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Viet Vet Monsoon Tribune

Volume III, Issue No. 4

VVA Chapter 106

April, 1986

PROGRAMS

Programs or forums have been a joint effort by the members of the Board of Directors to provide information to our membership.

In last month's program, Eleanor Reitz provided extremely pertinent details on POW/MIA issues and documentation. Attendance was good and her presentation well delivered. Thank you Eleanor!

For this month's program Dave Croteau, our Public Relations Chairman, has arranged for Richard D. Hoover, National President of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, to speak to us regarding veteran benefits. Mr. Hoover is actively involved in veteran rights and has given testimony before the joint hearing of the Senate and House Veterans' Affairs Committee in Washington, D.C. **DON'T MISS THIS INFORMATIVE PROGRAM!**

Next month's program will deal with Agent Orange. Read the section on Agent Orange in this issue.

TRIVIAL PURSUIT

Yes, we've got it too. The History Section was well received in the past issue and to inject a little intrigue, the Newsletter Committee is offering a \$25.00 gift certificate donated by Mervyn's for the correct answers to this month's question. See Trivia Page 3 for more details.

PROGRAM INFO

Richard D. Hoover, President of the Paralyzed Veterans of America will be the featured speaker at the VVA 106 General Meeting on April 24, at the D.A.V. Chapter 18. Topics will be Veterans benefits, health care and Gramm-Rudman.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Michael Brasher Dennis Lee Neil Mack Mervyns Department Stores

PRESIDENTS CORNER

by Albie Ginaro

Once again, there are a lot of things happening for Vietnam Veterans, Vietnam-Era Veterans and people in the community. On May 18th, the Chapter is sponsoring a CHILDREN'S VARIETY SHOW at Rincon High School. The Officer's and Directors of V.V.A. Chapter 106 are hopeful that we will see many of you at the show. For further information, you can call any of the Officer's or Directors. Hope to see you there.

On June 13, 1986, the City of Chicago is putting on a parade somewhat similar to the parade last year in New York City. The theme of the parade is "WELCOME HOME - VIETNAM VETERANS": To proudly welcome home Vietnam Veterans, followed by a week-end of activities honoring Vietnam Veterans. For further information, please call me at home and I will be happy to furnish you with more information.

V.V.A. NATIONAL is planning a National Conference to be held in September 1986, the theme of which is "IN SERVICE TO AMERICA", which is our National slogan and part of the logo. There will be various seminars on the different committee's and how to expand them into the various communities where we, as Vietnam and Vietnam-Era Veterans, live. If you have any suggestions or would like to become involved in a "Conference Committee" please contact me and we will work together on the project.

In conjunction with the above mentioned "Conference" in June this year is the V.V.A. SERVICE OFFICER REPRESENTATIVE Training Program. If you are interested in becoming a Service Officer to process disability and other claims, you must apply through the Chapter. The Board of Directors have to review your application, approve it and the Chapter President must make a recommendation after application review. The President is also required to submit a letter to National explaining why the President thinks that the applicant is "qualified" to apply for the Service Program.

At the last Chapter meeting I brought up the fact that I, as an individual am presently doing a feasibility study about the possibility of starting the VIETNAM VETERAN'S RADIO NETWORK. Through contacts that I have at National, as well as in the Network media, I expect to have an opportunity to put together a plan where I can form a Non-Profit radio Network throughout the country, possibly through PBS. Plans are still on the drawing board, and it does take time to make all the necessary contacts, but I am hopeful that I will have something positive to report in next month's "Corner".

As you know, the Constitution has been amended and updated as of our last National Convention held in Detroit last November. There are many changes, that have to be dealt with IMMEDIATELY. I personally, as well as your Chapter President can not emphasize the importance of the interpretation of our Constitution. For that reason, I ask your help. Shortly, we will be forming a Constitution Committee. We will also be re-structuring our Committee's to become ON-LINE with National's. It is a very involved process and I definitely need YOUR help. Please contact me and I will fill you in on the process.

