



# “THE IVY DRAGOONS DISPATCH”

Newsletter of the 3/8th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division - Vietnam War



President: Steve Edmunds

Volume VIII

Ivy Dispatch Editors: Ken Howe & Levie Isaacks

Winter 2004

## TAPS

I was informed by the USPS when the Summer/2004 issue of the Ivy Dragoons Dispatch was returned that our Brother, Kurt Sims B/3/8 6/69-6/70 has passed away. Kurt had been on our roster since our inception in 1999. He was residing in Chicago, IL at the time of his death. No other information available.

## IVY DRAGOONS REUNION

JULY 21 - 24, 2005

GOLD COAST HOTEL

& CASINO

LAS VEGAS, NV

## Chapter Update

As 2004 comes to a close and current memberships are due to expire on Dec. 31st, I wish to thank those that have renewed their membership and those that have more recently joined our “Band of Brothers”. If you have not yet renewed your dues I urge you to do so, we need your continued support. If you have not been a member, please consider doing so as it is not the cost of membership, but the price you already paid to be eligible to become a member of the Ivy Dragoons. Annual dues are \$15.00 Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2005. Paid for life memberships are available, if interested. The following are those that I received dues thru Dec. 15, 2004. Dues received after July 31st are good through 2005. A dues reminder has recently been mailed to all active members.

**New Members:** **Dr. John F. Bauer**, D/3/8 11/68-3/69; **Joseph J. Coll**, Memorial (Brother, Dennis J. Coll A/3/8 KIA 3 March 69); **Kenneth H. Elliott**, B/3/8 2/67-7/67 HHC/3/8 7/67-2/68; **Samuel V. Shelton**, B/3/8 9/66-9/67; **Mark B. Towns**, A/3/8 11/66-11/67; **Richard L. Peters**, B/3/8 8/67-8/68

**Renewals:** **James C. Adams**, B/3/8 8/67-8/68; **Dennis R. Bolman**; B/3/8 6/69-5/70; **Rellius “Bo” Boudreaux**, B/3/8 69-70; **Michael Boxer**, D/3/8 10/68-10/69; **Robert L. Brown**, C/3/8 8/67-8/68; **Russell Campbell**, C/3/8 8/66-8/67; **Terry E. Campbell, Sr**, D/3/8 2/69-2/70; **Steve Chopek**, A/3/8 2/68-5/68; **John “Jack” Concannon**, C/3/8 5/67-12/67; **Doug “Jack” Crumley**, E/3/8 Recon 9/66-8/67; **John D’Agostino, Jr.**, B/3/8 7/69-7/70; **Joseph J. DiGiovanni**, U/3/8 ??-??; **Gordon D. Dixon**, A/3/8 6/67-3/68; **Terry Faulkner**, C/3/8 7/67-12/69; **Edward G. Goehring**, B/3/8 8/66-8/67; **Dan Grzyb**, D/3/8 8/67-11/67; **Roger D. Harrell**, B/3/8 11/67-11/68; **Levie C. Isaacks**, B/3/8 7/67-7/68; **Richard “Doc” Jackson**, C/3/8 9/66-9/67; **Jim Jewell**, HHC/3/8 Recon 8/66-8/67; **Ric Johnston**, E/3/8 6/69-6/70; **Gene Kelly**, E/3/8 Recon 9/69-9/70; **Robert B. “Commo” Kelly**, D/3/8 12/69-12/70; **Michael S. Kephart**, C/3/8 9/66-9/67; **Byron Kinnan**, D/3/8 8/67-8/68; **Robert D. Kirkland**, E/3/8 Recon 69-70; **Richard Letz**, C/3/8 ??-??; **Robert L. Levesque**, D/3/8 69-70; **Frank J. Lozon**, HHC/3/8 1/69-5/69; **M/Gen Thomas “Charger” Lynch**, Ret. Bn CO 8/66-7/67; **Patrick C. McClelland**, C/3/8 7/67-7/68; **Jacob “Doc” Marks**, D/3/8 5/68-5/69; **Joe McCook**, E/3/8 9/67-9/68; **Robert C. McElroy**, C/3/8 8/66-7/67; **Maynard E. Melhorn**, D/3/8 67-69; **Roy Nussbaum**, HHC 8/67-9/68; **John A. Perez**, C/3/8 5/68-4/69; **Byron L. Perry**, C/3/8 8/66-8/67; **Terry L. Peukert**, HHC/3/8 Recon 66-67; **Philip Roncari**, A/3/8 66-67; **John E. Roy**, D/3/8 9/68-9/69; **Delbert L. Shores, Jr.**, C/3/8 8/66-7/67; **Thomas L. Simon**, HHC/3/8 67; **Rea “Sparky” Sparks**, 5/67-11/67; **Robert C. “St Louis” Stevson**, B/3/8 11/67-11/68; **Alfred F. Thomas**, B/3/8 8/66-9/67; **Victor H. Tunnell**, C/3/8 8/67-2/68; **Bill E. Vigil**, A/3/8 8/67-8/68; **Fred A. Watson**, B/3/8 11/67-11/68; **James N. White**, C/3/8 4/68-2/69; **Robert J. White**, C/3/8 9/67-9/68; **Robert Williamson**, C/3/8 9/67-9/68; **Stephen P. Wolff**, E/3/8 8/67-8/68; **Charles Young**, A/3/8 8/67-8/68

