



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

271 Shady Oak Drive
New Market, AL 35761
<<http://www.2-71adataiwan.com>>



Volume 6

Newsletter 4

December 2002

From the Editor

This edition of the newsletter includes photos of the very successful reunion in Nashville this past October 2002, and our change of plans for the 2004 reunion. Minutes of the General Membership Meeting and reflections on the Nashville reunion will be in a newsletter next year. We remind you that this is the time for 2003 membership renewal. The Christmas season is always a good time for members of 2/71 to reflect on that special treat which Father John Dahlheimer left us in his Christmas message of 1959.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Bob and Lois Mackintosh wish to extend their best wishes to all of you for this holiday season. Their wish is that all of you remain in good health until we meet again at the next reunion.

Christmas 1959 Letter from Father John J. Dahlheimer, S.J.

Father Dahlheimer was the Chaplain of Matsu Complex, ROC in 1958. He also served as the Catholic Chaplain for D Battery, and later, all of the 2nd Missile Battalion.

The following portions of Father Dahlheimer's Christmas letter refer to the 2nd Missile Battalion. (If you did not see his entire newsletter in one of our 1999 newsletters, let **Bob Mackintosh** know, and we will send you a copy.)

"...the 2nd Missile Battalion (Nike-Hercules) of the 71st Artillery – God Bless 'em! During their tour of duty here, I was privileged to be the chaplain first of Delta Battery, which was closest to Hsinchu, and eventually to all of the batteries.

"...but I have a very delicious feeling that thanks to all this extremely impressive hardware off-loaded so swiftly and with little attempt at secrecy here in Taiwan when it was most needed, i.e. the Nike missiles, the F10



Toasts to the Regiment and to the Departed Members of 2/71 and Support Units

Starfighters, and the Marines,

“Not a missile had to be fired and none of the U.S. aircraft deployed had to tangle seriously with any unfriendly; not a single American life was lost in action against the enemy. It is clear now if it wasn’t before: if we are willing to put up, the Communist can do nothing but shut up. Thanks to the men who lived here from September-October to August in the mud, and the cold, and the dust, the free world has one of the most important – and least expensive – victories since the heartbreak of Korea. Taiwan, 1958-1959, was a real victory, for a very real and a very deadly battle was fought.....”

“This Christmas, God so willing, if there is some sort of peace on earth even though all men are not of good will, give a little thought and prayer of thanks to the men who spent last Christmas here in Taiwan making this year’s Christmas possible. With the turnover of the missiles to the First Missile Battalion of the Chinese Army, the 2nd Missile Battalion of the 71st Artillery, USA fades into history. It was created precisely for the situation in Taiwan and today no longer exists. It did its work well, just how well, only history will prove. I was proud and privileged to be of some little service to the men who were protecting the two countries I love, the United States and China. And just as I began this little story of missile men (the Twentieth Century’s equivalent of the Minute Men), so let me conclude it: God bless ‘em and thank God they came when we needed them! We in Taiwan are grateful.”

Father Dahlheimer died a few years ago, but I think he was the only man who had put into words, based upon his first-hand observations, the significance of the accomplishments of the men of the 2nd Missile Battalion, and the true respect and admiration that the people of Taiwan had for the job that they did there. (Chuck Lapsley has done the best job since then of summarizing the significance of our mission. See his e-mail later in this newsletter.)



Membership Renewals (Since last newsletter)

Buchanan, Bob, Clyde, NC (C Btry)
Churchill, Fred, Janesville, WI (178 Ord)
Conniff, Mike, Eden Prairie, MN (D Btry)
Corbin, Ray, Littleton, CO (B & D Btry)
Croft, Rich, South Lake Tahoe, CA (A Btry)
Davis, S.B., Talihina, OK (D Btry)
Funamura, Dan, Koloa, HI (A & C Btry)
Gamble, Richard, Lafayette, CO (A Btry)

Grant, Sam, Darlington, SC (Hq Btry)
Haase, Jerry, Chicago, IL (D Btry)
Habenicht, Harry, Kentland, IN (C & Hq Btry)
Heilman, Robert, Janesville, WI (B Btry)
Henryhand, David, Philadelphia, PA (C Btry)
Jarrell, Bob, El Paso, TX (D Btry)
Johnson, Mrs. Robert (Hq Btry)
Kahler, Harry, Kirkland, WA (D Btry)
Kjersgaard, Jim, Perth Amboy, NJ (D Btry)
Kukowski, Dan, Glendive, MT (Hq Btry)
Lefrancois, Leo, Plainfield, CT (Hq Btry)
Lienhardt, Telford, Weidman, MI (B Btry)
Melvin, Don, Superior, CO (Hq Btry)
Nezelek, Francis, Endicott, NY (A Btry)
Olivares, Fidel, Arlington, TX (Hq Btry)
Paparazo, Carl, Garden Grove, CA (C Btry)
Price, Dock” Sunny”, Madison, TN (C Btry)
Privott, Henry, Virginia Beach, VA (D Btry)
Rivers, Frank, Sunset, SC (A & C Btry)
Rose, Dwight, Mt. Olive, NC (B Btry)
Salzman, Jim, San Francisco, CA (D Btry)
Schuchardt, Leroy, Waterloo, IL (B Btry)
Shank, Leon, New Wilmington, PA (178 Ord)
Spegele, John, Roanoke, VA (D Btry)
Stacks, George, Sun City, CA (Hq Btry)
Sterk, Wayne, Clinton, IL (B Btry)
Trost, Charlie, Nashville, TN (Hq Btry)
Trupp, Vern, Parma, ID (D Btry)
Videbeck, Bill, Brooklyn, NY (Hq Btry)
Whitson, Earl, Pampa, TX (D Btry)
Wrench, Jim, Ft. Walton Beach, FL (A Btry)

