

Fifteenth Infantry Regiment



15th Infantry Regiment Association Newsletter

Vol. 7, No. 4 October 1999

Reunion In Savannah

From the OP Forward

By Edd Adam, President

By now those of you who did not attend the 7th Annual Regimental Dinner probably know just what you missed! Sorry no re-runs!

A big Can Do thank you to Becky Flink and her staff at the Marriot for superb support for our Dinner!

LTC Banach and his staff gave an outstanding performance for our Ice Breaker Reception and Buffet Dinner at the Marine Club. Many thanks go particularly to CPT Redmond and LT Billard for their outstanding efforts.

We had a great dinner and after dinner program. Awards went to the NCO of the Year for 3-15 In to SGT Ubaldo Cruz and for 1-15 IN SSG Sean Soder. Awards also went to the Battalion Soldier of the Year for 1-15 IN PFC Robert Winegrad and for 3-15 IN SPC Terrance King.

As your new President, I feel humble that I was selected for that honor. My personal thanks to you for placing your trust in me! I thoroughly enjoy the comradeship of the current and former members of the 15th Infantry Reg't. Along with the other officers of the Association, I pledge to you my utmost to continue the great traditions of the best Association representing the best regiment of the U.S. Army.

Although we are still in 1999, let's all look towards our Can Do Rendezvous for the Spring of 2000 at Fort Benning. In the January 2000 Dragon we will have more details and dates.

The Association's condolences to the families of Andrew Gunderson who died July 28, 1999 and George "Fred" Shelton who died September 12, 1999. Both were former members of Company C in the Korean War.

Again, thank you for the trust you placed in me! Please contact me or any of the officers of the Association. Let us know your thoughts and recommendations to improve YOUR Association.

CAN DO!

The Dragon

Officers

The Dragon is the quarterly publication of the 15th Infantry Regiment Association. It is published in January, April, July and October. Neither its editorial nor articles content carry official endorsement of the Association.

Edwin K. Adam.....President
Michael J. Horn.....Editor
Richard R. Guimond.....Treasurer

Objectives of the Association

- To perpetuate and foster the history and traditions of the Regiment.
- To provide opportunities for uniting past and present members of the Regiment into a close and cooperative alliance.
- To promote morale and high esprit de corps among members of the Regiment.
- To acquire and maintain a repository of regimental historical memorabilia.
- To assist in the maintenance of monuments dedicated to the units of the 15th Infantry Regiment.

Send dues and new addresses to:

Richard R. Guimond
7001 – 142nd Ave #324
Largo, FL 33771-4709
Richardg@ij.net

Annual dues \$10 for regular members and \$5 for active duty members, due October 1 each year.

Life membership: To age 60 = \$150; Age 61-69 = \$120; Age 70-79 = \$100; Age 80 and above = \$50.

Send or Email news items to:

Michael J. Horn
Editor of The Dragon
6122 Chrisbin Drive
Columbus, GA 31909-3739
☎ 706-323-6403
Mhorn6122@knology.net



President and Asst. Treasurer
Edwin K. Adam
P.O. Box 2171
Clarksville, IN 47131-2171
☎ 812-945-1166

Vice President and Membership
John T. Burke
5704 Hastings Square
Columbus, GA 31909-4737
☎ 706-563-8909

Secretary
Leon Lebowitz
3403 Cascadera Dr.
Austin, TX 78731-5811
☎ 512-452-8601

Treasurer and Publicity
Richard R. Guimond
May to Nov
845 S Yates Ave.
Kankakee, IL 60901-4858
☎ 815-932-4858
Richardg@colint.com

Nov to May
7001 – 142nd Ave #324
Largo, FL 33771-4709
☎ 727-530-5342
Richardg@ij.net

Commander, 1-15 IN
LTC Robert O. Pricone
HQ 1-15 IN, Bldg. 9055
Ft. Benning, GA 31905-1641
☎ 706-544-1633

Asst. Secretary-Treasurer 1-15 IN
CPT Christopher Hollifield
HQ 1-15 IN, Bldg. 9055
Ft. Benning, GA 31905-1641
☎ 706-544-2918

Commander, 3-15 IN
LTC Steve J. Banach
HQ 3-15 IN, Bldg. 522
Ft. Stewart, GA 31313
☎ 912-767-7720

Asst. Secretary-Treasurer 3-15 IN
CPT Matthew Redmond
HQ 3-15 IN, Bldg. 522
Ft. Stewart, GA 31313
☎ 912-767-9923

