by Earl Wilson, who also won two (2) other smaller \$25. prizes in the "Las Vegas Quick Draw". So three (3) out of his four (4) purchased tickets were successful. Not too shabby. Ask "Rock Myers and he will tell you why.

e. The three (3) SOA U.S. "EE" Savings Bonds were won by:

(1) \$2,000. (\$1,000. Cash): Vito Paladino, friend of Sully deFontaine, who in turn donated it back to the George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship fund. Thank you Vito.

(2) \$1,000. (\$500. Cash): Robert Camore, Jr.

(3) \$ 500. (\$250. Cash): Tom Pecora

f. The SOA "Reverse Raffle" was won by Robert Masterjoseph, SOA # 051-GL. The "Reverse Raffle" prize was a sculpted statue of Medal of Honor Recipient Lew Millett for action "above and beyond" in Korea.

g. There are a number of other major gifts in support of the George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Fund that cannot go unmentioned:



Ben Fry.

(1) Jim Fry, SOA # 288-GL donated \$2,500 IMO of his son

(2) Billy Waugh, SOA # 005-GL donated \$1,000 IMO of Choo-Pinn and Gary "Budda" Grant.

(3) Robert Golden, SOA # 1282-GL. Donated \$1,000.

(4) Bill Sylvester, SOA # 973-GL donated that "super Andrew Jackson Commemorative Dueling Pistol valued at \$3,000.

(5) Don Benjamin, SOA # 899-GL donated the .22 Caliber Ruger pistol and Ladies Antique Case watch, total value \$1,550.

(6) There were as you may have noticed many other fine donations that were below the \$1,000 level, but, be assured they were all appreciated and all went toward a very successful monetary goal in further support of the Scholarship Program for eligible young men and women as they prepare to establish themselves as the future leaders of our great country .

IV. Adjournment:

There being no further items of business, Mr. Clyde J. Sincere, Jr. adjourned the General Membership Meeting at 1230 hours, 02 October 1999 with the announcement that the next General Membership Meeting would take place on 30 September 2000.

DCS/dcs

Respectfully submitted,

Incls: a/s

**DAVID C. SMITH
Administrator, SOA**



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 E. Charleston Boulevard, Suite 5-583F
Las Vegas, Nevada 89122-1003

BALANCE SHEET

(December 31, 1999)

Unaudited-For Management Purposes Only

ASSETS

Current Assets

Scholarship Account	\$ 23,460.48
Operations Account	20,202.50
Convention Account	19,541.84
Memorabilia Sales Account	22,043.80
Administrator Account	6,831.12
Inventory-Memorabilia Sales	6,989.59
(At Cost)	
Certificates of Deposit	<u>100,000.00</u>

Total Current Assets 199,069.33

Property and Equipment

Equipment	1,159.00
Accum. Depreciation-Equip	<u>(588.25)</u>

Total Property and Equipment 570.75

Total Assets \$ 199,640.08

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

Current Liabilities 0.00

Long-Term Liabilities

Scholarship Awards Payable \$ 95,500.00

Total Liabilities 95,500.00

Capital

Beginning Balance Equity	87,545.21
Net Income	<u>16,594.87</u>

Total Capital 104,140.08

Total Liabilities & Capital \$ 199,640.08



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 E. Charleston Boulevard, Suite 5-583F
Las Vegas, Nevada 89122-1003

INCOME STATEMENT

(For Twelve Months Ending December 31, 1999)

Revenues:	Year to Date	% of Total
Membership Dues (Annual)	\$ 14,010.20	9.91
Membership Dues (Life)	14,358.54	10.15
Contributions	13,172.00	9.32
Interest Income	5,976.76	4.23
SOAR Registrtrion	51,229.50	36.23
SOAR Raffel Tickets	14,667.00	10.37
Vendors & Advertising	1,000.00	0.71
America Remembers Pistol Royalties	8,517.30	6.02
Memorabilia Sales	<u>18,474.15</u>	<u>13.06</u>
Total Revenues	141,405.45	100.00
Expenses:		
Scholarship Expense	52,000.00	36.77
SOAR XXIII Expense	35,258.62	25.13
SOAR XXIII Refunds	1,684.00	1.19
Scholarship Fund Bond Raffel	750.00	0.53
Las Vegas Quick Draw Winners	1,975.00	1.19
PRP/AAR/Spring Newsletter	11,095.98	7.84
Misc. Printing Expense	2,918.08	2.06
Misc. Supplies Expense	2,734.03	1.94
Bank Charges & Visa/MC Fees	1,197.73	0.86
SOAMS Stock Purchase	6,390.15	4.52
Security Bond Expense	251.00	0.18
Memorial (Flowers) Expense	465.33	0.33
Mail Forwarding Expense	310.00	0.22
Accounting Fees	100.00	0.07
Storage Rental Expense	265.00	0.19
Equipment Rental Expense	201.18	0.14
Telephone Expense	1,202.56	0.85
Travel Expense	2,619.76	1.85
Postage & Shipping	<u>3,392.16</u>	<u>2.40</u>
Total Expenses	<u>124,810.58</u>	<u>88.26</u>
Net Income	<u>16,594.87</u>	11.74



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 E. Charleston Boulevard, Suite 5-583F
Las Vegas, Nevada 89122-1003

FACT SHEET

The SOA is a 1700 member fraternal organization of American and Foreign participants of special military operations in combat theaters, primarily during the Southeast Asian conflict. The group includes World War II and Korean veterans as well as those from the more recent conflicts. Membership is limited to Free World forces who aided or personally participated in missions deep inside hostile territory in a combat capacity.

For the most part, the SOA is composed of U.S. Army Special Forces personnel but, also includes USAF Air Commandos/FAC's, Navy Seals, Marine Raider and Force Recon personnel and veterans of other elite military and civilian organizations who were a part of Special Operations.

The specific and primary purposes of the SOA are:

- a. To unite fraternally all veterans who have or are now conducting or supporting classified "Special Operations" deep in hostile enemy territory or have been assigned to military units which conducted such operations; and,
- b. To perpetuate the Special Operations "*esprit de corps*"; and,
- c. To commemorate fittingly the memory of those who have given their lives in defense of the Free World and to those who served in Special Operations units and are still unaccounted for as POW/MIA; and,
- d. To perpetuate the memory of Colonel George C. Morton, the first Commander of U.S. Army Special Forces in Vietnam through the management of the George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant Fund. Since 1983, over \$304,500 has been awarded or committed to thus far to 95 deserving young scholars.

The Special Operations Association is recognized by the Department of Defense and by the IRS as a non-profit veterans organization operating on tax deductible donations. Annual membership dues are \$25 U.S. Lifetime membership fee is \$250 U.S. The organization has no meetings other than its annual reunion. The primary organizational correspondence is the Spring Newsletter, the Pre-Reunion Packet and the Special Operations Association Reunion After-Action Report.

The SOA will hold its twenty-fourth annual reunion (SOAR XXIV) in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Plaza Hotel and Casino during the period 27 September - 01 October 2000. We anticipate in excess of 600 members and guests.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 E. Charleston Boulevard, Suite 5-583F
Las Vegas, Nevada 89122-1003

THE SOA GEORGE C. MORTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

FACTS: The SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grants awarded by the SOA must be used at an accredited, four-year college or university which will produce a Bachelor's Degree. Each Grant is for not less than \$500, nor more than \$1,000 per year. (Maximum of four (4) years and paid at a rate of \$500 semi-annually per year.)

BASIC GRANT CRITERIA AND ELIGIBILITY: A high school graduate or a high school student anticipating graduation during the year of application, unmarried and under the age of 21 years as the time of application. Preference will be given to a son or daughter, natural or adopted, of (1) an individual who served in a Special Operations unit during the Vietnam War (includes POW/MIA status), or (2) who is currently a member of the SOA in good standing, and (3) others that meet the grant criteria.

ANNOUNCEMENT: The "announcement" of the availability for this George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant is made through various educational institutions, the news media and fraternal organizations.

APPLICATIONS: The deadline for all informal inquiries and application information is 15 March of the year that the grant is intended to be awarded. The deadline for the submission of all formal applications is 1 June of the year the grant is intended to be awarded.

AWARDS: Approximately 1 July of that year, selectees/recipients of a George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant will be appropriately notified by mail.

INFORMATIONAL: As of August 1999, 95 young men and women have been awarded a scholarship since the commencement of the program in 1983.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND APPLICATION FORMS, PLEASE CONTACT:

JAMES E. BUTLER
Chairman, SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 22613
Carmel, California 93922-0613
(831) 659-3701
<rtpython@redshift.com>

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SOA HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

Abraham, Jack B., SOA # 365-GL		\$1,500.00
Abraham, Jack B., SOA # 365-GL	(IMO Bill O'Rourke)	\$ 250.00
Abraham, Jack B., SOA # 365-GL	(IMO Richard Sommers)	\$ 250.00
Adcock, Gene, SOA # 925-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Aderhold, "Heine", SOA # 900-GL	(SOM)	\$ 200.00
*Amundson, Rolande, SOA # 098-GL		\$1,000.00
Anonymous	(IMO Jack Long)	\$ 150.00
Anonymous	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Anonymous		\$ 450.00
Anonymous	(IMO Paul Tracy)	\$ 100.00
Augustin, "Gus", SOA # 1016-GA	(SOM)	\$ 500.00
Bahr, Roy W., SOA # 315-GL		\$1,000.00
Bahr, Roy W., SOA # 315-GL	(SOM)	\$ 900.00
Baker, C. "Ben", SOA # 897-AL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Baker, C. "Ben", SOA # 897-AL		\$ 806.00
Barker, Geoffrey T., SOA # 919-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Beard, Jim, SOA # 156-GL	(IMO Dale Denkhe)	\$ 500.00
Benjamin, Donald C., SOA # 899-GL		\$8,075.00
Bennett, Dale R., SOA # 910-GL		\$1,035.00
Berg, Charles L., SOA # 031-GL	(IMO FOB-3, "The Siege")	\$ 602.00
Berg, Charles L., SOA # 031-GL	(SOM, IMO Robert Scully)	\$ 250.00
Bernard, Woodie, SOA # 1281-GA		\$ 460.00
Bilitzke, Joseph M., SOA # 1139-GL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Birdsall, Hank, SOA # 1241-GA	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Blakey, George, "Moe", SOA # 551-GL		\$1,200.00
Boggs, Bill D., SOA # 667-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Bost, Robert, SOA # 1409-GA	(SOM)	\$ 400.00
Browder, William, SOA # 645-GL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Brubaker, Paul, SOA # 596-GL		\$2,600.00
Butler, James E., SOA # 001-GL		\$10,500.00
Butterworth, W. E. , SOA # 879-HL		\$2,500.00
Camacho, Fred, SOA # 133-GL	(SOM)	\$ 200.00
Camacho, "Ike", SOA # 1209-GL	(SOM)	\$ 200.00
Camacho, "Ike", SOA # 1209-GL	(IMO Dick Meadows)	\$ 500.00
Chambers, Ray, SOA # 627-GL		\$ 500.00
Chambers, Ray, SOA # 627-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Charette, Will, SOA # 1410-GL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Clayton, Chuck, SOA # 1267-GA		\$ 120.00



