“To Honor, Support, Protect, and Remember the Heritage”

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Bill Palmer

Congratulations to CSM (R) JOE LUPYAK and CSM (R) PETE MORAKON on being selected and inducted as Distinguished Members of the Special Forces Regiment. The Board presented a memorial placard to Dot Dean wife of MSG(R) James C. "Jimmy" Dean. Memorial Pavers for MSG Dean will be purchased and placed at USSOCOM in Tampa and The Special Operations Museum in Fayetteville. The Board is also hoping to establish a scholarship fund for Special Forces children in his name. I will keep you posted on the scholarship program!

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND SUGGESTIONS!!

De Oppresso Liber

CONTRIBUTIONS MADE IN MEMORY OF MSG (R) JAMES C. “JIMMY” DEAN

At left Assistant Secretary, Mike Simpson, shows Dot Dean the picture mounted on a wood plaque that will be displayed in the Museum. Dot is holding another copy that Mike has just presented. Looking on are (L) Pete Morakon, Vice President of the Executive Board and (R) Wes McKelvey of the Advisory Council. The presentation was at the 14 July meeting. These two plaques were made and sent to us by Jake Jakovenko. We want to thank and commend Jake for his dedicated and continued support of the Museum.

| ADKINS, FRANK W.   | GRAHAM, FRANCIS & PATRICIA | KUNIMURA, ROY M.   | SFA CHAPTER 46 |
| ALICASTRO, JOSEPH  | GILBREATH, TOMMIE L.       | LETT, JAMES L.     | SFA CHAPTER 48 |
| BOWEN, NATHAN C., JR. | GROSE, DAVID J.          | MORTON, JOHN RILEY | SFA CHAPTER 49 |
| BRUSHWOOD, WILLIAM H. | HETTLINGER, DORA          | NORTON, CHARLES W  | SFA CHAPTER 60 |
| COOMBS, WILLIAM     | HEIB, DAN                 | NOVELLO, CHRISTOPHER A. | SFA CHAPTER 64 |
| DAHLBY, JEFFREY D   | HEIB, ERIK D              | PAVLK, JOHN D      | SFA CHAPTER 89 |
| DEACY, JOHN J       | HEIB, RYAN M.             | PETRIE, GEORGE     | SHONDEL, JOHN S., JR. |
| DUNLAP, LEE C. & JAN | HEIB, YVONNE             | RICH, WAYNE F     | SMITH, ROBERT L., JR |
| GOLDEN, ARTHUR F.   | HILL, ROY F               | RUBIO, ANTHONY L.  | TRIMBLE, LARRY L. |
| FLINT, EDWARD L.    | HOLLAND, MICHAEL E. & JANET | SFA CHAPTER 31   | VAUGHT, JAMES B. |
| FLORES, ALEJANDRO   | KRENZ, ALBERT C           | SFA CHAPTER 37     | ZACHARY, JAMES L. |
Total amount donated by 149 contributors to date is: $19,450.00.

THE SECRETARY’S SECTION

By George Heib

We have a nice growth in active membership due in part to donations made by individuals IMO Jimmy Dean. That is one of the items that Jimmy strove for and worked hard to achieve. What we need to do is get out there and reach more people in the SOF community who are not members and get them aboard. Below is the current table of SOF Warriors who have been KIA or died while serving during the GWOT (to include those who died in training accidents). As you can see all but eleven are recognized by an IMO plate thanks to several members who keep us busy on this project. We have another list of 58 names of those who have died in places such as Somalia, and various training accidents. All but 18 of them have been adopted. Of course we also have the complete list (886 names) of those who SF members who died in VN. Some of these have been recognized with plates by their comrades. If you wish to know more on this subject please feel free to contact us.

