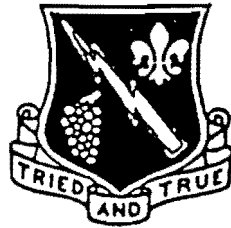


# The Communicator

PUBLISHED: JANUARY 1995

NEWSLETTER NUMBER: 3 (1995)



## 97th Signal Battalion Association

( For Those Who Served 1942 - 1993 )

RED ROOF INN

3608 Dupont Circle

AMERICAN LEGION VET-NET

Virginia Beach, Virginia 23455

CP 500315

(804) 464 0513

# 16205

Issued to members of the 97th Signal Battalion Association as an informational guide to activities of the Association. Members wishing to insert information or notices should send same to the editor.

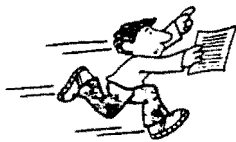
Published in Gig Harbor, WA

W.H. Crews, Editor

**SEVENTH ANNUAL REUNION UPDATE** (See related article under President's corner.)

### BANQUET FUNCTION.

The banquet planned to be held on board the cruise boat has been cancelled. The banquet will be held at the Holiday Inn which is hosting our reunion. Members that submitted their funds for the boat banquet will receive a refund of approximately \$10.00 per person. This refund will be mailed prior to 28 Feb 1995. The main reason for cancelling the cruise boat dinner is that two (2) hours would not allow time for all of our programs to be completed, ie; dinner, awards, administrative remarks, door prizes, etc.



**Newsletter  
Deadline**

15 MARCH                      15 SEPTEMBER

15 JUNE                         15 DECEMBER

### NEW REGISTRATION FORM

Due to the changes in the banquet, a new registration form is included in this newsletter as page 9. If you have not registered, please do so now.

### INTERNATIONAL TOUR COMPANY.

Many members have received info from The International Tour Company in New Orleans requesting members to send money for reservations, etc. to include the banquet facilities on the boat. The Association is not sponsoring any of the tours offered. If a member has sent money to the tour company, suggest that a request for a refund be made at once.

### REUNION LOCATION.

Location: The Holiday Inn I-10 is located in Metairie, LA at exit #225 off Interstate 10, less than 20 minutes from downtown New Orleans and the French Quarter. A ten (10) minute drive from the New Orleans International Airport.

Room Rate: Special room rate at \$60.00 per room per night for up to four people per room. All guest room rates are subject to a current 11.75% hotel tax.

Reservations: Reservation cards were mailed along with the last newsletter. Make your reservation early and forward them to the Hotel, or phone in the reservation. All reservations must be made by March 17, 1995 on which date the unused portion will be turned back to the Hotel for use by the public. We have 125 rooms set aside and they are expected to go fast.

Your attendance at our Annual Reunion will give you an opportunity to visit the vibrant, friendly and inviting city of **NEW ORLEANS** with it's great cuisine, jazz, low priced tours, and shoppers paradise. For those who have never visited New Orleans, here is a splendid opportunity to see first hand why so many people extol its virtues.

### CAMPGROUND

On base campground at New Orleans Naval Air Station (NAS) is available for members driving their RV's to New Orleans. Reservations made be made by calling (504) 393-3448. Paul Muuss visited this campground and indicates that it has the best facilities.

### DOOR PRIZES.

As in the past, "Door Prizes" will be awarded at the reunion. Members are encouraged to provide door prizes to support this activity. Members can either bring door prizes to New Orleans or mail the articles to the hotel to be held for the 97th. Door Prizes are expected to be awarded in the CP room prior to the Banquet.

**LOCATOR CARDS.** Members that received locator cards and a request from the secretary to attempt to locate former members of the 97th listed on the cards are requested to return the cards promptly with a notation of success or failure. One never knows until the potential former member is contacted if indeed that person served in the 97th.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS.** There will exist vacancies as Vice President and two Board of Directors (Bd Dr) as of the New Orleans reunion. Members wishing to nominate persons to fill any of these vacancies are encouraged to submit names to the Secretary ASAP. Written permission of those nominated are required stating that: "They will serve if Nominated and Elected."