Clough, Ed, SOA # 043-GL		\$16,400.00
Cole, James B., SOA # 794-GL		\$1,000.00
Cole, James B., SOA # 794-GL	(IMO Christian Girard)	\$2,500.00
Cole, James B., SOA # 794-GL	(SOM, IMO Christian Girard)	\$2,500.00
Cole, Richard F., SOA # 207-AL	(IMO Paul Tracy)	\$ 100.00
Crane, Fred, SOA # 1199-GA	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Dawson, Ray, SOA # 657-GL		\$1,300.00
de Fontaine, Sully, SOA # 177-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Deacy, John, SOA # 1321-GL	(SOM)	\$2,700.00
Dean, James, SOA # 123-GL		\$ 100.00
Duffy, Paul, SOA # 918-GL		\$ 200.00
Edens, Ralph, SOA # 438-GA		\$ 150.00
Edmunds, John E., SOA # 1197-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Elrod, Harold, SOA # 1239-GL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Estes, Richard, SOA # 597-GA		\$ 100.00
Fields, Arthur T., SOA # 310-GL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Fisher, George, SOA # 636-GA		\$ 100.00
Fleming, Allan, SOA # 753-GL	(SOM)	\$ 300.00
*Friend, AL, SOA # 158-GA	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Fronabarger, Carl, SOA # 632-AL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Fry, James, SOA # 288-GL	(IMO Ben Fry)	\$2,500.00
Fryer, John R., SOA # 007-GL		\$2,450.00
Gaudet, Ken, SOA # 964-AL		\$1,125.00
Gavigan, Gene, SOA # 1567-GA		\$1,000.00
Gilstrap, Bob, SOA # 737-GA		\$ 750.00
Ginder, Jerrald, SOA # 618-GL		\$5,160.00
Ginder, Jerrald, SOA # 618-GL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Golden, Bob, SOA # 1282-GL		\$1,050.00
Golden, Bob, SOA # 1282-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Gow, William M., SOA # 955-GL		\$ 100.00
Gow, William M., SOA # 955-GL	(IMO Bill O'Rourke)	\$ 100.00
Graham, Robert J., SOA # 184-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Hall, Gene, SOA # 722-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Hamilton, Joseph, SOA # 1187-AA	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Hamner, Gene D., SOA # 833-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Hanson, T. R., SOA # 1214-GA	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Hawke, James, SOA # 221-GL		\$ 250.00
Hephner, Patrick, SOA # 1249-AL		\$ 850.00
Herrell, Tony, SOA # 1066-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Herrell, Tony, SOA # 1066-GL		\$ 100.00
Hinsch, Rod, SOA # 073-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Isler, Jack, SOA # 004-GL		\$ 500.00
Isler, Jack, SOA # 004-GL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00



Kearns, Michael S., SOA # 949-AL (SOM)	\$ 100.00
Keaton, LaFayette, SOA # 1168-GL (SOM)	\$ 100.00
Kendall, William L., SOA # 1354-GA(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Kendall, William L., SOA # 1354-GA	\$ 100.00
Kinsler, Mark, SOA # 700-GL	\$16,025.00
Kreuziger, Peter W., SOA # 1389-GL (SOM)	\$ 700.00
Kull, Jack, SOA # 538-AA (SOM)	\$ 100.00
LaDue, Mike, SOA # 464-GA	\$ 500.00
LaMotte, Jim, SOA # 552-GL (SOM)	\$ 100.00
Landau, H. H. , SOA # 493-GL (SOM)	\$ 100.00
Laurence, Pete, SOA # 456-AA	\$ 350.00
Lear, John, SOA # 495-GL	\$ 500.00
Lesesne, Edward R., SOA # 614-GL (SOM)	\$ 100.00
*Long, Jack, SOA # 441-GL	\$1,500.00
*Lutz, Joseph C., SOA # 960-GL (SOM)	\$ 250.00
Manes, Larry, SOA # 064-GA (SOM)	\$ 100.00
*Mar, Al/Ann, SOA # 439-GL	\$12,150.00
Marich, Thomas, SOA # 1037-GL (SOM)	\$ 100.00
Martin, James, SOA # 023-GL (SOM)	\$ 200.00
Martin, John P., SOA # 345-GL (IMO Mary Watson)	\$ 100.00
Martin, John P., SOA # 345-GL (SOM)	\$1,000.00
McBroom, C.O."Bud", SOA #768-GL(SOM)	\$ 100.00
McClaskey, John R., SOA # 621-GL	\$2,500.00
McClaskey, John R., SOA # 621-GL (SOM)	\$ 100.00
McClintock, Matthew, SOA # 1186-AL(SOM)	\$ 500.00
McGiffert, Peter H., SOA # 854-GL (SOM)	\$ 500.00
Messinger, Keith, SOA # 090-GL	\$6,100.00
Miller, Ralf, SOA # 060-GL	\$1,000.00
Miller, Ralf, SOA # 060-GL (IMO Bill O'Rourke)	\$ 250.00
Miller, William, SOA # 1276-GL (SOM)	\$ 100.00
Millett, Lewis L., Sr., SOA # 505-GL (SOM)	\$ 100.00
Morrell, David, SOA # 905-HL	\$1,350.00
*Morton, George/Lillian, SOA # ,059-GL (SOM)	\$ 250.00
Mullowney, Richard, SOA # 1319-GA	\$ 285.00
Newman, Al., SOA # 952-AA (SOM)	\$ 100.00
Newman, Cliff, SOA # 006-GL (SOM)	\$ 500.00
Nissley, Bob, SOA # 359-GL (SOM)	\$ 100.00
*O'Rourke, Bill/Jan, SOA # 379-GL	\$3,120.00
Owens, John, SOA # 1143-GL (SOM)	\$ 200.00
Parks, Robert, "Spider", SOA # 465-GL	\$1,050.00
Perchard, John, R. Jr., SOA # 341-GL	\$ 300.00
Perchard, John, R. Jr., SOA # 341-GL(SOM)	\$ 100.00
*Pershing, John, SOA # 1307-AL (SOM)	\$ 250.00



*Pierson, Roger, SOA # 644-GL		\$ 100.00
*Pinn, Lionel, SOA # 019-GL		\$1,050.00
Place, Elon, A., SOA # 887-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Plaster, John, SOA # 726-GL		\$ 540.00
Platt, Fred, SOA # 825-GL		\$2,745.00
Pollack, James, SOA # 426-AL		\$1,000.00
Ramirez, Antonio, SOA # 561-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
*Raye, Martha, "Maggie", SOA # 097-HL		\$2,780.00
Redman, Darrell, SOA # 1160-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Rheault, Robert, SOA # 215-GA	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Richter, Ken, SOA # 1406-GA	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Roberts, John, SOA #1227-GL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Scholes, Edison E., SOA # 1350-GL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Sherman, Steve, SOA # 759-AL		\$ 500.00
Shippen, Robert, SOA # 540-GL	(SOM)	\$ 200.00
Sholtis, Donald M., SOA # 1174-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Siugzda, Herb, SOA # 030-GL		\$ 500.00
Snyder, Kenneth O., SOA # 816-GA	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
*Squires, Ben, SOA # 356-GL		\$1,010.00
SOA Memorabilia Sales		\$20,700.00
Stern, Mike, SOA # 324-GL		\$ 850.00
Stockdale, Bryan, SOA # 234-GL		\$ 300.00
Sutherland, Ian, SOA # 216-GL		\$1,000.00
Sylvester, Bill, SOA # 973-GL		\$3,000.00
Trimble/Lamotte, Larry/Jim, SOA # 163-GL/552-GL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Van Lerberghe, Ross, SOA # 1394-HL	(SOM)	\$ 250.00
Van Winkle, H.E. "Rip", SOA # 697-GL	(SOM)	\$ 500.00
Walker, Jimmy, SOA # 846-AL	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Wang, Jon, B., SOA # 1092-GL		\$ 100.00
Warkocki, Ken, SOA # 1231-AA	(IMO "Frenchy Amundson)	\$ 100.00
Waskovich, Tom, SOA # 366-GA	(SOM)	\$ 100.00
Waugh, William D. "Billy", SOA # 005-GL		\$28,060.00
Waugh, William D. "Billy", SOA # 005-GL(IMO P.Tracy/A.Fontez)		\$1,000.00
Waugh, William D. "Billy", SOA # 005-GL(IMO Walt Shumate)		\$1,000.00
Waugh, William D. "Billy", SOA # 005-GL(IMO "Choo-Choo " Pinn)		\$ 500.00
Waugh, William D. "Billy", SOA # 005-GL(IMO "Budda" Grant)		\$ 500.00
Whittington, E. Ray, SOA # 049-GL	(SOM)	\$ 200.00

• Deceased Member

(SOM): Special Operations Memorial Foundation, MacDill AFB, Florida.

FYI: The SOA is a Tax Exempt Organization under Internal Revenue Code 501 (c) (19).

The SOA EIN Number is: EIN 74-2619854.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

The George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant Program

Attention: All SOA Members. Your Assistance is Required.

In late 1977, SOA Founder, James E. Butler had a vision that came to fruition on 21 July 1983 in Washington, D.C. at the United States Senate Building by Senator Roger Jepson, (R-Iowa) with the awarding of the first SOA Scholarship, IMO Major Larry A. Thorne, MACVSOG's first MIA to Benjamin S. Redman, son of SOA member, Darrell Redman. Since that date the SOA has been pleased to present 95 scholarships to deserving young men and women.

Subsequently, for a few years afterwards, other SOA Scholarships were awarded IMO a specific MACVSOG KIA/MIA. Unfortunately, there was a paucity of data available on additional KIA/MIA at the time to continue naming a specific scholarship IMO these personnel who had given their all in defense of our country. The SOA Board of Officers and Directors then decided that until such time as relevant information was available on former MACVSOG KIA/MIA personnel, the SOA would honor all future MACVSOG KIA/MIA personnel by initiating an umbrella Scholarship Program in memory of Colonel George C. Morton, the first Commander of U.S. Army Special Forces in Vietnam.

With the advent of computer technology and access to "declassified" MACVSOG archival files, additional information on the men who were declared KIA/MIA became readily available. However, many of these files just state the facts relating to the particular recon mission and do not reflect the personality of the men on those particular recon missions.

Now, while still maintaining the SOA umbrella program - "The George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant Program", Jim wishes to reintroduce the awarding of a George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant IMO a specific MACVSOG KIA/MIA individual. In other words, as an example, the award would read as follows: "The SOA is pleased to announce the awarding of a George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant IMO SSG Ronald Terry, FOB-1, KIA 29 January 1966 to xxxxxxxxxxxx, son/daughter of SOA member xxxxxxxxxxxx.



You can assist in this worthwhile project by providing any information you may possess on the following men, i.e. in training, partying, on a particular Recon Team Mission, etc.. Write up your remembrance in order that Jim may collate this info and present an appropriate SOA citation with the awarding of the scholarship grant IMO the specific recon individual. You can be assured that data coupled with the official incident file will long be remembered by the receiving recipient. The initial list of KIA/MIA Jim is interested in developing is as follows:

SSG Ronald Terry, FOB-1, KIA, 29 January 1966.
Captain Edwin McNamara, FOB-2, KIA, 3 July 1966.
Master Sergeant Ralph Reno, FOB-2, KIA, 3 July 1966.
SSG Donald Fawcett, FOB2, KIA, 3 July 1966.
SFC Delmar Laws, FOB-1, KIA, 29 July 1966.
SP-4 Don Sain, FOB-1, KIA, 29 July 1966.
SSG Danny Taylor, FOB-1, KIA, 28 September 1966, (BNR).
MSG Ray Echevarria, C&C, MIA, 3 October 1966.
SFC James Jones, C&C, MIA, 3 October 1966.
SFC Eddie Lee Williams, C&C, MIA, 3 October 1966.
SFC Charles Vessels, FOB-2, KIA, 13 October 1966.
SFC Frederick Lewis, FOB-2, KIA, 13 October 1966.

