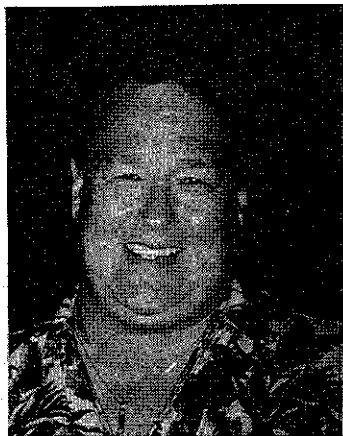

Credibilis

Psychological Operations Veterans Association

Volume 12, Number 1

Spring 1999



Friends and Brethren,

It continues to amaze me just how busy things continue to be in our Association.....there are so many things going on which affect us today and will affect us tomorrow!! Considering that we are a relatively small group of veterans principally focused on biennial reunions, there is a lot happening.

The activation of the Psychological Operations Regiment last November has started a lot of the activity. I have been working closely with Honorary Colonel of the Regiment Al Paddock and Honorary Sergeant Major Rudy Whittaker on behalf of our Association to bring our knowledge, traditions, and expertise to the continued development of the Regiment. In addition, and in cooperation with Honorary Colonel Paddock, POVA is beginning the initial workup of a charter for

a Regimental Association which will support the activities and traditions of the Regiment. Both this newsletter and future issues will keep you up to date on these developments.

I am particularly interested in and committed to the future of the Regiment. Much like the British regimental system, the Regiment is designed to foster and maintain the traditions and venerate the history of those who have served in the Regiment's constituent elements. That means that for both POVA and for the Psychological Operations Association (POA), which is also heavily involved with the Regiment, that we truly reflect the history and traditions of operational PSYOP's in action. Put in simple language, we ARE the traditions and history of modern PSYOP's. I believe every member of this Association should come forward and join the Regiment and its Association as soon as these are in place and able to take members. The Regiment and its Association will be about the active-duty soldiers, the reserve-duty soldiers, and the veterans who are the source of the traditions, customs, and heritage.....that is US. The commitment to the future of the Regiment exists not only with POVA, POA, and the Honorary leadership, it lives very strongly with the leadership of the 4th PSYOP Group at Ft. Bragg.

Our electronic media sources are providing us with more interested leads from former psywarriors. Between Rick Hofmann and Ed Rouse, we have two websites that do a superb job of bringing both PSYOP's and our Association to interested audiences around the world. The quality of their work is superb; beginning with this newsletter, our own "Credibilis" will be available on our website (www.psyop.com). Creating and maintaining these websites is hard work, and both Rick and Ed do fantastic volunteer work on our behalf.

Inside This Issue

Letter from the President	Page 1
Financial Report	Page 3
Important Phone Numbers	Page 4
Psyop Regiment	Page 5
Letter from COL C. Borchini	page 7
Psyop "Staff Ride"	Page 8
Cold War Certificate	Page 9
Our Military - A Real Job	Page 11
MailBag	Page 14
Member Email Add \ Dues Info	Page 15

Finally, POVA has been asked by 4th Group to participate in developing and instructing a special series of courses to be taught to PSYOP Officers at Ft. Bragg. Focused on the real world of operational PSYOP's in Viet-Nam, the "staff ride" proposal for a curriculum based on OUR experience has been written and is under review. We are now identifying POVA members who will serve as lead instructors in the actual teaching of the several segments of the program. It is a great opportunity for us to share our history and expertise....help out these young GI's doing today what we did 30 years ago!!

There's a lot of good information in the rest of the newsletter....a letter from Honorary Colonel Al Paddock (and POVA member) regarding the Regiment, and a letter from COL Charles Borchini, CO of 4th PSYOP Group (Abn). Enjoy.

Sincerely,

Chad Spawr
Co-Founder and President
Viet-Nam '67-69

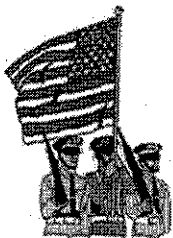
Roger,

Just dawned on me that your recent gold album should have been noted in our newsletter, and I didn't even think of it. I apologize. This is a significant milestone, and should have been shared with our members.

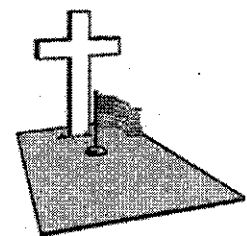
By the way, my boss is a Bob Marley fan; he's a near-50 CPA, as conservative as the day is long, but he never ceases to amaze me. Leads me to think I may have been missing something. Can you send me the information on the album so I can find it in the music store? I've got to hear this.

Chad Spawr

Congratulations Roger Steffens



TAPS



I regret to inform the membership that James Pastore passed away.
No other information is available.

Jack O'Neil

Financial Report

February 1, 1999 - April 30, 1999

Income

Expenses

		Domain Name:	70.00
		Internet:	395.00
		Postage:	122.88
Total Income:	.00	Total Expenses:	587.88

Balance Forward - February 1, 1999:	\$2,204.36
Balance On Hand - January 30, 1999:	\$1,616.48

(With the assistance of Hazel Coburn)

Respectfully Submitted



Frank Coburn, Treasurer
4th PSYOP Group



Important Phone Numbers for Members & Families

Chaplain Bill Mark	<i>Chaplain</i>	(617-275-7500)(work) (617-527-2365)(home)
Chad Spawr	<i>PRESIDENT</i>	(248-276-2492)
Dave Affleck	<i>VICE PRESIDENT</i>	(813-596-5068)
Frank Coburn	<i>TREASURER</i>	(209-798-2294)
Dave Rogers	<i>TRUSTEE</i>	(502-695-1263)
Dave Schultz	<i>TRUSTEE</i>	(516-298-9340)
Dick Holzheimer	<i>SECRETARY</i>	(703-689-2296)
Rick Hofmann	<i>Locator & Membership Officer</i>	(302-762-5629)
Al Forgacz	<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	(516-431-2014)
Dave Missavage	<i>Nominations Officer</i>	(309-788-9296)
Ray Ambrozak	<i>Vice President</i>	(245-698-2266)
Jack O'Neil	<i>Vice Pesident</i>	(603-776-8253)
Tom Brandt	<i>Historian/Memorabilia/ Design Artist</i>	(630-837-7955)
Bill Forgey	<i>Public Information/ 2000 Reunion Chairman</i>	(219-769-1808)

Credibilis Web Site

*** [HTTP://WWW.PSYOP.COM](http://www.psyop.com)

Ed Rouse PSYOP's Webpage

[HTTP://www.geocities.com/Pentagon/1012/kia.html](http://www.geocities.com/Pentagon/1012/kia.html)

(Please inform the Newsletter Editor if any of the above telephone numbers are incorrect or have been changed)

*** NOTE CHANGE OF WEB PAGE SITE

Psychological Operations Regiment

Last November I was proud to be appointed as the first Honorary Colonel of our new Psychological Operations Regiment, along with SGM (Ret) Rudy Whittaker, our first Honorary Sergeant Major. I would like to tell you a few things about the US Army regimental system, and some of the ideas on which we have already taken action.

AR 600-82 states: "Regiments are nontactical organizations intended to perpetuate the history and traditions of regiments for soldiers." The POA, having been in operation for seventeen years, should play a key role in this endeavor. To this end, I have been in frequent contact with Butch Cassidy to discuss a number of ideas to help the Commander, 4th POG, move our Regiment past its activation stage. In this regard, we all owe COL Charles Borchini and his 4th POG staff many thanks for their perseverance in making possible a long overdue dream.

My role, and that of SGM (Ret) Whittaker, is to further the Regiment's essential purpose; that is, according to AR 600-82: "The primary mission of special appointees [Honorary Colonels, Sergeants Major, WOs, and Distinguished Members] is to perpetuate the history and traditions of the regiment...thereby enhancing unit morale and esprit." Between us, SGM Whittaker and I have many years of active and reserve component PSYOP experience to bring to bear on this mission. My primary goal as Honorary Colonel will be promote a greater awareness of, and pride in, our PSYOP history, and thus to enhance our sense of community.

When I speak of our "sense of community," I envisage a group which encompasses not only those currently serving in AC and RC units, but also PSYOP veterans in the POA, the Psychological Operations Veterans Association (POVA), and other interested personnel. In my view, our Regiment is an ideal vehicle to help promote a "sense of community."

Already a few exciting initiatives are underway. Many of us have long believed that coverage of PSYOP in the Special Warfare Museum at Fort Bragg was sadly lacking. Major General Kenneth Bowra, CG, USAJFKSWCS--the Home Base Commander for our Regiment--has expressed to me his keen interest in rectifying this deficiency. The Museum Curator, Ms. Roxanne Merritt, and I are engaged in discussions to help achieve this goal. I can tell you from personal experience that General Bowra is the first senior commander on Smoke Bomb Hill in many years to support actively increasing coverage of PSYOP in the Special Warfare Museum. We should help him with this...I urge you to donate artifacts to the Museum.