Finally, as you know, the Chapter has been involved in becoming more involved in the community. This kind of an effort is necessary for all to be participants. We need MORE contacts in the community; Doctors, Lawyers, Accountants and in general, Professional People who want to be involved in our Chapter. For this, we need your participation.

Across the Fence

During recent committee and general meetings the topic of outreach and incarcerated vets arose. A committee is in the process of reinstating contact with local incarcerated vets, namely at the Wilmot Correctional Facility. Though it is unlikely clearance will be received by the time of this printing, we hope to meet and report by the next newsletter.

The following is a letter received by the Chapter from Philip Fierson, Street Contact Designate, Santa Rita Chapter of Incarcerated Vets.

For quite some time the Tucson Chapter of VVA has been the unofficial sponsor of the Santa Rita chapter of incarcerated veterans. As we have one of the largest memberships of any veterans organizations in the State of Arizona, I would not like to see our chapter fall by the roadside, so-to-speak. Thus, the reason for this letter and the many phonecalls I have made recently.

Putting it simply, we need your help, and we need it very soon as there are a great many problems that an incarcerated veterans group can't do for itself even if it has funds.

Please make it a point to get in touch with Bill Pritzen, who was our contact with your group and establish from him the method to enter this facility to meet with us and reestablish the working relationship we previously had with 106.

Let me establish that Bill was a "BIG" help to us as I know your new designate will be.

Looking forward to hearing from you all...

Trivial Pursuit

At the last Newsletter meeting, the committee voted to try our own version of Trivial Pursuit in conjunction with the History Section. To get the project off an rolling, we're offering a PRIZE!. The prize for the correct answers is a \$25.00 gift certificate donated by Mervyn's Department Stores. In order to qualify, you must:

1. Answer all 5 questions correctly.
2. Be receiving the Monsoon Tribune via the U.S. Postal Service (be on our mailing list) or be a bonified member of the Chapter (in the event you did not receive the newsletter because of error or mishandling).

Members of the Board of Directors, Newsletter Committee and immediate relation are not eligible to win.

All entries must be postmarked on or before May 15th, 1986. In the event of a tie, the earliest postmark will determine the winner. In event of further tie, a random selection will be made by the Newsletter Committee under supervision of the Board of Directors.

Send all entries to: VVA Chapter 106
Trivial Pursuit Questions
P.O. Box 40903
Tucson, Arizona 85717

Answers and winner will be announced in next month's Monsoon Tribune.

.....
All of the Air Force Vietnam aces (five or more kills) were stationed at the same base when they became aces. Can you answer the following questions?

1. Name of the base?
 2. Names of the aces in the order they achieved their ace?
 3. What type of aircraft did they fly?
 4. How many were pilots?
 5. Which one had the most kills?
-

HISTORY

3 April 1964 Former VP Nixon visits Vietnam and issues a series of statements sharply criticizing US policies for "compromises and im-provisations" calling for continues aid, an issue in the forth coming election.

25 April 1964 Pres. Johnson announces that Gen. William Westmoreland will will replace Gen. Paul Harkins as head of the US MACV.

24 April 1965 Pres. Johnson issues an executive order designating Vietnam a "combat area" for income-tax purposes.

2 April 1969 US combat deaths for the week of 23-29 March raised the toll to 33,641 Americans killed in eight years of US involvement in Vietnam, or 12 more than fell during the Korean War.

28 April 1970 Pres. Nixon gives his formal authorization to commit US combat troops against Communist troops sanctuaries in Cambodia. Three National Security Council Staff members and key aides resign in protest over the planned invasion of Cambodia.

16 April 1972 In the first use of B-52's against both Hanoi and Haiphong and the first attacks against both cities since 1968, US Navy and USAF fighters hit supply dumps and petroleum storage facilities. Washington makes it clear that the US will bomb military targets anywhere in Vietman.

