508th Parachute Infantry Regiment Association



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NEWS LETTER

OCTOBER 1980 ISSUE 15

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1981 DAYTONA BEACH

Next years reunion will be held in Daytona Beach, Fla. on June 26, 27, and 28th. This was decided by the members in this years business meeting. Mike Wargo (Hq.1st) is the chairmen. Mike assures us there will be "fun in the sun in '81".

The place is the Desert Inn on the beach. It has 2 pools and is located within walking distance of other fine hotels and restaurants. Daily tours leave the hotel lobby for Cape Canaveral, Disney, Sea World, Marineland, Silver Springs etc. Deep sea fishing is available. The rates will be $30.00 a night starting June 21 through June 29.

Mike is getting help from the Florida 508ers, but he would like to hear from all of his old buddies with offers of help. Contact Mike at 322 Douglas St., Edgewater, Fla. 32032, with your offers of assistance. It's a huge job putting on one of these reunions. Join the Wargo gang to take your turn at making '81 another successful reunion.

INDY - ANOTHER SUCCESS

The Indy reunion was another success for the 508th. We had 337 old buddies and their families in attendance. Everyone had a good time in very plush surroundings. The hotel was only two years old and had never been through a 508th reunion or its equivalent.

We kept the pool and restaurants hopping. In fact, the pool was so popular that McMillan, Wodowski, and Prezto went in fully clothed-or were they pushed? They managed to throw that pretty little life guard in too. That was the day of the beer bust. Those who didn't want to swim or soak up the sunshine were entertained by a virtuoso on the electric accordion. He had our kind of music and a good beat for dancing.

The reunion was kicked off by Lou Mendez. He was our speaker at the welcoming breakfast. He hasn't slowed down any and put everyone in the right frame of mind for a good time.

A very large group of us enjoyed bus tours of Indianapolis and stops at interesting and historic sites. That was Friday during the day. That evening we invaded many outlying restaurants and night clubs. Anne and I enjoyed dinner at the Brown Derby with about 98 other 508ers.

The evening of our dinner dance saw our own color guard post the colors. Charles Logue (Med), Joe Condray (Hq.1st), Frank McKee (F), and Ed Zuroweste (I) did a fine job and looked

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BUSINESS MEETING

Our annual business meeting is scheduled for 9:30 Friday morning, July 4th. It's always interesting and informative.

We'll have to reaffirm our interest in Atlanta as a 1981 reunion site and select a place for 1982. The perennial question of what month is best for reunions will come up again. (We should probably rotate the month as well as the city.)

There will be committee reports. Some inquiries have been made as to the possibility of a 508th Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery. Also some work along similar lines has been done with people in Holland. We have also been contacted about support for an all Airborne Museum at Fort Benning. Those are interesting and challenging topics.

There will also be an election of officers for 1981 and other pertinent Association business. Plan on being there to help with our future directions.

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REUNION HELP

The Indy committee is well organized but they are looking for more help. Many hands make light work. Helpers don't have to come from Indiana. You are all ex-paratroopers capable of doing anything. If you can help in Indy, write- JOE PETRY, 920 LONE OAK RD. ANDERSON, IND. 46011

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NOTES FROM BOB CHISOLM

Bob, I Co, is our Vice President. He's a Texas tornado in finding old 508ers and keeping our Association growing.

Recently he sent a letter to all men on our roster who don't indicate in which Company they served. He asked for this information and would like it back right away so that he can put together a 508th roster by company. This will be distributed in Indy.

Also Bob is asking all of us to send him any 508th orders we may have with names and dog tags or serial numbers. He has a way of tracing buddies this way. If you can't make a copy, send him the original and he will copy it and return it.

