

## 1ST BATTALION (MECHANIZED) 50TH INFANTRY

## " ON THE RIGHT TRACK "

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 VOLUME NUMBER 3 -- DATED 15 JUNE 1999 -- ISSUE NUMBER 05  
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Our mission is to publish a newsletter and to maintain an Internet Home Page. The Association will use these publications to inform its general membership about events within the Association and about current or proposed legislation that might affect veterans of all wars.

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK...

Summer has finally arrived and I extend to each of you personally and on behalf of the Association, best wishes for a great summer. For those of us who lived close to death, there are great opportunities for us to take advantage of. How do you plan on living today and the rest of this last year of this century?

Sadly, life is not a dress rehearsal -- we are in this for real. We are not going to get a second chance at it! Each of us should ask ourselves the question: Are we happy with what we are doing and what we have done? If not, what can we do to change this? I bet each of our answers will be different.

Thirty years ago, we would not have hesitated to risk our life to save another -- for we were all brothers then. Are we doing what we can, and should now, to support our fellow veterans? Are we happy with the person we have become?

There are great times ahead for the Association. We have a great reunion planned for September of this year and this process will continue every two years until the last "Ichiban" trooper has fallen. There is no such thing as an "ex-Ichiban" trooper! We may be getting older, and more tired; but we all belonged to one of the finest units the U. S. Army ever fielded. Take the steps now that you have to, to be the person you want to be -- before it is too late!

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For anyone who is on-line, please take the time to check out our Home Page. The address for this service to the Ichaban troopers is:

<http://web2.airmail.net/npoage/1st50th>

Is there anyone out there who could take over the responsibility of the Home Page? Please let me know shortly. Norman Poage has done a fine job, but his duties with the State of Texas do not allow him the luxury of continuing this work. Please, anyone?

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WORDS TO LIVE BY

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The following words of wisdom were sent to me by a fellow trooper. He went by the call sign, "2IC". A free drink at the reunion to each person who can identify this man's name by his call sign!

BEAUTY TIPS FOR THE INNER YOU

For attractive lips, speak words of kindness.  
 For beautiful eyes, seek out the good in other people.  
 To feel lighter in body, let go of stress and a need to control others.  
 To improve your ears, listen to the word of God.  
 For poise, walk with knowledge and self-esteem.  
 To strengthen your arms, hug at least three people each day.  
 To strengthen your heart, forgive yourself and others.  
 Don't worry and hurry so much.  
 Rather walk this earth lightly and leave your mark.  
 Rather than focus on the thorns of life, smell the roses and count your blessings.

Touch someone with your love!

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In a past newsletter, I sent out an Itinerary of events, in case you wish to participate in those. If you plan on being at this year's Reunion, let me know by 1 August 1999. All dinners must be booked by 15 August. After that date, whatever I guess will be the quantity of meals we must pay for, whether they are eaten or not. This is typical with any hotel when meals are planned ahead like this.

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Among the numbers you are assigned through life, one appears after your name on the mailing label on the envelope in which this newsletter came. This is the year for which your membership to the Association is paid. If it has a 1997 or 1998 on the label, you are not current. We currently have 17 members who have not paid their 1998 dues yet, much less there 1999 dues. Still, others have not paid their 1999 dues.

We understand that some of you may be retired or out of work and cannot afford the dues, and we understand. But we wonder about those who seemingly show no pride in our Association and its accomplishments. Perhaps they have no pride in themselves, and that is a sorry state.

We want all of you to share in our activities and fellowship and help us with the growing and healing process. Now is the time to act. Send in your dues to bring you to a current, active status now!

Those of you who do not want to pull your own weight, don't worry! Your newsletters will not be terminated: You will not be cut off. Just because you feel you do not have to support the Association, our proud tradition as Ichiban Troopers is that we never left anyone behind in battle and we will not let you behind now! Regardless of your lack of support for your Association, we will not change our tradition now by leaving you behind. Your newsletters will still continue to come. Those of us who pay their dues on time will carry those who do not think they have to support our organization.

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 THE BIO PAGE  
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Kasonos, Jimmy: Was with Charlie Company from the start of their tour in the country. He now resides in Oregon. No further information.

Kazuba, John: John served in Headquarters Company with the scout platoon from July of 1968 to July of 1969. He currently lives in Texas.

Kelbaugh, Curtis: No information available at this time.

Kelliher, James: Jim was with the mortar platoon of Charlie Company on its maiden voyage to Vietnam. He lives in New York State.