Chaplain.....Charles C. Trout
10191 Birchwood Dr.
Huntington Beach, CA 92646-5432
☎ 714-836-4981

HCOR.....James G. Boatner
3008 Sevor Ln.
Alexandria, VA 22309-2221
☎ 703-360-9279

HSMOR and Custodian of Memorabilia
Jerry Cunningham
501 Chilhowie Rd.
Columbia, SC 29209-5506
☎ 803-783-4491

Historian.....LTC Timothy Stoy
PSC 46, Box 939
APO AE 09469

Nominations.....Roger Lochman
1616 Frederick
Colinsville, IL 62234-4806
☎ 618-345-1067

Past President.....George W. Doyle
3809 Sandra Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28304-5049
☎ 910-483-8267

Past HCOR.....Maurice Kendall
625 Barcelona Court
Satellite Beach, FL 32937-3907
☎ 407-773-5349

Trustees

Patrick D. Heagerty
4837 Carey Drive
Manlius, NY 13103-1606
☎ 315-682-6459

Michael Halik
5 Mountain Trail
Sparta, NJ 07871-1530
☎ 201-729-7427

Norman J. MacIntyre
13744 SW 114th Avenue
Dunnellon, FL 34432-5617
☎ 352-873-8368

Korean War Remembrances Wanted

As we approach the 50th anniversary of the Korean War, The Association of the United States Army (AUSA) is preparing to publish an anthology of reflections--your reflections--on that traumatic era in our nation's history. If you would like to share your memories of "The Forgotten War", please read on.

Individuals interested in participating should forward manuscripts (including a diskette if prepared on a personal computer) to Sandra J. Daugherty, Assistant Director, Programs, AUSA Institute of Land Warfare, 2425 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22201. For more information about the anthology, contact the Institute of Land Warfare by phone (800-336-4570, ext. 627, or direct dial 703-907-2627); fax (703-525-9039); or e-mail sdaugherty@ausa.org.

No matter what the event in the history of America's Army, no one can tell the story better than those who were there! Please tell us about your Korean War experience so we may share your perspective with everyone who cares about where our United States Army has been and where it's going.!

Mail Call



Larry R. Jones
3340 Arbor Drive
West Linn, OR 97068

I would appreciate hearing from anyone that remembers when the P&A Platoon of 3-15 attempted to bring the first barbed wire to the company outpost about ½ mile in front of the 3rd Battalion front line about a mile west of Chorwon on or about 30 AUG 51.

As Asst. S3, I was asked to go along and make sure the wire got there and the three vehicles got back. The Chinese started firing a 75mm field piece shortly after we crossed the bridge in front of our line. Needless to say when all three drivers pulled off the road into the paddies, all three vehicles were stuck. The drivers and the P&A Platoon all scattered to get away from the shelling. I ran back to the bridge where we had a phone hid, and called BN for a tank to be sent out.

When the tank arrived, I led it out to the APC and the two 2 ½ ton trucks. The tank commander and I hooked the tow cable on one of the trucks. As the tank started to move the tow loop on the end of the cable pulled off. It's tough to tie a knot in a 1" cable, but the sergeant and I were able to bend it enough to get a bind when the tow started to eventually get all three vehicles out.

We managed to round up the drivers as we moved on to the outpost. Luckily, the 60 to 70 rounds they fired at us all landed in the paddy mud so the explosions went up instead of sideways. The SGT and I did hit the ground on each incoming round, but all we got was muddy.

None of the vehicles were hit and no one got a scratch. We got the barbed wire to the OP and the three vehicles back to the line. I accepted the sergeants invitation to ride back in the tank. I'd had my fill of 75mm rounds. The next day I was awarded my CIB. //s//

Hoot Harr
PO Box 86
Mandan, ND 58554

Reading Jim Boatner's article in the JAN 1999 Dragon, that too brought back many memories. I was in C Company, 1st Platoon, the 4th Squad.

CPL Jim Murray and I were good friends. As LT Boatner said, he based his article on memory, so is this letter.

His memory served him pretty well. Murray was killed about a month later on a patrol, that he should not have been on. Our company commander who was 1LT Richards was transferred to another unit and a CPT from Finance became our commander, which left a little to be desired.

Murray was on his second tour and had 34 points of his 36 points to rotate when he got killed. We were caught in an ambush and later realized we were fighting North Korean women.