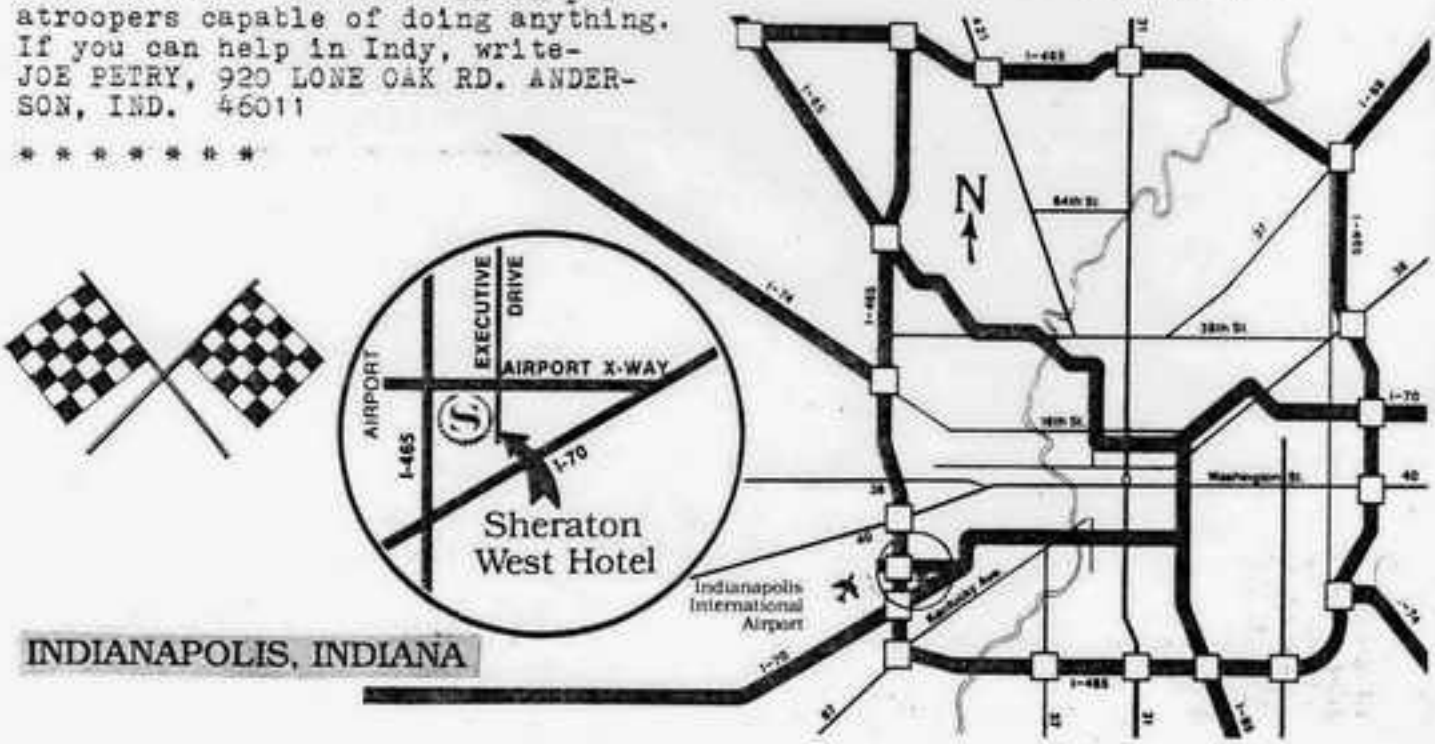
Write to Bob Chisolm, 601 Las Olas Ct. El Paso, Texas, 79932

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MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

NOTE: we lost our name and number index in Chicago at the 2nd convention. Since then we have not been assigning numbers. Sorry about that.

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508th P.I.R. ASSOCIATION - - - 1980 REUNION PRE-REGISTRATION

NAME: Mr _____ WIFE _____ CO _____
ADDRESS: NUMBER & STREET _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
I WILL HAVE _____ GUESTS, AND THE NAMES FOR THEIR NAME TAGS ARE:
NAMES _____
REGISTRATION FEE IS $45.00 PER PERSON
ENCLOSED IS $ _____ REGISTRATION FEE FOR _____ PEOPLE.

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HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION -No advance payment needed
PLEASE RESERVE _____ DOUBLE ROOM, _____ SINGLE ROOM.
WE WILL ARRIVE ON (DATE) _____ IN THE _____ AM _____ PM
WE WILL CHECK OUT ON (DATE) _____

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OPTIONAL CITY TOUR (advance payment required)

I WILL NOT GO_____ . I WILL GO_____ . PLEASE RESERVE ____ PLACES FOR ME AT $12.50 EACH. TOTAL FOR TOUR = $_____.