New Members

Weber, Hank, Santa Teresa, NM (B Btry)
Anderson, Tom, Clarksville, TN (Hq Btry)

Found Troops

Love, Thomas, St. Petersburg, FL (D Btry)

Membership Renewal Due

Our 2002 membership year ended on 31 October 2002. Membership dues for 2003 are due now. Please check the membership expiration date on the mailing envelope to see if you are a paid up member. If you are not a paid up member, we could use your dues to cover the cost of printing and



Hqs Battery Troops

Front Row L to R:
 Mike Conniff, Don Melvin,
 Earnest Meadows, Ben Seeley,
 Larry Trieglaff,

Back Row L to R:
 Don Woodin, Doc McGranahan,
 Charlie Trost, John Provost,
 Stu Moody, Willard Ottman,
 Dan Kukowski

Missing: Tom Anderson

A Battery Troops

Front Row L to R:
 Morwood Rude,
 Richard Glandorf, Rich Croft,
 Dan Funamura,
 Karl Kolm, Jim Nelson

Back Row L to R:
 Kermit Boner, Rich Gamble,
 Jim Wrench, Fran Nezelek,
 Al Havard, Jim Telford,
 Glen Ramsey,
 Don Sneckenberger

Missing: Joe Duchesne



B Battery Troops

Front Row L to R:
 Bob Mackintosh, Ken Johnson,
 Bob Douglas, Herb Terbille,
 Bob Heilman

Back Row L to R:
 Stu Moody, Ray Corbin, Ben Seeley



mailing.

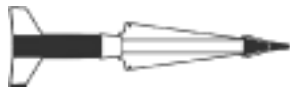


Charles Beliunas

Recently we mentioned that Charles Beliunas (D Btry) had passed away. **Don Jackson** (554th Ord Co) lives in El Paso and sent a Circa 1972 photo from the El Paso Times.



VISITS PATIENTS — Miss Sally Sherbin, Disneyland’s ambassador, brought her warm personality to cheer patients at William Beaumont General Hospital Tuesday. She visits with two-time Silver Star winner **Sgt. Charles Beliunas**, a Vietnam casualty. Earlier, the Disneyland Miss met with Brig. Gen. Kenneth D. Orr, Beaumont commanding general.— (Army Photo)



Nashville Reunion

Some photos from the Nashville reunion have been included in this newsletter. We will have written observations on the Nashville reunion, and minutes of the General Membership Meeting, in the next newsletter. Color copies of the newsletter are being sent to those members whose dues were paid up through 31 October 2002. If you attended the reunion and would like to write up your experiences for the other members, send them to our editor, Bob Mackintosh.

Membership names and addresses were handed out at reunion. Send a note to **Bob Mackintosh** to receive a

copy.

Reunion in 2004

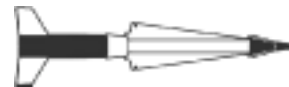
The 2004 reunion was originally planned for Las Vegas. Last year we put out a Request For Proposal through the Las Vegas Visitors and Convention Bureau. We received many responses, but most were rather expensive, and most of the attractions in Las Vegas are now very expensive. The Board of Governors made the recommendation to select a new site for our reunion. San Antonio was suggested as a possible replacement site, if we could find reasonable hotel rates, on or very near the River Walk. This approach was approved by the General Membership Meeting.

We again sent out Request For Proposals to the San Antonio CVBC. Since then we have received a dozen or more proposals from San Antonio hotels. Some look promising. **Bob and Kay Douglas** will help us check them out this year. We will let you know later this year if we can find a hotel that meets our requirement for price and location.



MUC Resubmission

We reported earlier that the Department of Army denied our recommendation to award the Meritorious Unit Citation (MUC) to the 2nd Missile Battalion, 71st Artillery and support units. **John Spegele** has talked to Senator Warner’s office and they have concluded that the political climate is better now to resubmit the nomination. John’s son is serving on an aircraft carrier. He has much experience in submitting award nominations and has volunteered to help rewrite our nomination. If you have any input with reasons why 2/71 deserves to be recognized for its meritorious service in Taiwan, send it to **Bob Mackintosh** or **John Spegele**, and they will work it into our resubmitted package.