**Paid For Life:** **Michael Alfieri**, A/3/8 65-67; **Stephen N. Edmunds**, C/3/8 5/67-5/68; **James R. Hill**, A/3/8 1/66-8/67; **Ronald P. Jones**, C/3/8 7/67-6/68; **Nathan Lanford**, A/3/8 6/67-5/68; **John “Doc” Lindsay**, B/3/8 5/69-2/70; **James A. McCarthy**, A/3/8 1/69-2/70; **Edward E. Pippin**, B/3/8 8/67-11/67; **Richard L. Peters**, B/3/8 8/67-8/68; **James M. Voshell**, D/3/8 8/67-8/68 (renewal form inside)

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# IVY DRAGOONS REUNION

**WHEN:** JULY 21 - 24, 2005  
**WHERE:** GOLD COAST HOTEL & CASINO  
4000 WEST FLAMINGO RD  
LAS VEGAS, NV 89103

Hotel reservations should be made, directly, with the hotel. Call toll free 1-888-402-6278 and state that your reservations are for the Ivy Dragoons Reunion.

Rates: Sunday thru Thursday @ \$40.00/nite  
Friday & Saturday nite @ \$79.00/nite double occupancy plus tax.  
Note: there is an additional charge for 3-4 people per room.

July 21 1600-2000 hrs Early Arrivals Registration  
- Steve's Room

July 22 0800-1600 hrs Registration/Hospitality Room - Salon H  
1800-2300 hrs Buffet Dinner - Salon E

July 23 0800-1000 hrs Business Meeting - Salon E  
1000-1600 hrs Hospitality Room - Salon E  
1800-2300 hrs Banquet dinner/entertainment - Salon E

July 24 Departure

For additional info, contact: Steve Edmunds, 2212 Shady Hills Dr,  
Diamond Bar, CA., 91765, ph/fax 909-861-6379,  
e-mail: edmundsdb@aol.com

7/22	Registration	\$15.00 per adult(over 18)	X _____	= _____
7/22	Buffet dinner	\$35.00 per person	X _____	= _____
7/23	Buffet lunch	\$19.00 per person	X _____	= _____
7/23	Banquet dinner	\$35.00 per person	X _____	= _____
	Donation (Optional)			= _____
			<b>TOTAL</b>	_____

Note: The National reunion will be taking place during this time. Their events are being held at the Stardust Hotel in the event you would like to attend any of their festivities.

