



**Society of the
Vietnamese Airborne
Team 162**



Quarterly Report
March 25, 2013

Fellow Red Hats and Red Markers,

The first Quarter of 2013 has been busy as noted below:

Annual Airborne Awards in Atlanta –

The 36th Annual All Airborne Awards will be held 3-6 April 2013 in Atlanta at the Airport Marriott on Best Road. Mick Cole is slated to be recognized as Team 162 Airborne Man of the Year at this ceremony. A number of us are planning to attend and hope to see you there. In case you missed the information Mike Flynn sent on making reservations, you can access the schedule and reservation forms at www.82nd-atl.com.

Family of the Vietnamese Red Beret 33rd Annual Reunion –

The Mu Do have scheduled their 2013 reunion for 18-20 July. It will begin with a dedication on 18 July in Fayetteville, AL of a paver at the Airborne and Special Operations Museum honoring the three commanders of the Airborne. The Society is supporting this dedication with a contribution of \$1,000 toward the cost of the paver. John Martin has been coordinating our participation in this event and has arranged an \$89 room rate at the Holiday Inn, 1954 Cedar Creek Road in Fayetteville for our use. The Mu Do reunion will continue in Atlanta through 20 July. All Society members are encouraged to attend the paver dedication and the remainder of the Mu Do reunion. Separately attached are 1) detailed information you need for participation at both venues, and 2) the official invitation letter from the Dr. Tien, chairman of the Family of the Vietnamese Red Beret.

Membership –

Mike Flynn reports that we all owe a collective thank you and well done to Mike Anderson and Bob LeClerc. With their help contacting inactive members, Mike Flynn has added 90 of our comrades to the active roles. Well Done, indeed! For anyone wishing to make a few phone calls on behalf of the Society, however, we still have more work to do. By my count these additions bring our paid-up membership to about 220, which is half the total number on our database of former Red Hats and Red Markers. Please contact Mike if you can help contact these people.

Ft. Benning Initiative Regarding SFC Charles J. Moore -

Pat Coleman reports that he is communicating with LTC Carl Bergman, Commander 1-507th PIR at Ft Benning, and his staff regarding recognition of former Red Hat SFC Charles J. Moore. Moore served a tour in Vietnam with the 1st Air Cav Division and two years as an Senior Instructor at the Pathfinder School at Benning before becoming a Red Hat with the 6th Battalion in Aug 1968. He was KIA in Tay Ninh on 14 Sep

1968. Ft. Benning named a building at Lawson Field in honor of SFC Moore in Dec 1968. At that dedication ceremony Pat Coleman, former Senior Advisor, 6th Battalion and Moore's commander, addressed a graduating class of Pathfinders. Subsequently, the building was demolished, and Ft. Benning would like to now name another building in Moore's honor. Pat is trying to get the appropriate records on Moore's service to help validate the honor. He has encountered difficulty accessing official records due to privacy issues since he is not a relative and has been unable to locate any next-of-kin. Any member having personal knowledge of Charles J. Moore should contact Pat as he continues to work these issues.

2014 Society Reunion –

Mark your calendars. Our 2014 Reunion is now scheduled for 29 May – 1 Jun 2014 in Tampa. Bill Ball has done a yeoman's effort in negotiating an agreement with the Doubletree Hyatt Airport Westshore Hotel. The room rate and banquet fee are only slightly higher than we have experienced at less touristy locations, which is quite an accomplishment. The hotel offers free parking, a free shuttle from the airport and a free shuttle service within a 2-mile radius of the hotel, an area that includes over 100 restaurants plus two large shopping malls. Bill and Mick Cole are investigating activities that could include a tour of McDill Air Force Base, a Command Briefing by the US Special Operations Command Headquarters and a visit to the local Armed Forces Military Museum. We are looking for a guest speaker for our banquet. Anyone with suggestions, please pass them on to Bill, Mick, or to any Society officer or director.

Airborne and Special Operations Museum Exhibit –

Paul DeVries visited Fayetteville on onther business and inquired about progress on a project to modify our exhibit featuring Covan and Mu Do mannequins to add a third figure representing a Red Marker. There is no change in the status at this point. The museum is working on a cost estimate and previously has stated they can schedule such a modification for calendar year 2014.

Vietnam War Commemorative Partners –

I have no progress to report on becoming a Commemorative Partner. Tim Thames pointed out that the DOD is organizing a national program to commemorate the Vietnam War and is soliciting participation by organizations as a "Commemorative Partners." Such Partners would be required to host at least two events annually during 2015, 2016 and 2017 honoring those who served. John Martin suggests that if we partner with the Mu Do, our combined activities including reunions and Veterans Day observances should equal or exceed the required two events per year. We will have more progress to report next quarter.

See you in Atlanta.

Nhay Du,

Gary N. Willis

Gary N. Willis
President