**AREA COORDINATORS (SECOND REQUEST.)** Members are asked to volunteer as Area Coordinators in their respective areas. Vacancies presently exist and others will become vacant in the near future. Persons interested in this most important position should contact our acting president Paul Muuss for further details.

**MEMBERSHIP ROSTERS**

New membership rosters, both active and inactive, have been prepared by the Secretary and will be distributed by him to active members shortly. Others desiring copies of the rosters should send a SASE (.52) to the Secretary requesting same.

**ATTENDEE'S AT THE MINI REUNION, MARION, IN 29 - 30 SEPT 94**

HOST: JACK AND SUE GROSS

Denver R. Barnes

Dave and Gloria Harris

\* Harold "Gabby" Gatheral

Milt and Isle Highsmith

Charlie and Edith Hornsby

\* Clair Knutson

\* F. "Mick" and Barbara Leblanc

Cecil and Hilde Lisenby

\* Ron and Donna McKee

\* Indicates First Time reunion attendees.

Joe Milici

Daris Pinkston

Dave and Dee Radke

Mike Roberts

Bob and Linda Sentell

Billy and Jan Server

George Zentner and Ruth Young

**ANOTHER MINI-REUNION**

Members attending the Marion, Indiana reunion had such a great time that another mini-mini meeting will be held in Myrtle Beach, S.C 5 -7 March 1995. All Association members are invited. Details are provided below.

Hotel: Holiday Inn	Rates:
414 S. Ocean Blvd	\$42.00 Ocean Front + Tax
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577	
800-845-0313	\$35.00 City Side + Tax

Hospitality Room - Indoor Pool & Hot Tub

A minimum of 10 rooms must be occupied !!

**BYOB**, Donation for Coffee, Tea Snacks, Sodas, etc.

Hospitality Room \$10.00 per person.

Reservations should be made through Dave Harris by Saturday 18 Feb 1995 using the information outlined above and the "800" telephone number.

**SEARCHING FOR A LOST COMRADE. (REPEAT)** Members wishing to locate an old buddy but do not have the address and telephone number should submit full name, last known address, city and state, and area of residence to George Zentner. George has access to a "PC telephone disk" that contains over 80 million names, addresses, and telephone numbers. Send your request along with a "SASE, business size" for return of any names that are listed on the disk.

**ASSOCIATION "800" NUMBERS.** The Association now has its own telephone numbers. One of the lines provide direct 800 access. The numbers are 1). 800-978-4270, Access code #97 must be used, 2) 804-464-9701.

Members are encouraged to use either of the above numbers when desiring information relative to the association. Cost will be the determining factor in maintaining the "800" service. A trial period through April 1995 is in place and if the cost is prohibitive, hours of use will be curtailed. e.g., Use of the "800" number after 1700 each day.

### EDITOR'S NOTE.

This edition of the newsletter was delayed to incorporate last minute changes in the reunion program that may have been required by the acting President's visit to New Orleans in late January.

### BULK MAIL RATE.

The association has been granted permission to use the "Non Profit Third Class Bulk Mail" rate when mailing large numbers of pieces of mail. (Newsletters and Rosters.) It is anticipated that this will save the association over half of our postage costs. The only requirement is that : 200 pieces or 50 LB must be mailed at one time in order to use these services.

### REUNION SITE 1997.

The reunion site for 1997 should be selected at the upcoming 1995 reunion to be held in New Orleans. Members that wish to present their proposals for this reunion should have their preliminary documents prepared in order to make a satisfactory proposal to the Board. Members should advise the Secretary of their plans and obtain the requisite procedures and check list from him.

### OTHER REUNIONS

The First National Korean War Veterans Reunion will be held October 19, 20, and 21 in Virginia Beach, VA. For further information call Dick Kinsley, Military Reunion Coordinator at 1-800-VA BEACH.

### THE PHANTOM REPORT.

We recently learned that one of our leading members and former commander of "B" Troop, Colonel Bernie Mewhart, was hospitalized for extensive surgery. At our last sounding it was learned that Colonel Mewhart was on the mends. Our prayers and thoughts of all the members of our association are with you. Get well soon, we need you in New Orleans.

