

SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

SOAR XXVI

PRE-REUNION PACKET

PLAZA HOTEL AND CASINO
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

25 - 29 SEPTEMBER 2002



**"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 XXVI

INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT

TO: All SOA Members

FROM: Executive Director, SOA

SUBJECT: Pre-Reunion Packet (PRP) SOAR XXVI

This envelope contains your SOAR XXVI PRP with the following items incorporated into the packet:

1. PRP:
 - a. Schedule of Events
 - b. Informational Letter from the President, Jim Hetrick.
 - c. SOA Board of Officers.
 - d. SOA Candidates for 2002 – 2004 Board of Officers.
 - e. Pre-Reunion Information.
 - f. "Las Vegas Quick Draw".
 - g. "Transforming the Military" by Donald H Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense.
 - h. SOA Fact Sheet.
 - i. SOA Facts and Figures.
 - j. SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Program.
 - k. Announcement of the 2002 George C. Morton Scholarship Awards.
 - l. Special Operations Memorial Foundation.
 - m. Mike Force Stone Dedication Ceremony Address by "Bucky" Burruss.
 - n. AAR of the MOH Ceremonies for "Rocky" Versace by Clyde Sincere.
 - o. MOH to "Rocky" Versace news article by Linda D. Kozaryn, AFPS.
 - p. SOA Membership Application.
 - q. "Sense of Membership" with questionnaire.
 - r. Memorabilia Sales Form (SOAMS).
 - s. 1st Special Forces Group Veterans Reunion Schedule/Registration Form.
 - t. 5th Special Forces Group Reunion Registration Form.
 - u. Book "Special Forces – The First Fifty Years" order form.
 - v. Book "U.S. Army Special Warfare" by Al Paddock flyer and order form.
 - w. Note from LTG "Bill" Yarborough.
 - x. Advertisement by Jason M. Hardy
2. SOAR Advance Discount Registration Form with envelope.
3. SOA Election Ballot with two (2) envelopes.
4. Proposed Resolution: IRC 501(c)(19) Statute.
5. By-Laws Revision.
6. Ten (10) George C Morton Memorial Scholarship Raffle Tickets @ \$5.00 each
7. SOA 2002 Calendar.

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



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

SOAR XXVI SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

23 SEP – 29 SEP 2002

MONDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2002

1000 – 1700 -SOA BOD Meeting

TUESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2002

1000 – 1700 -SOA BOD Meeting

WEDNESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2002

1000 – NLT 0200 -Hospitality Room

1000 – 1800 -Late Registration

THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2002

1000 – NLT 0200 -Hospitality Room

1000 – 1800 -Late Registration

1000 – 1200 -281st AHC BOD Meeting

1300 – 1500 -SOF Afghan Briefing - Billy Waugh

1500 – 1600 -Internet Briefing - Steve Sherman

FRIDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2002

1000 – NLT 0200 -Hospitality Room

1000 – 1800 -Late Registration

1000 – 1200 -STMP Montagnard Advocacy – Gene Stock

1030 – 1130 -281 AHC Memorial Service

1130 – 1330 -Lunch Hosted by SOA

1330 – 1700 -SOA General Membership Meeting

1700 – TBD -B-52 (Delta) General Membership Meeting
and Memorial Service

SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2002

0800 – 1300 -Weapons Firing

1000 – 1700 -Hospitality Room

1000 – 1400 -Late Registration

1000 – 1200 -MIA/POW Issues – Norm Doney

1200 – 1300 -281st AHC Membership Luncheon

1300 – 1700 -281st AHC General Membership Meeting

1700 – 1850 -Cocktails – Cash Bar – Derby Terrace

1900 – 1915 -Posting of the Colors

1915 – 1920 -Toasts

1920 – 1930 -Introduction of VIP's and Guests

1930 – -Cash Bar Reopens

1930 – 1945 -Presentation of 25 Year Pins

1945 – 2100 -Banquet Dinner

2100 – 2125 -Guest Speaker Remarks

2125 – 2130 -Special Award Ceremony

2130 – 2145 -Retirement of Colors

2145 – 2200 -Break

2200 – 2245 -SOA Raffle

2245 – NLT 0200 -Hospitality Room Bar Open

SUNDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2002

0800 – 1200 -Hospitality Room

1200 – NLT -Hospitality Room is Closed

1200 – NLT -Hotel Check Out



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 Charleston Boulevard

Suite 5-583F

Las Vegas, NV 89122-1003

SOA Members:

July 2, 2002

The Special Forces 50th Anniversary Celebration is over and it was a grand event. It was an opportunity of a lifetime to renew old friendships, seeing those we hadn't seen for many years. For some of us who had been searching for years for those special friends with who we had lost contact, it truly was overwhelming to find them again. It was a memorable week and everyone there had a great time. I'm sorry that every person who served in Special Forces couldn't be there.

During the event, the Board of Directors (BOD), SOA took the opportunity to meet and conduct business for the SOA. The following topics were reviewed:

1. Montagnard Resettlement: The most pressing issue was the relocation and resettlement of the 909 Montagnards from Cambodia to the United States. The BOD approved a motion to provide \$1500.00 to the Special Forces Association, the primary sponsoring organization, to assist in the resettlement these Montagnards and their families. Mike Linnane and Chapter 57, SFA, have done a tremendous job in providing assistance and coordinating the assistance effort.
2. Scholarship Trust Fund: The BOD is considering the best way to establish a protected account in which funds from the fully funded scholarships, scholarship donations, and scholarship fund raising activities can be protected from any and all events and actions that might overtake the SOA. In other words, if the SOA ceased to exist tomorrow, we want to insure that the funds for all the awarded scholarships are there to fulfill our obligation to the scholarship recipients. The possibilities are either a separate Scholarship Corp. or a Trust Fund. The BOD is in the process of determining which of the two best meets our needs.
3. SOA Web Page: The BOD has chosen to contract with Command Internet Services to maintain the SOA Web Page. The Proprietor, Steve Stone, is a member of the SFA and maintains the SFA Web Page. We hope to add a SOAMS on line catalog and ordering service, Taps, updated Scholarship data, and other services to meet the SOA and its' Members needs.
4. Bylaws: The bylaws are a continuing process that takes a lot of time. The primary area of concern is that of membership. Included in your PRP is a Sense of the Membership questionnaire relating to Membership. We are soliciting your thoughts and will present the results at the General Membership Meeting at SOAR XXVI when we discuss membership issues. It isn't possible to include every aspect of membership in this document, but it will present many of the questions and everyone should be concerned enough about the future of the SOA to take a few minutes to put some thought into answering the questions and returning them to the BOD for review. The Board is also contemplating the insertion of small paragraphs outlining the basic concepts of operation of the Scholarship Fund and Memorabilia Sales (SOAMS). The target date for completion of the Bylaws is the next years GMM at SOAR XXVII. That gives the BOD enough time to consult the Membership, complete the work on the bylaws, notice the Membership of the pending vote on the bylaws, and present the completed document to you for your approval

While in Fayetteville many of us also visited the Airborne and Special Operations Museum. The Special Forces exhibit off the entrance area had its' share of space devoted to Special Operations as we know it.

SOA CANDIDATES FOR THE 2002-2004
BOARD OF OFFICERS

FOR PRESIDENT:

James F. Hetrick SOA # 036-GL



I joined the Special Operations Association in 1978 and have attended many of the SOA Reunions (SOAR's) starting at the Landmark Hotel. I served with MACV-SOG 1966-1967 at Kham Duc on RT Idaho, FOB #2 Kontun with RT Colorado, and at Khe Sanh on the team that opened the "Bru Project". I have served on the SOA Board of Directors since 1999 as Vice President and President. We have overcome a great deal of upheaval in the past several years and my goal is to insure that our Association continues to move forward as the Fraternal Veteran's order of Special Operations professionals it was intended to be.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT:

Cliff Newman SOA # 6-GL



I am a founding member of the Special Operations Association. I have watched it grow from a rowdy gathering of about 30 members to a highly recognized Veteran's Organization of over 2000 members. I am the only member to have attended every SOAR, and I have served as a Member of the Board, Treasurer, Vice President, and President. My only motives for seeking an office are the perpetuation of the SOA and to assist in maintaining a degree of professionalism we are all capable of and deserve.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

SOAR XXVI

25 – 29 September 2002

PRE-REUNION INFORMATION

REGISTRATION DATA:

It appeared that last year some members did not know where, or when the Special Operations Association was holding their annual reunion or who to contact for hotel reservations. Well here's the poop:

WHAT: SOAR XXVI (Special Operations Association Reunion)

WHEN: 25 – 29 September 2002

WHERE: Plaza Hotel and Casino
One Main Street
Las Vegas, Nevada
TEL: (800) 634-8575

Deadline for SOAR daily hotel room rate of \$42.00 is 24 August 2002. When making your reservation inform the reservation clerk that you are attending the SOA Reunion.

Deadline for SOAR registration of \$80.00 is 14 September 2002. Late registration is \$120.00. Registration form with a self addressed envelope for mailing is in this packet.

REGISTRATION AREA AND HOSPITALITY SUITE:

The SOAR XXVI 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.

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 arrived – expecting their SOA sponsor and he did not show up. Embarrassing to all concerned. Also be advised that all attendees, members and guests alike must wear their SOA Reunion ID Badge to all SOAR XXVI activities.

All SOAR XXVI activities will cease as of 1200 hours, Sunday, 29 September 2002. FYI, the Hospitality Suite and Registration Area revert to the Plaza Hotel/Casino for their use at 1200 hours, 29 September 2002. Members are requested that they ensure that no personal belongings, e.g. luggage, briefcase, etc are left in the Hospitality Suite after 1200 hours. **Sorry no exceptions.**

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

GEORGE C MORTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND RAFFLE:

Enclosed within this PRP are ten (10) tickets, costing \$5.00 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 \$2,000, \$1,000, and \$500 respectively. The raffle will be conducted following the banquet on Saturday evening, 28 September. Everyone is requested to support this all important scholarship program – buy, sell as many tickets as you can. If you require additional tickets contact Jake Jacobson or Clyde Sincere. Also additional tickets for the scholarship fund will be available at almost anytime at the registration area and at the banquet just prior to the announcement of the three (3) lucky winners. Ticket sales are not restricted to SOA members. Ticket stubs, along with your check for tickets sold (made payable to SOA) should be returned to the SOA Treasurer, Rick Grabianowski, P.O. Box 20279, Reno, NV 89515-0279 NLT 14 September 2002, or turned in at SOAR XXVI prior to the raffle announcement at the banquet. A self-addressed envelope is provided for the mailing of the SOAR Registration Form, raffle stubs, unused raffle tickets and check or money order for all items to include dues.

SOAR XXVI SERGEANT AT ARMS:

Each year it is an honor and privilege for the President of SOA to select two members of the SOA to lead the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance at the Annual General Membership Meeting, the SOAR Banquet, and for the duration of the Reunion, act in the capacity of a Sergeant of Arms. The SOA Board has long established that this small but important gesture provides an opportunity for the SOA Board and the SOA Membership to recognize two of its members, chosen annually for their unrecognized volunteer efforts. during the past reunions. Again, as in past years, the SOA is fortunate to have many individuals that attend every reunion and contribute to the overall success of each SOAR. It is difficult to thank the many deserving members with an honor such as this, but be assured that the two members selected represent all of you. The SOA Board, and in particular, Pat Hephner, Chairman of the SOA Reunion Committee and his regular team thank all of the volunteers required to insure a successful reunion. Final selection of the two SOAR XXVI Sergeant at Arms will be determined upon the close of advance registration on 14 September 2002.

SOAR XXVI 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 hospitality suite, VIP escort duties, Memorabilia Sales and on a "as needed 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.

RAFFLE AND DOOR PRIZE DONATIONS:

If you have an item you wish to donate to SOAR XXVI for the George C Morton Memorial Scholarship Fund, 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 can purchase raffle tickets against as many different raffle items of their choice. If you cannot attend SOAR XXVI and you wish to donate either a door prize or a raffle item, you are requested to mail the items directly to Plaza Hotel & Casino, NLT 23 September 2002, Number One Main Street, Las Vegas, NV 89125-0760, c/o SOAR XXVI, ATTN: Pat Hephner. Again, if timing becomes a problem, contact Clyde Sincere. He will insure that your gift gets to the reunion. Raffle/door prize items are tax deductible.

SOA 2002 BOARD OF OFFICERS BALLOT:

VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE

President Jim Hetrick mentioned in his opening letter that so few members step forward to serve. The fact that the two candidates are running unopposed should not deter you from voting. A vote also shows your support for those running. Do you realize that less than 25% of membership vote. The SOA Official Ballot is enclosed in this PRP. Take the enclosed ballot, vote for President and Vice President reflected on the ballot or place a write-in on the ballot for the next term of office. Place the ballot in the small envelope marked "Ballot Only". Seal it, print your name, and sign it with your signature and membership number. Place this envelope in the larger envelope addressed to: "TALLY COMMITTEE", c/o William Lueders, place 1st class postage on it, now 37 cents, and mail it today. The deadline is 31 August 2002. Your letter to the TALLY COMMITTEE must be postmarked on or before that date.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

Any member desiring to add an item to the Agenda for the General Membership Meeting must submit a request to do so in writing and mail it via Postal Mail to the **Executive Director, SOA, P.O. Box 34500, Pensacola, FL. 32505-4500** so as to arrive NLT 30 days prior to the date of the General Membership Meeting: 27 September 2002.

YOUR RESIDENCE ADDRESS – PHONE NUMBER – EMAIL ADDRESS:

Each Member of the SOA is requested to ensure that his correct personal data is provided to the SOA as it relates to residence, phone number and Email address (if applicable). It is also very important to provide a complete nine-digit zip code. By doing so, the SOA can mail via bulk mail at a great savings. You can acquire the additional four- (4) numbers by checking with your Post Office or by just checking some of your official incoming mail. One bad feature of bulk mailing it is not forwardable. If your address is incorrect, the Post Office will not forward it. They will discard it and we won't know it.

Check carefully the current SOA Membership Directory, which will be issued at SOAR XXVI to those attending, or mailed to those not attending. If you spot an error please inform Ray Chambers, Chairman, SOA Membership Committee at 437 North 110th Street, Apache Junction, AZ 85220-2216, Tel: (480) 986-2541 or commosgm@earthlink.net

If you are attending SOAR XXVI, and as you check in at the Registration Area, one of your first actions will be to check Ray's Membership File. Please review the information about you and make any corrections required. We are requesting that you help us help you.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

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

"LAS VEGAS QUICK DRAW"

ONLY 100 TICKETS @ \$25 EACH WILL BE SOLD DURING SOAR XXVI

The drawing will take place immediately following the Banquet on Saturday evening, 28 September 2002. Only those individuals taking part in the "DRAW" need remain in the Banquet Hall. Your name and SOA # have already been placed on the back of each purchased ticket stub. You need not be present to win. If you are one (1) of the many lucky winners, Clyde Sincere will locate you during the course of the remainder of the SOAR and pay you off on-the-spot. Okay? You can't beat a deal like that.

All stubs will be placed into the "drawing bucket" and withdrawn one (1) at a time. There will be FOURTEEN winners of \$25 each; the 1st, 5th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 55th, 60th, 65th, 75th, 90th and 95th numbers drawn.

There will be FIVE winners of \$50 each; the 10th, 30th, 50th, 70th and 80th numbers drawn.

There will be FIVE winners of \$75 each, the 12th, 24th, 36th, 48th and 96th numbers drawn.

There will be ONE winner of \$1000, the last stub remaining in the bucket.

After the 94th number has been drawn, ticket holders may elect to auction off their ticket stubs, or sell them directly to anyone else if they so desire. Additionally, Any unsold ticket stubs will also be in the drum, and the "George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Fund" will benefit if any of these numbers are drawn.

After the 98th number has been drawn, the remaining two (2) ticket holders have a 50-50 chance of winning the \$1,000. They may bargain with each other to share in the prize, take their chances as is, or sell their ticket to anyone else.

FYI, a total of \$1,975 is awarded. All remaining funds from the total collected go into the "George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Fund". Anyone has a one (1) out of four (4) chances to win some money during the conduct of this drawing. Not too shabby....

If you desire/elect to participate in SOAR XXVI, LAS VEGAS QUICK DRAW, see Clyde Sincere for tickets at anytime during the course of SOAR XXVI.

Transforming the Military

Donald H. Rumsfeld

RIDING INTO THE FUTURE

Just before Christmas last year, I traveled to Afghanistan and the neighboring countries, where I had the opportunity to spend time with American troops in the field. Among the many I met was an extraordinary group of men: the Special Forces who had been involved in the attack on Mazar-i-Sharif.

From the moment they landed in Afghanistan, these troops began adapting to the circumstances on the ground. They sported beards and traditional scarves and rode horses trained to run into machine gun fire. They used pack mules to transport equipment across some of the roughest terrain in the world, riding at night, in darkness, near minefields and along narrow mountain trails with drops so sheer that, as one soldier put it, "it took me a week to ease the death-grip on my horse." Many had never been on horseback before.

As they linked up and trained with anti-Taliban forces, they learned from their new allies about the realities of war on Afghan soil and assisted them with weapons, food, supplies, tactics, and training. And they planned the assault on Mazar-i-Sharif.

On the appointed day, one of the Special Forces teams slipped in and hid well behind enemy lines, ready to call in the air strikes. The bomb blasts would be the signal for the others to charge. When the moment came, they signaled their targets to coalition aircraft and looked at their watches. "Two minutes." "Thirty seconds." "Fifteen seconds." Then, out of nowhere, a hail of precision-guided bombs began to land on Taliban and al Qaeda positions. The explosions were deafening, and the timing so precise that, as the soldiers described it, hundreds of Afghan horsemen emerged, literally, **out of the smoke, riding** down on the enemy through clouds of dust and flying shrapnel. A few of these Afghans carried rocket-propelled grenades; some had fewer than ten rounds of ammunition in their guns, but they rode boldly Afghans and Americans together-into tank, mortar, artillery, and sniper fire.

It was the first U.S. cavalry attack of the twenty-first century.

After the battle, one U.S. soldier described how an Afghan fighter motioned for him come over and began to pull up the leg of his pants. "I thought he was going to show me a wound," he said. Instead, the fighter showed him a prosthetic limb-he had ridden into battle with only one good leg.

What won the battle for Mazar-i-Sharif and set in motion the Taliban's fall from power-was a combination of the ingenuity of the U.S. special forces; the most advanced, precision-guided munitions in the U.S. arsenal, delivered by U.S. Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps crews; and the courage of valiant, one-legged Afghan fighters on horseback.

That day, on the plains of Afghanistan, the nineteenth century met the twenty-first century and defeated a dangerous and determined adversary-a remarkable achievement.

Donald H. RUMSFELD is the U.S. Secretary of Defense.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

5130 E. Charleston Boulevard, Suite 5-583F

Las Vegas, Nevada 89104-1003

FACT SHEET

The Special Operations Association (SOA), founded in 1977, is a 2,000 member fraternal organization of American and foreign citizens who took part, or are now taking part in missions deep within hostile territory. Its members include World War II and Korean War Veterans as well as those from the more recent conflicts in the 1960's, 1970's, 1980's, 1990's, and into the 21st Century.

Our Association is composed primarily of US Army Special Forces personnel, but also includes Air Commandos, Navy SEALs, Marine Force Recon, veterans of other elite organizations, both military and civilian, who took part in special operations, and members currently on active duty who are conducting or supporting special operations.

The specific and primary purposes of the Special Operations Association are:

1. To unite fraternally all war veterans who either are now conducting or supporting classified "Special Operations" in hostile enemy territory, or have been assigned to United States or foreign military units which conducted such operations; and
2. To perpetuate the Special Operations *esprit de corps*; and
3. To commemorate fittingly the memory of those who have given their lives in defense of the Free World and those who served in Special Operations units and are still unaccounted for as POW / MIA; and
4. To perpetuate the memory of Colonel George C. Morton through the management of the Association's Scholarship Fund. Since 1983, over \$330,000 have been awarded or committed to many deserving young scholars.

Annual membership dues are \$25.00 U.S. Lifetime membership fee is \$250.00 U.S.

Our correspondence consists of the Spring Newsletter, the Pre-Reunion Packet (PRP), the Special Operations Association Reunion After-Action Report (AAR) and the Post-Reunion Newsletter.

The Special Operations Association is recognized by the Department of Defense and by the Internal Revenue Service as a non-profit [501c(19)] veterans organization operating on tax deductible donations.

The SOA will hold its twenty-sixth annual reunion (SOAR XXVI) in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Plaza Hotel and Casino during the period 25 - 29 September 2002. We anticipate in excess of 800 members and guests.

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

SOA FACTS AND FIGURES

In Memory of - TAPS: It is with deep regrets that the SOA Board reports to the membership that eight members have passed away since those that were reported in the AAR for SOAR XXV. Five were listed in the 2002 Spring Newsletter.

JOHN ROBERTS SOA # 1227-GL passed away on March 9th, 2001 at Moreno Valley, California. Jack retired in 1969 following 32 years in the Air Force as a pilot. His career spanned three wars – WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. In 1975, Jack and his wife Bette sponsored two South Vietnamese helicopter pilots and their families to the United States who are still very much a part of the Bette's life. John is survived by his wife Bette, daughter and son-in-law, Kim and Stephen Taylor of Escondido, California; son Kevin Roberts of Irvine, California; daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren, Sherrie, Steve, Kelly and Steffi of Michigan; and daughter Tia Roberts of Playa del Rey, California. John was one of nine children and is also survived by his beloved oldest brother George Roberts of Minnesota.

HOMER GAOUETTE III SOA # 1459-GA passed away on March 31st, 2001 from the results of pancreatic cancer. Homer retired from the Air Force as a Major from SAC and Command Pilot. He had served as an H-3 Pilot with the 21st Special Operations Squadron, 56th SOW at NKP during the period 1969-1970. He participated on many "Prairie Fire" missions. He was highly respected by all his squadron mates at MLT-3. Upon his retirement he served as Director of Emergency Services with the American Red Cross and also retired as an Instructor from Pensacola Junior College. He was a Life Member of VFW Post 706, American Legion Post 340, and the Elks Lodge 497, all of Pensacola, Florida. He is survived by wife Shirley Faye; mother of his children Margaret Gaouette; sons, David (Sharon) and Homer (Tammy) Gaouette; daughter, Sally Anne Gaouette Le'Lon (Ken) Vardeman; grandchildren, Brian, Sean, Joseph, Katie and Alexis Gaouette and Joseph and Alicia Vardeman.

THOMAS R. MATTHEWS SOA # 1664-GA passed away on December 15th, 2001. We have been unable to acquire any details on his passing.

MIKE OLSON SOA # 1480-GA passed away on February 24th, 2002 at his residence in Layton, Utah. Mike was born November 10th, 1942 in Holden, Massachusetts. After graduating from high school, Mike entered the US Air Force in June 1961. During his career in the Air Force Mike served with the 20th Special Operations Squadron out of Ban Me Thout supporting CCS during the period 1967 – 1968. Mike also served with the 21st Special Operations Squadron out of Udorn, Thailand. Mike retired from the Air Force in 1984 with the rank of Master Sergeant. Surviving are his wife, Kay; two sons, Steve Olson and John Olson, Denver, Colorado; daughter, Jody Travis, Palisades, Colorado; four step-sons, Chuck Bruen, Ogden Utah, Mark Bruen, Wichita, Kansas, Curtis Bruen, Clearfield, Utah and Donny Wagner, Ojai, California; two grandchildren; mother, Mary A Scully, Layton, Utah; mother and father-in-law Lorraine and Al Jacobson, Bountiful, Utah; and one brother, Russell Olsen, Pembroke Pines, Florida.

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WALTER ROBERT "BOB" LEWELLING SOA # 1355-GL passed away on April 1st, 2002 at the VA Hospital in Salt Lake City, Utah from complications due to pneumonia. Bob Lewelling was born May 16, 1942 in Dallas, Texas. Bob and his wife, Jackie were married in Las Vegas, Nevada, September 30, 2000 at the SOA Reunion. He served three tours in Vietnam, two as a Medic on an "A" Team and one on Project Omega, MACV-SOG. He also served one tour of duty in Laos. He was awarded the Bronze Star and two Purple Hearts. He retired after 21 years of service. He was a Professor of Military Science for USU's ROTC program. He also received his Bachelor's degree in American Studies and Master's degree in Anthropology from USU. He served as a park ranger at Capital Reef National Park and was an active member of the NRA. He is survived by his wife, Jackie; his mother, Fay Lewelling of Dallas, Texas; his sister, Mary (Don) Counts; his daughter, Jennifer (Tim) Ferris; and their son, Jake of Denton, Texas. He is also survived by his daughters, Brandi (Troy) Kresie of Logan, Utah and Kori Hill of Reno, Nevada, and grandchildren, Nicki, Michael, Mariah, Dakota and Arianna. And last but not least his "special" daughter Andrea (John) Shirts and their children Mitchell and Bailey. Bob was a "mountain man" and referred to as "Limp Stick" Lewelling.

SCOTT LYON SOA # 381-GL former President of SOA and a longtime Las Vegas who survived some 300 combat raids and missions lost his battle with brain cancer and succumbed on the 25th of April 2002. Scott Robert Lyon was born in Rochester, N.Y., on March 14, 1935. His Navy career began in July 1953 in Norfolk, Va., and ended with his retirement in February 1982 in Las Vegas, where he was assigned to a detachment out of Long Beach, California. An enlisted man, he reached the rank of Chief Petty Officer before being promoted to Warrant Officer in October 1967. He retired as a Lieutenant Commander. He played football for two Navy teams, the Bainbridge (MD) Commodores and the Pensacola (FL) Goshawks, before joining the Navy's elite Underwater Demolition Team. He served three tours in Vietnam beginning in the 1960s, including a stint with the Provincial Reconnaissance Unit; an agency set up by the CIA to use North Vietnamese deserters in combat. He received the Silver Star for gallantry for leading 20 men deep into a Viet Cong stronghold to destroy a mine warhead factory while engaging in a 26-hour firefight. In the early 1970s, he was the officer in charge of the Leap Frogs; the Navy's parachute demonstration team, a part of the Navy's recruiting effort. In 1972, he was on the staff of the Command Naval Special Warfare Group Pacific, based in Coronado, California. Scott Lyon's list of awards and decoration includes a Silver Star, five Bronze Stars, the Joint Service Medal, four Navy commendations, two Vietnam Medals of Honor, the Bolivian Presidential Award, the Purple Heart and 28 separate combat awards. After his retirement, he was hired by the Clark County Manager as a project analyst. In 1985, he became one of the directors and founders of the Las Vegas Panasonic Pro-Am Invitational Golf Tournament. An avid golfer, he was the 2001 President's Cup Champion at the Las Vegas Country Club. He was one of three principals who founded Western Acceptance Corp., now a publicly traded insurance premium finance company. He served as board chairman from 1986 to 1988. In 1988, he became the first head of security for Arizona Charlie's. In 2000, he joined QTS, a payroll and tax service company, as a board member and director of business development. He was a past president of Special Operations Association from 1987 to 1990; a member of the Southern Nevada Military Council; Veterans of Foreign Wars; Nevada Saints and Sinners; Fraternal Order of UDT/Navy SEAL's; Disabled American Veterans; and was appointed by the governor and approved by the U.S. Senate to be the Nevada State Director of Selective Service, receiving the Meritorious Service Award. He was a member of the U.S. Boxing Association and was an honorary member of the Nellis Air Force Base Support Team. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Lyon; son, Keith Lyon; daughter Michelle Hynes; three grandchildren; a brother, David Lyon; and his mother, Martha Loyst of Fairport, N.Y.

JAMES A. (JIM) HOWARD SOA # 1032-GL passed away on May 21st 2002 at his home in Colorado Springs, Colorado after a long battle with cancer. Jim was born on January 22nd 1935 in Santa Maria, California. Jim enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1972 and volunteered for Special Forces 1962. He again volunteered, this time for Vietnam. His first assignment was to the SF Detachment at Loc Ninh. He later joined the newly formed Mobile Guerrilla Force, "Blackjack 31". Returning to Fort Bragg, he was assigned to 3rd SFG and an MTT to Ethiopia. He again volunteered for Vietnam. This time he was assigned B36 Mobile Strike Force. He was subsequently evacuated and spent time in the hospital. He retired in 1972. He was the recipient of numerous awards and decorations to include the Soldiers Medal, Bronze Star for Valor, Purple Heart and CIB. He started a second career establishing Courier Process Service and Howard Investigations. In 1973 earned and received an Associate's degree from El Paso Community College. Jim was a member of numerous veteran organizations to include SFA, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Pike's Peak Veterans Council, Task Force Omega, DAV, Retired Sergeant Majors and Chiefs Association, 4th Infantry Association, 2nd & 3rd Armored Cavalry Association, VVA, and TREA. He was also a member of the YMCA Pikes Peak Region as a sustaining member and Chairman's Roundtable. Jim was also an active volunteer as a certified Aquatics Instructor for the Arthritis Association at the YMCA and a volunteer guest speaker for School District 11. Jim leaves behind his wife, Wendy; his former wife, Eunice "Bobbie" Howard Resch, and their son, Tad C. Howard; his wife, Laura Lee, and their children, Erik and Sarah; and by their daughter, Susan D Kaffenberger; her husband, Jim, and their children, Zach, Cindy, and Tyler. Jim also left two step-children, Jay Ellzey and his wife, Nita, Meredith Wright and her husband, Jeff, and two step-grand children, Julian and Emma.

ADAM W. HUSAR SOA # 22-GL passed away on June 1st, 2002 at his home in Hayward, California. Adam was born in New Jersey on May 23rd, 1930 and was 72 years of age. He was retired from the US Army with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. His Special Operations/Special Forces assignments included CCRAK during the Korean War; 77th Special Forces Group 1955-1957, 1st Special Forces Group 1958-1963; 1st Mobile Strike Force, 1968. He was also an Advisor to the Royal Thai Army 1964-1965. Adam was very active in veteran affairs and enjoyed reading and traveling. He is survived by his wife Noi, son, Robert of Durham, California; brother, Albert John Husar of Cathedral City, California; and three grandchildren.

THE FOLLOWING NON-MEMBER DEATHS HAVE BEEN REPORTED:

EDGAR J ALBRICK passed away on February 20th 2002 in Fairfield, California. The "Coach" was born December 7, 1920, in New Kensington, Pennsylvania. Education: BA and MA, Arizona State University both in 1950. Lettered in Baseball - Wake Forest University; Football - Southwestern Louisiana University; baseball and football - Arizona State University. Military Service: WW II, ETO, Armor, Combat Engineers and Infantry; Korea, Infantry; SE Asia, Special Forces. Military awards and decorations: Silver Star, 3 Bronze Stars, 3 Purple Hearts, 3 Combat Infantry Badges, 8 Battle Stars, and Master Parachutist Badge. Teacher and Coach: 28 years, taught all grades 1st through university level, coached 11 different varsity sports; Retired: Military - 80% disability, 1964; Retired: Teacher and Coach, 1986; Personal Philosophy: I believe teaching school is the most rewarding of all the professions. I went to three wars to do my best to save lives, especially the lives of our brave American men who committed their lives to maintain freedom from the encroachment on freedom by autocratic dictators. Enjoyed writing books and poetry. His wife Alice and Children; David, Constance Anna and Edgar, Jr survive Colonel Albrick.

JOHN C. SCAGNELLI passed away on March 27th, 2002 in Germany. He had been undergoing treatment for cancer. "Scag" commanded 5th Airborne Ranger Company during the Korean War from the first day November 20, 1950 to the last day August 1, 1951. He led from the front. He was also a member of 10th Special Forces Group. He was interned at Bad Endorf, Germany. He is survived by his Rosie.

PAMELA MAUREEN BAKER passed away 24 April 2002 at the East Cheshire Hospice, Macclesfield, Cheshire, UK. Pam leaves six children, eight grandchildren, one great grand child, a former husband and an astounding legacy of human rights work in Hong Kong. Pam Baker and the Pam Baker Associates Law Firm in Hong Kong provided legal assistance and represented the thirty one Nung former soldiers employed by United States Army Special Forces and SOG in Vietnam, who were detained at the High Island Detention Center in Hong Kong. Pam Baker and Pam Baker Associate attorney Wanyong Austin spent many days in and out of the Hong Kong courts, presenting documented evidence that had been provided by one prominent American and many SF and SOG veterans, and arguing against the communist Vietnamese effort to take the Nungs and their families back to re-education camps in Vietnam. Eventually, with the help of a massive lobbying effort by many SF and SOG veterans, Pam and her lawyers were able to convince the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to declare refugee status to our Nungs and finally allowing them and their families to become US citizens and live in America. Pam was a good friend both to SOA and SFA and will be greatly missed.

JESSIE ADERHOLT, beloved wife of "Heinie" Aderholt passed away peacefully on May 10th, 2002 at her home in Fort Walton Beach, Florida, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. Jessie was especially revered throughout the USAF Special Operations community where she was exceptionally well known as the woman behind her husband Heinie "Air Commando One".

On a sad and somber note, two of our members lost family members near and dear: Clyde Sincere, SOA # 10-GL who has lost his son Thomas and his brother has just lost his grandson as a result of an automobile accident and Glenn Rollins, SOA # 2018-GA lost wife from injuries suffered from a motorcycle accident.

ALEX SINCERE, grandson of Clyde and Mary Sincere was killed in an automobile accident on the 26th of May 2002 in Utah. His parents John and Sue, sisters Melissa and Therese and his twin brother Tony survive Alex.

JANET ROLLINS, beloved wife of Glenn L. Rollins died from injuries she sustained in a motorcycle accident on June 2nd, 2002 in New Hampshire.

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

SICK CALL The following SOA members have been reported as being ill, some severely, or are recovering from surgery:

MIKE STERN # 324-GL
DONALD COLLINGWOOD # 199-GL
DARRELL BARBER # 189-GL

CONRAD "BEN" BAKER # 897-AL
DUANE VIERK # 1953-GA
BOB SALZMAN # 2019-GA
ALTON "MOOSE" MONROE # 1981-GA

Request you dispatch to our fellow members who are down a "get well" card, an Email, or a phone call. Do something. We wish them all well and a speedy recovery. If any member is aware of another member that is ill, involved in a serious accident, or recovering from an operation, or have passed away please advise a member of the SOA Board of Officers, preferably Jake Jacobson, Executive Director.

SOA RAFFLE AT THE SFA CONVENTION IN FAYETTEVILLE:

After the General Membership Meeting, SOA raffled off the print by Frank Allen "Special Forces: 50 Years of Heroic Service". It was won by Vicki Blanchard. Address on ticket was Eco Lodge. Tried the one across from the Sheraton. They didn't have her registered. If anyone knows Vicki, have her contact me at (850) 492-7639 or Email: jakesoa@aol.com

KOREAN WAR SERVICE MEDAL:

Korean War Veterans will be recognized by the Republic of Korea with the award of the Korean War Service Medal (ROK-KWSM). In 1951 the Republic of Korea originally offered the medal to United Nations forces serving in Korea and adjacent waters. During the Korean War United States law prohibited service members from wearing foreign medals.