Another part of General Bowra's vision is to enhance the SWCS Archives, with the goal of having it recognized by Department of the Army as the official repository for SOF historical documents and papers. This is a laudable project, and another opportunity for veterans to contribute to our PSYOP history. Those of you who have personal papers which might be of value to the SWCS Archives should consider donating them.

Still another initiative that we have undertaken is to appropriately memorialize Major General Robert A. McClure, the father of modern Army PYSOP, and the founder of what we now know of as USASOC and USAJFKSWCS. MG Bowra has agreed to sponsor a proposal to bring about an appropriate memorialization. I will outline General McClure's contributions to Army Special Operations in an future issue of "Special Warfare."

Finally, in mid-April I, the AC and RC group commanders, and a JFKSWCS representative, will meet at 4th POG headquarters to discuss future directions for our Regiment. Our agenda will include how to establish a close affiliation of the Regiment with the POA and the POVA.

So...you can see that a number of substantive projects are in progress, but there is much detailed work yet to be done. This Regiment—OUR Regiment—is a great opportunity, and I hope that the POA will help us move it forward as an active and viable institution.

Al Paddock

COL Paddock and I are in continuous communication regarding various aspects of the formation of the Regimental organization; while POVA has no official role to play yet, the respect we have earned allows us to play a true value-added role, and I sincerely appreciate the opportunity for our Association to contribute.

One of the recent outcomes of the efforts to elevate the role and visibility of the PSYOP profession in the modern force structure has been the opportunity to expand the presence and visibility of PSYOP's at the Special Warfare Museum housed at Ft. Bragg. At present, the dominant presence is that of Special Forces; this is a direct result of their large and active alumni organization and the willingness of their members to contribute and share their mementoes of their service. We have available to us the same opportunity.

Many of us have souvenirs and mementoes of our Viet-Nam and post-Viet-Nam PSYOP's service; much of my "stuff" is in boxes in my basement, where it does me little or no good. We have an opportunity to share our legacy in a very significant way. We all brought things home; we've even lost some of it over the past years. Still others have tried to donate these items only to have them put away and forgotten.

That is changing; space and funding is more available IF we want to make a contribution of those things which may more effectively tell the story of "our" PSYOP's for succeeding generations to share. I don't have details, but I'd like to ask each of you to consider making donations of some of your mementoes from your time in PSYOP's overseas.....war souvenirs, photo's, other mementoes that resulted from our honorable service.

For myself, I will donate the US flag I carried in my rucksack for two tours; the ARVN beret which was given to me by my interpreter on my last PSYOP mission; a couple of my remaining leaflets from Nam; and my mission notebook detailing my PSYOP mission details (assuming I can still find it); and a collection of photo's taken on some of my PSYOP missions over III CTZ. I'll also donate the RVN flag the Province Chief of Binh Long Province gave me during my first tour in '67-68.

Please consider making a donation of some of your personal trophies and mementoes; they will be appreciated, and will help to elevate our participation in the Special Warfare Museum....we played a major role, the same as anybody who served. Our honorable and special service needs to be recognized; the opportunity to expand our presence in the SW Museum is a great opportunity.

Please consider this; think about what you can share. When I have more details, I'll share them.

Chad Spawr

**Letter From
COL Charles Borchini, CO of 4th PSYOP Group (Abn).**

My name is Charlie Borchini. I have had the once in a lifetime opportunity to serve in the 4th Group three different times, from captain to colonel. In 1983 I depolyed to Grenada as a new PSYOP Officer in support of Operation RESTORE HOPE. Then in 1992 I deployed as a battalion commander to the Gulf in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH and to Somalia in support of Operation RESTORE HOPE. Now as the Group Commander, I find myself deployed again, this time for Operations NOBLE ANVIL and ALLIED FORCE. Like most who have served in the Group, I believe in PSYOP and know the value it can bring to an operation. I always will have fond memories of my PSYOP experiences. And I always will remember the people who make up the Group, especially the noncommissioned officers.

I would like to thank my friend Chad Spawr for his friendship and willingness to bring our active and retired PSYOP community closer together. I was deeply moved when he participated in the PSYOP Regimental activation ceremony last November. For me, that sealed our relationship, and established the bond we must maintain. As we move into the next Century, much has changed in terms of technology and equipment, especially with the almost instantaneous reporting of news and information. But for PSYOP, the importance of the message remains the same.

As the Group commander, my focus has been on successfully performing our missions and caring for our most precious resource, our soldiers. You should be proud of your successors. Around the world, they are performing splendidly, from counterdrug, mine awareness, humanitarian disaster assistance missions, to peace enforcement, peacekeeping, and wartime missions. They never cease to amaze me with what they do, especially the younger soldiers and officers who really understand and know how to leverage new technology.

My secondary focus, but almost as important, has been on reorganizing and re-equipping the Group and rewriting our doctrine. We reorganized the Group into six battalions, four regional battalions, one for each of the geographic CINCs, one tactical battalion, and one dissemination battalion. We also helped to reorganize the two US Army Reserve Groups, the Second and Seventh. This will standardize the structure of our tactical and dissemination battalions in both the active and reserve components, and will help to optimize the performance of the fine soldiers in these battalions when they participate in exercises or deploy on operations. We've also identified or obtained much of the equipment and technology we need to perform our wide range of missions. This includes state of the art multi-color digital printing presses, television and radio digital production, editing and broadcast equipment, computers (almost enough for every PSYOP soldier), and new aerial, vehicle-mounted, and man-portable loudspeakers. Recently our soldiers moved into new barracks and offices, although it will still be a few more years before the new Group and battalion headquarters buildings, and the new Media Production Center and Heavy Print Plant buildings are completed. Within the next month or two, we should receive the first of our own satellite transmitters, which will allow us to transfer digitized text, audio, and video files from Fort Bragg to our forces deployed around the world. Finally, we worked very hard to tie all these organization and equipment initiatives together in our doctrine and standard operating procedures.

Please rest assured that whatever the mission, the soldiers and civilians who make up the 4th PSYOP Group today will live up to the legacy you have given them. As my time in the Group draws to a close, I look forward hearing about to the many great things my successor and the soldiers who make this Group great accomplish. Thank you for sharing your wonderful organization with me.

Charlie Borchini

AOCP-POG-SC

27 March 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR CDR, 4TH PSYOP GROUP (AIRBORNE), ATTN: S-3 FORT
BRAGG, NC 28307-5240

SUBJECT: Proposal for PSYOP in Vietnam "Staff Ride"

1. **PURPOSE.** To propose the conduct of a "staff ride" style seminar on PSYOP in Vietnam for the officers of the 4th POG(A).

2. **BACKGROUND.** The undersigned made contact with a Mr. Chad Spawr, head of the PSYOP Veteran's Association, concerning having a Group OPD on the subject of PSYOP in Vietnam. Discussions with Mr. Spawr and other members of the Association revealed that there are several members interested in participating, each with expertise in different aspects of U.S. Psychological Operations in Vietnam. It became apparent that there could be significant training value in expanding the format beyond the normal 90-minute Group OPD.

3. **PROPOSAL.** That the 4th POG(A) conduct a seminar on Psychological Operations in Vietnam, based on the principles of the staff ride as described in CMH Pub 70-21, "The Staff Ride." As with any staff ride, there would be three phases:

a. **Phase I: Preliminary Study.** In this phase, the "students" analyze various aspects of the campaign in question, and present their analysis to the group as a whole. The purpose is both to provide background for all the students in order to prepare them for the field study phase, and to encourage student involvement in the staff ride process. For this staff ride, the study and presentation topics would be divided up by battalion, with each providing a 4-6 page read-ahead paper and a 30-40 minute presentation, as follows:

TOPIC	UNIT	PRESENTATION DATE
Terrain: the Vietnamese people as target audience	PACOM POB	4 June
Enemy: VC/NVA PSYOP forces and campaigns	1 POB	4 June
Technology in U.S. PSYOP in Vietnam	3 POB	4 June
PSYOP at the Operational Level in Vietnam	6 POB	11 June
PSYOP at the Tactical Level in Vietnam	9 POB	11 June
The Logistical Support for U.S. PSYOP forces in Vietnam	8 POB	11 June

b. **Phase II: Field Study.** This phase would occur 15 June. Recognizing that the group cannot actually walk battlefields in Vietnam, this phase would occur in a series of venues on Fort Bragg. Each venue would be furnished with large-scale map and period artifacts. In this phase, members of the PSYOP Veteran's Association would provide presentations and personal vignettes to lead discussions on topics as follows:

- (1) Organization for combat, Group through team level;
- (2) Intelligence collection, pre-testing, and post-testing;
- (3) Program and product development;
- (4) Combined operations (with the ARVN);
- (5) Product design and distribution, including manipulation of existing technology in field conditions;
- (6) PSYOP support to tactical operations;
- (7) PSYOP support to special operations.

c. Phase III: Integration. In this final phase, still on 15 June, the Veteran's Association members and 4th POG(A) officers will hold a final discussion reflecting on lessons learned from PSYOP in Vietnam and their application for the 4th POG(A) today. This phase would occur in the Officer's Club, and lead into a social time.

