



# The Leaflet Drop

The Newsletter of the PSYOP Veterans Association  
(POVA)

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

1 March 2017

Fellow Psywarriors,

POVA continues its upward trajectory in growth, expansion of our website, expanding communication regionally to create POVA chapters. So much going on, and all of it beneficial to our Association, our members, and our fellow PSYOP vets.

POVA continues to expand and update our new website. Most recently, we've added several interesting PSYOP-related articles, including a couple written by POVA Life Member Al Paddock (COL-Ret). We will continue to add articles that may be of interest to our members and PSYOP community.

Do you have something you'd like to share with your fellow Psywarriors? Send it to me, and I'll publish it in the newsletter. Pictures are always welcome.

If you have any Reunion pictures, even from previous reunions, send them in and we'll add them to our website. After all, it is our history, isn't it?

Fraternally,

C. V. (Chad) Spawr  
President

## **Welcome to new POVA Life Member COL-Ret. Reginald Bostick**

Colonel Reginald Bostick is currently with the U.S. Special Operations Command's Inter-Agency Partnership Program in Washington, DC. He was born in New York, New York and entered active duty in September 1988.

Colonel Bostick's first active duty assignment was with the 5th Battalion, 87th Infantry in Fort Clayton, Panama. He then served in assignments with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 54th Infantry; 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade 24th Infantry Division, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. He arrived at Fort Bragg in 1996 and served as an Operations Officer with the Airborne Special Operations Test Directorate. Colonel Bostick completed the Psychological Operations Qualification Course in 1998 and was assigned to the 1st Psychological Operations Battalion (Airborne) as a Detachment Commander and S-3. He was then reassigned to the 9th Psychological Operations Battalion (Airborne) as a S3. Colonel Bostick was then assigned to the 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) as the Group PSYOP Officer.



***COL-Ret. Reginald Bostick***

His next assignment was with the U.S. Army JFK Special Warfare Center and School as Chief of PSYOP Doctrine and Training. Colonel Bostick then commanded the 1st Psychological Operations Battalion (Airborne) and served as the Deputy Commander of the 4th Psychological Operations Group (Airborne). In 2009, Colonel Bostick was assigned to the Pentagon where he served as a Military Assistant to the Honorable Pete Geren and Honorable John M. McHugh, the 20th and 21st Secretaries of the U.S. Army. Colonel Bostick then returned to Fort Bragg in 2011 and commanded the 4th Psychological Operations Group (Airborne). After commanding, he returned to the Pentagon and was assigned to the Joint Staff where he served as an Assistant Deputy Director of Operations (OT-5), J3 National Military Command Center. He was then reassigned to the J39 Deputy Directorate for Special Activities and Operations as the Strategic Effects Division Chief and finally as the

Special Assistant to the Assistant Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Colonel Bostick's previous assignment was as the Deputy Commander for Special Operations Command South on Homestead Air Force Reserve Base, Florida.

Colonel Bostick's deployments include Operation JUST CAUSE and Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. Colonel Bostick's military education includes the Infantry Officer's Basic and Advance Courses; Ranger Course; Jumpmaster Course; Marine Corps Amphibious Warfare School; Bradley Commanders Course; Anti-Armor Course; Psychological Operations Qualification Course; Regional Studies Course; Survival, Evasion, Reconnaissance & Escape Course; Army Command and General Staff College; Joint Forces Staff College; and Army War College. Colonel Bostick holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Wofford College and a Master of Science Degree from Troy State University.

Colonel Bostick's awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (second award); Bronze Star Medal; Meritorious Service Medal (third award); Air Force Aerial Achievement Medal; Army Commendation Medal (fourth award); Joint Service Achievement Medal; Army Achievement Medal (second award); Army Superior Unit Award; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Combat Infantryman's Badge; Master Parachutist Badge; Air Assault Badge; Ranger Tab; Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge; and Department of the Army Staff Identification Badge. Foreign awards include Parachutist Badges from Brazil, Germany, Thailand and Ireland.