LT Boatner was right as enlisted personnel we really did think the commanders had all gone crazy, when we were moved to a different location for President Eisenhower's visit.

There was LT Boatner in C Company, for a short time he was the 2nd Platoon Leader. Could this be the same man?

My intent is not to give the readers the impression that our officers were not competent. Other than the "CPT", we had excellent officers and damn good combat leaders.

I would have written sooner, but I have just returned from a great winter in Arizona. I really enjoy The Dragon, keep up the great work. //s//



Joe Goepner
107 Forest Hill Drive
Anderson, SC 29621

In 1940, Frances A. DeSoto (6572878) and myself were transferred to the 15th IN at Ft. Lewis from the 11th Cavalry at Presidio of Monterey. Upon arrival at Ft. Lewis, we were both assigned to I Company, 3rd Battalion. I remained with I Company until cadred to the 99th Infantry Battalion in August. DeSoto remained with I Company. In November 1941, I made a branch transfer to the Army Air Corps and last saw DeSoto in barracks at Ft. Lewis. I never saw him again or had contact with him. In 1943, I received two photographs of him in a heavily censored letter indicating that he was in Africa. He was in barracks bag creased khakis, wearing T5 stripes and holding a Thompson submachine gun. Just last month, I learned that he was killed in action at Cassino, 20 February 1944, as a motorcyclist, in the grade of

Continued on page 5

Outpost Harry Survivors Association and L Company (Korea) hold joint reunion in Washington, DC.

Third Division Korean War veterans and families totaling 106 gathered in Washington for a reunion June 10-13. Each group had a separate hospitality room and business meeting. They united for a memorial service, tour, banquet and farewell breakfast. The combined group had an escorted tour of Arlington National Cemetery which included viewing the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns, visiting the Third Infantry Division Memorial and Audie Murphy's gravesite. They visited both the Korean War and the Vietnam War Memorials, also.

MG James Boatner gave a very interesting talk about the Korean War during the banquet. The highlight of the banquet was the presentation of the Infantry's St. Maurice Medal to Wilbur Sidney who served with 3-15 Infantry during WWII and the Korean War. Regnard Burgess was presented the Field Artillery's St. Barbara Medal in recognition of his service during the Korean War.

2

3

Photos from the Washington, DC Reunion

MG (Ret) James Boatner presents the Order of St. Maurice Medal to LTC (Ret) Wilbur A. Sidney as Mrs. Sidney looks on.

Five *Can Do* medics and a Regimental Surgeon who served together in the Korean War

Left to Right: Gordon Lowery, Wavne Carlson, Robert Grillo, Leonard Lassor and Dr. Harry Lee

Remains of US soldiers recovered in North Korea

Remains believed to be those of six American soldiers were repatriated from North Korea across the demilitarized zone at Panmunjom May 14. A joint US-North Korean Team operating for a month in Kujang County along the Chong Chon River, 100 miles north of Pyongyang, recovered the remains. This area is the site of November 1950 battles between the US Eighth Army (2nd and 25th Infantry Divisions) and Chinese communist forces. This is the first joint remains-recovery operation in North Korea this year, and the 10th overall since these joint recoveries began in 1996. Since July 1996, these joint teams have recovered what are believed to be the remains of 35 soldiers. Three have been identified. These operations are the result of negotiated agreements between the governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the US.

First Battalion News

Greetings from Fort Benning and the "Home of the Infantry." Our last submission ended with D 1-15 preparing to deploy to Qatar (Pronounced Cutter) from Kuwait in support of Operation Eastern Action. The operation culminated with a coalition CALFEX (Combined Arms Live-Fire Exercise) with the Qatari Army. In a word, the Warriors performed superbly!

The synchronization of all the assets on the modern battlefield is no easy feat, however, the soldiers of 1-15 did this to perfection in the final exercise of the deployment. Every weapon system in our arsenal was employed in the Task Force CALFEX in mid July. Everything from M-16 rifle to M1 Abrams Main Battle Tank, from Bradley Fighting Vehicle to 155mm Artillery was included in this impressive show of what one of the most lethal units in the Army, "Can Do."

The only thing that stood in the way of us coming home was turning in all of the equipment that we drew. But this is no simple task. The equipment must be in equal or better condition than we received it. The "CAN DO" soldiers met this challenge head on. They gave 110% and kept a positive attitude working in daytime temperatures that approached 140 degrees. Even in this harsh environment they set a standard for turn-in that has not been matched.