Kerr, Richard Jr: Was with Headquarters Company and went with the advanced party to Vietnam. Richard now resides in Texas with his wife and works in the Medical Equipment field.

Klatt, Mike: Mike served with Bravo Company from October 1968 until November of 1969. He now resides in Florida.

Knechtel, David G: He served with Charlie Company from November 1967 until November 1968. He resides in Pennsylvania with his wife, Kathleen.

Knepp, Tom; Was with Bravo Company on their voyage across the big blue sea. He was a driver of an APC, prior to being wounded on May 11, 1968 and now works for Good Year in Ohio, where he resides. His son is attending Kent State University.

Kochnairczyk, Donald J: Don was with Delta Company during 1967-1968. He now lives in the Chicago Illinois area with his wife. I believe you guys knew him as "Alphabet with a K."

Kuntz, Marvin: Marvin served as a squad leader with Alpha Company and now owns a restaurant in Kansas.

Lamping, Wayne: Wayne arrived with Bravo Company in Vietnam with the battalion. Leaving one year later, he went back to PA and began working as a welder. He now works at an Army Base. He has two children.

Lewis, Larry R: Larry arrived in country with Bravo Company in July of 1969 and stayed until September of 1970. He lives in Colorado where he works with the National Park Service for over twenty years.

Lohman, Fred M: was with Alpha company from the beginning. He was wounded December 17, 1967 in the Bong Son area of Vietnam. He and his wife just recently moved from Virginia to Arizona.

Lovell, Donald R: Don went over with the battalion, serving in Bravo Company. After he left country, he began work as a pipe fitter, where he currently works. He is married and has six children.

Lynch, David W: arrived in Bravo Company in August of 1968. David stayed with the 1/50th until November of 1970. He may be the longest guy with our group. He now resides in Oregon with his wife and son.

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 THE BIO PAGE  
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Maida, Frederick: Fred was assigned to Charlie Company as it left Fort Hood. After leaving Charlie Company rather quickly on 5 May 1968, he joined the Suffolk County Police Department. He retired in 1990 and moved to Florida where he currently resides. His daughter is attending Law School, while Fred assists his son Greg with his business. He likes to Golf, boat, and being surrounded by family and friends.

Mantua, Frank: Frank was not really with the 1/50th, however he worked with them, both at Fort hood, then in Vietnam. Frank was XO of Delta Company, 16th Armor of the 173rd. Fred makes his home now in California and is very involved with the 173rd Association.

Martin, James W JR: Jim served with Charlie Company, arriving by boat with the rest of us fools. He was SSG with fourth platoon until March or April of 1968. Jim and his wife, Lori, live in GA, where he is Bid Manager for a local firm.

Marshall, Robert: Bob was with the commo branch of Headquarters Company, coming over on the boat with us. He was up on "Duster Mountain" most of his time with us. He left Vietnam and is presently married and has three sons. Bob works for the Post Office in the mid-west.

McClure, Donald S: Don came over by boat with the battalion and served with Bravo Company. He lives in South Carolina with his wife of more than 34 years, and has a son.

Meredith, Andrew: Drew was in Vietnam with Alpha Company from January of 1970 until returning the colors back to the states. Drew lives in Missouri with his wife and two daughters.

Milroy, Toby: Bravo Company was his home for the time he spent in Vietnam. He was a senior Medical Specialist and recently moved to Florida.

Miller, Neil: Went by boat to Charlie Company and the maintenance platoon. In January of 1968, he was transferred to 15TC Battalion. His residence is now Minnesota where he lives with his wife, Carolyn and children. ~~Jim's son has been in the Air Force~~ for over six years.

Missoff, Daniel G: Came to Charlie Company right off the boat and was driver for APC #311. Dan was wounded in the chow line by one of his own men on April 8, 1968. After recovery, he returned to New York State where he now lives with his wife, and four children, two of whom are presently married. He works for Onondaga County.

Mlinac, Joseph JR: Joe was with Bravo Company from August 1968 until August 1969. He has worked with the Post Office for over 26 years and now lives in Pittsburgh PA area.

Montgomery, Cecil: Cecil was Charlie Company Motor Sergeant from September 1967 until the Spring of 1968. He received a head wound from a mine and after treatment, went back to Vietnam. Cecil stayed in until June of 1985 when he retired. He opened his own auto repair business and now lives in Arkansas with his wife, Linda. They have three children.

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 "THAT RAGGED OLD FLAG"  
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I walked through a county courthouse square. On a park bench, an old man was sitting there.

I said, "Your Court House is kinda run down."