### **POVA Writes in Support of Iraqi and Afghani citizens who supported US forces**

Recent political changes in Washington have disrupted the process for issuing American visas and facilitating the immigration of certain Iraqi and Afghani citizens who provided services to American forces deployed in their country. Many POVA members worked with indigenous personnel who provided interpreting, translation and guide services to assist US forces. Many of these people, however are under threat of death for themselves and their families for having supported our forces. After the Viet-Nam war end, many of these people were summarily killed or simply disappeared into the communist gulag never to be seen again. POVA and its leaders seek to help avoid a similar fate for those foreign nationals who were so instrumental to our successful operations.

POVA has requested collaboration with PRA in the drafting of this communication. POVA and PRA are the largest membership organizations with direct experience working with these foreign nationals; in fact, many of our officers and members experienced deployment and combat with the brave soldiers who supported our missions. A similar letter was drafted and sent by POVA from the PSYOP Association (POA), which has several POVA members on its roster.

The full text of our letter is appended to the end of this issue of the newsletter. More to follow as this issue continues to develop.

### **Check the Articles POVA is publishing on our website**

POVA is regularly posting articles of interest to PSYOP veterans and soldiers on our website. If you have something you'd like published, send it to your Editor (preferably in pdf format), and we'll add it. Articles are posted at [www.usapova.com/critical-writings/](http://www.usapova.com/critical-writings/). Each article you click will open in a separate page.

### **Update on Joint POVA-POA Fund**

We have previously reported on the status of the joint fund POVA and POA created to provide assistance to certain of our PSYOP soldiers and their families in need. Here is the year end 2016 status of this fund. The fund is administered by Doug Elwell and Rich Hosier:

#### **JOINT FUND ACCOUNT 01 Jan 2016 to 31 DEC 2016**

Fund balance 01 JAN 2016.....	\$1182.80
Deposits to Joint Fund.....	\$ 200.00
Debits, 1 death payout @ \$150 each.....	\$ 150.00
Fund balance 31 DEC 2016.....	\$1232.80



## **POVA Attends 310<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Company Annual Military Ball**



***Tim and Ruth Ruiz***

POVA member Tim Ruiz represented POVA while attending the second annual Military Ball held by the 310<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Company in Forest Park, Georgia. Tim was accompanied by his lovely wife Ruth. POVA attended the 2016 Ball when VP Rich Hosier travelled from North Carolina.

POVA appreciates the invitations it has received from the 310<sup>th</sup>, and looks forward to continually expanding our relationship with this and all other Reserve PSYOP Groups, Battalions, and Companies.

## **Seeking memories, recollections, reminiscences from fellow vets to share**

POVA is seeking input from our members to share with others. In particular, sharing our memories and experiences can be helpful to others. We have all served in a very special profession while in the military, and while we generally know the basics of what we and others did, there are memories or experiences that may benefit or interest our fellow veterans and friends. POVA asked for input from our members, and being the classy open and sharing people we are, some came in almost immediately. Here are a few:

### **From Life Member Mike Paschkes, Boynton Beach, FL**

Here in Boynton Beach, FL where I live, we have a beautiful veteran's memorial park, with 22 monuments to WWI, Gold Star Mothers, 9/11, Vietnam, Korea, Tuskegee Airmen, etc. There, we have ceremonies honoring virtually every major holiday and event.

Last Sunday, we had ceremony commemorating the memories of four chaplains who went down with their ship the "Dorchester" in WWII having given their life belts to four sailors. They of course, were a rabbi and three chaplains from Christian faiths. One of each was present at the ceremony, and since I'm still blessed with a voice, I sang the national anthem, navy hymn and God bless America. I found a couple of photos doing my thing, lost a bit of weight since the solo one. Will try to scan them to you. Best regards, POVA life member, Mike