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## Dragoon's Contacts

If you have questions, comments or would like to submit articles for "The Dispatch" please contact:

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Samuel Arlon Johnson C58 RM 23 July 67

## SEEKING INFO..

I am the Brother-in-law of Samuel Arlon Johnson, C/3/8 KIA 23 July 67, and am looking to make contact with anyone who may have served with Sammy. My sister, Regina, is still single and doing well. She is residing in Ohio. I, also, served in the army from November 1967 to 1969. Sammy and I were very close. Below is a picture of Sammy while he served. Thank you for any help that you can provide. I may be contacted at [dcbrowning5@earthlink.net](mailto:dcbrowning5@earthlink.net) or through the Ivy Dragoons Chapter. I, also, wanted to let you know how much we appreciate the job you are doing with your website. We have been unable to find out anything about Sammys last days in Vietnam and would be glad to hear from anyone that knew him. Hope to be able to visit your site quite often. Keep up the great job and thank you. Danny Browning

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## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER...

TO 3/8TH VIETNAM VETS, 4TH DIV, "STEADFAST AND LOYAL":

Greetings to all on this celebration of Veterans Day; the 11th hour, 11th day, 11th month of so-so many years ago. I sat yesterday on 11/11/04 with bittersweet memories of a day gone by in most of our lives. As the memory of this date, 37 years ago for me, and others from B Co, as well as, A, C, D And E Co's; 3/8th vets of Dak To. And then, to the rest of our unit, my mind wanders to you about whom I do not know. Whatever your day there was, we all have a date of association, maybe not of the same dates of battle, but for sure of the same war. I am grateful for your life being spared. Welcome Home Again!!!

May next year's 11/11 Veterans Day find our country not at war and our troops back home. This is my prayer, as I am sure that it is yours. May we look to our Lord and Maker for brighter days ahead. I was so disturbed that the day of our remembrance was hampered by the passing of the terrorist, Arafat. That the news media barely had time to address the President placing the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Let America never forget our fallen and wounded. God, please forgive and help our land is my prayer today. Maybe with Arafat's passing, peace or a facsimile could be found in somethig, somehow, someone there. Peace will come some day for sure when the Prince of Peace comes again. Isaiah 9:6 Says "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." KJV

Thanksgiving is soon approaching, let us be grateful every day for our bounty as we still enjoy living in freedom. Christmas, with its merriment will not be so merry for many children and wives, moms and dads. Let us, the 3/8th family all join together and pray for "Peace on Earth and Goodwill to Men", everywhere. God's spped 3/8th and God, do bless all of America. Let me encourage all 3/8th vets to come to the reunion next July. It will help cure some of our ills. 'Til we meet again, I love you men and still am praying for you all.

Bro Ed Pippin, B/3/8 4th Div RVN 67

Jere. 33:3,2 Cor. 5:17

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## SEEKING INFO....

My father-in-law served with Company D 3rd Battalion 8th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division. His name was Larry Joe Phillips. He was a rifleman and a driver serving from 67-68. My husband never got to know his father. He died before his son was born. My husband has been trying to find any one that might have known him or have info about his dad in Nam.

Larry died June 17th 1969 in a car accident. The doctors said he died do to the shrapnel that he had in his head from Vietnam. He was 24 yrs old and newly married, with a son on the way. His name is also Larry Joe Phillips. I will try to get a pic out to you as soon as i can. once again thank you your information.any little thing will help my husband know his father just a little bit more. Thank you for you time.

Jean Phillips

626 Main Street

Osage City KS 66523

Phone: 785-528-3820

E-mail: tx\_blonde\_too@yahoo.com

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## NATIONAL 4 TH INFANTRY (IVY) DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Membership Application Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2004

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates in RVN: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If interested in a Life Membership, let me know and I will send you an application.

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## DRAGOON PROFILE ...



**Jim Jewell, Recon Platoon RVN 66-67**

Jim Jewell was inducted into the army from his hometown of Harvey, Illinois on Nov. 24, 1965 in Chicago, the day before Thanksgiving. “They put us on a train to Fort Knox, and when we arrived everyone had left for the Thanksgiving weekend. We had to sit and wait until Monday for processing and were then sent to Fort Lewis. Hurry up and wait! The Army way!” Jim completed Basic Training at Fort Lewis with what was to become “A” Company. Upon completion of Basic, Jim was assigned a MOS of 11H (anti-tank) and assigned to Recon Platoon where he underwent further training in Yakima, Fort Lewis and Vancouver, WA. The Recon Platoon served as “aggressors” during various stateside exercises with the battalion.