1-15 Infantry impressed many this summer in Kuwait. But it is no secret why the Task Force was so successful. It is simply because they stayed **Fired Up!** When faced with doing something the right way or taking a short-cut, they did the right thing. The soldiers know they are representing the proud heritage of a regiment that has consistently taken the tough missions with a quick reply of "Can Do" since 1861.

A special thank you must be extended to the spouses of the family support group. Their tireless effort in handling situations at home were greatly appreciated. Thank You!

Task Force 1-15 loaded up and headed for the United States where they received a hero's welcome at Lawson Army Airfield, Ft. Benning GA. MG Ernst, Post Commander, congratulated the Task Force on a job well done and within 3 hours the soldiers had turned in all equipment, picked up bags, and were released to be with family and friends. After a short equipment recovery a few days later, the soldiers took a much deserved leave period in mid September.

Next quarter will kick off with Level I Gunnery. The soldiers will continue to refine their fighting skills in preparation for DRB-1 (Division Ready Brigade) in December. Once again we will be prepared to be the "Tip of the Spear" wherever and whenever we are needed.

"CAN DO - HOOAH!"

Robert P. Pricone
LTC, IN
Commanding



Mail Call continued from page 3

Private and assigned to Headquarters Company, 805th Tank Destroyer Battalion.

Does anyone know if he was with the 15th, when the Regiment and Division deployed to Africa? How he got from the 15th IN to the 805th TD Battalion? Can anyone give me any information about him? In his letter, I believe he tried to tell me he either was or had been assigned to the 15th IN Antitank Company, but I think part of the info was censored from his letter. Thanks for your help. //s//

General Officer Announcement No. 99-067,

dtd 14SEP99 The Secretary of Defense announced at 1330, 14 September 1999 in Washington, DC, that the President has nominated:

Brigadier General (Promotable) Walter L. Sharp, from Deputy Director for Global/Multilateral Issues/International-American Affairs, J-5, The Joint Staff, Washington, DC to Commanding General, 3d Infantry Division (Mechanized), and Fort Stewart, Fort Stewart, Georgia with a report date to be determined.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

As one grows older it seems that each month, each year seems to come and go so much faster. Soon it will be Thanksgiving and then Christmas and then New Years Eve, 1999.

Many of us get so tied up in our work and march at a rapid pace, even if we are retired, we have a difficult time slowing down. May I suggest that we give ourselves a "time-out" and thank our creator for the blessing he has bestowed on this great country and for the men and women who unselfishly defended this wonderful land.

Let us never forget that we have a God that not only created us, but watches over us every moment, as stated in the following poem:

I sought to hear the voice of God,
And climbed the highest steeple.
But God declared: "Go down again,
Where I dwell among my people."

God bless you.

Chuck Trout
Chaplain



Korean War Writing Contest

The Chosun Ilbo (a major Korean newspaper) is holding a writing contest about the Korean War open to Korean and foreign nationals alike. Believing that with time the experience of the Korean War will be lost, the contest is restricted to content describing personal, family, or group experiences of the war.

The War was not just a war between soldiers, but affected many here and abroad. Submissions must describe the actual experiences of the writer or of someone who dictates his or her actual experiences to be recorded by someone else. Children of persons who experienced the war are especially encouraged to make submissions. All submissions will be donated to a Korean War research institute. Winning submissions will be published together as a book.

Dates: June 25, 1999 to May 31, 2000. A winner will be selected on the 25th of every month, beginning in July.

Length: 2 to 3 pages of A4 paper.

Awards: Winning submissions will be printed in either the Chosun Ilbo or the Weekly Chosun. The submission winning the one Grand Prize of 5 million Won (about \$4,000) will be published in June of 2000. Winners of eleven Second Prizes, to be published every month, will receive 1 million Won (about \$1,000). Eleven Merit Prizes winners will be selected and awarded 500 thousand Won (about \$450) as well.

Send submissions to:

"Korean War, Our Story"
Cultural Projects Department
The Chosun Ilbo
Taepyeongno 1 ga 61
Chung-gu
Seoul, Korea
100-756
FAX: (822) 724-6309
EMAIL: promot@chosun.com
For further information, call: (822) 724-6333



Study Group Open Forum

The Department of Defense has opened a debate forum on the National Security Study Group's Web site: www.nssg.gov.

