



2nd Missile Battalion, 71st Artillery (Taiwan) Association



Volume 3

Newsletter 1

March 1999

From the Editor

This is the first newsletter of 1999 and the first since the Reunion Newsletter of December 1998. There is a lot of news here and several places where we ask for information. Please respond to those requests for information.

Also included in this newsletter are information about a Nike-Hercules Red Canyon Range Camp Reunion, and information from Lloyd Evans, Chairman, for 99/00, of a sister organization formed this year to represent all men eligible for the 823 Campaign Badge of Honor.

2nd Missile Bn, 71st Artillery (Taiwan) Assn.

We are almost finished with the paperwork to set up our "non-profit" association. Charlie Trost, Dave O'Connell, and Bob Mackintosh have been working on the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws. We expect to get them off by the end of March. You might ask why we need to Incorporate. We are doing this primarily to protect the officers of the association when they have to sign contracts for our reunions. Reunion hotels have stiff penalties for canceling a reunion. This should not happen, but if it does, the cost should not be on the shoulders of the person who signed the contract.

Once the Executive Committee incorporates the Association, they will expand the Board of Directors to seven members who will elect the first officers of the Association. Thereafter, the officers will be elected annually by the general membership.

Membership

Membership is open to all men who served with 2/71 in Taiwan and our support units. Family members, and others with close relationship to a deceased member, may also may join. To date, we have **90 members**. We encourage all of you to join, as the annual \$15 membership fee pays for newsletters, costs associated with searching for more of our

troops, and pre-reunion commitments and down payments.

New Members

Since the last newsletter, the following have joined the Association:

G. Thomas Ambler, Gardenville, PA
John E. Astin, Pompano Beach, FL
David J. Diedrich, Athern, WI
David Henryhand, Philadelphia, PA
Donald G. Jackson, El Paso, TX
Fidel C. Olivares, Jr., Arlington, TX
Carl L. Papparazo, Garden Grove, CA
Lloyd A. Saylor, El Paso, TX
Lawrence A. Williams, Mesa, AZ



Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, 71st Artillery Regiment Insignia, and the 823 Campaign Badge of Honor.

Courtesy of Dave O'Connell

Deceased Members

Raymond H. Parker, Lt, B & Hq Batteries, 2/71, died 3/26/66



Need E-mail Addresses

Many of you have added e-mail to your household. We try to keep the e-mail addressees up to speed on what is going on, and we will probably select additional Association directors from those who have e-mail. This will permit us to conduct business, such as board of directors meetings, in near real time. It would be very difficult if we had to rely on the US mail to conduct Board meetings and other business.

So send us your e-mail address and then let us know when you change that address. Send e-mail message to <bmack@hiwaay.net>.



Returned Photos and Memorabilia

In January, we returned photos and memorabilia that you sent if for display at the reunion. If you sent in something and did not get it back, please contact Bob Mackintosh. If you sent in copies, we kept those, but tried to return the originals.



Recent Letters

The following notes were received by Bob Mackintosh. They show the heart-felt appreciation of the reunion attendees, and are included to encourage more of you to attend the next reunion.

Letter from **John H. Mayer**, Osage, Iowa, 12/10/98

“Thank-you, thank-you, thank-you Bob, Dave, spouses, and all who had input for the reunion. No I did not attend the 2/71 Reunion, but I’ve followed it closely and have waited anxiously for the follow-up letter, which I just received and read cover to cover.

I felt a need to respond to several issues beside the thank-you. Yes, Jimmie Rogers, I too recall that ‘D’ Battery was the first operational battery. We even had it painted on

the sign at our camp entrance.

Then too, in response to John Spegele’s note in the letter about Father Dahlheimer, the only priest to visit our hill, and that was quite regular. Father Dahlheimer was also very familiar with Quemoy and Matsu, having flown there quite often in his missionary work. When word about a reunion started, I thought about Father John, and decided to try to locate him. When I finally did I learned he had passed on his great reward the day before Christmas in 1997.

Once again, thanks.

Sincerely,

John H. Mayer”

Letter from **G. Tom Ambler**, Gardenville, PA. 12/17/98:

“Enclosed is a check for my Membership to our “Association” – It’s a great honor to be part of a special group of loyal Americans.

Because of the events that we accomplished & our recognition – and because we spent a year in imminent danger of attack from Communist China – I think that with the help of our Association lawyer we should start the procedure for getting a year’s worth of Back Combat Pay!! What do you think?