Jim shipped out with the battalion in Sept. 1966 on the USS Gordon and arrived in Vietnam about 3 weeks later. During his tour, Jim served with the Recon Platoon. While in Vietnam, Jim, took his R & R in Hong Kong in March 1967 with his foxhole buddy, Fred Parr. “We had a great time. I especially remember the elation after being able to talk to my wife again. It was the best and most expensive collect call I have ever made!” Upon completion of his tour, he departed Vietnam and arrived in Oakland, CA. on Sept. 10, 1967. “I remember it well! They moved us

from station to station for 24 hours and made us stay and eat that damn steak dinner before discharging us.” Jim became a member of the Inactive Reserve to complete his military obligation.

Jim was married, prior to his induction, on Sept 29, 1965 to his lovely wife, Becky. They are the proud parents of their son, Rick and currently reside in Port Angeles, WA. After his discharge, Jim worked for a small steel company and spent the next seven years doing shift work before finally landing a day job. He used his VA benefits and returned to school where he obtained a couple of Associate of Arts degrees and then his Bachelor of Science degree from Purdue University in 1988. Jim retired in 1998 after working for more than 30 years in the Metallurgical and Technical Service Departments. Jim and Becky enjoy doing volunteer work at the local Library, Senior Center teaching basic computer skills and at Discover Center of the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary in Port Angeles. He enjoys fishing, walking trails in the Olympic National Park and exploring the nearby beaches and tide pools. Jim adds, “Retirement in Washington is great!”

“I’m very grateful to the 3/8th Association and especially Steve Edmunds for noticing my e-mail message to the 4th ID, and thus helping me to find other members of the Recon Platoon. The last 18 months have been very rewarding as new Recon brothers have been located. Finding that four other guys from the platoon including my platoon & squad leaders lived only a few hours away was a great surprise. The get-togethers so far have been super! Also, I’m really looking forward to the platoon reunion this October. I never thought I would be able to see these guys again! Thanks again 3/8th!” Jim is a member of the Ivy Dragoons Chapter of the National 4th Infantry Division Assoc.

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## Veteran’s Day in DC...

Dragoon Brothers enjoying the camaraderie during Veteran’s Day festivities in Washington DC. “Weather was perfect & the company GREAT! Charlie & his son-in-law came down from the Philly area & picked me up at my house. We got to DC around 9AM. I could go on & on. Charlie thanked me several times for asking him to go along. We met Michael Boxer and Ed & Mary Goehring, at the statue of the 3 Grunts. There we ran into several other Ivy men that had served. I haven’t walked that much since I came home from that paradise we spent a lot of time in. Coming to DC and seeing all these Vets, is surely a moving experience. Everyone we saw with a Ivy patch on we talked to. Even found another boat person from A Co. He said he is on our roster. I am enclosing another photo of a picture of Rex Walker that I left there at the request of his widow Vada. I left it in front & below the names of our brothers that were KIA on July 23, 1967. Three Trees. Charlie brought the flowers.

*Doc Nagl*



From L to R:

Kurt “Doc” Nagl, B/3/8 66-67; Michael Boxer, D/3/8 68-69; Charlie Steinmetz, B/3/8 66-67; and Ed Goehring, B/3/8 66-67

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## Reflections of a Redleg...