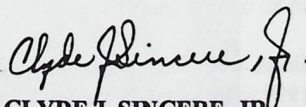
This is just a start. Jim is requesting all who knew these men to contact him ASAP at the following address in order that he can prepare a biography on each of them:

JAMES E. BUTLER
Chairman, George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant Program
P.O. Box 22613
Carmel, California 93922-0613
(831) 659-3701
rpvthor@redshift.com

In advance, thank you for your participation in this worthwhile project Jim is commencing.

CJS/cjs

Respectfully,


CLYDE J. SINCERE, JR.
President Pro-Tem, SOA



SOA ODDS AND ENDS

In Memory of: "TAPS": Again, it is with deep regret that the SOA Board announces to the membership that four (4) more comrades-in-arms have passed away since the last reported losses were reflected in the SOAR XXIII PRP. **Lionel "Choo-Choo" Pinn, SOA # 019-GL**, 76 years of age, passed away on 7 August 1999 at University Hospital, Birmingham, Alabama. "Choo-Choo" was one of a few who were recipients of the Combat Infantryman's Badge with two stars. He served in WWII, Korea and Vietnam. He was a member of the SOA, SFA, American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He is survived by his wife, Judy, two (2) sons, Lionel Pinn, Jr. of Washington, D.C., and Kenneth Pinn of Cordova, Alabama; a daughter Wenonah Resha of Birmingham, Alabama; three (3) grandchildren; a great-grand-child; a sister, Joan Flatey of Boston, Massachusetts, and three (3) brothers, Wally Pinn of Washington, D.C., Jimmy and Charles Pinn of Boston, Massachusetts. "Choo-Choo" was interred in Arlington National Cemetery on 19 August 1999. **John Hamilton Thomas, SOA # 490-GL**, 59 years of age, passed away on the eve of SOAR XXIII, 28 September 1999 in Las Vegas, Nevada. John served three (3) tours in Vietnam and was the recipient of the Silver Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star with two (2) Oak Leaf Clusters, the Purple Heart with two (2) Oak Leaf Clusters and the Combat Infantryman's Badge. John is survived by his wife Toby, two (2) sons, Ben and Tony, a daughter, Tina and his grandson, Andrew. Toby stated that "John has not left his family, he lives in their hearts always". **Thomas Edward Gipson, SOA # 628-GA**, 77 years of age, passed away on 30 September at his home in Jackson, California. Thomas served in both WWII and the Korean Conflict in Military Intelligence. He was an avid saltwater fly-fisherman and bow and arrow hunter. He enjoyed skin diving, scuba diving, jumping and was an accomplished private licensed pilot. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Ilsa; a daughter, Sheri; sister Susanna Chastain and two (2) Granddaughters. **Michael O'Connor, SOA # 624-GA**, 62 years of age, passed away at 0300 hours, 29 December 1999 at Tucson Medical Community Hospital, Tucson, Arizona. Mike, in addition to being a member of the SOA was a member of Chapter XXII, SFA. He was the recipient of numerous awards and decorations including the Combat Infantryman's Badge. Mike was interred at Holy Hope Cemetery near his parent's graves. Mike is survived by his wife Elsie; two (2) sons, Mike of Peoria, Arizona and Bill of Tucson, Arizona; two (2) daughters, Kathy Uselton of Tucson, Arizona and Susie Bailey of Marina Del Rey, California; eleven grandchildren and a brother, John O'Connor of Chicago, Illinois. The SOA Board on behalf of the entire SOA membership wishes to express its condolences to all of their families.

In addition, an unfortunate tragedy occurred at sea off the coast of California on 9 December 1999 to members of the First Force Reconnaissance stationed at Camp Pendleton, California. Two (2) Marine CH-46 helicopters, designated, DASH-1 and DASH-2 from Squadron HMM-166 were transporting members of the Marine First Force Reconnaissance to the USNS Pecos for the purpose of conducting an assault



**DOESN'T LEW LOOK DASHING WITH JULIE SYLVESTER?
THAT IS JOHN ANDERSON IN THE BACKGROUND WALKING AWAY.....**



**ALL I CAN SAY IS THAT LEW SURE GETS AROUND. THIS TIME HE IS
WITH LAURA FAIT. WHO IS NEXT? HE LOOKS VERY HAPPY.....**



exercise onto the ship, more commonly referred to in Marine lingo as a VBSS, (Vessel Board, Search and Seizure exercise).. The plan was to land on the ship itself if possible, and as an alternate, "fast rope". The Helicopter Landing Zone was clear - DASH-1 approached the HLZ, but struck, or became entangled with the ship. The aircraft rolled into the water and sank immediately. Both pilots and one crewman escaped. One (1) crewman and one (1) USMC observer did not. In addition, five (5) First Force Reconnaissance personnel including one of the units Navy Corpsman perished. These Marines were Warriors who died practicing their Warrior Arts. All who participate in reconnaissance training and missions are fully aware of what this business is all about when they join, but the loss of a comrade or a close friend does not allow the pain to get any easier. A memorial service was conducted at Camp Pendleton on 20 December 1999 and was attended by many former Marine Reconnaissance personnel from all over the world. The SOA was represented by the First Force Reconnaissance Commander, Robert J. Coates, SOA # 1156-GL, Pat Rogers, SOA # 1070-GL and John "Tilt" Meyer, SOA # 492-GA. "Tilt" was invited by Bob Coates to sit with his unit as an expression of camaraderie between Army and Marine Reconnaissance personnel.

Also, on 16 December 1999, SSG Joseph Suponcic, a member of the 10th Special Forces Group, (Airborne), 1st SF was killed by an anti-tank mine in Kosovo while riding in a Humvee. There are a number of members of the 10th Special Forces Group from Fort Carson, Colorado are serving as part of the U.S. Peace-Keeping Forces in Kosovo. There were two (2) other Special Forces personnel seriously injured in this same incident. Sergeant Suponcic was interred at Arlington National Cemetery on 29 December 1999 with many members of the 10th Special Forces including its Commander, Colonel Richard Mills in attendance. Additionally, the Chief of Staff of the United States Army, the Sergeant Major of the United States Army, Lieutenant General William P. Tangney, Commander, United States Army Special Operations Command and Major General William "Jerry" Boykin, Commanding General, United States Army Special Forces Command were in attendance at the Christian Memorial Service held in the Old Post Chapel at Fort Myer prior to interment. A great send off for an outstanding young 26 year old Special Forces soldier just doing his duty for his country.

"May the living serve faithfully and the dead rest peacefully"

SICK CALL: The following SOA members have been reported to be ill:

E. Ray Whittington, SOA # 049-GL
Larry Trimble, SOA # 163-GL
Fred Jackson, SOA # 230-GL
Rudy Cooper, SOA # 506-GA
Arnold Astrada, SOA 735-AL
George W. Petrie, SOA # 818-GA
Louis Austria, SOA # 1424-GA

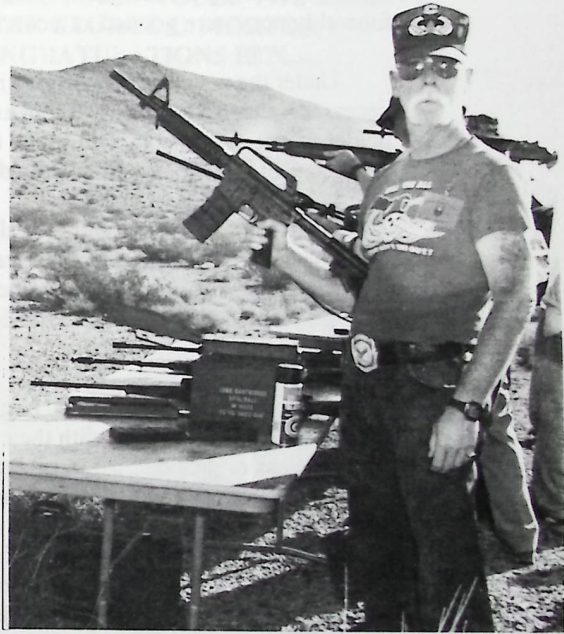
-38-



JIMMY DEAN AND GENE HALL.. WHERE ARE DOT AND RETA?



**LEE HECTOR AND JERRY GINDER.
WHOSE PURSE IS ON THE TABLE?**



**JOHN CARPENTER. WHAT IMAGE DO YOU
BELIEVE HE IS ATTEMPTING TO PORTRAY?
HE HAS THE HAT, T-SHIRT, BELT BUCKLE AND
TATOOS. I'M NOT SURE HE IS WEARING A GOL
ROLEX AND A BLUE STAR SAPPHIRE RING. BY
THE WAY WHERE IS HIS LAUNDRY BAG?**

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Send them a "get well" card, an email message, or a phone call. Do something. We wish them all a speed recovery, God Willing.

If any member is aware of another SOA member that is ill or involved in a serious accident, let any member of the SOA Board know. They in turn will insure that the word gets to the membership in as expeditious manner as possible.

A Daunting Mission of Honor: The following article is an excerpt from the Washington Post, Thursday, 23 December 1999 by Roberto Suro, Washington Post Staff Writer.

As of 1 January 2000, virtually all veterans will be guaranteed military funeral honors by law, and with WWII veterans passing away at the rate of more than 1,000 a day, the Pentagon is scrambling to ensure that honor guards will be available.

Congress inserted a provision into the fiscal 2000 Defense Authorization Act requiring the military to perform basic funeral honors on request for any veteran of the active military discharged on other than dishonorable conditions. Previously, funeral honors were granted as a courtesy, not as a right.

Under the new law, two service members, including at least one from the deceased veteran's service, will fold and present the American flag to survivors. A bugler, if one is available, will sound taps; if one is not available, a compact disc of the melancholy melody will be provided.

"It is an appropriate tribute for all of our veterans," said Gail McGinn, Principal Director to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Personnel, Support, Families and Education. "The ceremony honoring the deceased veteran can be seen as an affirmation of the person's life as well as an expression of the nation's gratitude".

However, there are only 500 buglers in the Department of Defense, and the Pentagon says that families with their hearts set on a bugler should look to veteran organizations or professional musicians. Even getting service members to all the funerals for the flag ceremony could stretch manpower.

The Department of Veterans Affairs estimates that about 572,000 veterans will die in 2000 and that the number will rise to 620,000 a year by 2008 as the WWII generation - 16.1 million veterans - hits octogenarian status en masse. With the new law in effect, the Pentagon is expecting as many as 250,000 requests next year, and it will turn to reservists, who will receive a \$50. stipend per funeral.

The Defense Department is sending information kits to 24,000 funeral home directors, who are supposed to request the military honors rather than family



BEN BAKER - SOA'S PAPPARAZZI AND BAG MAN. WOULD YOU BELIEVE HE COLLECTED ALMOST \$1,300. FOR THE GEORGE C. MORTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND? CONGRATULATIONS BEN....



MAME AND LOU FAISTENHAMMER, EVELYN LEAF AND HANS MANZ. DOES ANYONE REMEMBER "THE KATZENJAMMER KIDS"? 1960's.



PETE, "MISS ROCKET SCIENTIST" ALANA AND SHERRI LAURENCE. JUST ENJOYING THE WIDE OPEN DESERT DURING RANGE FIRING.



members. A toll-free number, 1-877-MIL-HONR, will be available after 1 January to provide information to funeral directors.

SOA AUTHORS: The following SOA members, authors in their own right, have new publications coming out in the very near future. As additional details relative to publication dates are determined, the information will be placed on the SOA Website.