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MAKE ALL CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO 508th PIR ASSOCIATION
SEND NO MONEY FOR THE HOTEL.
SEND ALL PRE-REGISTRATION FORMS, CHECKS OR OTHER FORM OF PAYMENT, WITH THE HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION TO:
JIM SMITH, 1403 VALENCIA DRIVE, FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. 28303

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REGISTRATION DEADLINE

The deadline for registering for both the hotel and the tour are June 21,1980. The hotel will not guarantee a room after that and the tour company has to have their drivers scheduled by then. Get your registration form and money to Jim Smith in Fayetteville before then so that you can be near your buddies.

Those of you who can't make that date will still be welcome. It's just that on the spot accommodations can't be guaranteed by the hotel on a holiday weekend.

SPECIAL TOUR FOR 508ers

The Indy gang has lined up a special 6 hour tour for us on Saturday, July 5. It's an optional separate payment and register ahead affair. We have to commit for the tour now so the bus drivers can be lined up over the holiday weekend.

The tour will take you past points of interest in the city, ride around the 500 track, visit the 500 museum, and tour the art museum. The price will be $12.50 per person and does not include the meal at a lunch stop. This whole package can be arranged on the reunion registration form on page 3.

A huge D Day memorial gathering is planned for June 5-6-7 at Fort Bragg for all participants regardless of unit. Our buddies in the area say that the last one held several years ago was very good.

Accommodations are being provided in Moon Hall, a bachelor officers quarters, behind Kennedy Special Forces Center. Here's the schedule:

6-5-80 -1300-1600 - Registration
1700 - Cocktails, own expense.
6-6-80 -0600-0800 -Breakfast in Moon Hall -own expense
0830-1600 - Demonstration & Lunch in field
1700-1800- Open Bar
1830-0100 -Banquet-coat & tie
7-6-80 - 0600-0830 Breakfast in Moon Hall-own expense
0830-1200- Tour 82nd Div. Museum & Area
1200-1300- Lunch & farewell

Prices $50.00- Includes room in Moon Hall
$30.00 -Without room
$12.50 - Banquet only

The British will have 16 VIP's present and the Dutch 14.

For reservations write: William Hall, 103 Blanton Rd. Fayetteville, N.C. 28303

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1980 OFFICERS

CHAIRMAN - O.B.HILL
917 McCARTHY COURT,
EL SEGUNDO, CAL. 90245

PRESIDENT - KEN(ROCK) MERRITT
1517 ATWICK DRIVE
FAYETTEVILLE,N.C. 28304

VICE PRESIDENT - BOB CHISOLM
601 LAS OLAS CT.
EL PASO, TX. 79932

TREASURER - JIM SMITH
1403 VALENCIA DRIVE
FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. 28303

NEW MEMBERS

The 1980-81 Roster will soon be drawn up. If you can get any new names to me,schnell,pronto or quickly, they'll be included.

You newer found members ought to have some addresses of old buddies to dig up. We've pretty well exhausted the supply of the earlier members. Just get on the phone and start asking for phone numbers. It costs nothing for information; and if your friend is still in the directory, he'll be worth the call.

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REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

These live wires are getting together in Florida the end of May to get warmed up for the bigger affair over July 4th. Harry Hudec tells me they will meet in Daytona Beach Shores, Fla.,over May 23-25. For further details write Harry at 5190 Forest Ave, Maple Hgts, Ohio, 44137

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STATIC LINE

Keep up your subscription to Static Line, the lifeline of the airborne. It's not only an outstanding monthly newspaper dedicated to airborne news and history but our unofficial monthly communication. Don Lassen a WW II 505er is the editor. He always has a page or two of 508th news for us. The cost is $16.00 a year. Write,Static Line, Box 87518, College Park, GA 30337

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Jim Allardyce

SECRETARY - JIM ALLARDYCE
335 ARDUSSI ST.
FRANKENMUTH, MICH. 48734