I thought I would pass on the story of how I (a lowly redleg) came to be walking with all you blueleg heroes. When I was inducted into the Army I scored well on the battery of tests that I was given at the induction station. Consequently, I was offered the opportunity to go to OCS (originally I was designated to go to graves registration). I figured that if you had to be in the army why not be an officer (what was I thinking). I was told that the only schools available at the time were for combat arms and I could choose which one I wanted. Not knowing much about the army I asked which one was the farthest from the action. The reply "artillery". I immediately signed up. Following basic I went off to Ft. Sill for OCS prep in artillery school. Somewhere along the line I was told that my commitment would be for two years following date of commission. I said no thanks. I was trained as fire direction control clerk and sent to Ft. Hood. Sometime in basic I had hit and knocked out a drill instructor and it apparently became a part of my record even though it was established that he had it coming. When I got to Ft. Hood they thought I was a trouble maker and assigned me to the FO/Recon section. It was pretty good. Drive a jeep, sit in a nice area with binoculars and adjust artillery fire. As a three man section we had a pretty good time. Got to RVN and checked in to the 6/29th. Again my record indicated I was a trouble maker and I was assigned as an FO with HSB. Suited me fine. Jeep, binoculars, good food and cot everynight was just what I thought it would be. Far, far to the rear and out of harm's way. When the helicopter dropped through a hole in the jungle canopy and dropped me off with all these dirty, unshaven bluelegs, I knew someone had made a mistake. When you guys burned all my extra clothes, duffle bag and binoculars, I knew I was in trouble. This was a lot closer to combat than I wanted to be. Without you guys for help and guidance I would have never made it out of that mess. I knew nothing of infantry tactics. The only artillery tactics I knew were taught by WWII vets on open firing ranges. Everything I had to learn, and would eventually learn, would be done OJT. With the help of you guys I learned some infantry tactics and developed new artillery tactics that didn't exist before. After I was wounded the second time at FSB 14, some officers from Ft. Sill came to my unit and debriefed me on jungle artillery recon operations. Some of what I told them wound up in the artillery school manuals for future FO/Recon personnel. There is no doubt in my mind that I owe my survival to you guys of Charlie Company. You were what kept me far out of harm's way, just where I needed to be. For that I will be forever grateful. I'll mention a couple of other incidents that involve you and Doc Lunde that you are probably familiar with. Coming off 724 Cpt. Mirus selects his best man to walk point (someone we all know and love) through a highly suspected enemy position and

puts him way, way out in front of the company with a shot gun. He can select from a hundred capable infantrymen to back you up and somehow I get the nod. What was that all about? It wasn't far enough back for a good artilleryman to be. Especially carrying a forty-five. I don't think you felt too comfortable about it considering we found those steaming cat-hole when we walked off. I'd like to think he picked me because he knew, if you got in trouble, I would come to your aid rather than return to the company. I'd like to ask him someday just what his motivation was although I really did trust his judgment the whole time I served with him, so he probably had good reasons. The incident with Doc Lunde was on FSB 14. Doc and I were in the CP with CPT. when the call came in that they needed a medic on the perimeter right away. We already had the word that the perimeter had been overrun and there were enemy all over the LZ at the top of the hill. Mirus told Doc he would have to go and send me along to cover him on the way over. Doc and I were slowly low-crawling across the top of the hill when we suddenly came under automatic weapons fire that hit right beside us. We became the fastest low-crawling non-infantrymen in history. Doc should remember this one. I certainly appreciate the way you have adopted me into your organization with open arms. I spent seven months in Charlie Company with some of the greatest men I will ever know. My last five months were as a tag-along redleg on various LRRP patrols. Never got to know those guys like Charley Company brothers and still consider myself, although a redleg, a ground-pounder. And proud of it. I am hoping to be around for the 2005 reunion and plan to attend. Keep up the good work and God Bless.  
Harper "Digger" Simpson, FO Recon Sgt 6/29th attached to C/3/8 67-68

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## "Paper Snow"....

Twas the night before Christmas and all through the "hootch"  
Not a creature was stirring not even a gook

The trips were hung with the greatest of care,  
hoping that Charlie wouldn't be there

The soldiers were nestled all hunched in their beds  
while visions of "Hots" danced through their heads

The guards on their bunkers answering "Sit Reps"  
while we in our liners smoked our last cigarette

When out of the woods came a loud clatter  
so I sprang from my liner and said, "What's the matter?"

I ran out with my weapon and fell in the hole  
and yelled out loud, "Charlie, please don't show!"