<http://www.SpecialOperations.Org>

a. John Plaster, SOA # 726-GL: "SOG", A Pictorial History. The continuing true story of SOG. John's photo history of the Secret Wars was published on 3 January 2000 by PALADIN PRESS of Boulder, Colorado. This is a hard cover, coffee table size (8-1/2 x 11) volume, consisting of 592 pages and over 700 photos, illustrations and maps. (See enclosed brochure). John can be contacted at: sfsniper@win.bright.net

b. Michael Haas, SOA # 1218-GA: "In the Devil's Shadow: UN Special Operations during the Korean War". Published by Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, and scheduled to released in early February 2000. This book was exhaustively documented from both Department of Defense and Central Intelligence Agency archives, as well as interviews with veterans of the partisan war in North Korea and Manchuria. Devil's Shadow presents the first comprehensive account of this savage air-land-sea campaign. It is by any standard a disturbing account, replete with heroism, tragedy and scandal. Equally disturbing are the revelations of the bitter bureaucratic feuding that squandered the sacrifices made by Korean partisans and their American advisors, British Commandos, U. S. Navy frogmen and CIA field operatives. Interested individuals may contact Mike at DasHaas@aol.com for additional information.

c. James E. "Ernie" Acre, SOA # 1652-GA: "Project Omega: Eye of the Beast". Published by HELLGATE PRESS, Central Point, Oregon. This book is available now. (See enclosed Brochure). This is not a diary. Acre was forbidden to keep any account while on his tour of duty. Instead, this is a cathartic assemblage of the pieces to the story that never left Acre's memory. With honesty that some may find politically incorrect, Acre allows you to see inside the Recon Company - a unit that few knew existed - and walk among some of the finest soldiers ever to wear the Green Beret. Ernie can be contacted at: greensbl@ink.org

d. Thomas P. Nicholson, SOA # 1564-GA: "15 Months in SOG, A Warrior's Tour". Published by Ballantine Publishing Company in paperback. This book is on the shelves of many of your local book stores for \$7. Order directly from Thom Nicholson and receive an autographed copy for \$10. He will pay for postage



**CLAY SCOTT, TINA HOUSER, RICHARD WEBER AND JULIE SYLVESTER.
TINA IS SPORTING THE LATEST LAS VEGAS HAIR STYLE. I GUESS!**



**MARK KINSLER - "RANGE MASTER"
PAR EXCELLANCE**



**DAVID FOSTER AND JACKIE NGUYEN.
MOST FOLKS BELIEVED HE WAS
ATTEMPTING TO IMPRESS HER WITH
HIS MARKSMANSHIP EXPERTISE.....**



and all remaining monies above the \$7 will be donated to the George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Fund. Send your check or money order to: Colonel (Ret) T. P. Nicholson, 12 Dunham Place, St. Charles, Illinois 60174-1420. Individuals desiring additional information may contact Thom at: (630) 377-3601.

e. Kent White, SOA # 1395-GA: "Longshadows". Published by Rocky Coast Publishing, 100 Dolores Street, PMB 260, Carmel, California 93923. "Longshadows is a fictionalized story involving members of SOG attempting to capture an enemy Caucasian operating with the NVA. Kent has dedicated this book to the memory of Kenneth Wayne Worthley, CCC, 5th SFGp (Abn), 1st SF KIA. Kent authored a previous book relating to SOG entitled: "Prairie Fire. Those individuals desiring to purchase this book should contact the above address directly, or: <http://www.rockycoastpub.com> . Cost: \$12.95 each, plus \$3.50 S&H.

f. Roger H.C. Donlon, SOA # 1108-GL: "Beyond Nam Dong". Published by R & N Publishers. "Beyond Nam Dong" is Rogers personal story, from his boyhood days in up-state New York, to his account of the siege of Nam Dong, Vietnam, and his own path to reconciliation. The author is the first recipient of the Medal of Honor awarded for valor in Vietnam. You may order your copy of "Beyond Nam Dong" directly from Roger by writing to: Roger H. C. Donlon, Attn: The Westmoreland Scholar Foundation, 2101 Wilson Avenue, Suite 101, Leavenworth, Kansas 66048-4634. (See enclosed brochure). Roger can also be contacted at: donlon2wsf@aol.com

g. David Savage: SOA # 1599-GA: "Through the Wire": Action with the SAS in Borneo and the Special Forces in Vietnam. Published by Allen & Unwin at: P.O. Box 8500, St. Leonards, NSW, 2065 Australia. David Savage, an officer with the Australian SAS in Borneo, served with the II Corps Mike Force in the Central Highlands of South Vietnam. "Through the Wire" details the satisfactions and frustrations of an Australian on operational service in Vietnam, operating under the command of the United States Special Forces, commanding Australian and American soldiers and working with the lightly equipped Montagnards. This book is available now. (See enclosed brochure). David can also be contacted at: sarsav@uq.net.au

h. James D. McLeroy, SOA # 1158-GA: "BAIT: The Battle of Kham Duc Special Forces Camp, 10-12 May 1968". Published by Simon & Schuster. Jim's co-author on this historical account is John Del Vecchio, author of four (4) previous novels including his first, titled "The 13th Valley, published in 1982 and is still in print. It has sold over a million copies worldwide and is based on a real operation of the 101st Airborne Division in the Ashau Valley in 1971 in which Del Vecchio participated. Jim's book is not a novel, but, a historical account. Jim has interviewed



THE GUN MOLLS - THE SOA SECURITY FORCE. WATCH IT GUYS, THEY ARE GOOD, IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME, ASK THEM....



**MARGIE MACKEY AND DAN JUNEVICUS.
SOA HOSPITALITY AT IT'S BEST....**



**I SAY! I BELIEVE THAT IS DR. RICHARD
CONTE AND HIS LOVELY WIFE BETH....**



more than 50 battle participants from U.S. combat units and several PAVN participants. James D. McLeroy, 10472 East Fanfol Lane, Scottsdale, Arizona 85258-6029, (480) 391-0004 or JDMcLeroy@aol.com Jim anticipates the book will be published in early 2001.

NON-SOA AUTHORS: The following authors have written and published books that will be of interest to the SOA Membership:

a. Richard H. Shultz, Jr.: "The Secret War Against Hanoi". Published by HARPERCOLLINS PUBLISHERS,. "The Secret War Against Hanoi" unveils all of the details of the largest and most complex covert operations campaign executed by the U. S. during the Cold War. When President Kennedy decided in 1963 to pull responsibility for covert operations against the North Vietnamese from the CIA and hand it over to the Pentagon, an entirely novel military unit was created. Established under the euphemistic cover name of the Studies and Observation Group or SOG, all of its operatives took an oath never to reveal any of their eye-opening activities. Even after the war ended, the story of SOG was buried deep in the vaults of the Pentagon for nearly three decades. This book is available now at your local book stores. (See enclosed brochure).

b. B.G. Burkett and Glenna Whitley: "Stolen Valor". Published by Verity Press, P. O. Box 50366, Dallas, Texas 75250. "Stolen Valor" tells the story of how the Vietnam generation was robbed of its heroes and its history. 692 pages and 16 pages of photos, (See enclosed brochure). Contact: 1 (800) 253-6789 or the Internet: <http://www.stolenvalor.com>

c. Morgan Norval: "Triumph of Disorder", Islamic Fundamentalism, The New Face of War. Published by Sligo Press, Bend, Oregon. Morgan Norval's "Triumph of Disorder" explores these trends and explores their relationship with the world wide war of terror waged by Islamic fundamentalist groups on the United States. (See enclosed brochure). Contact Sligo Press at: 1 (800) 231-1985.

d. Robert Skimin: "The River and the Horsemen": A Novel of the Little Bighorn. Published by Herodias. Fiction, 6 x 9, 384 pages. Author of the best selling Chikara and Apache Autumn, Robert Skimin has again found his stride, bringing to life as never before the story of George Armstrong Custer, Sitting Bull and the Battle of the Little Bighorn. (See enclosed brochure). Robert can be contacted at: RSKIMIN@aol.com

SOAR XXIII PHOTOS: Each SOAR, members and/or their guests often take various photographs during the conduct of a particular SOAR. This SOAR was no different. On behalf of the SOA Board and the entire SOA membership, the following SOA members are thanked and commended for providing photographs that have been included in this After-Action-Report:



CLYDE AND JAN FORE WITH THEIR ADVISOR, BEN BAKER...



JUST A TYPICAL DAY ON THE RANGE. WHAT A MOTELY CREW. WHERE IS AL NEWMAN? HE MUST HAVE FOUND A TIGER SHIRT.



CARL CRANTZ, MARK KINSLER, TANYA GINDER, PAM ADKINS AND JERRY GINDER. CARL? JUST WHAT IS THAT FLOWER FOR? THE BOOK I UNDERSTAND, BUT THE FLOWER.....



Ben Baker
Bill Sylvester
Hans Manz
Greg Rodriguez

Dan "Rock" Myers
Laf Keaton
Bob Bechtoldt
Ralf Edens

CONVENTION TIME:

**SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION Y2K NATIONAL
CONVENTION, HOSTED BY CHAPTER LIV, SFA - The William F. Buckley
Memorial Chapter, P.O. Box 1388, Portsmouth, NH 03802-1388- 1-5 July 2000.**

- 1. Location: Newton, (Boston) Massachusetts.**
- 2. Convention Fees:**
 - a. Prior to 1 May 2000: \$90. Each person.**
 - b. After 1 May 2000 - \$100. Each person.**
- 3 - Hotel: Newton Marriott Hotel: (10 Miles from Logan
International Airport).**

**2345 Commonwealth
Newton, Massachusetts
(619) 969-1000/(800) 228-9290
Cost of Rooms: \$97. + Tax per nite**
- 4 - Information: Contact: Chapter LIV, SFA: (781) 729-3318,
Attn: Dick Nazzaro**
- 5 - Mail Check or Money Order Payable to:**

**SFA Convention, Chapter LIV, SFA
Attn: Tom Crowley
P.O. Box 1388
Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03802-1388**

MAGGIE JUNKINS FUND SUMMARY:

a. Background: Maggie Junkins was the widowed mother of Jeffery L. Junkins, SOA # 461-GA who passed away on 14 May 1999. The fund was jointly established between the SOA and SFA (specifically, Chapter LXXV, SFA, The Colonel Roger H.C. Donlon Chapter located in San Diego, California) for the purpose of assisting the dependent mother of Jeff Junkins who had become rather destitute following her son's death.



DALE KERR AND JOHN "DOC" PADGETT. THEY BOTH NEED A LESSON FROM NICK GODANO ON THE ART OF POSING FOR A PICTURE.



NICK GODONO . NOW THERE IS A FIRING STANCE. WELL.....



PETER AND BURL McDANIEL. BURL IS INSTRUCTING HIS SON ON PROPER RANGE TECHNIQUES.



b. Members of the Special Operations Association and Chapter LXXV, SFA working in concert accomplished an outstanding task. Clearly they exceeded some of the mandates as spelled out in IRS 501 (c) (19) tax exemption requirements for the charter and goal of an organization such as the SOA:

(1) "To assist disabled and needy war veterans and members of the U. S. Armed Forces and their dependents and widows and orphans of deceased veterans".