Officials said that the purpose is to give the public a chance to contribute views on the range of factors that will shape our country's future, including demographics, economics, civic culture, issues of national identity, the nature of national security in the next century, the world in 2025 and the future of technology.

The study group is tasked with developing a national security strategy for the 21st century. This is an excellent opportunity for those who invested blood, sweat, toil and tears in national security to provide their opinions on it in the next century.

Web Sites Worth a Peek

www-benning.army.mil/fbhome/1-15th/welcome_page.htm

This is the official 1-15 IN Homepage. It contains lots of info about the 15th Infantry past and present.

www.army.mil/cmh-pg/ This is site of the US Army Center for Military History. This site has everything about the Army. Battlefield analysis documents, Division histories and bibliographies, descriptions of Army museums, as well as Army artwork and images. This is a great web site!

korea50.army.mil/ This is the official, public access web site for the Department of Defense commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War. It is the starting point for all public information regarding events during the commemorative period which runs from June 25, 2000 through July 27, 2003.

Company Commander Recognizes Soldiers Thru Association Membership

CPT Robert H. Cooper recently relinquished command of Company B, 3-15 IN. As a part of his recognition of outstanding service by selected soldiers in his Company, he presented ten with a one year membership in the Association. CPT Cooper reports that the soldiers are truly deserving. He feels that this action will have a lasting effect on these great soldiers. CPT Cooper has moved on to a new assignment with the 2nd Brigade Headquarters at Fort Stewart. Can Do!

E-Mail

You know I really don't know how I lived without this wonderful thing of e-mail for so many years. When our Army started using it, I thought it was the greatest thing since the P-38. I'm quite sure not everyone will agree with that but you have to admit it is a quick method of communicating. If you have an e-mail address, send me a note to Mhorn6122@knology.net. Please put 15th Infantry in the subject line. We'll get e-mail addresses added to the member list sometime in the near future

**Message Traffic from
the Chief of Staff of the Army**

CSA SENDS TO: CDR 3RD IN DIV. FT STEWART GA
INFO: CDR FORSCOM FT MCPHERSON GA
CDR XVIII ABN CORPS FT BRAGG NC

SUBJ: CSA CONGRATULATORY NOTE TO TASK
FORCE 1-15TH INFANTRY

CSA SENDS

1. UPON YOUR RETURN TO FORT BENNING FROM A
MAGNIFICENT PERFORMANCE DURING YOUR
RECENT DEPLOYMENT TO KUWAIT, PLEASE
EXTEND MY THANKS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO
ALL THE SOLDIERS OF TF 1-15 IN.

2. ON EXTREMELY SHORT NOTICE, TF DRAGON
TOOK ON THE INTRINSIC ACTION MISSION AND
BEGAN SETTING WARFIGHTING STANDARDS FOR
THE ARMY. IN LESS THAN 96 HOURS YOU HAD
CLEARED CAMP DOHA, DEPLOYED INTO POSITION,
REHEARSED YOUR BATTLE DRILLS, AND STOOD
READY FOR THE WARTIME MISSION. EVERY
COMPANY BEAT THE STANDARD FOR THE
EQUIPMENT DRAW.

3. NOT SATISFIED WITH JUST GETTING THERE FAST,
YOU THEN ADVANCED OUR WARTIME
CONTINGENCY PLANNING IN KUWAIT. YOU SET
TRAINING STANDARDS DURING THREE COMBINED
LIVE FIRE EXERCISES WITH THE KUWAIT LAND
FORCE. ANDTHROUGH FOUR LONG MONTHS, TF
DRAGON PERFORMED STEADILY EXCELLENT
MAINTENANCE ON OUR PRE-POSITIONED
EQUIPMENT.

4. THE TF DRAGON SOLDIERS I SAW IN KUWAIT
LAST MONTH-DEDICATED, PROFICIENT,
MOTIVATED-HAD DEMONSTRATED WHAT
STRATEGIC RESPONSIVENESS MEANS.

5. FROM APRIL TO AUGUST, YOU WERE ON POINT
FOR THE NATION. AND ALTHOUGH WE WILL SOON
IMPROVE THE WELL BEING OF INTRINSIC ACTION
UNITS, YOU CAN TAKE PRIDE IN BEING THE LAST
UNIT TO BRAVE THE KUWAITI SUMMER WITHOUT
THE COMFORTS OF AIR CONDITIONING.