I found a grenade and got ready to throw  
and then from the sky, I thought I saw snow,  
but up popped Charlie saying, "Chieu Hoi, Joe"

Then listening with disbelief as Charlie fell into the hole  
Still clutching white leaflets, he said, "Where's the Bob Hope show"

This poem was written on Christmas Eve, 24 December 68, by the following members of Alpha Co: Wayne Jackson, Barry Horton, Joe Balla and Carl Hicks

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## MY VIETNAM WAR STORY....

My name is Wayne Jackson, I am a Vietnam veteran, and I served with "A" Company, 3/8th Battalion, 4th Infantry Division, from September 1968 to September 1969 during "TET". I was in an essay contest that the Ogden School Foundation and Standard Examiner sponsored on true Vietnam stories. Author, Tim O'Brien, who writes true Vietnam stories was in town for this contest. One of the books he has written is "The Things They Carried". It's a very good book. Anyway, I was one of the top five winners. This is my story.

I flew into Long Binh, Vietnam on September 8, 1968, where I processed into country and this is where the Army would tell me, what infantry division, I would be assigned to. Now my story is probably a little different than most folks. I served in the same squad as my cousin, Alan Linford. When I was told that I was going to the 4th Infantry Division, I thought to myself that this was the same division my cousin Alan was in. We grew up together. Alan is my dad's sister's son. Alan had gone to Vietnam 9 months before I did. When I was told, that I was going to the 3/8th Battalion, I said to myself, "I think this is the battalion, Alan was with", but I was not sure. After they had processed me in, I was sent to Pleiku where the 3/8th Battalion, 4th Infantry was located. The following day the Fighting 4th, (which is what the 4th Infantry is called) sent myself and a few other men, by chopper to Patrol base 101, which was close to the Cambodian border on top of a mountain, about 30 miles from Pleiku. When I jumped from the chopper with my gear and weapon (M16), my cousin Alan came up to me and hit me in the shoulder and said Wayne, what the hell are you doing here? Alan asks the first sergeant if I could be in his squad. So I had the privilege to be taught, trained and guided by my cousin Alan for about three months before he came home to the real world. I have attached a poem that Alan wrote; it is called "Viet-Nam". What is the chance's to be sent 12,000 miles from home in the middle of Vietnam and serve with your cousin you grew up with?

My mother sent me a 3 ft. Christmas tree with ornaments in October 1968. We left Patrol Hill 101 and started humping (Hiking) with full gear 10 clicks a day. We arrived to Fire Base Betty the first of November. My platoon members took turns caring my Christmas tree each day so we would have a Christmas tree, for Christmas. December 1st we started humping once again. December 9th we got in to a fire fight and I had a dust off because I got real sick and my temperature drop to 94.4 degrees. I met back with "A" company on December 14th in Peiku and we left that day and started humping to Hill 1590. When we arrived on December 15th, choppers were supposed to bring us food and water but the Viet-Cong (VC) pinned us down, so choppers were unable to get food

and water to us. We had to drink bamboo milk and eat what we could find. December 18th we were able to get some help and get the choppers to bring food and water. We left Hill 1590 on the 19th and arrived on Hill 1999. We call the hill by numbers because that is how tall they are in meters. We left December 21st for a place called "VC" Valley. When we arrived in "VC" valley, "A" company was pinned down once again by two snipers in trees. What the VC do, is tie their men/boys into trees so they cannot get down and use them for snipers. They killed one guy in my platoon named Bob Clark and wounded two more, one was nick-named Jew and the other one was Jackson, then they ran out of ammo. We cut them down from the trees and they looked like about 13 to 14 years old boys. During our stay in "VC" Valley we found under ground facilities (tunnels), mess halls, hospital equipment, beds etc., for about 2000 people. We found 250,00 lbs of rice, machine guns, Ak 47's, Ak 51's, B40 rockets grenades, clothes and 50, barrels of cocaine. We were told by our battalion that we was going to be able to come in and go to the Bob Hope Show, but that never did materialize. So on Christmas Eve 1968, we broke out my Christmas tree and set it up and lit candles around the tree. I have attached a poem that myself, and three of my squad members wrote on Christmas Eve 1968 it's called "Paper Snow". In Mid February 1969, I was sent into Cam Ranh Bay to get my Jungle Rot fixed. While I was in Cam Ranh Bay, I was told "A" company got wiped out. Man did that hurt. There were a lot of men that I was close too. For 33 years I thought "A" Company was wiped out. One day I had the inspiration to get on the Internet and look up the 4th Infantry Division. I found the web page and then found the web site for the 3/8th Battalion. I, e-mailed Steve Edmunds who was the 3/8th unit President. He welcomed me home, and stated that he had a list of names of men that got killed in Viet Nam with dates and asked me if I could verify any of the names on the list, and to confirm what company and platoon they were with. When I seen the list I was relieved that it was not the whole company that was wiped out. It was most of my platoon and five out of eight from my squad that was killed. It was March 3rd 1969 that they were killed. I kept a diary of the names of the men I served with. It was nice to know after 33 years that it was not as many as I was first told. I was able to stay in Cam Ranh Bay and finish my time in Viet Nam as Armor for the supply room in the 10th Transportation Company. I thank God daily, that He returned me back to my family and friends. May God Bless America and the men and women that fight for our Freedom.