Send in old ID photo

Someone at the Nashville reunion suggested that we include old Taiwan ID photos on our ID badges at the next reunion. That is an idea worth trying, if we can get enough photos. We will also include them in our Association database. So dig out your old ID Cards, or photos, and send them to Bob Mackintosh. (**Johnnie Nale** — If you still have the ID photos you had at the El Paso reunion, send



D Battery Troops

Front Row L to R:
 Don McMahan, Howard Brelji,
 Dave Kent, Bob Burlage,
 Dave O'Connell, Ray Corbin,
 Jim Kjersgaard

Back Row L to R:
 John Spegele, Mike Conniff,
 Ed Pierzynski, S.B.Davis,
 Jimmie Rogers, Earl Whitman,
 Harry Phillips, Bob Jarrell,
 Dave Diedrich, Ron O'Neill

Missing:
 Tom Ambler

Support Troops

Leon Shank (178th Ord),
 Claxton Hurst (Augmentation
 Group)
 John Pohlman (178 Ord)

(Oozlefinch Carving is by Paul Lapham)



**Ken and Helen Johnson with Reception Hosts,
 Charlie and Annie Trost (Larry Trieglaf on Right)**



John Spegele and Lois Mackintosh at Banquet

them in and we will try to match them to our members.)

Letters from the troops

8/7/02

From **Jim Nelson** (A Btry)

Dear Bob,

I have started several letters to say thank you to you and all who attended the reunion in Taiwan for the kindness shared with Carole and me. She stayed 10 days in Taipei hospital and was able to fly home. Her stay in the hospital gave our daughter Beth and I time to get to know people, nurses, doctors and hotel staff, and many others. For those who can remember forty odd years ago, just how loving and kind these people had been, it came back for me very clearly.

As you know, Carole and I had planned to go on to Singapore, and visit with our daughter Kimberly. We did go last year. Our plane landed about 5 hours after the twin towers were hit in New York. The month there again affirmed just how people all over the world would rather share friendship and loving relationships, than the hatred some display. Every cabdriver or store clerk offered sympathy to the U.S. The government held a prayer service on the first Sunday. 16,000 attended.

Back to my excuse for not writing sooner. Carole had back surgery then I had to have a stint put in for 99% blockage. Carole again just two weeks ago had back fused with steel rod.

Each time I get the newsletter I look to see the added names in hopes of being able to put a face with it.

We are sending in the late registration in hopes of being in Nashville.

Thank you again for all the support given us in Taipei.

Sincerely

Carole and Jim Nelson

8/10/02

From: **Fred Thurmond** (178 Ord)

Just received my 2nd Missile Battalion newsletter.

Thank you. I have been out of touch for a long while but have been keeping up with your newsletter.

My email address is fredthurmond@wmconnect.com

I stayed in the military and retired after 20 years. I now live at the Armed Forces Retirement Home-Gulfport.

I was in the 178th Ord. Det and transferred to Okinawa sometime in 1959. After my first Army hitch I went into the Air Force with the Bomarc Missile.

Call up the Armed Forces Home at www.afrh.com

Thanks again.

Fred Thurmond

8/5/02

From: **Jim Salzman** (D Btry)

Dear Bob,

Here is my dues check. Hope every thing is fine with you and all the others in our old group.

I received my medal from the Taiwan Embassy in San Francisco a few months ago.

Best to all

Jim Salzman

8/10/02

From **Dock "Sunny" Price** (C Btry)

Hi Bob,

I got you last e-mail and am aware of the reunion in Nashville in October.

I hope I am able to make July 10th. I was operated on for lung cancer at Nashville VA hospital. The Drs. say they got it all, but you never can tell. It cut deep and also took the edge off my voice, now I wonder if I'll ever sing again like I use to do. If I am not in Atlanta with my sister, then I'll be here and come to the hotel but I don't need a room for I only live fifteen minutes from the Hotel.

I also got a letter from Norris Nick Hodge whom I remember well from El Paso, TX. If you have his e-mail address send it to me, or send him mine. I'll get my membership dues in Monday for sure.

Thanks and keep in touch.

Dock Sunny Price.

Camp Cobra- Battery C.

8/12/02

From: **Mrs. Robert E. Johnson** (Hq Btry)

Dear Sir:

I received your newsletter and I thank you. I do hope the "Reunion" a success with old friends, comrades-in-arms, old times both good and bad! I hope "all" goes well!

I continue to pay Robert's (Bob) dues, so I can keep up on what's happening and be encouraged on what's happening. Bob was 76, active in community work, church work etc. People asking him about world problems, current events etc. Our sons Rick and Mike are long distance drivers. Guess that's what they remember most. The "moves" with the moving vans etc. Mike has driven 26 years, and Rick driven 10 years. We have four grandchildren and three great-grandsons. I'm sure Bob's "write up" will give what he was doing. Always talking to everyone.