6. PLEASE ACCEPT MY THANKS FOR YOUR
SACRIFICE AND YOUR PROFESSIONALISM. "CAN
DO!"

7. THE ARMY - - PERSUASIVE IN PEACE, INVINCIBLE
IN WAR, PREEMINENT IN ANY CONFLICT.

SHINSEKI



TAPS

Andrew E. Gunderson

From his son, Andrew W. Gunderson, we received the following report.

I'm saddened to report to you that my father passed away July 28, 1999. I was hoping that you could relay this to everyone at the reunion.

My father served with 3rd PLT, Company C, 15th Infantry in Korea 1951-1952. He was a member of OP7 Richmond, Virginia. //s//

Editors Note: Andy served as an SFC with the 15th IN in Korea. He was a founding member of the Association. Andy planned to attend the Reunion. He was very active and attended all Association and Society events.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆
George F. Shelton

From Bob Sheehan, OP 5, comes the following report.

Regret to inform you of the death of Fred Shelton who served with the 15th Infantry Regiment in Korea. I believe during 1951 and 1952.

Fred was attending an air show in the North Adams section of western Massachusetts. He owned an older Birdog airplane. While flying prior to the formal start of the air show, the wing tips of his plane and an older two engine plane clipped. This caused both aircraft to crash and resulted in the death of both pilots.

We planned to attend this years reunion in Savannah and expected to get together there.

It is truly a small world and time is so very short. God bless Fred's family and his flying buddies. //s//

Editors Note: George served as a CPL in Company C during the Korean War

DID YOU KNOW

April 16th 1880—
Company G, 15th
Infantry Regiment
commanded by Captain
Charles Steelhammer
engaged hostile Indians
near South Fork, New
Mexico. Three hundred
hostiles were captured
and one killed with no
losses to the Bluecoats.

Application For Membership
15th Infantry Regiment Association

___ New Member _____ Renewal
 (Date)

Last Name _____
 First Name _____
 Middle Initial _____
 Street Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip Code _____ - _____
 Telephone (____) _____
 Rank _____ ASN _____
 Units served in: _____
 Dates served in 15th IN: _____
 Date of birth: _____
 Spouse's Name: _____
 Type of membership desired
 ___ Regular Annual ___ Active Duty Annual
 ___ Associate Annual ___ Life ___ MOH
 ___ China Hand ___ World War I

Complete application. Mail with check or money order payable to the Treasurer, 15th Infantry Reg't Association.
 Mail to:
 Treasurer Richard Guimond
 Use the appropriate seasonal address found on page 2.

Dues Schedule

Annual dues \$10 for regular members and \$5 for active duty members, due October 1 each year.

Life membership: To age 60 = \$150; Age 61-69 = \$120; Age 70-79 = \$100; Age 80 and above = \$50.

Membership Status

By John T. Burke

The Association membership numbers continue to grow. Although the momentum has slowed somewhat over the past year, the Association now stands at over 670 strong.

Sources of new members include:

- Contact with 15th IN veterans shown on other veteran organization roles
- Notices disseminated by our Public Relations Chairman
- Information programs advanced in the current Active units
- 15th IN veterans spreading the word to other veterans of the Regiment or supporting units

By far, the most gratifying of all sources has been the personal contact with acquaintances by current members.

Losses include:

- Taps for our fallen comrades
- Non-payment of dues

Since October 1, 1998 we have gained 117 new members, however we lost 56 who did not renew from 1998 and 12 through deaths. For those delinquent in dues, generally one follow-on effort is made to return them to the rolls. Moderate success has been achieved despite the cost of additional reminders.

The current membership, by type, is as follow:

<u>Type</u>	<u>Number</u>
Regular, Annual	561
Associate, Annual	10
Regular Life	108
China Hands	7
Medal of Honor	<u>2</u>
	688 Total

A breakdown of the periods of service reported by the membership is about one-third each for WWII, Korea and Ready Forces.

Problems:

The current regular annual member list has 32 that have moved and no forwarding address is available.

Of major concern is the 389 members with September 30, 1999 expiration date. These must renew before January 1, 2000 in order to remain on the rolls.

Challenge:

I'll bet you know at least one CAN DO veteran who is not a member of the Association. Won't you ask him to join? Say CAN DO.

The tank on page 6 is a German PzKw VI Tiger.

Third Battalion News

Hail from Fort Stewart, Georgia! I am Lieutenant Colonel Stefan J. Banach, the commander of the 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry. Since I took command on 20 July, we have been executing a rigorous training schedule in preparation for our deployment to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California.