He said, "No, it will do for our little town."

I said, "Your old flag pole kinda leaned a little bit."

And that's a ragged old flag you got hanging on it."

He said, "Have a seat," so I sat down.

He said, "Is this your first visit to our little town?"

I said, "I think it is."

He said, "I don't like to brag, but we're kinda proud of

"THAT RAGGED OLD FLAG"

"You see, we got a little hole in that flag there,

When Washington took it across the Delaware.

It got powder burns as Francis Scott Key sat watching it, writing

"Oh Say Can You See."

It got a rip in New Orleans, with Packingham & Jackson

tugging at its seams.

It almost fell at the Alamo beside the Texas Flag.

But she waved on tho!

It got cut with a sword in Chancellorsville.

Got cut again at Shiloh Hill.

There was Robert E Lee and Beauregard and Bragg,

and the south wind blew hard on

"THAT RUGGED OLD FLAG"

On Flanders Field in World War One,

She took a bad hit from a Bertha Gun.

She turned blood red in World war two.

She hung limp and low by the time that was one through.

She was in Korea, and she was in Vietnam,

She went where she was sent, by her Uncle Sam.

The Native Americans, The Black, Yellow and White

All shed red blood for the Stars and the Stripes.

And here in her own good land,

She's been abused, burned, dishonored, denied and refused.

And the very government for which she stands,

Has been scandalized throughout the land.

And she's getting thread bare and she's wearing kinda thin,

But she's in pretty good shape for the shape she's in.

Cause she's been through the fire before.

And she can take a whole lot more.

So we raise her up each and every morning,

And we bring her down slowly each and every night.

We don't let her touch on the ground,

And we fold her up just right.

On second thought, I do like to brag, Cause I'm mighty proud of

"THAT RUGGED OLD FLAG"

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 1999 KANSAS CITY REUNION  
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The numbers to call for reservations are:

1-800-EMBASSY

(800-362-2779)

1-816-756-1720

Tell them you are with the 1/50th Infantry Reunion.

Please keep in mind: At our Friday night meeting, we will decide on a place to go for the year 2001. One possible place I suggest is Las Vegas NV. We had our first one on the East Coast. This one is in the center of the country. To give those from the West Coast a break, I want to schedule something in their area, and where else can one find so much to do and see, than in Lost Wages ... oops, I mean Las Vegas.

I ask the fellows who can not make this year's reunion to send me a list of places you would attend. After all, this is your Association: Plan to attend a reunion by selecting a city you would visit and send that information to me. My intention is to have one on the East Coast, the next one in the center of the country, then one on the West Coast. That way those who cannot make it to each one, at least have a chance to attend one or two of the three reunions.

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UPDATE OF INTEREST TO ALL

(Perhaps)

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On 11 May, 1999, I received a telephone call which surprised, yet delighted me very much! It was from a 1st LT Michael Davidson. LT. Davidson called to inform me he was historian on record for our unit, the 1/50th Infantry, which is stationed in Fort Benning GA at this time. YES, we are still alive. He is working on the history of our unit for permanent record at a museum of sorts they are setting up at Fort Benning GA. Guys, if you would like to contribute anything at all to this great endeavor of theirs, please send me a note. In a future newsletter, I will have Lt Davidson's e-mail address, and mailing address for those who wish to contact him directly. First, I want to verify I can release that information to the general membership.

I have offered LT Davidson an active duty status membership in our Association and hope he will pass on information about our organization to others in the battalion. I would like to extend an invite to him to come to our reunion in September, so we could hear news on what has been happening with our unit since we left it. Would like to hear your opinion of this idea please! More on this subject in latter issues.

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NON-PROFIT STATUS

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As of 02 April, 1999, we received our Incorporation from the State of Pennsylvania. Thanks so very much to Harry Wilson. He has helped immensely with this and words alone cannot express the gratitude I have for his un-selfish attitude toward the Association. What this means is that we are a legally incorporated organization. As of 30 April, 1999; we received our EIN (Employer Identification Number), so we are in business legally now. We also applied for a non-profit status, which should give some tax relief on certain monies received.

I hope we can get a break on postal rates, since each mailing of the newsletter cost from \$66.00 to \$130, or more for postage. Postal employees out there among the membership: check out what kind of break we can get and how we go about it. Once again, I want to thank Harry Wilson so very much for his effort, time, and funds, he has donated to our organization to make this possible. Thank you Brother!