Jack Gross and his charming wife hosted a Mini-reunion in their hometown of Marion, Indiana. Jack's daughter, a police officer, apparently arranged safe passage for our member who ate the artificial fruit in Tuscon. The latest report from the Tuscon Police department is that the member is still being carried as a fugitive. Shoney's Restaurant is still looking for reimbursement for the plastic apples

that were eaten. The Reunion was going well until Joe Milici started to sing as only Joe can sing. Suggestions were made to put him on the first Box Car out of town.

Attention all Golfers. The Phantom has learned that the Golden Greek has taken up Golf. (Jack Nicklaus who was originally from Columbus and plays pretty good golf. So the Greek says I'm from Columbus so Ive got to be good). If the Golfing Bandit, Pete Alverado, finds out the Greek has taken up Golf, he'll be sending a cab for him. (Who ever heard of a broke Greek.) Jack Gross polish up your Golf Clubs; there's money to be made in New Orleans.

Some years ago Pappy Lawrence headed-up the Konigstuhl Radio station in Heidelberg. Pappy, a country boy, started growing tomatoes in a small spot of ground around their quarters and mess area. Checking his tomatoes one night he found a few beautiful red ones which he intended to pick the next day. The next morning Pappy goes out to pick his tomatoes and found the red ones missing. (Pappy, being up in age which requires a man to make many calls of nature during the night.) Walking back into the mess area, Pappy casually mentions his problem. He further mentioned that he hoped the person or persons who took the tomatoes washed them throughly. Two of the troops rushed out of the Mess gagging. (Do you remember the incident Joe or Tom?)

Looking over the last Sick Call Report, the Phantom notes an increase of names. Get well Folks, we want to see all of you in New Orleans.

HARRY WINTERS FOR VICE PRESENT -- Harry Winters for Vice President

Harry Winters for Vice President -- Harry Winters for Vice President

THE PHANTOM KNOWS !!

### DUES

As required under the Association By-lawsm, members are to be notified at least 60 days that their dues are to be paid on 1 Jan of the current year. This requirement was met with the September newsletter. If you have not paid your current dues, please do so now.

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

### OPEN LETTER FROM THE ACTING PRESIDENT (PAUL MUUSS)

In October I received a letter from John Truffa wherein he resigned as President of our Association and also as host for our reunion in New Orleans for personal reasons. Since that time I have been busy assuming duties as Acting President and taking up duties as host of our next reunion.

First - my duties as acting President. I have been in almost weekly contact with our Secretary/Treasurer, Dave Harris. As usual, he was there with the experience and help that I needed so that we didn't miss a step. We now have a bulk mail permit so that postage costs of this and future newsletters will be greatly reduced. Thanks to Bill Crews and Dave.

Dave is also in contact both by mail and by phone with our Board of Directors. They are providing input for our first board meeting in New Orleans. If ANYONE has a subject that they want us to discuss, please contact Dave.

Second - I have also assumed duties as host of our reunion in New Orleans. I was hoping to host a reunion, but not this soon!! I was up to speed on most aspects of the plans that have already been made, which helped greatly. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find more information about the reunion. My plan as host is not to change what is already in place, but to fine tune what we have so that we can all enjoy our time together.

Again, Dave Harris is making the difference with this very important event. Many members have offered to arrive early to help set up and I am accepting all offers!! Rose and I will arrive early too. I'm sure we can get the CP room up and operating as soon as we arrive. More on the "Early Bird" CP room in the next newsletter.

Finally, I fully expected to be a spectator at this reunion but here I am. The 97th Signal Battalion is our common bond and I will never forget that.

Tried and True

Signed

PAUL MUUSS

**CHANGES, DELETIONS, ADDITIONS, ETC TO THE MEMBERSHIP ROSTER.**

Make corrections listed below to your current membership roster of January 1995:

Additions: (\* indicates active member, other listings should be added to inactive roster.)