Sincerely  
*Wayne Jackson*

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## Reconnaissance Platoon (1965 - 1967) 3rd Battalion, 8th Infantry 2004 Reunion

In late 1965 a group of draftees at the Fort Lewis replacement center were picked up by the NCOs who would take them through basic training, AIT and the specialized field work that formed them into the Reconnaissance Platoon 3rd Battalion, 8th Infantry. Over the next nine months the platoon filled out and in September 1966 deployed to Viet Nam. Following a steep initial learning curve, the platoon's



**Standing Left to Right:** Robert Robinson, Bill Wright, Glenn Wise, Bruce Thompson, Leon Owens, Fred Parr, Rick Arrouzet, Joe Guerra, Leo King. **Kneeling Left to Right:** William Varnado, Jim Jewell, Mike Morris, Bob Chun, Roy Patton, George Casiano, Jack Crumley

the 22 platoon members located 16 answered the Kansas City roll call, along with nine of our wives who added a touch of class to our gathering. Like most reunions we all wondered whether we would recognize anyone and if we would still have much in common. Those concerns disappeared the minute we met. The lobby of the Marriott Plaza was filled with shouts of welcome, long lasting hand shakes and hugs, and ever a few tears. By the time we gathered at our planned reception it seemed as if the years had dropped away, the pot bellies disappeared, hair regrew and we were the 20 year old Meat Hunters once again. Joe Guerra, our Scout Squad Leader who retired a Sergeant Major, brought along 4th ID cups, shirts, and caps from the

performance in combat soon earned them their "Meat Hunters" nickname and brought them even closer together.

After 38 years the "Meat Hunters" reformed in Kansas City on October 1st and 2nd, 2004. Of

### SEEKING INFO...

Ken Davis of the Virtual Wall organization and I have been trying to identify the unit of HAROLD D. BEACH who we currently carry as belonging to B Co 3rd Bn 8th Infantry. We have come across a different unit ID for him in records of the Army's Central Identification Laboratory, Hickam Field, Hawaii which processed Vietnam casualties. These records have him KIA while with D Trp 1st Sqdr 10th Cav. Can you shed any light on this? Anything you can do for us here will be greatly appreciated. Contact may be made through the Ivy Dragoons, Attn: Steve Edmunds or Richard Coffelt [rcoffelt@eaglecom.net](mailto:rcoffelt@eaglecom.net)

Fort Hood PX. You would have thought it was a yard sale the way our guys went through that stuff. All the while our wives watched with not a little bemusement. On Saturday we rented two vans and drove 150 miles east of Kansas City to visit a platoon member, Terry Peukert, who is physically unable to travel. Once again, the stories flew with every new sentence starting with "do you remember".