The reunion was out of this world.

Happy Holidays to you and your lovely wife. Have a fine “99”.

With a great deal of respect.

Tom Ambler”

(Tom also sent a check written on the Union Thank and Trust Company for 1,000,000 thanks.)

Note from **Howard Brelje**, 12/21/98:

“Thank you, thank you, thank you for arranging our reunion. It was one of my life’s Biggest events. Seeing everyone and sharing the past and present fulfilled my life forever.

Thank you again

Howard and Shirley Brelje”

Note from **Jimmie Rogers**, 12/17/98:

“Received the newsletter and we really enjoyed all the information and input. I think everyone really had a great time. I know we sure did. It was kinda overwhelming. Looking forward to the next one. Maybe we can double our numbers. Thanks again for your hard work on the 1st one.

.....

Jimmie, D Battery IFC.”

Note from **Fred Churchill**, 12/19/98:

“Thank you for all the time that you have spent on the 2/71 project.”

Christmas note from **Henry Privott**, 12/21/98:

“Sorry I’ve taken so long to write you. Mere words will never say what I feel for all of your hard work, follow up and long hours you did to make our reunion one that was

overwhelming.

Thank you again.
Merry Christmas to one and all in your family.
Henry, Peggy & Meredith”

Christmas e-mail from **Joe Hungate**, 12/21/98:

“I wish all a very merry Christmas and happy New Year.
I regret not making the reunion and seeing all my old
friends.
Joe and Myrna Hungate”

Christmas note from **Don Jackson**, 12/15/98:

“Been meaning to write and let you know how much I
enjoyed the reunion. The logistics of putting it together must
have been as difficult as it was for the Army to get us over to
Taiwan, Great job!
Thanks again for all the effort you and Dave made
making the reunion a success.
Stay well,
Don Jackson”

Christmas note from **John Astin**, 12/15/98:

“Enjoyed the newsletter #4 Dec. 98 of reunion.
Am looking forward to any other news or updates.
Happy Holidays, thanks,
John Astin
P.S. Any contact from the Signal Support Group, C Battery?”

Christmas note from **Merle Weller**, 12/19/98:

“Thanks for the wonderful reunion. We are looking
forward to the next one.
Merle Weller & Darlene O’Shields”

Christmas note from **Norris Hodge**, 12/19/98:

“Through your efforts and hard work, El Paso was
something special. Thanks. Looking forward to 2001.
When the word gets out about how successful El Paso was,
will have a larger attendance next time.
God Bless you, and Ding How.
Norris & Beth Hodge”

Christmas note from **Ron LaRoche**, 12/18/98:

“Ron, Ronnie and I had a great time at the reunion, we
are already looking forward to the next one.
Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday Season!
Doreen & Ron LaRoche”

Christmas note from **Jim Pannell**, 12/15/98:

“1998 What a year! What a reunion!
I would like to say thank you all again for all the hard
work you did to make the reunion such a great success. I
would not have missed it for anything. We are looking
forward to the next one. It was a great blessing seeing
everyone again.
Sure hope you all have a wonderful Christmas.
God Bless you,
James & Doris Pannell

Christmas note from **Ray Corbin**, 12/4/98:

“We enjoyed ourselves at the reunion and look forward
to future events. Thanks for the medal/
Hoping that your future planning goes easier than the
first and with equally great results.
Mimi & Ray Corbin”

Christmas e-mail from **Frank Rivers**, 12/21/98:

We sure enjoyed the reunion and am looking forward to
the next one. Hope it is sooner than 3 years.
Frank and Elaine Rivers

Christmas e-mail from **Joe Hungate**, 12/21/98

I regret not making the reunion and seeing all my old
friends.
Joe and Myrna Hungate

Christmas e-mail from **Ray Boner**, 12/21/98:

We’re still disappointed that we couldn’t attend the
reunion, but we’re looking forward to the next one!
Ray (Kermit) & Karen Boner

New Year’s message from **Irving Brooks**, 1/2/98:

My spice Emily has declared that we are going to the
next reunion so if I am still in
the land of the living we will attend. Let us hope!! My 79
years are getting a little heavy.