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De Oppresso Liber!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

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* Widows, SOF Organizations, MOH recipients, some SFA Chapters, SOF Commanders and CSM’s.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

Bennie Pokemire

We really appreciate the 44 additional donations that we have received this quarter IMO Jimmy Dean, and will continue to carry them in a special listing so we can make sure we get a plaque large enough to display all of these donors. Hopefully we will have them all in by the end of August. FYI: All donations of $10.00 or more will be recognized on this plaque. It is interesting to note that 20 SFA Chapters, two organizations and one business donated along with 126 individuals. Of the individuals: two donated $2,000.00, one sent in $1,350.00, and two families gave $1,000.00.

THANKS - YOU ARE SPECIAL !!
De Oppresso Liber
Bennie

THE TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF 31 MAY 2007

FIRST CITIZENS BANK (GIFT SHOP) $ 11,384.17
FIRST CITIZENS BANK (GENERAL FUND) $ 39,811.76
TOTAL ENDING CASH ASSETS $ 51,195.93
A. G. EDWARDS ACCOUNTS $ 321,526.80
PLUS APPROXIMATELY IN STOCK/MERCHANDISE FOR GIFT SHOP/BOOK STORE $ 93,000.00
PLUS A CARGO VAN VALUED AT $ 14,475.00
TOTAL CASH, STOCK, AND OTHER ASSETS $ 480,197.73

CONTRIBUTIONS SINCE LAST MUSINGS

($10,000.00 PLUS) NEW HONOR MEMBERS

LTC (R) JOHN RILEY MORTON (THREE DONATIONS) # 4

($5,000.00 PLUS) NEW LEADERSHIP MEMBERS

MICHAEL E. & JANET HOLLAND (SIX DONATIONS) # 20

($1,000.00 PLUS) NEW BENEFACCTOR MEMBERS

SFC (R) DAN, CPT YVONNE, ERIK D., AND RYAN M. HEIB
MSG (R) R. MICHAEL KARR (THREE DONATIONS)

($100.00 PLUS) DONATIONS AND NEW LIFE OR CENTURY MEMBERS

CPT ROBERT L. BAIRD (NEW LIFE AND CENTURY MEMBER) JAMES W. LEWIS (PATRON)
SGM (R) WILLIAM COOMBS (LEADERSHIP MEMBER) MAJ (R) JOHN PLASTER (BENEFACCTOR)
JOHN J. DEACY (NEW LIFE AND CENTURY MEMBER) THOMAS J. RATCLIFF (NEW LIFE MEMBER)
DOT DEAN (LIFE AND CENTURY MEMBER) (TWO DONATIONS) SFA CHAPTER 31 (LIFE AND CENTURY MEMBER)
AUBREY E & JOANN GADDIS (PATRON) (TWO DONATIONS) SFA CHAPTER 37 (NEW LIFE AND CENTURY MEMBER)
CSM (R) ARTHUR E GOLDEN (LIFE AND CENTURY MEMBER) SFA CHAPTER 44 (NEW CENTURY MEMBER)
SGM (R) JOHN A. GOMES (LEADERSHIP MEMBER) (THREE DONATIONS) SFA CHAPTER 46 (BENEFACCTOR)
DR FRANCIS M. & MRS PATRICIA L. GRAHAM (CENTURY MEMBER) SFA CHAPTER 48 (LEADERSHIP MEMBER)
SGM (R) VLADIMIR (JAKE) JAKOVENKO (PATRON) (FIVE DONATIONS) SFA CHAPTER 49 (LEADERSHIP MEMBER)