By the time Congress changed the law in 1954 most veterans had returned home. The Department of Defense approved wear of the ROK-KWSM in 1998. Of the than 1.8 millions Americans who served in the Korean War and are authorized to receive the medal, only 280,000 Korean War Veterans have received it thus far.

To qualify for the medal veterans must have: served between the outbreak of hostilities, June 25, 1950, and the date the armistice was signed, July 27, 1953; been on permanent assignment or on temporary duty for 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days, and performed their duty within the territorial limits of Korea, in the waters immediately adjacent thereto or in aerial flight over Korea participating in actual combat operations or in support of combat operations.

To apply for the ROK-KWSM, veterans must provide a copy of their discharge papers, commonly known as a "DD-214," or a corrected version of that document, a "DD-215." National Guard members must provide their statement of service equivalent, "NGB Form 22."

The Republic of Korea specifies the eligibility period and criteria. Only the medal provided by the Republic of Korea is approved by the U.S. Government to meet the U.S. criteria for wear on the military uniform.

Additional information on how to apply for or request the medal can be found by contacting the Air Force Personnel Center, Monday - Friday, 0730-1630 (CST) at (866) 229-7074, or the Awards and Decorations Section (210) 565-2432/2520/2516, or by writing to HQ AFPC/DPPPPA, 550 C Street West, Suite 12, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas 78150-4714 or

by visiting our web site: <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/awards/>. The organization's fax number is (210) 565-3118.

COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE FOR THE 8240 ARMY:

I am Col. Doug Dillard USA(R) a former member of the 8240th Army Unit that conducted behind the lines combat using the Korean and Chinese Volunteers as partisans and intelligence collection agents during the war.

I have just received a letter from the Military Awards Branch, Dept. of Army that establishes a policy of reviewing individual applications from veterans who fought in ground combat with the partisans for the award of the COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE (CIB).

In the past the awards branch rejected many veterans because the 8240th Army Unit was not considered as engaging in ground combat against ground enemy forces.

This new policy open up the award to many of these veterans who as a result of subsequent combat duty in Vietnam would be entitled to two perhaps three awards of the CIB for many of them who also served in WWII.

Any 8240th veteran who would like more information on this should contact:

Col. Doug Dillard at DDILLARDD@AOL.COM
FX 301-262-9863 or Phone. 301-262-2439

REUNIONS:

The 1st Special Forces Group Veterans will be hosting a reunion Sep 3-8, 2002 in San Diego, California (See attached schedule/registration form).

The 5th Special Forces Group Reunion, hosted by Chapter 38, Special Forces Association, will be held Sep 19-22, 2002 in Oak Grove & Fort Campbell, Kentucky (See attached registration form).

The Special Operations Association Reunion (SOAR XXVI) will be holding its Annual reunion Sep 15-29, 2002 at the Plaza Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada. (See enclosed registration form w/envelope and hotel information on page 2)



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 2002, 112 young men and women will have been awarded a scholarship since the commencement of the program in 1983.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND APPLICATION FORMS, PLEASE WRITE:

Alan N. Keller
Chairman, SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Committee
4401 Park Road
Alexandria, Virginia 22312-1430

Revised: 1 May 2002



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION
5130 Charleston Boulevard
Suite 5-583F
Las Vegas, NV 89122-1003

ANNOUNCEMENT

GEORGE C. MORTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS – 2002

Ms. KATE BOWRA

Awarded in the Honor of Sergeant First Class Ben D. Snowden, USSF - KIA - June 15, 1967
And
An unidentified Air Force A1E Sky Raider Pilot - MIA, Declared KIA - June 15, 1967

Mr. MATTHEW GRANT

Awarded in the Honor of Major Robert L. Baldwin, USAF - KIA - March 31, 1967

Ms. SARAH MONTOYA

Awarded in the Honor of Sergeant First Class Ronald J. Dexter, USSF - KIA - June 3, 1967
And
Sergeant First Class Billy Ray Delaney, USSF - KIA - June 3, 1967
And
Captain Stephen P. Hanson, USMC, Pilot - KIA - June 3, 1967
And
First lieutenant John O. Gardner, USMC, Pilot - KIA - June 3, 1967
And
Sergeant Timothy R. Boddin, USMC, Helicopter Crewman - KIA - June 3, 1967
And
Eighteen other U. S. Service Men and Approximately fifty Chinese Nungs
KIA - June 3 and 4, 1967

"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"



Mr. DEREK STILLER

Awarded in Honor of Sergeant Howard B. Carpenter, USSF - KIA - March 6, 1967

Ms. CHRISTINA THOMPSON

**Awarded in Honor of Captain Richard Legate, USSF - KIA - March 25, 1967
And
Sergeant Albert C. Files, Jr., USSF - KIA - March 25, 1967**

Mr. MATT WANSON

**Awarded in the Honor of Warrant Officer James P. Meade, USA, Helicopter Pilot
KIA - May 3, 1967**

This years recipients are Sons and Daughters of Members and their selection was based on their demonstrated educational achievements as determined through a very competitive Scholarship Award selection process.

"CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEARS RECIPIENTS"

**James Hetrick
President, SOA**

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

Special Operations Memorial

MacDill AFB, Florida

Sponsored by

USSOCOM Memorial Foundation, Inc.,
Special Forces Association,
and the
Special Operations Association



The walls flanking the central generic SOF warrior will hold individual engravings in addition to special operations organizational histories. Engravings may be purchased, and designed to reflect either the buyer's name and/or organization, or may memorialize another (past or present) special operator. To maximize the available space, the same individual will not be memorialized more than once. The memorial is located adjacent to the entrance to the US Special Operations Command complex, MacDill AFB. Engravings are limited to eighteen (18) letters per line (including spaces); the number of lines may be purchased as follows:

2 lines (4" x 12") - \$100.00; 3 lines (8" x 12") - \$250.00; 4 lines (12" x 12") - \$500.00

The Foundation will center the engraving on each stone, and reserves the right to modify engravings to retain uniformity. A confirmation, showing the approved engraving design will be mailed to each contributor with the Foundation tax-exemption number.

Check the appropriate block and place the desired verbiage with each letter/space per line inside the eighteen spaces, (allow for spaces between words) and mail with your check or money order to:

Special Operations Memorial Foundation, PO Box 6696, MacDill AFB, Florida 33608-0696

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Two lines - \$100.00

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Three lines - \$250.00

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Four lines - \$500.00

☐

Did the Honoree serve with SOF? (Y or N) _____ If Yes, with which unit? _____

Name: _____ Telephone: (____) _____ SFA _____ SOA _____ UDT/SEAL _____ RGR _____

Address: _____

MC/Visa #: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Amount: \$ _____

MIKE FORCE STONE DEDICATION CEREMONY

USASOC PLAZA
Fort Bragg, North Carolina
19 June 2002

It's a great privilege to be here today to take part in the dedication of the Mike Force memorial stone -- a tribute not only to the Americans and Australians who led the Mobile Strike Forces, but to those magnificent, loyal, culturally diverse soldiers -- mostly from the ethnic minorities of Vietnam -- that we had the honor of leading into battle. It's a special privilege to be here during the 50th anniversary of Special Forces, in the presence of so many of the original members of SF. And it is great to see the Australians taking part in this dedication, because it's their stone, too, and because the Aussies of the Mike Force distinguished themselves with a degree of leadership and valor that far exceeded their numbers. Incidentally, I'm sure everyone here is aware that American and Australian special forces are again fighting side-by-side as they hunt down and kill our enemies in Afghanistan, writing a glorious new chapter in the history of Special Forces.

Today, we're dedicating a stone to earlier units whose mission was to hunt down and kill the enemies of freedom -- actually, there was seldom a need for the Mike Force to hunt them down, because we already knew where they were -- at places like A Shau, Dak Seang, Duc Lap, Nui Khet, and Lang Vei, they were surrounding the camps, or already in the wire, or inside the camp. It was the mission of the Mike Force to move in, root them out and destroy them, and by God, that's what we did, and did it well. The sad thing is that so many good Mike Force soldiers lost their lives in combat; on the memorial wall over there are the names of at least 157 American Mike Force soldiers. And there were so many good Australians who fell, and thousands - thousands - of Montagnards, Nungs, Cambodes, Chams, and others it was our privilege to lead.

Let me tell you about a few of those Mike Force warriors...

One of the first to fall was a medic named Billie Hall. Sam Carter had taken the newly-formed Mike Force to Camp A Shau to help defend the camp against some 2,000 communists moving into position to overrun it. During the early stages of the attack, Staff Sergeant Hall had both legs blown off. In spite of his critical wounds, he tied tourniquets on his stumps and dragged himself around to treat his wounded comrades. When he was finally carried to the aid point, Hall refused morphine so that he could stay lucid and give instructions for treating the other wounded, which he did until he lost consciousness and died. Hall was awarded a Distinguished Service Cross for his actions, although many of us feel he deserved a Medal of Honor. In the fight at Camp A Shau, by the way, the Mike Force suffered eighty-six percent casualties; every American was wounded at least once, many of them several times, before they had to abandon the place. But not until after they killed thousands of communists.

SFC William Bryant of the 3rd Mobile Strike Force -- the NCO that Bryant Hall is named for -- was awarded the Medal of Honor for counterattacking the three enemy regiments that had surrounded his Mike Force battalion. During thirty-four hours of incessant fighting, in spite of the fact that he was greatly outnumbered, Bryant continued to seize the initiative and hit the enemy at every opportunity. Already severely wounded, he was killed after he fearlessly charged and overran an enemy automatic weapons position.

Brian Buker, one of my own teammates, was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his single-handed attacks, in spite of his wounds, against heavily-fortified enemy bunkers atop Nui Khet, an enemy-infested, rocky mountaintop that we took back from the communists with the IV Corps Mike Force.

Another Mike Force soldier, Jerry Hetzler of II Corps, was twice recommended for the Medal of Honor after he already had one DSC. The last time was at Dak Seang, where both the Pleiku and NhaTrang Mike Forces had gone to keep the camp from being overrun by a couple of NVA divisions. Chuck Randall had left the camp with a platoon to try to get back to his battalion - which, by the way, had gone in to replace a whole South Vietnamese regiment that had been run off by the NVA. Randall got cut off and surrounded, was wounded several times trying to save Tim Drake, the other American with him. Randall, all shot up, would have died that night if Hetzler hadn't taken his company out at night in the jungle, fought his way through the NVA surrounding the camp and rescued Randall, recovered Drake's body, and fought his way back to the camp. Chuck had eighteen holes in his body from bullets and fragments, when I kidnapped him from the hospital, at his request, so he wouldn't be medevaced to Japan.

Hetzler ended up with three Distinguished Service Crosses, but not the Medal of Honor he was twice recommended for and richly deserved.

There were two Australians who were awarded the Victoria Cross, the equivalent of the Medal of Honor, while serving with the Mike Force: Keith Payne in I Corps, and Ray Simpson of the II Corps Mike Force.

We all saw incredible acts of bravery from the indigenous Mike Force troops, too. One of my favorites was a Cham named Khoe. I remember watching him the time Sam Coutts attacked the entire 18B NVA Regiment with one company of Chams, up on the Grand Summit. I was trying my best to melt into the ground and hide behind a two inch sapling, while Khoe was walking up and down the line of his platoon, kicking them and getting them up and into the assault while bullets were knocking leaves and branches off the trees all around him.

There are so many images like that of Mike Force soldiers burned into my mind: Don Poncin running straight into an ambush killing zone to pick up a wounded 'yard before getting knocked down himself by a bullet in the belly. Bud McBroom downtown during Tet, lying in the street with an M-60, trading burst after burst with an NVA machine gunner until he finally killed his foe. Larry O'Neill assaulting into Province headquarters by himself because he was tired of seeing his men killed and wounded.

But there were fun moments, too; drinking *nam pe* with the Yards, singing "Mary Ann Barnes," and "God Bless America," hand grenade fishing during stand down, walking into the Streamer bar, throwing all the money in your pocket on the bar and saying, "Let me know when it's all gone, mama-san." Flying into the III Corps Mike Force FOB after they had captured the biggest weapons cache of the war, where Lee Mize - a Medal of Honor recipient in Korea - finally had to put up a sign that said something like, "General, if you're here to get yourself a souvenir, get your ass back on your helicopter."

But what we remember most are the many battles that the Mike Forces fought, with so much valor, so much heroism, so much sacrifice. The Valorous Unit Citations, and combat parachute assaults. The loss of friends we remember not just as teammates, but as brothers. Frank McNutt, Otis Parker, Joe Zamara, and more than 150 others. I still often wonder how it is that I was allowed the honor of serving with such magnificent men, and not just those who have crossed the final Line of Departure, but those of you here today. We share a sacred bond as Mike Force brothers, and I admire and love every one of you. As we so often said when watching each other head off to another difficult battle, "You sweet mothers... don't you never die!"

Now, let us unveil the Mike Force stone, not only to remind us of those who went before, but to inspire those Special Forces soldiers who will follow in our footsteps... seeking out and killing the oppressors of freedom. God bless the Mike Force, and God Bless America.

Bucky Burriss



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

MEDAL OF HONOR CEREMONIES FOR "ROCKY" VERSACE

After Action Report by Clyde Sincere

Ceremonies for Captain Humbert Roque "Rocky" Versace commenced at 0930 hours, 6 July 2002 with the dedication of the Captain "Rocky" Versace Plaza and Vietnam Veterans Memorial at the Mount Vernon Recreation Center. This memorial consists of three statues - "Rocky" speaking to two Vietnamese children surrounded by a circular cement bench on which the other 65 Alexandria, Virginia men who were lost in Vietnam have their names and a Gold Star for each individual engraved on the back of the bench.

Sunday, 7 July was rather subdued. The U.S. Army hosted a Buffet dinner and reception at 1800 hours in the Presidential Ballroom of the Radisson Hotel in Alexandria.

Monday, 8 July kicked off at 0730 hours with a Buffet breakfast hosted by the U.S. Army at the Radisson Hotel followed by a loading of buses for the White House at 1245 hours. We arrived at the White House at approximately 1330 hours and participated in a White House Reception. At 1500 hours, 225 of us squeezed into the East Room to witness the presentation of the MOH posthumously to Steve Versace on behalf of his brother "Rocky". It was an awesome ceremony and I was extremely pleased to have been invited. Other SOA and/or SFA members present included: LTG Doug Brown, MG Gerry Boykin, MG Ken Bowra, Roger Donlon, John Meloy, Tim Hope, Bobby Seals and Freeman Jones. Freeman, an O-6 and member of Chapter XI, SFA also happened to be one of the senior Army escort officers provided for our group during the various ceremonies. Interestingly, 89 USMA '59 classmates of "Rocky" of the approximately 300 living members who attended West Point participated in all of the ceremonies. The evening of 8 July witnessed another reception hosted by the Under Secretary of the Army Les Brownlee (remember, he was the Guest Speaker at SFA Convention '02 Banquet) and the Vice-Chief of the Army, General John Keane at the Ft. Myer Officer's Club at 1800 hours.

Today, 9 July the Versace Family and a few close friends will be invited to attend a ceremony at the Pentagon Hall of Heroes where "Rocky" will be formally inducted. All in all it will have been a busy four days of honoring an individual who was a true credit to the U.S. Army and our country.

Nick Rowe who was captured with "Rocky" was prominently mentioned in various speeches regarding his testimonials regarding "Rocky's" unbreakable attitude in dealing with his captors. Nick Rowe's wife Susan and their two sons were present as guests of the Versace family.

Clyde Sincere

Check out this web site: http://www.homeofheroes.com/profiles/profiles_versace.html

Bush Awards Medal of Honor to Vietnam War Hero

By Linda D. Kozaryn
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, July 8, 2002 -- Forty years ago, Army Capt. Humbert Roque 'Rocky' Versace wanted to become a priest and work with Vietnamese orphans. He'd been accepted into a seminary, but his dream was not to be fulfilled.

Two weeks before he was due to return home, Versace, 27, was captured on Oct. 29, 1963, by Viet Cong guerrillas who spent the next two years torturing and trying to brainwash him. In return, he mounted four escape attempts, ridiculed his interrogators, swore at them in three languages and confounded them as best he could, according to two U.S. soldiers captured with him.

The witnesses said the unbroken Versace sang "God Bless America" at the top of his lungs the night before he was executed on Sept. 26, 1965. His remains have never been recovered.

Nominations starting in 1969 to award Versace the Medal of Honor failed; he received the Silver Star posthumously instead. Language added by Congress in the 2002 Defense Authorization Act ended the standoff and authorized the award of the nation's highest military decoration for combat valor.

Today, President Bush and the nation recognized Versace for his courage and defiance. Bush said the Army captain was "a soldier's soldier, a West Point graduate, a Green Beret who lived and breathed the code of duty, and honor and country."

"Last Tuesday would have been Rocky's 65th birthday," the president said. "So today, we award Rocky the first Medal of Honor given to an Army POW for actions taken during captivity in Southeast Asia."

"In his defiance and later his death," Bush said, "he set an example of extraordinary dedication that changed the lives of his fellow soldiers who saw it firsthand. His story echoes across the years, reminding us of liberty's high price and of the noble passion that caused one good man to pay that price in full."

Versace's brother Steve accepted the award during a White House ceremony witnessed by family members and many of the friends and supporters who had worked for years to have Versace's Silver Star upgraded.

Versace grew up in Norfolk and Alexandria, Va., and attended Gonzaga College High School. He graduated from West Point in 1959 and became a member of the Ranger Hall of Fame at Fort Benning, Ga., and a member of Army Special Forces.

Bush said a fellow soldier recalled that Versace "was the kind of person you only had to know a few weeks before you felt like you'd known him for years." As an intelligence adviser in the Mekong Delta, he befriended many local citizens. "He had that kind of personality," the president said.

"One of Rocky's superiors said that the term 'gung-ho' fit him perfectly," he noted. "Others remember his strong sense of moral purpose and unbending belief in his principles. As his brother Steve once recalled, if he thought he was right, he was a pain in the neck. If he knew he was right, he was absolutely atrocious."

The Vietnamese tortured prisoners to persuade them to confess to phony crimes. Versace gave only his name, rank and serial number as required by the Geneva Convention. "He cited the treaty chapter and verse over and over again," the president said. "He was fluent in English, French and Vietnamese and would tell his guards to go to hell in all three."

Versace knew what he was doing, Bush said. "By focusing his captors' anger on him, he made life a measure more tolerable for his fellow prisoners, who looked to him as a role model of principled resistance."



FORT MCKINLEY LUZON
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
1936



Dear Jake - Thank
You for the birthday
Card bearing the best
wishes from our Special
Operations Association.
I am and always shall
be very proud and honored
to be included among
You. Bill Harbarough

WILLIAM P. YARBOROUGH
LT. GENERAL U.S.A. (RET.)





SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

Application for Membership



1. Name: _____ Date: ____/____/____
Print or Type: LAST NAME FIRST NAME MI MM/DD/YYYY
2. Address: _____ Apt. # _____
3. City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____ + _____ Phone: () _____ - _____
4. Social Security Number _____ - ____ - ____ Service Number (Prior to 1969): _____
5. E-Mail: _____ @ _____
6. Class of Membership Applied For: General ____ Associate ____ (see types and requirements on reverse of form)
7. If you have applied for a General Membership but the listed duties do not meet the requirements for that class of membership, will you accept an Associate membership? Yes ____ No ____
8. Assignment to Military or Civilian organizations that ***qualify you for membership:***

Unit or Project	Date(s) of Service	Duty	Location

9. Reference (only a **General Member** with personal knowledge of the above can be used as a Reference!):

Name	Unit	Member #

10. I understand that SOA Membership entitles me to the rights and privileges specified in the SOA BY-LAWS. Enclosed is my check or money order for \$25.00, payable to the Special Operations Association, for the first year's dues. To maintain active membership, Annual dues of \$25.00, are due by December 31 of each year. A \$5.00 surcharge is required after 31 January if dues are paid late. Lifetime Membership is available to members in good standing at a cost of \$250.00

Authority for release of information and records:

I hereby authorize release of information and records bearing on my military service to the Special Operations Association. I further affirm that the information submitted on this Special Operations Association membership application form is true, correct, and voluntarily given. *Signature of a witness is required.*

Signature _____ Date _____

Witness _____ Date _____

Mail completed form to:
Ray Chambers
SOA Membership Chairman
437 North 110th Street
Apache Junction, AZ 85220-2216

Membership Criteria

The SOA is a fraternal organization made up of U.S. and allied participants in Special Military Operations conducted in combat area during WW II, the Korean War, the SE Asian conflict and other post Vietnam era conflicts.

Types and requirements of membership

A. General Member

This is a **Voting membership** and the dues are \$25.00 (U.S.), assessed annually.

Requirements

1. The applicant must have been assigned to one of the units recognized by this Association
2. The **ROUTINE** (normal) duty of the applicant while at this assignment **MUST** have placed the applicant in **DIRECT/THREAT/EXPOSURE** to hostile fire.
3. The applicant must be specific concerning dates of assignments and duties performed while at this assignment. This information may be cross-checked with other General Members.
4. The applicant must provide, with his application, copies of government documentation proving unit assignment(s). **The Association is not responsible for obtaining your documentation!** (Requirement **may be waived** if the application includes the name of at least one General Member who can verify the applicant's qualifications.)
5. Allied applicants **MUST** provide sufficient documentation to enable the Membership Committee to evaluate their qualifications. If the Allied applicant is from a country from which it would be impossible to obtain records (i.e., Rhodesia or South Vietnam), they must submit as much background information on their duties, as possible, to the Membership Committee for evaluation.

B. Associate Member

This is a **NON-VOTING** membership and the dues are \$25.00 (US) assessed annually.

Requirements

Government documentation assigning you to one of the units recognized by this association. If your normal duties at the assignment **DID NOT** place you in direct threat or exposure to hostile fire, then you qualify for an Associate Membership.

LIFE STATUS

A one time charge of \$250.00 (US), for both General and Associate members.

GUIDELINES

Definitions of "SPECIAL OPERATIONS" type units.

The unit/project **MUST** be or have been composed of military/paramilitary personnel, organized **SPECIFICALLY** to conduct special/unconventional operations, with a mission of conducting covert and classified combat and/or reconnaissance operations as its **NORMAL** function, within hostile territory and forward of the area of influence of conventional ground support units;

or

with the mission to conduct counter-Terrorist Operations as its **PRIMARY** function;

or

on a **ROUTINE** basis provide **DIRECT** combat support (fire-transport-forward air control) to organizations meeting the above criterion and approved by the Special Operations Association. This definition applies only to those who actually crewed these land, sea, or air weapons or vehicles. *(Because interpretation of "Special Operations" and the above guidelines may be relative to each applicant, the final definitions shall rest with this Association.)*

EXAMPLES OF UNITS RECOGNIZED:

PRE-1954: OSS; 8240TH A.U.; MERRILL'S MARAUDERS; USMC RAIDERS OR SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNITS OF WORLD WAR II OR THE KOREAN WAR.

1954-PRESENT: COMBINED ARM STUDIES; MACV/SOG; B-52; WHITE STAR; PRU; CT; MOBILE STRIKE FORCE; B-56; MOBILE GUERRILLA FORCE; B-50; CIA; SOCPAC; DELTA FORCE; USN SEAL TEAMS; USMC FORCE RECON; USAF AIR COMMANDOS; USA SPECIAL FORCES ON SPECIAL OPERATIONS; OTHER SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNITS INVOLVED IN MIDDLE EAST OPERATIONS; AND OTHER SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNITS.

SENSE OF MEMBERSHIP

This survey is being sent to help the BOD properly frame and define Membership in the Special Operations Association (SOA) for inclusion into the SOA by-laws.

The BOD has worked hard to get a handle on this area and as there are nine members on the BOD there are at least nine views. Therefore, we are going back to the membership with this survey to solicit your input for consideration in an attempt to reach a consensus of what the Association should look like in the future. What should the membership criteria for the SOA be? What categories of membership should there be? Who should be included in what category? The SOA Articles of Incorporation and the Internal Revenue Code stipulate that we are a Fraternal Veterans Organization and in a vote at a GMM, the Membership voted overwhelmingly to remain so. Yet, there are some who would like to allow membership to those outside of these parameters and that is perfectly OK if the Membership indorses the concept and it doesn't undermine the SOA tax exempt status.

Too, the Special Operations concept has changed since Vietnam. In Vietnam, Individuals were sent from their parent units, such as Special Forces, SEAL Teams, and aviation units, to provisional units specifically designed for the purpose of conducting Special Missions/Special Operations. When the special unit, MACVSOG, MIKE Force, or other special unit no longer had the mission or the unit was no longer needed, it was disbanded.

Today, we have the Special Operations Command and all the units assigned are considered Special Operations Units and that includes Psyops and Civil Affairs units. Do we make provisions for inclusion of Psyops and Civil affairs units into the SOA? Do all the members of the Special Forces Groups, a Special Ops unit, meet the requirements of General Membership? What will be the discerning factors that will determine who is a General Member and who is an Associate. What is the difference between an Operational Associate and just a plain old Associate?

Another scenario is the civilian/Law Enforcement organizations conducting counter drug operations outside the United States. If they work those operations in conjunction with Special Operations Units, should they be entitled membership in the SOA? Do the Special Operations Units they work with in those operations meet the criteria?

I had a call from the Douglas County, NV Sheriffs Dept. this week inquiring about one of our members. He had been boasting about his training as a sniper, etc and they were trying to establish if he had ever been in the military, as they could find no DD 214. I called the Membership Chairman and upon examination, found that this individual had been granted membership based on a letter to the then Membership Chairman that although he had never been in the military, he had always been supportive of it and desired to be a member of the SOA. On that basis, he was granted an Associate Membership by the Membership Chairman. A side note, he is being held and

investigated for kidnap and homicide. I have also received letters from General Members who have doubts as to whether they should be members of the SOA based on their service in civilian organizations rather than as a part of the military. They are honest and sincere inquiries by those who were awarded General Membership based on truthful applications and they are in no way fraudulent attempts by wannabes trying to steal unearned honor.

The problem is not individual fault. The problem is the lack of a standard to be used as a yardstick by which to measure the membership applications and the qualifications of those applying. It doesn't call for a headlong rush to judgment or witch-hunt, but a logical, well thought out approach as to where want to go and whom we want on the journey with us. In short, we want your input. And most of all, we want you to be prepared to work toward the solution during the SOAR XXVI GMM.

For Additional Consideration:

The original concept of Special Operations as we associate it to the SOA was linked to UW (OSS) and units that operated in the enemy rear areas (Merrill's Marauders) and evolved, in later years, to programs like the CIDG where civilians defined as "**Paramilitary Forces**" operated outside the parameters of conventional military doctrine in as much as they were oriented less toward offensive operations and more toward internal defense (home village and area defense) and winning the hearts and minds of the people in order to deny support to insurgents. Our present approach is toward the Vietnam era independent units operating unilaterally and with counterparts and attached support units. The majority of the Members of the SOA seemed to indicate a preference for perpetuating the Association into the future and that means accommodation to embrace, at least in part, the present day concept of Special Operations.

Pre 1986/87 Era – Special Units

Special Units

MACVSOG
Mike Force
Mobile Guerilla Forces
B-52 Delta

Air Force

A1E "Sky Raiders"
20th TASS - Covey

Army Fixed Wing

Forward Air Controllers – Attached/Assigned to Special Units
IR Imaging Mohawk aircraft – Call sign Moonbeam or Iron Spud
Radio Research Units (ASA)-Monitoring electronics on the Trail.

Rotary Wing Aircraft – All Services – Attached to Special Units

How to determine "Assigned, Attached, and Rotational" status and participation?

New Era – Post 1986/87 -

Complete Units added or included to Special Operations Since 1986/87.

Special Forces Groups
Civil Affairs/Psyps Battalions
160 Special Operations Aviation Regiment (SOAR) Former TF 160
SEALS-Special Boats Units (SBU), and Naval Special Warfare Units (NSWU)
AF Commandos
Combat Talon AC
C-130- AC/MC
Combat Control Teams - (CCT) – Para-Jumpers- (PJ)
USMC Force Recon presently being integrated into the DOD Special Operations Command.
USMC Units (SOC) (SOC = Special Operations Capable)

Membership Classes

How valid is the current SOA classes of Membership concept?

General Member – On the ground or direct support member of a SO unit.

Associate Member – Non-combat support role member of SO unit.

Operational Associate – On the ground member of SO unit, but does not meet the IRS 501 (c) (19) requirements.

How do we reconcile the current SOA concept of Special Operations with the post 1986/87 Special Operations Command "Team Concept"?

Consider

While we agreed on how to deal with members who were incorrectly allowed to join the association due to unclear documentation of their **GENERAL** or **ASSOCIATE** qualifications, how does the Membership want to deal with those few members who are not qualified either for **GENERAL** or **ASSOCIATE** status, but for what ever reason were allowed into the SOA? While they did not falsify the information on their applications, they were vetted and in many cases have been very supportive of the SOA and its' objectives. Should their membership be terminated? Is their retention as members harmful to or do a disservice to the SOA?

What would be the most appropriate or most adequate vetting process to determine an applicant's qualification for membership in the SOA?

PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN THIS SHEET WITH YOUR ELECTION BALLOT

What do you think?

Again, please return this questionnaire with your election ballot.

Please do not add narrative, as the tally committee cannot translate your specific opinions and views into the tabulations. The membership will have the opportunity to speak to the questions at the General Membership Meeting.

QUESTIONS:

Do we want to continue to actively pursue expansion beyond the Vietnam Era? Y N

Do we need to "**define**" the criteria of Special Operations? Y N

Is there a better way than trying to define Special Operations, such as by unit or case-by-case operations and commitments? Y N

Does the current DOD United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) definition of Special Operations meet SOA needs? Y N

Should Non-DOD/Military Organizations (CIA, DEA, ATF) be included for membership in the SOA? Y N

Should we change our approach for greater inclusion of units and individuals into the SOA? Y N

Are special training or qualifications a Special Operations qualifying factors? Y N

Or, are unit assignment and participation in the conduct of Special Operations the qualifying factors? Y N

Signed Name _____


Membership Number _____



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION MEMORABILIA SALES (SOAMS)

965 No. Grandview
Paulden, AZ 86334
jfhetrick@msn.com

PRICES AS OF JULY 1, 2002

	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>QTY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
RING, SOA Crest (Size _____)			
			
• Sterling Silver	\$175.00	_____	_____
• 10 Carat gold	\$375.00	_____	_____
• 10 Carat Gold w/ .04 Carat Diamond Embellishment around SOA Crest.	\$700.00	_____	_____
<u>Limited to 20 characters of engraving inside ring</u>			
Name _____ SOA # _____			
ADD \$ 10.00 FOR SHIPPING AND INSURANCE !	\$ 10.00	_____	_____
BAG, SOA (Western Pack) W/ Embroidered SOA Logo	\$20.00	_____	_____
BELT BUCKLE, SOA - Brass, w / Prairie Fire "SKULL and DAGGER WINGS" Emblem	\$25.00	_____	_____
BELT BUCKLE, SOA - Brass, w / "SOA Logo"	\$20.00	_____	_____
COIN, SOA, Nickel Plate with Satin Finish (1 3/4" Dia.)	\$10.00	_____	_____
COIN, SOA, Sterling Silver (Old Design)	\$18.00	_____	_____
COIN, SOG PUC - COMMEMORATIVE	\$10.00	_____	_____
CERTIFICATES, SOG PUC - Set of two	\$10.00	_____	_____
DECAL, SOA CREST (Specify: Inside _____ / Outside _____)	\$ 3.00	_____	_____
DECAL, SOA CREST, SMALL (2 x 27/8 In.) Outside Only	\$ 2.00	_____	_____
DENIM SHIRT, Blue, Short Sleeve, W/ SOA Logo (Specify: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____ XXXL _____)	\$34.00	_____	_____
DENIM SHIRT, Blue, Long Sleeve, W/SOA Logo (Specify: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____ XXXL _____)	\$36.00	_____	_____
GOLF SHIRT, Embroidered w/ SOA Logo (Specify : S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____) (Specify : Black _____ White _____)	\$27.00	_____	_____
GOLF SHIRT, Black Forest (Dark Green) w/SOA Logo (Specify : S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____ XXXL _____)	\$25.00	_____	_____
HAT, BASEBALL, BLACK - Direct Embroidered SOA Logo on front and Prairie Fire Wings on Back.	\$12.00	_____	_____
HAT, BLACK BOONY, BLACK - Micro-Fiber with SOA Logo Embroidered on Front.	\$14.00	_____	_____
JACKET, SOA - MEMBER'S ONLY BRAND, Black w/ SOA Logo (Specify S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____ XXXL _____)	\$37.00	_____	_____
MUG, COFFEE - BLACK IRONSTONE - (11 oz) with SOA Crest and Motto.	\$10.00	_____	_____

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



PATCH, BLAZER - Bullion, SOA Crest, 2 1/4" X 4"	\$21.00	_____	_____
PATCH, SOA - SOG Type Crest, Embroidered (2 1/4" X 4 1/4")	\$ 8.00	_____	_____
PATCH, SOA LOGO - (3 1/4" X 3 1/4")	\$ 7.00	_____	_____
PATCH, PRAIRIE FIRE, Gold Embroidery on Black Background	\$ 5.00	_____	_____
PIN, HAT - SOA CREST, Red Background 1 1/4 Inch	\$ 5.00	_____	_____
PIN, LAPEL - Round Pewter, " Life Member "	\$ 3.00	_____	_____
PIN, LAPEL - Round, Gold Plate, " Life Member "	\$ 4.00	_____	_____
PLAQUE, SOA - Walnut, Laser Engraved	\$27.00	_____	_____
TIE, SOA - by Ties of Honor, Long Size with Heritage Label	\$27.00	_____	_____
TIE BAR, SOA - Crest, Enamel w/ Red Background	\$ 4.00	_____	_____
T-SHIRT, SOA - Black (Specify: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___)	\$11.00	_____	_____
BOOK, "MEMORIES OF MAGGIE" by Noonie Fortin	\$16.00	_____	_____
BOOK, "THE GREEN BERETS" by Robin Moore	\$11.00	_____	_____
BOOK, "REFLECTIONS OF A WARRIOR " by Franklin D. Miller	\$28.00	_____	_____

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	OVER \$200.00	\$12.00	TOTAL AMT. _____

ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

NAME: _____ SOA# _____ DATE: ____/____/____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PAYMENT: CHECK/ MONEY ORDER/ CREDIT CARD (US CURRENCY ONLY) PAYABLE TO: SOAMS)

CREDIT CARD SALES INFORMATION :

MASTERCARD _____ VISA _____ DISCOVER _____ AMERICAN EXPRESS _____ (Check One)

CREDIT CARD # : _____ Expiration Date: Month/Year _____

Signature (Name as shown on card) _____

SEND ORDER TO SOAMS ADDRESS AT TOP OF ORDER FORM

1st Special Forces Group (Airborne)
Reunion 2002 Sept 3 - 8, 2002
San Diego, California

HOTEL INFORMATION:

Town & Country
500 Hotel Circle North
San Diego, CA 92108

HOTEL RESERVATION & INFORMATION:

Rates: \$107.00 + 7.75% tax Dbl Occupancy
1-800-77-ATLAS(28527)
ht/www.towncountry.com
Contact: Rebecca Cranor (State 1st SFG Reunion)

REGISTRATION:

Name: _____
Mailing address: _____
SFA# _____ Nr. of Guest(s): _____
Names as desired on ID Badges: _____

REUNION FULL REGISTRATION (All events):

Prior to July 3, 2002: Member + Guest(s) x \$110.00 (ea)
After July 3, 2002: Member + Guest(s) x \$130.00 (ea)
Registration Fees includes; Reception, Hospitality Room, Picnic & Banquet.