Christmas note from **Dwight Rose**, 12/20/98:

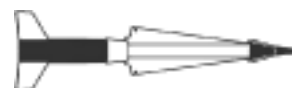
“We enjoyed the Reunion in El Paso and appreciate all
the hard work both of you put into making it a great success.
It was good to see everyone and to renew friendships after 40
years. We look forward to the next reunion wherever it
might be.
Hats off to you for the fine job you did to coordinate
such a mammoth task.
Happy Holidays,
Pat and Dwight Rose”

Christmas note from **Ron O’Neill**, 12/27/98:

“We had a wonderful time at the reunion. Your commit-
tee did a wonderful job! We are looking forward to the next
one.....
Nancy & Ron O’Neill”

Christmas Note from **Ken Johnson**, 12/29/98:

“Just a note to say that Helen and I really enjoyed the
reunion.
We are looking forward to the next one. All of you had a
big job putting it all together and we appreciate it. A job
well done. It was nice to see old friends.
Thanks again,
Ken”



News Releases

Several of you have asked about a news release that you could use to send to your local newspaper. Dave O'Connell has drafted two versions of a news release depending on your situation. One version is for those who received the AFEM at Ft. Bliss, TX, and the other is for those who received the AFEM by mail. If you would like this to go to your local newspaper, then fill in your name and address, and send the appropriate version to your newspaper. You may also wish to put the Association letterhead on your letter to the newspaper. If so, the letterhead is shown below.

News Release: For men who received their AFEM and Taiwan medal at Ft. Bliss, TX last September

IMPORTANT: Insert your name and address before submitting to your local newspaper.

News Release: 2nd Msl. Bn. 71st Artillery (Taiwan) Assn.
271 Shady Oak Drive
New Market, AL 35761

At a recent ceremony at Ft. Bliss, Texas, < your name > of < your address > was honored by the U.S. Army for his participation in a little known victorious action in the Taiwan Straits in 1958. After forty years, < your name > and the men of the 2nd Missile Battalion, 71st Artillery Regiment received the coveted Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal as their once classified mission slowly unveils. < Your name > was also recognized and honored by his Chinese comrades. The Republic of China on Taiwan Defense Ministry recently struck a medal celebrating the fortieth anniversary of this victory known to the Chinese as the 823 Bombardment and to the Americans as the 1958 Quemoy/Matsu Crisis. The medal, identified as the 823 Campaign Badge of Honor, honors both the Chinese and American forces who stood shoulder to shoulder in the gap preventing a communist takeover of Taiwan in the Fall of 1958."

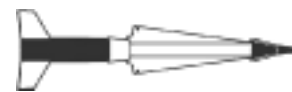
News Release: For men who received their AFEM through the mail.

Fill in your name and address before submitting to your local newspaper.

"News Release: 2nd Msl. Bn. 71st Artillery (Taiwan) Assn.
271 Shady Oak Drive
New Market, AL 35761

At a recent ceremony at Ft. Bliss, Texas, < your name > of < address > was honored by the U.S. Army for participation in a little known victorious action in the Taiwan Straits

in 1958. After forty years, < your name > and the men of the 2nd Missile Battalion, 71st Artillery Regiment received the coveted Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal as their once classified mission slowly unveils. Unable to attend the ceremony, < your name > received his AFEM by mail through the 2nd Missile Battalion, 71st Artillery (Taiwan) Association. < your name > was also recognized and honored by his Chinese comrades. The Republic of China on Taiwan Defense Ministry recently struck a medal celebrating the fortieth anniversary of this victory known to the Chinese as the 823 Bombardment and to the Americans as the 1958 Quemoy/Matsu Crisis. The medal, identified as the 823 Campaign Badge of Honor, honors both the Chinese and American forces who stood shoulder to shoulder in the gap preventing a communist takeover of Taiwan in the Fall of 1958."



Next Reunion and Taiwan trip

Our new Association Bylaws require that we have an annual membership meeting. We are not quite sure how we will do this, but we will tentatively schedule our next reunion in October 2000. We may have to have a smaller general membership meeting before then, but this will be worked out by the new Board of Directors .

For planning purposes, we will start working on an April 2001 trip to Taiwan. This will give us plenty of time to contact the ROC Defense Ministry. Hopefully, they would sponsor some sort of function for us in Taipei, where we could meet liaison officers and NCOs who worked with us, and members of the ROC 1st Missile Bn (Nike-Hercules) whom we trained. The trip would be 4 to 5 days in Taiwan, with options to go on to Hong Kong, Bangkok, or Singapore. The Taiwan portion could include tours of Taipei, bus excursions to our former missile battery sites (or general vicinity, since the sites are not being used as missile sites), and a trip down island, or to Sun Moon Lake. These are just ideas that could use your input. Details will be worked out by our Board of Directors, with input from those who think they might participate, and the tour agency, or air line, that we work with. We should be able to pull this off if we have positive responses from 8-10 of our membership. Be sure to indicate your interest on the last page and send it in. Also, let us know the names of any of the ROC military who worked with our unit.



