



The Leaflet Drop

The Periodic Newsletter of the PSYOP Veterans
Association
(POVA)

www.usapova.com

1 June 2016

President's Letter

Dear POVA Members and Friends,

Only two more months before our Reunion in Fayetteville, North Carolina. If you never attended one of the Reunions in the past you are passing up a wonderful and rewarding experience. You get to meet old friend and make new ones. I have been to many of them past and everyone that has attended has had a very enjoyable time. For further information and details can be found on our Reunion Website at www.povareunion2016.org.

The response from our members and friends in purchasing POVA – branded merchandise is going very well. Now is the time to purchase some of the items before the reunion if you are planning to attend. We will have the merchandise at the reunion. If not attending it is still nice to have some item to show that you are a member and support POVA. You can also make a "Donation" to POVA. Several members have made donations and is very much appreciated. The merchandise and donations can all be done on the reunion website.

We are still accepting nominations for several POVA elected officers, including President and a number positions to be held by Vice Presidents. Please submit your nomination(s) by email to Chad Spawr at spawrtan@wideopenwest.com.

Sincerely,

Mike Stoeckert
President

Call for Nominations for POVA Elective Office: the 2016-18 Term

The following POVA positions are open for nomination of any POVA dues-paying or active duty member:

POVA Position	Nominees (to date)
President	Chad Spawr
First Vice President	
Vice President & Chaplain	John Cheney
Vice President, Finance & Member Development	Rich Hosier
Vice President, Association Relations	Curt Boyd
Vice President and Web Master	Rick Hofmann
Newsletter Editor	
Trustees (4)	Mike Stoeckert Doug Elwell Carrie Spivey-Vernon

Please submit your nomination(s) by email to Chad Spawr at spawrtan@wideopenwest.com. We will report progress in receiving nominations in newsletters through the spring and summer of this year.

Update on the Reunion

Dates: Thursday through Sunday, 11-14 August 2016

Location: Fayetteville, NC

Accommodations: Reservations at 2 Host Hotels by Hilton are now available:

Double Tree by Hilton
1965 Cedar Creek Road
Fayetteville, NC
(910) 323-8282
Rate- \$98 per night

Hampton Inn I-95
1922 Cedar Creek Road
Fayetteville, NC
(910) 322-0011
Rate - \$72 per night

When you call the hotel of your choice, be sure to tell them you are with "POVA" to take advantage of the preferred rate.

Planned Events during the Reunion (more details being developed):

Thursday 11 August: arrival, meet and greet at the Double Tree Reunion HQ hotel

Friday 12 August: POVA Business Meeting 2:00 PM (Airborne & Special Operations Museum, Fayetteville)
POVA BBQ Picnic 6:00 PM (Special Forces Picnic Grounds south of Fayetteville)

Saturday 13 August: PSYOP Battalion demonstrations at 10:00 AM at Ft. Bragg
POVA Banquet and Awards presentations 6:00 PM, Double Tree Hotel

Sunday 14 August: Wrap up "loose ends," farewells

POVA Reunion Banquet Guest Speaker Named

POVA is pleased to announce that Major General Daniel R. Ammerman, CG of the US Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command (USACAPOC) has accepted invitation to serve as guest speaker at our August banquet and award presentations. This is a signal honor and pleasure, as MG Ammerman is a POVA supporter and friend. His biographical history is included below:



***MG Daniel R. Ammerman, CG
USACAPOC (A)***

Major General Daniel R. Ammerman is the Commanding General of US Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command (Airborne).

The command has 13,000 Soldiers and civilians for the worldwide mission of supporting Combatant Commanders, along with their respective Army Service Component Commands, with theater oriented strategic through tactical level civil affairs and military information support operations.

Previously, he commanded the 353rd Civil Affairs Command with the mission of supporting strategic through tactical civil affairs requirements in support of US European Command (EUCOM) and US Africa Command (AFRICOM) along with their Army Components.

He was also Deputy Commanding General of the 99th Regional Support Command and was responsible for supporting the Commanding General in providing administrative, logistics and facilities support to Army Reserve Soldiers the Northeastern US.

MG Ammerman has more than 33 years of military service, including deployments as a civil affairs officer to Bosnia in 1996 as a civil affairs detachment commander, and Kosovo in 2001 where he was dual-hatted as the Task Force Falcon G-5 and Civil Affairs Battalion Executive Officer. He commanded the 432d Civil Affairs Battalion in Iraq in 2003 supporting the 1st Marine Division in South-Central Iraq, and later the 82nd Airborne Division in Western Iraq, earning the Navy Presidential Unit Citation and Meritorious Unit Citation.

He commanded the 304th Civil Affairs Brigade from 2006 to 2010. He led a jointly manned 304th Civil Affairs Brigade in Iraq during 2008-2009 conducting civil military operations in support of Multi-National Corps-Iraq with the brigade, earning the Meritorious Unit Citation.