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS AND/OR ANNUAL RENEWALS

CSM (R) FRANK W. ADKINS (CENTURY AND LIFE) MSG (R) TOMMIE L. GILBREATH
JOSEPH ALICASTRO JAMES L. LETT
MSG (R) FLORES, ALEJANDRO COL (R) CHARLES W. NORTON (CENTURY AND LIFE)
SGM (R) NATHAN C BOWEN JR SFC (R) CHRISTOPHER A. NOVELLO
CHONG H. BROADWATER JOHN R. OAKS (CENTURY AND LIFE) (FOUR DONATIONS)
WILLIAM H. BRUSHWOOD (LIFE MEMBER) JOHN D. PAVLIK
MAJ (R) JOHN E. CLECKNER GEORGE PETRIE
JEFFREY D. DAHLBY WAYNE F. RICH (LIFE MEMBER)
MAJ (R) LEE C. & JAN DUNLAP (CENTURY AND LIFE) MSG (R) MILFORD ROGERS (CENTURY AND LIFE)
GARY K. EVERLEY SFA CHAPTER 60 (CENTURY MEMBER)
EDWARD L. FLINT LTC (R) JOHN S. SHONDEL, JR
DAVID J. GROSE (CENTURY AND LIFE) ROBERT L. SMITH, JR
LTC (R) GEORGE D. HEIB LARRY L. TRIMBLE (LIFE MEMBER)
DORA HETTLINGER (CENTURY AND LIFE) JOHN L. WASH, JR.
ROY M. KUNIMURA JAMES L. ZACHARY
COL (R) CHARLES W. NORTON (CENTURY AND LIFE)

The numbers of donations listed are those that have been received since the last Musings.

CONTRIBUTIONS MADE IN MEMORY OF

These contributions were made in the memory of departed comrades, friends, or relatives.

PERSON MEMORIALIZED (OR HONORED) NAME OF DONOR
PFC BERNARD ALMEIDA, 1ST LOUDSPEAKER & LEAFLET CO, KOREAN WAR LTC (R) JOHN RILEY MORTON
PFC ANTHONY AREZZO, 1ST LOUDSPEAKER & LEAFLET CO, KOREAN WAR LTC (R) JOHN RILEY MORTON
BG W. CRAIG BROADWATER CHONG H. BROADWATER
CPT ALVIN LYNN BROUSSARD, 5TH SFG (A) HELICOPTER CRASH –AZ, 3-12-89 LTC (R) JOHN RILEY MORTON
CPT ALAN CLYDE BROWN, 5TH SFG (A) HELICOPTER CRASH –AZ, 3-12-89 LTC (R) JOHN RILEY MORTON
On the Saturday, 21 April, a group of Volunteers helped put the last issue of the Musings in the Mail. They did it in just 45 minutes and with very few mistakes. These are the perpetrators: Betty Amaker, Curt Boyd, Bart Brown, Walt Campbell, Bob Folwell, Rosie Folwell, Spencer Gay, Bob Gilstrap, George Heib, George Heib, Jr., Norm Heib, Roy Hill, Ralph Loff, and Bill Palmer. We had to wait until Monday to get it in the mail, as the bulk mails facility is only open on weekdays.

By Betty Amaker

Lois and I have been very busy with 1st Regimental Formation at Seay Field every month while the construction is going on around our building. The 1st Regimental Formation has been temporarily moved from Special Warfare Center and School plaza to Seay Field. We load our van and take our merchandise to Seay Field where a tent is set up. The Gift Shop is providing the graduating Special Forces soldiers and their family's our Gift Shop merchandise for purchase. The Gift Shop was also invited to set up our merchandise at Pinelander Day at Camp McCull. Between the 1st Regimental Formation, and after Pinelander Day, the Gift Shop re-packed the van and drove to Oklahoma City, OK for the annual SFA re-union. Two days after I got back, we set up our merchandise at Seay Field again for the 1st Regimental Formation. A week after 1st Regimental Formation, we set up our Gift Shop merchandise at SWCS organization Day at Smith Lake. For the past two months, packing, unpacking, and re-packing for different events have been hectic for Lois and I. On top of covering all these special events, we have had to work around the construction. It has not been easy, but workable for the two us. If you are trying to visit the Gift Shop and the Museum, you will need to use the Marion Street entrance off of Gruber Road. The Main Gift Shop will have new operating schedule for Saturdays and Sundays while the construction is going on. We will be open the first two Saturdays and Sundays of each month, but closed the last two Saturdays and Sundays. Our business has slowed down for many reasons at this time of the year, especially on the last two weekends of the month. Even the curator, Roxanne Merritt, has noted that the Museum visitation has dropped since last year. We are hiring another person after the construction is completed. Next month in August, the only event we are covering is the 1st Regimental Formation at Seay Field. In September, we will be attending the 5th Group Re-union and picnic at Fort Campbell for a couple of days.