Enclosed check is for dues and three copies of the Taiwan VCR tape.

I do hope your reunion is all you wished and hoped for. My love and thoughts are with you all!

In Christian Love,

Mrs. Robert E. Johnson (Jeraldine)

McComb, Miss.

8/16/02

From: **Bob Douglas** (B Btry)

Hi Bob and Lois From El Paso, TX.

Hope you are both well. Kay is still having very bad back pains and we spend at least two days a week at a doctors trying to determine the problem. Do not have an answer yet but hope one of these doctors can correct it. We are really looking forward to the reunion. Just received the



Making Music on the Music City Queen

Tom Ambler, Carolyn Everitt, Ann Garland and Don Sneckenberger



Relaxing on the Music City Queen

Rev. Bill O'Brien, John and Peg Spegele, Herb and Janet Terbille, Tody Kukowski and Lois Mackintosh



The After Hours Singalong



Some D Battery Troops

Willard Ottman, Dave O'Connell, Bob Burlage, Dave Diedrich, Ray Corbin



Some A Battery Troops +

Back Row: Lloyd Johnson(Guest), Herb Terbille, Rich Croft, Jim Telford, Glen Ramsey.
Front Row: Rich Gamble, Danny Funamura



Bob Mackintosh, Leon Shank, John Pohlman, and Dave Kent



Merle Weller, Don McMahan, Jimmie Rogers, Don Rogers, and Bob Jarrell

news letter today. As usual it is outstanding. You have our new mailing address 2805 Oak Trail Ct. #3449, Arlington, TX. 76016-6008, telephone 1-915-203-xxxx this is our cell phone and is on all the time, we bought a Dell lap top computer last week so our new email address is kaybobepx1@aol.com now we can receive attachments and not limited to 4000 characters in each message. The only problem now is learning to operate it. Bob I will send the form for the items for sale but want 1-VCR tape, 1 - B Btry patch, 1- golf shirt size large. Will confirm this in writing but thought you need to know soonest. Take care of each other and we will see you in Nashville. Az ever, Bob and Kay Douglas

9/14/02

From: **Jim Wrench** (A Btry)

Subject: Nashville Reunion

Bob,

I have finally completed my mission.....but the results are not worth bragging about.

I see that you have received word from **Ralph Magnus**.....he has a conflict.....a business trip to Paris.

Joe Dougherty's wife returned my call also - Joe is in the hospital, in a critical situation. He had both hips replaced in August, then fell upon returning home and broke one of the replacements. The break became infected so, he's back in the IC fighting the infection - no hope of getting well by Reunion time.

Jim

8/19/02

Allison Carter, Clinton, OK (1st Sig Det)

Sorry I can't make the reunion.

8/19/2002

From: **Neal Boothe**, Ballwin, MO (C Btry)

Bob

Nancy and I won't get to come to the reunion. Nancy had an operation in May. It didn't work. The doctors rescheduled it for Oct 1st, which does not give enough healing time to make the reunion.

I'll miss seeing ever one.

We would appreciate every one's prayers. Nancy has gone through so much.

Neal and Nancy

9/3/ 2002

From: **Stu Moody** (Hq Btry)

Hi Bob:

I reached **Hank Mason** tonight and he will not be attending. His health prevents him from traveling far. He is on O2 24/7, lost a lung and has cancer in the one that is left. He and I served on the early warning radar site before I was reassigned to B Btry. We talked for about 30 minutes and he said that he looks forward to each of the news letters.

I have not been able to find a phone number for **Ray Pauli**, but I will keep trying and let you know as soon as I

find out something.

Stu Moody

9/5/02

From: **Fidel Olivares** (Hq Btry)

Dear Mr. Bob Mackintosh,

Since I have now retired from working since I was 14 years old, now I just turned 70 in August 2002.

I was sitting here just thinking about what I needed to do today when a lady called me 352-735-2885 asking me if I was going to the reunion in October 2002. But I explained to her that I had already committed myself with some other plans. So I decided to look through my old letters of news from last year and I found a letter written by my old friend **Dr. McGranahan** with whom I worked in Taiwan. I was one of the two sergeants that helped **Dr. McGranahan** with most of the reports that had to be turned in to Hqs every month.

I retired from the Army in 1971 and it seems like it was yesterday but if I had to do it all over again, I would join the Army again if I was young.

I really enjoy all the good news that is provided in the newsletters you print all the time.

I am enclosing my dues early so that I won't forget them and again I am enclosing extra money for the stamps that just went up.

Sincerely yours,

Fidel Olivares, Jr.

9/5/02

From: **CK McGee** (B Btry)

Bob,

I last received a note from you at this address on 6.11.02.....

We are very sorry to be so close and miss the reunion, but I am having some bad health problems. Just about the time I get over one another starts.

Miss you guys,

Also miss our youth in the mud. No not really.