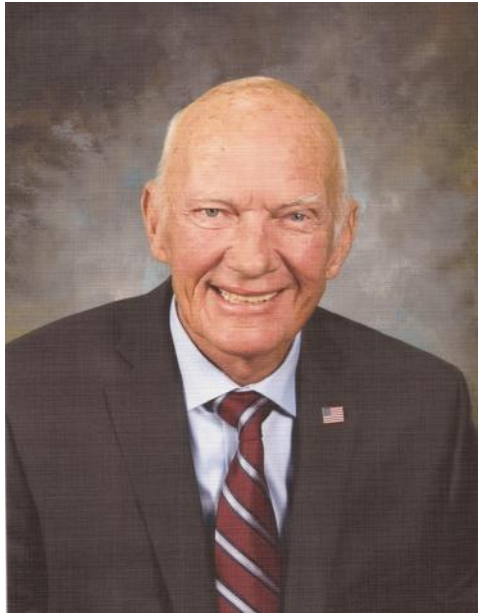


***Life Member Mike Paschkes***



### **From Life Member Ray Ambrozak**

Ray Ambrozak was one of the earliest American soldiers to serve in special operations and PSYOP in Laos before the American involvement became major in Viet-Nam. He served as an advisor and was very much involved in helping to support the Royal Laotian government during its conflict with the Communist Pathet Lao. In 1961, a PSYOP team from the Special Warfare Center, Ft. Bragg was deployed to support Operation White Star. This was a clandestine operation in the country of Laos and was the first time psyoperators were given the opportunity to operate with Special Forces in a real world environment. Here is Ray's contribution:



***Life Member Ray Ambrozak***

It was a twelve man team which included various skill levels in radio operations, print media, intelligence, media analysis and communication techniques.

It was imperative that the team members were going to be received by their FAL counterparts as a valuable asset in their fight against a communist takeover of their country. In order to facilitate this and to provide team credibility a letter was drafted for Gen. Phoumi, Commander of Forces of the Army of Laos (FAL) concerning employment of the team which was sent to the commanders of each military region. Attached is the draft.

You can see in the letter that much of what was to be done was directed inward to the soldiers of the FAL. Trying to promote a sense of country and patriotism was a very real problem. Although this was an unfamiliar task for U.S.Army PSYOP, it was one that was easily adjusted to.

Notice that the team members are all "Mr." Yes, we were in civvies and it was supposed to be secret. Time magazine and other news media saw to it that it was not too secret.

A copy of Gen. Phoumi's letter has been made available to the Airborne and Special Operations Museum.

### **Reminiscence from Life Member J. Dave Missavage**

The 4<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Group (predecessor to today's 4<sup>th</sup> MISG (A)) was headquartered near the docks and rail yards in Saigon, not too far from the Viet-Nameese Presidential Palace. Located on Pham Ngu Lao Street, it was very much a warehouse and transportation sector. Dave Missavage sent in the following pictures and legend information:



This view was taken in 1968 on Pham Ngu Lao St. located in an old railroad warehouse in Saigon. You will notice some damage on the end of the peaked roof upper left.



Above, the view looking back out thru the damage, where the rocket hit at about one AM on the morning of Ho Chi Minh's birthday (I think it was the 19th of



June '68). Luckily it was point detonated. Had it had a delayed fuse it would have gone off below, where the storage area was for all the inks and solvents for cleaning the presses.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Group Newspaper "Credibilis"**

The 4<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Group published a newsletter/newspaper during most of its time in Viet-Nam, and copies of it "pop up" infrequently. Recently, POVA Life Member Hammond Salley sent in three pages of February 1968 issue of "Credibilis" describing events within the Group and two of the Battalions (7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>) located in-country. The lead article describes events surrounding the beginning of the 1968 Tet Offensive. Copies of each of the pages are included at the end of this newsletter. They've been expanded a bit to help their readability.

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

Life Members are the heart and soul of any organization, and our growing roster of "Lifers" is excellent demonstration of the belief our members have in POVA and our organizational values. Continuing thanks to each and every Life Member for your invaluable support, guidance, and brotherhood over the years.