Thanks for your support! Betty

THE CURATOR’S CORNER

By Roxanne Merritt

It is amazing how fast a half year can pass! We are currently an island in the middle of a large construction site. The trenches around the building await new pipes and cable while the construction across the street is a testament to a new NCO Academy and Warrant Officer School in JFK Hall, due to be completed in early 2008. As the recent explosion of steam pipes in New York City attests, most cities’ infrastructure is outdated. Fort Bragg’s is no different. The work on the pipes is scheduled to continue until October 2007.

We are still open. For the best directions, please check our web site which we keep updated. It also has a link to the Fort Bragg garrison web page for the most up-to-date changes in traffic patterns. Our web site is: www.soc.mil/swcs/museum/museum.shtml. This has decreased our visitor traffic, but we still get tours of Special Forces students as well as ROTC and family members from the First Regimental Formations temporarily held at Seay Field near the COSCOM area. Between April and June, we hosted over 8,000 visitors.

The Museum has expanded! No, not physically, but in volume of historical property. We are now the proud owners of the USAJFKSWCS Army Special Operations Archives. This is a long time in coming - in fact 18 years - from when it was first
approved by TRADOC in 1989. Ten years later, MG Ken Bowra and COL “Andy” Anderson built upon the concept pitched by BG Richard Potter and hired a full-time professional Archivist – Ms. Cynthia Hayden, and efforts were made to forge a world class facility that would effectively capture the historical documentation of the Army Special Operations Command simultaneous to supporting the POI of USAJKSWCS. Ms. Hayden, who first began her professional career as a Museum Aide at the JFK Museum, has accepted a promotion with the US Marine Special Operations Command, after making noble progress with our repository, expanding its inventory to over 39,000 files, photographs, a technical library of TMs, STs, and POIs, AV product, maps and oral histories. Several books such as Warrior Healers: The Untold Story of the Special Forces Medics by Len Blessing, Jr., carried in the gift shop, have made use of the extensive collection. The inclusion of the repository into the JFK Museum will allow us to better provide for our community by reducing a duplication of effort in processing accessions, performing conservation, marrying the two large photograph collections into one, and purchasing of supplies. We will also dramatically reduce the amount of redundancy in both collections. The JFK Museum often, and thankfully, receives mixed donations of archival material intermixed with artifacts such as with the COL Francis J. Kelly (USA Ret) collection. We also receive accessions which are purely archival which was the case of the COL Ian D.W. Sutherland collection. By including the Archives, we can streamline the paperwork process. The repository is open for researchers, staff, and students from 9 – 5 Monday through Friday. As we are currently short staffed, please first contact either the Archives at 910-396-4671 or the Museum at 910-432-4272 prior to visiting.

Last month, I accompanied Mrs. Kathryn Russell and Mr. Robert T. Frederick, the grandchildren of MG Robert T. Frederick in retracing the route of the First Special Service Force from Monte la Defensa over to Anzio and then into Rome. Some of the area, such as Monte la Defensa is relatively untouched while other places such as Anzio, looking much like Myrtle Beach, is unrecognizable due to the development of the prime beach front real estate. What is remarkable is how much the landscape of Monte la Defensa mirrors Mount Helena in Montana where they trained. It also resembles photographs of some areas in Afghanistan that we have received. In reality, with the catacombs throughout the mountains of the region, this resemblance is more than skin deep. From all indications, the trek up Monte la Defensa was the first made by any descendents of the Force which seemed most appropriate. The memorial markers, in English and Italian, are prominently displayed in the various towns along the route from Anzio to Rome as well as Rome itself.