We began with two company changes of command. In Bravo Company, CPT Robert "Coop" Cooper relinquished his command to CPT David W. King. CPT Cooper had a very successful twelve months of command (winning battalion top gun company twice) and is now commanding Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Second Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized). CPT King comes to Bravo Company from the battalion operations section. CPT Jay Gallivan passed the Headquarters Company guidon over to CPT Steve Smith after a strong command tour. CPT Smith was a part of Task Force 3-15 in Kuwait during Exercise Intrinsic Action 99-01, so he has again come back to the China Battalion. Additionally, CPT Gallivan now commands a tank company in 1-64 Armor, and he will be a part of Task Force 3-15 for the upcoming NTC rotation in November.

We conducted small arms ranges, honing our marksmanship skills to prepare for maneuver live fire exercises. These small arms ranges prepared us for dismounted squad and platoon training, beginning with individual movement techniques and culminating with a platoon attack live fire exercise. The Battalion finished the early summer training period with M2A2 Bradley gunnery training.

In September, the China Battalion participated in Exercise Spartan Focus on Fort Stewart as part of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team. During this exercise the platoons were able to train on their fire and maneuver skills while executing both offensive and defensive operations. Concurrently, the battalion staff trained in the military decision making process to produce operations orders. The entire task force is beginning to gel into a tight-knit band of warrior brothers. It was a pleasure to see so many of you at the reunion. The Regiment is always honored and humbled by your presence. We look forward to our next meeting.

In October we will execute Marne Focus, during which the battalion will execute both defensive and offensive company-level training. This training should pay big dividends for the China Battalion at the National Training Center as well as for our combat readiness when we assume Division Ready Brigade in January.

In November we will deploy to the NTC before Thanksgiving and execute a rotation during the one of the coldest times of the year there. We expect great lessons to come from this rotation. We will redeploy to Fort Stewart before the Christmas holiday and move into Division Ready Brigade status, prepared to deploy at a moment's notice upon notification from the national command authority.
CAN DO!

Stefan J. Banach
Lieutenant Colonel, Infantry
Commanding

Reunion in Savannah Raffle Winners

Here are the names of the five winners of the \$100 cash prize raffle held during the Regimental Dinner in Savannah on September 24th.

Richard & Vera Hoff, Rapid City, SD

George E. Cox, Bloomingburg, NY

Nancy Hascall, Brimley, MI

William Prentice, Hamilton, OH

Charles Trout, Huntington Beach, CA

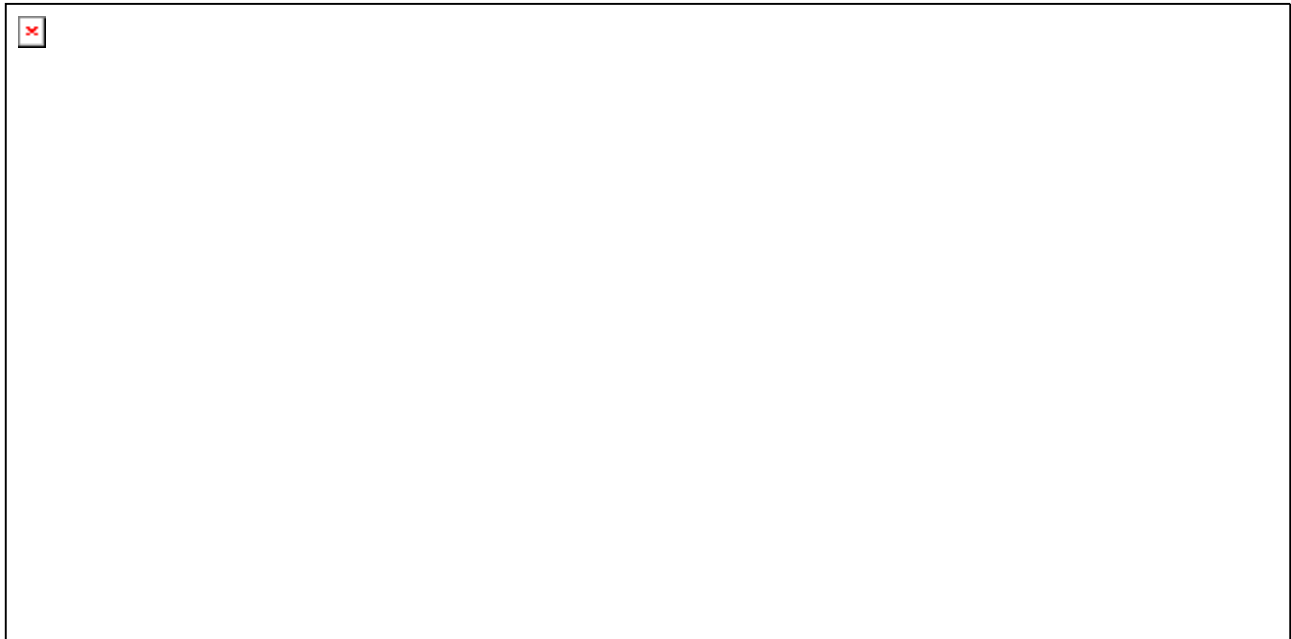
Stories and Photos Needed for the Dragon