Best regards

CK McGee

9/8/02

From: **Richard Croft** (A Btry)

Hi Bob

Boy, I called **Ray Gradick** today & found out he just passed away today. Had triple by-pass, was doing well, then had a heart attack. Talked to his son & said we'd say a prayer for him. They were trying to get in touch with **Glenn Ramsey** also.

See you in Nashville,

Rich

9/9/02

From Yalanda Snider, daughter of **Ray Gradick** (A Btry)

My name is Yalanda Snider. I am sending you this e-

mail to let you know that we have lost my daddy. We lost **Raymond E. Gradick** yesterday which was the date of 9/8/02.

We will be having his funeral services on 9/11/02 at 2:00pm at The Tyler Memorial Funeral Home.

We have also been trying to contact Glenn Ramsey but we have not been able to do so if you have anyway to contact him would please do so with this message enclosed. Or you may contact us at this e-mail or at this phone number 903-566-7675

Thank You
Yalanda Snider and Family

9/14/02

From: **Glenn Ramsey**
Subject: **Ray Gradick**
Dear Bob,

Thanks for the extra effort in notifying me of **Ray Gradick's** death. My lifestyle prevents instant messages.

Ray and I were as close as brothers at Fort Bliss and Taiwan. When we came back to the States, he was stationed on the West Coast and I was on the East and so, as people do, we lost contact.

After the first reunion in El Paso, I tracked Ray down on the Internet. Ray was able to attend the reunion in St. Louis, and told me he was planning to be in Nashville.

I've been fortunate to know several special people in my life. **Ray Gradick** was at the top of the list. His death leaves a great hole in my life that won't be filled. I shall miss him as a brother; I shall mourn him as my friend.

Ray's wife is also in bad health. Please remember her in your prayers.

Glenn Ramsey

9/6/02

From: **Nick Hodge** (C Btry)

This today from Dock **Sunny Price**. Let's keep the ball rolling.

Nick

9/5/02

From: **Dock "Sunny" Price** (C Btry)

Hi Nick,

It's been a long time but I still remember you at Ft. Bliss. Sorry it took me so long to get back to you. I've just had a Lung Cancer Operation at the VA hospital here in Nashville on July 10th. It takes a while to get back to the outside world and realize you're still alive.

I plan to be at the Reunion when it takes place next month.

My address is Dock Sunny Price. 327 Idlewild, Ave. Madison, TN 37115.

(615) 865-4178. Thanks for the communication. Hope to see you there.

9/30/02

From: Eric Stein

Subject: **Bill Stein** (554 Ord Co)

Dear Sirs:

It is with great sorrow that I must report the passing of **William (Bill) Stein** on August 27, 2002. He had been fighting cancer for over two years, and never did give up hope. Your association was a source of great pride to him, and he enjoyed showing his medal to everyone that visited him. He leaves behind his wife of forty-one years, Nancy, and three sons. Thanks to your organization for allowing him to reconnect with his military years. Sincerely, Eric Stein

10/16/02

From: **Marwood Rude** (A Btry)

We still live at the same place but the county has switched to a new street numbering system for 91 calls. My new address is:

Marwood E. Rude
38560 North Eagle Lake Rd
Battle Lake, MN 56515

Also my Email address is <mer@prtel.com>

Thanks so much to you and Lois for all your work and dedication bringing the 2/71 together. It was great revisiting old times and reconnecting with people I never would have seen again were it not for your efforts.

Thanks again, Woody Rude (A Battery)

10/17/02

From: **Herb Terbill** (B Btry)

Bob,

Just wanted to say thanks for the great job you did once again. Janet and I had a great time and seeing all the old warriors one more time. Was a wonderful experience.

Looking forward to San Antonio.

Herb Terbill

10/16/02

From: **Bob Douglas** (B Btry)

Dear Bob and Lois,

Thanks for an outstanding time in Nashville. Kay and I really enjoyed everything. Being with you two was very special for us. Had a good trip home. Nice to be home in our own bed. It's great! You couldn't have picked a better hotel. Everything very close and facilities at hotel were fine. Will check out San Antonio when we get down there and let you know what we find. Looking forward to seeing you there. Keep in touch and if there is anything you want us to check into in San Antonio let us know.

Az ever,

Bob and Kay

10/22/02

Ray Corbin (B & D Btry)

Subject: THE 2/71st ARTY ASSN TAIWAN OUTSTANDING NASHVILLE REUNION

Dear Bob and Lois,

I have talked to a number of our Nashville attendees and they are all in agreement, just can't pick the order that this should be in:

1. or 2. WEALL HAD A GREAT TIME.

2. or 1. LOIS AND BOB DID A GREAT JOB IN PUTTING THIS TOGETHER.

Lets call it a tie, as we could never have had such a great time without the efforts of all involved, but especially Lois and Bob.

We are all in agreement that we can't wait to see everyone again and that we are marking October of 2004 as another special event in our lives.

Thank you again on behalf of the 2/71 ARTY ASSN TAIWAN and our spouses,

Mimi and Ray

10/15/02

From: **Bob and Barbara Buchanan** (C Btry)

Dear Bob and Lois,

Thank you for all the time and effort you spend in planning and making these reunions come together ... it is very evident that it requires a lot!