4. CONCLUSION. The PSYOP Veteran's Association is a valuable source of knowledge and practical experience for today's PSYOP professionals. The proposed staff ride forum provides an opportunity to gain maximum benefits from this resource.

(910)-
5. POINT OF CONTACT. POC is the undersigned, 432-8499.

NATHAN J. HOEPNER
CPT, MI
Assistant S-3 (Training)



Cold War Certificate

Section 1084 of the Fiscal Year 1998 National Defense Authorization Act required the Secretary of Defense to develop a certificate to recognize the service and sacrifices rendered by members of the Armed Forces and Government civilian personnel during the Cold War period, September 2, 1945 to December 26, 1991.

On November 4, 1997, the 105th Congress passed, and the President signed into law, a bill that authorizes the development of a Cold War Certificate. Secretary of Defense assigned oversight responsibility for the certificate to the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Military Personnel Policy) and tasked the Army Headquarters Military Awards Office as Executive Agent for implementation. The Executive Agent has contracted out responsibility for implementing the operational phases, i.e., publicity, application process, eligibility criteria and review, recordkeeping, reporting, printing, distribution, etc. Information pertaining to the eligibility criteria and application process may only be obtained from the following web address:

<http://www.sdcw.army.mil/coldwar>.

The certificate will be provided to eligible individuals upon request from the individual. Requests can only be made on-line. Applicants should not send original required documents. Photocopies only should be forwarded, as any documents sent will not be returned. Applications will be accepted beginning April 5, 1999. Civilian Personnel Advisory Centers or award offices have no authority or responsibility to issue the certificate.

On-Line Leaflet Collection

Hey Buddy. Got a leaflet to spare?

Go to the basement, the attic, and the back of the filing cabinet and look, please.

Remarkably few examples of the billions of leaflets we produced survive. So I'd like to help preserve the work we did in Vietnam, and in all other theatres, by setting up an on-line leaflet library on our POVA web site. I've already begun preparing my own modest collection for the Net and would welcome any and all additional contributions.

If anybody has any audio tapes, we can post them to the web as well.

I'm not asking for permanent donations - unless you choose to do so - but rather loans for just long enough to prepare the examples for web publishing. I'll also note each example as coming from the private collection of each contributor.

So let's preserve the work. Please send your leaflets, cartoons, clips from Stars and Stripes and any other printed materials which might be suitable for the web to:

Rick Hofmann
POVA
P.O. Box 9315
Wilmington, DE 19809

I'll send everything back as soon as it's web ready unless otherwise instructed.

Thanks in advance

Rick

PS a copy of this message, with a leaflet example attached, is on our web site at http://www.psyop.com/messages/collection_request.htm



Dear Rick,

I'm sending you a cassette containing the immortal "Wandering Soul" as well as other PSYOP sound clips.

Also my complete collection of posters and pamphlets. Most of these have the original English translation data sheets along with them.

Included are some Safe-Conduct Passes and the MACV Pam 6-69 explaining the Chieu Hoi Program.

These items are all in mint condition, so should work pretty well for your scanning project.

When you are finished with them, instead of returning them to me, please forward them to Chad Spawr for the JFK PSYOP Museum project. Or, if he gives you a direct address for the Museum, send the collection there on my behalf.

This is a great service you're performing, and I'm sure that many PSYOP veterans and scholars will thank you for it.

With best regards,
Michael A. Aquino

A veteran friend, who served in 'Nam and in the Persian Gulf as a gunship pilot, sent me the following. Now, I'm not usually maudlin or highly emotional, but I had a small emotional moment with this one. Like many of us, when it came time to get out of the service, I left, and did so eagerly to get a "real job." Guess I never thought of it like this....

If you do read the following, reflect for a moment on the proposition that each of us has held a very special job that meant much more than meeting a financial objective.....it was real, and so were we....and so are those who do it today.

Chad

Our Military

This is so typical of the way people think of the US Military!

Have you ever heard someone say that they were getting out to find a real job in the real world? Maybe you should share this with them...

You know, some people still don't understand why military personnel do what they do for a living. This exchange between Senators John Glenn and Howard Metzenbaum is worth reading. Not only is it a pretty impressive impromptu speech, but it's also a good example of one man's explanation of why men and women in the Uniformed Services do what they do for a living. And an example of what those who have never served think of the Military.

Senator Metzenbaum to Senator Glenn: "How can you run for Senate when you've never held a real "job"?"

Senator Glenn: "I served 23 years in the United States Marine Corps. I served through two wars. I flew 149 missions. My plane was hit by anti-aircraft fire on 12 different occasions. I was in the space program. It wasn't my checkbook; it was my Life on the line. It was not a 9 to 5 job where I took time off to take the daily cash receipts to the bank. I ask you to go with me...as I went the other day... to a Veterans Hospital and look at those men with their mangled bodies in the eye and tell them they didn't hold a job.

You go with me to the space program and go as I have gone to the widows and orphans of Ed White and Gus Grissom and Roger Chaffee and you look those kids in the eye and tell them that their dad didn't hold a job. You go with me on Memorial Day coming up, and you stand in Arlington National Cemetery, where I have more friends than I'd like to remember and you watch those waving flags, and you stand there, and you think about this nation, and you tell me that those people didn't have a job.

I'll tell you, Howard Metzenbaum, you should be on your knees every day of your life thanking God that there were some men - **SOME MEN** - who held a job. And they required a dedication to purpose and a love of country and a dedication to duty that was more important than life itself. And their self-sacrifice is what made this country possible.

I HAVE HELD A JOB, HOWARD! What about you?"

A Real Job

Dave Affleck sent the following to me in reply; I was overwhelmed by the personal nature of the friendship, the story, and the very real loss of a good soldier in Viet-Nam. When I read it, I was very moved, and asked Dave if I could share it with others who would appreciate it and honor the memory of one of "us" who fell in combat in Southeast Asia. Dave agreed, and I'm forwarding it to you.

Last week we drove down to Sarasota to visit the widow of a guy I served with many years ago, We had not seen her in 40 years! She has lived in Albany, NY since the death of her husband, Jack Rubins, 32 years ago. When Jack died, she was left with three kids, all under ten.

I first came into contact with Jack at Ft Riley in 1956. I was the CO of Co H, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division (the "Big Red One"). At that time, the division was a conventional triangular division. Some bright soul at DA decided that we had to reorganize the infantry divisions into pentomic divisions so that we could operate and survive on the nuclear battlefield of the future. The upshot was that I had to "zero" out the property and records of Company H and simultaneously organize, train and equip a new version of Co D in the new "pentomic battle group". It was a time of great turmoil in the division. Jack was assigned to my new company, and he came to me under a cloud and with an unsavory reputation. At that time it did not look as if he would be able to stay in the Army. The two of us were an odd couple and yet we turned out to be a combine, which had good results.

I made Jack my XO and gave him the job of handling all of the administrative functions in the company- mess, supply, etc. In addition, I placed most of the burden of deactivating Co H on him. I devoted all of my energies to training and organizing the new company. He did a great job for the company and me. I believe that we had the best overall company size unit in the division. As an example: I was selected for a potential cover story by Life Magazine in 1957. That's another story I will tell you later.

I went to Germany with the 16th in 1959 and Jack went on to other assignments (including being an aide to a general). I had given him very high ERs and also showed him how he could challenge and possibly expunge previous ratings which were less than great. It must have worked because by the time I next saw him he had been promoted to Major (two promotions).

The next time I saw him was in 1967 when he arrived in Nam. He was at the repl depot and enroute to an advisory job in the Delta. He called me and we had dinner together. When I dropped him off at the depot, we had made arrangements to meet the next day. When I went back to pick him up, I was told that he had been shipped out.

Two weeks later, I heard that he had been ambushed and KIA.

Jack had a real job; He gave it all for me and for our country.

JUDGE ME BY THE FOOTPRINTS I LEAVE BEHIND

(Submitted by Eric Hersh)

A story is told about a soldier who was finally coming home after having fought in Vietnam. He called his parents from San Francisco. "Mom and Dad, I'm coming home, but I've a favor to ask. I have a friend I'd like to bring home with me." "Sure," they replied, "we'd love to meet him."

"There's something you should know the son continued, "he was hurt pretty badly in the fighting. He stepped on a land mine and lost an arm and a leg. He has nowhere else to go, and I want him to come live with us."

"I'm sorry to hear that, son. Maybe we can help him find somewhere to live."

"No, Mom and Dad, I want him to live with us."

"Son," said the father, "you don't know what you're asking. Someone with such a handicap would be a terrible burden on us. We have our own lives to live, and we can't let something like this interfere with our lives. I think you should just come home and forget about this guy. He'll find a way to live on his own."

At that point, the son hung up the phone. The parents heard nothing more from him.