Beginning with the next issue I'm interested in publishing remembrances of the 15th Infantry from 50 years ago and 60 years ago—1940 and 1950. In the January 2000 issue I want to share what the Regiment was doing in January thru March 1940 and January thru March 1950. In the April 2000 issue we'll print what was happening in April thru June 1940 and 1950. Stories can be long or short, humorous or sad and photos are greatly appreciated since they frequently tell a story themselves. Please send me your remembrances of these pivotal years. I want to share the history of the Regiment with all members of the Association.

Mike Horn
Editor

Buffalo Reunion

Five members of Company A, 1-15 IN stationed in Kitzingen, Germany 1966-69, who attended the reunion. Pictured from right to left Paul Vanderbush (sitting on floor) Joe Curalli, Tom Heitzer, George Krhounek and Don Carlson.



From July 16-18, 1999, five members of Company A, 1st Bn. 15th Inf. from Harvey Barracks in Kitzingen, Germany during the years of 1967-69, met in Buffalo, New York for a 30 year reunion. Those participating in this reunion were Don Carlson and his daughter, Sara of Joliet, IL, Joe Curalli and his son Joe Jr. of Lockport, IL, George Krhounek and his fiancée Jean of Downers Grove, IL, Paul Vanderbush and his wife, Joanne and children John, Caitlin, and Kristine and her children Kristofer and Evan of Cheektowaga, NY and Tom Heitzer and his wife Susan and daughter Cris of St. Louis, MO.

Each brought photos and memorabilia to help relive those days when we were only 19 years old and away from home for the first time in our life. There was German Beer and Strawberry Wine available for those who wanted to relive those days with a taste of the past. This historic meeting was preserved by photo and video to go along with all the memories. Saturday night was topped off with a visit to an authentic German Restaurant for Schnitzel. Sunday was devoted to visiting the Niagara Falls area.

Not present at this reunion was Herbert Pichler of Kempner, TX, James Mathwig of Oshkosh, WI, Kimberlain Gillman of West Alton, MO, Raymond Tewes of Temple City, CA, Russell Daines of Laforge, WI, Frank Costa of Melrose Park, IL and Mike Lynch of Heyworth, IL. It was suggested at this years reunion for each person to join the 15th Infantry Regiment Association and to apply for the Cold War Recognition Certificate. Forms was passed out to those who attended this reunion and also sent out to those who couldn't attend. We are currently looking for about 50 other comrades who served with us during this tour of duty for another reunion being planned next summer in St. Louis, MO. A third meeting is in the works for 2001 in the Chicago, Illinois area. If anyone was with the 1st Bn 15th Inf during 1967-69 and would like information on these reunions, please contact Tom Heitzer, 3725 Hwy Z, Hillsboro, MO 63050, 636-475-4042 or trheitz@marz.com.

Can Do

Tom Heitzer

5 6 7 8

The Association Officers and the Editor of the Dragon.

L to R. PFC Robert Winegrad, Dale Marker and SSG Sean Soder.

L to R. SSG Sean Soder, LTC Bob Pricone, PFC Robert Winegrad

Richard and Vera Hoff. The first raffle winners.

SGT Ubaldo Cruz and SPC Terrance King

LTC Bob Pricone and Bob Steele with the Cannon Company guidon

15th Infantry Regiment Association
Michael J. Horn
Editor
6122 Chrisbin Drive
Columbus, GA 31909-3739

Address Service Requested

Presorted
First Class Mail
U.S. Postage Paid
Columbus, GA 31908
Permit No. 146