MG Ammerman is a graduate of the Army War College, earning a Master of Science degree in Strategic Studies. His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Parachutist Badge and Ranger tab. In his civilian life, MG Ammerman works as a senior financial manager for Schneider Inc, a large international logistics company.

He is a Certified Public Accountant and has a Masters in Business Administration from University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee. He is married to Marilyn (Decker) Ammerman and has two children, Keith and Lucy.

POVA Life Member Larry Dietz Sworn into the DC Bar



COL-R Lawrence Deitz

COL (R) Larry Dietz was sworn into the Bar of the District of Columbia on Friday, 13 May. He is also a member of the Bar of the US Supreme Court and the State of California. Colonel Dietz never served as a JAG Officer preferring instead to serve in both PSYOP and MI. In his civilian career, Colonel Dietz has been General Counsel for TAL Global Corporation, an international security consulting company since April 2010 and their Managing Director of Information Security since March 2007.

MI assignments included Radio Research Platoon Leader and COMSEC Officer in RVN. Command of the 519th ASA and 273rd MI Companies.

Dietz's first PSYOP assignment was as Team Leader for the FD (Strategic Intelligence) Team for the 7th PSYOP Group at the Presidio of San Francisco. He also served as the Group S2, XO and S3. In September 1994 Dietz took command of the 12th PSYOP (formerly the 353rd PSYOP BN) at Moffett Federal Airfield, CA.

In July 1997 his POB was the lead for a mobilization rotation to Bosnia. Then LTC Dietz deployed with his troops as the Deputy Commander of the Combined Joint Information Campaign Task Force (CJICTF) in Sarajevo until February 1998. After being promoted to Colonel Dietz served as the G2 for the 351st CA Command Mountain View, CA. His final assignment prior to retiring in 2002 was in J39, US Special Operations Command, MacDill AFB, Florida.

COL Dietz was elected the second Honorary Colonel of the PSYOP Regiment in 2003 and was honored to serve in that role from 2003 to 2010. He worked tirelessly with CPT Steven Barnard to establish the McClure Medal on behalf of the Regiment.

USACAPOC Soldiers Win Coveted German Recognition Awards

As many POVA members know, USACAPOC is the major command for all US Army Reserve Civil Affairs and PSYOP units. They are a vital part of our Special Operations Community, and train hard and continuously to remain mission ready. POVA has just learned that one specific unit has excelled and received several prestigious German proficiency awards:

USACAPOC(A) Soldiers of the 152nd Theater Information Operations Group (TIOG) were awarded the coveted "German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge (GAFPB)," for military proficiency and fitness at Camp Parks Reserve Forces Training Area (RFTA), California. On Friday, 20 May 2016 Sergeant John Szum, Specialist Jeri Van Camp and Specialist Robert Lane were awarded the Silver badge, respectively. Major Ryan Pace and Specialist Jeri Van Camp were awarded the Bronze badge.



Soldiers of the 152d Theater Operations Group (TIOG) following successful competition for the German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency

'The German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency (German: Das Abzeichen für Leistungen im Truppendienst) is a decoration of the Bundeswehr, the armed forces of the Federal Republic of Germany. The rigorous requirements of the badge included seven timed events including a First Aid test, Nuclear Biological Chemical (NBC) test, Pistol Qualification, Road March, and three individual events included in the German Army Basic Fitness Test (BFT) which are the chin-up, 110 meter spring and 1000 meter run. Culminating times are scored and averaged to award the participant in Olympic style measures of Gold, Silver, and Bronze - based upon resulting totals.

The program was run as a first pilot for the Camp Parks community and administered by the Western Army Reserve Intelligence Support Center (WARISC) through the month of May with units from across the installation in collaboration with the German Liaison Office at Fort Huachuca, AZ. Plans are pending for future events run quarterly which will be open to all Soldiers assigned to Camp Parks, CA with more USACAPOC(A) and 152nd TIOG Soldiers to compete for future opportunities to be awarded the coveted, "German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge."

Editor's Note: Special thanks to MG Daniel Ammerman, CG, USACAPOC, COL Mike Barger, CO 2d PSYOP Group (A), and COL Janet J. Tsao, CO 152d TIOG.

Another Viet-Nam PSYOP KIA Identified

POVA Life Member Dave Missavage has provided information supporting his request to roster yet another former PSYOP soldier as having died in Viet-Nam. Dave served with 1LT Bruce W. Brown in the 4th PSYOP Group in Saigon. He was born in 1945, and died on 12 September 1968. Despite being assigned to the 4th Group's 7th PSYOP Battalion upon arrival in Nam, he expressed strong desire for command of a combat platoon.

During his brief tenure with 4th Group, his job included producing maps for C-47 pilots to make certain leaflets were dropped in proper order on selected target coordinates.



