

281st ASSAULT HELICOPTER COMPANY

"INTRUDERS"

Company Newsletter No. 2

January 1999

We're Off To A Great Start !

Newsletter Response

I've had a fantastic response to the newsletter. Very gratifying indeed, letters and email from Alaska to Florida. About 15 newsletters were returned but I managed to track down the addresses except for four. One, Al Junko, CO 1966-67, was returned "deceased". I have no details of his passing. We rotor on.

Regarding the newsletter, let me know what you want as to content. One rotor-head suggested bio's to get everyone up to speed on each other? Whatever you want, let me know. I'm going to include on the back of this letter a section I'll call "Note's & Memo's" from letter's, phone call's and e-mail. Tell if you like the idea or not.

Financial Report

Here's the money sitrep to date. I could use an "infusion". Nothing much, just maybe a five buck contribution to cover admin costs until we get things going more formally

Jul 1998	Cash	\$95.00
1 Dec 1998	Stamps	33.25
1 Dec 1998	Typing Paper	6.59
2 Dec 1998	Ink Cartridge	21.50
28 Jan 1999	Balance	<u>\$33.66</u>

Nashville Reunion

OK troops, following is the info for the reunion. If you plan to go, MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATIONS NOW! You can register later for the reunion, but hotel rooms are disappearing rapidly. If anyone needs application forms or more info, let me know, I've got a heap of stuff. I'm pushing the reunion because it's the logical place and time for us set up the association. Besides that, it's a hell of a lot of fun!

16th Annual Reunion

Nashville, TN
July 1-5 1999

Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association
800-505-8472. Fax 916-966-8743
<http://www.vhpa.org/>

Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association
MID-SOUTH CHAPTER
VHPA Reunion '99
5530 Birdcage St., Suite 200
Citrus Heights, CA 95610-7621
<http://www.angelfire.com/tn/msvhpa/>

Note: The only two (out of four) reunion hotels with rooms still available. (bummer!)

Marriott Courtyard (\$89/night), 1901 West End Ave., Nashville, TN 37203 1-800-321-2211
Fax (615) 256-0901 (15 blocks from HQ hotel)

Doubletree Hotel (\$85/night, up to 2 people)
315 4th Ave. No., Nashville, TN 37219
(615) 747-4855 (this number for VHPA Rate) (easy 4-blocks from HQ Hotel)

Closing Thoughts

About the association. Doe's anyone out there have knowledge regarding the setting up of such? I'm ignorant in that area. Know a lot about beer and wine, but private associations? Nada! Input, please. Send me info about any non-pilot folks you know or have contact with. We want our association to be composed of all former 281st personnel.

Concerning Tee shirts and the like. Jack Green needs input. Anyone having crests, logo's, plaque's, caps, shirts, that sort of thing, please get in contact with him. I'd also like to have copies but its more important that Jack receive what ever's available. A final thought on the newsletter. How about we organize it into sections of various subjects and have contributing authors? I plan on this being the last letter with the Roster included. If anyone wants it after this it will be on request. Or should I continue to march?

That's it for this one. I'll try to get another newsletter out before the reunion.

Fred Mentzer
"Wolf Pack 36"
Secretary Pro-Tem

281st Assault Helicopter Company Association (Provisional)
Association Officers (Unelected)

Secretary Pro Tem
 Fred Mentzer

Deputy Secretary
 John (Jack) Green

Newsletter Editor/Publisher
 Fred Mentzer

Historian
 Jerry Montoya

Projects A/C (Caps -Tee Shirts)
 John (Jack) Green

R&R Officer
 Bob Mitchell

Notes & Memo's

December 7, 1998

Email from Ed Duke. Says he's got old 5" floppy with 281st list. Ain't got back with him yet.

December 10, 1998

Talked with John Korsbeck last night. Said that Joe Bilitzke had a extensive 281st database. John was with 281st in 69-70(?) and is old SF man. John will be sending material he's collected over time; names, tel numbers, etc.

December 11, 1998

Received letter from "Frenchy" Boisseau, up in Alaska. He sent photo of Wolf Pack and some old material about the first organizational attempts for association.

December 13, 1998

Email from Jim Baker "Rat Pack 15". Asked me to add Fred Funk to roster.

December 14, 1998

Got call from Ron Davis. Retired W4 (1984), been in Saudi, Turkey. Former SIP. Now into trucking in Florida. Got four letters back. Found address's or had forwarding on envelope and resent them.

December 21, 1998

Email from Bob Williams "Intruder 12", down Rucker way. Wants to contribute to newsletter. Gotta get back with him.

December 22, 1998

Email from Jim Cary. Added him roster.

December 1998

Letter from "Bandit 27", Little Al Capo. Say's the P.T.S.D.'s got'em. Wanted to know about the reunion. Wrote back assuring him that they's plenty of Rock'n'Roll and Country in Nashville.

December 26, 1998

Second mailing returned and no new address to be found on the Internet or VHPA data base:

Murray, Jeffery. R

Parziale, John J

Watson, Steve A

Loyd R Gentry (mystery about this one, guy who responded is a reverend in Kansas City! - said something to the effect: "281st who??").

Mathews, Johnny S

December 26, 1998

Letter to Reverend Loyd R Gentry. Apologies for newsletter, etc.

December 27, 1998

Email from Brent Gourley. Asked me to add Cal McDougal to the roster.

Email from Wendell Allen "Wrenchbender 4" with his correct address.

Dec-Jan

Lots of continuing email from Jack Mayhew, CO 1967-68. Great to hear from him.

Dec-Jan

Lots of email traffic with Bob Mitchell. I volunteered him to be our R&R Officer (Reunion&Run-Amok) for the reunion. Lives not far from there.

January 7, 1999

Heard from Joe Bilitzke (email) "Wolf Pack 34". Say's he's got a database of over 300 names!