

MAIL-call - PRESERVING FORGOTTEN MEMORIES

Your memoirs are most welcome to the DAYS OF OUR LIVES and is an effort on my part to preserve the stories and memories of ASA veterans who served in Turkey. Whether you choose to share your memories is a personal choice. However, information not shared is the same as information lost. Life has a way of accelerating as we get older. The days get shorter, and the list of promises to ourselves gets longer. Because we cram so much into our lives, we tend to schedule our headaches.. Most of us live on a sparse diet of promises we make to ourselves when all the conditions are perfect! One morning, we awaken, and all we have to show for our lives is a litany of "I'm going to," "I plan on," and "Someday, when things are settled down a bit." Your privacy is extremely important.. For the most part – identity thieves usually get their information the old fashioned way - from personal carelessness and from the trash. I personally am much more comfortable handing my credit card to an online retailer than I am to a waiter or clerk who is gone for so long with my credit card? BUT, please keep in mind that the Internet is a universe unto itself and is a dang near veritable hell-hole filled with the faceless thieves, scams, scam artists, frauds, and greedy people, etc. In the old days, back when mail crossed the country in days, identity theft still took place. Today, e-mail crosses the country at the speed of light. Always report fraudulent or suspicious e-mail to your ISP and if you've been victimized, you should contact your local police or sheriff's department, and file a complaint with the FBI's Internet Fraud Complaint Center at <http://www.IFCCFBI.gov>. Google knows more about us than the FBI or the CIA or the NSA or any spy agency of any government. And nobody regulates it. When a company that holds digital dossiers on millions of people decides profits are more important than principles, we are all at risk. With all of the above info known - if you wish not to receive future DOOL's - please send that request to asagreenhornet@yahoo.com - When you send an email to me - PLEASE include the word ASA in the subject line to insure that I open it and not mistake it for SPAM. Thank you- -gH

TAPS

McDANIEL, Darrel Keith, DOB: 17 Feb 1941 DOD: 29 May 2006, E3-E5, F&AO, Det 66, 63-64, 496 SE 20th Ave., Hillsboro, OH
McDANIEL, Sheryl Ann, DOB: 30 May 1945 DOD: 29 May 2006, wife of Darrel McDaniel

Darrel and Sheryl McDaniel died together on 29 May 2006 in Forrest Grove in a bicycling accident. Darrel was retired from James River Corp where he worked as a lift truck driver for over 40 years. Sheryl worked for Joseph H. Herrle E Associates, Inc. as benefits account manager and was looking forward to retiring from over 30 years of service in May 2007.

Darrel was born to Alma and Keith McDaniel of Glenfield, N.D. on 17 Feb 1941. Sheryl was born to Ed and Mary Willers of Hillsboro on 20 May 1945. Darrel graduated from Lake Oswego High School in 1959 and Sheryl from Hillsboro High School in 1963. They were married 27 August 1966, in Hillsboro at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Darrel and Sheryl were always together from gardening and yard work to participating in one of their many activities. Darrel was an avid hunter and fisherman. They salmon fished down at Garabaldi every fall since 1967 and enjoyed staying at their beach house in Rockaway. They were both passionate water-skiers and spent many early mornings skiing out at Hagg Lake; it was their favorite thing to do. They also took frequent hikes and swam laps and exercised at the Hillsboro Aquatic Center every other day and it was nothing for them to take a 50 to 60 mile bike ride around Hagg Lake or to Pumpkin Ridge.

They both enjoyed meeting friends out for dinner. Darrel always appreciated a good joke and was never seen without a smile on his face. Sheryl was a fantastic cook and baker and loved crafts and flower arranging. They lived for their children and grandchildren and were always there for you whenever needed.