FROM THE CHAPLAIN:

Hello to everyone and I hope this finds all of you in good health. The reunion is getting closer and I hope that everyone that receives this newsletter gets to attend. As each of us know and hear on the news everyday, tension in this world just keeps getting tighter and tighter. We started in Kosovo and ended up in Littleton Colorado. I think with the decisions our leaders have to make today, it would be wise for us to keep them in our prayers everyday. Let me end this with something I found in a book that I believe is worth repeating:

Man's capacity for justice makes democracy possible; but man's inclination to injustice makes democracy necessary.

May God Bless.

Your Chaplain, Toby

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AN UPDATE ON OUR PRESIDENT, NORMAN "SANDY" POTTINGER:

On Tuesday 25 May I spoke with Sandra, Norman's wife. She informed me he was going to be moved from the Emergency Care unit to a regular room sometime during the day. Just received another call from her and his room number is 251. Sandy is on the 8th floor, west for anyone wishing to visit. Or if you can't, give him a call at his direct room number: (301) 402-3815. Remember, he has a hard time speaking right now, so may have to come up with a code.

It seems Norman has made substantial improvements over the past few weeks. She also stated that if things go the way they have been, he may be able to head home within the next few weeks.

Once he is moved into that room, "Sandy" will be able to receive visitors. So guys, anyone that will be in the DC area after you receive this, give the hospital a call and see what room he is in and stop by for a visit. I know he would appreciate that! I hope to be there by the time you receive this brief newsletter. If not, it will be shortly thereafter. Welcome home Sandy!

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I received a letter from John "Jack" Noble of Alpha Company just recently. In it he states:

"The mother of SSG Keith Janke, A Company, 2d Platoon, KIA on 28 May 1969, would like to hear from anyone who knew him. He was killed in the same ambush that took Gladys Grubb's husband, Steve Grubb. His mother stated that Keith graduated from college in the Spring, married his college sweetheart, then joined the Army in the Fall."

Her mailing address is:

Florence Janke  
2159 Palace Avenue  
St Paul MN 55105

Guys, if you knew of Keith, or even if you didn't; why not drop her a note? Let her know we still remember our brothers who fell in that god-forsaken country.

My intent is to contact this wonderful lady and offer her an "Honorary" Membership in the Association, which I personally will pay for. I would like to extend an invitation to our reunion to her. If anyone has any objections to this, please contact me prior to 15 July, 1999.

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 A WORD ABOUT VA CLAIMS  
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DESCRIBING WHAT AILS YOU MAY BE THE MOST IMPORTANT THING YOU CAN DO!

So, you want to file a claim for VA Compensation? At the risk of being obvious, you start with a plausible, relevant and verifiable description of the disabilities on which the claim is based. What the VA needs is a description of how various medical conditions are disabling you.

Let's say that you suffering from a knee condition, the softening and breakdown of the cartilage pad under your kneecap. (subpatellar chondromalacia). You would like to file a claim for service-connection and compensation for disabilities caused by that condition.

Before you get anywhere near the formal form (VA Form 21-526) you must be able to describe how this condition affects you. A Service Officer from a local Veteran's organization can help you here. You should describe the condition on VA Form 21-4138. Begin by asking yourself these questions. Does the joint hurt when I bend it? How far can I bend it? Does it hurt when I put weight on it? Do I hear cracking sounds when I bend it? When I try to stand, does it feel like it is going to bend backwards? Can I straighten it out all the way?

Even if you have not been examined yet, you can save time and make a valuable addition to your medical and administrative records, with this description. In just about every case, you will be referring to evidence of some sort -- usually records of medical treatment and examination. Those records are likely to include a diagnosis. You should take the trouble to describe the record or other evidence, even if you are attaching it to your statement.

If the evidence is a government record, such as a physical profile report or a change in status record, then the description you come up with adds plausibility to your claim, and makes the job of locating a specific record a lot easier.

If the evidence does not relate directly to your claim, explain why you are attaching it. In the example above, such evidence may be verification that you participated in the specific action that resulted in injury to your knee. Maybe you were on jump status at the time, or participated in another type of sanctioned event.

Don't take a "shotgun" approach, such as, "Please see attached records." This is the most damaging statement you can make, next to "I don't know" or "I can't remember."

If you are going to ask VA to track down nongovernment evidence, then fill out and attach the necessary authorization form (VA Form 21-526). Once you file your claim, it becomes VA's business to help you obtain the evidence and make it a part of your claims report for consideration. Keep in mind though, how important it is to submit a readable, verifiable, and relevant statement. Concentrate on that, and the rest will fall into place.