We had a wonderful time reminiscing and fellowshiping with dear friends and making new friends.

Again, thank you for yet another great reunion.

May God bless you.

Always a friend,

Bob and Barbara

10/15/02

Earl and Betty Whitson (D Btry)

Dear Bob and Lois,

Once again we say a very special thank you for a terrific reunion.

Lois, despite a few snags everything turned out OK.

We are grateful for the opportunity to enjoy and further strengthen the friendships we have made.

We think the board made a good choice for the next reunion. There are several events throughout the month of October in San Antonio. We look forward to seeing you there.

Earl and Betty Whitson

10/10/02

Bob Stohlman (554 Ord Co.)

Hi,

Here are my dues for next year. Sorry I can't go to the Reunion but am on crutches and can't walk very far.

My dues and a little extra are enclosed.

Have a good time and hoist one for me.

Sincerely,

Bob Stohlman

10/22/02

From: **Chuck Lapsley** (B & D Btry)

Subject: THE 2/71st ARTY ASSN TAIWAN OUTSTAND-

ING NASHVILLE REUNION

Ray (Corbin):

I'm sure that your sentiments are shared by all members. I feel that Bob has been and continues to be the driving spirit of the Battalion. He and Lois have resurrected dormant memories of a significant period of all of our early lives to the betterment of all of us.

Many of us were too young and naive to realize the significance of our act. We faced an unknown fate against a known foe, in a pivotal time, with positive results. With few exceptions I can't think of many military events over the period of my life where we met a specific direct military threat for a specific period of time, leaving the tools and knowledge for the people to protect themselves. I guess that this approach does perhaps personify the Cold War period. We came, we saw, we helped and got out with honor and no battle related casualties.

One can wax eloquent about our adventure with a good feeling about what we did for ourselves and our allies.

Regards,

Your comrade,

Chuck Lapsley

10/22/02

From: **Betty Davis** (Wife of **S.B. Davis**, D Btry)

Subject: Kudos to Nashville group

Dear Lois:

So nice to hear from you and thank you for the kind words about the music. There were a LOT of good singers in that group. I am in a position at the piano to hear the good singing and I was very impressed. So enjoyed the gospel singers — not only are they talented, they are just so much fun along with their singing. It sounds like you all have some nice things going for you where you live. Believe me, if we ever get back that way, we will be sure to look you up. Until then, we will look forward to seeing you all again in San Antonio.

Take care,

Betty Davis

10/23/02

From: **Ray Corbin** (B & D Btry)

Subject: THE 2/71st ARTY ASSN TAIWAN OUTSTANDING NASHVILLE REUNION

Chuck,

You have stated the purpose of our group in a few well chosen words. Hoping that your Mother is resting well. We missed you at the Reunion and are looking forward to seeing you at the next one.

Mimi and Ray

10/23/02

From: **Dock "Sunny" Price** (C Btry) to Nick Hodge (C Btry)

Hi again Nick,

Man, I was so glad to see you again until I can't find the words to explain it.

Let's keep in touch and not get lost from now on. As far as getting rich and fame us. Us is already rich because I've known you. Fame, because you know I'm here, and I know you're here. In this walk through life God saw fit that we should meet, and that's a good thing. Sorry I was not able to play and sing for you and the boys, but I just got out of the VA hospital July 22nd from a lung cancer operation and have not yet had time to practice and get back up to speed, but I'll start working on it.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Hope you and your wife will invite me and the band over to play sometimes. See you then.

10/23/02

James & Doris Pannell (C Btry)

Dear Bob & Lois,

We sure enjoyed the reunion. It was so good to see everyone and all the new ones that came too. We are looking forward to the next one. Sure hope it will be even bigger and better. Thank you both for all your hard work.

I'm sending James' nametag and a Jelly list. If you ever want some just call me. They make great Christmas gifts. (Doris makes her own jams and jellies from local North Carolina fruits and berries.)

My God bless you all.

Love & Prayers,

James & Doris Pannell

10/24/02

From: **Tom/Ann McGranahan** (Hqs Btry)

Thank you all again for the great reunion. We can't wait for the next one. The other death that I was aware of, that was not on the list at breakfast, was Jim Bannan. One of the funniest guys I had ever met up to that time.

Tom

10/25/02

From: **Leon Shank** (178 Ord Det)

I want to thank both of you (Dave & Bob) for the effort that it took to arrange such a great reunion. Barb and I enjoyed everything. You should be very proud of the job that was done making it happen.

When you are ready with the contact lists etc. let me know. I will try to do what is necessary with that job.

Regards,

Leon

10/24/02

From: **Ed and Darlynn Pierzynski** (D Btry)

I had a wonderful time. The speakers were inspiring and brought meaning to my life – professional and personal.

Thanks again for a great program.

Sincerely

Darlynn Pierzynski

We had a great time at the reunion. To me it brought back many memories of times past and sadness that today we

are gray and older.