1LT Bruce W. Brown

1LT Brown transferred from 7th PSYOP Battalion to become a tank commander with the Americal Division. He lost his life near the sandy beaches of the coastal town of Chu Lai. Brown received both the Bronze Star with a V Device for Valor and the Silver Star for Gallantry in Action. His Bronze Star came in recognition of heroic action on Aug. 17, 1968, while serving as a platoon leader near the village of An Phuong.

Ten days later, on Aug. 27, 1968, Lt. Brown was awarded the Silver Star for Gallantry. Under intense hostile fire, Brown maneuvered his tank, directing well-placed suppressive fire into enemy fortifications. His tank then sustained two direct hits from enemy fire, disabling it and seriously wounding Brown, who nevertheless remained in command. Brown returned to the United States and died a week later from his wounds. He left behind his wife, Beverly; son, Bruce W. Brown Jr.; and a brother, Kim Brown, all of Hampton.

1LT Brown's situation is closely related to that of another former PSYOP KIA, Tommy Baumgardner. Tommy had completed his tour with the 6th PSYOP Battalion, returned to the States, but then re-enlisted and returned to Nam as a machine gunner with the 101st Airborne Division. Tommy was killed on 7 June 1971.

As Tommy is listed as a PSYOP KIA, 1LT Brown will be similarly listed with our honored KIA's. He is honored on the Viet-Nam Memorial at Panel 44W, Row 35.

Original POVA Charter Member Has Passed Away

POVA has learned that an original charter member, David Rogers, passed away after a long battle with cancer in 2014. Here is a remembrance by his close friend and fellow POVA member Rod Fritz:

Dave was a charter member of mindbenders (POVA's prior moniker), arriving in Denver, Colorado so many years ago to reconnect with our PSYOP brothers. Dave Rogers was from Frankfort, Kentucky.

He served with the 6th PSYOP Bn in Bien Hhoa from 1969 to 1970. He was a flyer. Loading leaflets at Bien Hoa airbase everyday and flying on missions throughout three and four corps. He worked at a place call "the dust bowl" on Bien Hoa air base.

Upon his return to the United States, Dave returned to Kentucky to own and operate a commercial radio station. After a few years he sold the station and started doing other things. In May of 2014, Dave lost a long battle with cancer. He was only 66 years old. I knew Dave from our first meeting in Vietnam thru the remainder of his life. We never lost contact with each other. He is survived by his wife Jacquelyn "Jackie" Smith Rogers and a daughter, Tonya

Can Irrational Leadership Help PSYOP Campaigns? A Blog Post by Life Member Larry Dietz

We all know that to be effective PSYOP must be based on truth.

In watching the pandemonium we call the Presidential election process, I've been wondering – would MISO/PSYOP be easier if the enemy believed your nation's leader was irrational?



The Jung Jui, the first family member to die (Mark Kemp) with military personnel during a leaflet mission (Aug 68), 2008
from GatesNotes.com

I recognize that this is a strange premise – not unlike the basis for the Broadway show “The Producers”. In the show Leo Bloom, an accountant convinces Max Bialystock a washed up producer that unscrupulous producers could make more money from a show that flopped than from a show that was successful. His theory was that if the show goes belly up the investors would not be looking for any of their money back so that the Producers could keep that money. Returning to the case of irrational leaders – would a PSYOP campaign claiming that a potential catastrophic event will happen be more credible if the audience believed that the country’s leader would actually go through with it without regard to the rational consequences?

Turning to a very good example of irrational leadership, Kim Jong Un. Would we be more inclined to believe that he would launch a nuke than we would one being launched by a less ‘erratic leader? I dare say that the media, at least, pays attention to everything that the Supreme Leader says and scrutinizes it afterwards.

This is clearly not the case with Park Geun-hye, the President of the Republic of Korea to the South who is a more traditional head of state.

Consider this as our election season continues to unfold.

Former PSYOP Soldier Elected to North Carolina Legislature

Senator’s Jackson’s career in public service began after the 2001 attacks on September 11th, when he enlisted as a Private in the Army Reserve. He deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and was stationed in the tribal region north of Kandahar for his year-long deployment.

As an aside, POVA’s own Vice-President, RET. COL. Curt Boyd was Jeff’s training commander at Fort Bragg!

After he came home, he went to law school at UNC-Chapel Hill with help from the G.I. Bill. Jeff’s military service continues to this day as a Captain in the JAG Corps with the Army National Guard. He drills monthly with the 130th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade based in Charlotte.



NC State Rep Jeff Jackson

POVA’s Life Members

Many thanks to each and every Life Member for your invaluable support, guidance, and brotherhood over the years.

David Schultz
David Albanese
David Affleck *
John Henry “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
Ferdinand Irizarry II
Joseph Meissner
Floyd Turnquist
Steven N. Collins
Richard Caplin
Matthew F. Robbins
J. David Missavage

*Deceased Member

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PSYOP Regimental Association Website	http://www.psyopra.com		
COL-Ret. Larry Dietz PSYOP Blog	www.psyopregiment.blogspot.com		

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
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