*David Affleck \**  
*John H "Jack" O'Neil \**  
*David Schultz*  
*David Albanese*  
*Alfred Paddock*  
*John Cheney*  
*Arlo Despain*  
*William Forgey*  
*Eric Hersh*  
*Rick Hofmann*  
*Stanley Michelsen*  
*Hammond Salley*  
*James Osborne*  
*Chad Spawr*  
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*Ken Bennett*  
*Raymond Knagge*  
*Andree Navarro*  
*Andrew Paparella*  
*Tristan Macaulay*  
*Timothy D. Huening*  
*Reginald Bostick*  
*Bruce E. Leahy*

\*Deceased Life Member

#### **Origins of the 4<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Group (MISGroup (ABN)) Crest**

If we gave a quiz to most veteran and current soldiers from the 4<sup>th</sup> Group (either PSYOP Group or MISGroup) asking the origins of the current Group crest, there is probably only one person who could point to the origins of this distinctive unit emblem. The answers would range from "I don't know," "I don't care," and "who cares?"



**1968 Draft Crest**

As with most distinctive emblems, these things don't just suddenly "pop" into existence. Fortunately, one POVA Life Member, Hammond Salley, forwarded a picture of the earliest design for today's 4<sup>th</sup> Group crest. Originally introduced in 1968 in Viet-Nam, you can see the earliest hints of the crest that eventually emerged.

Thanks to Ham Salley for sharing this. The article describing this crest is appended to this newsletter.



**Today's Current Crest**

**Brand New POVA-branded Hoodie Sweatshirt**

POVA has selected a new hoodie sweatshirt for its members and friends, and it will bear a heat-set vinyl POVA logo and motto on the left breast. This is a very nice pullover hoodie. Color choices include black, green, grey, and blue. These hoodies are perfect for cooler weather. The heat-set POVA emblem is very durable and will withstand many washings and hard wear.



Click here to go right to our Store page to order your POVA Hoodie: [www.usapova.com/shirts/](http://www.usapova.com/shirts/). Check out the new t-shirt offerings for spring and summer.

Prices are \$32.50 for S-XL sizes, \$35.00 for 2XL-5XL sizes. Prices include shipping.

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*In Brotherhood,*

*C. V. (Chad) Spawr*

**Chad Spawr  
President & Interim Editor**



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6 February 2017

The Honorable James N. Mattis  
Secretary of Defense  
1000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301-1000

General Mattis,

As a fellow combat veteran you are aware of the personal valor of allies who serve with us to provide us with valuable language and culture support. Many of those brave people are now facing even greater danger than combat. We need your support to insure maximum flexibility and urgency to issue visas and facilitate the emigration of those Iraqi and Afghani nationals who have provided direct operational support such as language interpretation and translation for American and Allied forces. As you are well aware, Allied operations would not have achieved many of their significant operational successes without them.

Many of our Association's members have served with American forces deployed in Viet-Nam, Iraq and Afghanistan, and worked either directly or indirectly with civilian nationals who served as guides, interpreters, journalists and translators. These brave nationals were exposed to all the same dangers as US military forces experienced during combat operations. They were brave, supportive, and loyal to our mutual cause and objectives. Engaging in this work was exceedingly dangerous for them and their families. Many have faced violent retribution, including summary execution.

After the Viet-Nam war ended, hundreds of South Viet-Nameese civilians and soldiers who had supported American and Allied forces were summarily executed, or sent to "re-education camps" from which many never emerged. Many of your fellow veterans knew these brave South Viet-Nameese soldiers and to this day mourn their violent deaths. It is morally incumbent on the United States to take appropriate actions to prevent a repetition of the reprisals that so often occur in the aftermath of military engagement.

Accordingly, we respectfully request your personal intercession to promote maximum flexibility in the review and granting of visas to those Iraqi and Afghani citizens who have provided support, and who wish to emigrate from their lands to the United States.

If our Association can be of assistance to you, or if you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

*Ex Verba Victoria*

*C. V. Spawr*

C. V. (Chad) Spawr  
President & Co-Founder



# CREDIBILIS

"Men are won or lost by ideas"



VOLUME III NUMBER 2

SAIGON, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

FEBRUARY 1968



SPECIALIST 4 Stanley Poczatek stands guard at Group Headquarters.

## 2 INJURED, LIGHT DAMAGE

# Group Reacts Quickly During VC Offensive

A series of well-executed defenses were responsible for keeping 4th PSYOP Group casualties and damages to a minimum during the Viet Cong's Lunar New Year attacks.