MORRIS, Harold A., (Ham), E7, Det 27, 64-65, DOB: 26 April 1928 DOD 29 June 1990 in Maine

Dear Sir I came across your DOOL web page and am forwarding you a bit of info: Harold A Morris (HAM) was my Uncle and Godfather. He was born in Natick, MA (named after his father who served in the sea bees) on 26 April 1928 and died 29 June 1990 outside of Augusta, Maine at his home of a heart attack. He also did three tours of duty in Vietnam, the last wounding him in a roadside attack. He was in the second jeep with his commanding officer in the first. Next were a couple of the half ton (I think that's what they are called) transport trucks with troops sitting on each side. an explosion in front of the jeep killed the driver

instantly and seriously wounded the commanding officer. The explosion rendered Harold deaf for the time being. They then shot into the transport trucks at what would be the soldiers leg level so they were either killed or unable to walk. Harold said he only knew they were still firing upon them because of the sight of the bullets hitting the dirt. He could not hear the guns. He was able to move his commanding officer and the other wounded into the second jeep and drive them to a base hospital. Because he was in a night recon outfit he was unable to be sedated to have his own wounds cared for until someone came from his outfit to standby. He lost 80% of his hearing in one ear due to the blast and had to retire. He received a purple heart, I believe a silver star and oak leaf clusters along with a medal for valor. He was one of four brothers, each one serving in the army. I wish I could be more specific.. He was married and his family was living in the Cape Cod area (Sandwich, MA) He had a son and daughter, but I've lost contact with them. He divorced in later years and retired in Sandwich, MA. A few years before his death he remarried and moved to Maine where he was taken suddenly by a heart attack while working in his garden one day. I doubt he ever knew what hit him. He is buried in Bourne National Cemetery. I miss him very much. It was so nice to find your web site and find he was remembered by others also. I have many good memories of Harold and can remember writing to him when he was stationed in Turkey Thank you for your service to our country and for your sacrifices to keep us all free. God bless, Sherry Lee (Morris) Duffy (medicduffy2@hotmail.com)

2006 ASA Turkey Reunion

The 2006 ASA Turkey Reunion was held at the Drawbridge Inn in Fort Mitchell, KY (Greater Cincinnati, OH) 13-16 September without the presence of Elder and

Patty Green. Why was this? In a nutshell it involved ribs, yes ribs and broken ones to boot.

This information is for those who were not at the 2006 reunion: On 7 September Eld slipped and fell onto a cement flower urn in our driveway and broke 4 ribs on his left side. Thankfully no other organs were damaged and he still is in much pain. We had visited the Northern Kentucky area twice and had kept in weekly contact with Hal and Bobbie Winkler on the reunion status.

Carlos Hunt and Ernie Carrick sent us photo's on CD'S for our use in the DOOL and the 2006 Memory Book. The photo's are of excellent quality; however most of the photo's are over 1 mb and that more or less prohibits us from inserting them in this DOOL, but each will be inserted into the 2006 Memory Book which will be sent to Chuck Bergmann for CD production and ordering information will be forthcoming.

The following is Hal Winkler's after reunion report and Ernie Carrick is drafting another report. "We had 73 adults counting spouses and 2 children in attendance. Guests enjoyed a hospitality suite all four days with plenty of refreshments. The Drawbridge supplied a half keg of beer which lasted throughout the reunion. (We're obviously drinking less in our old age.) Planned activities included a dinner buffet on Thursday evening at the Hofbrauhaus Beer Hall and Garden in Newport, KY with wienerschnitzle and other German specialties. Entertainment was provided by an accordion player. It was Oktoberfest in Cincinnati that weekend, so there was a 14 piece band from Munich in the main hall. Friday we all enjoyed a dinner cruise and buffet on the BB Riverboat paddle wheeler. The weather was fantastic and many enjoyed visiting the open upper deck. The weekend concluded with our reunion Dinner buffet Saturday evening at the Drawbridge. We ended the evening by returning to the hospitality suite to enjoy 2 trays of baklava along with the remnants of a bottle of Yeni Raki that I had purchased on a recent trip to Greece and Turkey.

Those in attendance from DET 4 included:

Tony & Valerie Antonello 69-70	Paul Aspinwall 65	Wayne Dyer 68-69
Chuck & Joan Malsch 65	Robert & Sue Sack 74-75	Arnold & Janet Steffen 58-59
Steve & Gloria Walcher 69-70	Ernie & Betty Carrick 57-58	Frank & Arlie Eldridge 61-62
Carlos & Frankie Hunt 58-59	Jack & Kay O'Brien 64-65	John & Janet Owen 64
Dick & Maryanne Durban 67	Hal & Bobbie Winkler 60-61	Reunion Hosts

Those in attendance from DET 4-4 included:

AL & Esther Bullock	Bob Borrows	Chuck Carpenter
Sid Gilman	Phil Taggart	
Paulette Satterly friend of Terry Aune		