(2) "To carry on programs to perpetuate the memory of deceased veterans and members of the Armed Forces and to comfort their survivors".

c. One of the most rewarding results that occurred was the spirit of cooperation when members of the Special Operations Association, (John "Tilt" Meyers, Bill Sylvester and Charles Berg) ascertained that Chapter LXXV, SFA (via Adrian Silva) also had commenced to collect funds to assist Maggie. Rather than work at cross-purposes, "Tilt" Meyers, also a San Diego Union-Tribune News reporter informed Clyde Sincere that Chapter LXXV, SFA was willing to pool all resources into one fund to facilitate the reconciling of Maggie's expenses. Charles Berg, SOA was requested and selected to be the Fund Administrator working in concert with John McClaskey, Treasurer, SOA.

d. Additionally, the folks in San Diego working with Charles Berg (a former VA employee) commenced to plan as to how to deal with the many Veterans Administration requirements as they related to Maggie's various claims as a sole dependent of Jeff Junkins. These ranged from reviewing her claim to ascertain if additional funds could be awarded to Maggie (prior to her passing away) to reviewing Jeff's VA file to determine if any additional benefits were due, (such as Life Insurance, etc). Additionally, the office of Senator John McCain, (R-AZ) contacted both Association representatives dealing with this case to determine if any assistance was required from his office.

e. Unfortunately, Maggie's spirit to continue in this world just ran out and she passed away within thirty days of Jeff's death.

f. In the final analysis, the requirement for a final one on one contact with the Veterans Administration Cemetery Service in San Diego and Washington, D.C. by the folks in San Diego was necessary to secure permission for the remains of Maggie to be interred with her son Jeffrey at the VA National Cemetery at Rosecrans. A specific waiver and authorization was required due to restrictions. All obstacles were dealt with and the final result was that mother and son will rest in peace together.

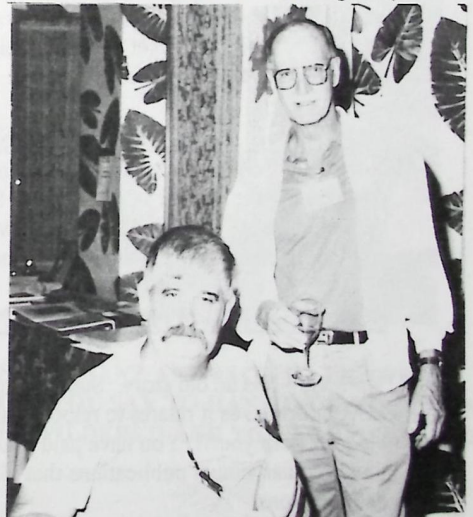
g. The funds that were collected to assist Maggie were used to pay for her funeral and interment expenses. A total of \$5,500 was collected between the two (2) organizations. Maggie's funeral and interment expenses came to \$1,759.62. The



DANNIE AND DOUG MILLER - "MILLERMAN" MAKING SURE DANNIE UNDERSTANDS PROPER MARKSMANSHIP TECHNIQUES,



NOW - THERE'S A HAPPY CREW. TANYA GINTER, CAROLYN McCLASKEY, JULIE SYLVESTER AND MARY JANE SCOTT. I THINK TANYA JUST WON AT THE CRAP TABLE.



STEVE WILSON AND PAT HEPHNER. I BELIEVE STEVE MUST HAVE LOST AT THE CRAP TABLE. SMILE STEVE.....



remaining \$3,740.62 was divided equally between the SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Fund IMO Jeffrey L. and Maggie Junkins (\$1,870.31) and the Special Forces Association IMO Jeffrey L. and Maggie Junkins (\$1,870.31).

h. Although in this case the desired results were obtained, this was a clear reminder to all of us that there are individuals within the Special Forces and Special Operations communities that have members/dependents who are in need and may require assistance of one sort or another.

i. The SOA will conduct a open "workshop" at SOAR XXIV to address some of the issues that faced Jeffrey and his mother. It is our understanding that the Special Forces Association is also developing a program for presentation to their membership dealing with this same issue.

2000 SOA DUES: If you are a "GA" or "AA" SOA member reflecting "General Annual" and/or "Associate Annual" and you have not as yet provided the Treasurer, SOA with your \$25. annual dues for CY 2000, you are requested to immediately dispatch your check or money order, made payable to the SOA to John R. McClaskey, Treasurer, SOA, 7259 Riverside Drive, Algonac, Michigan 48001-4249. If you wish to change your "Annual" status to "Life" status, dispatch your check or money order for \$250 for Life Membership and you won't have to worry about "Dues Reminder Cards" in the future.

20-YEAR SOA PINS: Attention: SOA members that attended SOAR V or joined the SOA in 1981 for the first time. You are eligible to be presented with your 20-Year SOA Pin at SOAR XXIV. If your SOA number falls anywhere between SOA # 226 and SOA # 375, you are eligible. Also, any other SOA members that attended SOAR I, II, III and IV that have not as yet received their 20-year pins are encouraged to attend SOAR XXIV and receive theirs also.

COLONEL AARON BANK, USA, RETIRED: Wow, 97 years young as of November 1999. I don't know how many more times the SOA can continue to congratulate the "Father of U. S. Army Special Forces on achieving another year toward the century mark and beyond, but, we wish him many, many more. On behalf of the entire SOA membership we wish Colonel Bank continued good health. God Bless.

SOA MEMBERS ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER AREA CODES:

a. It is an old story. Some members, in fact many members, neglect to keep the SOA informed as it relates to relocations and their Area Code telephone number changes. Help us, help you!!! You have paid your Association dues. The Association owes you those regular annual publications that allow you to actively participate in SOA decisions and functions.



"FRED" PLATT, RON WORKMAN, DALE BENNETT AND "RAVEN" OWNBY. IT'S WINTER IN AUSTRALIA, SO RON IS ENJOYING THE WARM WEATHER OF LAS VEGAS, CAN'T YOU TELL?



RALPH EDENS, LAURA FAIT AND DOUG MILLER. IT APPEARS AS THOUGH LEW MILLETT LOST ANOTHER PARTNER.



HANS MANZ AND JACK ISLER. WHAT DID YOU SAY TO HANS JACK.? HE LOOKS BEWILDERED AND YOU LOOK PLEASED....



b. If you do experience a move or "Ma Bell" elects to change your phone Area Code, you are requested to inform David C. Smith, Administrator, SOA at: (336) 475-3908 or email: bulldogsog@aol.com , or B. "Ray" Chambers at: (480) 986-2542 or his email: commosgm@earthlink.net of the change in order that the SOA records can be maintained properly and at the same time insure you are receiving all SOA publications. Additionally, if you do not know your complete address nine-digit Zip Code number, you are requested to check with your local Post Office clerk. In view of the fact that some SOA publications are dispatched to you via Third Class Mailing - it is imperative the SOA has a nine-digit Zip Code address in order to receive a postage discount.

c. You are also requested to check both the SOA 2000 Membership Directory and the SOA 2000 Email Directory to ascertain their correctness. If you notice any errors or omissions please contact either "Bulldog" or "Ray" with the appropriate correction. Please take the time now to check both directories. Thank you.

SOAR PTSD PRESENTATION:

a. A number of SOA members were devastated by the passing of John Thomas. John as many of you may recall was instrumental in the preparation and assisting in previous SOAR PTSD presentations. Prior to John's passing, he approached SOA member, Bob Shippen, SOA # 540-GL and queried him as to the possibility of arranging for another SOAR PTSD presentation during the conduct of SOAR XXIV.

b. As a result, Bob has/is requesting Adam Husar, Charles Berg, Bruce Johnston and Jon Cavaiani assist him in presenting this two (2) hour PTSD workshop on Friday, 29 September 2000 commencing at 1430 hours.

(1) During the first hour a number of members will share personal stories as it relates to their personal perspectives on dealing with emotional reactions to combat trauma. Additionally, informational handouts and a 20-minute film will be shown.

(2) The second hour will include a Guest Speaker from a service organization with pragmatic information relative to receiving treatment and compensation for PTSD.

c. If any member has a personal experience he wishes to relate during the first hour of this two hour block, contact Robert Shippen at: (831) 722-1315.

WHY 501 (c) (19) INSTEAD OF 501 (c) (3)?

a. There have been a number of queries as to why the SOA applied for a 501 (c) (19) Tax Exempt status instead of a 501 (c) (3) Tax Exempt status. The following is provided for your edification:



HANS MANZ, EVELYN LEAF, BEN AND SHIRLEY BAKER AND ALEX JONGBLOED. GREAT TO SEE YOU ALEX, IT HAS BEEN SOME TIME...



CARL CRANTZ, MARK KINSLER AND GREG RODRIQUEZ. NICE LEG GREG. NOW MARK?



JULIE SYLVESTER AND "BIG ED" CLOUGH. THE BEAUTY AND THE BEAST. ONE GUESS, WHICH IS WHICH.



(1) 501 (c) (3): Short Summary.

(Charitable Organizations, Charitable religious, educational, scientific, literary, etc. organizations).

The exempt purposes set forth in 501 (c) (3) are charitable, religious, educational, scientific, literary, testing for public safety, fostering national or international amateur sport competition, and the prevention of cruelty to children or animals. The term charitable is used in its generally accepted legal sense and includes relief of the poor, the distressed, or the underprivileged; advancement of religion; advancement of education or science; erection or maintenance of public buildings, monuments, or works; lessening the burden of government; lessening of neighborhood tensions; elimination of prejudice and discrimination; defense of human and civil rights secured by law; and combating community deterioration and juvenile delinquency.

(2) 501 (c) (19):

(Veteran Organizations. Posts or organizations of past or present members of the Armed Forces of the United States).

A post or organization of past or present members of the Armed Forces of the United States under 501 (c) (19) must be:

(a) A post organization established in the United States or any of its possessions,

(b) At least 75% of its members are past or present members of the U. S. Armed Forces and that at least 97.5% of all members of the organization are past or present members of the U.S. Armed Forces, cadets (including only students in college or university ROTC programs or at Armed Services Academies), or spouses, widows, or widowers of any of those listed here, and,

(c) No part of the net earnings inure* to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual. In addition, it must be operated exclusively for one or more of the following purposes:

1 To promote the social welfare of the community, (that is to promote in some way the common good and general welfare of the people of the community);

2 To assist disabled and needy war veterans and members of the U. S. Armed Forces and their dependents and widows and orphans of deceased veterans;

3 To provide entertainment, care and assistance to hospitalized veterans or members of the U.S. Armed Forces;

4 To carry on programs to perpetuate the memory of deceased veterans and members of the Armed Forces and to comfort their survivors;

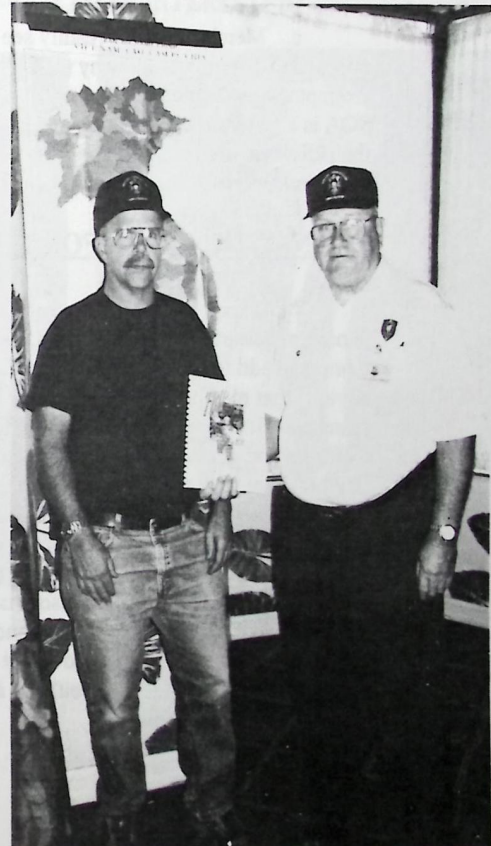
5 To conduct programs for religious, charitable, scientific, literary



DALE BENNETT, HELEN AND JIM STANFORD, "FRED" PLATT, "RAVEN" H. OWNBY AND AL NEWMAN IN THE TIGER TROUSERS. I GUESS THEY COULDN'T FIND A TIGER SHIRT THAT WOULD FIT HIM....