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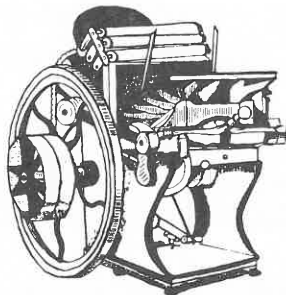
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From July 21st 1965 to April 3, 1970, 425,037 gallons of agent Orange, 8,950 gallons of Blue and 386,965 gallons of White were used in Province of Bien Hoa, III Corp Military Region. Were you there?

Does it worry you as a Vietnam Veteran that you may have been exposed to the deadly chemical Dioxin contained in defoliant Agent Orange used in Vietnam? Does it worry you as a Vietnam Veteran that more and more Vietnam Veterans around the country are showing symptoms of Dioxin poisoning in the deterioration of their health or worse yet, in birth defects and severe health problems for their children?

Above is just a small example of known areas of herbicide missions in the Republic of South Vietnam.

If you wish to know whether you were in an area during or after spraying missions, write to:

Richard S. Christian
U.S. Army
Joint Services Environmental Support Group
Room 210
1730 K. Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

You must request extracts of Operational Reports Lessons Learned (ORLLS) for the service activity you were involved in which may have been in or near sprayed areas. You must supply Mr. Christian with the following information:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| -Name | -Battalion |
| -Service Number | -Division |
| -Social Security Number | -Any other higher headquarters you assigned to. |
| -Company | -Location and anytime factors that you recollect. |

SYMPTOMS AND EFFECTS OF DIOXIN

1. Chloracne, skin eruptions on face, neck and back. Loss of sensations in the extremities, nerve damage.
2. Headaches, vertigo, fatigue.
3. Upper respiratory distress, shortness of breath.
4. Stomach and kidney pain, gastric hyperplasia and ulceration, hemorrhages of gastrointestinal tract and other organs, palpable and tender liver, gastric ulcers.
5. Edema.
6. Decreased immuno-responses.
7. Vascular lesions.
8. Acute psychosis (reported suicides), severe depression, memory and concentration disturbances, nervousness, irritability, insomnia, loss of libido.
9. Intolerance to cold

BIRTH DEFORMITIES

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Cleft palates | 5. Enlarged heart |
| 2. Open eye | 6. Club foot |
| 3. Kidney abnormalities | 7. Intestinal hemorrhage |
| 4. Enlarged liver | |

CANCER CAUSING AND TUMOR CAUSING EFFECTS OF DIOXIN

1. Liver cell cancer
2. Kidney cancer
3. Cell carcinoma of the ear duct

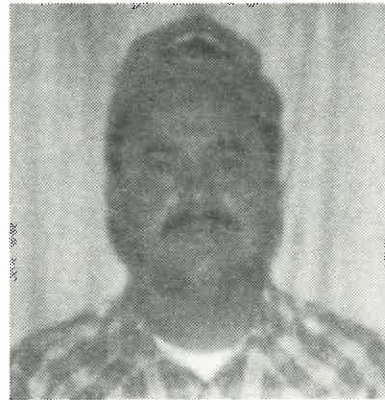
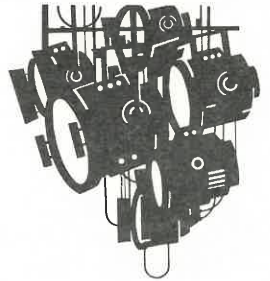
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If you wish more information on Agent Orange or are having problems related to Agent Orange, please call or attend meetings of Vietnam Veteran of America Chapter 106, Tucson, Arizona, 602-790-7620 or call Louie Leos, Committee on Agent Orange. Home phone 602-889-6096.

We might not have all the answers, but you can make damn sure we'll try to point you in the right direction.

Thank you
Louie Leos
Committee on Agent Orange



LOUIE LEOS

Louie Leos
M.O.S. 64B20
M35A2-2½ Ton Truck
M54A2-5 Ton Truck Semis
Active Service U.S. Army
December 13, 1966 thru December 7, 1968
Duty Stations: - Fort Bliss, Texas
Fort Huachuca, Arizona
Fort Lewis, Washington
III Corps Vietnam

Term in Vietnam - 9 months 12 days (Too damn long)
Foreign assignment H.H.C. USA Support Command, USARPAC, 90th replacement Co., Area: Bien Hoa, Cuchi, Saigon, Support Group for 25th infantry division.