Those in attendance from DET 27 included:

Tony & Valerie Antonello 69-70	Eric & Ramona Balderson	Ed & Florence Jones
Hank & Judy Neill	David & Sue Tavernetti	Chuck & Penny Teschker
Chuck & Helen Bergmann	Mike & Jane Comroe	Bill & Loretta Cowie
Gordie & Pat Davidge	Ron & Kathie Erickson	Ted & Joan Garneau

**Richard & Debra Ball
Tom & Beverly Fittante
Ralph & Linda Richter with Lee & Andrea**

**Larry Burgess
Ted Rasmussen**

**Lloyd Criddlebaugh
Luther Mac & Edna Jones**

**Marilyn Hamilton & Shirley Byers, wife & sister-in-law of Mark Hamilton
Bob & Lorraine Nearpass have attended all of the reunions**

**Those in attendance from DET 66
Daryl Waite**

**Those in attendance fom ASA Japan
Don & Anne McCabe**



First row, L-R: Tony Antonello, Hank Neill, Tom Fittante, Dick Ball, Daryl Waite, Larry Burgess, Ted Rasmussen, Hal Winkler, Don McCabe, Bill Cowie, Carlos Hunt, Chuck Bergmann & Arnold Steffen
2nd & 3rd row, L-R: Steve Walcher, Bob Sack, Chuck Malsch, Ed Jones, Bob Nearpass, Ernie Carrick, Eric Balderson, Dave Tavernetti, Lloyd Criddlebaugh, Jack O'brien, Paul Aspinwall, Frank Eldridge, Wayne Dyer, Ron Erickson, John Owen, Chuck Teschker, Chuck Carpenter, Dick Durban, & Ralph Richter.
MISSING: Al Bullock, Bob Burrows, Mike Comroe, Ted Garneau, Sid Gilman, Luther Jones, & Phil Taggert,



Hank and Judy Neill reside in Springfield, VA and faithfully attend the ASA Turkey reunions. Hank was born in 1939 and served as a Teletype operator & cryptographer (723) in the Det 27 Comm Ctr 1962-64 as a E2-E5 before receiving a direct commission on 24 December 1963 as a 2nd Lieutenant in the US Army Finance Corps. Hank advanced thru the officer ranks and retired in 1989 as a Colonel with 28 years of active duty. During 1974-75 he attended the Command & General Staff College At Fort Leavenworth with Col Bill Walters who had served at Det 27, Det 4-4 and at Det 4