TINA AND DAVID PAUL. TINA, NO! THAT NOT THE WAY TO FIRE THAT WEAPON....



BOB DONOGHUE AND DAVID "BULLDOG" SMITH - JUST BACK FROM LANG VEI.....



or educational purposes;

- 6 To sponsor or participate in activities of a patriotic nature;
- 7 To provide insurance benefits for its members or dependents of its members, or both; or
- 8 To provide social and recreational activities for its members.

- INURE: To come into use or take effect, to operate; to serve to the use, benefit or advantage of someone.

b. Be advised that the SOA Board of Officers and Directors is attempting to insure that the Association is complying with all of the basic purposes of our Tax Exempt status. Also, be assured that no one currently enjoying membership within the SOA will be required or requested to vacate their membership. The SOA under the provisions of 501 (c) (19) will be allowed to maintain all Allied members currently on the Association roles. However, until such time as the SOA reaches the two and one half percent of other than U.S. Armed Forces personnel, the Chairman of the SOA Membership Committee will not approve any further Allied membership applications.

c. Members should readily see the apparent advantages of 501 (c) (19) as opposed to 501 (c) (3) and why the SOA authors of the original application for a Tax Exempt status decided in favor of 501 (c) (19) in lieu of 501 (c) (3) for the SOA. The SOA is a Veterans organization and as such is entitled to 501 (c) (19). Additionally, the IRS when reviewing an application will insist based on the information provided that the organization be assigned to the proper IRS 501 Code.

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR THE SOAR XXIII PHOTOS:

I just wish to take a moment to repeat myself - I realize I mentioned SOAR photographs earlier on in this report. But, it goes without saying that the various photos more than add to the overall After-Action-Report. They make the AAR. It is quite obvious that members and guests truly enjoyed themselves just as they have in past reunions. However, this year it was a little different in that there were quite a few new members and guests in attendance. Many stated that they will never miss another. Bob "Baron" Bechtoldt provided the cover photo of CCS personnel. It was much too wide to fit on the 8 x 10 cover, so I split it in two. Some folks were fortunate, or unfortunate, depending on how you wish to look at it by appearing in both pictures. Ben Baker provided the bulk of the pictures as he does every year and on behalf of the SOA membership, I thank him and I also wish to thank and commend Bill Sylvester, Hans Manz, "Rock" Myers, "Laf" Keaton and Ralph Edens for their contribution of great SOAR photographs. I attempted to get as many different folks in the report as possible. If you don't see yourself, well, either I screwed up or you didn't have your picture taken. Maybe next year. Thank you.



NOW I HAVE SEEN EVERYTHING. CINDY RODRIQUEZ PLYING HER TRADE AS A HAIR STYLIST WITH RALPH EDENS HER SUBJECT. DON GREEN AND BOB CHAREST DON'T HAVE ENOUGH HAIR FOR HER TO PRACTICE ON THEM - BUT THEY DO SEEM TO BE INTERESTED?



LEW MILLETT AND PAM ADKINS. WHAT IS IT THAT LEW HAS THAT WE DON'T. WHAT DO ALL OF THESE YOUNG BEAUTIFUL LADIES SEE IN HIM. AT LEAST LEW KEEPS TRYING.

-59-



JEAN AND "HARRY THE HAT" MUNCK. I CAN'T FIGURE WHAT HARRY COULD HAVE POSSIBLY SAID TO JEAN TO GET HER UPSET WITH HIM. SMILE JEAN!



Are you a Civil War Buff?

THE RIVER AND THE HORSEMEN

A NOVEL OF THE LITTLE BIGHORN
BY ROBERT SKIMIN

HERODIAS • OCTOBER

FICTION

THE RIVER AND THE HORSEMEN

A Novel of the Little Bighorn

Robert Skimin

- National Co-op available
- National trade and library publicity campaign/author interviews
- Major review coverage

"Robert Skimin's The River and the Horsemen is a slashing good yarn that grabs you and never lets go...with a blending of fact and fiction that works a special kind of magic. All the great actors on the Little Bighorn stage are here and Custer's Last Stand has never been better told."

—Frank E. Vandiver, Distinguished Professor of History, Texas A&M University

Author of the bestselling *Chikara!* and *Apache Autumn*, Robert Skimin has again found his stride, bringing to life as never before the story of George Armstrong Custer, Sitting Bull, and the Battle of the Little Bighorn.

Capturing in rich detail native Sioux spirituality and culture, as well as the American history and politics of the day, Skimin is drawn to the subject as surely as if preordained for the task: his military background, his penetrating research, his colorful cast of characters—all are brought to bear in this *tour de force* of historical fiction.

Focusing on the everyday lives of the men and women on both sides of the conflict, as well as the series of personal and political events that led to one of the bloodiest days in western warfare, *The River and the Horsemen* vividly recreates the life and times of two of the most celebrated men of their time, Custer and Sitting Bull.

Custer is the unbeatable, utterly fearless and "indestructible" cavalryman, and the most revered of the Indian fighters. He is handsome, willful, boy-

ish, arrogant, intellectual, caring, reckless, and above all, ambitious. The story of the great love and wide fame of Libbie Custer, her illustrious husband, and their "royal family"—set against vivid portraits of Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse, and Indian village life—tightens with suspense as it moves inevitably closer to that fatal Sunday in June 1876 when worlds collided.

The tumultuous lives of the men and women inside Custer's elite Seventh Regiment stand in stark contrast to the nobler—but dying—Native American culture, to provide a powerfully detailed backdrop for the spectacular prowess and tragic hubris of one of the nineteenth century's most controversial public figures.

October

Fiction

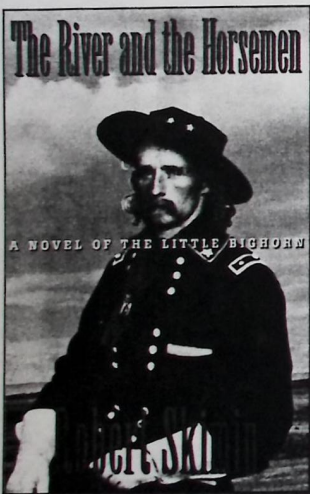
6 x 9, 384 pages

ISBN: 1-928746-00-4

\$26 Cloth

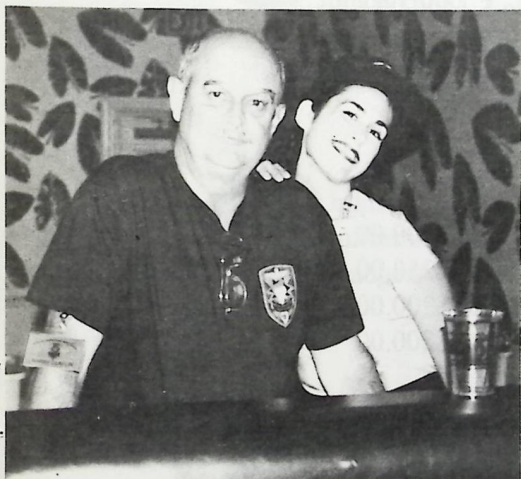
\$38 in Canada

£17 in Great Britain





**BUD MASTERSON, LAF KEATON AND
BOB MASTERJOSEPH. SOMEONE TOLD
THEM TO SQUARE AWAY BY SIZE, LEFT
TO RIGHT. MUST HAVE BEEN "BIG ED".**



**HARRY CLAFLIN AND HIS ASSISTANT, NATASHA
SHETAYH. ARE YOU JEALOUS, BILL GARCIA?**



**MEREDITH, BILL GARCIA AND NATASHA.
"WATCH THE HANDS, BILL!"**

WANTED: *Seriously seeking original Special Operations artifacts for my personal collection.*



Plaques



CCS

CCC

CCN

Omega

Sigma

Phoenix

\$500.00 to \$700.00

AK-47 Presentation Plaques \$1,000.00



Uniforms



Indig Set \$500.00 to \$1,000.00

Tiger Strip Set \$250.00 to \$ 400.00

1-0 Jackets \$600.00 to \$1,500.00

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Headgear

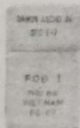


Berets (Embroidered) \$250.00 to \$500.00

Berets \$100.00 to \$250.00

Black Boonie Cap \$100.00 to \$200.00

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Lighters



Zippo w/ Presentation \$250.00

Others \$100.00 to \$200.00

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SOG Identification Cards



SOG Id's	\$250.00
Team Calling Cards	\$150.00
Others	\$ 75.00

Fighting Knives

SOG Knives	\$800.00 to \$1,400.00
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Gerber	\$350.00 to \$500.00
Buffalo Bill Presentation	\$500.00

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Insignia

Patches	\$150.00 to \$500.00
Beer Can DI	\$150.00 to \$250.00

I am interested in all other items that you may have, Mike Force, Seal, Force Recon, LRRP, etc... Please give me a call for an offer. I am also interested in items from post Vietnam covert ops (Central America, Grenada, Rhodesia, etc...)

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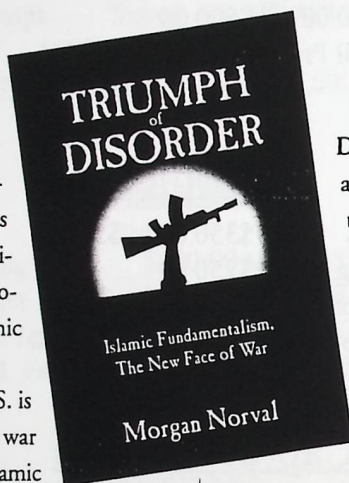
TRIUMPH of DISORDER

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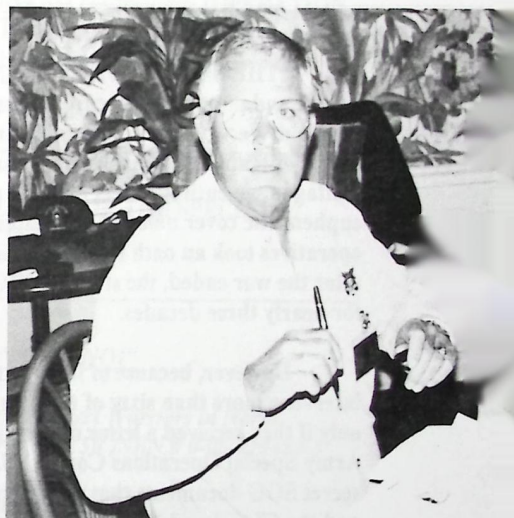
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CLYDE SINCERE, BILLY WAUGH AND DAN "ROCK" MYERS. BE ASSURED WHATEVER WAS BEING DISCUSSED WAS IMPORTANT.



RON MULLINS, "SANDY" SANDELL AND ROBERT "BARON" BECHTOLDT. BOB THOSE ARE SOME KIND OF TROUSERS....



JOHN R. McCLASKEY, ESQUIRE....SOA TREASURER CAN I HELP YOU SIR? ARE YOU HERE FOR SOAR? ARE YOU PREVIOUSLY REGISTERED? NO! THAT WILL BE \$120. PLEASE VALIDATE YOUR ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL.. THANK YOU.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

"The Secret War Against Hanoi"

by Professor Richard H. Shultz, Jr.