We paid our respects at the various cemeteries for the Forcemen and found that the 21 Canadians of the unit were erroneously identified in the British cemetery at Camino as “Special Service troops.” I contacted General Ian Douglas, retired from the Canadian Army and a liaison with both the Association and the Canadian military and, hopefully, he will be able to get the matter resolved. We are assuming that the same designation has been applied to other Canadian “Black Devils” in Southern France as well.

Please come and see us. We have several new and upgraded exhibits in both galleries to see.

Roxanne

LTC (R) Hans J. Manz. 84, D-101, passed away early Monday morning, May 21, 2007 in his home town of Myrtle Beach, SC. He was born in Bonn, Germany, December 7, 1922, and immigrated to the United States at age 7. Hans was a veteran of WWII, served as a Company Commander during the Korean conflict, and Special Ops in Vietnam. His SF assignment include the 77th SFG (A), 10th SFG (A), 7th SFG (A), 5th SFG (A), and the Special Forces School. During his career he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for Valor, two Purple Hearts, the CIB (second award), the Master Parachutist Badge, the Presidential Unit citation, three Campaign ribbons, and many other awards. A service celebrating Hans's life was held at 1100 hrs; Friday, May 25, 2007 at Southeastern Memorial Gardens Mausoleum, North Myrtle Beach, SC, and entombment followed the services. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to: Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, PO Box 1947, Quantico, VA 22134. Survivors include his longtime companion, two daughters, and three grandchildren.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!!!

Along with this issue is the ballot for election of the Advisory Council for the years 2008-2010. You just need to fold it, fasten it with a piece of scotch tape, put on a first class stamp and then slip it in the mail. You may vote for 15 members. Please note that at least three members of the Advisory Council, must be active duty members. We are fortunate that the three members presently serving and who have agreed to stay with us represent CA (Col Ferdinand Irizarry, PSOPS, Col Curt Boyd, and SF, Col Jack Kaplan. For your information: The new Advisory Council will assume their positions on 1 January and will be installed at the January meeting. They will appoint the Executive Board (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary, and Assistant Treasurer) when the term of the present board expires at the end of 2008.

BOOK REVIEWS

YOU ARE STEPPING ON MY CLOAK AND DAGGER, by Roger Hall - Having first read this book back in the 60s, it's the one I would have said most deserves to be back in print after all these years, so it's great to see that this is the case. The book is the autobiographical narrative of Roger Hall's time in the OSS, starting from his initial arrival for training, through his deployment in the
European field, and finally arriving back after the war to debrief German POWs. It could have been a very dry and dull book, but Hall puts humor in nearly everywhere, and you get the idea that this is not because he's a masterful writer, carefully crafting the humor, as would Dave Barry, but rather because he and his pals had quirky sense of humor and a joy of life no matter where they were. And the book reads as well now as it did back in the 50s and 60s. Now if only a movie were made of it...Who thought spying could be funny. If you like to laugh, this is the book for you. Hall's life as a spy was hardly 007-ish, but you can't find a spy with a better sense of humor. It's hard to believe that one Army officer could find himself in as many laughable predicaments as he was. This book will ring even truer for those who have seen military service. More than once, I had to wipe tears of laughter from my eyes so I could continue reading. Not a long read, but certainly one high on the laugh scale. I guess you can say it is like reading Dilbert comics for three hours, just change out Dilbert's corporation for the military and OSS. The book takes us through numerous training assignments of Hall's - patrolling, ambushing, parachuting, espionage basics, infiltration into civilian organizations, and more. Typical of most American WWII soldiers, he spent far more time training than he ever did in combat. The most interesting sections of the book are his parachute and espionage training. He describes both in fascinating detail. It is quite funny to see how amateurish much of his spy training was - I suppose that's why the CIA would have liked for the book not to be published. Hall writes in an irreverent and playful style that makes his book both fun and easy to read. He is the type of original smart-ass that self-important superior officials love to hate. I thoroughly enjoyed reading it, especially as it pokes fun at a rather serious business.