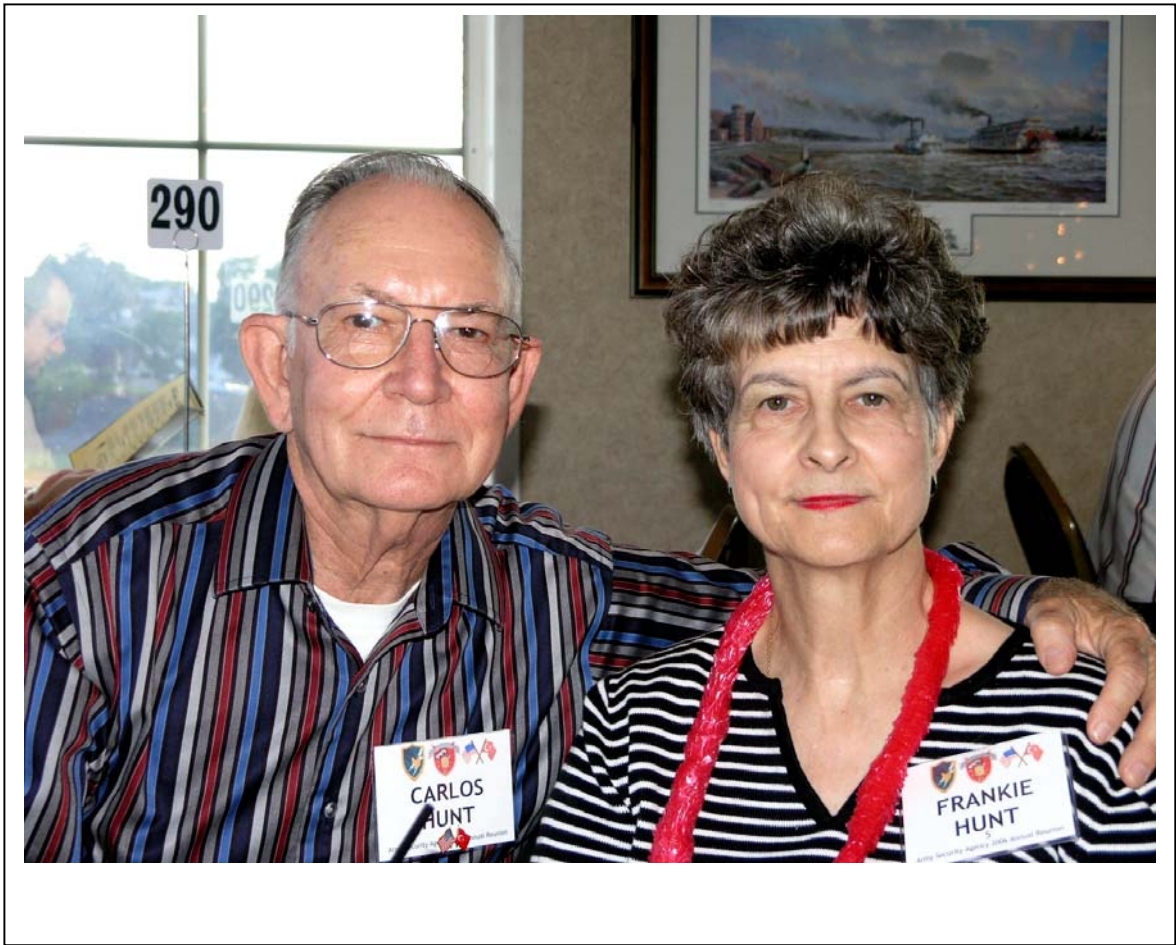
Hank was a member of the Det 27 MSC track and field team that went to Germany for the Armed Forces Championships in 1963.. . . In 2004 he was diagnosed with prostate cancer and was not able to attend the 2004 reunion. He describes his diagnosis as a bummer but that he has been getting good treatment at both Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the National Cancer Institute ... two top rated places. I appreciate all the work you are doing for the Manzarali Maulers and those ASA vets who served at Det 4 and 4-4. You have done a helluva lot of work for all of us ... and it is appreciated! Running a reunion is not a lot of fun but it does help keep a group together and, I am sure when you see all the attendees, it will be worth it all. Thank you for your efforts.



Ernie
And
Betty
Carrick



Ralph Richter – guest speaker



Above is Larry Burgess and Ted Rasmussen who served as ditty-boppers on Trick #4 at Det 27 in 1963-64 time frame. Larry is a newcomer to the DOOL. He wrote at the reunion: "Was looking forward to meeting you – sorry to hear about your accident. Hope to meet you at the 2007 reunion. Best wishes & hope you recover very soon." Ted wrote at the reunion: "I missed not meeting you so much – but will drive up to Indiana, PA to carry out that mission shortly after I return to PA! Take time to heal and do not sneeze!" Ted has been actively involved since 2003. Ted's BIO can be viewed in DOOL#136 and is an interesting account of his tour of duty with the ASA as an 058. .



MAIL CALL IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

ARROL, Larry, Det 4, 74-75
BEALL, Tom, Det 27, 65-66
BERGMANN, Chuck, Det 27, 66-67
CAMMACK, Maurice, Det 27, 57-59
COWIE, Bill, Det 27, 60-61
EREZ, Gulcin, Ankara, 60-61
FINDLEY, Mike, Det 4-4, 68-70
HAMILTON, Marilyn, widow of Mark, Det 27,
HARBER, Jim, Det 27, 62-63
HARTRANFT, Bill, Det 27, 62-64
LEATHERBURY, Chet, Det 27, 60-62
NEARPASS, Bob, Det 27, 64-66
PETERSON, Bambridge, Det 27, 63-65
PULASKI, John, Det 27, 63-64
REITER, George, Det 27, 63-64
SCARBOROUGH, Jim, Det 4, 73-74 & 76-77
SIMONS, Bill, Det 4, 59-60
SMITH, Jim, Det 27, 64-65
WAITE, Daryl, Det 66,
WALTERS, Bill, Det 27, 65-67, Det 4-4, 67-68 & Det 4, 86-87

ARROL, Lawrence G.J. (Larry), CPT CO Ops CoDet 4, 74-75,
larrol@asaspmo.belvoir.army.mil