GOLF TOURNAMENT:

Contact Ken Moyer at: (760) 630-6261 FEE: \$60.00

LIMITED ATTENDANCE:

Reception only:	Member + Guest(s) x \$60.00
Hospitality Room only:	Member + Guest(s) x \$60.00
Picnic only:	Member + Guest(s) x \$40.00
Banquet only:	Member + Guest(s) x \$60.00
Fishing Trip:	Member + Guest(s) x \$30.00
Harbor Excursion:	Member + Guest(s) x \$25.00

T- Shirt \$15.00 Nr. _____ Size _____

Total Amount: \$ _____

PLEASE MAIL CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:

1st SFG Reunion 2002, PO Box 232376, San Diego, CA. 92193-2376

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

David Ogo	(858) 541-0282	E-mail Kawikasd@aol.com
Ken Moyer	(760) 630-6261	E-mail Ken-moyer@home.com

1st Special Forces Group (Abn) Reunion 2002
Town & Country Hotel
500 Hotel Circle North
San Diego, Ca. 92108
Sep. 3 - 8, 2002

NOTE: Check-in time: 1200hrs. Per Hotel, Sep 3 follows a three day Holiday weekend. Checking-in earlier should not be a problem.

Date	Time	Event	Special Notes
Sep 03 (Tues)	0800-2400	Early Birds Arrival at Hotel	Pick-up Reunion Packet & Registration
<u>Hospitality Room Officially Opens 0800-0200 hrs Daily</u>			
Sep 04 (Wed)	0730-1230	Golf Tourney 1st Flight	Board Bus at Hotel ETD 0645
	1200-1700	Golf Tourney 2d Flight	Board Bus at Hotel ETD 1115
	0800-2400	Late Arrival Registration	
	1900-2400	Barona Casino Tour	Transportation will be provided courtesy Barona Casino. Excellent Buffet and Entertainment (Own expense)
	2100-0130	KARAOKE	Hospitality Room
Sep 05 (Thurs)	0800-2400	Registration	
	0900-1200	Cabrillo National Monument	Board Bus at Hotel 0830
	1345-1545	San Diego Harbor Cruise	Same Bus at National Monument
	1900-2400	Barona Casino Tour	Same as above
	2100-0130	KARAOKE	Hospitality Room
Sep 06 (Fri)	0900-1100	Free Time	
	1200-1600	Picnic	Admiral Bakers Field, Board Bus at Hotel at 1130hrs
	2100-0130	KARAOKE	Hospitality Room
Sep 07 (Sat)	0800-1800	Free Time	Check w/coordinator (Ogo) for activities available, i.e. Old Town Tour/Shopping. Short ride San Diego Trolley from Hotel. (Dinner/Dance) Cash Bar
	1800-0130	BANQUET	
Sep 08 (Sun)	0700-1100	Departure Breakfast Buffet	
	0800-1200	Hotel Check-Out	"LAST CALL" Hospitality Room



5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) Reunion

19 - 22 September 2002

Registration Form



Name	Guest(s)	Names for name tags
Mailing Address	City	State / Zip Code
Home Phone Number	Work Phone Number	Cell Phone Number
Rank (Current/Ret)	Affiliation with 5th SFG(A)	SFA Chapter / Number
Mode of transportation	Expected date of arrival	Email Address

FULL REGISTRATION (All activities)

Prior to 18 August 2002	Registration Fee \$65.00 Per Person	# Attending	Cash	Check	Money Order	Total Full \$
After 18 August 2002 (Late)	Registration Fee \$75.00 Per Person					Total Full Late \$

LIMITED REGISTRATION

Activity	Cost Per Person	# Attending	Cash	Check	Money Order	Total
Organization Day Picnic	\$15.00					
Banquet	\$30.00					
Hospitality Room	\$35.00					
Total:						\$

REUNION T-SHIRTS

Sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXL	# of T-Shirts:	X \$12.00	T-shirt Total: \$
------------------------------	----------------	-----------	-------------------

Grand Total Money Enclosed: \$

- Make all Checks/Money Orders out to: Chapter 38, SFA
- Mail all Registration Forms to: Chapter 38, SFA
Attn: Reunion Registration
PO Box 223
Fort Campbell, KY 42223-0223
- Location: Oak Grove and Fort Campbell, Kentucky.
- Reunion Hotel: Holiday Inn Express, Oak Grove. 12759 Ft. Campbell Blvd. 41-A & I-24 Exit 86
For reservations call (270)439-0022 or 800-301-0200. Be sure to say you are with the 5th Group Reunion to get the special room rate of \$48.00 + Tax. *This rate good until 9 September. After that, regular hotel rates are in effect.
- Registration at hotel. Early Bird Registration on 18 September.
- Schedule of Events to be published when finalized.
- Email questions to: registration@sfa38.org or call (270) 886-2038. Website: www.sfa38.org



★ ★ ★

The 2002 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) Reunion is sponsored by:
Chapter 38, Special Forces Association
LTG William P. Yarborough Chapter

CSM(R) Joseph M. Bossi, Reunion Chairman jbossi@sfa38.org

CSM(R) Clifford H. Barnhill, Assistant Chairman cbspook33@aol.com

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AMOUNT REMITTED: \$ _____ CASH or CHECK # _____

SIGNATURE: _____

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U.S. Army Special Warfare

Its Origins

Revised Edition

Alfred H. Paddock, Jr.

"Paddock's updating of his formidable history on U.S. Army Special Warfare comes as a timely blessing for those who will direct these unique forces in the troubling times Americans now face. More than simply an impressive history, it is also an invaluable guide to understanding the mistakes of the past as well as the promise of the future."

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Special warfare was a key component of American military operations long before Afghanistan and even before the heroic deeds of the Green Berets. Alfred Paddock's revised edition of his classic study—for two decades the definitive word on the subject—honors the fiftieth anniversary of the organizations responsible for Army special warfare, and serves as a timely reminder of the likely role such forces can play in combating threats to American national security.

Based on exhaustive research in formerly classified documents, Paddock examines the U.S. Army's activities in psychological and unconventional warfare during World War II, Korea, and the early Cold War to determine the impetus for, and origins of, the "special warfare" capability established at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He describes the key role

played by Major General Robert A. McClure, the "father of Army special warfare," to convince often reluctant military and civilian leaders to rebuild psychological warfare forces dissipated after World War II and to create

Special Forces—the Army's first formal organization to conduct guerrilla warfare. Paddock also clearly establishes the influence of concepts pioneered by the Office of Strategic Services on the original design of Special Forces.

This revised edition draws on the newly available papers of Major General McClure

and provides additional information on his role as Eisenhower's chief of psychological warfare in North Africa and Europe, his service as chief of information control in occupied Germany, and his assignment as chief of the New York Field Office of the Army's Civil Affairs Division. Paddock also includes new sections on American psychological warfare in the Pacific, the Army Rangers, the 1st Special Service Force, and American-led guerrillas in the Philippines.

In a reflective new epilogue that draws partly upon his own experience, Paddock also provides keen insights into the use of special warfare during Vietnam.

2002 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, and of Special Forces.



U.S. Army

Alfred H. Paddock, Jr., was on active duty in the U.S. Army, 1957–1988, and served three combat tours in Laos and Vietnam with Special Forces. He also was the Director for Psychological Operations, Office of the Secretary of Defense.



University Press of Kansas

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SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION
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Las Vegas, NV 89122-1003

SOA NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2002

In the beginning, the team walked through the gate at Kham Duc and headed for the waiting King Bees. At the pad, we stopped long enough to greet the incoming team and after they emptied their trash out of their rucks, they gave them to us. We stowed our gear and rations in them, made a quick final check, loaded the King Bees, and departed for the AO. As we entered Prairie fire, we picked up Covey with the “Whip”, Paul Darcey, and our accompanying Gunships. It seemed like a pretty good size bunch of people and equipment in that team and as I look back, it was. I didn’t know Cowboy or Mustachio at the time, nor did I know the Air force FAC pilots or the Gunship Crews, but it seemed that they were all friends and they sure were a welcome part of the Team. I can remember too, that we were full of ourselves and cocky and that soon changed. We became wiser.

That one was an easy one, but they weren’t all that way. Sometimes we called for a “Golden Earring” and a lot more friends arrived to join the Team. It seemed like we had everyone, in country and out, helping us out. A1E’s and Fast Movers stacked up, Covey coordinating the show, and helicopter crews risking the worst to recover our tired butts. Sometimes VNAF and sometimes Army, AF, or Marine assets, but they always came and they always gave it their best shot. It was a potent team, our friends, and we really cared for and depended on each other.

I chose to start the Newsletter this way because of a letter from a former 281st Helicopter Pilot and his story about an extraction and the unspoken bond between his crew and the Special Forces folks they picked up. It is an enclosure to this News Letter and is entitled, “Pucker Factor”. I hope you enjoy it and realize that we are still a little bit full of ourselves and many of us have even become legends in our own minds. It’s the pride factor that made us great military organizations then and a great Association now. And at times now, as we did then, we tend to take ourselves too serious.

MID-YEAR BOD MEETING - 2002

This News Letter will deal with some of the topics resolved by the SOA Board of Directors (BOD) and Special Staff at the mid-year BOD meeting. We just concluded the mid-year Board meeting and it was a three day, 9 hours a day affair that even included an old Navy guy. This Board and Staff work well together, but that doesn’t mean that there are not differences of opinion, flaring tempers, varying personality types, and down right disagreements. Never the less, they work hard, accomplish a lot, and are very concerned about the Association and its’ Members. I’m proud to be a part of this team and have the utmost respect for their devotion to the SOA and its’ Members.

Communications:

We decided that our earlier decision to communicate four times a year was overly ambitious and unnecessarily expensive. The three logical times during the year to communicate are with the SOAR Pre-registration Packet (PRP), the SOAR After Action Report (AAR), and the Spring News Letter with the BOD mid-year meeting news. If we have to scrounge up information for another newsletter,



it isn't worth the effort. Our policy is: "If you don't have anything to say, don't say it". The additional newsletter is neither worth the effort nor the cost to print and send out.

Financial Data / SOAMS / Scholarship:

The year 2001 financials were not included in the SOAR XXV AAR so they are included in this publication. They are a little difficult to read and in the coming year we will attempt to revise the format to make it easier to understand. SOAMS had \$49,084.00 in sales and 16,274.00 profit. The BOD assigned \$8,000.00 to the Scholarship fund and the rest goes to the general account to support Association operations. It was also decided to authorize the Scholarship committee to award up to six Scholarships for the coming year, 2003. Scholarships awarded now and in the future will be fully funded at the time they are granted and funds equal to the liability will be set aside to be used exclusively for that purpose. Alan Keller, Scholarship Committee Chair, has asked me to announce that the Scholarship Application found on the Bob Golden net is no longer valid and will be accepted by the Committee. The new application is in greater detail and the Scholarship application process is now more competitive.

Additionally, a long over due budget is in development so the costs of doing business for the SOA can be determined and a forecast of future expenditures projected.

By-laws:

The bylaws were another big topic. We realized that in our haste at the last General Membership Meeting (GMM), we forgot to assign expiration years to the terms of individual directors in order to implement the staggered elections of future Directors. We have affixed terms for the existing directors by using the vote counts of your votes cast in the last election. The Director receiving the most votes serves the longest term and so on. This method assigns the Directors in the following order with expiration years as indicated:

Gene McCarthy	2005
Earl Trabue	2004
Charles Berg	2004
Bob Jack	2003
Cliff Newman (Appointed)	2003

In that the Membership voted this order, we ask that you approve this action at the coming GMM. The Board also discussed the question of the SOA Unit List. The prevailing consensus is that the BOD, upon research and recommendations by the Membership Committee, is in the best position to make an unbiased, well thought out, objective decision as to which units meet the SOA unit requirements. A Member at the last SOAR stated that he felt that many of the Members in attendance at the reunion did not qualify to be members. He may well be correct. If we look at the rolls we see that the SOA has been a conglomeration of Units from the beginning. Jim Butler, Les Chapman, and several others came up with the SOA concept (1971). Jim, considered the founder of the SOA, implemented the idea in December of 1977. Still, it wasn't just a SOG Association and there were members from different units from the beginning. As the association grew we had a succession of Membership Chairman and through the years they added units and approved members as they saw fit. The rationale and



methodology used has been questioned over the years and some of the Chairmen were *Hard Asses*, while others just did what they thought best to insure the future of the SOA. The problem is that there weren't any rules to guide the process and as a result each Chairman did what he thought best and what he felt was within his authority. This came to my attention when a past Chairman told me he had the authority, as the Membership Chairman, to approve any unit he chose. At that point, it dawned on me that we have problem and why it exists. Hetrick didn't decide that he should choose who should be allowed in as some have suggested, but he realized we needed to fix the problem. We need to establish procedures to look at future units for inclusion into the SOA. However, they need to be objective, rational, and out side the realm of emotion and personal likes and dislikes. The current Membership Committee is made up of representatives of all the services and many of the organizations now on the Unit List as well as representatives of some active duty Special Operations Units. There's not much we can do about the past and we shouldn't blame the past Membership Chairmen for acting within what they thought was their mandate. None of these volunteers were provided adequate guidelines by their respective Boards and no one questioned their decisions and actions. Certainly, there was no consistency in the process. At the same time, it is not feasible to start a witch-hunt to track down and purge those who were given membership of the wrong type or never claimed to be more than interested parties who joined because many of their friends were members. It would serve no real purpose.

There is a purpose in establishing a consistent process that brings an orderly approach to examine new units for inclusion into the SOA Unit List. That doesn't mean that every member of a new unit will be eligible. Only those members of a unit who have actively participated in Special Operations as determined by this Association are eligible for membership in the SOA. In the beginning, that meant that those who ran on the ground were entitled to be "General Members" and those in Direct Support Roles, "Associates Members". Those who didn't do one or the other were "Not entitled Membership". Somewhere, we have lost that concept. Or maybe, in my old age, my recollections are failing me.

The indications are that you the members are interested and concerned about the membership problem. Therefore, we will include a Sense of the Membership questionnaire in the coming SOAR XXVI PRP relating to Membership issues. The Board wants to know what you think, but we want all aspects of the issue considered. From the results of the questionnaire, we can all gain some insight and be prepared to discuss it at the SOAR XXVI GMM.

The Membership portion of the SOA bylaws is the only remaining area that really needs attention. We are seriously tired of the hours of pondering and presenting changes to the bylaws and I'm sure you feel the same way. GMM's would be more productive and less aggravating if we could put the bylaws to rest. The fact is, the by-laws are important and they need to be complete and adequate to be an effective tool by which we govern our Association.

Special Forces 50th Anniversary Reunion:

Most of the BOD will be at the Special Forces 50th Anniversary Reunion in Fayetteville this year. In conjunction with the Reunion, the Board supports a SOAMS sales effort, which will be collocated with a Membership table and representative. SOAMS inventory has never been restricted to any one



and it has never been a problem. However, the BOD chose not to offer rings or personalized items for sale to those who are not members. There is a special order MACVSOG PUC shirt available to MACVSOG Veterans. It will be a onetime special order item and will be offered from now until the 31st of July. At the close of the special order period, shirts will be ordered, embroidered as specified by the SOG Veteran, and shipped. Samples will be on display at the SOAMS / Membership tables at the SF 50th Anniversary Reunion. The order blank is an enclosure to this newsletter and will also be available in Fayetteville.

Survivors Planning Guide:

The BOD asked Executive Director Jake Jacobson and Director Charles Berg to put together a Survivors Planning Guide to assist member families in contingency planning for the future. When it is completed, it should provide valuable assistance to every member and family. Upon completion, the Survivors Planning Guide will be distributed by a special mailing.

2002 Nominating Committee:

The following members are the committee staff for 2002.

Clyde Sincere – President Emeritus
John McClaskey – Past President and Director
Pete Buscetto – Member at Large

Committee Chair
Committee Member
Committee Member

Any members desiring to run for office, please notify one of these committee members of their intention. More information is provided in the following segment under Vacancies / Positions.

Vacancies / Positions to be filled:

President / Vice President - If you haven't decided whether or not to run for office, there is still time to throw your hat into the ring for the office of President or Vice President. If you would like to run for one of these offices, please notify a member of the Nominating Committee. You must have attended two of the last three SOARS to be eligible. Please follow up with a bio of 150 words or less and a passport size photo so the membership will get to know a little about you.

SOAMS Custodian – The SOA is in need of a new Custodian for Memorabilia Sales. The current custodian is in the process of consolidating the inventories into a set of standard items, a list of Vendors, an in place accounting system to track costs, inventories, and customers. There is no denying that it is a lot of work and that it takes some of your time (sometimes a lot of your time). There are circumstances requiring extra work, self-sustained expenses, and a sacrifice of personal goals to provide fellow members with the convenience of having goods available at SOARS and other events they attend.

POW / MIA Representative – The SOA is in need of a POW / MIA representative. The person undertaking this responsibility needs to be up to date on POW / MIA issues and willing to research and report to the membership, normally at SOAR, on the issues and current events revolving around the

issue. Norm Doney has been our representative for a number of years and has kept us abreast of the truth surrounding the POW / MIA issue. Norm has our profound respect and appreciation for his dedication to the POW / MIA issue, not only for the SOA, but also especially for his efforts in behalf of those involved in the POW / MIA community.

NOTE: These volunteer positions offer nothing more than a requirement for extra hours of work, dedication, frustration, aggravation, and at times capitulation. On the other there is some satisfaction. If you are willing to act in behalf of those who consider you an entitlement that comes with their membership, please notify any of the Members of the Board by any means available with the information of what position for which you are willing to volunteer and when you are available to start your indentured service.

SOAR XXVI:

The BOD in conjunction with the Reunion Committee, Chaired by Patrick Hephner, has identified some things that will make things run a little smoother at SOAR XXVI.

Guest Speaker – The BOD has invited MG William F. Garrison (Ret), former Commander of Task force Ranger in Mogadishu, Somalia, to be the Guest Speaker for the SOAR XXVI Banquet. General Garrison has accepted, barring any last minute scheduling conflicts. He is at times required to assist in other arenas and they have priority.

Registration - The Registration Area will be located in the area along the main hall outside of the reunion area on the 3rd floor of the Plaza Hotel and Casino. The stations will be organized to facilitate processing. We will provide multiple persons at each station so that more than one person can be processed at one time at each station.

Smoking – There will be a designated no smoking area for those who don't smoke and have difficulty with cigarette smoke for medical or other reasons. The Board requests everyone to please be considerate of your fellow SOA Members and refrain from smoking in the designated no smoking area. Additionally there will be no smoking at the banquet this year. Those needing to smoke, please take advantage of the area immediately outside the banquet area in the large hallway.

Banquet Seating – At SOAR XXVI we will initiate a system to reserve seats for the banquet. If you and your friends would like to reserve a table, you will have the opportunity to stake your claim to an available table at the registration area. The tables will seat ten persons and you will be asked to fill in the names at the time you reserve the seats. The seats are available on a first come first serve basis and blocks of tables may not be reserved. If the system serves us well, we will continue to use it in the ensuing years.

Vendors – In previous years we have allowed all those who wish to participate in the vendor program to do so. Due to larger attendance at SOAR we are running out of room. This year we instituted a moderate price increase, reduced the number of vendors, and changed some of the rules. For vendor information and requirements, contact the Reunion Committee Chairman, Patrick Hephner

General Membership Meeting (GMM) – The SOAR XXVI GMM is scheduled for 1330, Friday the 27th of Sept 2002. We anticipate that most of those attending SOAR will have arrived by that time.



Requests for meeting areas – There are areas of limited size available for meetings. Due to tight schedules, limited space, and a shortage of assets, we are unable to satisfy every request for a separate event. There is adequate space for all in the existing hospitality suite and we have been able to provide the necessary space for the various memorial services and business meetings by matching requirements with available time slots.

Duty Director – At SOAR this year we will have a Director on duty in the Hospitality Suite to assist those members arriving after hours and to help resolve any glitches that may arise. This is another instance where we hope to further facilitate smooth operation.

The James Butler Founder's Award for Achievement – Several years ago a concept came into being to recognize those who have contributed greatly to the founding and developing of the SOA. Certainly, from the beginning and until now, it has been an immense undertaking with a few key players along the way. Those who have participated or been longstanding Members have witnessed the changes, the growth, and the contributions of the few. It gives me great pleasure to announce that the Board of Directors, SOA has established the Founders Award for Achievement to be awarded to those who have attained the level of excellence in achievement in their service to the SOA or in other worthy fields of endeavor as approved by the BOD, SOA.

Someone on the net asked, why do we need to have honorariums? The answer is that we really don't. But then again, is it not fitting to accord respect and appreciation due those who have given of themselves so that the rest of us can come and enjoy the product of their efforts? If it weren't for the efforts of a few, there would be no SOAR where we could meet to drink and reminisce about the times and friends we shared.

Jim Butler led the way when he founded the SOA in December of 1977 and sustained it in the initial years. He was very instrumental in starting our Scholarship Program. He continues to be involved in the Scholarship Program as well as applying his ideas and recommendations on ways to include today's Special Operators into our ranks. Jim's contributions have truly been above and beyond.

Jim, the Board, on behalf of the SOA membership, is pleased to establish the "James E. Butler Founders Award for Achievement" to honor those who, through their tireless efforts and dedication, have unselfishly given of themselves to perpetuate the Special Operations Association and the Special Operations ideals that it embodies. We wish to thank you for your past and continuing contributions as the founder and sustainer of our Association and its' members.

IN MEMORY OF:

Since the publication of the AAR for SOAR XXV we have been informed of the passing of the following members on dates indicated:

John P Roberts SOA # 1227-GL	09 March 2001
Thomas R Matthews SOA # 1644-GA	15 December 2001
Mike Olson SOA # 1480-GL	24 February 2002
Bob Lewelling SOA # 1355-GL	01 April 2002

Scott Lyon SOA # 381-GL

25 April 2002

Memorial obituaries will be published in the Pre-Registration Packet (PRP). If any one can provide details as to the passing of John P. Roberts or Thomas R. Matthews or perhaps furnish obituary information, please forward to Jake Jacobson.

The following non-member deaths have been reported:

Edgar J Albrick

20 February 2002

John C Scagnelli

27 March 2002

Pam Baker

24 April 2002

Again a complete obituary will be included in the PRP.

SICK CALL:

The following SOA Members have been reported as being ill or have under gone surgery:

Mike Stern SOA # 324-GL

Ronald Collingwood SOA # 199-GL

Rudi Cooper SOA # 506-GA

Robert Kingston SOA # 99-GL

Bob Salzman SOA # 2019-GA

Ed Clough SOA # 43-GL

Sending a card, or making a phone call to these members would certainly be appreciated.

REUNIONS:

10th Group Reunion:

The 10th Special Forces Group will be hosting a 50th Anniversary Celebration from **3 June 02 thru 6 June 02**. The Celebration will be held at Fort Carson and Colorado Springs, CO. **POC: LT Sikorsky Tel: (719) 524-1441** or E-mail: OPLAN-50@soc.mil

Special Forces Association:

Chapter I-XVIII will host the Special Forces Association Convention 2002 which will be the 50th Anniversary of Special Forces from **17 June 02 thru 23 June 02**. The convention will be held in Fayetteville and Fort Bragg, NC. Hotel rates will vary. Registration is \$135.00. **POC: SFA Hqs: Tel: 1-(910) 485-5433, Email: sfahq@aol.com.**

The Mike Force Association:

The Mike Force Association will be holding a Reunion in conjunction with the Special Forces Association Convention. **POC: JC Cooper, Mike Force Association, PO Box 207, Autryville, NC 28318, Email: JC13@msn.com.**

Special Operations Forces-Korea (UNPFK/UNPIK):

Special Operations Forces-Korea will also be holding a Mini-Reunion in conjunction with the SFA Convention on the 20th of June 2002. **POC: Bob Dewey Tel: 850-722-8397.**

1st Group Reunion:

Former members of 1st Special Forces Group will be holding their 7th Reunion from **3 Sep 02 thru 8 Sep 02**. The Reunion will be held at the Town and Country Hotel. Tel: 1-(800) 772-8527. Special Room Rate: \$107.00 plus tax. Registration is \$110.00. **POC: David Ogo Tel: (858) 541-0282, E-mail: kawikasd@aol.com or Ken Moyer Tel: (760) 630-6261, E-mail: ken-moyer@home.com.**

5th Group Reunion:

Chapter 38 SFA, in conjunction with the 5th SFG will be hosting a 5th Group Reunion from **18 Sep 02 thru 22 Sep 02**. The Reunion will be held at the Holiday Inn Express in Oak Grove, KY. Tel: 1-(270) 439-0022. Special room rate: \$48 plus tax. Registration is \$65.00. **POC: Joe Bossi, Reunion Chairman, Email at jbossi@commandnet.net, or Karen Stone, Email at kstone@commandnet.net.**

REGARDS TO ALL AND HOPE TO SEE YOU AT FAYETTEVILLE/FORT BRAGG:



Jim Petrick
President, SOA

5 Enclosures: Letter from John Galkiewicz
Letter from Bill Kendall
SOAMS Special Order Form
Income Statement 2001
Balance Sheet 2001

That Thing Called "Pucker Factor"

The 281st had been in Viet Nam from almost day one, as I recall, and all that acquired knowledge was being handed down pilot to pilot. When I got to the 281st, in November of 67, all that flight school cockiness of finally being a "real" pilot was soon humbled out of me. For the first couple of weeks I was passed around from one AC to another until I finally settled in as George Condry's pet pilot. I was amazed at how smooth all the ACs were and the confidence they had. Most of that knowledge was going to be passed along to me but I didn't know that just yet. We all take our turns.

Condry was sharp and always seemed to have a little smirk on his face like he had something planned for me and it was my job to figure it out. He was always planning ahead and didn't mind at all to tell me when I was doing something wrong. The first thing he made me do was to put my seat all the way down and back as far as my legs would allow. I believe he said something to the effect that he didn't want me sticking out like a sore thumb and getting shot at because one of the rounds might hit him. That sure made me feel good.

The next thing he had me change was the way I held the cyclic, he made me put my hand down where the cyclic started making it's curve, just under the grip. In this position my wrist was always on my right thigh and arm and wrist movement was minimized. Need to transmit, just stretch out a finger. That was the secret to his smooth flying. He could make that ship turn in any direction and I swear you couldn't see the cyclic move even a fraction of an inch. Damn he was good.

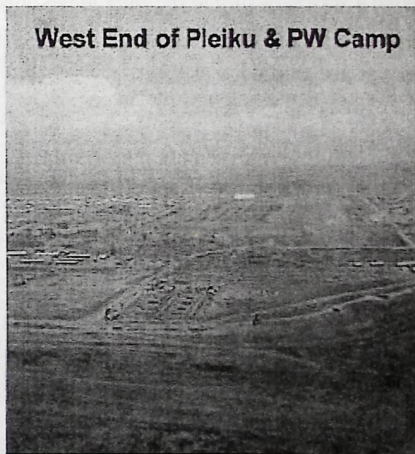
When we had our mission briefings Condry would later take me to the side and give me his version of the briefing. George always planned for a screw up if it could happen and covered himself as best he could. On some missions we would carry less fuel than most and on some more fuel than most. Carrying less fuel on one particular mission saved us from going into the trees and becoming POW's or worse. Like I say, Condry was on top of everything.

On that particular mission we were flying out of the Oasis, just west of Pleiku, and I now had almost 3 months of combat under my belt. I was no longer there just to get the ship back in case the AC got shot, I was in full training mode and Condry was pouring it in as fast as I could absorb it. We were given one of the units "Dog" helicopters, the one some joker had put the Volkswagen engine in. Because of that we were honored with the position of "tail-end-charlie" so we could have the whole landing zone to ourselves. The ARVN we were supporting had come under fire and we were pulling them out. Our planned ACL was 3 ARVN.

When we fueled up Condry stopped us short of what we were told to get. Instead of a 30-45+ minute reserve he had us down to a 20-30 minute reserve at most. When I asked why he said he wanted the extra power and if we ran out we could set down at one of the many other sites along the way and blame it on the gauge.

Condry moseyed us along quite a distance from the rest of the formation. It was a 2 ship LZ and as we lined up for final, everything had gone OK except for the last two ships coming out reporting hearing small arms fire. Condry landed us long and turned to hover back when he said something like "Ah S---". There were the last 3 ARVN and next to them 2 additional American

West End of Pleiku & PW Camp



advisors they failed to mention to anyone.

Condry put our tail as far back into the trees as possible and four scrambled on board while the last one fired into the trees on the left. We let lead know our problem. After the crew chief helped the last one on board he began hosing down the tree line as well as the others on that side of the ship. Our extremely low fuel status had covered us for one extra GI but not the other. We sure couldn't leave him so off we went. We barely made it over the trees with a little bit of a cyclic climb after using as much of the LZ as we could. Our RPM had been pulled off to one RPM above Master Caution. Then I heard those fate-full words; "You Got It".

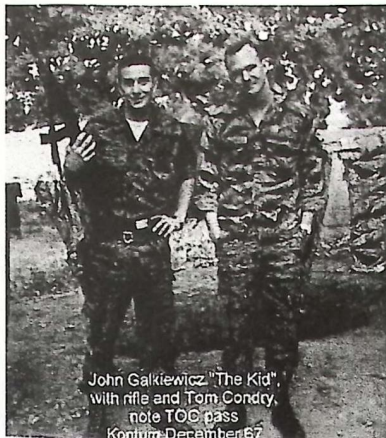
I about died. I thought Condry had been hit. I took the controls as Condry promptly grabbed his carbine and began firing out his window. I couldn't believe he was doing that, and with all that gunfire, communication between us was lost.

I now had in my hands an overloaded ship, pulling max power, that was going in and out of Master Caution and all she could do was 30 knots and a 50 ft a minute climb. She wanted to fly but just couldn't and we were shaking badly. I couldn't nose it over because the skids were about a foot from the treetops and I couldn't go left or right because of the immediate ridges on both sides of us. I couldn't even lower pitch to get back some rpm. All I could do was hold what I had and thank GOD that our 50ft a minute climb matched the slope going up that hill.

When all the shooting stopped Condry heard the Master Caution and immediately took in our situation. I said, "Don't touch a F----- thing". The slightest jar in the controls would have kissed our lift good bye which would have left us hovering, for a second or two, before we went in, it was that tight. All I could do was hold what I had and dip when I could and try to pick up some rpm but it was pretty much all uphill. The skids were picking up leaves and small branches and there was nothing we could do. Ahead of us I could see the slope of the mountain increasing so I started a very slow turn to the right in the hope that we could clear the ridge before the pitch of the mountain got us. Talk about pucker factor!

About this time a few words of encouragement came in from lead. I believe it went something like this, "You guys all right, I can see your rotors". Yea, like we didn't know that already. Lead didn't get an answer because we were a bit preoccupied. Condry knew he couldn't touch the controls but that sure didn't keep him from thinking. I believe it was then that he ordered, via the floor mike, all the ammo cans thrown out. Other than people that was all we could throw out to get lighter. The ridge was closing in fast and it was going to be only inches if we made it at all. All was silent for the next minute or so. The crew knew what was happening and I believe so did our passengers. I wonder how many prayers were said for us by the others watching all this from above?

I know the prayers helped but I still wonder how much of an effect losing those ammo cans had. In any case we cleared the ridge but brushed the trees doing it. I held what I had for another 10 seconds or so then nosed her over, came off power, and got our RPM back. I believe we all



John Galkiewicz, "The Kid",
with rifle and Tom Condry,
note TOC pass
Kontum December 97

heard a little groan from that engine when I brought the power back down for cruise. It sure was nice seeing all those trees WAY down there for a change and to have all that shaking stop.

I said, "you got it" to Condry but he wouldn't take the controls and instead said something to the effect that I was doing just fine and to get us back home. The cockpit was quiet after that and we finally caught up with the rest of the flight just before reaching base.

All in all I believe the whole thing took only 2 or 3 minutes. For the first 30 second, I was the only one in pucker factor mode, after that Condry came on line and the additional suction helped. To us, it was an eternity.

Condry made three choices that day that probably account for the fact that I am still here to write about all this. The first was planning ahead and going light on the

fuel. The second was instantly sizing up the situation and not grabbing the controls. The third was getting rid of those ammo cans and not just sitting there waiting for the inevitable.

After we shut down Condry told me I did a nice job. In doing so he still had that little smirk of confidence he always seemed to have but I believe I detected a little gleam in his eye too. I don't believe that gleam was for me. I believe it was for himself for having taught me well enough to do what I had just done. At least some of what he was trying to teach was sinking in and it just got us out of a mighty tight spot.

One other thing, while we were shutting down, one of the two Green Berets that we had pulled out of there waited by the ship until we shut down. He then came over and told us he had flown with us enough to know that we were in trouble with the overweight condition. He said as soon as he saw that single ship come in by itself, he knew someone had counted wrong and getting out would be a problem. Because the LZ had gone "hot", he knew he couldn't stay but figured that if need be, he would jump out, if the ship was about to go into the trees, in order to save the others. That man was a "professional" soldier and is the basis for why we were so proud to work with the 5th Special Forces (Green Beret). They were all like that.

Condry died over there after going into guns for some excitement and having an RPG come up and hit the nose of his right, fully loaded, rocket pod, so I'm told. Back then I couldn't understand why it seemed just the best were always taken. There were a couple of pilots I would have gladly substituted for Condry or McCoig. I have matured quite a bit since then and now things are all coming together it seems. I believe Condry's purpose in life was to nudge others, such as myself, in the direction we needed to be nudged in order to do what we have to do. Just as I'm nudging my 9 year old son now, so Condry nudged me. With his job done he was called to another assignment. That's the best I can explain it for now. More on Condry a little later.

The End

SUBJECT: Medal of Honor FLAG

Jim:

In my previous correspondence I failed to inform you about a special project that I have been working on for many months.

We have a MOH winner here in our community of Jefferson, Iowa. Several years' back we were able to get the MOH granite memorial from the air base in German moved to our community. His name is Darrell R Lindsey. I have by working through the flag company located in NC been able to have approved and made, a Medal of Honor flag (5ft X 8ft), that will be dedicated to Capt ain Darrell R Lindsey on Memorial Day of this year. We are erecting a special flagpole for this purpose at both his memorial which is located on the lawn of our courthouse and also at the local cemetery. The large MOH flag will be flown only on Memorial Day, Veterans Day and Flag Day at the cemetery. The smaller version of the MOH flag (3ft X 5ft) will be flown 24 hours a day with Captain Darrell R Lindsey's American flag on the pole located on the court house lawn. Just thought you might be interested in this. They may be others that would want to erect a special pole for other MOH winners and fly this flag in their memory. I will be more than glad to furnish the information on this flag to anyone that may be interested.