The only casualties in the Group were reported at the 8th PSYOP Battalion's Company B in Pleiku. The names of the two wounded men are being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

One suffered shrapnel wounds during the battle of Konum while he was supporting the 22nd Infantry. He was evacuated to the 106th General Hospital in Japan. The other suffered wounds in the Phan Thiet area, southwest of Nha Trang on the Vietnamese coast. No further information was available.

When the Viet Cong launched their Tet offensive, the 4th PSYOP Group began producing and disseminating propaganda almost immediately. The Headquarters PDC began exploring ways to exploit the effects of the Viet Cong attack and developed a 30-day program.

Having the only US propaganda presses operating in Saigon during the crisis, the Headquarters printing plant responded to requests from all American and Vietnamese PSYOP agencies. In one instance, the plant was still producing a GVN leaflet while the first run of the leaflet was being dropped over Saigon.

Throughout the crisis 4th Group organizations responded to requests from various units for PSYOP help.

(Continued on Page 8)

## PSYOP Activities Subject Of Television Coverage

The 4th PSYOP Group and its activities were the subject of television coverage by the American Forces Vietnam Network (AFVN), the National Broadcasting Company (NBC), and the Taiwan Television Enterprise during the month of January.

A five-minute AFVN feature, originally scheduled for broadcast on January 21 at 1900, was delayed one hour by technical difficulties. It utilized film taken at Group Headquarters in Saigon, the leaflet bomb loading area at Tam Son Nhut Air Base and the 6th PSYOP Battalion in Bien Hoa to depict the preparation, production and dissemination of propaganda.

A news team from NBC television visited Group Headquarters and the 10th PSYOP Battalion in Can Tho between January 12-15. The sound film crew toured the Saigon printing facility, as well

as the Battalion Headquarters where various stages of propaganda production were filmed. Later the team viewed ARVN political warfare activities in the Delta area.

The material gathered by the NBC representatives will be used in regularly scheduled network news programs, and considered for incorporation into an hour-long documentary.

Colonel Chao Pen-Li, the Republic of China's Senior Advisor to the General Political Warfare Department in the Republic of Vietnam, escorted representatives of the Taiwan Television Enterprise to 4th Group Headquarters for a photographic tour of the PSYOP facilities.

The film was forwarded to Taiwan where it will be utilized in a series of half-hour news and feature programs.



## VC Offensive . . . (Continued From Page 1)

The 4th PSYOP Group Headquarters went on full alert the afternoon of Jan. 30 when it was notified by the Headquarters area Command in Saigon that an enemy attack was "imminent."

According to a well-rehearsed alert plan, all personnel drew weapons and the guard was increased to include additional sentinels and reaction forces. Every two hours during daylight, a three-man patrol searched the area behind the compound for signs of the enemy.

"If Charlie expected to find us asleep, he was in for a surprise," said Captain William R. Milliron, Headquarters Company commander.

Commenting on the actions of Headquarters personnel during the Viet Cong's Tet offensive, Colonel Beck said, "The men of the Headquarters acquitted themselves in an outstanding and truly professional manner. I am intensely proud of each one of them."

The 6th PSYOP Battalion received hostile fire at the III Corps Compound where its offices are located and at its billeting areas in Train Compound and Honour-Smith Compound, but there were no casualties and damage was reported light.

On Feb. 1 Major Binkley and a skeleton crew were airlifted by helicopter to Battalion Headquarters in order to prepare quick-reaction leaflets and tapes. The remainder of the Battalion personnel were restricted to compound security in their respective

areas. By Feb. 2 the Bien Hoa area was considered safe enough for members of the Battalion to return to work on a limited basis.

Members of the 7th PSYOP Battalion in Danang were awakened at 3 a.m. Jan. 30 by rocket explosions and small arms fire, coming from the nearby air base. Guards at Battalion Headquarters and the officer and enlisted billets were doubled.

Major Alex E. Williams, Battalion commander, stated that the Battalion suffered no casualties or damage.

Although there were frequent outbreaks of fighting in Nha Trang, the 8th PSYOP Battalion there reports that it never came under hostile fire.

"We just sat in bunkers and watched the fighting at the air base," said Victor D. Sage, public information NCOIC.