Colonel Arrol is currently the Project Manager Intelligence Fusion. His past assignments include: Commander, A Company, TUSLOG Det 4, Sinop, Turkey; Cryptologic Staff Officer, Continental United States (CONUS) MI Group NSA; Operations Officer, USASAFS, Berlin; Readiness Officer, Project Manager, Intelligence and Electronic Warfare (IEW); Executive Officer, Program Executive Office, IEW; Product Manager, TRAILBLAZER, TACJAM, and Ground-Based Common Sensor (GBCS); and Program Executive Office IEW Liaison Officer, G2, Third U.S. Army, Saudi Arabia. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Wayne State University and a Master of Engineering Administration degree from George Washington University. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Program Managers Course, Defense Systems Management College, and the U.S. Army War College.

BEALL, Tom YOB 1942 RA15710132 E3-E5 982 (RMR's) Det 27, JA65-JN66, (Linda), 6670 Heisley Road., Mentor, OH 44060, 440-255-8642, tbeall@lightstream.net

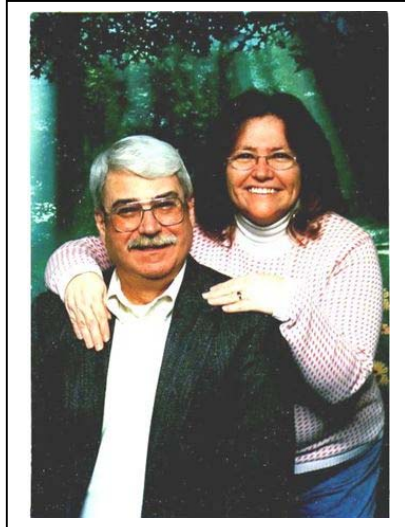
BERGMANN, Chuck (JC) YOB 1943 E4 058 Det 27, MY66-DE67, (Helen), 29813 Foote Rd., Bay Village, OH 44140, 440-871-5346 & 1-800-730-9277, cbergmann@insp-eng.com - Elder 9/21/2006 I got a DVD for you that I'm sending out today. You can put it in your DVD player on your TV and watch it. I took a video of the Saturday evening meal. The Video has sound so you will have to turn the volume up on the TV. There is a lot of people talking in the background but if you listen real close you can hear what is being said. I'll send the DVD out today. Chuck Bergmann

CAMMACK, Maurice E3-E5-10NO58 722 Det 27, 57-59, (Katie), 3024 E. Gallman Road., PO Box 118, Gallman, MS 39077, 601-892-4597, phantom4597@hughes.net - Elder, Thank you again for the time and effort that goes into each edition of the DOOL. The new PDF format with the pictures and associated narrative comes through looking great each time, thanks to Chuck Bergmann who relays it on to me. Best wishes on the upcoming reunion and please express our gratitude to each one who assists in this effort. I look forward to receiving each edition.

COWIE, Bill, YOB: 1941, RA17542349, E3-E5, 058, Tk#4, Det 27, 60-61, (Loretta), #29 Sappington Villa Ct., Crestwood, MO 63126, 313-842-2028, cowiew424@yahoo.com - Hello to all: Just returned from the 2006 ASA Turkey reunion and had a great time. I hope all of you can come to one of the reunions in the future so that you can deny all the terrible things I said about each of you. Loretta and I are fine. Saw some old friends and made some new ones. Had a particularly good visit with Tom Fittante and Mike Comroe and their wives. Tom F. had some pictures showing some of us as the '61 Football Champions. I'd love to get that same picture today. Probably run 1000 LBS heavier and a whole lot more grey hair and less hair.

EREZ, Gulcin, Ankara @1960 ask abt Ken Baldwin - Dear Elder: I located your Days of Our Lives site doing a search for Gulcin Erez. One letter stated Ken was now going by that name, living in Turkey. I know Ken from 1960 from Ankara and I would like to find him if you have heard or found any additional information. Thanks so much! Sincerely, Gulcin Erez

FINDLEY, Mike E3-E4 05H Det 4-4, 15OC68-15OC70, (Andra), 722 Mason St., Rhinelander, WI 54501, 715-362-7357, jmfindley@frontiernet.net [edited] Elder, Here is a photo of me and Andra. Wish we could make the 2006 reunion, but our finances won't allow it. Have fun and God Bless Mike