Letter to Walter (Chuck) Lapsley

This may be of interest to some of our troops.

“ Hi Walter,

Sorry to bother you but I need some help. We are having a reunion for all who were at Red Canyon Range Camp (Nike Ajax 53-59) and Oscura Range Camp (RCAT Btry). I have talked with 1st Sgt Johnnie Nale who told me several of the 2/71 men at Taiwan were at RCRC. Probably from my old outfit, Btry D, 495th AAA Msl Bn.

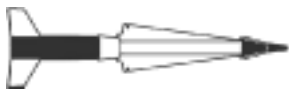
I have pasted a copy of the announcement below in hopes you will be kind enough to e-mail it to anyone you know who was at RCRC, either PCS or TDY. If the 2/71 has a newsletter, maybe it could be put in it? We would love to see a huge turnout for this event. I hope you can help me. And yes, Sgt Nale will be there. :-) He was 1st Sgt at RCRC 54-58.

I was there 54-57 and really don't know how he survived us kids. My wife and I are going to visit him in McAlester tomorrow, looking forward to it.

Thanks for anything you can do to help the RCRC Alumni get the word.

Best Wishes,

JP Moore
Shreveport, LA.”



The First Red Canyon/Oscura Range Camp Reunion.

If you were stationed at or TDY to RCRC/ORC, this is what you have been waiting 40 years to see!

When: May 2, 3, 4, 1999.

Where: Las Cruces, NM

Day 1, Sunday, May 2nd: Registration at motel in Las Cruces.

Day 2, Monday, May 3rd: Tour Oscura Range Camp, Red Canyon Range Camp and Trinity Site. Sack lunch.

Day 3, Tuesday, May 4th: Depending on WSMR range missions: a range briefing, tour range control building, launch complex 33, the navy launch area and the WSMR and missile park. Lunch on the base.

Tuesday night, May 4th: a banquet at the motel will

officially close the reunion.

You are responsible for your room and board. Nothing is free except the tours and the beautiful blue New Mexico sky. You must have proof of ownership and insurance for all vehicles entering WSMR.

Casual dress is a must, and it is often still cool in early may. On the other hand, there is a possibility of temps in the 90s. Watch the national weather forecasts a few days before packing. Then pack everything you have, just to be safe.

Additional sights of interest in the “local” area: the National Atomic Museum, Albuquerque; The National Space Museum, Alamogordo; The ADA Museum, Fort Bliss; White Sands National Monument, near Alamogordo.

You must pre-register before 15 February 1999.

Contacts:

DonBogges: dbogg@msn.com, or dbog@chevron.com

JP Moore: MalpaisMsl@aol.com



The 823 Badge of Honor (USA) Association

The following e-mail was received from Lloyd Evans, Chairman, 99/00, of the Badge of Honor Assn., 18 Feb 99:

“Just a quick note to let you know that my luncheon, yesterday afternoon, with Ambassador Teng, and his associates, in NYC, went extremely well. He is supportive of the Association's (8-23 Badge of Honor USA) being represented at upcoming National Day (October 10) anniversary celebrations, and to the awarding of the 8-23 Badge of Honor to those eligible medallists located subsequent to 10/10/1998. As you recall, the 1998 ceremonies were to be a one-time event. I explained that only (Approx.) 800 men out of the 9,000 US participants (8/10ths. of 1%) were located rather hurriedly and “latecomers” are only now “hearing” of the honorarium. The luncheon went on for over three hours and needless to say much was discussed - all good and supporting of our USA/ROC mutual goals: To get the honorarium for our men and contribute publicity, which helps, the USA/ROC relationship. On your behalf, my wife and I will be attending TECO social events in the coming months (at the invitation of the Ambassador) and I will be working closely with TECO NYC for the 1999 ceremony - it may be held in D.C. or NYC. No decision as yet and of course the Ambassador is presenting our idea, with his approval, to Taipei - the Ministry of National Defense. Wish me well on vacation, I look forward to hearing from you. Cordially, LLOYD (Evans), Chmn.99/”



September 8, 1998

2d Missile Battalion
71st Artillery

The Nike Hercules systems that soldiers of the 2d Missile Battalion, 71st Artillery crewed are museum artifacts, but the Battalion's legacy endures. Your Battalion's 1958 headline-making deployment to Taiwan at the height of the Cold War served as the prototype for the crisis deployments of Patriot air and missile defense systems that make headlines today. Soldiers of the 2d Missile Battalion, individually and collectively, proved air defense missile units can quickly deploy and rapidly become operational in crisis situations.