On the surface, **"THE SECRET WAR AGAINST HANOI"** sounds like a thrilling piece of Cold War spy fiction. But it's not. Though it reads with the same level of excitement, **"THE SECRET WAR AGAINST HANOI"** for the first time chronicles the full factual story of one of America's deepest Cold War secrets - the nearly eight-year campaign of covert operations initiated and executed by the White House against Hanoi during the Vietnamese Conflict.

Author Richard H. Shultz has lifted the shroud of secrecy surrounding these operations with the first thorough and original account of the most highly classified aspect of America's involvement in Vietnam. He also identifies valuable lessons for future presidents who engage in covert special operations to meet twenty-first century threats to vital U.S. interests.

"THE SECRET WAR AGAINST HANOI" unveils all of the details of the largest and most complex covert operations campaign executed by the U.S. during the Cold War. When President Kennedy decided in 1963 to pull responsibility for covert operations against North Vietnam from the CIA and hand it over to the Pentagon, an entirely novel military unit was created. Established under the euphemistic cover name of the Studies and Observation Group or SOG, all of its operatives took an oath never to reveal any of their eye-opening activities. Even after the war ended, the story of SOG was buried deep in the vaults of the Pentagon for nearly three decades.

However, because of highly unusual access granted to him, Shultz was able to interview more than sixty of the men who ran SOG, several of whom would speak only if they received a letter of permission from the Commander-in-Chief of the Army Special Operations Command. He also obtained thousands of pages of top secret SOG documents that were declassified for him by the Defense Department and the CIA. In addition to the operatives, the author interview top officials who directed the secret war, including Robert McNamara, Walt Rostow, William Colby, Richard Helms, William Westmoreland and Victor Krulak.

"THE SECRET WAR AGAINST HANOI" fills a glaring void in the vast library of books on the Vietnam War. From proposal to creation to implementation to the lessons learned from successes, and more importantly failures, this book is a rare and deep look into the hidden world of spies, saboteurs and covert warriors Washington directed against Hanoi.



The author also offers important lessons and a virtual checklist for covert operations that are directly relevant to present day U.S. national security policy. As Caspar W. Weinberger, former Secretary of Defense, poignantly observes, "This is an enormously important book.. The future security of the United States and our allies depend in large measure on how well we have learned the lessons set forth in "THE SECRET WAR AGAINST HANOI".

About the Author:

Richard H. Shultz, Jr. is Professor and Director of International Security Studies Program at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. He has been Olin Distinguished Professor of National Security Studies, U.S. Military Academy; Secretary of the Navy Senior Research Fellow, U.S. Naval War College; and Brigadier General H. H. Oppenheimer Chair of Warfighting Strategy, U.S. Marine Corps. His previous books include *"The Soviet Union and Revolutionary Warfare"*. He is currently completing a study of the CNN nerve gas controversy (OPERATION TAILWIND), under the auspices of a Goldsmith Research Award from the Joan Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics, and Public Policy, Harvard University. He lives in Medford, Massachusetts.

**THIS IS A MUST READ BY EVERY MEMBER OF THE SPECIAL
OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION.**

"THE SECRET WAR AGAINST HANOI"

Kennedy's and Johnson's Use of Spies, saboteurs, and Covert Warriors in North Vietnam, by Richard H. Shultz, Jr. December 3, 1999, \$27.50 ISBN # 0-06-019454-5

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NICK SPAIN, "BARON" BECHTOLDT, JIM DAY, LARRY KEIL, GREG STOCK, ALFRED KATZENSTEIN - JUST A FEW OF THE CCC CROWD. "BARON" STATED - THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING WATCH US GROW. WE CAN INSURE MORE CCC AT SOAR THAN CCN OR CCC. ANYONE DESIRING A SMALL WAGER, SEE BOB.



AL DAVIS, JIM AND HELEN STANFORD, "LAF" KEATON AND "DAPPER" JIM COLE. I KNOW THAT THERE IS AT LEAST ONE NICE PERSON IN THAT CROWD. "LAF", DID YOU LOSE YOUR SUIT COAT?



"MOE BLAKEY AND RAY WHITTINGTON, WHAT ARE YOU POINTING AT "MOE"?"



AL KELLER AND STEVE GOTH. AT ONE TIME THEY WERE THE YOUNGEST RECON MEN IN FOB-2. THEY SURVIVED.



CLYDE FORE, SHIRLEY BAKER AND JAN FORE LOOKING UP, WAY UP ON FREMONT STREET. THEY CALL IT A GROUP NECK EXERCISE... CLYDE, YOUR MOUTH IS OPEN - DID YOU CATCH ANYTHING?



"BIG DON" BENJAMIN AND "HARRY THE HAT" MUNCK DON IS TELLING JOHN McCLASKEY THAT THERE IS JUST TOO MUCH SMOKING GOING ON IN THE HOSPITALITY SUITE.



NINA AND ED GANNON - WHO IS PROMPTING WHO: GALS SEEM TO ENJOY THE RANGE FIRING MORE THAN THE GUYS. ANY IDEAS?



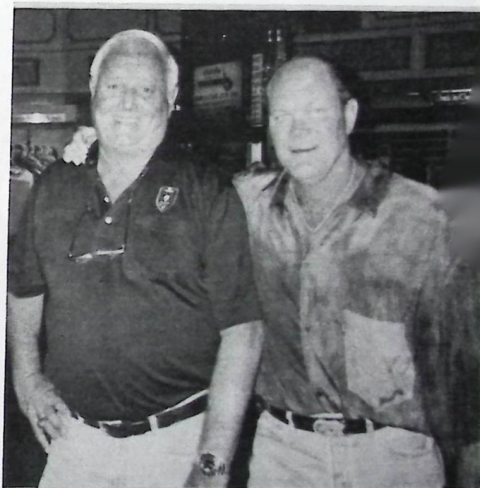
CLYDE SINCERE AND GENE McCARTHY. GENE IS PRESENTING CLYDE WITH THE JOHN WAYNE PICTURE CLYDE RIGHTFULLY WON AT THE BANQUET. RIGHT. GENE?



FRONT ROW: DEBBIE HARRISON, BOB CHAREST, NINA GAMMONS. BACK ROW: BOB MOON, MERYL ECKLES, JIM HARRISON, BOB BARRETT AND ED GAMMONS - PROJECT "SIGMA" CROWD. HOW DID BOB CHAREST GET TO SIT BETWEEN THE GALS?



LAWRENCE WICOREK, TERRY SORSBY AND DON GREEN. MUST HAVE BEEN A SOMBER MOMENT.



DAN "ROCK" MYERS AND CURT WILLIAMS. THE ARMY RECON VERSUS THE NAVY SEAL.



**FRONT ROW: TOBY TODD, BILLY BOGGS AND LINDA ADAMS.
REAR ROW: BILL TODD, DON GREEN AND MARTIN BENNETT.
BILL TODD IS DEMONSTRATING TO ALL CONCERNED HOW
HE RELIEVES HIS DAD'S OLD AGE PAIN BY HAND MASSAGE.**



**CARL CRANTZ AND DAN "ROCK" MYERS.
I DON'T KNOW IF "ROCK" IS SUN BURNED
OR HE IS RED IN THE FACE FROM WHAT
CARL JUST RELATED TO HIM....OH WELL.**



**D.C. CALDWELL, FRANK ENNEMUR, BILL GARCIA
AND BILL GOW. OFF HAND I BELIEVE FRANK IS
CONVINCING BILL GOW THAT HE CAN PURCHASE
SOAMS ITEMS CHEAPER IN RUSSIA THAN BILL CAN
OBTAIN IN CONUS. BILL GARCIA IS SHOCKED.**



HARRY HARRISON, BOB BOST, SHIRLEY LADD AND DIANA CRAGGY. THEY MUST HAVE BEEN THE FIRST ONES TO ARRIVE IN THE HOSPITALITY SUITE - LOOK AT HOW CLEAN THEIR TABLE IS!



MAME AND LOU FAISTENHAMMER. WE ALL SHOULD BE MARRIED AS LONG AS THEY HAVE LOU IS LUCKY TO HAVE MAME

JOIE AND JIM SHUE - DAUGHTER AND SON-IN-LAW OF LOU AND MAME FAISTENHAMMER.





**BOBBY EVANS AND BOB GILSTRAP.
DID YOU NOTICE ALL THE ROOM
BETWEEN THE TWO OF THEM?**



**JEAN AND KEITH LARSEN - JESSE
CAMPBELL WAS RELATING TO JEAN
ABOUT HIS COMBAT EXPERIENCE.**

**"DAN "ROCK" MYERS AND JIM MARTIN.
THEY BOTH SERVED IN A UNIT THAT
GUARANTEED PREMATURE GREYING.**





**BOB CASTILLO, RAY ROBINSON AND
TOM MARZULLO. WHAT MORE CAN
I TELL YOU?**



**JERRY GINDER AND CLAY SCOTT - THE TWO
OF THEM ARE PLOTTING AGAIN. THEY ARE
SEEKING A TALL HOTEL TO CONDUCT A
BUNGY JUMP. THEY DID TALK A NUMBER OF
MEMBERS INTO DOING IT LAST TIME.**



**HANS MANZ AND EVELYN LEAF. NOW
HANS LOOKS HAPPY AGAIN. EVELYN
OBVIOUSLY KEEPS HANS YOUNG. WELL?**

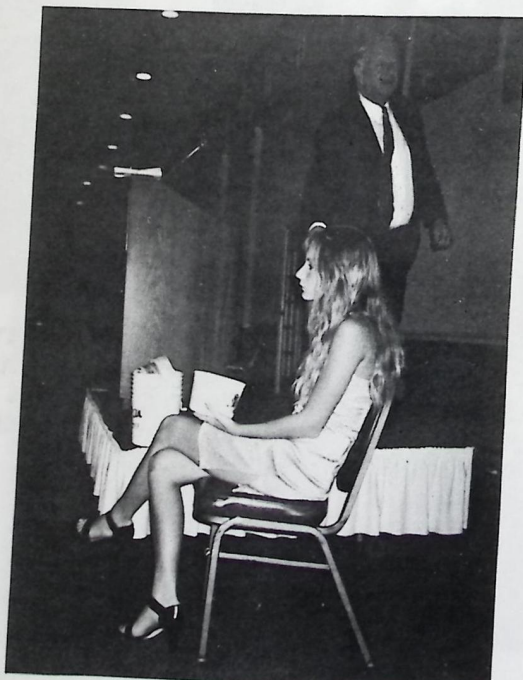


LEM MCGLOTHREN AND "WES" WESLEY. THEY ARE CONDUCTING A SERIOUS DISCUSSION WITH NICK BROKHAUSEN. (That is him in the dark glasses).



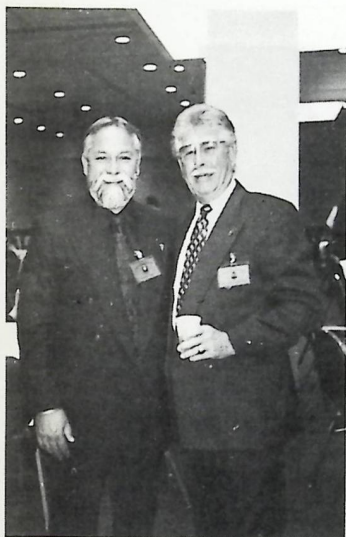
LANCE TRIMMER, FRED RITCHIE, RAY WHITTINGTON AND LEE HECTOR. ENOUGH SAID, RIGHT? NO MATTER, FRED WAS LYING ANYWAY.