The platoon got back to the hotel just in time to clean up for the formal dinner. After dinner the festivities continued with a toast to "Old Soldiers and Old Friends". Jim Jewell, who had collected over 600 pictures from various platoon members, put together a picture CD and passed out copies to each platoon member. Jim's account of what happened to "Charlie", our platoon symbol, also drew a round of applause. Jack Crumley, using Jim Jewell's pictures, had printed an album of our Viet Nam tour and gave each of us a copy. We then ran around having our albums signed by all of the guys. As the dishes were cleared away we sat for hours talking and laughing, no one seemed willing for the reunion to be over. We stayed together until the hotel very politely asked if they could bring in their cleaning team.



Recon Platoon Patch 66-67

The last order of business was to try and locate the nine guys we had not been able to find and to agree that we wanted to get the platoon together again, perhaps as part of the "Ivy Dragoons" reunion next July. So what did we learn? Reunions are just great! (Submitted by Doug "Jack" Crumley)

(continued from VETERAN BENEFITS)

zone or contiguous waters) and who are in receipt of the Southwest Asia Service Medal established by executive order of the President on March 13, 1991 are eligible for a \$500 bonus.

3. Contact Veterans' Bonus Division, Department of Veterans' Services, 600 Washington St., Suite 1100 Boston, MA 02111 Tel: (617) 210-5927 or [www.mass.gov/veterans](http://www.mass.gov/veterans) or Email: [mdvs@vet.state.ma.us](mailto:mdvs@vet.state.ma.us)

[Source: <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/cis/cisvet/vetbonus.htm> SEP 04]

Lt. James "EMO" Tichacek, USN (Ret)  
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Warden Baguio City RP  
PSC 517 Box RCB, FPO AP 96517-1000  
Tel: (63-74) 442-7135, Cell: 0927-713-0880, or state-side FAX to email  
service 1-801-760-2430

***IVY DRAGOONS DISPATCH  
2212 SHADY HILLS DR.  
DIAMOND BAR, CA 91765***

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**VETERAN BENEFITS....**

**MASSACHUSETTS VETERAN BONUS:** The Commonwealth of Massachusetts provides a bonus to veterans who were domiciled in Massachusetts immediately prior to entry in the armed forces. In case of the death of a veteran, the spouse and children, mother or father, brother or sister or other dependents of the deceased veteran (in that order) are eligible for a bonus. Bonus eligibilities and point of contact to obtain are:

**WWII:** Veterans who performed one day to six months active service are eligible for a \$100 bonus, six months or more stateside service are eligible for a \$200 bonus, and foreign service are eligible for a \$300 bonus. Contact Office of the Treasurer, One Ashburton Place, 12th Floor, Boston, MA 02108 Tel: 617-367-3900, Ext. 208 Fax: (617) 227-1622 or [www.state.ma.us/treasury/](http://www.state.ma.us/treasury/)

**KOREA:** Veterans who performed ninety days stateside duty are eligible for a \$100 bonus, six months or more duty are eligible for a \$200 bonus, and/or one or more days outside of the continental limits of the U.S. or performed foreign service are eligible for a \$300 bonus.

Contact Office of the Treasurer, One Ashburton Place, 12th Floor, Boston, MA 02108 Tel: 617-367-3900, Ext. 208 Fax: (617) 227-1622 or [www.state.ma.us/treasury/](http://www.state.ma.us/treasury/)

**VIETNAM:** veterans who performed six months active duty from 1 JUL 58 and prior to 1 APR 73 are eligible for \$200 bonus if served six months or \$300 bonus if served on duty in Vietnam. Contact Office of the Treasurer, One Ashburton Place, 12th Floor, Boston, MA 02108 Tel: 617-367-3900, Ext. 208 Fax: (617) 227-1622 or [www.state.ma.us/treasury/](http://www.state.ma.us/treasury/)

**PERSIAN GULF:** Veterans who performed thirty days or more during the period of August 2, 1990 to April 10, 1991 are eligible for a bonus according to the following stipulations.

1. Called to active service in support of said war as members of the Army National Guard or Air National Guard or as reservists in the armed forces of the United States in an area other than the Persian Gulf area are eligible for a \$300 bonus.

2. Performed active service in the Persian Gulf area (war

(continued inside)