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Now, for an update on the "Cow Pie" Raffle Tickets:

Tickets bought and paid for: 1,744  
 Tickets ordered to be sold: 901  
 Tickets left to sell: 355  
 Money collected to date: \$3,012

Below are listed the five (5) people who sold the most tickets to date. This list will be updated in the next newsletter.

Kenneth G Riley, member 526  
 Louis Frisbee, member 180  
 Herman Allmendinger, member 154  
 James Redding, non-member 89  
 Rod Klinedinst, non-member 82  
 Matt Morrison, member 72 Tie  
 Lawanda Riley, non-member 72 Tie

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1ST/50th COW PIE RAFFLE

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This will be the last reminder of the "Cow Pie" raffle. Please purchase tickets for yourself, plus tickets to sell to family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, etc. If you have ordered tickets and not sent back the stubs to me yet, please do so now!

Send your checks or money orders to:  
 1/50th Infantry Association  
 Kenneth G Riley  
 200 Georgetown Court  
 Hanover PA 17331

Mark your check with "Cow Pie Tickets" or put a note with it and how many tickets you want. Remember, besides helping the Association, you may be one of the lucky winners of a nice cash prize.

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PRE-REGISTRATION

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The following persons have signed up for the Reunion. If your name is not listed here, that means I have no record of you returning the form.

1. John Carlson	17. Danny Missoff	33. Kevin Begley
2. Kenneth Riley	18. Randy Smith	34. Billy Hayes
3. James Segars	19. Herman Allmendinger	35. Gary Quint
4. Don Rainwater	20. Tom Zamzow	36. John Topper
5. Neil Miller	21. Howard Flippen	37. Russ Roth
6. David Garland	22. Tom Sarsfield	38. Harry Wilson
7. Roger Burch	23. Donald Lovell	39. Herb Randall
8. Joe Ewing	24. Miles Hatch	40. Matt Morrison
9. Jon Thelan	25. Tom Knepp	41. Richard Kerr
10. Toby Hamon	26. Louis Frisbee	42. Arthur Arzate
11. Walter Tracey	27. Fred Lohman	43. Gladys Grubb
12. Thomas Dubiel	28. William Grant	44. John Golz
13. Lawrence Jordan	29. Lloyd Walker	45.
14. Leon Gallant	30. Cal Avery	46.
15. Walter Billups	31. Richard Guthrie	47.
16. Robert Gold	32. Bill Kamphouse	48.

The following information is needed prior to arrival at the hotel, so we can schedule meals and trips a bit more accurately. Please send this form with your registration fee by that time. Remember: If you do not send your form and fee to me prior to the reunion, the cost "At the Door" is \$25.00. Indicate your choice of items and dates requested.

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

MEMBER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ UNIT: \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

DATES STAYING AT HOTEL: \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION FEE (\$20.00) PAID \_\_\_\_\_ INCLUDED WITH FORM \_\_\_\_\_

(Fee must be paid prior to 15 SEPTEMBER)

HOTEL ROOM BOOKED YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ NOT STAYING AT HOTEL \_\_\_\_\_

FRIDAY TOUR OF VFW (FREE) YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ HOW MANY \_\_\_\_\_

FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER (\$25.00) YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ HOW MANY \_\_\_\_\_

(Payable by Friday, Sept. 17th, 1999)

SATURDAY TRIP TO CASINO (FREE) \_\_\_\_\_ ELSEWHERE \_\_\_\_\_

SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER (\$7.50) YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ HOW MANY \_\_\_\_\_

(Payable by Friday, Sept. 17th, 1999)

Registration Desk will be set up outside dining room/meeting room on Friday, 17 September, 1999 at 3 PM. Registration will be open until meeting starts at 7:30 PM Friday. Late arrivals may register during the meal or on Saturday morning between 10:00 AM and noon.

COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ OR \_\_\_\_\_ SUGGESTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

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 "COW PIE" RAFFLE TICKETS  
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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ COMPANY/PLATOON: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIPCODE \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

I WISH TO PURCHASE THE FOLLOWING AMOUNT OF TICKETS FOR MY OWN USE:

SINGLE TICKETS @ \$2.00 EACH: \_\_\_\_\_

BOOKS OF TICKETS @ \$10.00 EACH: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SEND ME THE FOLLOWING NUMBER OF TICKETS TO SELL. I WILL PAY FOR THEM PRIOR TO AUGUST 15, 1999:

SINGLE TICKETS @ \$2.00 EACH: \_\_\_\_\_

BOOKS OF TICKETS @ \$10.00 EACH: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL NUMBER OF TICKETS ORDERED WITH THIS FORM: \_\_\_\_\_

SINGLE TICKETS: \_\_\_\_\_

BOOKS OF TICKETS: \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT OF CHECK ENCLOSED FOR TICKETS: \_\_\_\_\_

I had the newsletter printed and ready to send out when I received a call from Ray Ramiros, of California. Hope the spelling is correct. Ray is a Chapter President with the 173rd Society and he called to pass some information on to me about several of our past Ichiban Troopers. None of it is good of course and I hate when I have to report this kind of stuff. You would not believe how much I hate these type of calls.