BODYGUARD OF LIES, by Robert Doherty - Action packed from beginning to end, only to be dropped like a bag of groceries with a disappointing ending. It was almost as though there were so many pieces of the puzzle left unanswered, that instead of writing a well thought-out ending, Doherty cheesed out and tied it back to one un-likely plot. The first 80% is quality reading, and almost worth the price of admission. If you enjoy government/espionage-style thrillers, this is a great pick. It reads very easily but has enough twists and turns to keep your mind spinning. You will be up all night to find out how it ends!

ripples of battle, by Victor Davis Hanson - Victor Davis Hanson explores some of the consequences and effects of three battles: Okinawa, Shiloh, and Delium. The book starts off with Okinawa in which the author lost an uncle. This provides a very personal touch as the author explains his efforts to find out more information about his Uncle. In discussing all three battles the author covers some of the obvious consequences, like the loss of loved ones and how that affected families back home. He reviews some of the changes to military strategy after each battle and changes in politics. He also shows that there are many less obvious consequences to each battle.

BAIL OUT OVER NORTH AFRICA, by LTG William Pelham Yarborough - This one again was a repeat reading, having read the first edition. This second Edition has a great listing of all the participants in the first combat jump made by American parachutists. It also has a forward by another old friend, Lee Mize, MOH Recipient. If you are interested in airborne history, and want to know how it all began, this is the book for you.

TERRORISM, AFGHANISTAN, AND AMERICA'S NEW WAY OF WAR, by Norman Friedman - Award-winning author and defense analyst Norman Friedman offers a first-rate, in-depth analysis of the radically new tactics and strategy used by the United States in Afghanistan. He then sets the Afghan war in the wider context of the war against terrorism, exploring the rationale for and consequences of the September 11 attacks. Friedman asserts that the terrorists’ attacks were intended to inspire a wider movement in the Muslim world that would lead to a pan-Muslim empire headed by Osama bin Laden. He argues that the attempt failed largely because of determined U.S. action and that the coalition’s success in Afghanistan has moved the war on terrorism towards the realm of police and intelligence operations. Although many books have examined September 11 and its aftermath, this work is the first to set the Afghan war in the context of an evolving U.S. tactical style that follows the new network-centric pattern and the first to use Afghanistan as a test of that pattern. The book also fully explores the contributions made by the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps while fighting in the land-locked country and the importance of the use of maritime power in the future. Nor does Friedman neglect to acknowledge the role played by politics, including the ethnic politics of Pakistan. Finally, the author’s careful examination of the new concepts of warfare as applied to the Afghan war provides valuable lessons to those concerned about future conflicts.

FINDING YOUR FATHER'S WAR A Practical Guide to Researching and Understanding Service in the World War II US Army, by Jonathan Gawne - Leading military historian and researcher, Jonathan Gawne, explains and shares the techniques he uses to research archives, libraries, veteran associations, and myriad other sources of information to track down the wartime career of an individual. The author describes this as "What I did, and what you can do to find out what 'he' did in the army." The book gives an overview of the Army in World War II, from the basics up. Learn the difference between a corporal and a major, or a squad and a brigade. What can you tell from a serial number? What is the difference between the quartermaster corps and the transportation corps? What was the path most soldiers took from civilian life to trained soldier? What (and where) is the ETO, PTO and ATO? All the basic facts you need to understand Army service in WW2. He goes on to explain how to find information from such sources as discharges, uniforms, paperwork, the National Personnel records center, National Archives, other facilities and what you can expect from veterans organizations (and how to find them). Places to look for information and what you can or cannot get from them. Finally the book helps you to assemble the data you have collected and piece the story of your relatives' wartime service together. It also gives advice on preserving the memories - oral histories, photos, artifacts, documents, etc. Detailed appendices give information on such things as insignia of ranks and branches, listing of common MOS's, a breakdown of each division by sub unit, with a brief history and a listing of their campaigns, a capsule history of each campaign and a bibliography of useful books on various campaigns and units. Color illustrations of campaign ribbons, decorations and insignia accompany the detailed text.