This will be the first Medal of Honor Flag made and flown in memory of a MOH recipient in the United States according to the flag company that approved it and made it. Let me know.

Bill Kendall 1354 GA

Enclosure 2



**SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION
MEMORABILIA SALES
965 N. Grandview Rd.
Paulden, AZ 86334**



MACVSOG PUC SPECIAL ORDER SHIRT

IMPORTANT NOTE: OFFER GOOD UNTIL JULY 31, 2002 AT WHICH TIME THE
OFFER WILL BE VOID AND THE SHIRTS ORDERED.

SHIRT: Coosa County Denim – Long or Short Sleeve - Like the SOAMS Denim Shirts.

Made in U.S.A.

Embroidery – MACVSOG Logo plus additional names

Examples: RECON
CCC /CCN / CCS
FOB # 1 / 2 / 3 / 4
Cliff Newman
RT Hawaii (HALO)

Colors: **Short Sleeve: Blue Denim / Khaki / Natural**

Long Sleeve: Blue Denim / Hunter Green / Onyx (Black) / Natural / Khaki / Salmon?

Cost: Depends on quantity ordered
Additional Embroidery

Approximately \$38.00
\$ 6.00

ORDER

QUANTITY: _____

SIZES: _____

COLORS: _____

SLEEVE STYLE: LONG _____ SHORT _____

Embroidery Instructions: _____

TOTALS: _____ X \$38.00

ADDITIONAL EMBROIDERY

SHIPPING (Priority Mail/Insured)

\$7.00

TOTAL COST: _____

Special Operations Association
Income Statement
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2001

	Year to Date
Revenues	
Annual Membership Dues	26,618.84
Life Membership Dues	14,745.00
Contributions - General	475.00
Contributions - Scholarship	39,154.50
Las Vegas Quick Draw Income	284.75
Interest Income - General	5,485.48
SOAR Registration	72,413.00
SOAR Raffle Ticket Sales	28,124.00
SOAR Vendors	1,875.00
America Remembers Pistol	1,038.77
Miscellaneous Income	2,754.05
SOAMS Sales	49,084.00
SOAMS Reimbursement	<215.86>
Total Revenues	241,836.53
Cost of Sales	
SOAMS Cost of Sales	24,377.29
Cost of Sales - Freight	734.49
Total Cost of Sales	25,111.78
Gross Profit	216,724.75
Expenses	
Accounting Expense	1,380.00
Bank Card Processing Fees	1,188.09
Bank Return Item Expense	8,742.33
Bank Service Charges Expense	2,322.56
Bookkeeping Expense	2,207.80
Contributions Expense	2,000.00
Executive Director Expense	17,431.80
Equipment Rental Expense	210.00
Grant Expense	5,000.00
Insurance - Liability	3,167.47
Insurance - Security Bond	251.00
Legal Expense	450.00
Misc Supplies Expense	100.00
Meetings Expense	264.32
Memorial Flowers Expense	112.00
Memorial - Bereavement Cards	4.11
Office Equipment Expense	227.09
Office Supplies Expense	1,710.12
Other Expense	1,619.25
Postage - Forwarding	210.00
Postage - General	5,312.18

Enclosure 4

Special Operations Association
Income Statement
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2001

Postage - Newsletter	197.52
Postage - SOAMS	2,703.84
Postage - SOAR	1,630.23
Printing - General	10,627.45
Printing - Newsletter	376.00
Printing - SOAMS	742.13
Printing - SOAR	12,331.00
Rent Expense	300.00
Secretarial Expenses	2,060.00
Scholarship Fund - RAFFLE	500.00
SOAMS Misc Sales Expense	4,006.32
SOAMS Shipping & Handling Exp	29.64
SOAR Guard/Hostess Expense	1,180.00
SOAR Hotel/Catering Expense	45,344.61
SOAR PRP Expense	72.03
SOAR Registration Gift Exp	18,370.29
SOAR Registration Refunds	3,665.00
SOAR Supplies & Expenses	2,485.65
Storage Rental Expense	528.44
Supplies Expense	2,661.37
Telephone - Fax Line	129.59
Telephone - Internet & Website	377.58
Telephone - Voice Line	1,718.18
Telephone - Cellular	98.22
Travel Expense	10,391.22
Uncategorized Expense	1,775.00
	<hr/>
Total Expenses	178,211.43
	<hr/>
Net Income	38,513.32
	<hr/> <hr/>

**Special Operations Association
Balance Sheet
December 31, 2001**

ASSETS		
Current Assets		
SOAMS Checking	4,477.65	
Merrill Lynch CD's	104,609.00	
Administrator Checking	1,352.66	
Merrill Lynch Mgt Account	89,001.03	
Total Current Assets		199,440.34
Property and Equipment		
Equipment	1,769.77	
Accum. Depreciation-Equip	<807.54>	
Total Property and Equipment		962.23
Other Assets		
Ex Dir Operating Account	1,050.40	
Inventory-SOAMS	23,340.98	
Total Other Assets		24,391.38
Total Assets		<u>224,793.95</u>
LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL		
Current Liabilities		
Total Current Liabilities		0.00
Long-Term Liabilities		
Scholarship Awards Payable	50,000.00	
Total Long-Term Liabilities		<u>50,000.00</u>
Total Liabilities		50,000.00
Capital		
Beginning Balance Equity	86,745.02	
Retained Earnings	49,535.61	
Net Income	38,513.32	
Total Capital		<u>174,793.95</u>
Total Liabilities & Capital		<u>224,793.95</u>



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION
965 N. Grandview Road
Paulden, AZ 86334

Subject: IRC 501(c)(19) Statute

Gentlemen,

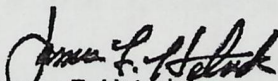
At SOAR XXIV the membership voted overwhelmingly to keep our Association as a Veterans Organization under IRC 501(c)(19) which it has been since its inception as specified in a letter from the IRS dated December 2, 1982. At SOAR XXV I told you that due to the overwhelming vote at SOAR XXIV on this matter I saw no reason to bring it up again. The applause for this remark indicated that, at that time, I was correct.

However, we have an administrative task to perform to put this whole matter to bed. When we were chartered as a corporation in the State of Texas on September 25, 1991, even though the Federal Government through the IRS had declared us to be a IRC 501(c)(19) organization the Secretary of State of Texas was erroneously requested to, and did issue, our Articles of Incorporation as a IRC 501 (c)(3) organization. Later the Comptroller of the State of Texas was requested to, and did issue, on July 21, 1993 a letter granting our Association an exemption from the State of Texas franchise and sales taxes as an IRC 501(c)(19) organization.

It is the opinion of the Board of Directors that all elements, the IRS, the Texas Secretary of State and the Texas Comptroller should be in sync and that we should be recognized as the same type of organization by all three entities. The ultimate legal authority, the IRS, has already ruled that we are an IRC 501(c)(19) organization and you the members have overwhelmingly stated that you wanted the Association to stay this way. Therefore, in order to correct our Articles of Incorporation in the State of Texas, we need to amend the articles by passing a resolution to that effect by a two thirds majority at a general membership meeting with due notice to the membership that this will be an item of business to be voted on. This letter and the attached recommended resolution is your due notice on this matter.

It is too bad that we just can't write a letter to the Texas Secretary of State and ask that due to the IRS ruling that the Articles of Incorporation be changed. However, when we requested guidance from the Secretary of State on this matter, our answer was to go this route.

Your support in this administrative matter is requested.


James F. Hetrick
President, SOA

RESOLUTION

- Whereas: The Internal Revenue Service of the United States has recognized The Special Operations Association as an IRC 501(c)(19) organization, and
- Whereas: The comptroller of the State of Texas has granted The Special Operations Association exemption of Texas state and local sales tax and the state franchise tax as a IRC 501 (c)(19) organization, and
- Whereas: The Articles of Incorporation of the Special Operations Association, Inc. erroneously states that the Association was organized for the purposes of an IRC 501 (c)(3) organization, and
- Whereas: In order to correct the error in the Articles of Incorporation is to amend said Articles,

Therefore be it resolved that: Article Four paragraph (g) be amended by striking out the entire Paragraph Four (g) and substitute therefore the following new Paragraph Four (g).

(g) To be a source of inspiration for all Special Operations Units.

The general purpose or purposes for which this corporation is organized are to receive and maintain a fund or funds of real or personal property, or both, and subject to the provisions of IRC 501 (c)(19) and the restrictions and limitations hereinafter set forth, to use and apply the whole or any part of the income therefrom and the principal thereof exclusively to:

- (1) Promote the social welfare of the community as defined in U.S. Treas. Reg. Sec 1.501(c)(4)-1(a)(2)
- (2) Assist disabled and needy war veterans and members of the United States Armed Forces and their dependents, and widows and orphans of deceased veterans,
- (3) Provide entertainment, care, and assistance to hospitalized veterans or members of the Armed Forces of the United States,
- (4) Carry on programs to perpetuate the memory of deceased veterans and members of the Armed Forces and to comfort their survivors,
- (5) Conduct programs for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes,
- (6) Sponsor or participate in activities of a patriotic nature,
- (7) Provide social and recreational activities for the association members,
- (8) Carry out other actions that might also be authorized by IRC 501 (c)(19) or its successors.

No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to its directors, 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.

No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Articles, the Corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under IRC 501 (c)(19) or corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Code.

Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making payment of all of the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the Corporation exclusively for one or more of the eight general purposes listed above in this paragraph Four (g) as authorized for the application of income and principal in accordance with IRC 501(c)(19) or any succeeding Internal Revenue Code. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the District Court in the county in which the principal office of the Corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Further:

Whereas: The proper title for the governing board of this corporation is Board of Directors and the current Article Six of the Articles of Incorporation calls it a Board of Trustees,

Therefore be it further resolved that: The current Article Six of the Articles of Incorporation be

ARTICLE SIX

All powers of the Corporation shall be vested in a Board of Directors and all manners pertaining to internal affairs of the Corporation shall be governed by the By laws of the Corporation, so long as such By laws are not inconsistent with these Articles or any law of the State of Texas.

The above Resolution, making two amendments to The Articles of Incorporation, with proper notice given beforehand, was voted on and passed by a two thirds majority at the annual general membership meeting held on Friday, 27 September 2001

Attest:

Secretary

President

THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

SOAR XXVI

SEPTEMBER 25-29 2002

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

FOR MEMBERS ONLY

AFTER ACTION REPORT



"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."

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 XXVI AAR. Advertisements for products or services do not necessarily constitute an endorsement by the Special Operations Association.”

Photo front cover left to right:

**Jim Hetrick, President
Jim Butler, Founder
MG William Garrison, Guest Speaker
Clyde Sincere, President Emeritus
Jake Jacobson, Executive Director**



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

965 N. Grandview Rd.
Paulden, AZ 86334
Tel/Fax (928) 636-4121

Gentlemen:

January 1, 2003

This years AAR letter will be easy to write and will be short, too. SOAR XXVI was the smoothest SOAR we've ever had and much of the business of the past several years is completed. The planning and effort done by the Reunion Chairman, Patrick Hephner, his committee, and the Board of Directors prior to SOAR XXVI paid off in a big way. There were a lot of changes for the better. We're looking forward to an even smoother operation and another short General Membership Meeting next year.

There were several difficult situations during and after our reunion this year. Ray Flaherty became ill and Al Davis sustained a severe injury. We were fortunate to have Duane Vierk remain on site after the reunion and look after Ray and keep us updated on Al as well. I spoke with Ray after he arrived home and he is doing well at last report. I understand that Al is back in Michigan also. My personal thanks to Duane for supporting Ray and Al and keeping us up to date on the situation. "Thanks, Duane for caring enough to support friends and fellow Members". "A tip of the Beret" also goes out to CSMA (Ret) George Dunaway and Chapter LI, SFA in Las Vegas for their support of Duane in his efforts.

We are a diverse group and this year Robert Brown, A dog handler from the 173rd Inf. Brigade, who, with his German Shepherd Scout Dog Budda, ran operations out of FOB #2 in 1967, made the trek to the reunion. Those of us who know Bob were delighted to see him again and talk about the good old days. Bob is now an Ink Sketch Artist and his sketch of himself and Budda along with an account of his recollections of the time he spent at Kontum are included as part of the AAR. We hope you enjoy them.

Membership Bylaws Committee: The Membership Bylaws Committee is presently working toward a strategy and procedure for inclusion of qualifying members of today's Special Operations Community into the SOA. There has been some confusion as to what the committee was mandated to do. I can only say that it was not mandated to change the basic criteria for General and Associate membership nor was it intended to reengineer the SOA. This task is not as simple as it may seem at first glance. Some of the basic questions are:

1. What units in the Special operations Community of today should be considered for membership in the SOA? (Should it include Psyops and Civil Affairs units?)
2. How do we define which operations meet what we consider Special Operations? (We're not there and most are probably classified)
3. Who will we have to certify that those from active duty units applying for membership meet the requirements for membership in the SOA? (Who is in the position to know, and will active duty personnel be willing to take on the additional task of doing it? How will we implement a program that will maintain our standards when we are not in the position to know the details or have the knowledge necessary to confirm or refute a certification?)



These questions have no easy answers or solutions. And, too, they are not the only questions. As we pursue the solutions, more questions arise. The committee has a difficult task just to get recommendations prepared for presentation at the SOAR XXVII General Membership Meeting. I urge the Committee Members to be patient and to just keep working toward the solution.

SOA Chaplain: Ed Lesense #614GL requested that the Board create a SOA Chaplain position as part of the Special Staff and it was approved. A Chaplain will be appointed at the mid-year Directors meeting each year for a one-year tenure. Anyone desiring to serve as the SOA Chaplain for the coming year and SOAR XXVII, please notify the SOA Executive Director Jake Jacobson prior to April 30, 2003.

The role of the SOA Chaplain will be defined during this first year and your comments are welcome.

POW/MIA: I would like to recognize and thank Norm Doney #665GL for his contribution to the SOA, not only for SOAR XXVI, but also for years of hard work as our POW/MIA representative. Of course, the POW/MIA presentations he has given at the SOARS are minor in comparison to the tremendous work he has done in effort to get accountability for those left behind in Vietnam. Norm has provided an invaluable service not only to the SOA, but especially to those who have loved ones unaccounted for. Although Norm has declined to continue as the SOA POW/MIA representative, he was gracious enough to provide the presentation at SOAR XXVI. Thanks again, Norm for stepping forward one more time. It is an area of great interest to our Members and we have come to depend on you. Anyone who would like to assume the role of SOA POW/MIA Representative, please contact the SOA Executive Director Jake Jacobson.

MONTAGNARD Resettlement: The recent Montagnard resettlement is not quite completed, but an update is in order. The SFA, SFA Chapter 57, and STMP working together with their members and other organizations, the SOA included, across the country have resettled 850 Montagnards with some 135 remaining in Cambodia pending FBI investigations. This resettlement has been a huge undertaking considering all that was done to not only get them here, but to put them into homes complete with furniture, utensils, food, clothing, and even toys for the kids. And it didn't stop there. The effort extends to on going English training, jobs hunts, and transportation too. What an effort. Those involved can be proud and are due a hearty thanks from all of us. Congratulations and thanks for a super human effort.

SOA Video Game: We have been working on the development of a SOA video game and hope to have it completed by SOAR XXVII. It may not happen by then, but the long-range outlook could very well mean financial stability for our Association. Progress continues.

SOA Ring: The ring that was presented at SOAR XXVI was well received, but the SOA Board felt the SOA logo was a bit small and that the sides needed to be redesigned to better accommodate unit insignias the members choose to have on their ring. The Jewelry Company opted to redesign the ring to provide a higher quality product. We will send a picture of the new design in the PRP.

SOA Beer Stein: The SOA Stein was redesigned to make the logo larger. We are waiting for the sample of the new design now. We will attempt to make a photo of it for the PRP. Those who ordered a stein, please be patient. I haven't forgotten and it will be sent as soon as they are received.

Range Firing: The range-firing proposition is proving to be a greater task than anticipated. The BOD discussed the issue and decided we needed an adequate range facility and liability insurance



to protect the Association in the event of an accident. Although we have discussed the situation with the NRA endorsed insurance provider, they do not cover events such as ours. We'll keep looking and report again in the PRP.

SOG Shirt: At the outset, I thought the SOG PUC shirt would be a simple and easy project. As it went along, it proved to be something else. The shirt manufacturer put us on a low priority so we didn't get the colors in the sizes that we requested and then some of the orders were changed, compounding the size and color situation. There were many telephone calls made only to find that the phone numbers in the directory were not up to date. The outcome was the sending, in the blind, some short sleeve shirt orders that were filled with long sleeve shirts and orders in colors other than were ordered. So far, there have only been minor problems. Some one wrote that if I were going to order more SOG shirts to let him know as he wanted to order some more. I don't think that will happen, but I do have some left over after all the changes. Let me know if you're interested in additional shirts. The additional embroidery is no longer available.

The Really Important Stuff:

Elections 2003: It goes without saying that our Association will not remain the top-notch organization that it is unless Members step forward to participate in the governing and day-to-day operations that make it all happen. It is not enough for a few to continue to hold BOD positions year in and year out. We need fresh ideas and renewed enthusiasm and that only happens when new people step forward. This year we will elect a Secretary and two Directors and I can't emphasize enough that we need you to step forward to take an active role in the Special Operations Association. It is your Association. Please consider running to fill one of the open positions. The Association needs you. There is an election fact sheet enclosed in this AAR.

Volunteers: The search for volunteers is an on going process and it never ends. The Committee Chairmen are volunteers, as are the members of the committees, and all those who willingly assist during SOAR at Memorabilia Sales, Registration, the Hospitality Room, and all the various presentations that are given for the benefit of the Membership. Normally I write letters to those who volunteer to carry the load. They make the difference between the so-so reunion and the reunion that our Members tell others about. The comments most often heard at other conventions are, "Come to SOAR, the SOA does it right", or "If I can only attend one reunion, I'll go to SOAR". We, as the Officers, Directors, and Special Staff are proud of those accolades, but a great reunion doesn't just happen, that's why I chose to thank the volunteers in this letter this year. I want everyone to know who makes the difference.

Patrick Hephner, under the auspices of the BOD, does most of the planning and coordination for the SOAR. During SOAR, he is continuously on the go; attending to the myriad of details so that nothing falls through the cracks. The Treasurer, Rick Grabianowski, has been his primary assistant and the members of the BOD and Special staff lend a hand in preparation and set up at SOAR. That's just part of being a Director or being on the Special Staff, but it is a lot of work.

The real workers are the volunteers. Bill Garcia #1052GL, his son, Greg Garcia, a Guest, and Richard Simpkins #1027GL are always around the bar making sure that it is well stocked and that we don't run out of anything. The bar and hospitality room are a major part of the operation and get



bigger every year. They volunteer year after year, and along with Bob Golden #1282GL, David "Doc" Mohler #1146AL, Larry Spitler #1847GA, Dan Junevics #867GL, Leonard Mollica #48GA, and Michael Christensen #1983GA, haul ice, beer, booze, and make sure that the operation runs smoothly, providing assistance wherever and whenever needed. The volunteer's work their butts off so that those attending SOAR only need walk up to the bar, ask, and receive. If you have the opportunity, offer thanks in appreciation or ask how you can help. A few more volunteers would help lighten the load.

SOAMS is staffed completely by volunteers. I have been very fortunate that Donna Hephner, Patrick's other half, has taken over Memorabilia Sales at the Reunion and she has done a magnificent job of setting up the sales area and organizing those who lend a hand. Laf Keaton #1168GL volunteers every year and Chester Howard #1609GL and Bill Dadek #1830GA provided assistance this year, but the bulk of the staffing was done by Member wives who volunteered. A special thanks to Theresa Paddock, Betty Trabue, Helga Garcia, Annette Davis, Dee Chambers, Betty Smith, and Betty Tilley for their unselfish support of the Memorabilia Sales effort. These volunteers are the real reason the SOAMS effort is so successful.

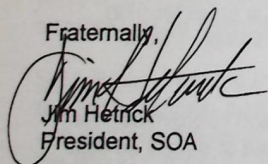
Every contribution, large or small, is appreciated and SOAR couldn't happen without it. And so, this year, I want to thank everyone who volunteered, everyone who contributed their time and effort, and who were considerate enough to give a little of themselves to help make SOAR XXVI an overwhelming success.

On behalf of the Officers, Directors, and Membership of the Special Operations Association,

"THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP AND FOR A JOB WELL DONE"

In closing, I would like to say that the Officers, Directors, and Special Staff hope your Christmas and New Year were joyous and that the coming year will bring you good health, happiness, and prosperity. We will continue to serve you honestly and faithfully as we invite you to participate in any way you can. Your participation and comments are welcome and appreciated. We hope to see you at SOAR XXVII.

Fraternaly,



Jim Hetrick
President, SOA



SOA ODDS AND ENDS

IN MEMORY OF – TAPS: Again it is with deep regrets that the SOA Board announces to the membership that twelve members have passed away since the last reported losses were reflected in the SOAR XXVI PRP.

BERTRAM “BIRTI” E. FRYE SOA # 247-GL SGM, retired, passed away on July 18, 2002 at his home in Fayetteville. He had served in the military for 28 years and was veteran of both the Korean War and the Vietnam War. During the Vietnam War he served on "White Star" 1959-1962 and II Corps Mike Force 1968-1970. He also had been a member of 77th, 1st, 7th, 8th, 6th and 5th SFGA. Berti Frye is survived by his wife Elaine of Supply, NC; a daughter Ruth Murray of San Marcos, CA; two stepsons, Shawn Marks of Fayetteville, NC and David Shearin of Raleigh, NC; a stepdaughter, Connie Marks of Supply, NC; five brothers, Bernard Frye of Los Angeles, CA, Milton Frye, Lawrence Frye and Daniel Frye, all of Falmouth, MA and Curtis Frye of Mashpee, MA; three sisters, Lora Andrade of Pocasset, MA, Doris Middleton and Ruth Lewis, both of Mashpee, MA; and two grandchildren.

EDDIE L. BENNETT SOA # 1874-GA SFC, was found dead in his home on 18 July 2002. Eddie had served two tours with the 5th Group in Vietnam, one of which was with CCC. He also had tours of duty with the 3rd, 10th and 7th Group and Det A. He was the recipient of many awards to include the Bronze Star and Combat Infantryman Badge. Eddie is survived by his wife Michelle Bennett of Phoenix, Arizona.

NATHAN “NAT” WOO YOUNG SOA # 1931-GA 73, passed away August 3, 2002. Mr Young attended Allen Military Academy in Bryan, and became a Golden Gloves Champion while still in High School. He was founder of the KWVA - Texas Lone Star Chapter, a member of Special Forces Association - Chapter 39, the DVA, and the Special Operations Association. He served with the 8240th AU, UNPIK during the Korean War being a recipient of the Purple Heart. Mr Young was a member of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity. He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Jeanette Young; children, Sam Porcarello and wife Kay, Tony Porcarello and wife Charley, Nathan Young and wife Sherry, Stephanie Young, and Michael Dreier; twelve grandchildren; brother, Victor Young; niece, Stacey Riggs; nephew, Christopher Young; two great nieces and one great nephew.

ROBERT P. SALZMAN SOA # 2019-GA MAJ, retired, died Oct. 5, 2002, at his home in Merritt Island, Fla., after a long and courageous battle with cancer. He was 72. The only child of Herman and Heliesse Salzman, Bob was born on a farm in Hay River, Wisconsin, on Nov. 9, 1929. At 17, he began a 22-year military career as an enlisted man in the Army Field Artillery. After assignments to military bases in the United States and Japan, he served a tour of duty on the battlefields of Korea with the 7th Ranger Company. He later was accepted to Officer Candidate School in Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and was commissioned as an artillery officer in 1957.

Five years later, in 1962, Bob became a member of an elite fighting force mobilized by President John F. Kennedy for military operations in Southeast Asia — the U.S. Army Special Forces. He served four tours of duty in Vietnam, and participated in numerous special operations. Bob was cited many times for his bravery on the battlefield. His military decorations include a Bronze Star with two oak leaf clusters, Combat Infantry Badge, two Purple Hearts for wounds received in Korea and Vietnam, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, Korean Service Medal with five bronze stars, United Nations Offensive Medal, Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, National Defense Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters, and many others. Between tours in Vietnam, Bob met his wife Carol while assigned to Fort Sill. They shared the next 34 years of their lives, and she was at his side when he left this world for his next assignment. After retiring from the Army in 1968, Bob began a 13-year career in marine sales and service in Miami, becoming a certified OMC mechanic. After moving to Merritt Island in 1982, he launched a 20-year career in real estate with Daignault Realty. Bob was most proud of his years in military service to his country. He was a member of the Special Operations Association and was active for three decades in local and national chapters of the Special Forces Association, serving as president of Chapter 21 half a dozen times over the years. He also was a member of the Retired Officers Association and the Military Order of World Wars. Today he is with legions of friends and comrades in whatever Valhalla is reserved for such warriors of great courage. He is survived by his wife, Carol, of the home; a daughter, Christi Koz of Saratoga, Calif.; two granddaughters, Carley and Grace of Saratoga; father-in-law Henry Tuell, and mother-in-law Eunice Tuell, both of Duncan, Okla.; sister-in-law Vicki (David) Lynch, of Duncan; brothers-in-law Hank (Linda) Tuell of Red Lodge, MT., and Tom (Kathy) Tuell of Marathon, FL.

ALEXANDER MCCOLL SOA # 224-GA COL, retired, died October 23, 2002. Alexander McCalmont Stone McColl was born in Kalamazoo, MI, in 1934. He received a B.A. from Harvard University in 1952. He enlisted in the Army in 1953, was commissioned in 1955, and served as a special agent in the Counter-Intelligence Corp, stationed in France. He returned to Harvard Law School in 1957, where he earned his LL.B Degree in 1960. He practiced law in 2 states (Washington State and Michigan) until 1963, when he returned to active duty in the Army, remaining on active duty until October 1970. This tour in the Army included service in Germany, Texas, Kentucky, and 30 months in Vietnam. During his first tour in Vietnam (August 1964 to August 1965) McColl was a Special Security Officer in the J2 (intelligence) Section Hqs., MACV, and later in Studies and Observations Group (MACSOG). Between tours in Vietnam he was stationed at Fort Hood, TX, mainly as commanding officer B Company, 2nd Bn., 66th Armor. During his second tour in Vietnam (April 1967 to November 1968) McColl served as District Senior Advisor Dong Xuan District, Phu Yen Province, a remote and insecure area, and then with OP-35 in MACSOG. From December 1968 to October 1970, he was Plans Intelligence and Foreign Liaison Officer, Armor Agency, U.S. Army Combat Development Command at Fort Knox, KY. Military awards include the Combat Infantryman Badge, 2 awards of the Bronze Star Medal, and U.S. and Vietnamese Jump Wings. After leaving the active Army, McColl remained active in the U.S. Army Reserve Special Forces. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army CGSC, and the Army War College. He was a retired full Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve. From 1971 to through 1974 McColl was President and General Manager of Humphrey-Stone-McColl Corporation, a family owned natural gas drilling and production business in Western Pennsylvania. After the sale of this business in 1974, he established A. McColl

Company, an investment firm. Since 1982 he has also been Director of Special Projects, Omega Group, Ltd. He is also President of Refugee Relief International, a non-profit medical and relief agency. His first novel "Valley of Peril", based on his service as a district senior advisor in Vietnam, was published in June 1987. A second book, "MACCAT" was released in December 1988. Since 1992 he has made 3 trips to Bosnia, including Sarajevo and Mostar to cover the war there, and parachute jumps in Thailand, Cambodia, Israel, and Jordan. McColl is probably the only person you are likely to meet who is a graduate of Harvard College, Harvard Law School, the Army War College, and the MACSOG Jump School that used to be at Long Thanh, Vietnam. Surviving are 2 nephews and a niece.

PAUL ANDREW CHRISTENSEN SOA # 2010-GA 1LT, retired, passed away on October 28, 2002. Paul was born January 26, 1930 in Mineola New York. He joined the Army as a teenager and went to the 11th Abn Dv in Japan during the occupation after World War II. He was discharged in 1947 and went to work as a Cowboy and Smokejumper. In 1950 Paul joined the Army again, attended OCS and was assigned to the 187th Abn RCT. He volunteered to join the 8240th (UNPIK). Paul was joined by his brother Mike Christensen who participated in the same operations with Paul. Paul would later join the Air Force Reserves, and trained to fly jets at Albuquerque, New Mexico. Paul re-enlisted back in to the Army and joined Special Forces. Paul trained as a Medic and Intelligence Specialists. In 1962 Paul was sent to Vietnam as an Advisor. Paul's last tour of duty was in 1967 when he was assigned to MACVSOG Hqs and CCN. During his tours of duty in Korea and Vietnam, Paul was cited many times for bravery. His awards include: Bronze Star, Purple Heart w/4 oak leaf clusters, Presidential Unit Citation, Combat Infantryman Badge 2nd award, Army Commendation Medal, Dept of Defense Commendation Medal, Air Medal, WWII Victory Medal, Occupation Medal w/Japan Clasp, National Defense Medal, Korean Presidential Unit Citation, Korean Warang, Vietnam Distinguished Medal w/silver star, Korean Service Medal w/8 battle stars, Vietnam Service Medal w/6 battle stars, US Army Glider Badge, Parachute Badges from US Army, Korea and Vietnam. Paul retired to the civilian life in 1969. Paul focused his attention on the passion of his life, buying at auctions and selling at flea markets. Paul was known throughout Northern California at auctions and flea markets. Paul is survived by two sons, Paul A. Christensen of Fairbanks, Alaska, and Bruce A. Christensen of Rohnert Park, California; two daughters, Debbie R. Lines of Arcanum, Ohio, and Janice G. Christensen of Sacramento, California; one brother Mike Christensen of Cumberland, Rhode Island who is a member of SOA; two sisters, Andrea Franza of Andrew, North Carolina and Joan Doolan of Gainesville, Georgia.

PAUL F. SMITH SOA # 257-GA MAJ, retired, entered into eternal rest on Wednesday, November 13, 2002 at his residence surrounded by his loving family after a courageous battle with liver cancer. Paul was 70. He enlisted in the Army in 1952 serving with the 11th Airborne Division. He attended OCS and was commissioned in 1959. In 1962 he joined the US Army Special Forces in which he served as an "A" Detachment Commander and Company Commander through two tours in Vietnam. Paul was an original member of "Delta" Project of 5th Special Forces Group. He also served with 7th SFG, 1st SFG and 46th SF Company. His distinguished service earned him a Bronze Star, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry w/Silver Star and many other decorations. He retired in 1972 after 20 years of honorable service. Following his military service he became General Foreman with Colt Firearms, retiring after 16 years in 1994. He was a member of the VFW, Post 574 in Plainville, Connecticut where he served as Post

Commander. He was also a member of the Moose Lodge 1525 and the AMVETS, both of Enfield. He was born in New Britain on November 6, 1932 of the late Paul F. Sr. and Charlotte (Day) Smith Perron and was the stepson of the late Stephen A. Perron. He is survived by his beloved wife of 33 years, Chalam (Thongprom) Smith; his two sons, Robert F. Smith of Enfield, CT and William F. Smith of Boston, MA; his four daughters, Paula S. Dodson and her husband Randy of Molalla, OR, Jennifer E. Smith of Long Beach, CA, Charlotte C. Zenzick and her husband Charles of Ellington and Chalam M. Smith of Enfield; two brothers, Arthur G. Perron and his wife Adrienne of Tariffville, Thomas E. Perron and his wife Brenda of Plainville, and the late Steven W. Perron; a sister Mariette L. Johnson and her husband Ralph of Enfield; three grandchildren, Monica, David and Kevin; four sister-in-laws, Rabieb Thongprom of Enfield, Chongjit Wilke and her husband Dan of Fayetteville, NC and Chintana Lee and her husband Sam of Manchester; many nieces, nephews and friends; and his "Granddog" Cecil. Funeral services followed by military honors were held on Friday, November 15, 2002.

DARRELL REDMAN SOA # 1160-GL CPT, passed away after a brief illness on November 17, 2002, at Bumrungrad Hospital in Bangkok, Thailand. Darrell was born September 14, 1945. In 1966 Darrell enlisted in the U.S. Army, becoming a member of Special Forces. His assignments included duty with the 7th, 5th and 1st Groups. He served two tours in Vietnam, one with MACV-SOG, FOB-2, serving as Team Leader for RT Iowa and RT Arizona during 1968 and a second tour with the PRU 1969-1970 in Song Be Province. He was discharged a Captain and among his many awards and decorations were the Silver Star, Bronze Star w/V Device and oak leaf cluster for bravery, and 3 Purple Hearts. After his discharge Darrell worked as a project manager in Antarctica for Holmes & Narver, and for the same company in Brazil and Guanya. He also worked as a charter boat cruise coordinator and crewmember in Antigua, British West Indies. Darrell came home to Iowa and graduated from Des Moines/Ankeny Community College with an AA Degree in Hotel Management, and graduated from Iowa State College in 1998 with a Degree in History/Sociology/Higher Education (Interdisciplinary Studies Degree). He taught school as a student teacher in South Africa, Finland, and Estonia. His Master's Degree studies took him to Finland where he was given the privilege of interviewing their national hero, Frostzl Kaikko, who was the last survivor of the Finnish Special Commandos who fought with the Wehrmacht against the Russians in 1942-43. Darrell completed his Master's Thesis in 1999. While at Iowa State University, He was Vice-President and Graduate Advisor of the Golden National Honor Society, a member of numerous Academic Clubs, was Phi Kappa Delta, and also held the record as being the oldest Sky Diver in NCAA competition; he jumped with the Iowa State University Skydiving Club. His poetry was published in the national magazine CONCEPTS and he was the Editor's Choice for Poetry for his poem, "A VIEW FROM AFAR", which won him national recognition. Darrell also continued his association with the military by belonging to many veterans' organizations, among them the US Army Special Forces Association, Special Operations Association, Ranger Association, American Legion, and VFW. In 1999 Darrell moved to Kwang-Ju, South Korea, where he was employed as an ESL teacher for Korean children. He spent a great deal of time in Thailand, where he met with his fellow Green Beret expatriates for many good times. He met Waruni (Plah) Anantasiphabut in Thailand and they were married at her family's home in northern Thailand on September 21, 2002. Many of their friends were also in attendance at the celebration of marriage. He is survived by his wife Plah of Thailand and her two sons; three sisters, Phyllis Bierbaum and her husband Don, Jane Ackerman and her husband Robert, and

Nancy Hill and her husband Gary; two nieces; three nephews; a multitude of cousins; two uncles, Horace Redman and his wife Wanda, Adrian Mendenhall and his wife Ruth; and aunt Marie Baker. Cremation was held in Bangkok after a full military ceremony and his ashes will be scattered on his and Plah's favorite beach in Thailand, Jom-Thien. As his good friend Ken Richter said at his funeral "Farewell- Soldier, Scholar, Poet, and most of all, Friend". His sisters added "The struggles of life are over for you, dear one, you fought your battles well. Your strength and smile and wit will always be remembered".