Assignments, Duties: Supplying personnel and equipment to above named division.

Discharge-Honorable
-Rank E-5

Decorational medals, badges, commendations and campaign ribbons awards
1. National Defense Service Medal
2. Vietnam Service Medal
3. Vietnam Campaign Medal

Currently: Journeyman meatcutter for Luck Food Centers in Tucson, Arizona.
President of the Hispanic Adoption Support Group and Committee
Chairman on Agent Orange, Chapter 106.

Married-yes, wife-Mary Elsa Leos
Children-yes! Rachel-15 years
Mercy-14 years
Marcella-14 years]-twins
Jose-4 years - Adopted

Goals: To provide information, helpful for fellow vets, concerning problems related to Vietnam or Vietnam era veterans. To build Chapter 106 of Vietnam Veterans of America for future needs.

MEETING DATES

GENERAL MEETING - April 24th at D.A.V. Chapter 18, Time: 8:00 Sharp
BOARD MEETING - May 15th at D.A.V. Chapter 18, Time: 8:00 Sharp
GENERAL MEETING - May 29th at D.A.V. Chapter 18, Time: 8:00 Sharp
BOARD MEETING - June 12th at D.A.V. Chapter 18, Time: 8:00 Sharp
GENERAL MEETING - June 26th at D.A.V. Chapter 18, Time: 8:00 Sharp

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The Viet Vet Monsoon Tribune is published monthly by Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 106, P.O. Box 40903, Tucson, Arizona 85717, a non-profit organization incorporated in the State of Arizona. Deadline for copy is Two (2) weeks prior to the last Thursday in the month. Copy may be reprinted in part or whole, recognition is requested. Correspondence and comments are welcome. Annual subscription price is \$10.00.

Quick Reference

VVA (602) 790-7602 Chapter 106
(202) 332-2700 National
(202) 332-3305 Officers
1-800-424-7275 HOTLINE

VARO 622-6424 Tucson
263-5411 Phoenix
1-800-352-0451 Elsewhere

VA POW Hotline 1-800-821-8139
VA IG Hotline 1-800-368-5899
GAO Fraud Hotline 1-800-424-5454
Vets Outreach Center 323-3271

Federal Information Center
522 N. Central Ave., Rm. 120
Phoenix, AZ 85004
261-4736 Jobs Tape

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4525 E. Broadway 628-5722
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195 W. Irvington 628-5749

AZ State Legislature
1-800-352-8404

AZ Vets Svc Commission 628-5388
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1-800-645-1355

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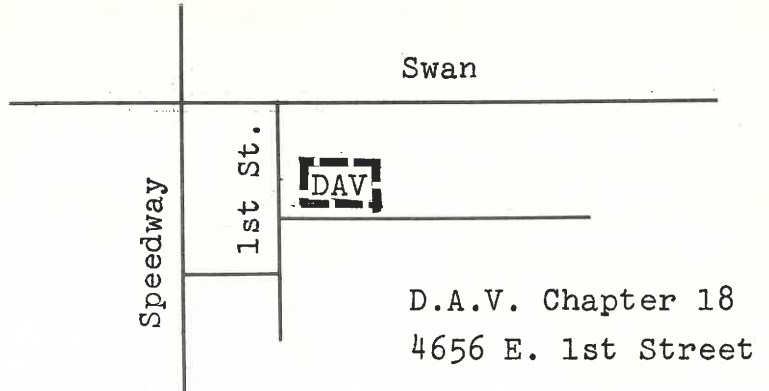
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• VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA •
P. O. Box 40903, Tucson, AZ 85717

- I am a Vietnam era veteran and would like to be a Member.
- I am not a Vietnam era veteran, but would like to be an Associate Member.

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