A few days later, however, they received a call from the San Francisco police. Their son had died after falling from a building, they were told. The police believed it was suicide. The grief-stricken parents flew to San Francisco and were taken to the city morgue to identify the body of their son. They recognized him, but to their horror they also discovered something they didn't know, their son had only one arm and one leg.

The parents in this story are like many of us. We find it easy to love those who are good-looking or fun to have around, but we don't like people who inconvenience us or make us feel uncomfortable. We would rather stay away from people who aren't as healthy, beautiful, or smart as we are.

Thankfully, there's someone who won't treat us that way -- someone who loves us with an unconditional love that welcomes us into the forever family, regardless of how messed up we are. Tonight, before you tuck yourself in for the night, say a little prayer that God will give you the strength you need to accept people as they are, and to help us all be more understanding of those who are different from us!!!

There's a miracle called Friendship that dwells in the heart. You don't know how it happens or when it gets started. But you know the special lift it always brings and you realize that Friendship Is God's most precious gift!

Friends are a very rare jewel, indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, they share a word of praise, and they always want to open their hearts to us.



Chad:

I was visiting Tom Hunter's Special Operations website and I noticed that he has a page on Special Operations Associations, Organizations and Groups. He states on that page that "If you represent a group that is not listed below and would like to be considered for inclusion on this page" to contact him.

His page is well known on the net, and very popular with Special Operations Folks. An E-mail from you as our POVA president could get us added to the Association page and perhaps some membership referrals.

Check out: <http://www.specialoperations.com/associations/default.htm>

Also of interest is that he has put together a series of Bulletin boards on various special Operations topics. One is PSYNET, which is dedicated to discussions on PSYOP.

Check out the below addresses:

<http://www.specialoperations.com/sofnet.html>

<http://www.specialoperations.com/psynet/>

Ed Rouse



MAILBAG



I just casually mentioned to Ed that I was working on a project to try and very concisely do an OB of the psyop organization in VN. I am not looking for great detail here, just about 3000 words telling the story of psyops.

The basics are fairly easy. We know of 7 group out of Okinawa, then the entrance of 4 group. We know there were four original companies that were beefed up to four battalions.

The problems are in the minor details. What battalions did the companies originally belong too, were they absorbed, or remain independent as part of the battalions? Who did the detachments belong to? Where were they located? Where did they print the leaflets? Now to be honest, I have 90% of the data. What would make this easy is for a former psyops soldier from VN to state his unit, dates, his subunits (if any) and his command unit. I suppose what I am looking for at this stage of the game is those last few "ties that bind."

I would appreciate any help you can give me. I asked Stanley Sandler over at the school to check the early draft and send comments, and have also sent it to Al Paddock the regiment honorary commander for his comments. This is not some great academic study. it is just an attempt to get a good feel for who did what, where and when.

Herb F.



Herb,

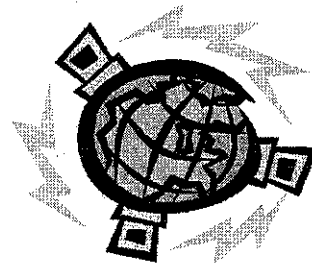
The original organization in Vietnam was the 1st Psyop Detachment (Provision) which landed in country in 1965 commanded by Maj. John Hardaway. Currently living in Leavenworth, Kansas. (913) 651-6412.

That was followed by the 6th Psyop Bn., Under the command of Col. David Affleck -DWSSrFLA@aol.com - July 66 - Dec. 67. The 6th Bn. consisted of the
244th Company - Danang (later 7th Bn.)
245th Company - Nha Trang (Later 8th Bn.)
246th Company - Bien Hoa (later 6th Bn.)
19th Company - Can Tho (Later 10th Bn.)

The 6th Bn. was reorganized as the 4th Psyop Group in December 1967 when the companies were redesignated as the Battalions as listed above. Leaflets were printed at all four locations, and at unit HQ, which was based in Saigon for both the Original 6th Bn. and the 4th Group.

Rick Hofmann
Locator & Roster officer
In Country Aug 66 - Feb. 16, 1968

Member of: Original 6th Bn. - 26th Detachment (Printing unit) arrived in country August 1966 commanded by Capt. (now Col.) Arlo DeSpain, assigned to 245th Company. Unit transferred to Saigon, November 1966. Continued with the unit thru reorganization as 4th Group. Col. Affleck handed over Command in Dec. 67 to Col. William J. Beck.

Listing of members with Internet EMail addresses:


Chad Spawr	cvspawr@ix.netcom.com
Stan Michelsen	martay777@aol.com
Roger Steffens	rasrojah@aol.com
Mike Belki	Belkim@hood-emh3.army.mil
Lewis Doyle	lewisdoyle@aol.com
Jim Osborne	josborne@pcc-uky.campus.mci.net
Gerald Sills	sillsj@frl.orst.edu
Gary Conley	gconley216@aol.com
Ed Rouse	psywarrior@pipeline.com
Clyde Gaidosh	cgaidos@pacifier.com
Bill Forgey	Doc4G@aol.com
Allen Lieberman	cobija@webtv.net
Eric Hersh	hersh@hamptons.com
Michael Aquino	AQX@aol.com
Bill Cooper	slashco@aol.com
Ray Ambrozak	teresa@prismnet.com
Hammond Salley	hsalley@concentric.net
Darryl Frelich	nersm@bellatlantic.net
Dick Holzheimer	rholzh@aol.com
Dave Schultz	dps7@concentric.net
Al Forgacz	forzacza@aol.com
Dave Affleck	DWASrFla@aol.com
Jack O'Neil	namvet6870@aol.com
Dave Missavage	namvet6@aol.com
Rick Hofmann	rgh@dol.net
Frank & Hazel Coburn	hcoburn@webtv.net
Michael Vey B	vey6@bellatlantic.net

If there are any other members out there who have an Email address and would like to get on our listing, please let me know. Also inform me of any corrections or changes to the above.

Al Forgacz - Editor

Just A Reminder

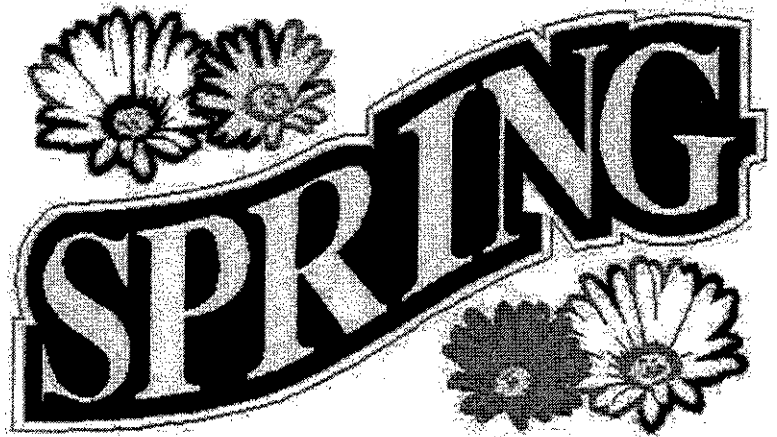
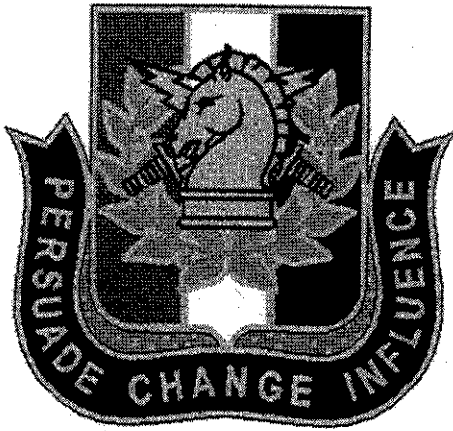
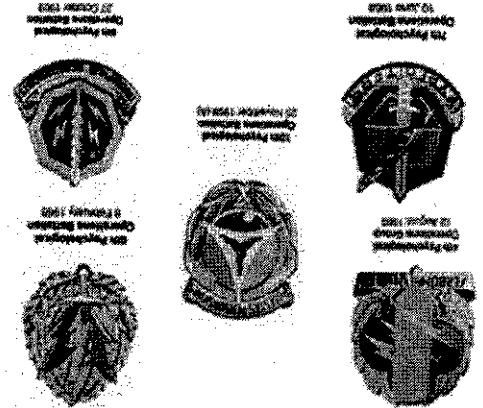
Membership dues are \$60.00 for FIVE years or \$15.00 annually (\$10.00 after July 1). All enrollments (\$15.00) received after November 1 will be applied to the following year's dues. Please make your checks payable to Psychological Operations Veterans Association and forward to:

***Rick Hofmann
5 Van Dyck Drive
Wilmington, DE 19809***

The views and opinions stated in this Newsletter are solely those of the individual members and contributors, and are not necessarily of the Psychological Operations Veterans Association (POVA). No member or contributor may individually create organizational policy or modify or amend the Constitution and Bylaws of this Association; nothing published herein shall constitute such amendment.