DARRELL L. BARBER SR. SOA # 189-AL CWO4, retired, passed away on November 18th, 2002 at his home. Darrell was born June 14, 1931 in Idaho Falls, Idaho. He had completed 30 years of service, 29 on parachute status, with 2 tours of duty in Vietnam upon his retirement at Fort Hood, Texas. On November 18, 1977 he was placed on the Honor Roll of the Parachute Rigger Warrant Officer Hall of Fame at Fort Lee, Virginia. He had been assigned to the 82nd Abn Div, 11th QMPM Co, 549 QMPM Co, 173rd Abn Bde, and 1st SFG (Abn). His awards and decorations include: Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal w/oak leaf cluster, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal w/2 oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal w/4 bronze stars, Good Conduct Medal w/three loops, Army Occupations Medal w/Japan clasp, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal w/star, Vietnam Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry w/palm, Master Parachutists Badge, Glider Badge, and the Parachute Rigger Badge. After his retirement he was employed with Vinnell Corporation, Saudi Arabia. He is a lifetime member of Disabled American Veterans, Retired Officers Association, Special Operations Association, 82nd Airborne Division Historical Society, 82nd Airborne Division Association. He was also a member of the Airborne Veterans Century Club and was a staunch supporter of all the 1st Special Forces Group Veterans events and projects. He is survived by his wife, Fumiyo Barber of Harker Heights, TX; two sons, Darrell L. Barber of St. Louis, MO, and Patrick C. Barber of Arlington, TX; a daughter, Diane J. Barber-Watabayashi of Kaneohe, HI; three brothers, Harold V. Barber of San Diego, CA, Billy O. Barber of Mesa, AZ, and Joseph A. Barber Jr. of Gilbert, AZ; a sister Betty Maddux of Queens Creek, AZ; and two grandsons.

LLOYD L. MILLNER JR. SOA # 1407-GA SGM, retired, passed away November 21, 2002 at Pikes Peak Hospice, Colorado after a prolonged illness. Lloyd was born June 28, 1930 in Belvedere, California. He retired with 30 years service. His assignments included duty with 82nd Airborne Division, 1st Special Forces Group, 5th Special Forces Group to include II Corps Mike Force, 10th Special Forces Group and the US Army Military Academy. Among the many awards and decorations he received were the Bronze Star, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Purple Heart w/1 oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal and the Army Commendation Medal w/V device. His wife Theresia whom he married in Germany December 31, 1957 survives him.

TIMOTHY F. LAWSON SOA # 1943-GA SP5, passed away on 3 December 2002 after a long battle with cancer. He was 55. Tim was born in Virginia on 26 May 1947. He entered the US Army in 1966, trained as a helicopter mechanic, and served as a crew chief with the 195th AHC from December 1967 to October 1968. During this time he supported B-56 "Project Sigma", B-50 Project Omega", and CCS Operations. He returned to the states and was assigned as an instructor to the US Army Transportation Center and School at Fort Eustis, Virginia. He was discharged in 1969. His wife Elaine, of 33 years and children of Xenia, Ohio survives Tim.

JERRY BURNETT SOA # 1759-GA SFC, retired, passed away after a long and courageous battle with diabetes and leukemia at 0815 on 3 January 2003 in Tacoma, Washington. Jerry enlisted in the US Army in 1949 and was stationed on Okinawa prior to the Korean War. During the Korean War he served as a Platoon Sergeant in the 25th Infantry Division. He was discharged in 1952 and attended the State University of Iowa for one year. He reentered the Army in 1955 and after several assignments volunteered and was accepted for Special Forces in 1962. After completing language school he was assigned to 8th Special Forces Group in Panama working in Chile. Jerry again completed a course at the language school and was assigned to a Special Team to Brazil. In April 1968 he was assigned to 5th Special Forces Group and Project Sigma. In October 1968 Jerry was assigned as Company Commander to a Provisional Reconnaissance Unit (PRU). Upon his return to the United States from Vietnam Jerry was assigned to 7th Special Forces Group and later to US Army JFK Center for Special Warfare & Schools. His awards and decorations include Bronze Star, Combat Infantryman's Badge 2nd Award, Purple Heart w/1 oak leaf cluster, US Army and Korean Presidential Unit Citations.

THE FOLLOWING NON-MEMBER DEATHS HAVE BEEN REPORTED

JOHN "JACKIE" GAUGHAN JR. 54, passed away November 10, 2002 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Jackie was the General Manager of the Union Plaza Hotel/Casino. He was born in Omaha, Nebraska on November 12, 1947. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War having served in the U.S. Air Force. The SOA made a donation to the Bishop Gorman High School in Las Vegas in his memory.

DR. CHARLES WELDON 82, passed away in November 2002 in Chiang Rai, Thailand from the effects of cancer. He was Chief Medical Officer for USAID. During the Communist takeover by the Pathet Lao rebels in Laos, Dr Charles Weldon worked closely with White Star personnel and Air America. Most of his work involved attending to the Hmong people better known as the "Meo". He was a veteran of World War II serving in the U.S. Marine Corps in the Pacific Theater.

GEORGE BUCK LTC, retired, passed away on December 8, 2002 in Angeles City, Republic of the Philippines. George was a member of White Star and served in Vietnam. He was a past President of the Colonel Nick Rowe Chapter of SFA.

HAROLD BILLUPS CSM, retired, passed away on November 22, 2002. Harold served at Phu Bai with CCN. He had also served with the 10th at Bad Tolz and Fort Devens, 6th and 7th Special Forces Groups and 3 tours in Vietnam with the 5th Special Forces Group.

PAUL J. PADGETT MAJ, retired, passed away on November 27, 2002 after a long illness. Paul served with the Abraham Lincoln Brigade during the Spanish Civil War of 1938-1939. He was a veteran of World War II, the Korean War and was a member of 1st Special Forces Group on Okinawa. He was the recipient of numerous awards to include the Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star w/oak leaf cluster, Bronze Star w/2 oak leaf clusters, Purple Heart w/2 oak leaf clusters and CIB 2nd award His wife Emma of Bangor, California survives him.

MELODY ESKINS beloved wife of Henry "Spike" Eskins SOA # 1600-GA passed away suddenly on 18 January 2003.

SICK CALL: The following SOA Members have been reported to be ill, some severely, or recovering from medical operations:

Max E Newman	1116-GA	Al Davis	1018-GA
Ola Lee Mize	1257-GL	Ray Flaherty	109-GA
Harris Munck	312-GL	Joel R Schenkelberger	2078-GA
Charles Allen	413-GL	Lamar A. Parker	1692-GL

Request you send a "get well" card, an e-mail, or make a phone call to our fellow members who are down. Do something. Wish them a speedy recovery. If any member is aware of another member that is ill, or has been involved in a serious accident, or is recovering from an operation, please notify someone on the SOA Board of Directors, preferably Jake Jacobson.

A SOLDIER RETURNS HOME

Paul Sisson

VISTA ---- Hands snapped to temples and glided over hearts as Shanna Lucas sang God Bless America for her grandfather, a man she never met. Family, friends and comrades in arms gathered at Vista Wesleyan Church Saturday afternoon to bid farewell to U.S. Army Capt. Larry Lucas more than three decades after anti-aircraft guns brought the 26-year-old aviator's reconnaissance airplane down over Southeast Asia.

The Lucas family's grief began on Dec. 20, 1966. Lucas was on a risky flight over Savannakhet Providence in Laos when enemy anti-aircraft fire sent his OV-1 Mohawk reconnaissance plane crashing to the ground. Though his co-pilot was able to eject, Lucas was not so lucky. Since the fiery crash, the Lucas family has been unable to recover his remains. In fact, for decades they had no idea exactly where his plane found its final resting place.

But in 1989, long after the Vietnam War was over, a group of Army doctors treating the sick in Laos discovered the plane's wreckage. Mixed among the debris were items believed to be with Capt. Lucas during the crash. Detectives discovered a watch, a camera and a fragment of an Army identification necklace. Unfortunately the fire that consumed the Mohawk after the crash incinerated the pilot's remains, making a DNA test impossible. Still, all of the clues point toward Lucas, so Saturday afternoon the pilot finally returned home with full military honors.

There were plenty of military uniforms in the sanctuary Saturday, including a troop of square-jawed soldiers wearing green berets. Though none had ever met Lucas, they turned out to pay their respects. Some were serving on the ground in Laos about the same time Lucas was flying above. Retired Army Maj. Bill Sylvester said it was important for him to thank a fellow special ops soldier even though they never met. He noted it was fliers such as Lucas who provided the reconnaissance that helped him escape the jungles of Southeast Asia alive. He said paying final respects, even 36 years later, is part of a soldiers' commitment not to leave a

comrade on the field of battle. "It's very important when it does happen because it is very rare --- - 36 years it took to find this guy," Sylvester said. Lucas' remains will be laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery in West Virginia on Nov. 1. His survivors also include a son and daughter-in-law, Mark Alan and Jeannie Lucas of Temecula; and a daughter and son-in-law, Andrea and William Ayers, also of Temecula. Representatives from Special Operations Association attended this memorial ceremony.

Another sad note from the Plaza Hotel: Jim Stamper, Beverage Manager, learned that his daughter's mobile home was involved in a fire in which two of the four children perished. Members of SOA who were in Las Vegas and learned of this tragedy made a donation to the surviving daughter. Jim has been great in providing service to our Annual Reunion and especially to the hospitality room. Our prayers certainly go out to Jim and his Daughter at their tragic loss.



**Major Dick Meadows Memorial Statue
US Army Special Operations Plaza
Fort Bragg, North Carolina**

SPECIAL ATTENDEES AND GUESTS:

There were 700 Special Folks attending the SOAR Banquet which included the following:

Billy J. Anthony, Sgt of Arms
Louis Smith, Sgt of Arms
MG Glenn E. Muggleberg (Ret)
MG Edison E. Scholes (Ret)
MG Bill Garrison (Ret)
COL Lew Millett MOH, (Ret)
CSM Dennis Thompson former POW, (Ret)
Mike Bengel former POW
LTC Frank Hudson DCO, 5th SFG
MSG Richard Ferguson, 10th SFG
SFC Kevin O'Connor, 10th SFG
SMA George Dunaway, (Ret)
Mrs. Jane Sisler, widow of SOG member KIA, George K. Sisler. Granddaughter Chantelle accompanied her.
Mrs. Toshie Meehan, widow of SOA member Bernard "Mick" Meehan
Mrs. Evelyn Gray, widow of SOA member Wiley Gray
Mrs. Mary Ann Harrison, widow of member Marshall Harrison
Mrs. Barbara Birchim, widow of SOG member KIA, Jim Birchim
Ms Jean Birchim, sister of Jim Birchim
Mrs. Rosie Childs, widow of SOA member Arthur Childs
Ms Karen Dehnke, sister of SOG member KIA, Dale Dehnke
Mrs. Jackie Lewelling, widow of SOA member Bob Lewelling. Daughters Cory and Brandi accompanied her.
Mrs. Toby Thomas, widow of SOA member John Thomas

RECOGNITION OF SOA 20-YEAR MEMBERS AT THE MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

a. Mr. Hetrick requested the following personnel having achieved 20-Year status as members of the SOA come forward and receive their 20-Year SOA pins. All personnel who attended or joined the SOA commencing with SOAR I, II, III, IV, V, VI and VII (1977-1983) were eligible. Those present at SOAR XXVI were:

RYDER, David, SOA # 119-GL
SMITH, Louis Jr., SOA # 134-GL
BRAY, William, SOA # 228-GL
FIELDS, Arthur T., SOA # 310-GL
ARVIDSON, John, SOA # 411-GA
SMITH, Bucky, SOA # 469-GL
MEYER, John S. "Tilt", SOA # 492-GA
MILLETT, Lewis L., SOA # 505-GL
COOPER, Rudy, SOA # 506-GA
BYLUND, Lloyd E., SOA # 546-GA
DUNLAP, Lee C., SOA # 559-GA
COADY, Neil, SOA # 565-GL

b. Next year during the conduct of SOAR XXVII, all personnel who attended SOAR I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII and/or SOAR VIII (1977-1984) will be eligible to receive their 20-Year SOA pin. If their SOA number falls anywhere between 001 and 599 and they have not previously been presented with their 20-Year SOA pin, they will be eligible to **receive this award**.

RECOGNITION OF SOA 25-YEAR MEMBERS AT THE BANQUET:

a. Mr. Hetrick requested the following personnel having achieved 25-Year status as members of the SOA come forward and receive their 25-Year SOA pins. All personnel who attended SOAR I and II at Caesar's Palace in December 1977 were eligible. Those present at SOAR XXVI were:

MAXWELL, JED, SOA # 011-GA
SIUGZDA, Herb, SOA # 030-GL
HETRICK, James F., SOA # 036-GL
GRITZ, James "Bo", SOA # 042-GL
MOLICA, Leonard, SOA # 048-GA
WHITTINGTON, E. Ray, SOA # 049-GL *
MASTERJOSEPH, Robert P., SOA # 051-GL
HERNANDEZ, Sammy, SOA # 061-GA
MARPLE, Robert L., SOA # 084-GA
BATH, J.D., SOA # 589-GL
MAURER, David A., SOA # 721-GL

b. During the conduct of SOAR XXVI, all personnel who attended either SOAR I or SOAR II at Caesar's Palace in December 1977 or '78 were eligible for their 25-Year pins. If their SOA number fell anywhere between 001 - 059 or any of the following numbers, 061 - 066, 072, 077 - 079, 084, 088 - 090, 093 - 095 and they did not receive their SOA pin at SOAR XXV they were eligible for their 25-Year SOA pins at SOAR XXVI. J.D. Bath, SOA # 589-GL and David Maurer, SOA #721-GL were previously and inadvertently assigned early SOA duplicate numbers similar to the circumstances obtaining with Mike Taylor and Bill Shelton during the conduct of SOAR XXV last year. Subsequently they were provided with their current numbers. However, both J.D. and David attended SOAR II and were eligible to receive their 25-Year SOA pins at SOAR XXVI.

c. For planning purposes at SOAR XXVII, all personnel who attended SOAR I, II and/or III whose membership number falls anywhere between 001 and 099 will be eligible to receive their 25-Year SOA pins if it has not been previously awarded. Specifically, those SOA members with an SOA number of 060, 067, 069, 070, 073, 075, 076, 080, 082, 085, 091, 096 and 099 will be honored. These personnel attended their first SOA Reunion, SOAR III at the Landmark Hotel/Casino in 1979.

d. FYI, any SOA member that either joined the SOA or attended SOAR I, II and/or III are, for all intents and purposes considered "CHARTER MEMBERS" of the SOA.

SOA GEORGE C MORTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RAFFLE WINNERS:

Third Prize: \$ 500 Savings Bond or \$ 250 cash
Second Prize: \$1000 Savings Bond or \$ 500 cash
First Prize: \$2000 Savings Bond or \$1000 cash

Justin "Gene" McCarthy
Jack L. Kaplan
Robert Barrett

SOAR XXVI DONATIONS:

Mr Clyde Sincere on behalf of the entire SOA wishes to publicly thank all that contributed to this years raffle and door prizes. Again he reiterates the fact that he may have overlooked recognizing a donor. If per chance you donated an item and he neglected to recognize you, he offers his profound apology. The following list reflects those individuals who contributed door and raffle prizes to SOAR XXVI:

Ralph Edens	Tony Herrell	Chapter IV-XXIV, SFA & Daniel Junevicus
Edison E. Scholes	Clarence A. Page	Dale R. Bennett
Patrick Hephner	Pamela Adkins	Conrad Baker
Dee Chambers	Ken Gaudet	SOAMS
William Lueders	Jack Kull	Rudolph "Rudi" Cooper
Alfred H. Paddock	Lee Dunlap	Harold "Jake" Jacobson
James McLuckie	Carle E. Dunn	Plaza Hotel & Casino

LAS VEGAS QUICK DRAW:

Billy Waugh and Jim Fry split the \$1000 big prize.

SOAR XXVI PHOTO COVERAGE:

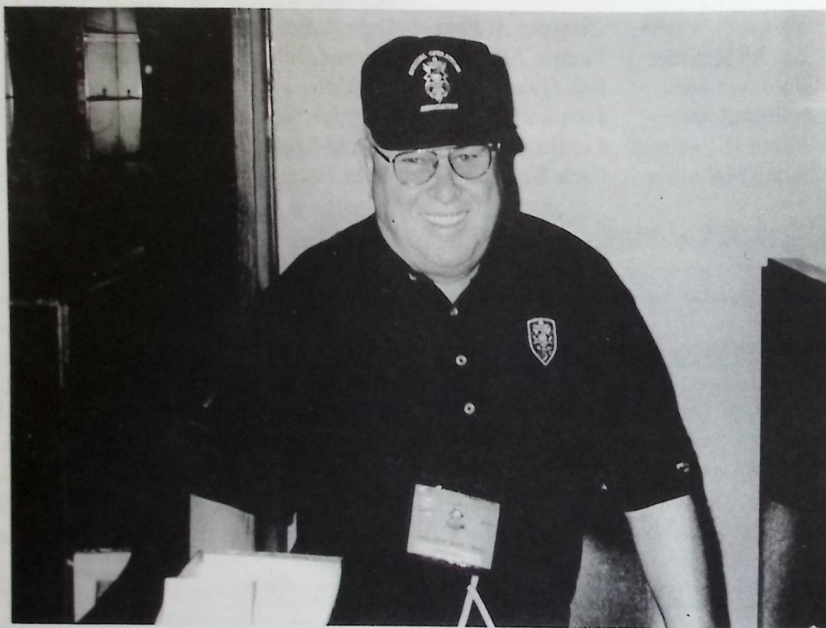
We wish to thank **Ben Baker, Don Jutz, Carl Crantz, and Ralph Edens** for submitting the photos that are included in this SOAR XXVI AAR. Ben Baker has informed us that he will no longer be able to act as the SOAR "Paparazzi". We welcome any photographer who wishes to volunteer to take photos, and submit them for inclusion in the AAR. Please identify the persons in the photos that are submitted.

SOA BOARD OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS, 2003:

The SOA is looking for a few good men. Yes, it's that time again when the membership must "step up to the bar" and elect members in 2003 to fill the specific vacant SOA Board of Officers and Director positions as reflected below. Those newly elected members will serve their term of office with a few of the current Board members on the recent newly approved "staggered" SOA Board concept commencing on 29 September 2002. Are you willing to be one of these few good men? If so, you must have attended two (2) of the last three (3) SOAR's, either SOAR XXIV, XXV or SOAVI to be eligible to "run" under the SOA Constitution and By-Laws. If you are interested in serving, contact the SOA Nomination Committee and inform them of your desire to participate as a candidate for the SOA Board of Officers and Directors for the term commencing 29 September 2003 by "running" for either Secretary or as a Director. Two Director positions

will become open. Be advised these are all "working" positions, not just titles. It takes desire and dedication to insure a strong and viable SOA.

If you are interested in a particular position, please take the time to contact any of the current SOA Board members and discuss with them how you might serve the entire SOA membership. Interested SOA members are further advised to contact the SOA Nomination Committee by letter NLT Saturday, 1 June 2002. An "Official SOA Ballot" will be included in the SOAR XXVI PRP reflecting those SOA members "running" for the aforementioned SOA Board of Officers and Director "open" positions.



Secretary David "Bulldog" Smith



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION
Officers and Directors
November 2002

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SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

2002 – 2003 COMMITTEES

SCHOLARSHIP

Alan N. Keller *
James E. Butler
Stephen M. Goth
Patrick Hephner
Al Paddock
Charlie Norton, Jr
Billy Waugh

MEMBERSHIP

Ray Chambers *
Harry L Claflin
Ray Dawson
Robert Gilstrap
Curtis Williams
John Korsbeck
Chieu Ngoc Lam

MEMORABILIA SALES

James F. Hetrick *
Board of Directors

TALLY

William T. Lueders *
Dan "Rock" Myers
Harlow Stevens

NOMINATING

Clyde Sincere *
John McClaskey
Pete Buscetto

MEMORIAL

John R. McClaskey *
Lee Dunlap

MEMBERSHIP BY LAWS

Earl Trabue *
Gene McCarthy
Charles Berg
Bob Bost
Pete Buscetto
Ray Chambers
Tyler Furbish
Chester Howard
Glenn Muggleburg

PLANNING & BUDGET

Charles Berg *

REUNION

Pat Hephner *
Bill Garcia
Jake Jacobson
Clyde Sincere
Bob Jack
Steve Goth

FUND RAISING

Clyde Sincere*
Alan N. Keller

*Indicates Committee Chairman



FACT SHEET

The SOA, established in December 1977 is a 2100+ 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 supported 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 through the management of the George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant Fund. Since 1983, over \$344,500 has been awarded or committed thus far to 114 deserving young scholars.

The Special Operations Association is recognized by the Department of Defense and by the IRS as a non-profit veteran's 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 conduct its twenty-seventh annual reunion (SOAR XXVII) in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Plaza Hotel and Casino during the period 24-28 September 2003. We anticipate in excess of 850 members and guests.

Revised: 1 December 2002

SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

SOAR XXVI SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

23 SEP – 29 SEP 2002

MONDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2002

0900 – 1700 -SOA BOD Meeting

TUESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2002

0900 – 1700 -SOA BOD Meeting

WEDNESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2002

1000 – NLT 0200 -Hospitality Room

1000 – 1800 -Late Registration

THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2002

1000 – NLT 0200 -Hospitality Room

1000 – 1800 -Late Registration

1000 – 1200 -281st AHC BOD Meeting

1300 – 1500 -SOF Afghan Briefing - Billy Waugh

1500 – 1600 -Internet Briefing - Steve Sherman

FRIDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2002

1000 – NLT 0200 -Hospitality Room

1000 – 1800 -Late Registration

1000 – 1200 -STMP Montagnard Advocacy – Greg Stock

1030 – 1130 -281st AHC Memorial Service

1130 – 1330 -Lunch Hosted by SOA

1330 – 1700 -SOA General Membership Meeting

1700 – TBD -B-52 (Delta) General Membership Meeting
and Memorial Service

SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2002

0800 – 1300 -Weapons Firing

1000 – 1700 -Hospitality Room

1000 – 1400 -Late Registration

1000 – 1200 -MIA/POW Issues – Norm Doney

1200 – 1300 -281st AHC Membership Luncheon

1300 – 1700 -281st AHC General Membership Meeting

1700 – 1850 -Cocktails – Cash Bar – Derby Terrace

1900 – 1915 -Posting of the Colors

1915 – 1920 -Toasts

1920 – 1930 -Introduction of VIP's and Guests

1930 – -Cash Bar Reopens

1930 – 1945 -Presentation of 25 Year Pins

1945 – 2100 -Banquet Dinner

2100 – 2125 -MG Garrison Remarks

2125 – 2130 -Special Award Ceremony

2130 – 2145 -Retirement of Colors

2145 – 2200 -Break

2200 – 2245 -SOA Raffle

2245 – NLT 0200 -Hospitality Room Bar Open

SUNDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2002

0800 – 1200 -Hospitality Room

1200 – NLT -Hospitality Room is Closed

1200 – NLT -Hotel Check Out

1 MINUTES



8 SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

9 SOAR XXVI GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

10 Friday, September 27, 2002 Las Vegas, Nevada

11 **CALL TO ORDER:**

12 The 2002 General Membership Meeting of SOAR XXVI was called to order by President Jim

13 Hetrick at 1330 at the Plaza Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada. President Hetrick and

14 Secretary David "Bulldog" Smith being present. The meeting would be run according to SOA By-

15 laws, the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, and the SOAR XXVI Meeting

16 Standing Rules.

17

18 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

19 Sergeant of Arms, Billy J. Anthony led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of

20 the United States of America.

21

22 **MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR FALLEN COMRADES:**

23 Membership remained standing for the observance of a few moments of silence for fallen

24 comrades:

25	John Roberts	#1227-GL	March 9, 2001
26	Homer A. Gaouette, III	#1459-GA	March 31, 2001
27	Thomas R. Matthews	#1664-GA	December 15, 2001
28	Mike Olson	#1480-GA	February 24, 2002
29	Walter Robert Lewelling	#1355-GL	April 1, 2002
30	Scott Lyon	# 381-GL	April 25, 2002
31	James A. Howard	#1032-GL	May 21, 2002
32	Adam W. Husar	# 22-GL	June 1, 2002
33	Bertram "Berdie" Frye	# 247-GL	July 18, 2002
34	Eddie L. Bennett	#1874-GA	July 18, 2002
35	Nathan Woo Young	#1931-GA	August 3, 2002

36 **ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND INTRODUCTION OF**

37 **PARLIAMENTARIAN:**

38 **Officers Present:**

39	Jim Hetrick	President	# 36-GL
40	Ray Chambers	Vice President	# 627-GL
41	David "Bulldog" Smith	Secretary	# 1242-GL
42	Rick Grabianowski	Treasurer	# 1313-GL
43	Earl Trabue	Director	# 1056-GL
44	Charles Berg	Director	# 31-GL
45	Gene McCarthy	Director	# 256-GL
46	Robert Jack	Director	# 414-GL
47	Cliff Newman	Director	# 6-GL
48	Jake Jacobson	Executive Director	# 69-GL

49 **Committee Chairmen Present:**

50	John McClaskey	Memorial Committee	# 621-GL
51	Ray Chambers	Membership Committee	# 627-GL
52	Jim Hetrick	Memorabilia Sales	# 36-GL
53	Charles Berg	Budget Committee	# 31-GL
54	Patrick Hephner	Reunion Committee	# 1249-GL
55	Al Keller	Scholarship Committee	# 1488-GL
56	William Leuders	Tally Committee	# 664-GL

57 Returning Parliamentarian Solveiga Unger, PRP, was introduced. The members were reminded
58 that she was not the Board's parliamentarian, but that she would answer parliamentary procedure
59 questions that any member might have.

60

61 **CREDENTIALS REPORT:**

62 Director Chambers reported that 359 members were present. A quorum was established.

63

64 **STANDING RULES:**

65 Without objection the Meeting Standing Rules from SOAR XXV were adopted for use at SOAR
66 XXVI.

67

68 **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:**

69 The following changes were announced:

- 70 ➤ Item 8 will be presented by Lee Dunlap # 559-GA – explanation of the Special
71 Operation Memorial at USSOCOM, MacDill AFB.
72 ➤ Item C-1 will be presented by Bill Leuders # 664-GL

- 73 ➤ Item 5 under C – letter from Max Newman # 1116-GA, will not be presented –
74 Max is ill and not present. E-mail from Edward R. Lesesne # 614-GL will be
75 presented for information only and the letter from Art Fields # 310-GL has been
76 withdrawn.
77 ➤ Add Item 6 Montagnard relocation presented by "Bulldog" Smith.

78
79 Without objection the amended agenda was adopted.
80

81 **SERGEANTS OF ARMS:**

82 Louis Smith, Jr. # 134-GL and Billy J. Anthony, # 1766-GA both of MACVSOG in 1966 and 1967
83 were recognized and thanked for assisting in running an organized membership meeting.
84

85 **BUSINESS SESSION:**

86 **President's Opening Remarks and Report:** President Hetrick reported..."that SOA was back
87 on track as a member oriented organization, and that the membership has overwhelmingly
88 approved of that direction." He further reminded the membership that they had a choice of
89 working within the framework of the SOA and reconcile their goals with those of the majority of
90 the members of the association or leave the organization.... "The Special Operations Association
91 being the sum total of some of the finest soldiers that ever served is greater than any one
92 individual and is founded on fraternity, fidelity, honor, and humility, and anything less will forever
93 be unacceptable. Is there anyone that disagrees with that?"
94

95 The membership again supported SOA by overwhelmingly agreeing that "It is over!" and that the
96 majority wants to move forward for the good of SOA.
97

98 The President asked Director Berg to inform the membership about the gift from the estate of
99 Frenchie Amundson # 98, Director Berg told the membership that the final gift had been
100 presented from the estate of Frenchie Amundson in the amount of \$716.39.
101

102 **MINUTES 2001:**

103 The 2001 SOAR Minutes were approved as corrected. Page 4, line 164, the word "and" should be
104 changed to "if." Also on page 4, line 164, the last two words, "and if" the "f" should have an "i" in
105 front of it.
106

107 **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

108 Treasurer Grabianowski reported that SOA was financially solvent. An independent CPA firm
109 reported that there were no deficiencies found. There were two minor exceptions that need to be

110 addressed. The first exception dealt with the need to add a cost accounting code for funds that
111 are in transit or not yet cleared by the bank. And the second was in how SOA tracked
112 scholarships. Each individual scholarship should be tracked from the time it is awarded to the
113 time the recipient graduates. The recommended actions will be taken. Furthermore, SOA has
114 engaged the services of a bookkeeper and a CPA for audit control and for tax returns.

115

116 As of September 18, 2002

117 Assets \$222,000.00

118 (Of which \$130,000.00 is in CDs)

119 Effective January 2004 the following increases will occur.

120 Application fee \$5.00 - one time fee

121 Late fee 5.00

122 Annual Membership 30.00

123 Life Membership 300.00

124

125 Areas being investigated for cost reduction are: major-printing expenses, changing format of SOA
126 Directory, and expenses of the annual SOAR.

127

128 By general consent the report was accepted.

129

130 **MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM REPORT:**

131 Chairman Keller presented to the members one of the scholarship recipients, Chris Thompson.
132 Chris Thompson then introduced himself, thanked the membership for his scholarship and
133 explained how much it meant to him to have received his scholarship and about his future plans
134 as an author.

135

136 Chairman Keller informed the membership that the Board of Directors and the Scholarship
137 Committee are making the program a totally funded, stand-alone entity, and which funds are
138 totally segregated from the General Fund. All scholarships will be funded for the entire four years
139 of study at the time the scholarship is awarded. A new application form has been developed and
140 all members who wish to have their children considered for the up-coming year need to apply on
141 the new form. Chairman Keller explained the evaluation process and told the membership that he
142 had new application forms with him for anyone who wanted one.

143

144 Chairman Keller then introduced his committee: Stephen Goth # 1489-GL, Patrick Hephner #
145 1249-GL, Charlie Norton # 871-GA, Al Paddock # 1462-GL, Billy Waugh # 5-GL and Jim Butler #
146 1-GL, our memorial historian. For 2002 the committee had 21 applicants for 6 scholarships.

Because of a misunderstanding regarding "second generation applicants", a seventh scholarship was awarded to Melissa Sincere who was one of the highest ranked applicants of the 21 considered.

Before announcing the names of the scholarship recipients Jim Butler explained to the members about the "kit" each member had received called "What My Family Should Know." The booklet was a survivor's guide, a step by step guide, explaining what your family needs to do in the first 72 hours after your death. Butler also asked for recognition of the two individuals who put the guide together, Director Charlie Berg and Executive Director Jake Jacobson.

Jim Butler then announced the names of the 7 recipients and read the biography of the fallen comrades for whom the scholarship was named.

The recipients were:

Mr. Matt Wanson, 4-year award in memory of James P. Meade, Jr., Warrant Officer, UH-1 pilot for Op 32. Matt will be attending the University of Florida.

Mr. Derek Stiller, 4-year award in memory of Sergeant Howard B. Carpenter, along with an unknown and a number of other members of a Hatchet Force of Special Forces Detachment B-50, Project Omega, FOB 2. Derek will be attending VMI.

Ms. Christina Thompson, 4-year award in memory of Captain Richard Legate and Sergeant Albert C. Files, Jr. They were involved in a spike team operation out of FOB 2 Kontun. Christina will be attending Elan University.

Mr. Matthew Grant, 2-year award in memory of Major Robert L. Baldwin, U.S. Air Force, UH-1 pilot. Matthew will continue his education at Oklahoma State University.

Ms. Sarah Montoya, 4-year award in memory Sergeant First Class Ronald James Dexter, a unknown member of Sioux, Hatchet Force FOB Phu Bai, Captain Stephen B. Hanson, pilot, First Lieutenant John O. Gardner, copilot, and Sergeant Timothy R. Bowden, Crew Chief, members of the United States Marine Corps Aviation HNM 165 CH 46 helicopter crew. Sarah will be attending Trinity University.

Ms. Kate Bowra, 4-year award in memory of Sergeant First Class Ben Snowden, B56, and one unknown A1 Skyraider pilot. Kate will be attending North Carolina State.

Ms Melissa Sincere, a 4-year award in memory of Sergeant Leo Earl Seymour, Team Leader of ST Texas, FOB 1.

President Hetrick informed the membership that each of the recipients, at the time they are notified of being awarded their scholarship, also receive the biographies and histories of the persons their scholarship honors.

184 **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT:**

185 Prior to making his report Chairman Ray Chambers introduced his committee members: Robert
186 Gilstrap # 737-GA (Army representative), Curtis Williams # 909-GL (Navy representative), John
187 Korsbeck # 326-GL (Army Aviation representative), Ray Dawson # 657-GL (Air Force
188 representative), Harry Claflin # 845-GL (Marine Corps representative), and Chieu Ngoc Lam #
189 947-GL (STDs, Montagnards, and the "Nungs" representative).

190

191 Relevant facts about membership:

192	Annual General Members	876
193	Life General Members	562
194	Annual Associate Members	66
195	Life Associate Members	64
196	Operational Associates Annual	18
197	Operational Associates Life	2
198	Honorary Members Life	36
199	Unpaid dues members – general & associate	410
200	Fallen comrades	155
201	Resigned or expelled	45

202 Our organization also supports 8 related organizations.

203

204 As of 13 September 2002, membership number 2156 was issued. Many of the recently approved
205 memberships were for STD comrades, and many applications are still being rejected because of
206 omissions found on submitted applications.

207

208 The reported was accepted as presented.

209

210 **SOAR XXVI REPORT:**

211 Chairman Hephner reported that all was going well and asked that any suggestions for present or
212 future SOARs be submitted in writing. Hephner also thanked members of his committee, Bill and
213 Greg Garcia, Dick Simpkins, Bob Golden, Bob Jack, Clyde Sincere and the Board of Directors for
214 all their help.

215

216 **MEMORABILIA REPORT:**

217 Memorabilia Chairman Hetrick reported that 2002 memorabilia sales totaled \$27,927.00 worth of
218 goods to the SOA membership. \$12,000.00 came from sales at the Special Forces 50th
219 Anniversary, \$8,250.00 from the MACVSOG T-shirts, and \$7,076.00 in traditional mail order

sales. The cost of sales, including cost of inventory, freight, and other expenses, totaled \$9,076.00 for a net profit of \$18,851.00.

During the Special Forces Association 50th Anniversary Convention the SOA Board of Directors considered new ring designs for SOA. The design considered is 10K gold and will afford individual design variations. Approximate cost to members will be approximately \$400.00.

The members selected a beer stein with the SOA logo deep etched on it which would be available for sale at a future date.

Chairman Hetrick reported that the strategy for 2002 is to reduce the amount of inventory carried by SOAMS. Since there is a reduced demand for items in inventory it is time to reduce the variety of goods offered and the quantity of goods stocked. We need to make it more manageable to keep the profit up.

The report was accepted as presented.

President Hetrick reminded the membership that they need to keep their personal information updated, if they move or change their phone numbers they need to let the membership chairman know.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS MEMORIAL:

Lee Dunlap reported about the Special Operations Memorial at MacDill Air Force Base. The Special Operations Memorial Foundation received \$5000.00 from our organization to put state flags all around the memorial. With Afghanistan and possibly Iraq, there may be a need to redesign the Memorial. Lee volunteered to coordinate any necessary changes with the Board, the membership and with the Executive Director.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

2000 Minutes:

Without objection the minutes of SOAR XXIV, 30 September 2000 were adopted.