The first item Ray informed me of was of George Mercaldo, from California. Ray says he was with the 1/50th Infantry some time during the Vietnam War. I have looked through the rosters I have at home, but could not find his name. So, I am not sure what Company he may have been with, nor the time period. Anyone out there who has information, please pass it on to me. Anyway, George just passed away right before the memorial Day holiday. Since I did not have a phone number, there is no way for me to verify this information.

The second Item Ray mentioned was, he is looking for information on "Operation Blue Stone," If any one out there knows anything of this operation, please pass it on to me, so I will relay it to Ray.

The third and final item he informed me of was another sad bit of news. This fellow I did not personally know, but I do know there are many of you out there who knew him. He was at our first reunion in Virginia. That was where I met him for the first time and all I can say is: One fine man has passed on and will be missed by many people.

In August of 1998, Ray Barrios was killed in a car accident in California. Ray played baseball and was headed for another of his games. As he approached an intersection, a young man of 22 was driving recklessly, speeding, and ran through a stop sign as Ray approached the intersection. He hit Ray broadside, killing him instantly.

Below I have listed a phone number to reach his wife, for those who knew Ray. Anyone wishing to send a card may do so to the address below. I only found this information out this Memorial Day weekend, so anyone that knew Ray may want to call his family.

I did make a call to his home to verify the information and it is correct. I did not push his wife for any details, since this has been a rough time for her, no need to bring back the memories.

Ray Barrios home phone number: (707) 579-2448

Mrs. Ray Barrios  
1242 Marlow Road  
Santa Rosa CA 95401

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 REUNION NEWS  
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For those who perhaps missed the notice in a previous issue, you will find a registration form in this newsletter with information about the reunion.

A Tentative Schedule for Friday night is as follows:  
 A tour of the National VFW Headquarters will be available at 1 PM on Friday for those checking in early.  
 Registration Desk is open from 3 PM until 7 PM Friday.  
 Free Cocktails in the Lounge area from 5:30 PM until 7 PM.  
 Posting of Colors by Jackson County Council at 7:30 PM.  
 Welcome, Invocation, and Remarks at 7:30 PM.  
 Dinner follows the remarks.  
 General Meeting starts at 8:30 PM, with introduction of guest speakers and Association business.  
 Hospitality Room opens at 10 PM until 2 AM.

Saturday's (the 18th) Schedule is as follows:  
 Free Breakfast (a real one!) 8 AM to 10 AM Saturday.  
 10 AM until 11 AM... General Meeting of members and officer's in the area of the Lounge. (Refreshments provided).  
 12 Noon, trip to Vietnam Memorial of Kansas City.  
 1:00 PM, bus pick-up for trip to Flamingo Hilton Casino.  
 4:00 PM, bus pick-up from Casino back to hotel.  
 (For those not wishing to go to the Casino, there will be a bus trip from 1 PM to 4 PM to several sites around Kansas City, ending with a shopping trip not far from the hotel).  
 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM Free Cocktails in the Lounge area.  
 7:00 PM, bus pick-up to go for dinner at local VFW.  
 8:00 PM until 11:00 PM. entertainment at the VFW.  
 11:00 PM until 2:00 AM, Hospitality Room open.

The Embassy Suites is the hotel at which we will stay. It is downtown Kansas City, on 43rd Street. The room rates are \$109 per night, which is reasonable for the area.

The numbers to call for reservations are:

1-800-EMBASSY  
 (800-362-2779)  
 1-816-756-1720

Tell them you are with the 1/50th Infantry Reunion. If there is any problems or questions, ask for Priscilla Graves.

I have 50 rooms set aside for anyone who wishes to come to the hotel on Thursday. The hotel will hold the room rate for anyone wishing to come early or stay later. I will be there Monday afternoon to make final arrangements for everything, so anyone wishing to drop in a few days early, please do so! .