Hammond M. Salley
1669 S. Inez Way
Anahelm CA 92802

23 Bow Mills Rd
Center Barnstead,
NH 03225



Inside This Issue

Letter from the President	Page 1
Financial Report	Page 3
Important Phone Numbers	Page 4
Psyop Regiment	Page 5
Letter from COL C. Borchini	Page 7
Psyop "Staff Ride"	Page 8
Cold War Certificate	Page 9
Our Military - A Real Job	Page 11
MailBag	Page 14
Member Email Add \ Dues Info	Page 15

Final production, including high resolution picture scanning, was professionally accomplished by *Pitney Bowes*, 4A Gill Street, Woburn, MA 01801. Thanks again to Dave Elias (former owner and operator) and the *incredible staff at Pitney Bowes for the quality production of this Newsletter.*

Credibilis

Psychological Operations Veterans Association

Volume 12, Number 2

Summer / Fall 1999

Dear Fellow Psywarriors,

Once again, and for the second time in my presidency of our Association, we find ourselves within a year of our biennial Reunion. As we formed our Association for the purpose of holding reunions, we are well into the planning for the very purpose for which we are in existence. As I've started so many other letters to you, there is so much to report.....

The period since our 1998 California Reunion has been very full. The excellent work done by our two webmasters, Rick Hofmann and Ed Rouse, has generated a tremendous number of both new members and contacts with former psywarriors and with international contacts with an interest in the work we've done; our relationships with the 4th PSYOP Group (ABN) are stronger than ever; and we have worked very effectively toward the formation of both the Psychological Operations Regiment and its Regimental Association. To put it succinctly, we have been busy.

Our Year 2000 biennial Reunion will be held in Estes Park, Colorado; begin planning now to spend several days with us beginning in the week following the July 4 holiday....instead of meeting over the weekend just prior to the 4th, we will be meeting July 7-9, 2000 (Friday through Sunday). We've had to make this adjustment as a result of scheduling for the facility at which we will stay. Bill ("Doc") Forgey is making our arrangements, and you'll be hearing more from him as we move closer to next year. While we haven't worked any other details yet, I can promise you we'll have a great time in Colorado's Rocky Mountains.

Our business meeting will be busy as usual; so much to do. Here is an early view of what I see as being the key items:

- election of officers for the term beginning in 2000;
- Year 2000 charitable contribution;
- update on the PSYOP Regiment and the Regimental Association;
- selection of Year 2002 Reunion site;
- update on the PSYOP Museum at Ft. Bragg

Inside This Issue

Letter from the President	Page 1
Year 2000 Elections / Farewell	Page 2
Financial Report	Page 3
Important Phone Numbers	Page 4
Psyop Reunion Update	Page 5
Psyop Operations Regiment	page 7
MailBag	Page 8
What POVA Means to Me	Page 9
Change of Command	Page 10
Psyop OB	Page 12
Member Email Addresses	Page 14
Membership Dues	Page 15

We'll do **SOME** business, but mostly we'll do what we've always done....reunite, renew friendships, and enjoy the company of friends and families.

See you Colorado.

Chad Spawr
Co-Founder and President

Year 2000 Officer Elections

Our Year 2000 Reunion is the time for our Association to elect its new slate of officers for the next term. I encourage every member to consider stepping up and taking a leadership role in our Association.

I have thoroughly enjoyed serving as your president since my election in Nashville in 1996. However, I have chosen to honor the tradition of my predecessors, and step down from the presidency of this wonderful Association. I will continue to be active and to assist as requested, but it is time for a new president. Being your president has been a labor of love, and I am very proud of the the things we have done since 1996. But, it is time for another to step up. As much as I will miss it, it is time for new leadership.

I strongly encourage all of you to consider leading our Association....to date, all of your presidents have been co-founders. It is time for new blood to lead us into the Millenium. There are lots of things to do, and we do need the commitment of many members to keep us growing in the right direction. If you would like to nominate a member in good-standing for a position, or if you wish to nominate yourself, please contact Dave Missavage, our Nominations Officer.

COL Borchini,

Well, it is almost over.....you'll pass the flag of command next week, and 4th POG will have a new leader. I hope that he finds you a tough act to follow; from my perspective, he certainly will. You've been a great leader for the POG; I've heard so many times from those who work for you that it has been a high point in their own careers.

On behalf of our Association, I want to thank you for the commitment you made to involve us with the 4th. You've become a valued and respected friend, not just as CO of the POG, but as a professional and as a veteran. While we didn't get much time together in November, I was very pleased to meet you, and working with you on the growth of the Regiment has been a real pleasure. You are a man of decision, action, and leadership, and I sincerely appreciate that.

Please take our most profound thanks and best wishes with you to your next assignment. You always have a home with our Association. To that, please accept my own personal thanks and congratulations.

Sincerely,

Chad Spawr

(See article "Change of Command 4th Psyop GP Airborne" authored by Jack O'Neil)

Financial Report

May 1, 1999 - August 31, 1999

Income		Expenses	
Reunion Fees/Dues:	310.00	Postage:	75.60
		Donation:	100.00
		Air Fare:	179.39
Total Income:	310.00	Total Expenses:	354.99

Balance Forward - May 1, 1999: \$1,616.48

Balance On Hand - August 31, 1999: \$1,571.49

1999 Charitable contribution was to The Leader Dogs of America

(This organization provides an outstanding FREE service to the blind, including many veterans)

Respectfully Submitted



Frank Coburn, Treasurer
4th PSYOP Group

(With the assistance of Hazel Coburn)



Important Phone Numbers for Members & Families

Chaplain Bill Mark	<i>Chaplain</i>	(617-275-7500)(work) (617-527-2365)(home)
Chad Spawr	<i>PRESIDENT</i>	(248-276-2492)
Dave Affleck	<i>VICE PRESIDENT</i>	(813-596-5068)
Frank Coburn	<i>TREASURER</i>	(209-798-2294)
Dave Rogers	<i>TRUSTEE</i>	(502-695-1263)
Dave Schultz	<i>TRUSTEE</i>	(516-298-9340)
Dick Holzheimer	<i>SECRETARY</i>	(703-689-2296)
Rick Hofmann	<i>Locator & Membership Officer</i>	(302-529-0701)
Al Forgacz	<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	(516-431-2014)
Dave Missavage	<i>Nominations Officer</i>	(309-788-9296)
Ray Ambrozak	<i>Vice President</i>	(245-698-2266)
Jack O'Neil	<i>Vice Pesident</i>	(603-776-8253)
Tom Brandt	<i>Historian/Memorabilia/ Design Artist</i>	(630-837-7955)
Bill Forgey	<i>Public Information/ 2000 Reunion Chairman</i>	(219-769-1808)

Credibilis Web Site

*** [HTTP://WWW.PSYOP.COM](http://www.psyop.com)

Ed Rouse PSYOP's Webpage

[HTTP://www.geocities.com/Pentagon/1012/kia.html](http://www.geocities.com/Pentagon/1012/kia.html)

(Please inform the Newsletter Editor if any of the above telephone numbers are incorrect or have been changed)

*** NOTE CHANGE OF WEB PAGE SITE

PSYOP VETERANS' REUNION
Estes Park, Colorado
7 - 9 July 2000

To be held at the Elkhorn Lodge & Guest Ranch (970) 586-4416
Western Hospitality since 1874

Special room rate to be held until 15 March 2000 for reservations.
Main Lodge ranging from \$85 for two persons to a 2 Bedroom Suite for \$115

Cabins from \$85 for two persons.

And for the more adventurous: tent camping is \$20/night or teepee camping for \$40/night (firewood included in price). Full access to swimming pools, showers, lodge facilities are within five minutes walk of the camping site - routine transportation provided via tractor hauled wagons.

Special Cabins are also available with kitchen, fireplace, which sleep 4 to 6.

Lodge has dining room, full service bar, and the meeting rooms which we will use for our social events, displays, and business meetings.

Special Events for the weekend:

Estes Park is the host of the "Roof Top Rodeo" this weekend. This is a PRCA sanctioned rodeo with some of the best riders in the country competing.

Estes Park is the gateway to the Rocky Mountain National Park, with two main park entrances. This small town is located an easy drive from Denver International Airport (north on I-25 to Loveland, then 24 miles west up Highway 34 through the spectacular Big Thompson Canyon.. The town is loaded with western style restaurants, gift and craft shops, and is the site of the Stanely Hotel -- where much of the interior was filmed for the Stephen King movie, "The Shinning."

Special Activities arranged locally:

Fly fishing, river rafting, hiking, mountain biking, ballooning, photography classes and opportunities, riding by horseback or off-road vehicle through wilderness areas, climbing instruction -- there are activities for every interest and level of activity.

Special Activities at our hotel:

Western Barbecue Evening Steak horseback ride, Breakfast horseback ride - as well as the social events planned for the organization within our private lounge and our additional meeting area.