President Hetrick reported on the three items that a few members had questioned at the 2001 meeting.

1. That MCR should be available at cost. The Texas Administrative Code says it must be available at cost.
2. The MCR was thrown out by the membership - it no longer exists.

256 3. A motion regarding the tiles could not be found and so has been placed on today's
257 agenda.

258

259 **By-Laws:**

260 Chairman Earl Trabue first presented some corrections that the member needed to approve
261 relating to the Articles of Incorporation and By-laws.

262

263 By unanimous consent the membership approved the staggered terms for the Board of Directors
264 based on the votes they received at the 2000 election and the changes made at last year's
265 SOAR.

266 Gene McCarthy received the most votes and his term expires in 2005

267 Charles Berg and Earl Trabue terms expire in 2004

268 Bob Jack and Cliff Newman (appointed) terms expire in 2003

269 With Cliff Newman elected to the position of Vice President the position of Director is vacant. The
270 By-laws allow the Board of Directors to fill a vacancy on the Board and the vacancy would be
271 filled at the Board meeting following this general membership meeting.

272

273 By unanimous vote the membership approved making the correction to the Articles of
274 Incorporation by changing the error [501(c)(3)] to [501 (c)(19)] to match the IRS records, the State
275 of Texas tax-exempt status records and the expressed desires of the membership made at the
276 last two SOARS.

277

278 **Point of Order:**

279 Doc Padgett # 404-GL rose to a point of order, that there should be a motion for an official vote.

280 President Hetrick explained that since the motion came from the By-laws Committee it does not
281 need a motion, but if the membership wishes to have one, the Chair would be willing to accept it.

282 Doc Padgett moved to have the error in the Articles of Incorporation corrected to match all the
283 other SOA documents. This was seconded and passed unanimously.

284

285 **By-laws Articles Voted On:**

286 Most of the Articles were adopted in 2001 but the members wanted additional review and study of
287 the Articles. Several Came from Committee.

288 Article IV A 2c. (Operational Associate) Approved 2001 and referred back to committee for
289 additional study. **Adopted**

290 Article IV B (Special Operations Units List) Approved 2001 and referred back to committee for
291 more study. **Adopted**

292 Article IV G 1 (Annual Dues) Approved 2001 and referred to committee for more study.

293 Point of Information:

294 Elon Place, # 887-GL pointed out that J 3 on the following page would be in conflict with the new

295 Article IV G 1 if adopted and suggested that both be changed at the same time.

296 President Hetrick asked if there were any objections to have 90 day changed to 30 days in J 3 at

297 the same time -- if Article IV G 1 passed. There was no objection. **Adopted**

298 Article J 5 and 6 (Board of Directors) Approved 2001 and referred for more study. **Adopted**

299 Article IV K (Appeals) Approved 2001 and referred for more study.

300 Elon Place # 887-GL moved to replace 2/3 vote required to override a decision of the Board of

301 Directors to suspend or expel a member to a Majority vote. Seconded. **Amendment adopted**

302 John Mullins # 240-GL moved to add to the article that if a member is found not to be culpable;

303 his expenses should be reimbursed at a reasonable rate. Seconded.

304 The chair being in doubt a counted vote was taken. Ayes 45 and Nos 44 and the chair voted to

305 create a TIE. **Amendment failed**

306 **Article IV K as amended adopted.**

307 Point of Order:

308 Art Field, # 310-GL, and Ralph Ormes, # 1949-GA, pointed out that in paragraph 3-that there was

309 a typing error.

310 Chairman Trabue asked that the By-laws Committee be given the authority to correct

311 grammatical and typographic errors.

312 **Request granted.**

313 Article V E (Nominations) Committee recommends that it be struck out completely since the

314 appointment of committee members is better addressed in Article VIII C. To strike Article V E

315 **Adopted.**

316 Article V H (Removal of Directors) Came from the By-laws Committee. Articles deals with the

317 removal of Board of Directors by board members and that membership must have cause to

318 remove a director. **Adopted**

319 Article V L (Meetings) Came from the By-laws Committee. Deals with when the Board of Directors

320 holding a meeting at the close of the Annual SOAR when new board members take office.

321 **Adopted**

322 Article V M (Audits) Comes from the By-laws Committee. After discussion and explanation.

323 **Adopted.**

324 Article V N (Special Meetings) Came from the By-laws Committee. Allows the Board of Directors

325 to call a special meeting of the Board. **Adopted.**

326 Article V O (Conduct of Meetings) Came from the By-laws Committee. **Adopted.**

327 Article V P (Action Without Meeting) Referred to Committee at the 2001 meeting for clarification.

328 **Adopted**

329 Article VI B (Vice President) Came from the By-laws Committee. **Adopted**

330 Article VI C (Secretary) Came from the By-laws Committee. **Adopted**
 331 Article VI D (Executive Director) Referred back to committee at the 2001 meeting for additional
 332 clarification. **Adopted**
 333 Article VI E (Treasurer) Came from the By-laws Committee. **Adopted**
 334 Article VI G (Planning and Budget Committee) Came from the By-laws Committee. **Adopted**
 335 Article VIII C (Nominating Committee) Referred to Committee for clarification. Part of Article V C
 336 the nominating committee was incorporated into this article to clarify who appoints the nominating
 337 committee. **Adopted**
 338 Article VIII G (Planning and Budget Committee) Came from the By-laws Committee. **Adopted**
 339 Article X (Amendments) Came from the By-laws Committee. **Adopted**

340

341 The President thanked Earl Trabue and the other By-laws Committee members, Ray Chambers,
 342 and Pete Buscetto for all their hard work in getting the By-laws ready for the membership
 343 meeting.

344

345 **Recess taken from 1424 to 1440.**

346

347 **NEW BUSINESS:**

348 **Election Results:**

349 Bill Leuders, Chairman of the Tally Committee thanked his committee members Rock Myers #
 350 673-GA and Harlow Stevens # 1176-GL and then reported the result of the 306 mail in ballots:

351

352	Office	Nominee	Votes Cast
353	President	James Hetrick	279 votes
354		Ray Chambers	1
355		Jim Cole	1
356		Sully De Fontaine	1
357		Rick Grabianowski	1
358		Don Kelly	1
359		Dan "Rock" Myers	1
360		Fred Platt	1
361		Terrence Smith	1
362	Vice President	Cliff Newman	297 votes
363		Charles Berg	1
364		Clyde Sincere	1

After the Chairman announced that James Hetrick was elected President and Cliff Newman was elected to the office of Vice President the swearing in of the elected President and Vice President was performed by Clyde Sincere, President Emeritus.

Informational Items:

Firing Range:

Discussion regarding the expense and problems of organizing the Firing Range event for members was conducted for information; and to investigate the possibility of becoming supporters/members of the Boulder City Range. All possibilities were to be investigated and the membership will be surveyed as to their interest. If there is interest and the event can be made revenue neutral then interested members would have to make a commitment (possible cost of \$50.00) on their registration form. Also, proposed was owning a firing range and teaching weapons safety and good gun control. This idea would also to be reviewed at the midyear Board of Directors meeting.

Membership Questionnaire:

As a result of the membership questionnaire mailed out in the Pre-Reunion Packet (PRP), the President, SOA appointed Director Earl Trabue to chair a Membership By-Laws Committee to determine a means for inclusion of qualified members of present day Special Operations Units into the SOA. This is in response to the members voting to perpetuate the SOA into the future. The Committee is to report their findings to the Board of Directors at their 2003 meeting and the General Membership in SOAR XXVII Pre-Reunion Packet.

Hetrick reminded the membership that ..."we will continue to enroll members, but we'll be darn sure that they go in the category they're supposed to go in, because we don't want to get out voted next year."

SOAR XXVII Report:

Patrick Hephner reported that the next SOAR would be September 24 through 28 2003, at the Plaza Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. The room rate will probably be \$42.00 next year, plus just regular tax. Please submit any suggestions in writing to the committee.

Update on Ray Flaherty # 109-GA. Suspected that he had some kind of brain damage from a stroke but he is stable and will be in hospital for at least 5 days.

Nothing new on Al Davis # 1018-GA except that his wife has been located.

403 Chaplain:

404 The President SOA received an e-mail from Ed Lesesne # 614-GL requesting that the Board of
405 Directors (BOD) appoint a SOA Chaplain to officiate at future SOAR's. The Board voted to
406 appoint a Chaplain for SOAR at the SOA Board meeting preceding each SOAR.

407

408 Montagnard Relocation:

409 David "Bulldog" Smith gave the membership an update about the relocation of 911 Montagnards
410 to the United States. The first group arrived in June 2002 and to date approximately 822
411 Montagnards have arrived. 90% of the Montagnards have been located in North Carolina and all
412 Special Forces organizations and especially Chapter 57, as well as various charitable and relief
413 organizations have rendered help to the Montagnards. Over \$2 million in funds and resettlement
414 items have been raised and distributed. "Bulldog" Smith thanked the members as a member of
415 SOA, STMP and as an individual for all their support.

416

417 Several members spoke on trying to help the Montagnards remaining in their homeland by
418 lobbying and pursuing whatever governmental and economic means available to our organization
419 and by us as individuals. President Hetrick stated that the Board would look into what might be
420 done by the organization and the membership in regards to the Montagnards and keep the
421 membership informed. Both Director Berg and President Hetrick warned that whatever we do as
422 an organization or as individual we need to be careful not to make matter worse for the
423 Montagnards overseas or here or to make our organization or its member's persona non-gratis in
424 Vietnam.

425

426 The James E. Butler Founder's Award:

427 President Hetrick announced that in the 26th year of operations our organization has instituted an
428 Achievement/Dedication Award. The James E. Butler Founder's Award which is to be awarded
429 for doing good work, being dedicated, loyal and selfless in their dedication to the Special
430 Operations Association. It was named in honor of our founder James E. Butler.

431

432 FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

433 Chester Howard, # 1609-GL, addressed the Membership regarding his interpretation of
434 membership definitions. "My definition is people on the ground and there need to be restrictions."
435 The President agreed to have the committee consider this in their deliberations. Chester asked
436 that the recon and ground people take a serious look at what will be proposed by the committee
437 next year.

438

Louis Smith, # 134-GL, wanted to know if the Founder's Award was for anyone or just members? President Hetrick stated that it was only for members of SOA who have served the Special Operations Association, and continue to serve in our Association.

Doc Padgett, # 404-GL, informed the organization that he had received a communication from Liza Guteman Gable; Chairman of the White House Fellows Project, The communication invites anyone from our organization who wishes to serve as a White House Fellow in 2003 and 2004 to apply. The Fellows Program is America's most prestigious program for leadership in public service. There web address is [www. whitehouse.gov/fellows](http://www.whitehouse.gov/fellows). There is no age restriction.

Robert Bechtoldt, # 146-GL, addressed the problem that members are having with the VA and wants the organization to investigate the possibility of trying to do something as an organization. Charles Berg, former VA employee, advised everyone to get the right service representative to make the initial claim correctly. If a claim has incomplete or bad information it is very difficult to get the claim corrected. Try to check around with others who have been successful in their dealing with representatives and various service organizations.

Gary Robb, # 286-GL, reminded the membership to proceed with caution. "We're gunslingers, we're a gunslingers organization, and the last time I checked we were good gunslingers who were apolitical. We killed everybody equally. I think regardless of how good the cause is, we have to be real careful to understand that's not what we do and who we are."

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Hetrick announced that it has been brought to his attention that some of the members have been charged full price for their hotel rooms possibly because they did not pre-register. The glitch in the system will be taken care of just— let me know if you are being charged the higher price.

President Hetrick announced that he has asked John Mullins # 240-GL to chair a committee to investigate acquiring items for permanent SOA exhibits, at the Airborne/Special Operations Museum, Fayetteville, North Carolina. The exhibits would include a pre 1986 Special Operations Units area and we could have it dedicated to various units. During the SFA Convention there were 7000 people who visited the museum. Approximately 1000 persons a week visit the museum. If any of you think there is merit in the idea and you would like to participate, make a donation, or have any items to donate, get in touch with John Mullins.

475 John Mullins reinforced the need to educate everyone about the history of SOG. "The biggest part
476 of it is going to be your contributions; some of the equipment that you have sitting in your garage,
477 molding away, that your children or grandchildren are going to throw away when you die."

478

479 Glenn Muggelberg, # 2045-GA, informed the membership that he had commanded UNPIK, the
480 partisans in the Korean War, He sent a whole stack of items to the museum and that there is now
481 a display for the partisans of that particular group at the museum.

482

483 President Hetrick thanked the membership for their support and confidence, and wished them a
484 good time at SOAR and adjourned the meeting sine die at 1545.

485

486

487 _____
David "Bulldog" Smith, Secretary

Jake Jacobson, Executive Director

488

489 This information should be made a standing rule and/or placed in the policy manual.

490 *** A member may obtain a written copy of the complete transcript by submitting a written**
491 **request to the Board of Directors. A copying and mailing fee will be charged.**

492

493

494

SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOC

Balance Sheet
December 31, 2001

ASSETS

Current Assets		
Credit Cards in Transit	\$	7,487.53
SOAMS Checking		4,477.65
Merrill Lynch CD's		104,609.00
Unrealized Gains/Losses on Inv		<2,103.20>
Administrator Checking		1,352.66
Merrill Lynch Mgt Account		91,104.23
Inventory-SOAMS		24,429.10
Total Current Assets		231,356.97
Property and Equipment		
Equipment		1,769.77
Accum. Depreciation-Equip		<1,085.00>
Total Property and Equipment		684.77
Other Assets		
Ex Dir Operating Account		1,050.40
Total Other Assets		1,050.40
Total Assets	\$	233,092.14

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

Current Liabilities		
Total Current Liabilities		0.00
Long-Term Liabilities		
Scholarship Awards Payable	\$	67,000.00
Total Long-Term Liabilities		67,000.00
Total Liabilities		67,000.00
Capital		
Unrealized Gains/Losses on Inv		<2,103.20>
Retained Earnings		49,535.61
Unrestricted Net Assets		<9,061.42>
Temporarily Restrict Net Asset		106,257.72
Net Income		21,463.43
Total Capital		166,092.14
Total Liabilities & Capital	\$	233,092.14

Unaudited - For Management Purposes Only

SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOC
Income Statement
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2001

	Year to Date
Revenues	
Annual Membership Dues	\$ 26,618.84
Life Membership Dues	14,745.00
Contributions - General	29,888.50
Contributions - Scholarship	9,741.00
Las Vegas Quick Draw Income	284.75
Interest Income - General	6,745.68
SOAR Registration	72,413.00
SOAR Raffle Ticket Sales	28,124.00
SOAR Vendors	1,875.00
America Remembers Pistol	1,038.77
Miscellaneous Income	2,754.05
SOAMS Sales	48,868.14
	<hr/>
Total Revenues	243,096.73
	<hr/>
Cost of Sales	
SOAMS Cost of Sales	26,252.92
Cost of Sales - Freight	734.49
	<hr/>
Total Cost of Sales	26,987.41
	<hr/>
Gross Profit	216,109.32
	<hr/>
Expenses	
Accounting Expense	1,380.00
Bank Card Processing Fees	1,188.09
Bank Return Item Expense	8,742.33
Bank Service Charges Expense	1,479.56
Bookkeeping Expense	2,207.80
Contributions Expense	2,000.00
Depreciation Expense	277.46
Executive Director Expense	17,431.80
Equipment Rental Expense	210.00
Grant Expense	5,000.00
Insurance - Liability	3,167.47
Insurance - Security Bond	251.00
Las Vegas Quick Draw Expense	75.00
Legal Expense	450.00
Misc Supplies Expense	100.00
Meetings Expense	264.32
Memorial Flowers Expense	112.00
Memorial - Bereavement Cards	4.11
Office Equipment Expense	227.09
Office Supplies Expense	1,710.12
Other Expense	1,619.25
Postage - Forwarding	210.00
Postage - General	5,312.18
Postage - Newsletter	197.52
Postage - SOAMS	2,703.84
Postage - SOAR	1,630.23
Printing - General	10,627.45
Printing - Newsletter	376.00
Printing - SOAMS	742.13
Printing - SOAR	12,331.00
Rent Expense	300.00
Secretarial Expenses	2,060.00

For Management Purposes Only

SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOC
Income Statement
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2001

	Year to Date
Scholarship Fund Expense	17,000.00
Scholarship Fund - RAFFLE	1,500.00
SOAMS Misc Sales Expense	4,006.32
SOAMS Shipping & Handling Exp	29.64
SOAR Guard/Hostess Expense	1,180.00
SOAR Hotel/Catering Expense	45,344.61
SOAR PRP Expense	72.03
SOAR Registration Gift Exp	19,070.29
SOAR Registration Refunds	3,665.00
SOAR Supplies & Expenses	2,485.65
Storage Rental Expense	528.44
Supplies Expense	2,661.37
Telephone - Fax Line	129.59
Telephone - Internet & Website	377.58
Telephone - Voice Line	1,718.18
Telephone - Cellular	98.22
Travel Expense	10,391.22
	<hr/>
Total Expenses	194,645.89
	<hr/>
Net Income	\$ 21,463.43
	<hr/> <hr/>

For Management Purposes Only

Special Operations Association
Balance Sheet
December 31, 2002

ASSETS

Current Assets		
SOAMS Checking	\$	876.28
Merrill Lynch CD's		95,043.00
Lord Abbott Fund		1,195.00
Merrill Lynch Mgt Account		14,935.81
Inventory-SOAMS		20,624.95
Inventory In Transit		307.56
		<hr/>
Total Current Assets		132,982.60
Property and Equipment		
Equipment		1,769.77
Accum. Depreciation-Equip		<1,085.00>
		<hr/>
Total Property and Equipment		684.77
Other Assets		
Ex Dir Operating Account		1,178.21
		<hr/>
Total Other Assets		1,178.21
		<hr/>
Total Assets	\$	<u><u>134,845.58</u></u>

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

Current Liabilities		
		<hr/>
Total Current Liabilities		0.00
Long-Term Liabilities		
Scholarship Awards Payable	\$	22,500.00
		<hr/>
Total Long-Term Liabilities		22,500.00
		<hr/>
Total Liabilities		22,500.00
Capital		
Retained Earnings		168,051.41
Net Income		<55,705.83>
		<hr/>
Total Capital		112,345.58
		<hr/>
Total Liabilities & Capital	\$	<u><u>134,845.58</u></u>

Unaudited - For Management Purposes Only

Special Operations Association
Income Statement
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2002

	Year to Date
Revenues	
Annual Membership Dues	\$ 16,400.00
Life Membership Dues	19,725.00
Contributions - General	1,541.00
Contributions - Scholarship	1,104.00
Interest Income - General	4,591.15
SOAR Registration	58,095.10
SOAR Raffle Ticket Sales	14,374.00
SOAR XXVI	950.00
SOAR XXI Refunds	<1,970.00>
SOAR Vendors	3,883.25
Miscellaneous Income	188.82
SOAMS Sales	37,521.73
	<hr/>
Total Revenues	156,404.05
	<hr/>
Cost of Sales	
SOAMS Cost of Sales	28,114.23
Cost of Sales - Freight	1,007.58
COGS - Volunteer Discounts	165.00
	<hr/>
Total Cost of Sales	29,286.81
	<hr/>
Gross Profit	127,117.24
	<hr/>
Expenses	
Accounting Expense	1,000.00
Advertising Expense	140.00
Bank Card Processing Fees	876.93
Bank Return Item Expense	10.00
Bank Service Charges Expense	3,500.52
Bookkeeping Expense	2,897.47
Contributions Expense	1,550.00
Executive Director Expense	21,582.67
Equipment Rental Expense	210.00
Freight Expense	95.00
Grant Expense	<2,716.30>
Insurance - Liability	3,633.75
Las Vegas Quick Draw Expense	200.00
Legal Expense	5,000.00
License & Fees Expense	50.00
Misc Supplies Expense	5,589.81
Memorial Flowers Expense	500.86
Memorial - Bereavement Cards	73.78
Office Equipment Expense	420.00
Office Supplies Expense	3,894.89
Other Expense	286.64
Postage - AAR	933.09
Postage - Fees	166.82
Postage - Forwarding	192.41
Postage - General	2,686.99
Postage - PRP	1,078.22
Postage - SOAMS	636.72
Postage - SOAR	1,101.20
Printing - AAR	7,272.10
Printing - General	12,863.34
Printing - Newsletter	930.67

For Management Purposes Only

Special Operations Association
Income Statement
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2002

	Year to Date
Printing - SOAR	9,167.37
Rent Expense	1,300.00
Secretarial Expenses	1,915.13
Scholarship Fund - Print/Prize	80.15
Scholarship Fund - RAFFLE	2,041.00
Scholarship Awards Expense	345.08
SOAMS Misc Sales Expense	527.44
SOAMS Shipping & Handling Exp	664.41
SOAMS R & D Expense	157.08
SOAR AAR Expense	1,060.00
SOAR Hotel/Catering Expense	45,591.98
SOAR PRP Expense	537.20
SOAR Registration Gift Exp	9,107.43
SOAR Supplies & Expenses	5,213.16
SOAR XXVI Expense	4,854.99
SOAMS Shipping	269.94
Storage Rental Expense	991.50
Supplies Expense	6,920.95
Telephone - Fax Line	538.89
Telephone - Internet & Website	784.58
Telephone - Voice Line	1,676.91
Telephone - Cellular	238.62
Travel Expense	10,826.47
Uncategorized Expense	1,355.21
	<hr/>
Total Expenses	182,823.07
	<hr/>
Net Income	\$ <55,705.83>
	<hr/>

For Management Purposes Only



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

GEORGE C. MORTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

The purpose of the SOA scholarship(s) is to perpetuate the memory of those personnel who served in a Special Operations Unit during the Vietnam War, and who were prisoners of war or missing in action (POW/MIA) and are still unaccounted for in Southeast Asia ... and, to honor the late Colonel George C. Morton, an original Commander and innovator of special operations in Southeast Asia.

Toward this end, the Special Operations Association annually awards a scholarship grant to the applicant(s) that most nearly meet the established criteria for the furtherance of their formal education in an accredited institution of higher learning. Maximum educational attainment under this program is that of an Undergraduate Degree (Bachelor's).

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

The scholarship grant(s) awarded by the Special Operations Association towards a Bachelor's Degree shall be not less than \$500.00 nor more than \$1,000 per year (maximum 4 years) as recommended by the SOA Scholarship Committee and approved by the membership at their annual reunion (SOAR).

SCHOLARSHIP GRANT CRITERIA

1. A high school graduate or a high school student anticipating graduation during the year of application, unmarried and under the age of 21 years at the time of application.
 - Applicants over the age of 21 years who have attended an a-accredited institution of higher learning may credit each year of successful attendance towards reducing their age year for year to meet the age limitation. Only a maximum of four years will be allowed as credit to satisfy this age requirement.
2. Applicants must be able to prove academic ability, interest in scholarship and leadership in relation to school and community affairs.
3. At least four (4) letters of recommendation must accompany the application, three (3) of which must include Teacher Evaluation forms from faculty members of the school that the applicant is presently enrolled in or in the case of graduates, of the school last attended.
4. By submitting a formal application for this scholarship, the applicant or in the case of minors, the applicant's parents or legal guardian, agree with the following conditions:
 - a. All documents submitted, as part of the scholarship application or directly concerning any part of the scholarship offered is the sole property of the Special Operations Association.
 - b. The use of all awardee names, pictures and other personal information for the purpose of promotion, advertising, and news releases is granted to the Special Operations Association without any promise of favor or remuneration.
- In this regard, all such names, pictures and personal information shall be used only for the betterment of this scholarship grant or for the recognition of the awardee. All releases shall be in good taste without maliciousness that will mar the Special Operations Memorial Scholarship Grant or any of the awardees.

- c. The choice of the recipient or recipients for this grant rests solely with the Special Operations Association. This choice shall be final and binding and all efforts to contest this choice shall be mute.
5. In the event that two or more applicants most nearly meet the established criteria, preference will be given according to the listed order:

A son, daughter or grandchild, natural or adopted, of an individual who served in a Special Operations Unit and who is currently a member of the Special Operations Association in good standing, and who meets the scholarship grant criteria indicated above. A priority exception will be given to the sons and daughters of those Special Operations individuals who were KIA/POW/MIA and are still unaccounted for in Southeast Asia.

SCHOLARSHIP GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT

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

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

SCHOLARSHIP GRANT APPLICATIONS

The deadline for all-informal inquiries and application information is 15 March of the year that the grant is to be awarded.

The deadline for the submission of all formal applications is 15 May of the year that the grant is to be awarded. The Scholarship Committee will consolidate all applications in recommended order and present them to the SOA Board of Officers for approval no later than 15 June

SCHOLARSHIP GRANT RECIPIENT NOTIFICATION

Approximately 1 July, Scholarship Recipients will be notified via mail of their award. Acceptance of this award by the recipient must be acknowledged in writing and return mail within thirty (30) days of notification.

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

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

SCHOLARSHIP GRANT PRESENTATION

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

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

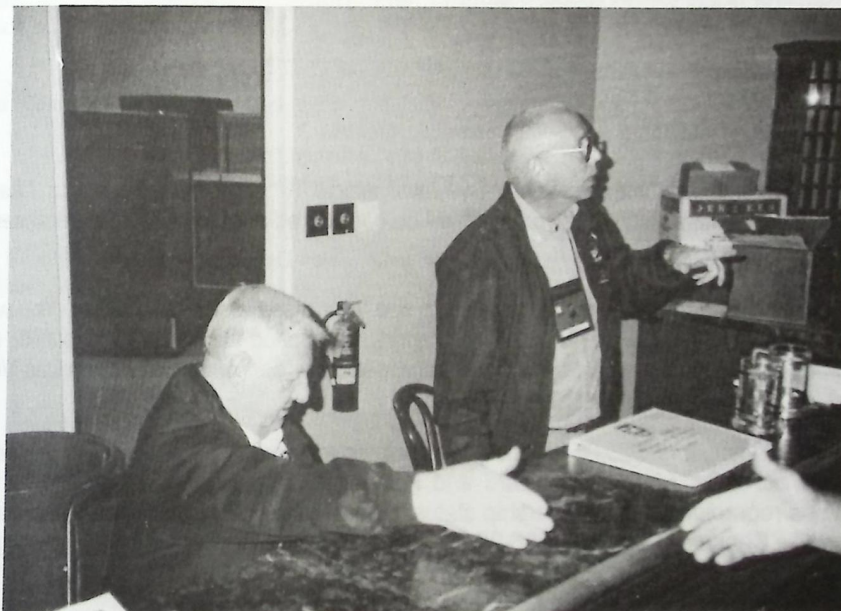
SCHOLARSHIP GRANT ADMINISTRATION

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

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND APPLICATION FORMS PLEASE CONTACT

Alan N. Keller
Chairman, SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Committee
4401 Park Road
Alexandria, VA 22312-1430
(703) 941-3963



Clyde Sincere and Alan N. Keller



1 January, 2003

SUBJECT: A "2003 Dues Reminder"

TO: SOA Annual Members

Dear SOA Annual Members:

If you are an Annual Member, and haven't renewed your membership, either at SOAR XXVI or by mailing in a check to renew, your membership has lapsed as of January 1st 2003. In order for your membership to be reinstated, you are requested to submit a check in the amount of twenty five dollars (\$25.00) made payable to the SOA, and mailed to the Treasurer at the following address:

Rick Grabianowski
P.O. Box 20279
Reno, NV 89515-0279

In accordance with the SOA By-Laws, Article IV G 1, a member who has not renewed his membership by February 1st will be considered delinquent and will be assessed a \$5.00 fee to reinstate.

I am confident that you do not wish to see your membership terminated. You would not receive the SOAR AAR (After Action Report), the Spring Newsletter, or the PRP (Pre-Reunion Packet) and most important, no participation in the Annual Reunion in Las Vegas on the 24th through 28th of September 2003.

The amount of \$25.00 will be your dues for the year 2003 through December 31st 2003. Your SOA Membership card and number will remain the same. If you have questions regarding your membership status, please contact Ray Chambers, Membership Committee Chairman, at: (480) 986-2542 or via the Internet at: commosgm@earthlink.net

In advance, thank you for renewing.

Fraternally:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "HJR", is written over a horizontal line.

Harold "Jake" Jacobson
Executive Director
Post Office Box 34500
Pensacola, FL 32507-4500
(850) 492-4533
jakesoa@aol.com



WILLIAM T. LUEDERS

P.O. Box 99
Stafford, VA 22555

5 September 2002

SUBJECT: Special Operations Association "Year 2002 Tally Committee Report"

TO: Mr. James F. Hetrick
President, Special Operations Association (SOA)
965 N. Grandview
Paulden, AZ 86334-0000

The "Year 2002 Tally Committee" met in Fairfax, VA, on the 4th September at 1300 hours, to count the number of ballots and votes for next year's SOA Officers.

The Committee consisted of:

William T. Lueders (664-GL), Chairman
Dan "Rock" Myers (3-GL), Member
Harlow Stevens (1176-GL), Member

Of the 306 ballots received, the votes for each individual and "write-ins" are:

PRESIDENT

James F. Hetrick 297

Write in

8

Ray Chambers (1)
Jim Cole (1)
Sully DeFontaine (1)
Rick Grabianowski (1)
Don Kelly (1)
Dan "Rock" Myers (1)
Fred Platt (1)
Terrance Smith (1)

total 305

VICE-PRESIDENT

Cliff Newman 297

Write in

2

Charles Berg
Clyde Sincere

total 299

Wm. T. Lueders

- 46 -



WILLIAM T. LUEDERS

P.O. Box 99
Stafford, VA 22555

5 September 2002

SUBJECT: Special Operations Association "Year 2002 Tally Committee" Report

TO: Mr. James F. Hetrick
President, Special Operations Association (SOA)
965 N. Grandview Road
Paulden, AZ 86334-0000

The "Year 2002 Tally Committee" met in Fairfax, Virginia, on the 4th September, 2002 at 1300 hours, to count the number of responses to the "Sense of Membership" questions presented to the SOA voting membership.

The Committee consisted of:

William T. Lueders (664-GL), Chairman
Dan "Rock" Myers (3-GL), Member
Harlow Stevens (1176-GL), Member

The results of the 103 response questionnaires received are:

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Do we want to continue to actively pursue expansion beyond the Vietnam Era?	96	6
Do we need to "define" the criteria of Special Operations?	88	13
Is there a better way of trying to define Special Operations, such as by unit or case-by-case operations and commitments?	46	46
Does the current DOD United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) definition of Special Operations meet SOA needs?	37*	48*
Should Non-Military Organizations (CIA, DEA, ATF) be included for membership in the SOA?	30*	73*
Should we change our approach for greater inclusion of units and individuals into the SOA?	22	74
Are special training or qualifications Special Operations qualifying factors?	24	77
Or, are unit assignment and participation in the conduct of Special Operations the qualifying factors?	101	2

* Apparently questions four and five caused some sense of confusion among a number of members, which was noted on the questionnaires and noticed by the Tally Committee.

Question four: Many members are not familiar with the current USSOCOM definition of Special Operations, nor did they have a copy or reference on which they could accurately base their opinions.

Question five: A number of members felt that CIA, DEA, and ATF should not have been cited together, since their missions and personnel may differ. Several noted that they felt CIA was in a different category than DEA and ATF. This made it difficult to vote for a clear "yes" or "no."

The above might be more specifically addressed at the General Membership Meeting.

Wm. T. Lueders

William T. Lueders
Chairman
Tally Committee



Treasurer Rick Grabianowski



BUDGET (FORMULATION) & PLANNING SOAR XXVI-SOAR XXVII

The Budget (Formulation) & Planning report will allow the BOD to identify if they are deviating from the plan, and if appropriate to make adjustments.

The process is divided (Reader Clarity) into sub-parts for "Tracking:"

DIRECTORS & EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

REUNION

SOAMS

MEMBERSHIP

+++++

DIRECTORS & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The SOA has Four (4) primary areas for expenses to budget:

After Action Report (AAR)	\$8400.00(1)
Pre Reunion Package (PRP)	5000.00(1)
Yearly Administrative Costs	4900.00
Salary	14,400.00(2)
Travel	<u>16,500.00</u>
	\$49,300.00(3)

(1) This is dependent on number of members (Copying & Postage)

(2) This is based upon 1040 annual hours

(3) This does not include **REUNION & SOAMS** operations (See Below)

+++++

REUNION

A significant issue for the budget process is that during the annual SOAR a "cross-over" of expenses, effort and tasking takes place:

- SOAMS
- MEMBERSHIP
- Executive Directors Expenses (Reproduction)
- Actual and Direct SOAR Expenses:

(1) Printing Menus (2) Printing Handouts

These administrative expenses & costs (outside of day to day transactions) should be captured if possible reported and subsequently budgeted for in future evolutions.

An after the fact REUNION Independent Financial Statement (IFS) that contains the following would help the membership and assist the BOD in oversight & review.

INCOME:

Registration:

Raffles:

Donations:

Others:

EXPENSES:

Dinner:
Lunch & Snacks:
Hospitality Room:
Others/Miscellaneous:

SUB-TOTAL:

NET:

+++++

SOAMS

In one sense SOAMS is a revenue neutral operation.
The expenses are accrued as inventory is purchased (+Operating Costs) and then sold.
In theory this transaction (One Day to Six Months +) results in a net gain.

For Budget & Planning purposes and BOD oversight SOAMS should produce an Independent Financial Statement (IFS), SOAMS maintains its own checking account.

This monthly bank statement should be reconciled and reported to the BOD in a timely manner for their required oversight & review of operations.

No record was identified of a Physical, Financial or Operational review having been conducted, this is complicated as the President is also the SOAMS Chairman, and the normal oversight & review chain (as described) is not in place.

The SOAMS Independent Financial Statement (IFS) will enable the membership to understand the current financial condition and operations and will assist the BOD in its required oversight & review:

CASH ON HAND:

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE:

VALUE OF INVENTORY:

INVENTORY SHRINKAGE:

(Actual Loss):

(Damaged):

(Approved Gifts/Marketing):

(Cost of SOAR Registration Item):*

ACTUAL WRITE OFF:

ACTUAL NET or LOSS THIS PERIOD:

*The BOD should determine if the inventory is carried at retail or wholesale for consistency and financial accounting purposes.

The Chairman SOAMS operates the cash management independently from SOA accounting procedures and practices.

+++++

MEMBERSHIP

The Membership Committee financial activities are for most purposes an after the fact process.

As new members (Numbers Unknown) come aboard the costs of establishing the records, issuing membership cards and materials (Last Issue of the AAR-Membership Directory etc.) are accumulated.

At this time there is no actual cost estimate for this process, however this will be partially addressed with the new approved processing fee.

Some of the areas that may be budgeted for are:

- Publications of Directory
- Cost of membership Certificate
- Cost of Membership Card*
- Mailing Cost For Above

- The recently approved metal membership card will be issued retroactively one time

+++++

GENERAL OVERVIEW

While the many financial transactions during the year are "rolled up" into the SOA Financial Report presented by the Treasurer at the SOAR meet the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) form, the need for a simple and plain financial report, that is readable by the membership and for the BOD to effectively use in its oversight and review is equally important.