Thank you again Bob and your wife Lois for your hard work that made the reunion possible. My wife Darlynn really enjoyed conversing with your wife Lois about acreage, horses and dogs.

Thanks again.

Edward J. Pierzynski

P.S.: I found my nametag in my bag so I'm returning it for our next reunion in San Antonio, Tex.

I'm also enclosing my check for \$15 for membership and a check for \$35 for a donation.

Thanks,

Edward J. Pierzynski

P.S.: It was great that your son took pictures at the reunion. If he has any for sale, let me know.

P.S.: Also see if you can find the paperwork for my Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

Thanks,

E.J.P

10/25/02

From: **Diana Lapham (Paul, D Btry)**

Hi Lois

Thanks for your recent e-mail; nice hearing from you. Sounds as you returned home safely and hopefully will have some time to yourselves now. That isn't always easy is it?

As you well know the Reunion was a big success again and that all goes to the fact that you and Bob devote so much time to all the work involved. It is greatly appreciated, especially by people that have been engaged at one time or another as being a leader of an organization. As the old saying goes "Find someone that is busy and you will get help from that person". Don't know if that is the correct term but that is what it amounts to.

We returned here to sunny weather, which has lasted ever since. This is what we like here in Florida.....Now expect friends tomorrow for a few days so the winter 'motel' is getting booked. We enjoy this.

Once again thanks and we are always willing to be helpful so just let us know.

Regards to Bob.

10/28/02

From: **Tom Ambler** (D Btry)

To Col. Bob, Lois & the entire 2nd Missile Bn. 71st Artillery

Julie & I want to express our sincere thanks for everyone who worked on the success of our Nashville Reunion. We had a GREEEAT Time as long Betty Davis played in key of "C". (Ed. Tom's harmonica played along in the key of "C".)

Tom Ambler "D"

(Tom also included a check for 1,000,000 thanks, made out to Bob, Lois and the 2/71 Artillery for "making my friend Julie feel welcome in Nashville & the hard work "you all" did.)

10/01/02

From: **Ray Corbin** (B & D Btry)

Dear Bob & Lois,

What a great reunion!

They only seem to get better and better. I believe that this time we mixed more with the group and not just with old "battery" friends.

I look forward to the San Antonio reunion. I know the group will have fun along the River Walk at all the fun bars - Dick's Last Resort & Dirty Nellie's for singing.

If the hotels by the river are higher, maybe the cost of not providing busses will offset it. The atmosphere by staying by the river is so much more and with the Alamo there - we wouldn't have to go anywhere else.

Karl Kolm said he would help, as he is just 3 hours away in Waco. Maybe once the options are known he could check out the places for you.

Thanks again for all the work that you and Lois do for the group. We know how hard you work at this even though we may not express it all the time. Even the person that has never run a meeting has an idea of the amount of planning that they see going into this.

Hope that your year goes well and we are looking forward to San Antonio (or wherever).

Mimi & Ray

10/29/02

From: **Dock "Sunny" Price** (C Btry)

Bob,

I hope your trip was OK and you made it back on time. I had a welcome surprise seeing all those guys there. It was like old times there for a while...Any way I hope to see you at the next reunion.

Sorry I was not able to perform for you and the boys, just weak from the Cancer operation even though I tried not to show it.

10/29/02

From: **Bill Videbeck** (Hq Btry)

Hello Bob,

Looks like its time to re-up again. My check is enclosed.

Hope the Nashville reunion was a success, and look forward to hearing about it in the next newsletter.

Thanks again,

Bill Videbeck

11/04/02

From: **Dock "Sunny" Price** (C Btry)

Bob,

Got your note the other day. Now I'm trying to find **C. Paparazo**. I remember him well. I need his E-mail address. Also, did you get a message that Vic Evans has lung cancer like I did? What's his e-mail?

When you get a chance, please send me a list of all the names and e-mails for all the fellows. I would like to keep in touch with as many as I can, not that I've met them after so

many years. Seems like we are all dying out fast as flies.

Thanks for all you have done to get and keep this group going. You and your wife deserve a tip of the hat. Thanks a million.

Sunny Rare Bird.

11/4/02

From: **Nick Hodge** (C Btry)

Bad News: This today from Etta **Evans. Vic** (C Btry) has really been put through the wringer the last couple of years. Let's all pray for him and his family.

NCH

(Message from Etta Evans: "We just found out an hour ago that Vic has lung cancer. Etta")

11/4/02

From: **Henry Privott** (D Btry)

Sorry that I was unable to attend reunion. Hope that I can attend next.

Here is my check for dues.

Thanks

11/1/02

From: **Carl Paparazo** (C Btry)

Dear Robert,

Will be awaiting next newsletter re Nashville Reunion.

I will make the Las Vegas reunion next year!

This check should bring me current.

Take care of yourself,

Carl Paparazo

11/2/02

From: **Jimmie E. Rogers** (D Btry)

A little late to let you and Lois know how much we enjoyed the reunion.