HAMILTON, Marilyn, widow of Mark Hamilton

Well my sister Shirley and I enjoyed an evening at ASA event at the drawbridge inn. Was sorry to have missed meeting with you. Hoping this finds you feeling better. It was a nice evening and we enjoyed meeting some very nice people. Talked briefly with Chuck Burgman and he will get together with me on one of his trips to CVG on business and we can see what's up. Another nice gentleman Mark had corresponded with from Ill and orig from Oregon also said he has my email and will be keeping in touch to see if he might be able to help as well. Had some nice invited from some women to attend another. So hope you will keep me in the loop. Thx again for your kind assist in this matter and all your notices out I rcvd nice sympathy cards etc and it is so heart warming. Heres to a speedy recovery for you Sincerely Marilyn Hamilton

HARBER, Jim, YOB 1943, RA E3-E5 058Tk#1 Det 27, 19MY62-27OC63, (Becky), 110 Sable Trace Trl., Acworth, GA 30102, 404-771-3074, jimharber@juno.com - Elder, Becky & I have just returned from her "Dream Trip of a Lifetime".. to Egypt... we are in recovery from the excessive heat and mild dehydration... Don't ever let anyone kid you about "Dry Heat".... In Aswan and Abu Simbel, it was 110 to 115 degrees.... Dry heat or not...That is HOT.... and dehydrates your body so fast, you are soaked.... but just keep those water bottles flowing..... We also had a 3 day cruise down the Nile from Aswan to Luxor.... and later a 3.5 hour drive to Alexandria from Cairo - and back... We saw most of the historic Sites and Temples and was very pleased overall with our 10 day stay. However, Egypt appears to be one of the dirtiest places I think we could ever visit - infrastructure wise.... And no comparison to our 2 week tour of

6 the major cities in Mainland China last year.... I am not sure at this time if we will be able to make the reunion.... We may be able to pop in one evening, but Becky may have some health issues brewing... and has a test at hospital next Thursday.... so we will have to play it by ear....

HARTRANFT, Bill YOB 1943 RA13735181 E3-E5 058 Ops Co Det 27, 18OC62-27JL64, (Sheila), 69 Manor Ave., Oaklyn, NJ 08107, 856-858-6756, wdhartranft1@comcast.net E4 DOR 1AU63

Sad to see Vinovich passed away. Seems to me that he was from Albuquerque, NM. I thought I remembered his first name as Bill. Come to think of it, we always called him Vinny.... I remember him as one of the biggest and most gentle guys on Trick one. If memory serves me, he lived in Ankara with his wife. I remember they invited us for dinner one evening. Us was probably Moms Mabry, maybe Vern Negus and me.

I remember his feet were proportional to his size. That being said, he was issued brown boots and had to dye them black. I remember his frustration with the fact he tried like the devil to get them spit shined and they just wouldn't come up the way he wanted them to appear.

He was a fine man then and I'm certain he continued his ways throughout his life.

Sad....to see him pass so young.
wdh

LEATHERBURY, Chester B (Chet) YOB 1941 RA16648484 E5 286.10 Det 27, JN60-AU62, (Carolyn), 14471 S. Jonesville Road., Columbus, IN 47201, 812-522-8740, clbury@voyager.net 0 I was hoping to attend the 2006 reunion, but it is not going to be possible. Please keep me on your mailing list.

NEARPASS, Robert D E3-E5, MP Det 27, DE64-DE66, (Lorraine), 111 Hope Crossing Road., Belvidere, NJ 07823, 908-638-7625, nearpass@accessgate.net [edited] Elder we hope that your making progress with your broken ribs. We sure

missed you and Patty at the Fort Mitchell gathering. We stopped at the Cafe Istanbul - very good – there was lots of sights to visit, we particularly enjoyed Rabbit Hash, KY. As for a 2007 reunion spot - Ernie Carrick mentioned that Myrtle Beach was a possibility. Take care, best to both of you Bob & Lorraine Nearpass

PETERSON, Bambridge E E3-E4 F&AO Det 27, OC63-AP65, 847-543-6837, bepeterson1836@sbcglobal.net - If I would have known about the 2006 together a little earlier I could have made it. Please note my e-mail. Hopefully in 2007 there will be another get together and I can plan on attending. Thanks.
Bambridge E. Peterson, ASA, Manzarali, Turkey