The SOA (due to its compressed operational tempo) handles a large sum of actual cash and valuable goods within a very compressed time, i.e. the annual SOAR

Even with the best of effort a significant amount of "cross-over" of administrative effort and financial transactions takes place.

With the "cross-over" of effort and financial transactions it becomes difficult to identify the cost of doing business in specific "cost centers" and this makes the function of the BOD (Increasing or reducing the efforts to provide services and goods to the membership both at SOAR and year round) a very challenging task.

The Two (2) major financial areas that have the most impact are the **REUNION** and **SOAMS** operation.

Some of the areas to be worked on due to "cross-over" are MEMBERSHIP, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, REUNION and SOAMS that support the same efforts.

For instance the MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR are both involved in establishing a new member file and status, (The initial Application Funds are sent to the Treasurer in a one step process), some of these costs to establish the member are mailing, issuance of printed material, admin are "cross-over" steps.

SOAMS produces and furnishes items for the raffle, i.e. pictures etc. As far as can be determine when SOAMS produces the item the cost to SOAMS for procurement is not recovered into their independent checking account (Remember SOAMS is a "For Profit Operation").

This distorts the actual and recorded dollar amount that is reflected in the accounting records (and to the membership) of the real amount that is transferred to the support the Scholarship program.

The Treasurer has established thirty-seven (37) cost accounting codes with the contracted bookkeeping service. This will be beneficial for the annual financial reporting system in accordance with GAAP and will assist the BOD in its oversight and budget & planning process.

The Budget Formulation form (Attached) (extracted from the accounting system) will integrate with the accounting process.

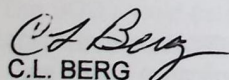
However the current overall annual financial statement does not produce a "snapshot" of how the SOA BOD does business for the membership in a readable format. The production of the two (2) Independent Financial Statements (IFS) will help address this greatly.

The BOD has established an independent bank account to fully fund all approved SOA Scholarship awards at time of approval. This will "clean up" the financial statements and produce a clearer picture of the SOA financial health for the membership.

+++++

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The committees identified develop appropriate forms and or reports that will:
 - a. Account For All Costs
 - b. Account For All Income
 - c. Produce Reports That The MEMBERSHIP & BOD can Understand & Use.
2. The Treasurer become involved in designing the appropriate forms to capture all costs in the areas and subsequently be able to reconcile to the official accounting records and apply to the Budget Formulation & Execution process.
3. Establish or appoint an independent Chairman SOAMS for segregation of duties and independence. At present (even with all the work to segregate and isolate each step) an inherent conflict of interest as it applies to the required BOD oversight and review is always present.
4. Establish independent Chairman for the various committees, other than members of the BOD, they are charged with the oversight & review.



C.L. BERG
Chairman Budget & Planning Committee

ATTACHMENT: As Stated

SOA BUDGET FORMULATION & EXECUTION (WORKING)

**COST
CENTER** _____

SUB-PART Description	Account ID	\$ Amount	SUB-TOTAL IDENTIFICATION (1-4)
Equipment Rental Expense	63500		
Misc Supplies Expense	66000		
Memorial Flowers Expense	67000		
Office Equipment Expense	67500		
Supplies Expense	67510		
Other Expense	68000		
Postage - AAR	69000		(1)
Fees	69005		(1)
Forwarding	69010		(1)
General	69015		(1)
Newsletter	69020		(1)
PRP	69025		(1)
SOAMS Postage	69030		(2)
SOAR Postage	69035		(3)
Printing - AAR	69500		(4)
General	69505		(4)
Newsletter	69510		(4)
PRP	69515		(4)
SOAMS Printing	69520		(2)
SOAR Printing	69525		(3)
Publications Expense	70000		
Rent Expense	70200		
Scholarship Fund - Print/Prize	71005		
SOAMS Misc Sales Expense	72000		(4)
Shipping & Handling Exp	72005		(4)
Stock Purchase	72010		(4)
SOAR AAR Expense	73000		(3)
PRP Expense	73015		(3)
Registration Gift Exp	73020		(3)
Supplies & Expenses	73030		(3)
Storage Rental Expense	74000		
Supplies Expense	74500		
Telephone - Fax Line	75000		
Internet & Website	75005		
Voice Line	75010		
Cellular	75015		
Travel Expense	76000		
TOTAL			ATTACH SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Signature

Reviewed and approved by: _____

Print Name Date Signature



Registration Area



Board of Directors



K-9 Brown and Budda SN-4A82 – FOB 2 Kontum 1967

My dog, Budda, and I had been in-country for eight months, when I was contacted and interviewed in March 1967 by two officers from the 5th Special Forces, in regards to temporary duty with an FOB.

Budda, the German Shepherd I had trained to be a scout dog at Fort Benning, Georgia, had acquired a well deserved, highly regarded reputation among the troops in the 173rd AB Brigade at Bien Hoa and the Marines around the Cam Ro Bay area that Budda and I had walked point for, for a month. So I assumed the Special Forces wanted Budda because of his reputation. I was told that my assumption was only partly correct. They also needed a handler with a top secret clearance. I was told that besides being Budda's handler, I was the only handler with a top-secret clearance. I agreed to go. Actually, I was never really sure whether I had a choice anyway.

Two days later, Budda and I were in a safe house near Ton Son Nhut, where I met SFC Scott, who was also on his way to the FOB Budda and I had been assigned to. (Incidentally, our first two missions in Laos were with SFC Scott and his team "Florida").

The following day we were climbing out of a plane at an airport outside of Kon Tum. I saw a short, gray haired First Sergeant sitting in the shotgun seat of a jeep watching Budda and me with skepticism. Seeing that his was the only land vehicle around, I reasoned that he was there to pick us up. I was accustomed to doubters. To break the ice, so to speak, I whispered to Budda to board the jeep. He did so at once. Dashing the 30 yards or so, he calmly hopped into the back seat. Budda not only impressed "Crash Whelan", but also instantly bonded with him.

I was met with more skepticism at the FOB. "No sweat", I thought, they would all be believers soon enough.

J.D. Bath, for example, admitted to me this past September at the SOA Reunion, that he had had reservations about Budda's abilities, until Budda alerted us to a trip-wire during a mission. J.D. became a convert, and a proponent of Budda's skills. To paraphrase J.D., "That day I swore Budda could have all of my water".

Still, there is something to be said in defense of skepticism. As Budda's reputation grew in the 173rd, so did the fanciful exploits about him. The stories about his actions in combat were exaggerated to the point where he had to be both Rin-Tin-Tin and Lassie rolled into one. All too often troops on patrol or ambush trusted Budda too much. They would almost sleepwalk on patrols, relying solely on the dog to alert them to danger. As Budda's trainer and handler and admirer, I, more than anyone, trusted in his proven abilities and yet, I never



relaxed my own vigilance. I often had to impress upon the troops, including platoon leaders and platoon sergeants, that war dogs were not infallible and, like the soldiers, they were trained to protect, defend and walk point for, could not work indefinitely.

Thankfully, the men I served with in FOB II were experienced and mature enough that no matter how much of their respect Budda gained, they remained professional, confident and vigilant. Budda and I were a part of their team.

With the 173rd, I was accustomed to "sweeps" also referred to as "search-and-destroy" missions. With the FOB, it was more like "sneak-and-peek" missions. At least that was always our original plan. Mister Charles, it seems, never got the memo. Laos was more or less his domain, and he believed in "searching-and-destroying".

In all, Budda and I went over the fence six times, and I cannot remember any as a walk-in-the-park. There are two missions that stand out in my mind more than the others. One was when we found enough rice to feed Hong Kong for several months. The other was when Mister Charles attempted to ambush us while we were checking out some real estate. On both occasions we dropped our "sneak-and-peek" persona and reverted to our bad ass mode. Yeah, we thought we were bad, and, in truth we were! We discovered the rice on the top and side of either a large hill or small mountain. I was never really sure which. The rice was packaged in 250-kilo sacks, stacked five to eight high and covering an area half the size of a football field.

In retrospect, much of that particular mission was amusing. Saigon kept feeding us bogus information on how to destroy the rice. Or telling us what not to do after the fact. "Cut the sacks open and torch the exposed rice". Twenty minutes later: "Don't cut the sacks open. Torch them as is", etc. etc.

Had we allowed the Viet Cong to witness our imitation of the keystone cops, they just might have put their weapons aside, sat back and enjoyed the show. Eventually, we accomplished the job by our own means. But not before a night of keeping Charlie at bay, with the help of two hatchet forces and naval planes that bombed the sides of the hill/mountain continuously.

It is my nature to find humor in nearly any situation, no matter how serious it might be. While I stated that particular mission was amusing when viewed now, thirty-five years later, in truth, it was a difficult and deadly serious piece of business. Not only were we fighting to keep the Viet Cong away from their rice while trying to find ways to destroy said rice, we had a serious problem within our own ranks.

The hatchet forces, one made up of montagnards, the other Vietnamese, made a bad situation worse. Old grievances and hatred between them remains



unresolved to this day. The uneasy truce between them, during those war years, because of their shared enemy, the Communists, was extremely fragile during that long night. Their hatred for one another was never far below the surface. Thankfully, they understood what their duty was and nothing more than belligerent looks passed between them.

The second mission that is so memorable for me was when Budda earned a double ration of biscuits by saving our rumps. There were five Americans and a beefed-up mercenary force on that mission. J.D. Bath's ever-reliable montagnard team, "Colorado", earned their biscuits that day too. We were on a narrow trail about two and a half feet wide circling the side of a high hill. There were treetops below us to our right and jungle rising upwards to our left. Through the bush, a sharp-eyed montagnard spotted a clearing about twenty-five yards wide and about as long with a hooch in the center.

It was decided that we would investigate the hooch. As I began making my way through the bush, at point, Budda blocked me with his body and alerted in the direction we had been originally going on that narrow path. I made my case to the other Americans that we should honor Budda's alert. They agreed. I returned to the trail reading Budda's body language, as I followed him. He tensed up more and more; I knew that he definitely, absolutely had something. Budda and I had been in situations like this many times before! After we made a slight turn in the trail, I saw several Charlies laying prone, weapons at the ready, obviously waiting for us to move into that clearing. Why they had not seen me and Budda moving in their direction or why they did not seem to be aware of us at that moment would always remain a mystery to me.

As I was ready to make my way back along the trail, two Viet Cong came through the bush. We all saw one another at the same moment, but because Budda terrified them by springing aggressively in their direction, I was able to fire once before my weapon jammed. This was not good!

I called Budda back. The trail seemed even narrower as my main man, Budda, and I ran back as fast as we could. Actually Budda slowed me down. He refused to run ahead because he had been trained (by me) to stay close in firefights. He would not run full out either. So I was sort of half-steppin. I fell once and he stopped to wait for me. What a great dog!

While all this was taking place, I remember J.D. standing in the middle of that trail, his weapon pointing in my direction, yelling for me to hustle. The rounds that wized past Budda and I were really all the incentive I needed to hustle. J.D. and the others could not return fire because I would have been in crossfire. The instant I was parallel with J.D.'s weapons' muzzle, he fired, "Huh? What did ya say"? While I was checking Budda for wounds, I saw that besides the Americans and six montagnards, everyone else had vanished. Finding no wounds on my man, I attempted to unjam my M-16. Unable to do so, I used my



revolver firing in Charlie's direction. Of course, I knew revolvers are inaccurate at that distance. Still, firing back gave me satisfaction.

We began a slow withdrawal. More and more we were being outgunned as more Viet Cong were joining up with their comrades. I kept expecting mortar. As we moved through the bush, we picked up more speed. We radioed for choppers to evacuate us. There is not a sweeter sound than the 'thwap-thwap-thwap' of chopper blades coming in to pull you out of a hot LZ. The runaways suddenly materialized from the bush eager to board the choppers.

I was all for leaving them there, but cooler heads prevailed and they returned to base camp, the FOB, with us. They were disarmed, fired and sent packing.

When we set down at the FOB, Lou Smith was there to greet us. Lou kept the FOB running smoothly. Without Lou, the creature comforts we took for granted would never have been. Everything from hot showers to our meals, that were the envy of every visiting G.I., to the occasional movie, to, my favorite, the well-stocked bar. The list goes on and on, which anyone connected to the FOB can attest to.

I went directly to my quarters to feed Budda, and then take a shower. I noticed Budda sniffing my pack, which I had dropped on the floor. It was then that I saw how lucky I was that day. My pack had been hit. There was an entrance and exit hole. It could have only happened when I fell. While I always carried and ate Chinese rationed rice and fish, from its plastic pouch, inside my pants pocket, I also carried a can of ham and lima beans in my pack. I found it twisted and split open, its contents all over the inside of the pack.

It was about then that 'Crash' came into my room. Besides telling me how fortunate he thought I was, he advised me not to mention the US Government issue can of ham and lima beans. I understood----I guess. The ham and lima beans was not the only casualty. The brightly bi-colored signaling canvas panel, which had been folded up inside the pack, looked like a large slice of Swiss cheese when unfolded.

All of a sudden, I wanted a drink more than a shower. I showed the panel off at our club where someone wrote, "help" across it with a marker. I should have shipped the pack and panel home and had them bronzed.

I wrote this piece/article for two reasons. One, I was asked to by James Hetrick to write something about my time with FOB II, and two, it was an opportunity to praise Budda's courage, contribution and the skills he displayed on every mission.

I have had several dogs since Budda and all of them rescue dogs. They were and are pets and spoiled, which is fine. No matter what we name them, I



catch myself, from time to time, calling them 'Budda'. I miss every dog I have ever had, once they have passed on. But, I am not ashamed to admit that I grieve for Budda. When Alan Keller told me he named his first shepherd Budda, I was as proud as any handler would be.

My thanks to both J.D. and Lou Smith for prodding my memory and filling in some of the gaps.

And my apologies to the men whose names I cannot recall. Those missions were thirty-five years ago, and I have trouble remembering what I ate for breakfast this morning.

FOR BUDDA SN - 4A82.

Robert R. "K-9" Brown #2157-GL



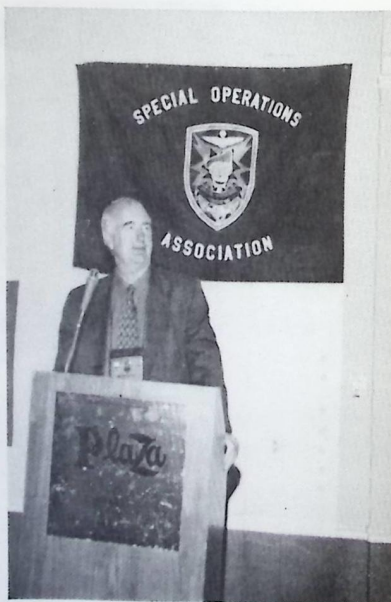
Budda 4A82



Guard from Nellis AFB, Nevada



Col Lew Millett, MOH (Ret)



MG Bill Garrison (Ret)



EARLY WARNING ORDER

SOAR XXVII

IT APPEARED THAT IN PAST YEARS SOME MEMBERS DID NOT KNOW WHERE OR WHEN THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION REUNION (SOAR) WAS TO BE HELD OR WHOM TO CONTACT FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS OR WHERE TO FIND THIS INFORMATION.

WELL HERE'S THE POOP:

WHAT: SOAR XXVII

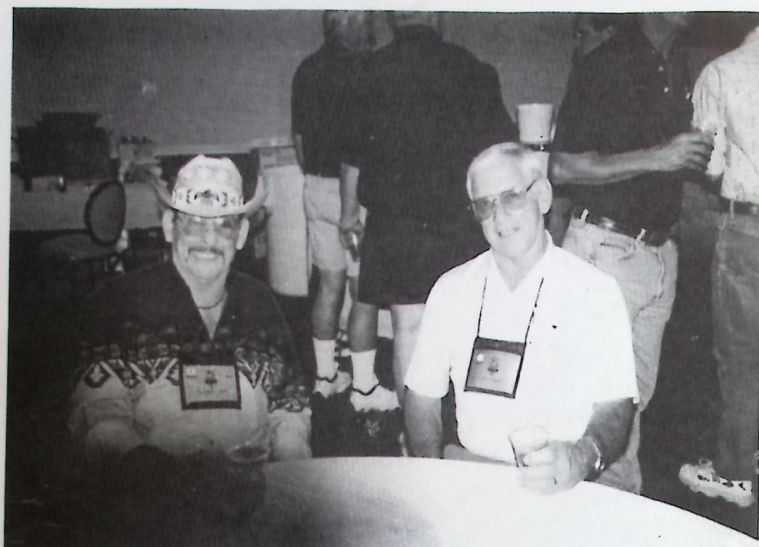
WHEN: 24 – 28 SEPTEMBER 2003

**WHERE: PLAZA HOTEL AND CASINO,
ONE MAIN STREET, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
TEL: (800) 634-6575**

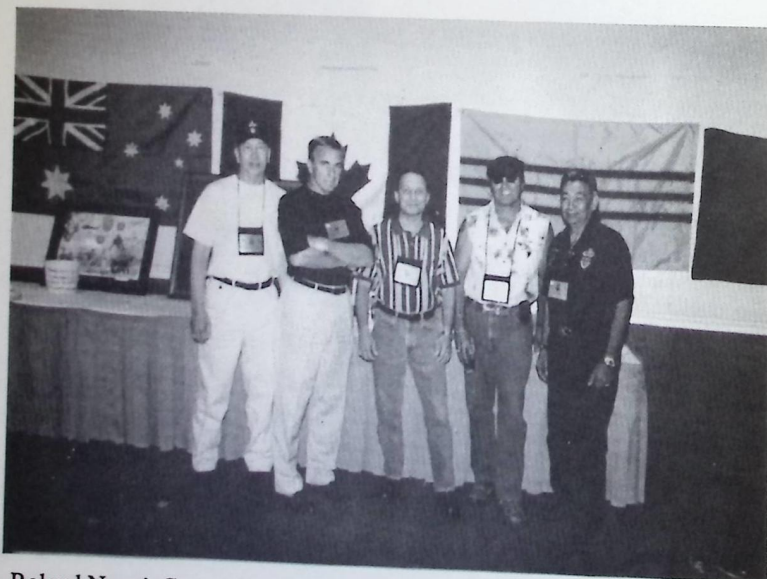
**DEADLINE FOR SOAR ROOM RATE OF \$42.00 IS 23
AUGUST 2002. WHEN MAKING YOUR RESERVATION
INFORM THE CLERK THAT YOU ARE WITH SOA!!!!!!**

SOAR REGISTRATION FORM WILL BE IN THE PRE-REUNION PACKET (PRP) WITH A SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE FOR MAILING. PRP WILL BE MAILED IN MID JULY.

THERE IS ALSO A POCKET CALENDAR IN THIS AAR PACKET WHICH HAS ALL THE DATES, ADDRESSES AND POOP.



Tom Kyle and JD Bath



Roland Nuqui, George Pointen, Skip Ettinger, Joe Smith, Sammy Hernandez



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

September 23, 2002

The Honorable George Herbert Walker Bush


Dear President Bush:

On the occasion of your visit to Finland the Special Operations Association wishes to express its' deep appreciation to you for taking the time to assist in honoring one of our own fallen comrades. Larry Thorne served in both Finland's Armed Forces in WWII and the United States Army in Vietnam.

As you are aware, Larry was killed in action in Vietnam on 18 October 1965 while serving as an American Special Forces soldier in MACVSOG, a unit organized to conduct covert special operations. Interestingly, President Mauno Koivisto served as a Torni Jaeger during the conduct of Finland's Continuation War from 1941-1944. President Koivisto is also a member of OSASTO TORNI, a Finnish Foundation registered for the purpose of supporting its aging Veterans and perpetuating the memory of Larry.

Thank you for your continued support of Veterans worldwide.

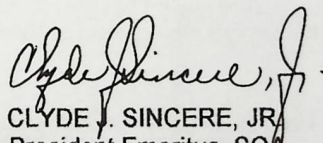
Enclosure: SOA Fact Sheet



JAMES F. HETRICK
President, SOA

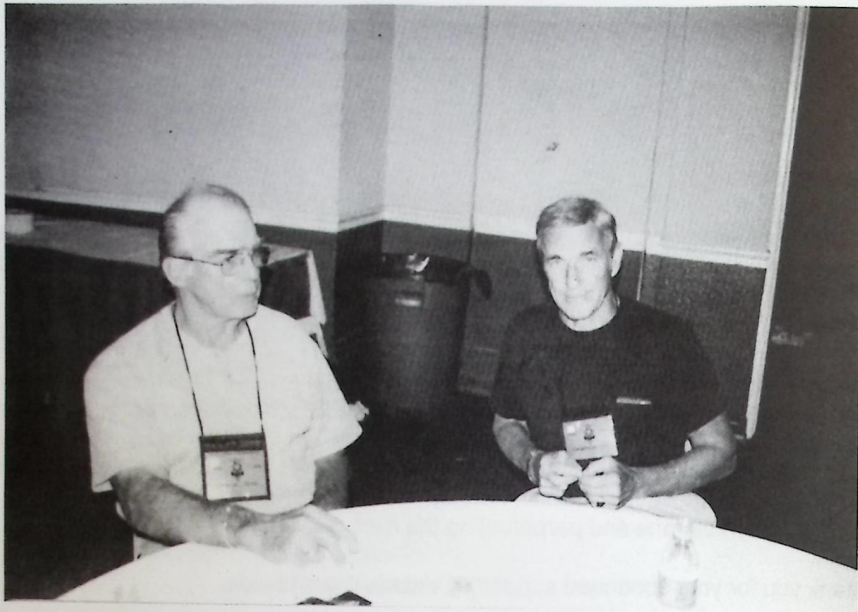
965 North Grandview Road
Paulden, Arizona 86334

Respectfully,



CLYDE J. SINCERE, JR.
President Emeritus, SOA

11722 Lariat Lane
Oakton, Virginia 22124-2323



Ken Moyer and George Pointen



Clyde Sincere and Jim Butler

From: John Mullins
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2002 7:30 AM
To: jfhetrick@email.msn.com
Subject: Museum

Hi Jim,

Great seeing you at the meeting. Seems like everything is going much smoother now, much to everyone's delight.

Haven't gotten too much interest from anyone on the museum issue. Any chance of putting the following in this year's AAR?

A recent visit to the Airborne and Special Operations Museum in Fayetteville (a first-class operation, by the way) learned that the Special Forces part of the exhibition was only going to be temporary, in that most of the equipment/photos/etc. were only on loan.

This will leave the museum with a heavy preponderance of exhibits on Airborne, and little on S.F., and practically none on SOG. The SOA has determined that the museum staff is quite interested in remedying this situation, but simply do not have the materials to do so. They have promised that, should we be able to come up with enough displays, they will set aside sufficient display space to show them.

The BOD has designated John Mullins, GL240, as the point of contact on this matter. Mullins can be reached by e-mail at bulletbaron@yahoo.com, by phone at (580) 569-4550, or by snailmail at P.O. Box 202, Martha, OK 73556. Anyone interested in helping with this project is encouraged to contact him.

The main things needed are display items, i.e. photographs, memorabilia, weapons, captured items, etc. Time to go out to the garage and rummage through the footlocker. Money is not necessarily needed, though contributions are always welcome. As an example of where funds would go, the museum staff informs us that the mannequins used for displays are quite expensive.

This is our legacy. The young soldiers coming up at Fort Bragg know little about us - for them the Vietnam War is ancient history. Time to remedy that.

Edit as you see fit.

Thanks,

John



Bruce Koch, The Big Winner



SOA 25 Year Pin Recipients



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

Application for Membership



1. Name: _____ Date: ____/____/____
Print or Type: LAST NAME FIRST NAME MI MM/DD/YYYY

2. Address: _____ Apt. # _____

3. City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____ + _____ Phone: () _____ - _____

4. Social Security Number _____ - ____ - _____ Service Number (Prior to 1969): _____

5. E-Mail: _____ @ _____

6. Class of Membership Applied For: General ____ Associate ____ (see types and requirements on reverse of form)

7. If you have applied for a General Membership but the listed duties do not meet the requirements for that class of membership, will you accept an Associate membership? Yes ____ No ____

8. Assignment to Military or Civilian organizations that *qualify you for membership*:

Unit or Project	Date(s) of Service	Duty	Location

9. Reference (only a **General Member** with personal knowledge of the above can be used as a Reference!):

Name	Unit	Member #

10. I understand that SOA Membership entitles me to the rights and privileges specified in the SOA BY-LAWS. Enclosed is my check or money order for \$25.00, payable to the Special Operations Association, for the first year's dues. To maintain active membership, Annual dues of \$25.00, are due by December 31 of each year. A \$5.00 surcharge is required after 31 January if dues are paid late. Lifetime Membership is available to members in good standing at a cost of \$250.00.

Authority for release of information and records:

I hereby authorize release of information and records bearing on my military service to the Special Operations Association. I further affirm that the information submitted on this Special Operations Association membership application form is true, correct, and voluntarily given. Signature of a witness is required.

Signature _____ Date _____

Witness _____ Date _____

Mail completed form to:
Ray Chambers
SOA Membership Chairman
437 North 110th Street
Apache Junction, AZ 85220-2216

Membership Criteria

The SOA is a fraternal organization made up of U.S. and allied participants in Special Military Operations conducted in combat area during WW II, the Korean War, the SE Asian conflict and other post Vietnam era conflicts.

Types and requirements of membership

A. General Member

This is a **Voting membership** and the dues are \$25.00 (U.S.), assessed annually.

Requirements

1. The applicant must have been assigned to one of the units recognized by this Association
2. The **ROUTINE** (normal) duty of the applicant while at this assignment **MUST** have placed the applicant in **DIRECT/THREAT/EXPOSURE** to hostile fire.
3. The applicant must be specific concerning dates of assignments and duties performed while at this assignment. This information may be cross-checked with other General Members.
4. The applicant must provide, with his application, copies of government documentation proving unit assignment(s). **The Association is not responsible for obtaining your documentation!** (Requirement **may be waived** if the application includes the name of at least one General Member who can verify the applicant's qualifications.)
5. Allied applicants **MUST** provide sufficient documentation to enable the Membership Committee to evaluate their qualifications. If the Allied applicant is from a country from which it would be impossible to obtain records (i.e., Rhodesia or South Vietnam), they must submit as much background information on their duties, as possible, to the Membership Committee for evaluation.

B. Associate Member

This is a **NON-VOTING** membership and the dues are \$25.00 (US) assessed annually.

Requirements

Government documentation assigning you to one of the units recognized by this association. If your normal duties at the assignment **DID NOT** place you in direct threat or exposure to hostile fire, then you qualify for an Associate Membership.

LIFE STATUS

A one time charge of \$250.00 (US), for both General and Associate members.

GUIDELINES

Definitions of "SPECIAL OPERATIONS" type units.

The unit/project **MUST** be or have been composed of military/paramilitary personnel, organized **SPECIFICALLY** to conduct special/unconventional operations, with a mission of conducting covert and classified combat and/or reconnaissance operations as its **NORMAL** function, within hostile territory and forward of the area of influence of conventional ground support units;

or

with the mission to conduct counter-Terrorist Operations as its **PRIMARY** function;

or

on a **ROUTINE** basis provide **DIRECT** combat support (fire-transport-forward air control) to organizations meeting the above criterion and approved by the Special Operations Association. This definition applies only to those who actually crewed these land, sea, or air weapons or vehicles. (Because interpretation of "Special Operations" and the above guidelines may be relative to each applicant, the final definitions shall rest with this Association.)

EXAMPLES OF UNITS RECOGNIZED:

PRE-1954: OSS; 8240th A.U.; MERRILL'S MARAUDERS; USMC RAIDERS OR SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNITS OF WORLD WAR II OR THE KOREAN WAR.

1954-PRESENT: COMBINED ARM STUDIES; MACV/SOG; B-52; WHITE STAR; PRU; CT; MOBILE STRIKE FORCE; B-56; MOBILE GUERRILLA FORCE; B-50; CIA; SOCPAC; DELTA FORCE; USN SEAL TEAMS; USMC FORCE RECON; USAF AIR COMMANDOS; USA SPECIAL FORCES ON SPECIAL OPERATIONS; OTHER SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNITS INVOLVED IN MIDDLE EAST OPERATIONS; AND OTHER SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNITS.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION MEMORABILIA SALES (SOAMS)

965 No. Grandview
Paulden, AZ 86334

jfhetrick@msn.com

PRICES AS OF JAN 1, 2003

	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
RING, SOA Crest (Size _____)			
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content;"> <p>NOT AVAILABLE</p> <p>NEW RING UNDER DEVELOPMENT</p> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sterling Silver • 10 Carat gold 	_____	_____
	<u>Limited to 20 characters of engraving inside ring</u>		
	Name _____ SOA # _____		
ADD \$ 10.00 FOR SHIPPING AND INSURANCE !	\$10.00	_____	_____
BAG, SOA (Western Pack) W/ Embroidered SOA Logo	\$20.00	_____	_____
BAG, SHAVING/UTILITY (Western Pack) W/ SOA Logo	\$15.00	_____	_____
BELT BUCKLE, SOA - Brass, w / Prairie Fire "SKULL and DAGGER WINGS" Emblem	\$15.00	_____	_____
BELT BUCKLE, SOA - Brass, w / "SOA Logo"	\$20.00	_____	_____
COIN, SOA, Nickel Plate with Satin Finish (1 3/4" Dia.)	\$10.00	_____	_____
COIN, SOA, Sterling Silver (Old Design)	\$18.00	_____	_____
COIN, SOG PUC - COMMEMORATIVE	\$10.00	_____	_____
CERTIFICATES, SOG PUC - Set of two	\$10.00	_____	_____
DECAL, SOA CREST (Specify: Inside _____ / Outside _____)	\$ 3.00	_____	_____
DECAL, SOA CREST, SMALL (2 x 27/8 In.) Outside Only	\$ 2.00	_____	_____
DENIM SHIRT, Blue, Short Sleeve, W/ SOA Logo (Specify: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____ XXXL _____)	\$36.00	_____	_____
DENIM SHIRT, Blue, Long Sleeve, W/SOA Logo (Specify: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____ XXXL _____)	\$36.00	_____	_____
GOLF SHIRT, Embroidered w/ SOA Logo (Specify: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____) (Specify: Black _____ White _____)	\$27.00	_____	_____
GOLF SHIRT, Black Forest (Dark Green) w/SOA Logo (Specify: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____ XXXL _____)	\$27.00	_____	_____
HAT, BASEBALL, BLACK - Direct Embroidered SOA Logo on front and Prairie Fire Wings on Back.	\$12.00	_____	_____
HAT, BOONY, COTTON W/ SOA Logo Black _____ Khaki _____ Cocoa _____	\$14.00	_____	_____
HAT, BOONY, COTTON W/ MACVSOG Logo Black _____ Khaki _____ Cocoa _____	\$16.00	_____	_____
JACKET, SOA - MEMBER'S ONLY BRAND, Black w/ SOA Logo (Specify S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____ XXXL _____)	\$37.00	_____	_____
MUG, COFFEE - BLACK - (11 oz) with SOA Crest and Motto.	\$10.00	_____	_____



MUG, COFFEE-WHITE-(11 oz) with SOA Crest Motto.	\$10.00	_____	_____
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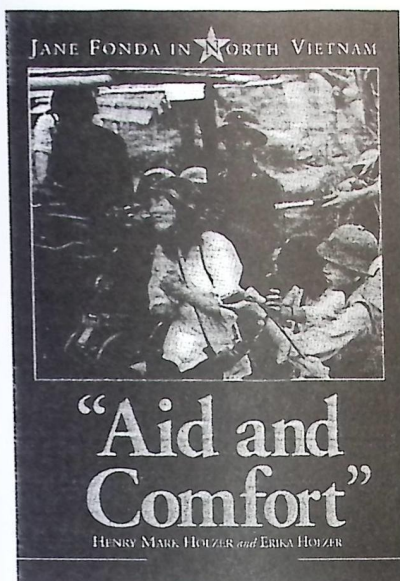
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Henry Mark Holzer *and* Erika Holzer
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“Outstanding...well written, well researched, very logical...a great

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Jane Fonda's visit to Hanoi in July 1972 and her pro-North Vietnamese, anti-American conduct, especially her pose with an anti-aircraft gun used to shoot down American planes and her propaganda broadcasts directed toward American troops, angered many Americans. In their eyes, she was guilty of treason, but she was never charged by the American legal system. Instead, she has made millions, been the recipient of countless awards, and remained an honored American icon.

This work investigates Fonda's activities in North Vietnam and argues that she could have been indicted for treason, that there would have been enough evidence to take the case to a jury, that she could have been convicted, and that a conviction probably would have been upheld on appeal. It also considers Fonda's early life and the effect it had on her behavior and beliefs in her later years, her audience of American pows who were forced by the Vietnamese to listen to her broadcasts condemning them as war criminals, her arrival in Vietnam and how it was viewed by American servicemen and civilians, the crime of treason throughout history, and the only Congressional inquiry into her actions, which resulted in the government's decision to take no legal action against her. Texts of Fonda's radio broadcasts to American servicemen comprise the appendix.

Henry Mark Holzer is a professor emeritus at Brooklyn Law School. Erika Holzer is a lawyer, novelist and essayist. They live in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

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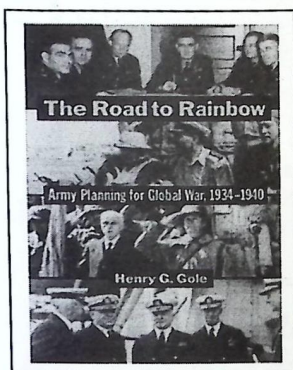
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HENRY G. GOLE, a retired colonel in the U.S. Army, was a rifleman, BAR man, and sergeant in the Korean War and a special forces officer in the Vietnam War. He also served four tours in Germany and worked as a research analyst for the U.S. Army War College's Strategic Studies Institute and as a staff officer at the Pentagon. Colonel Gole earned a doctorate in history at Temple University and has taught at the University of Maryland, the United States Military Academy, Franklin and Marshall College, Dickinson College, and in the Department of National Security and Strategy at the U.S. Army War College.

Colonel Gole has published more than thirty articles and given papers at numerous academic conferences sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps, Virginia Military Institute, and the Society for Military History, among others. He resides in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, where he writes, consults, and teaches.