Reservations:

You should call the Elkhorn Lodge directly for room reservations. Special registration information will be sent for the reunion. Sign-up for many of the activities can be done at the time of arrival.

A packet of information concerning the Elkhorn Lodge and the PSYOP Reunion will be sent to all of our membership and identified interested parties later this year.

Keep the weekend of 7 - 9 July 2000 open for our reunion. And plan to take advantage of a genuine Western vacation, complete with real cowboys, a haunted mansion, a Plains Indian vision quest site, a historic resort with all of the trimmings, and lots of PSYOPers milling around the Rocky Mountains!

Bill Forgey
Program Chair

Announcement

"I am pleased to announce that, with the approval of a majority of POVA's Board of Directors, Rick Hofmann has been appointed to serve as a Vice President of the Association. His appointment must be confirmed by the membership at our Year 2000 Reunion. Rick has performed superb service to our Association in the development of a database which we've been able to use to locate and document all "found" psywarriors from Viet-Nam, as well as to track our membership as we've grown through the years. In addition, he has developed and maintained for us a super website on the Internet. Please extend your congratulations and cooperation to Rick as he continues to work miracles for POVA."

Chad Spawr
Co-Founder and President
PSYOP Veterans' Association



*From the
Editor's
Desk*



Dear Friends,

This is going to be the shortest Letter from the Editor ever. You see, I'm still trying to recover from my recent "honey-do" vacation (you know, honey do this, honey do that). Some of you may think this is a blessing and some of you may actually miss my pearls of wisdom. Fear not, I'll be back next issue.

Al Forgacz
Editor in Chief

Psychological Operations Regiment

(Letter from BG Mike Beasley to Chad Spawr)

I very much appreciated your very informative, and rather moving, note. Al Paddock has expressed similar sentiments, and it is clear that the continuing concerns and interest of our psyop veterans will provide solid pillars upon which we may build for the future.

As a former commander of the 7th PSYOP Battalion, which itself has quite an illustrious history (and from the same period as your experience with the 4th POG), I very much appreciated your perspective of necessary participation by the veterans' community. Just as importantly, we need to infuse in our new generation of psyop soldiers a sense of pride for their evolving heritage of courageous, extraordinarily effective and important psyop contributions in places such as Bosnia, Kosovo, Columbia and Thailand.

The practicalities and details are, indeed, tedious, but there certainly is nothing on the horizon that cannot be met and vanquished.

We need an organizational structure with "places at the table" for all of the key players, active and Reserve, current and retired. We need cooperation and synergy between and among the Regiment, the PSYOP Association (which I incorporated back in 81 or 82, I believe), POVA, USACAPOC, the primary PSYOP units, and the schoolhouse. I think that I can bring the last three with me, especially with great patriots like all three of our POG commanders.

A few late night observations:

1) I find MG Bowra very cooperative and eager to assist our efforts. There will be no institutional barriers to where we want to go with this. It took Ken only about an hour to receive and approve my suggestion to establish a Regimental Steering Committee, and he has offered his new Assistant Commander to assist us in moving forward.

2) You, Al and others clearly are ready to get going, as long as the direction portends promise rather than frustration and bureaucracy. Makes sense to me.

3) There are some legal issues to be resolved, but they are not particularly difficult or pervasive. I especially need to review some funding issues regarding the Regiment, and am doing the research now (with quasi-official help from the CAPOC SJA).

4) I need to get smarter with respect to POVA and the PO Ass'n. Butch Cassidy has offered to help me with the latter, and I much appreciate your offer to get me up to speed on POVA. For starters, I need to renew my POA membership and, I trust, you'll send me an application for POVA membership (assuming the 7th POB, 5th POG and CAPOC HQ are adequate credentials)?

5) The Worldwide PO Conference in San Antonio in November offers a fairly timely and accessible venue for a Regimental organizational meeting/forum. In response to my request, COL Bob Trost (another strong supporter of the community) has suggested a Thursday noon lunch (I think that's on 11/18/99) for an organizational meeting of the Regiment. I concur, but we'll need some attendees. If you could rally any of your Ass'n members to attend, that would be helpful.

6) A Regimental Board of Directors is one way to organize; other committee-like structures also are okay.

We'll review the options and make a recommendation to the assembly in November. Probably we need at least two meetings a year, with continuing efforts to recruit soldiers (AC and RC) to the Regiment, strong inter-action with POVA and POA, and continuing linkages to CAPOC and the JFK Center.

7) Getting the PSYOP Ass'n going again will be a plus; if for no other reason than the fact that there are things that the Ass'n can do that a formal military organization (i.e. the Regiment) is precluded from doing. This is especially salient where soliciting and funding projects is concerned. Also, the only realistic way to attract a new corps of members to the Ass'n is with new ideas; how about a focus on international membership? San Antonio should provide a great platform for such a move, if we can resurrect the POA organizational structure in time.

8) I presume (correct me if I'm wrong) that POVA and POA are or would be willing to work together, rather than competitively, towards the re-invigoration of the community. Everything to date bears that out, and I'm flying with that presumption.

10) Lots of straw men, sand boxes and red herrings out there. We'll all do well to avoid pettiness and politics. Knowing the extraordinary quality of the key players, however, I don't see any problem.

11) The CA Regiment just celebrated its 10th anniversary; the CA Ass'n last year had its 50th anniversary. There certainly are some lessons on organizational longevity that we should not be too proud to adopt. On the other hand, PSYOP and CA are distinct military disciplines and professions. That is a thought worth nurturing.

Enough for a late night. Thanks for the encouragement. I'm looking forward to the future -- more to come.

Warm regards,

Mike



MAILBAG



Dick,

Obviously, my search letter has finally gotten to the lists. You're the third response I've gotten this week. I checked in to the Group in May '70 while it was still downtown. I was assigned to the 6th (in Bien Hoa) and was still there when Group moved there in July or August(?) I helped stand down the 6th Bn in November that year and was re-assigned to the 7th in Da Nang. When the 8th stood down in June of '71, 7th sent a Detachment to Nha Trang, which I was assigned to. I stayed there 'til the Detachment closed in Nov '71 then back to 7th to help it stand down. Got back to CONUS just before Christmas '71.

Let me know more about the Roster Office and the reunion. I travel a lot in my work, and may be able to make the reunion next year. I had no idea a reunion organization even existed!

John Mercer

(Continued on page 13)

What P.O.V.A Means To Me.

As a co-founder and past president, I have seen our group go through the growing pains of any new organization. We have come so far from "The Five at The Wall" in 1988. Of the original five only Chad and I remain active with the organization. Each man has to make his own way in life and make decisions on where they want to be. I chose to be with P.O.V.A for life. Let me list a few reasons why our organization means so much to me.

First, there was that first meeting at the "Wall" where we decided to form an organization and find as many of our old friends as possible. We have been successful in ways that, today, still astound me. Seeing the handshakes and hugs of comrades who had not seen each other in sometimes 25 years is more than rewarding.

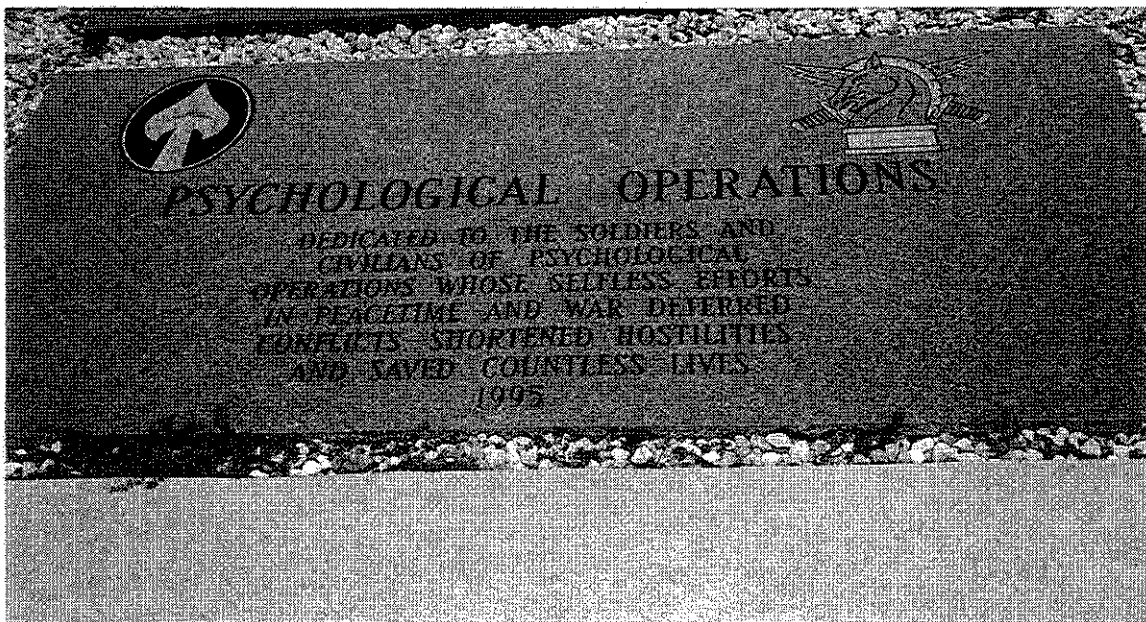
Second, the reading of the names at the tenth anniversary at the "Wall" by our organization was an emotionally moving tribute to our fallen comrades. What an honor. Chad, Rick Hofmann, Rod Fritz, Russ Kelly and myself each read 10 names. That July, at our reunion, I was elected president, taking over for Duane Yaeger. I tried, in my four year term, to increase membership, and oversaw and coordinated the mailing of the newsletter. I feel I did the best I could. Our membership increased and today under the leadership of Chad, we continue to grow. We have been welcomed into the 4th Psyop Gp as viable assets to their mission.