CLYDE SINCERE AWARDED RAFFLE PRIZES WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF "DANNIE" MILLER, DAUGHTER OF "DOUG" MILLER, SOG MOH RECIPIENT. THANK YOU "DANNIE"...





JIM FRY, BEN ROBERTS AND MIKE VERMILLION. ALL I CAN SAY IS THAT JIM IS IN A LOT OF TROUBLE AROUND THOSE TWO. NICE LEGS FELLAS.



GREG RODRIQUEZ AND RAY WHITTINGTON. LOOKING VERY DISTINGUISHED IN ANTICIPATION OF SOAR BANQUET ACTIVITIES.



"DOUG" MILLER, "LAF" KEATON, GENERAL JACK SINGLAUB AND HARRY CLAFLIN. SOMETHING OBVIOUSLY PLEASED GENERAL SINGLAUB. WHAT DID YOU SAY "MILLERMAN"?



BOB AND "TEE" CASTILLO, DICK BROKHAUSEN, RON DAVIDSON AND "WES" WESLEY. APPEARS THEY ARE ENJOYING THE HOSPITALITY OF SOAR XXIII TO THE FULLEST. FIRST TIME FOR BOB AND "TEE".



FRONT: FRED AND LYNELLE RITCHIE, ROSE AND ART CHILDS. REAR: TOM UDALL AND TASMANIA SAMUELA, "The Tasmanian Devil". BUDWEISER APPEARS TO BE THE FAVORITE BEER HERE.



J. D. BATH, BILLY WAUGH, WILEY GRAY, JYRI LAATS, MYSTERY PERSON AND LARRY MANES. (JUST COULDN'T MISS HIM ANYWHERE). DOESN'T APPEAR TO BE TOO MUCH DRINKING - BUT, I'M SURE THERE WERE A LOT OF SOG "WAR STORIES". EVERYONE KNOWS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A "WAR STORY" AND A "FAIRY TALE", RIGHT?



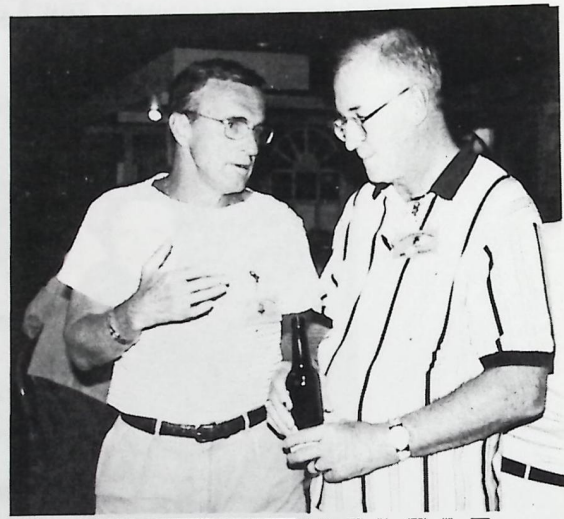
FRED PLATT, LEW MILLETT AND FRED NORRIS. FRED NORRIS WAS ATTEMPTING TO EXPLAIN TO FRED PLATT AND LEW THAT HE WAS A NON-DRINKER.



CLYDE AND JAN FORE, SHIRLEY BAKER, MARGE AND RON WORKMAN. GREAT TO SEE MARGE AND RON AGAIN. AUSTRALIA DOESN'T SEEM SO FAR AWAY WHEN YOU ARE ENJOYING LAS VEGAS....



LUCKY LANCE LOLLINI. WINNER OF THE ANDREW JACKSON COMMEMORATIVE DUELING PISTOL. NOT TOO SHABBY.



GEORGE POINTON AND MARTIN BRADY. GEORGE - THE SOA NEEDS A CURRENT ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL ADDRESS ON YOU. SERIOUSLY SPEAKING, IF SOMEONE HAS A POC FOR GEORGE, PROVIDE IT TO RAY CHAMBERS. THANKS.



**SUSAN TRIMBLE, MARGE WORKMAN, DEE CHAMBERS
AND LINDA ADAMS. MEN, WOMEN ARE PLOTTING
AGAIN. CAN'T LEAVE THEM ALONE FOR ONE MINUTE.**



**LEW MILLETT AND GREG RODRIQUEZ.
WHY IS IT THAT LEW ONLY SMILES WHEN
HE IS WITH LOVELY YOUNG LADIES?
GREG! NO ANSWER?**



**THOM NICHOLSON AND MIKE WALSH. AUTHORS
OF "15 MONTHS IN SOG" AND "SEAL". MIKE
SEND ME A BROCHURE ON YOUR PAPERBACK!**



**CRAIG DAVIS, JOE PARNAR AND JASON HARDY.
DID EVERYONE SEE JASON'S AD IN THE AAR?**



**PAUL DUFFY, DALE BENNETT, FRED PLATT,
REINALD L. POPE AND GARY PEISEN. I BELIEVE
THEY WERE ALL LAUGHING AT GARY'S LEGS,
OR POSSIBLY FRED'S CUBAN CIGAR.**



**DAN JUNEVICUS, MARGIE MACKAY
AND BRYAN KRAUSE. PHOTO TIME
IN THE SOAR HOSPITALITY SUITE.**



HUE TRAN, GREG RODRIQUEZ AND DICK CONTE. ALL I CAN SAY TRAN IS THAT YOU ARE IN BAD, BAD COMPANY. I'M TALKING ABOUT GREG - NOT THE DOC...



BEN BAKER, NICK GODONO, DR. LANCE LOLLINI AND SHIRLEY BAKER. BEN WAS EXPLAINING TO NICK WHAT HIS BEARD WOULD LOOK LIKE IN A FEW YEARS.

"ROCK" MYERS, JIM MARTIN, SULLY deFONTAINE AND "BUCK" BUCHANAN. "BUCK" WAS OBVIOUSLY IN DEEP THOUGHT. MAYBE IT WAS THE BEER HE WAS CONCENTRATING ON.





HELEN STANFORD, "HEINIE" ADERHOLT AND "LAF" KEATON. "HEINIE" WE MISSED JESSIE THIS YEAR. HOPE TO SEE HER NEXT YEAR. WE BOTH ENJOY OUR BUDWEISERS.

AL AND RUTH DAVIS, EVELYN LEAF. AL APPEARS TO BE THE ONLY ONE DRINKING HARD BOOZE. MUST BE TOO EARLY IN THE DAY FOR RUTH AND EVELYN AND WHOEVER WAS TAKING THE PICTURE.



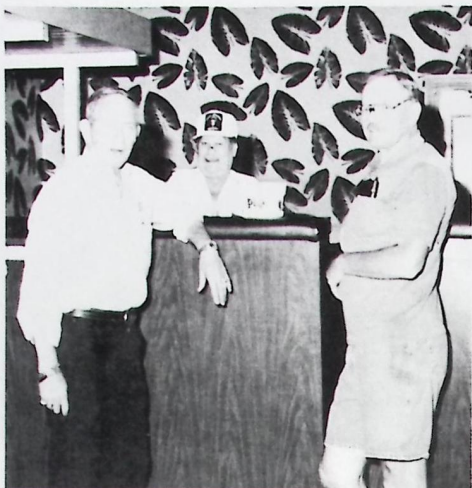
"LAF" KEATON, DEBBIE AND "BIG ED" CLOUGH. FATHER IS PROTECTING DAUGHTER FROM ALL THOSE BAD SOA GUYS. DOESN'T TAKE MUCH IF YOUR "BIG ED'S" SIZE, RIGHT?



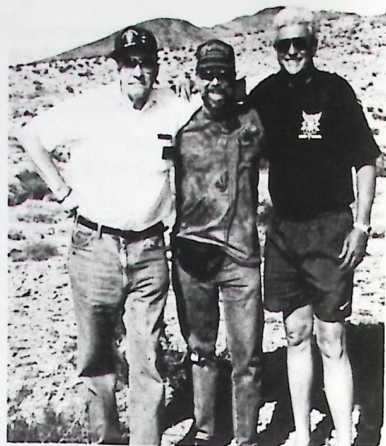
I WAS ATTEMPTING TO GET EVERYONES ATTENTION.



GREAT CROWD AT SOAR XXIII. LARGEST EVER, ALMOST 600 MEMBERS AND GUESTS. NEXT YEAR FOUR MAIN ENTREES FOR THE BANQUET. ONE MEAT ONE CHICKEN, ONE FISH, (orange something) AND I FORGET THE FOURTH - BUT, I'LL FIND OUT FOR YOU.



**BILLY WAUGH, BILL GARCIA AND
DICK SIMPKINS. BARTENDER, I'D
APPRECIATE A DRINK HERE.**



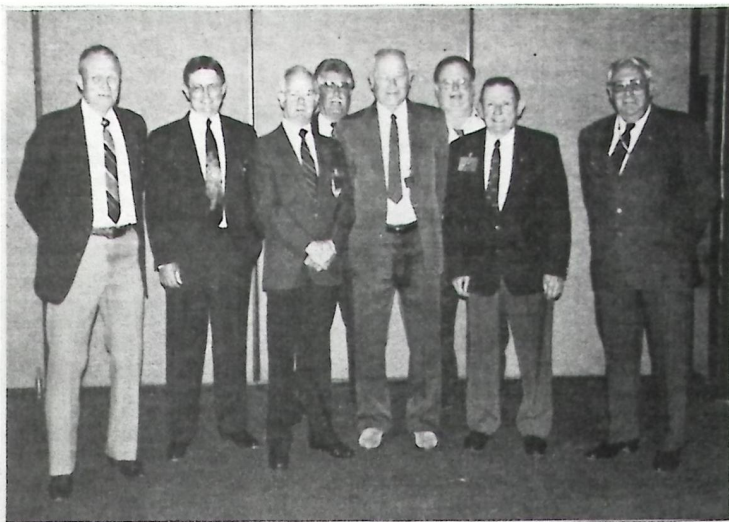
**BEN BAKER, NICK GODANO
AND DALE BENNETT. NICK -
WHERE DID YOU FIND THAT
LIZARD CRAWLING ON YOUR SHIRT?**



**RUDY COOPER, "LAF" KEATON AND
LOU FAISTENHAMMER. WHO IS
TRYING TO IMPRESS WHO?**



**ALL RIGHT EVERYONE. "A--- AND
ELBOWS, UGH, "BUTTS UP", "ELBOWS
DOWN". PICK UP THAT BRASS.**



WILEY GRAY, "PAT" BARRETT, RAY WHITTINGTON, FRANK JAKS, BOB JACK, GENERAL JACK SINGLAUB AND SULLY deFONTAINE. THE ONLY COMMENT I HAVE - FRANK, ARE YOU WEARING SOCKS, OR ARE YOU WEARING AUSTRALIAN ALLIGATOR BOOTS?



JACK SINGLAUB, "MECKY" SHULER, FRANK JAKS, J.D. BATH, JIM HETRICK, STEVE GOTH, LOUIS SMITH, JR., LEONARD TILLEY, JOHN COUCH AND AL KELLER. ALL FORMER FOB-2 RECON MEN WITH GENERAL JACK THE BOSS.



KATHLEEN FERLAZZO AND "ROCK" MYERS. GREAT COUPLE.



"BENTLEY", ROY BAHR, ANNA FRYER AND KATHLEEN FERLAZZO. HAVE YOU EVER SEEN ROY LOOKING SO PLEASED?



ROY BAHR AND JOHN FRYER. I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THEY ARE LOOKING AT.



CURT WILLIAMS, "BENTLEY", KATHLEEN FERLAZZO AND "ROCK" MYERS. JUST A SMALL GET TOGETHER WITH FRIENDS.