TAKE DOWN, by JIM Lacey - Is a superb examination of the combat operations of the 3rd Infantry Division, as it conducted one of the most spectacular operations in American military history in late March and early April 2003. Takedown is a brilliant account of modern combat and battle leadership.
Over time the impression has grown that the 2003 invasion of Iraq met with little resistance and that, with few exceptions, the Iraqi army simply melted away. As this book clearly shows, nothing could be further from the truth. In its drive to capture Baghdad, the U.S. Army's 3rd Infantry Division was in nearly constant combat for twenty-one days. While Americans were watching Saddam's statue being torn down on TV, a brigade of the 3rd ID was on the verge of being overrun by Iraqi Republican Guard units trying to escape north. Told to hold two bridges in his sector, a brigade commander had to blow up one of them because he did not have the combat power to hold it. The company commander holding the other bridge was so hard pressed that he called on the artillery to fire their final protective fires—a command made only when a unit is in mortal danger and one that had not been given since Vietnam. Every one of the division's armored vehicles was hit by rockets—some taking more than a dozen hits—and the fighting was so fierce at times that entire battalions ran out of ammunition. Nevertheless, when the fighting was finally over, the 3rd ID had destroyed two Iraqi Regular Army divisions and three divisions of the much-vaunted Republican Guard.

Here we are again with several reviews of books carried in our Gift Shop. Two of them I had already read several years ago but picked up copies to try them again. If you want the full story of the 3rd ID’s fight, you might also want to read “Thunder Run”, by David Zucchini.

AFGHANISTAN AND THE TROUBLED FUTURE OF UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE, by Hy S. Rothstein A Naval Postgraduate School professor and former career Special Forces officer looks at why the U.S. military cannot conduct unconventional warfare despite a significant effort to create and maintain such a capability. In his examination of Operation Enduring Freedom, Hy Rothstein maintains that although the operation in Afghanistan appeared to have been a masterpiece of military creativity, the United States executed its impressive display of power in a totally conventional manner—despite repeated public statements by Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld that terrorists must be fought with unconventional capabilities. Arguing that the initial phase of the war was appropriately conventional given the conventional disposition of the enemy, the author suggests that once the Taliban fell the war became increasingly unconventional, yet the U.S. response became more conventional. This book presents an authoritative overview of the current American way of war and addresses the specific causes of the “conventionalization” of U.S. Special Forces, using the war in Afghanistan as a case study. Drawing a distinction between special operations and unconventional warfare (the use of Special Forces does not automatically make the fighting unconventional), Rothstein questions the ability of U.S. forces to effectively defeat irregular threats and suggests ways to regain lost unconventional warfare capacity.

THE R COMPLEX, by Col (R) Tom Davis. - A veteran of 23 years of Special Forces Service, on four continents and in ten foreign countries. The R-complex is a fast-paced action adventure novel about organized crime, drugs cartels, terrorists groups, revenge killings, brutal murders, improvised demolitions, a man who's the ultimate killing machine, a female assassin, and a Special Forces A Team infiltrating Colombia, South America, to bring two villains to justice recently referred to in the news as The Salvador Option.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

By George Heib

It was with sadness that we did the Taps section this month and had to put in the name of one of our favorite people. HANS Manz was my boss when I returned from VN and was promoted to Major. He was an outstanding mentor and was known for his great sense of humor. Because he recently had to step down from his service on the Advisory Council, we did not see him as often as we wanted to. Our lives will be a little more empty with his departure. A couple of notes: We only list in our taps section the names of our members who have passed on. The SFA lists all known SF personnel. We are grateful to Col Bob Harter who arranged for us to receive updates on deaths of SOF personnel, that includes NBD and those who died in training accidents.