Third, the reason is short but oh so true. Meeting new friends such as Rick, old friends such as Chad, Al, Gary and Col Deitch means a great deal to me.

Finally, I chose to be with P.O.V.A. for life because of my recent trip to Ft. Bragg (see article). This was truly an honor that will stick with me forever.

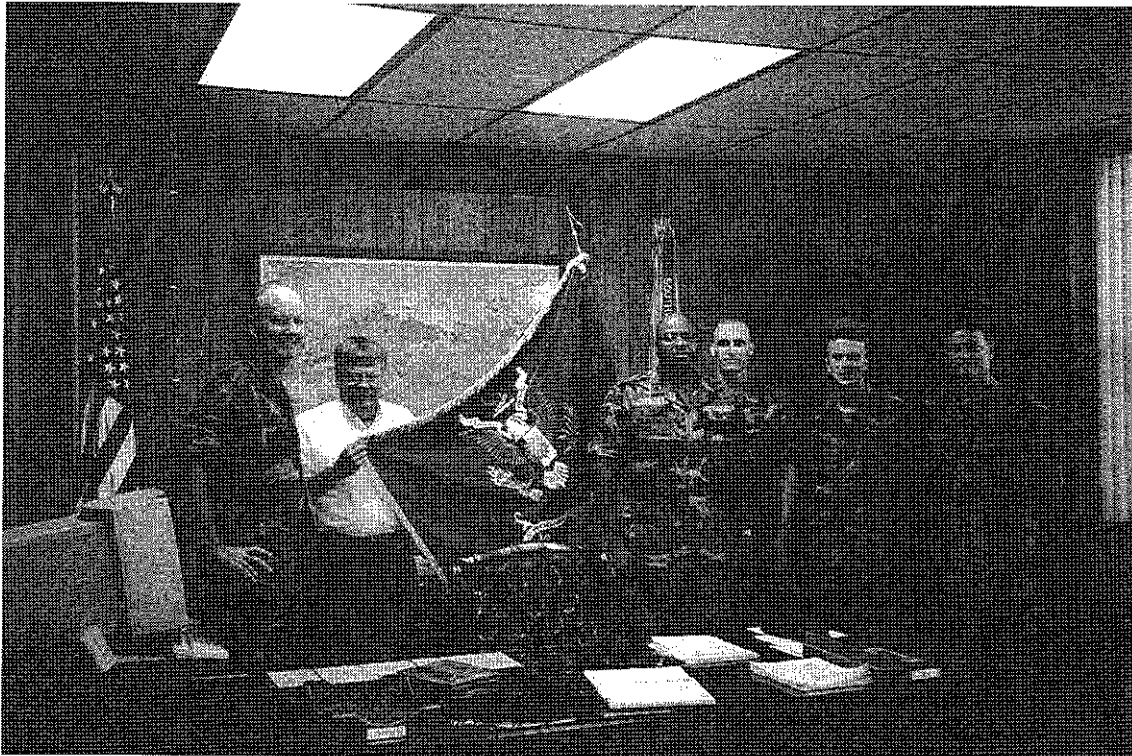
I would like to take this time to thank Chad for his commitment and friendship, to Al and Rick for their devotion and hard work as editor and locator respectively. For having Gary, Dave Rogers, Rod Fitz and so many more of you back in my life. I thank you one and all.

Sincerely,
Jack O'Neil



Plaque where President Chad Spawr placed wreath

Change of Command 4th Psyop GP Airborne



COL. St. John, VP Jack O'Neil, SGM McEwen, CAPT Doyle, MAJOR Ayers and XO MAJOR Evans

August 24th at Ft Bragg was one of my proudest times since our beginning in 1988 with the "Five at the Wall". I was given full VIP treatment from the moment I arrived at Bragg until departing on the 25th. The ceremony included all battalions from the 4th GROUP, and some high ranking members of the Marine's, Navy and Airforce. Quite a tribute to Col Borchini and the new commander Col St. John. The 82nd Airborne band played the army song and our national anthem with great precision. After the ceremony was complete there was a buffet, followed by great interest by senior officers about what Psyops was like in our "ancient" days as LTC. Fitz Lee calls us. I was overwhelmed by the true interest and respect given me and P.O.V.A!

Following the ceremony, my host and new friend, Capt. Lewis Doyle and I went back to HHC for some chit chat with his enlisted personnel. Then it was off to a mess hall for lunch. Brothers and sisters, the food is BETTER!!

That afternoon, I was escorted to drop zone Scilly to watch a low altitude drop by some marines, The drop was scrubbed because Congressman Hayes (N.C) was there to watch the launching of a new prototype missile system. I was in civilian cloths but, even so, the very heavily combat, camouflaged officers gave me a warm welcome. When I explained who I was and why I was there, they swarmed around me asking questions. They invited me to sit in the V.I.P tent and watch the show. What a show it was. Seeing the C-130's from Pope Airforce base landing on a dirt strip and unloading combat ready

troops and the new weapon. It was quite a show.

That night we had steak and corn at Capt Lewis's home where I stayed. Major Mike Paynor, who is now in Hawaii, joined us for dinner. We swapped stories into the evening. Also, I must mention Capt Doyle's wife Dong. She's a Captain herself and a doctor. She was most hospitable.

Wednesday morning at 8:30AM I had a private meeting with Col. St. John. I feel it was very productive for us. They are looking at meeting other "Nam" vets. After the meeting, I had the honor of holding the New Regimental colors during some picture taking. I thanked the Colonel's secretary, Mrs. Graham, for her excellent photo shots, her grace, and her charm.

Finally, it was off to the 9th Battallion for a lecture and question and answer session hosted by LTC. Fitz Lee. I thought this went off quite well and got a standing ovation. Remember this was for P.O.V.A., not Jack O'Neil.

We have made great strides in our almost 12 years and we will continue on. "HOORAH".

Respectfully submitted,

Jack O'Neil

Vice President
& Veterans
Affairs Officer



Regimental Bag Piper



COL St John receives Colors from COL Borchini

Chad,

I received my copy of the journal, so I guess I am "in." As I mentioned in a previous letter, I would like to send parts of the Vietnam PSYOP OB to be published in the journal. It is important to note that this is a work in progress, and we ask any reader who can correct or add data to write to me directly. This is the first segment, the early days before the arrival of "Group." Readers should only reply to the time period mentioned.

Herb F. <BertF@webtv.net>

US psywar structure in Vietnam

Propaganda and safe-conduct passes and leaflets were produced under the jurisdiction of the Joint U. S. Public Affairs Office (JUSPAO). JUSPAO was formed in July 1965, following 11 years of increasingly uncoordinated and inefficient psychological operations that began in summer of 1954 during Vietnam's transition from French rule. JUSPAO was given authority for all propaganda activities in an effort to end disputes and lack of coordination between Americans and Vietnamese and between American military and civilian agencies. With a civilian director (initially, Barry Zorthian) reporting to the U.S. Information Agency (USIA), JUSPAO integrated the psychological operations of the U.S. Information Service (USIS, USIA's overseas arm), The State Department's U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Joint Chiefs Military Assistance Command Vietnam (MACV), and the U.S.Embassy.

JUSPAO carried out extensive campaigns to induce North Vietnamese troops to surrender. The bulk of money and attention was focused on the Chieu Hoi (Open Arms) program to encourage Viet Cong to "rally" to the cause of the Republic of Vietnam. Begun in 1963 and administered by JUSPAO after its formation in 1965, the Chieu Hoi campaign resulted in billions of leaflets, millions of posters, magazines, and leaflets, and thousands of hours of loudspeaker exhortations encouraging Viet Cong defection; this is said to have been the largest propaganda campaign in history, with over 10 billion leaflets dropped in 1969 alone. In addition to offering amnesty and good treatment, monetary rewards were offered and paid to defectors who turned in weapons. Rewards were offered to third parties who induced Viet Cong to defect, with special bonuses for mass defections. These schemes were highly successful and were extended through 1969, but were terminated on 31 December 1969, probably because of abuses in awarding the money.

There was no U.S. Army PSYOP commander, although JUSPAO was represented at command level through a coordinating committee.