\* Pasquale A. Lamalva  
2413 Country Club Dr SE  
Conyers, Ga 30208

John G. Swartz  
1217 Otter Ave  
Oskosh, WI 54901

\* David P. Rand  
Rt 2, Box 385 E  
Presque Isle, ME 04769

\* Kenneth V. Mosher  
RR 1, Box 146  
Stronghurst, IL 61480

\* Jerome L. Wittels  
2116 Via Alamitos  
Palos Verdes, CA 90274

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

George J. Tellman  
PO Box 1615  
Leesburg, VA 22075

**LAST RETREAT**

Susumu Oka Jul 94  
Leonard Cohen Jul 94  
Paul P Wasenda Feb 94  
Reinhardt H Rahn ?  
Roy E Tims 1977  
Jacques Hoffman Sept 94  
Thomas O McGuigan 1978  
Tony Bianco Oct 88  
W A Halme Oct 88  
Sigmund Szklarski ?  
Frank E Cuddy Mar 73  
Gilbert DeShelter Jan 95



Lorin "Red" Jessup Sept 94  
Bernard L Eickholt ?  
James S. Meenan  
Ronald R McKee Nov 94

**COOKBOOK**

The "Tried and True" Cookbook is out!! Looks Great!!  
Get your order in now!!! See page 11 for ordering info.



REUNION REGISTRATION  
 97TH SIGNAL BATTALION ASSOCIATION  
 19-23 APRIL 1995 - NEW ORLEANS, LA

RETURN NO LATER  
 THAN: 1 APRIL 1995

BANQUET

FRIDAY, 21 APRIL 1995

MAIL TO: DAVE HARRIS  
 3608 DUPONT CIRCLE  
 VA BEACH, VA 23455

REGISTRATION FEE:

\$3.00 PER PERSON  
 (NON REFUNDABLE)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE: 97TH SIG BN ASSN

NAMES (AS WILL APPEAR ON NAME TAGS)

MEMBER	SPOUSE	GUEST		
STREET	CITY	STATE	ZIP	TELEPHONE #
MEMBERSHIP CARD #	YR	TROOP/COMPANY	FROM	TO

REGISTRATION FOR SOCIAL EVENTS

FUNCTION	SELF	SPOUSE	GUEST	COST	TOTAL
REGISTRATION FEE:	_____	_____	_____	X \$3.00	_____
BANQUET & ENTERTAINMENT:	_____	_____	_____	X \$25.00	_____
FAREWELL BREAKFAST:	_____	_____	_____	X \$7.00	_____
HOSPITALITY ROOM:	_____	_____	_____	X \$10.00	_____

I HAVE ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_ FOR EVENTS & COST INDICATED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

IS YOUR 1995 MEMBERSHIP DUES PAID???? ENCLOSED??? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MY PARTY WILL ORDER \_\_\_\_\_ ROAST PRIME RIB &/OR \_\_\_\_\_ CORNISH HEN FOR BANQUET  
 SPECIAL DIET RESTRICTIONS?: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER IN PARTY THAT WILL ATTEND: PINOCHLE TOURNAMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

GOLF TOURNAMENT: \_\_\_\_\_ I WILL ARRIVE \_\_\_\_\_ & DEPART \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: THE HOLIDAY INN IS A LOCATION THAT TOUR OPERATORS PICK UP & RETURN  
 PERSONS THAT SIGN UP FOR SIGHT SEEING TOURS. TOUR ARRANGEMENTS CAN  
 BE MADE IN THE HOLIDAY INN LOBBY.

CANCELLATION POLICY: HOTEL - 72 HOURS BANQUET - 72 HOURS

HOLIDAY INN  
 6401 Veterans Blvd  
 Metairie, La 70003  
 (504) 885 5700

REGISTRATION FEE NON REFUNDABLE

HOSPITALITY ROOM: 72 HOURS

**Good News!** The "Tried and True" cookbooks filled with the favorite recipes of members, wives and friends of the 97th Signal Battalion Association have been received. We are very pleased with them and hope you will be also. Get your order in as soon as possible. One half of the cost of the books is due 37 days after the books are shipped. Please send in your orders so we will be able to meet this deadline. Please fill in the order blank and send with check to:

**"TRIED AND TRUE"**  
Emerick and Louise Miller  
2501 Laverne Drive NW  
Huntsville, AL 35810

We will see that your cookbooks are mailed to you as soon as we receive your order. Remember, any profit goes to the treasury of the 97th.

-----

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Number books wanted \_\_\_\_\_ at 10.00      Total \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping and handling per book 2.50      Total \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of check remitted-----Grand Total \_\_\_\_\_