PULASKI, John B E3-E4 PFCIC-F&AO Det 27, 63-64, 5423 Kennedy Blvd., West New York, NJ 07093, 201-867-6427, jbpulaski@msn.com had Masters Acctng degree per Reite

REITER, George YOB 1943 E3-E4 F&AO Det 27, JN63-DE64, (Bobbi), 7191Campbell St., Taylor, MI 48180, 313-291-9779, greiter@localnet.com
Please note the new email address

SCARBOROUGH, Jim (Scars) E6 98J30 Det 4, 73-74 & 76-77, (Ellen), 5511 Tobego Ct., Fairfax, VA 22032, 703-249-9470, jim_ellen@cox.net

SIMONS, Bill, YOB 1936 E3 058 Det 4, DE59-DE60, (Patricia Anne), 155 Newbolds Corner Rd., Southampton, NJ 08088, 609-859-9483, billsimons@tuslogdet4.com - [edited] I had trouble getting DOOL#166 on the web and for a while lost my Det 4 website. . Whatever went wrong with my ISP cleared itself up after a few hours. It always scares me a bit when I can't connect to my web sites. The amount of work to set them up again with a new host would be daunting. Bill

SLUSHER, Otis D. III "Ohio" YOB 1947 RA E3-E4 982 Det 4, AU65-JL66, (Joyce), 407 Tanglewood Dr., Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547, 850-243-8232, oifwb@webtv.net

SMITH, Jim, 982, Det 27, 64-65, (Sue), 112 Duluth Road , Brownsville , TX , 956-544-3188. jim@riosmith.net Web page www.riosmith.net
I was at Manzarali in 64 & 65. Do you have a current list of email addresses? If so please email the Det 27 portion to me. Thanks, Jim C. Smith, jim@riosmith.net

WAITE, Daryl, Det 66

Elder: Bummer! First chance I have to make a reunion, you couldn't. At least we have located Gulcin, however she did not respond to my e-mail. We could learn quite a bit from each other. (In a contact with another Turk, he stated that Gulcin was a ladies name) In the chance that Baldwin got a pardon, I wrote the pardon attorney in WDC. He did not have any info but did state that a "discharge less than honorable" did NOT equate to a bad conduct or dishonorable discharge.
Daryl

WALTERS, William P (Bill) YOB 1938 1LT AIS Det 27 DE65-DE67 & CPT Det 4-4 DE67-JL68, 06 Det 4, ?, (Susan), 529 Walking Ln Fayetteville NC 28311, 910-822-0629, william.p.walters@us.army.mil - Elder, It was good to talk to you last night and sorry I won't be able to make the reunion in 2006. I was very glad to learn that both you and Patty are doing fine. As I said I am still working and thankfully blessed with good health, next August will be 50 years in this business for me and I may decide to hang it up in September 2007, but really not sure I will do that. I still enjoy coming to work each day and working with and for soldiers,

marines and airmen, plus my wife can't retire from DODD's until 2008 and the idea of being home alone doesn't appeal to me. Take care, keep in touch and say hello to Hank Neill for me at the reunion. William P. Walters TNCC Fort Bragg NC (910) 396-2499/2379, DSN 236-2499/2379

A HISTORY LESSON - WHO WAS THE FIRST PRESIDENT?

This article was sent to me by Greg Kearney, a former ditty-bopper from Det 4-4 at Karamursel, Turkey. Greg has been a faithful DOOL relayer from the get go.

I'm sure that George Washington was your best guess. After all, no one else comes to mind.

It's a fact that the United States declared its independence in 1776, yet Washington did not take office until 30 April 1789. So who was running the country during these initial years of this young country?

It was the first eight U. S. Presidents. In fact, the first President of the United States was one John Hanson.

I can hear you now - John who? John Hanson, the first President of the United States.

Don't go checking the encyclopedia for this name. He is one of those great men that are lost to history. If you're extremely lucky, you may actually find a brief mention of his name, but that's about it.

The new country was actually formed on March 1, 1781 with the adoption of The Articles of Confederation.

This document was actually proposed on June 11, 1776, but not agreed upon by Congress until November 15, 1777.

Maryland refused to sign this document until Virginia and New York ceded their western lands (Maryland was afraid that these states would gain too much power in the new government from such large amounts of land). Once the signing took place in 1781, a President was needed to run the country.

