



Society of the Vietnamese Airborne Team 162



Quarterly Report

December 24, 2013

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to Red Hats, Red Markers and Mu Do:

Veterans Day 2013 -



On November 10, 2013, Dr. Quang Tien Le, President of the Family of the Red Beret, and I laid a wreath at the monument in Arlington Cemetery dedicated to the Vietnamese Airborne and Red Hat and Red Marker Advisors. Color Guards from the Vietnamese Airborne and 82nd Airborne Divisions paid tribute along with about 40 Vietnamese troopers and members of the 82nd Airborne Association.

Red Hats in attendance included Jack Nicholson, Mike Flynn, Mick Cole and Karen Sinkovitz. Paul DeVries, who has organized this event for a number of years, led the caravan of vehicles from site to site and officiated at the dedication of wreaths at numerous unit memorials.

2014 Society Reunion -

Bill Ball has organized a great reunion set for the Doubletree Hilton at the Tampa Airport, 29 May through 1 June 2014. The reunion fee is \$90.00 for each attendee plus membership renewal of \$20.00. As previously announced, the membership renewal will be waived for any member who pays the \$90.00 fee by 31 January. The fee covers food and drink in the hospitality room, the dinner banquet and a lunch preceding the bi-annual meeting. So, send your \$90.00 per person to Mike Flynn, 3309 Clandon Park Drive, Raleigh, NC 27613-8841, before the end of next month and get free membership for two years.

Rooms at the Doubletree Hilton are \$105.00 a night plus tax. Make reservations by phone at 813-879-4800 or online at www.TampaDoubleTree.com. The reunion group code to receive the special rate is "RHR." You must make reservations by 30 April to get that rate. You can cancel later if your plans change.

Bill has scheduled a briefing from CENTCOM at the hotel. He has also arranged an opportunity for fearless troopers to make one more static line jump with the Phantom Airborne Brigade at a cost of \$110.00. Bill is exploring other activities including a visit to the Armed Forces Military Museum or a trip to the Liberty Ship and Maritime museum in Tampa harbor. We will keep you informed in the coming months.

The guest speaker for the banquet will be Major David M. Anderson, an Air Liaison Officer who will return from an Afghanistan rotation about 45 days prior to our Reunion. I expect that he will be able to contrast the type of close air support and control presently employed with that we experienced in SEA 45 years ago.

USAFA Plaque –

The SEA Pavilion at the Air Force Academy is dedicated to the history of the war in Southeast Asia and to USAFA graduates' service during the conflict. The Association of Graduates and the Class of 1970 (sponsors of the building) invite organizations to sponsor a bronze plaque honoring a unit that served in SEA. Each plaque will be designed by a sculptor engaged for this purpose and will be installed on a wall reserved for that function.

The Board of Directors has authorized the Society to sponsor a plaque for the SEA Pavilion commemorating the Red Marker detachment, naming the USAFA graduates and prominently highlighting the Vietnamese Airborne and the Red Hats of Team 162.



Contributions thus far have covered about one third of the \$5,000 cost of this memorial. If you wish to contribute, please send a check to John Martin, Treasurer, 1392 Schooner Way, Woodbury, MN 55125-9293. Make the check payable to The Society of the Vietnamese Airborne and write "USAFA Plaque" on the memo line, so that John can properly track the contributions. Once funded, it will take two or three months for the plaque to be cast and hand painted. We will schedule an installation ceremony at an appropriate date.

Vietnam War Commemorative Partners –

DOD has approved the Society as a Vietnam War Commemorative Partner. However, we have not yet received official paperwork. I suspect sequestration and the government shutdown has put them behind schedule. Once they complete the documentation, our activities to honor American and Allied veterans of the Vietnam War will be recognized by DOD and advertised on their website. There is no cost to the Society for becoming a Partner. Thanks to Tim Thames for bringing this to our attention.

Ft. Benning Initiative Regarding SFC Charles J. Moore -

We have no update on the activity of the 11th Pathfinders and 1-507th PIR to name the new Pathfinder Building in honor of former Red Hat SFC Charles J. Moore who