Military black propaganda.

Military activities were officially described as providing assistance to the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN). Within the Military Assistance Command Vietnam, the Studies and Observation Group (MACV-SOG) was charged with conducting unconventional warfare, including black propaganda. MACV-SOG's efforts were organized around six sections that were assigned responsibility for clandestine Operations Plans (OPs).

OP-33 was the PSYOP Branch, patterned after the World War II Morale Operations Branch of the OSS; in 1968 it was re-designated OP-39, the Psychological Studies Group. All black propaganda and currency counterfeiting emerged from OP-33.

Military white propaganda.

Although elements of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) prepared some white propaganda leaflets, much of the white printed propaganda of the Vietnam War was produced under MACV by two U.S. Army

Psychological Operations (PSYOP) Groups. For Army organizational purposes (probably beginning in the early 1960s), South Vietnam was divided into four Corps Tactical Zones. Ranging from the north to the south, I Corps was in the north abutting North Vietnam, in the foothills and coastal regions east of the Annamite Mountains; II Corps was in the country's least populated region, encompassing the rugged central highlands and central plateau; III Corps was on the densely populated alluvial plain surrounding Saigon; IV Corps was the heavily populated and agriculturally productive Mekong Delta.

The original military psychological operations unit assigned to Vietnam was the 1st PSYOP Detachment (Provisional), which arrived in 1965. In late 1965, a small unit of the Okinawa-based 7th PSYOP Group arrived in Saigon. By early 1966, Army psychological operations were being carried out by the 6th PSYOP Battalion stationed in Saigon. Demand overwhelmed capability, and in December 1967 the 4th PSYOP Group was formed from the existing PSYOP battalion and its companies. Available data on military psywar unit composition and periods and places of duty are incomplete and sometimes contradictory. The following is our understanding of the order of battle of U.S. PSYOP units in Vietnam. 6th PSYOP Battalion. The small early PSYOP detachment was followed by the 6th PSYOP Battalion, a command-and-control unit under USARV Special Troops, which arrived in Vietnam from Fort Bragg on 7 February 1966. During its independent existence (until 1 December 1967) the 6th PSYOP Battalion was the US Army's primary support unit for PSYOP in Vietnam. Headquarters was initially in the Kin Do Theater in Saigon, and then, after the theater was blown up, in a large warehouse alongside a canal. At this time the printing plant was located a short distance away on top of an old French ammunition dump. In the fall of 1967, battalion headquarters moved to the Saigon Railyards. The 6th PSYOP Bn operated independent of the Saigon-based Vietnam Detachment of the 7th PSYOP Group.

On 10 February 1966, three companies were formed within the 6th PSYOP Bn to provide tactical propaganda support. The 244th PSYOP Company served I Corps from an initial station in Nha Trang (in II Corps), with a detachment in Quang Ngai in I Corps. The 245th PSYOP Company served II Corps from Pleiku (in II Corps). The 246th PSYOP Company served III Corps from Bien Hoa, about 20 miles northeast of Saigon in III Corps. Later, on 19 November 1966, a fourth company, the 19th PSYOP Company of the 6th PSYOP Battalion, was formed in Can Tho to provide advice and support in IV Corps.

Although command of the four tactical companies lay with the commander of the 6th PSYOP Bn, operational control lay with the the four major area commanders in the Corps zones. During this period, JUSPAO had numerous USIA representatives operating throughout the country. These civilians maintained close contact with the four tactical companies within the 6th PSYOP Bn.

(Continued from page 8)

An entry over the weekend from John Mercer looking for old buddies from the 6th Bn. Said he was with the 6th from May to Nov 70, then to the 7th until deactivation, then to the 4th Gp. He is looking for Jerry Youngblood, Larry McCall and James Hlay, plus anyone else who knows him.

I responded about our organization and that someone may know him or his buddies. Anyone who knows him or his lost buddies please contact:

John Mercer
127 Little Egypt Lane NW
Taylorsville, NC 28681,

His Email address is:
mercerc@twave.net

Have good summer.
Dick Holzheimer

Listing of members with Internet EMail addresses:

Chad Spawr	cvspawr@ix.netcom.com
Stan Michelsen	martay777@aol.com
Roger Steffens	rasrojah@aol.com
Mike Belki	Belkim@hood-emh3.army.mil
Lewis Doyle	lewisdoyle@aol.com
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Gerald Sills	sillsj@frl.orst.edu
Gary Conley	gconley216@aol.com
Ed Rouse	psywarrior@pipeline.com
Clyde Gaidosh	cgaidos@pacifier.com
Bill Forgey	Doc4G@aol.com
Allen Lieberman	cobija@webtv.net
*Eric Hersh	twindream1@aol.com
Michael Aquino	AQX@aol.com
Bill Cooper	slashco@aol.com
Ray Ambrozak	teresa@prismnet.com
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Darryl Frelich	nersm@bellatlantic.net
Dick Holzheimer	rholzh@aol.com
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Jack O'Neil	namvet6870@aol.com
Dave Missavage	namvet6@aol.com
Rick Hofmann	rgh@dol.net
Frank & Hazel Coburn	hcoburn@webtv.net
Michael Vey B	vey6@bellatlantic.net
*Dave Rogers	rogesan@aol.com
*Craig Buehlmaier	buehlz@aol.com

** New/Corrected*

If there are any other members out there who have an Email address and would like to get on our listing, please let me know. Also inform me of any corrections or changes to the above.

Al Forgacz - Editor

Greetings from Ohio

Its the Conley family's Youngest Heather here!

We all want to say hi and wish you all the best.

We miss you all so very very much!

I just can't wait until we get to Colorado.

We can all regroup and share stories of the year that has passed us.

Stories of Joy and sorrow .

At the end of this year we will break through new barriers in technology and generations.

With this new generation, Brothers will come and brothers will go but our Team will stand strong we are a team!!!!!!

YES WE ARE A TEAM!

I will hopefully see all of you in Colorado.

By that time I will finally be a teenager the big 1-3!

Until then may your days be filled with joy!

Sincerely,
Heather Conley

Message to a Prospective New Member.

We are essentially a reunion association; we do a little other business, but we are mostly a group of vets and families, including a few Gold Star families, who get together every other summer for a few days, enjoy each other's company, and do a little business. No war stories or drunken revelry, we enjoy the fact that we are alive, we remember our losses, but we mostly enjoy the company of each other and our families. We've been together every other year since 1988, and have recently become more involved with 4th PSYOP Group at Ft. Bragg.

I hope you'll take a minute to consider us and then join. Our dues are only \$15 per year, or \$60 for 5 years. We publish a newsletter approximately quarterly, the content and value of which is directly dependent on our members and officers. We are not a veterans' service organization such as VVA, AL, VFW. We are about enjoying each others' company once every other year, and perhaps doing a little business.

If you are interested, please send your name, address, phone, connection to PSYOPs and the dates of your involvement, to me and to Rick Hofmann at richard.hofmann@phwilm.zeneca.com. Rick will send you our application and that will make it as official as it can be. We are a pretty informal Association, and we do have a good time at our reunions.

Our next reunion will be at Estes Park, CO, around the July 4 holiday in 2000. Hope you can make it. If I can answer any other questions for you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely, and Welcome Home

Chad Spawr
President
PSYOP Veterans' Association

JUST A REMINDER

Membership dues are \$60.00 for FIVE years or \$15.00 annually (\$10.00 after July 1). All enrollments (\$15.00) received after November 1 will be applied to the following year's dues. Please make your checks payable to Psychological Operations Veterans Association and forward to:

Rick Hofmann
2516 Jacqueline Drive C31
Wilmington, DE 19810

The views and opinions stated in this Newsletter are solely those of the individual members and contributors, and are not necessarily of the Psychological Operations Veterans Association (POVA). No member or contributor may individually create organizational policy or modify or amend the Constitution and Bylaws of this Association; nothing published herein shall constitute such amendment.

Hammond M. Salley
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23 Bow Mills Rd
Center Barnstead,
NH 03225



6th Psychological Operations Battalion
27 October 1963



6th Psychological Operations Battalion
5 February 1966



7th Psychological Operations Battalion
10 June 1963



6th Psychological Operations Group
12 August 1968



10th Psychological Operations Battalion
25 November 1968 (A)



4th Psychological Operations Group
12 August 1968



6th Psychological Operations Battalion
8 February 1966



7th Psychological Operations Battalion
10 June 1963



10th Psychological Operations Battalion
25 November 1968 (A)



6th Psychological Operations Battalion
27 October 1967

Inside This Issue

Letter from the President	Page 1
Year 2000 Elections / Farewell	Page 2
Financial Report	Page 3
Important Phone Numbers	Page 4
Psyop Reunion Update	Page 5
Psyop Operations Regiment	Page 7
MailBag	Page 8
What POVA Means to Me	Page 9
Change of Command	Page 10
Psyop OB	Page 12
Member Email Addresses	Page 14
Membership Dues	Page 15



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