John Hanson was chosen unanimously by Congress (which included George Washington). In fact, all the other potential candidates refused to run against him, as he was a major player in the revolution and an extremely influential member of Congress.

As the first President, Hanson had quite the shoes to fill. No one had ever been President and the role was poorly defined. His actions in office would set precedent for all future Presidents.

He took office just as the Revolutionary War ended. Almost immediately, the troops demanded to be paid. As would be expected after any long war, there were no funds to meet the salaries. As a result, the soldiers threatened to overthrow the new government and put Washington on the throne as a monarch.

All the members of Congress ran for their lives, leaving Hanson as the only man left running the government. He somehow managed to calm the troops down and hold the country together. If he had failed, the government would have fallen almost immediately and everyone would have been bowing to King Washington.

Hanson, as President, ordered all foreign troops off American soil, as well as the removal of all foreign flags. This was quite the feat, considering the fact that so many European countries had a stake in the United States since the days following Columbus.

Hanson established the Great Seal of the United States, which all Presidents have since been required to use on all official documents.

President Hanson also established the first Treasury Department, the first Secretary of War, and the first Foreign Affairs Department.

Lastly, he declared that the fourth Thursday of every November was to be Thanksgiving Day, which is still true today.

The Articles of Confederation only allowed a President to serve a one year term during any three year period, so Hanson actually accomplished quite a bit in such little time.

Seven other presidents were elected after him -

Elias Boudinot (1782-83),
Thomas Mifflin (1783-84),
Richard Henry Lee (1784-85),
John Hancock (1785-86),
Nathan Gorman (1786-87),
Arthur St. Clair (1787-88), and
Cyrus Griffin (1788-89)

..... all prior to Washington taking office. So what happened? Why don't we hear about the first eight presidents?

It's quite simple - The Articles of Confederation didn't work well. The individual states had too much power and nothing could be agreed upon. A new doctrine

needed to be written - something we know today as the Constitution.

And that leads us to the end of our story. George Washington was not the first President of the United States. He was the first President of the United States under the Constitution we follow today. And the first eight Presidents of this country are forgotten in history.

YOU HAVE TO BE A LOVER OF HISTORY TO APPRECIATE THIS!!

It took 8 years for us to establish a successful government.

I enjoyed and learned from this interesting piece of history, hope you did too.

Now don't keep it to yourself ,share it with a few more of your e mailers.

We rarely get a chance to see another country's editorial about the USA.

Below is an excerpt from a Romanian Newspaper. The article was written by Mr. Cornel Nistorescu and published under the title "C"ntarea Americii, meaning "Ode To America") in the Romanian newspaper, Evenimentulzilei

~An Ode to America~

Why are Americans so united?

They would not resemble one another even if you painted them all one color!

They speak all the languages of the world and form an astonishing mixture of civilizations and religious beliefs.

Still, the American tragedy turned three hundred million people into a hand put on the heart.

Nobody rushed to accuse the White House, the army, or the secret service that they are only a bunch of losers.

Nobody rushed to empty their bank accounts.

Nobody rushed out onto the streets nearby to gape about.

Instead the Americans volunteered to donate blood and to give a helping hand

After the first moments of panic, they raised their flag over the smoking ruins, putting on T-shirts, caps and ties in the colors of the national flag.

They placed flags on buildings and cars as if in every place and on every car a government official or the president was passing.

On every occasion, they started singing:"God Bless America!"

I watched the live broadcast and rerun after rerun for hours listening to the story of the guy who went down one hundred floors with a woman in a wheelchair without knowing who she was, or of the Californian hockey player, who gave his life fighting with the terrorists and prevented the plane from hitting a target that could have killed other hundreds or thousands of people.

How on earth were they able to respond united as one human being?
Imperceptibly, with every word and musical note, the memory of some turned into
a modern myth of tragic heroes.

And with every phone call, millions and millions of dollars were
put into a collection aimed at rewarding not a man or a family,
but a spirit, which no money can buy.

What on earth can unite the Americans in such a way?
Their land? Their history? Their economic Power? Money?
I tried for hours to find an answer, humming songs and murmuring phrases with
the risk of sounding commonplace, I thought things over, I reached but only one
conclusion... Only freedom can work such miracles. - Cornel Nistorescu