The 10th PSYOP Battalion in Can Tho went on alert in the early morning hours of Jan. 31 when a roof guard reported small arms fire behind the Headquarters building.

"Viet Cong activity in the city remained furious," said second Lieutenant Steven W. Thompson, Battalion propaganda development officer. "From the villa roof we watched fire fights all over the city accompanied by air strikes."

"Each was sure of one thing if nothing else," said Lieutenant Thompson. "They had surely earned their hostile fire pay."





## Speaker Team Aids In NVA Surrender

DANANG (7th Lt. IO)—Two men attached to Detachment C of the 74 PSYOP Battalion were instrumental in the surrender of an NVA hospital patient last month.

The men, Marine Sergeant Michael Boone and Specialist 4 Gary Fairchild, members of PSYOP Detachment C, were on assignment with the 1st Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division. When a Viet Cong "Hot Chanh" told of an NVA hospital in the area, the paratroopers went to investigate. They found a complete hospital complex with operating facilities and a reading hall, all of which seemed to have been hurriedly vacated.

By the next day the Troopers had rounded up 11 of the fleeing enemy soldiers. At that time the unit commander requested that a PSYOP team be sent to aid in the search.

Sergeant Boone and Specialist Fairchild were airlifted to the hospital site. With field gear and loudspeakers on their backs, the team was briefed, then sent to the top of the mountain on which the hospital was located. An NVA patient or was persuaded to broadcast an appeal to the remaining enemy troops.

The next morning another NVA patient walked into the compound with his hands clasped behind his neck. He was the last to surrender.

## Group Proposes New Crest



When a unit reaches the transition to its present size, the 4th PSYOP Group recently proposed a new insignia, symbolic of its mission and location in the Republic of Vietnam.

The crest, composed of a rectangular shield surrounded by bamboo leaves and surrounded by four curved bands, has already been utilized in the design of a new Group brochure, a press release form and a plaque mounted at the entrance to the Saigon compound.

The black, white and grey color of the shield represent the main types of propaganda as determined by source. Three diagonal bars of lightning stand for the three main propaganda media: audio, visual and face to face persuasion.

The bands represent the four major positions: their colors, those of the RVN flag, and the bamboo leaves outside the shield, symbolize the Group's Southeast Asian location.

The new crest has been allotted a prominent position at the apex of the Group's Saigon compound. An event of some interest was the placement of the plaque, accomplished by utilizing a 50-watt aluminum scaffold.

## 'End of Line' Never Comes

CAN THO (10th Lt. IO)—People who walk by the 10th PSYOP Battalion Headquarters are rarely struck much by this... unless, of course, they are about to throw a hand grenade.

An 18-year-old recruit threw a hand grenade through an opening in the protective screening around the Battalion Headquarters building on 64th Street January 31. The grenade bounced and landed at the feet of three soldiers standing in the Company A locker room.

One of the men, Sergeant First Class Cecil Jones, "thought it was the end of the line." SFC Jones had taken over duties as the company's First Sergeant just the day before.

SFC Jones and the other men, Specialist 5 Alva T. Barr and Specialist 4 James English quickly jumped over a wooden counter which divides the room. They waited... but the grenade was a dud.

The terrorist didn't go unnoticed by a guard posted on the roof. Private First Class Luther Woodard quickly chambered a round and fired one shot which fell inches short of the fleeing VC. Although PFC Woodard missed, his shot alerted two Vietnamese policemen who led the terrorist with three quick pistol shots.

## I Corps Operation Gets Quick Support

DANANG (7th Lt. IO)—The pressure group of the 7th PSYOP Battalion produced, cut and boxed two million leaflets in the space of 22 hours last month.

The feat was the result of a request submitted by the 1st Marine Division for two million "show of strength" leaflets for use in support of Operation Slam. The operation was slated to begin just two days after the battalion received the quick reaction request.

The MOH of the 7th's reproduction section, Specialist 6 V.L. John L. Woodham, first estimated that the whole job would take at least 35 hours. Upon discovering that his guess was off by 14 hours Specialist Woodham commented, "I've never been more pleased to be wrong."

## Credibilis

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Opinions and views expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

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