THE ROAD TO RAINBOW

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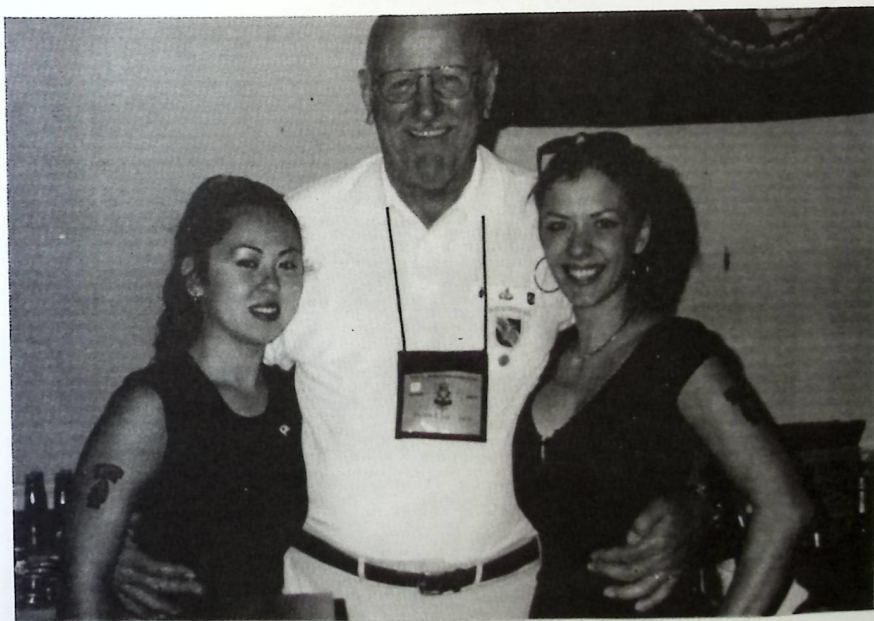
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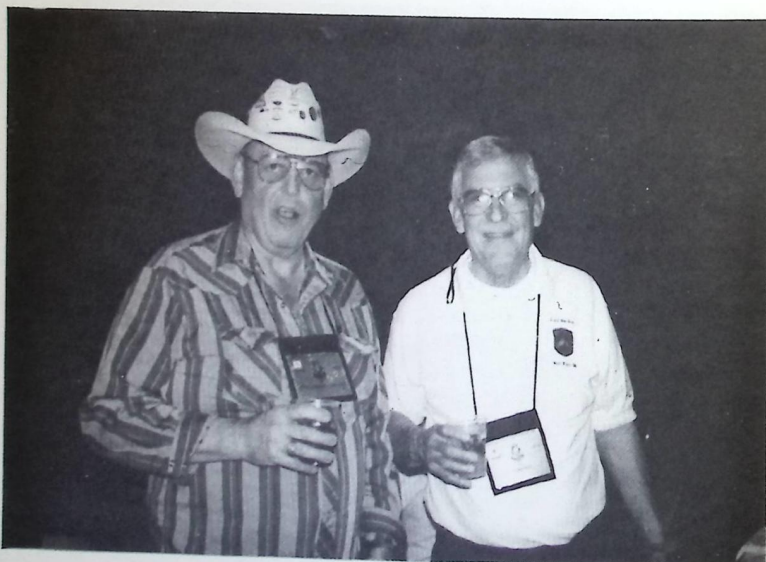
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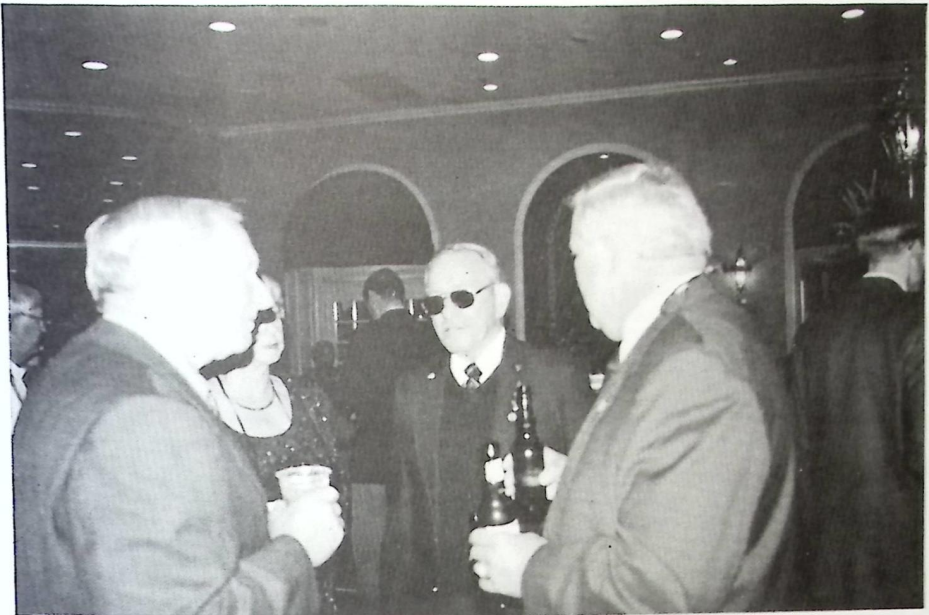
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John "Country" Korsbeck and Fred Mentzer



Billy Waugh holding court



Mike Duggan, John Fryer, Hans Manz, Gene McCarthy

Kendall-designed flag now official

The Medal of Honor flag created by Bill Kendall of Jefferson is now officially sanctioned by the United States government. President Bush last week signed into law the defense appropriations bill, which included the provision making the flag official.

U.S. Representative Tom Latham (R-Iowa 5th) in a public ceremony at the new Greene County Historical Society museum in Jefferson last Saturday morning presented Kendall with one of the pens the President employed to sign the bill. Latham added that on original copy of the President's signature on the bill will shortly be provided to Kendall as well, along with a photo of the bill signing ceremony.

Latham said he was "very proud and pleased to present the pen" to Kendall. He praised Kendall's idea for the flag, one of which will be provided to each of the living Medal of Honor winners, and for display at the gravesites of the deceased recipients as well. About 3,500 American military personnel have received the Medal of Honor.

Kendall, an Army Special Forces veteran, in his remarks at the ceremony said he was very proud to be an American, and that the American flag is "the greatest flag in the world." He thanked Latham, without whose effort "this never would have happened."

Kendall also thanked U.S. Senator Chuck Grassley of Iowa, Latham's aide James Carstensen, and many others who helped make the Medal of Honor flag's official designation a reality. The new flag was flown for the first time at Memorial Day ceremonies at Jefferson Cemetery last May, where a monument stands honoring Jefferson native Darrell Lindsey, Medal of Honor posthumous recipient for heroism as a pilot in



Pen from the President

U.S. Representative Tom Latham (left) presents Bill Kendall with a pen used by President Bush in signing the de-

fense appropriation bill. The bill contained a provision making official the Medal of Honor flag designed by Kendall.

World War Two.

Kendall noted that Darrel Stephan of the Jefferson VFW post found the flag company to make the new flag. He also said that Arlon Yepsen of the Jefferson American Legion post contacted son David Yepsen of the Des Moines Register about Kendall's idea for the flag. David Yepsen in turn contacted Register columnist John Carlson, who publicized the idea, and Latham helped guide it to completion from there.

Kendall presented the signature pen to Mary Lynch, president of the Greene County Historical Society, for permanent display in the new museum. He added that the photo of

the President signing the bill, as well as the signature copy, will also become the property of the museum. Lynch expressed the gratitude of the historical society to Kendall, Latham and others for the contribution of the items.

Kendall also noted that U.S. Senator James Grimes of Iowa had sponsored the creation of the Medal of Honor in 1861 during the Civil War, and that it was appropriate that Latham and Grassley, as Iowans, were responsible for the official designation of the new flag. Referring to the flag's creation, he quipped, "Betsy Ross, I'm running right behind you right now!"

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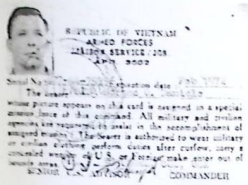
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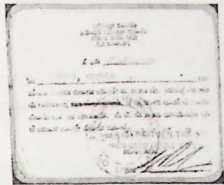
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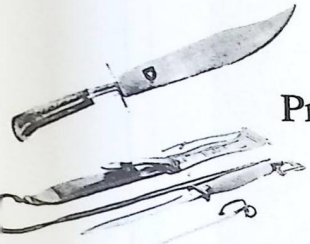
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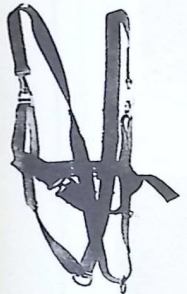
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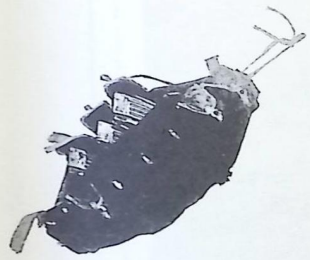
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- 81 -

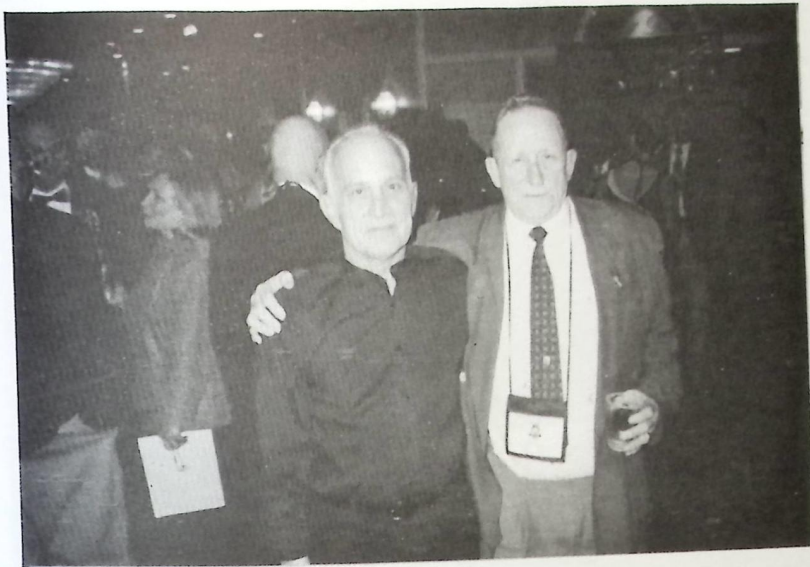
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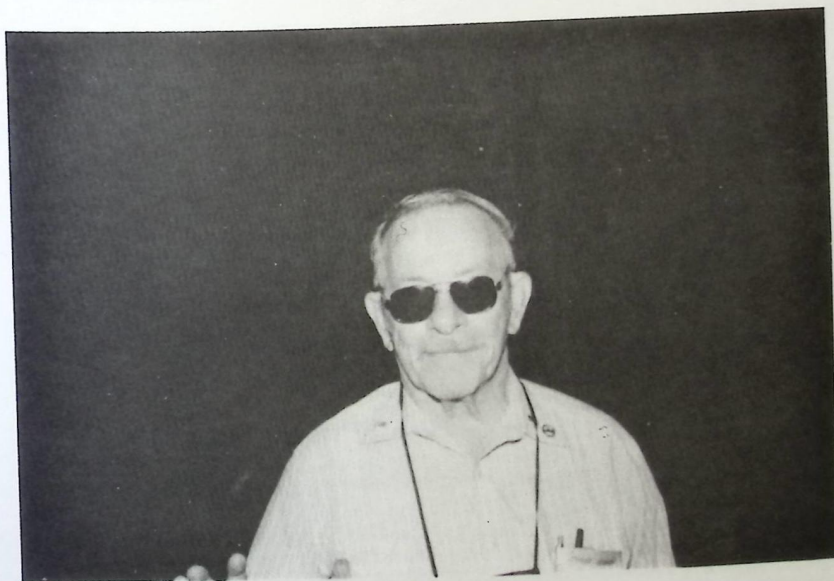
Nick Brokhausen saying "Hold what you got, I'll be right back!"



Steve Wilson, Ron Owens, Lee Steward, Leonard Moreau



Jim Thompson and Mike Bengel



Billy



Sam Bass, Steve McCarthy and Ben Baker



Nick Gordano, Debbie and Jim Harrison, Ben Baker and Bob Golden

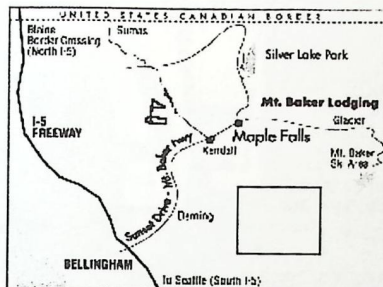
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Tel: (360) 599-2416



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3. At the conclusion of play each foursome (or whatever) please turn in their scorecards for verification/posting.
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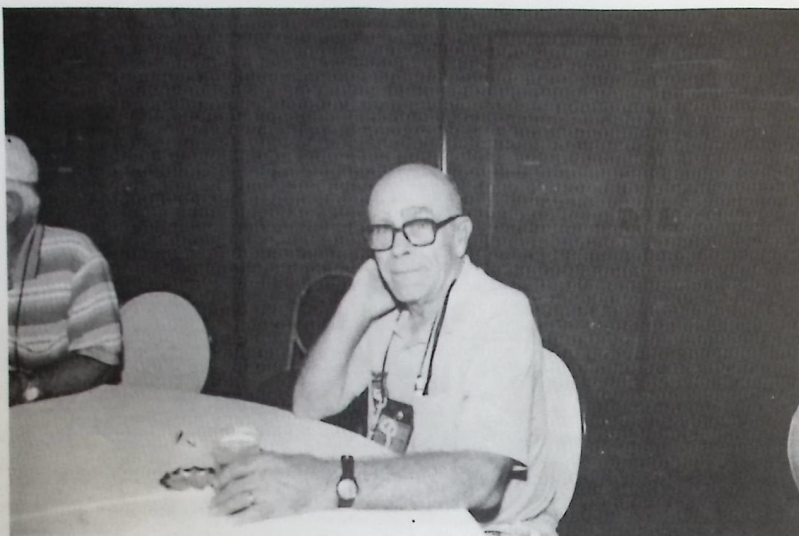
Note: Maple Falls is located 2 ½ miles east of the Kendall Road (Hwy 547) junction.



Mike Bengé, Keit Van Nguyen and Pedro (Rhade) Dega



Pat and Ray Dawson



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Gene McCarthy, John Mullins, John Fryer, DC Caldwell



Sammy Hernandez



Karen Dehnke and Cliff Newman

ADMIRALS URGE PROBE OF ATTACK ON USS LIBERTY

Three admirals, an ambassador and a wounded survivor are demanding that Congress investigate the attack on the USS Liberty and subsequent cover-up.

EXCLUSIVE TO AMERICAN FREE PRESS

By James P. Tucker Jr.

Pressure on Congress to investigate Israel's deliberate attack on the *USS Liberty* on June 8, 1967, and the cover-up by Washington mounted when ranking military officers gathered in Washington May 14 to express outrage at the high-level whitewashing of the tragic assault.

Those who "demanded" a "thorough investigation" of the attack and cover-up included Admiral Thomas Moorer, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Admiral Merlin Staring. Gen. Ray Davis endorsed the call but was unable to attend the news conference in Washington. James Akins, former ambassador to Saudi Arabia and an expert on the Middle East, joined in the call.

They announced the formation of Liberty Alliance, based in Front Royal, Va., to maintain pressure for an investigation in order to correct the historical record.

Evidence that Israel deliberately attacked the U.S. vessel with the intent to sink it and kill all aboard is beyond convincing—it is conclusive. This evidence was first disclosed in the court-killed *Spotlight* newspaper more than a quarter-century ago and subsequently in *American Free Press*.

"The press ran away from the *Liberty* story" in 1967, Moorer said. "What we're seeking is an agreement" by Congress to investigate the incident, he said. "The mission of elected and appointed officials should be the straight-out bald truth."

Reporters were shown a film, *Loss of Liberty*,* documenting the treachery in which 34 Americans were killed and 172 wounded. Producer Tito Howard "put the true story on the film," Moorer said. "Every foot of it is true."

The late Yitzhak Rabin, who commanded the Israeli army, came to Washington after the three-day war "with orders for Secretary of State Dean Rusk," said Akins.

Rusk replied to the Israeli officer: "General, the

Film Documents Israeli War Crime Against America

(Continued from Page 1)

United States is not a colony of Israel."

The late George Ball, under secretary of state under President John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson and long-time Bilderberg luminary, expressed outrage over the Israeli attack, Akins said. Ball wrote of the attack: "Israel knew it could get away with anything." If Israel had succeeded in sinking the ship with all aboard, the attack would have been blamed on Egypt, Ball said. He referred to Israel "murdering Americans."

Getting an investigation is difficult, Akins said, because "Congress is Israeli-occupied territory."

Staring said he was given a copy of the official Navy report on the incident but was unable to find evidence justifying its conclusion that the attack was a mistake. The report was taken from him before he could comment.

Larry Weaver, a survivor who was extensively wounded, revealed a chilling experience. He went over the familiar details showing the attack was deliberate—the flag was flying conspicuously and Israeli recon pilots flew so low that smiles and waves were exchanged.

Barely out of intensive care, Weaver was summoned by an admiral, who removed his stars and said they would talk as equals. The admiral, whose name Weaver was unable to recall, asked him to tell him what he knew about the *Liberty* attack. After hearing his response, Weaver said, the admiral told him:

"If you ever repeat that to anybody at any time, you will be put in jail and we'll throw away the key." The admiral has been identified by AFP as Isaac Kidd.

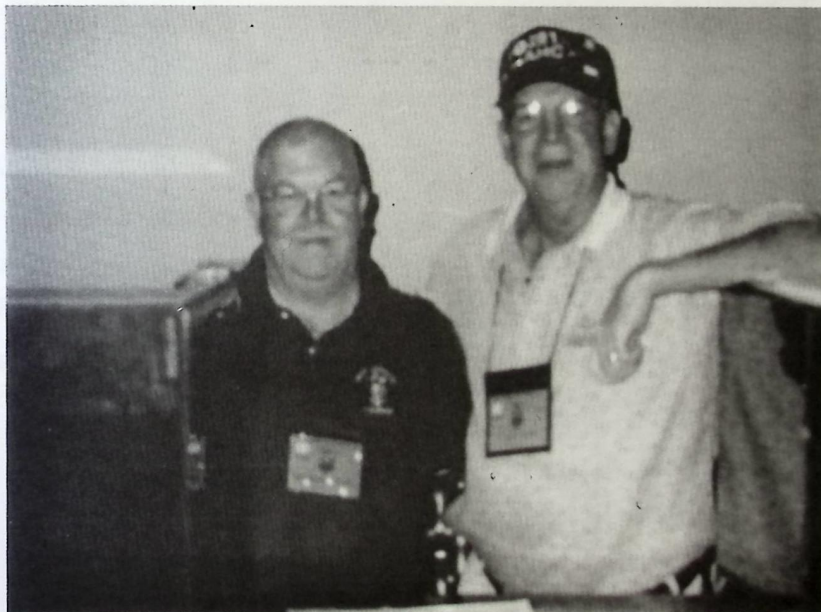
Like other crewmen, Weaver's military records were purged of his service on the *Liberty*.

"We are a ship without a country," Weaver said. ★

* *Loss of Liberty* will premier at the Third International Barnes Review Conference on Authentic History and the First Amendment June 14-16. However, advance orders are being accepted now and will be filled before the conference. Send check or money order for \$30 to First Amendment Books, 1433 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, Washington, D.C. 20003. Call toll-free 1-888-699-NEWS (6397) to charge.



Fred Walz and date



Bob Mitchell and Jim "MOM" Torbert



Jay Graves holding audience captive!



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Christina and Zorro



Al Newman, Toby Thomas and Ben Baker



Keit Van Nguyen and Carl Crantz



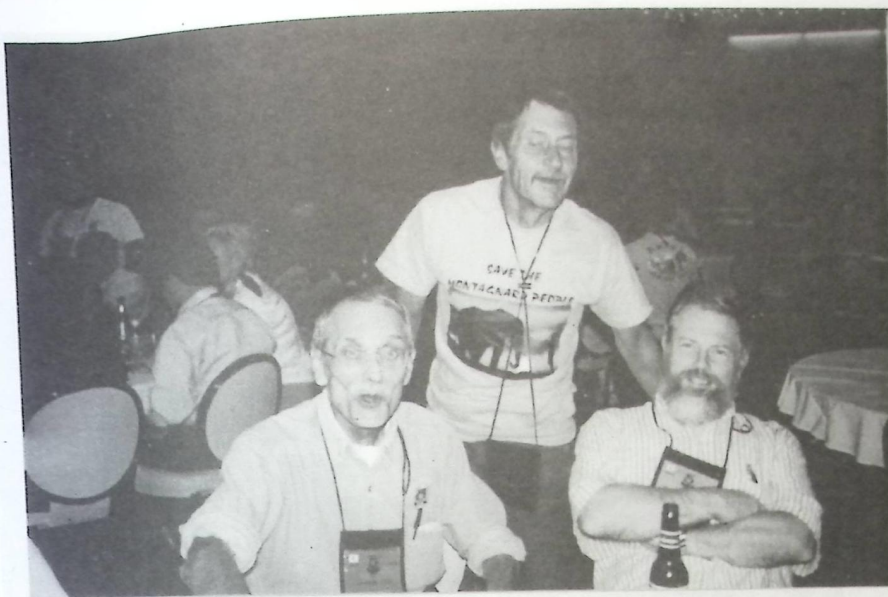
Bill Garcia, Stacie, Greg Garcia



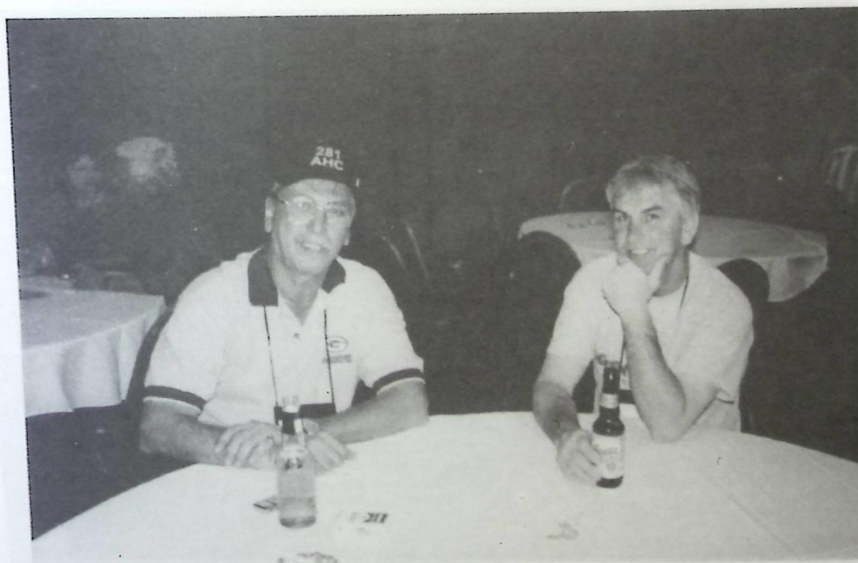
Laf Keaton and Daughters, Cher and Sunsarae



Don Schneider, Carol and Gary Wright, Tyler Furbish



Joe Parnor, Greg Davis, Frank Greco



Mike and Joe Fellenz

SOAR XXVI BANQUET



SOAR XXVI BANQUET



SOAR XXVI BANQUET



SPECIAL FORCES SOLDIERS

Ralph Grant Edens

***Frank N. Badolati – George A. Hoagland III – Donald L. Dotson – Marlin C. Cook
Jesse L. Hancock – Ronald T. Terry – Cecil J. Hodgson***

*You lived together, fought together and died together and now share
Panel 4-E on the Vietnam Memorial for eternity.*

FOREVER YOUNG

*I have sailed the sea's in darkness, climbed snow covered mountains
and seen the sun rise on sparkling beaches.*

*I have struggled through hot, humid and dangerous jungles, walked
furnace like deserts, fought myriad foes and endured.*

*I have seen the beautiful innocence of a child's smile, I have seen the
worse that people can do; and yes I have also seen the
essential good in people everyday.*

YET

*I still see the young faces from wars long gone, those that remain

forever young*

*I felt invincible and thought I would live forever in those distant
battle, as did those whose faces I see and yet they remain*

forever young

*Wars are indeed for the young to fight and the old to remember, yet
it is those I remember from those days of invincibility that remain*

forever young

*We are only a generation from forgetting the wars, the indescribable
sacrifices and horrible deaths of those individual soldiers that remain*

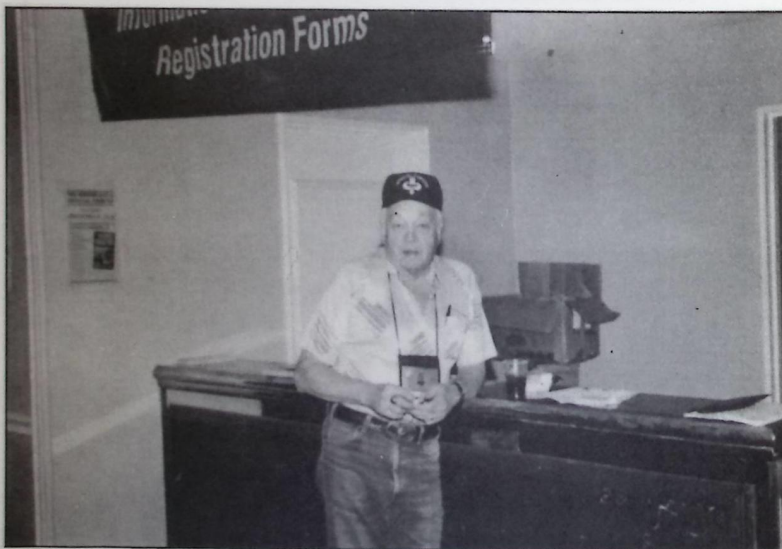
forever young

***DO NOT FORGET!! Honor them for the sacrifices they endured, and the
ultimate price they paid. They were young, with hopes and dreams in an
uncertain world. Fighting someone else's war in someone else's country,
to suffer and die and remain***

forever young



To All Ravens
and Friends



See ya next year at SOAR XXVII !

FALLEN COMRADES

206 ABT, FRED 1988, MAY 20
 883 ACKLEN, JR., ROBERT L. 1998, DEC 31
 338 ALFORD, WILLIAM UNKNOWN
 98 AMUNDSON, ROLANDE 1997, OCT 7
 735 ASTRADA, ARNOLD M. 2000, OCT 5
 1688 ATKINS, WILLIAM R. 2001, DEC 4
 1424 AUSTRIA, LOUIS U. 2000, MAR 28
 941 BAILEY, ROSS N. 1996, NOV 18
 396 BALDWIN, DANIEL 1994, JUN 12
 353 BALES, ARNOLD 2001, APR 4
 189 BARBER, DARRELL 2002, NOV 18
 792 BAYLESS, CLYDE Y. 1989, 000 00
 1576 BEATY, "CHIEF" KHOMER 2000, JUL 27
 550 BECKWITH, CHARLES 1994, JUN 13
 198 BEMIS, DONALD 1996, MAY 10
 965 BENAVIDEZ, ROY (MOH) 1998, NOV 29
 1874 BENNETT, EDDIE L. 2002, JUL 18
 1810 BIRCHIM, JAMES D. 1968, NOV 15
 1284 BOMARK, IVAN 2000, APR 25
 261 BROWN, FRANCIS 1998, OCT 13
 391 BRUNKHARDT, JOHN 1995, MAR 06
 519 BURKHARD, J. FRANK 1997, OCT 22
 563 BYRNE, JIM 1999, DEC 06
 1798 CAMPBELL, RICK 2001, AUG 24
 307 CAMPBELL, TOM 1992, MAR 27
 115 CARTER, TENNIS 1992, SEP 27
 1024 CHAMBERLIN, RICHARD 1994, FEB 18
 2010 CHRISTENSEN, PAUL 2002, OCT 28
 1252 CHILDS, ARTHUR R. 2002, JAN 11
 908 CINCOTTI, JOSEPH G. 1995, AUG 27
 516 CIPOLLA, JAMES 1991, DEC 10
 239 COELHO, TONY 1999, FEB 10
 112 COFFIN, ROBERT 1988, OCT 25
 207 COLE, RICHARD 2000, DEC 30
 1311 COLLIER, JAMES 1999, JAN 28
 65 COMPTON, MARVIN 1990, SEP 17
 220 CRABTREE, KEN 1984, APR 15
 975 CRAIG, WILLIAM 1997, SEP 22
 415 DANIELS, HORTON 1993, AUG 21
 71 DEBELIS, VINCE 1985, MAR 23
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 41 DIOGUARDI, DICK UNKNOWN
 631 DONEY, JOHN P. 2000, NOV 14
 1658 DOOLEY, JERRY 2001, FEB 01
 781 DUARTE, ANTONIO 1989, MAY 06
 62 DUFFIELD, E.W. 1990, NOV 30
 1563 FELLER, CHARLES L. 2001, OCT 30
 729 FEOLA, AVIO 1993, DEC 30
 771 FICKLING, JAMES E. 1996, JUL 22
 1262 FIELDING, TED 1997, JUL 24
 243 FIRTH, JOHN 1985, FEB 24
 1053 FONTES, ALEX M. 1998, FEB 13
 1359 FREEMAN, MICHAEL J. 2000, FEB 14

158 FRIEND, ALFRED 1998, SEP 02
 247 FRYE, BERTRAM 2002, JUL 18
 1459 GAQUETTE, HOMER 2001, MAR 31
 121 GRAY, WILEY 2001, APR 16
 1261 GARVIN, RICHARD 1996, DEC 08
 628 GIPSON, THOMAS 1999, SEP 30
 1072 GORE, WILLIAM E. 1996, DEC 14
 165 HANRETTY, JOHN 1987, MAY 27
 990 HARRISON, MARSHALL 1995, AUG 22
 126 HINER, CHUCK 1993, SEP 02
 998 HOFFHEIN, GEORGE W. 1997, FEB 13
 1846 HOLLINGSWORTH, 2001, SEP 26
 103 HOUSTON, GEORGE 1995, SEP 20
 1032 HOWARD, JAMES 2002, MAY 21
 1102 HUBBARD, M. P. 2000, JUN 16
 22 HUSAR, ADAM 2002, JUN 02
 364 IHLI, AMANDUS M. 2001, DEC 06
 4 ISLER, JACK 2000, OCT 13
 461 JUNKINS, JEFFREY 1999, MAY 14
 200 KASLER, CHARLES 1991, JAN 20
 938 KAUFMAN, MARTIN L. 1997, OCT 31
 870 KEETON, SR., JAMES 1982, APR 00
 83 KELLY, FRANCIS 1997, DEC 26
 785 KING, ROBERT M. 1995, MAY 00
 87 KINSLEY, EDWARD 1994, JUN 03
 921 KIRTCHEN, FRED E. 1992, NOV 09
 920 KOVALESKI, DAMIEN E. 1996, OCT 23
 1943 LAWSON, TIMOTHY F. 2002, DEC 06
 476 LAYTON, GILBERT 1996, MAY 02
 1393 LEANDRI, RICHARD A. 1998, MAY 05
 236 LEVERTON, TERRY 1983, JUN 25
 1355 LEWELLING, BOB 2002, APR 01
 1059 LIBBY, WM DALE 1999, MAY 02
 441 LONG, JACK 1997, AUG 27
 960 LUTZ, JOSEPH C. 1999, MAY 09
 381 LYONS, SCOTT 2002, APR 25
 499 MAHONEY, PATRICK 1999, FEB 24
 439 MAR, ALFRED 1992, OCT 16
 795 MARTIN, GARY R. 1995, MAR 09
 1644 MATTHEWS, THOMAS R. 2001, DEC 15
 176 McDONALD, LARRY 1983, SEP 00
 113 McEVEEN, CLIFFORD 1981, NOV 17
 55 McKENNY, RICHARD 1990, DEC 26
 623 McKNIGHT, ROBERT 2000, OCT 24
 145 MEAD, JOSEPH UNKNOWN
 766 MEADOWS, RICHARD 1995, JUL 29
 26 MEEHAN, BERNARD 1995, APR 05
 968 MILLER, FRANKLIN D. (MOH) 2000, JUN 30
 1407 MILLNER, LLOYD L. 2002, NOV 21
 873 MOORE, GEORGE W. 1992, DEC 04
 59 MORTON, GEORGE 1988, NOV 03
 204 NESOM, ROCKY 2001, MAY 06
 1384 NGO, PAUL LINH 1999, FEB 25

1363 NGUYEN, RINH HUONG 2000, MAR 24
 835 NIE, KPA WICK 2000, MAR 03
 420 NOE, HOWARD 1990, OCT 12
 824 OCONNER, MICHAEL 1999, DEC 29
 1480 OLSON, MICHAEL B. 2002, FEB 24
 793 O'NEILL, LAWRENCE 1990, JUL 04
 379 O'ROURKE, WILLIAM 1996, NOV 26
 128 PARSLEY, JIMMIE 1993, MAR 27
 33 PATTERSON, ROD 1995, AUG 25
 1307 PERSHING, JOHN 1999, JUN 21
 68 PEZZELLE, ROGER 2001, APR 2
 431 PHILLIPS, DEAN K. 1985, AUG 22
 644 PIERSON, ROGER 1999, JUN 11
 19 PINN, LIONEL 1999, AUG 07
 1271 RAMOS, JESSE 1998, AUG 22
 97 RAYE, MARTHA 1994, OCT 19
 1160 REDMAN, DARRELL 2002, NOV 17
 1169 REGNIER, MICHAEL N. 1996, JUL 22
 749 RIVERS, WILLIAM 1988, DEC 16
 1227 ROBERTS, JOHN P. 2001, MAR 9
 987 SAAL, HARVEY W. 1997, DEC 01
 2019 SALZMAN, ROBERT 2002, OCT 05
 638 SCHAIBLE, DAVID UNKNOWN
 332 SCHIELIG, KARL 1987, 000 00
 106 SCULLY, ROBERT 1986, MAY 25
 815 SHELNUIT, ROY E. 1997, APR 16
 1244 SHOFF, ROBERT 1995, NOV 12
 144 SHUMATE, WALT 1993, MAR 01
 1550 SISLER, GEORGE (MOH) 1967, FEB 07
 104 SMERCEK, DENNIS 1986, 000 00
 1398 SMITH, ANDRE 1998, JAN 12
 257 SMITH, PAUL F. 2002, NOV 13
 395 SOMMERS, RICHARD E. 1998, SEP 29
 507 SORSBY, TERRY 2001, MAR 05
 196 SPINAIIO, EDWARD 1992, APR 16
 356 SQUIRES, BEN 1984, 000 00
 743 SWANNACK, BUCK 1995, DEC 13
 863 TAFOYA, EUGENE A. 1997, JUN 22
 1388 TAPPAN, RICHARD A. 2000, AUG 05
 1612 TELFAIR, CHARLES W. 2001, JAN 21
 490 THOMAS, JOHN 1999, SEP 28
 447 TOCCI, MARK 1989, FEB 27
 74 TRACY, PAUL 1998, FEB 08
 17 TRAPP, LARRY 2000, APR 22
 924 TRIPONI, ANTHONY G. 1992, JAN 24
 685 VOGLEER, JIMMY 1999, SEP 06
 143 WAINWRIGHT, ED 1999, MAY 25
 137 WESTALL, BYNUM 1993, APR 01
 959 WOLF, WILLIAM G. 1999, OCT 01
 1357 WOOD, WILLIAM S. 1998, OCT 13
 1465 WYNGAERT, J.A. 2000, NOV 13
 1931 YOUNG, NATHAN W. 2002, AUG 03
 157 ZABITOSKY, FRED (MOH) 1996, JAN 08

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