We will continue to field increasingly sophisticated air and missile defense systems as we move forward into the 21st Century, but we will not recast the mold that produced the soldiers of the 2d Missile Battalion.

Rather, we will strive to produce soldiers whose expertise, competence and selfless devotion to duty merit comparison to the high standards you set four decades ago at a moment of crisis.

A handwritten note in cursive script on a light background. The text reads: "We are all very proud of your contributions to our branch, our Army and the nation. HOOAH!!"

We are all very
proud of your
contributions to our
branch, our Army and
the nation.
HOOAH!!

First to Fire

A handwritten signature in cursive script on a light background. The signature reads: "Dennis D. Cavin"

Dennis D. Cavin

Dennis D. Cavin
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding General
Defense Artillery Center
and Fort Bliss

“I have ordered a quantity of the smaller GOLDTONE badges, about the size of a dime, which can be placed into a jacket lapel button hole (it has one devise for securing). It’s quite nice, with the high points in a bright gold luster and the lower portion anodized. Cost is \$10, all inclusive. Some of you have asked me for a pin that can be worn as you deal with the Chinese community and wish to impact your service - I tell you this, as I have asked Ambassador Teng, it matters not that the viewer be ROC or PRC (ChiCom), all respect those who enlisted in the fight for a free Chinese people.

The cost for the exact replica of the badge - that’s EXACT, same size, same metal, same two devises for securing, is \$20. However, I cannot place the order for these until I have at least 50 men that want them - the die costs are prohibitive. So it’s up to you, \$10 for the small goldtone job that fits into the buttonhole of a sports coat of suit jacket or \$20 for the full size exact replica. Please order them now - I will not deposit any check for the full size replica until I have an order for at least 50 pieces.

Let me also tell you that if the ROC does not support the renewal of the ceremonies — and puts aside Amb. Teng’s support of our plan — it is my intention to produce the Badge, as well as it’s small red velvet case with the Chinese characters on it, and we will make these available to future medallists as well as to the next of kin of those deceased and eligible medallists.

(I don’t know about you, but while I may have another 40 years, others do not! And if the October 1998, 40th. Anniversary was “rushed,” I’m not willing to have “late-comers” be denied their due - that’s what this Association is all about, timeliness and full disclosure - this USMC Corporal has had enough of this secret crap! Wait ‘til you read NL#6 - scheduled to go 3/15)”

You may contact Lloyd as follows: Lloyd V. Evans, II, Chairman, 823 Badge of Honor Assoc. USA, 639 Page Avenue, Lyndhurst NJ 07071-2514 E-mail: CDQsm@worldnet.att.net or Toll Free Fax: 888-511-7109 The Association requires evidence of your service, your DD214.

You may also request the Taiwan medals through our 2nd Missile Bn, 71st Artillery (Taiwan) Assn. We are supporting Lloyd’s group by purchasing a few of the 823 Campaign Badges of Honor for our members. See the back page for the order form.

Name: _____

E-mail address : _____

Telephone Number: _____

I would like to join the 2nd Missile Bn, 71st Artillery (Taiwan)
Association

Enclosed is \$15 for annual dues. _____

I would like to order:

Taiwan Medal (823 Campaign Badge of Honor)

exact replica* \$20 ea. _____

Taiwan Medal Lapel Pin* \$10 ea. _____

* *We will order these for you*

Memory Book \$7 ea. _____

Reunion Baseball Cap \$7 ea. _____

ADA Magazine w/2/71 article \$1 ea. _____

VFW Mag. w/Cold War article \$1 ea. _____

Total enclosed (Dues and stuff above): _____

Are you interested in a trip to Taiwan in 2001?

Yes ___ No ___

If yes, how many would participate. _____

Names of ROC military you would like to see in Taipei and
the battery to which they were assigned:

2nd Missile Bn, 71st Artillery (Taiwan) Assn.
271 Shady Oak Drive
New Market, AL 35761

TO: