



# *The Leaflet Drop*

The Periodic Newsletter of the PSYOP Veterans  
Association  
(POVA)

[www.usapova.com](http://www.usapova.com)

1 January 2016

## **President's Letter**

Dear POVA Members and Friends,

Happy New Year. I trust all had a safe and happy Holiday Season, with a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

2015 was a good year for POVA as we began a long process of rebuilding ourselves as a vital organization. With the good start, 2016 promises to be both a very active and successful year, especially as we build toward our 11-14 August Biennial Reunion to be held in Fayetteville, NC.

POVA is continuing to build and maintain our "In Memoriam" rosters. The first is a roster of those PSYOP soldiers who died in performance of their service. The second is a roster of those PSYOP soldiers and veterans who have passed since a deployment or after completion of their military service. See the item in this newsletter on these rosters. Your support in building and maintaining these rosters will help assure that POVA maintains an ongoing memorial to our fellow PSYOP veterans.

POVA dues are now finalized, and are now due and payable. Only POVA dues paying and active duty/AGR members can attend the Reunion business meeting and/or hold office. Join your fellow PSYOP vets and become a full-paid member.

Much is planned for POVA's New Year, so let's get 2016 off to a great start. Happy New Year.

Mike Stoeckert  
President

## **2016 POVA Dues Structure Now In Effect**

For the past several years, POVA has waived the payment of membership dues as our membership declined due to advancing age and declining health. However, POVA is back, growing, and regaining its former pre-eminence as a reunion, reconnection, and philanthropic "home" for PSYOP soldiers, veterans, and our families. Effective 1 January 2016, annual dues are due and payable in one of the following levels:

- Active Duty PSYOP military and AGR on assignment are free of dues obligation
- One year: \$25 or
- Two years: \$45 or
- Life Member: \$250 (can be paid in two equal monthly installments)

Please remember that anyone may attend POVA's Biennial Reunion in Fayetteville in August 2016, however, only dues-paying members and active/AGR members can attend the business meeting or hold POVA office. To get up to date on your dues, make out your check to POVA, and send to

**Rich Hosier**  
**VP, Finance & Member Development**  
**108 Sea Star Circle**  
**Surf City, NC 28445**

### **POVA's Life Members**

POVA has offered Life Memberships for several years, and will publish the names of these key veteran members in each newsletter going forward. Many thanks to each and every Life Member for your invaluable support, guidance, and brotherhood over the years.

**David Schultz**  
**David Albanese**  
**Jack O'Neil**  
**Alfred Paddock**  
**John Cheney**  
**Arlo Despain**  
**William Forgey**  
**Eric Hersh**

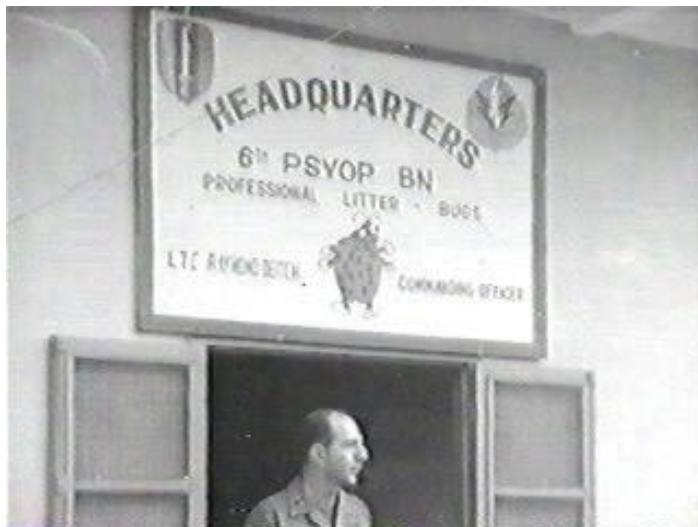
**Rick Hofmann**  
**Stanley Michelsen**  
**James Osborne**  
**Chad Spawr**  
**Dennis Smiser**  
**Rich Hosier**  
**Curtis Boyd**  
**Carrie Spivey-Vernon**

**Lawrence Dietz**  
**Mike Stoeckert**  
**Ray Ambrozak**  
**Roxanne M. Merritt**  
**Norton "Tony" Newcomb**  
**Miguel Hobbs**

### **Passing of COL-Ret. Raymond Deitch**

POVA has just learned of the death of former 6<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Battalion Commander Raymond Deitch. Then-LTC Deitch was your editor's Commanding Officer in 1968-69, and was a member of POVA for many years. Ray had been ill for several years. Many of his former soldiers have fond memories of serving under his command; he will be missed. RIP, Sir.

Here is Ray's obituary:



***LTC Raymond Deitch, CO 6<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Bn,  
Battalion HQ, Bien Hoa, RVN '68-69***

#### **RAYMOND DEITCH (Age 82)**

A retired Army Colonel who specialized in politico-military affairs and psychological operations while on active duty, died October 2, 2015, at his home.

A resident of Arlington County, Col. Deitch was born in Palmerton, PA and graduated from Hazleton Senior High School, Hazleton, PA in 1950. He was a graduate of Florida State University and received a Master's Degree from Central Michigan University.

Col. Deitch served 31 years in the U.S. Army. Immediately before his retirement from military service in 1984, he served on the Joint Staff as Chief, Far East and South

Asia Division, Plans and Policy Directorate. Other assignments in the Pentagon included Chief, Special Operations Division, and Chief, Psychological Operations Branch in the Office of the Army Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations and Plans. Commissioned as an Armor Officer in 1954, he served in various assignments throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, Panama, Korea, Germany, Vietnam and Japan. In Vietnam he commanded a Psychological Operations Battalion and in Japan served as the Assistant Chief of Staff, Plans and Policy Headquarters, U.S. Forces, Japan.

He was predeceased by his first wife, Electa Deitch, and is survived by his wife, Filonila Deitch; three sons, Jeffrey of Tokyo, Japan, Brian and his wife, Stephanie of Arlington, VA and Raymond Childress of Humble, TX; grandchildren, Raymond and Elizabeth; and a brother, Allen of Havertown, PA.

*Editor's Note: Ray Deitch assumed command of the 6<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Battalion in Viet-Nam in November 1968 from his predecessor, LTC Otmer R. Gorrell. When he appointed me PSYOP Team Leader for the 2d Bde, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division (Airmobile) near the Cambodian border, LTC Deitch gave me all the support and help he could to get me field-trained, equipped, and supported to create a new and dynamic PSYOP capability for the Brigade's maneuver battalions. He was a great coach, mentor, and leader. After I was wounded in April '69, LTC Deitch visited me in the hospital, presented me with my Purple Heart, and spent a couple hours talking and helping me write letters home. The man was a saint to me. When his field teams came in to Battalion from the field, he personally made sure we were reequipped, rearmed, resupplied, and ready to go back to our units. Ray Deitch was a great leader, and he loved his soldiers. RIP, Sir.*

### **Gold Star Families, Active Duty, and AGR Membership in POVA**



POVA has historically provided free membership to the Gold Star families of our fellow KIA soldiers, as well as free membership to active duty PSYOP soldiers and those in AGR (Active Guard & Reserve) slots in USAR and USANG units. These free memberships were provided but were not specifically included in POVA's Constitution and Bylaws. This oversight is now being remedied, and our foundational documents are being amended.

If you know the family members of a PSYOP soldier who was KIA, please either let them know about POVA's interest in their being part of us, or pass their contact information to us so we can contact them. We want to honor these family members, and bring them into communion with the veterans and family members of those who have gone before.

Contact information can be provided to Rich Hosier ([hosierrich@yahoo.com](mailto:hosierrich@yahoo.com)) or Chad Spawr ([chad@spawr.com](mailto:chad@spawr.com)).

### **PSYOP Veterans who have passed**

POVA seeks to identify all our fellow PSYOP soldiers who have passed since coming home from their military service. We have a comprehensive roster of those who died while deployed and in combat, but seek to create an ongoing remembrance of those brethren who have died as Veterans. As there isn't a comprehensive roster or other listing of who these veterans are, our best source of information will be our fellow soldiers who we knew while in service.

**Please forward the names of our deceased fellow PSYOP vets to Chad Spawr ([spawrtan@wideopenwest.com](mailto:spawrtan@wideopenwest.com)).** We will periodically include the roster in the newsletter as a reminder to help us maintain a memorial to our deceased fellow Psywarriors. To date, POVA has identified the following deceased PSYOP veterans:

David Affleck  
David K.H. Lee  
Jim Dickman  
Jessie Carroll  
Jack O'Neil

Burton Kuhn  
Craig Edward Terry  
Taro Katagiri  
Otmer Gorrell  
Raymond Deitch

Joe Rosenburg  
Kevin M. Weiss  
Bill Pine  
Tony Pistilli  
Scott Williams

**\*\*IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS / E-MAIL ADDRESSES\*\***

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	MIKE STOECKERT	<a href="mailto:hookeye1@optonline.net">hookeye1@optonline.net</a>	631-868-3068
<b>VICE PRESIDENT/ CHAPLAIN</b>	JOHN CHENEY	<a href="mailto:hqcmdt@hotmail.com">hqcmdt@hotmail.com</a>	214-929-6603
<b>VICE PRESIDENT CORPORATE RELATIONS</b>	CURT BOYD	<a href="mailto:Curtis.boyd@jhuapl.edu">Curtis.boyd@jhuapl.edu</a>	
<b>VICE PRESIDENT FINANCE &amp; MEMBER DEVELOPMENT</b>	RICH HOSIER	<a href="mailto:hosierrich@yahoo.com">hosierrich@yahoo.com</a>	
<b>FIRST VICE PRESIDENT &amp; NEWSLETTER EDITOR</b>	CHAD SPAWR	<a href="mailto:spawrtan@wideopenwest.com">spawrtan@wideopenwest.com</a>	248-495-5974
<b>POVA WEBMASTER</b>	RICK HOFMANN	<a href="mailto:rick.hofmann@usapova.com">rick.hofmann@usapova.com</a>	
<b>TRUSTEES</b>	DICK HOLZHEIMER PAUL WOLFGEHER ALAN BYRNE	<a href="mailto:rholz@yahoo.com">rholz@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:paw1924@swbell.net">paw1924@swbell.net</a> <a href="mailto:albyrne@aol.com">albyrne@aol.com</a>	813-391-2975
<b>HONORARY HISTORIAN MEMORBILIA DESIGN ARTIST</b>	TOM BRANDT	<a href="mailto:vietnamimages@yahoo.com">vietnamimages@yahoo.com</a>	630-837-7955
<b>LIAISON OFFICER</b>	DOUG ELWELL	<a href="mailto:elwellds@embarqmail.com">elwellds@embarqmail.com</a>	910-488-1383
<b>Ed Rouse's PSYOP Website</b>	<a href="http://www.psywarrior.com">http://www.psywarrior.com</a>		
<b>POVA's WEBSITE</b>	<a href="http://www.usapova.com">http://www.usapova.com</a>		
<b>PSYOP Regimental Association Website</b>	<a href="http://www.psyopra.com">http://www.psyopra.com</a>		
<b>COL-Ret. Larry Dietz PSYOP Blog</b>	<a href="http://www.psyopregiment.blogspot.com">www.psyopregiment.blogspot.com</a>		

**In Closing** If you have a correction to previous information, or something you'd like to add to a future newsletter, send it to Chad at the email address listed below.

***In Brotherhood,***

***Chad Spawr  
First Vice President & Interim Editor***