Thank you for all your work. We made a few visits to family before coming on home.

My son Don sure enjoyed the reunion. Thinks we have a pretty good bunch of people. He's already looking forward to the next reunion. I didn't get as many pictures taken as I would of liked to have taken but you know how hectic things were at the time. But maybe next time will be different. Again thank you for all your work.

Looking forward to the next newsletter. Till then.

Jimmie and Ruth Ann Rogers

11/3/02

From: **Don & Sally Melvin** (Hq Btry)

Dear Bob & Lois,

We really enjoyed the reunion in Nashville. Hope to see everyone in San Antonio.

Don & Sally Melvin

11/8/02

From: **Jim Telford** (A Btry)

Dear Bob,

Nancy and I had a very enjoyable time at the reunion.

You and the committee did a wonderful job and we thank you for a great time. In fact we are looking forward to the next one.

The very best to you and Lois,
Nancy & Jim

10/20/02

From: **Karen O'Connell (Dave, D Btry)**

Hi Lois,

Boy, was I glad to get your email. I couldn't find your address. I was going to call you.

I'm very upset that we left in such a hurry that I didn't get to hug each of you goodbye. Consider yourselves hugged!

Thank you and Bob for running such a smooth reunion. Everyone I know had a blast. In fact, several people said it was the best one to date. I thoroughly enjoyed myself.

If there are any ends to wrap up, and you need help, just ask. Of course, you know I'll be there to help anytime.

Tell Bob I am willing to be in charge of "things" for people to buy, whether it's shirts, hats, and mementos. I did talk with Ron O'Neill, and he said he'd try to get together some magnets (nice ones), perhaps with the MAAG logo. Those types of things sell well in stores, and I imagine it would be the same at the reunion. Many people inquired about hats, pins, and patches. Maybe if we start early enough, we can get it done. I know it depends on finances, too. Anyway, have Bob keep me in mind. I know the guys have plenty to do.

Don McMahan had a wonderful time. He called Dave the other day and told him how his life has changed. He sleeps all night long, for the first time in years. His voice sounds so much stronger, too. This reunion was a good thing for him.

Can you tell Bob one more thing? I am still working on something for the newsletter. I started my new job the day after we got home and I've been extremely busy since then. I have it half written, but then I need to put final touches on it.

Thanks again, Lois, for being there for us and handling so many situations.

Love,
Karen

11/8/02

From: **Nick Hodge (C Btry)**

This today from **Etta Evans**.
NCH

11/8/02

From: **Etta Evans (re: Vic, C Btry)**

Hi All,

Sorry about the mass mailing. I nearly lost Vic yesterday. Took him to Tyler for that PET scan and he had some type of allergic reaction to it and nearly died in the car with me on the way home. Luckily I had his oxygen tank along. He started vomiting and he couldn't breathe so I shifted into

the left lane put my flashers on and drove 85-90 all the way to Lufkin. Where is a cop when you need one.

Vic is in ICU in Memorial Hospital in Lufkin. I came home at 5 this morning when he leveled off some and got a couple hours sleep and am heading back now.

When I got him to ER in Lufkin his heart rate was 27, bp 70/30.

Gotta go. Will try to keep you all updated. If he is better I will come home earlier tonite. At least by 10. Etta/Mom

11/23/02

From: **Rich Croft (A Btry)**

Bob - Passing along a note from **Milo Morin**.
Rich

11/10/02

From: **Milo Morin (A Btry)**

Hi Rich & Nancy,

Lucy had a stroke on 8-27 02. But she is doing better as of now. I was just looking for a flight and getting the check ready to send when it happened.

We were looking forward to seeing all our friends, from A Bat. and you guys. We were going to take 2 weeks so we could take in most of the state.

I wanted to tell all the guys how well the Taiwan people treated us; I myself felt so honored. Hope you had good time.

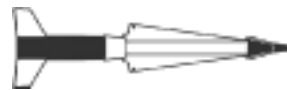
Your Friend,
Casimiro & Lucy Morin

12/16/02

From: **Nick Hodge (C Btry)**

Thanks for a wonderful time in Nashville. God willing, will meet you at the Alamo in '04.

Nick and Beth Hodge



Bob Douglas - History of the Oozlefinch

In Remembrance



Robert E. "Buck" Johnson **March 6, 1926 ~ May 10, 2002**

Command Sgt. Maj. Robert E. "Buck" Johnson, U.S. Army -Retired, 76, of McComb, died May 10, 2002, at Forrest General Hospital in Hattiesburg.

He was a retired Command Sergeant Major from the U.S. Army, where he served 29 years. He served two years in the U.S. Navy.

His decorations included the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Good Conduct Medal..



Memorial Breakfast



Our Morning Star Singers

Caroll Everitt, Don Sneckenberger, and Ann Garland



Boarding the Music City



The Mackintoshes

Rob, Jen, Lois, and Bob

Happy New Year!!