

# CREDIBILIS

Psychological Operations Veterans Association

SUMMER 2006

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is the last newsletter before our 11<sup>th</sup> Reunion. Remember, 66 hours of fun in the Ozarks, 66 hours of all you can eat, poker, stage shows, a business meeting, banquet and lots of friendship!

I'm reminded of a line from the Beatles song, Here comes the Sun, " Little darling, its been a cold and lonely winter ..... here comes the sun, here comes the sun, its all right." It has been a tough slog for us Mindbenders to get to this point. There are so many we've lost along the way, but we move on and with our Rose ceremony we'll remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Sure, we will pause to have our business meeting but the real reason for this gathering is to meet, mingle and demonstrate that all the hotshot pokeristas aren't on TV. John Cheney has planned a fun time for is in Welk-land. Let's try to make it - - - and enjoy !!!!!

By the time you read this, it will be the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, the 231<sup>st</sup> year we operate as a nation under the Declaration of Independence, which guarantees religious freedom. We split from England because we were not allowed to find our own way. Revisionists now say the only reason, we won our war of independence was that England was fighting several wars and the King; George III should have been served his mutton in a padded room. Most revisionists never read Paine, John Locke or Voltaire. After the United States took the lead, France, Germany, Italy, Russia and others followed our revolution but theirs eventuality end up as another totalitarian state. It is our genius for compromise and common sense, lacking in other nations, that sustains us. To become free you have to try it first, that's why we've made it.

After we freed ourselves; we prepared a social contract, the Articles of Confederation, which made as much sense as today's Part D Medicaid. So then we labored at a writing a document, the Constitution and the bill of rights that implemented the freedoms espoused in 1776. The United States from its first days as an English Colony was a haven for all religions. People were free to be Catholics, Puritans, Baptists and Druids without interference from their government. Let's remember our heritage amid the hoopla and the fireworks. We are burnishing the glow of freedom in Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. Let's keep supporting our troops and party hardy in Branson September 14 – 17!!

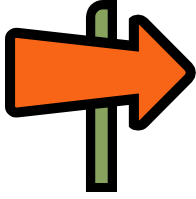
Until that time, Let Freedom most definitely Ring.

**Joe Rosenberg**

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► **Presenter at Center for the Study of the Korean War Annual Conference Presents Annual Award to "Paul A. Wolfgeher for Continuing Services to Center's Mission. (Check Spring 2006 Credibilis for related story).**



## USACAPOC Realigns from USASOC to USARC

Article featured in USASOC News Service  
May 23, 2006

### U.S. Army Special Operations Command

**FORT BRAGG, N.C. – A ceremony here today Marked the transfer of operational command and control of the U.S. Army Special Operations Command to the U. S. Army Reserve Command.**

**“Today’s transfer of command is about recognizing the critical civil affairs and psychological operations mission support requirements for both special operations and conventional operations,” said Lt. Gen. Robert W. Wagner, USASOC commanding general and co-host of the ceremony.**

**“ I will miss not having CAPOC as a part of Army Special Operations Command, nevertheless, the transformation is the right thing to do and I fully Support it. The focus is not on the transfer, it is on Importance of the mission.”**

**This move will enable the Army to maximize the effectiveness of these forces by reducing the number of coordinating headquarters, enabling closer and More direct care for the Army Reserve Soldiers and Family members assigned to these units.**

**Referring to the Army Son “The Army Goes Rolling Along,” Lt. Gen. James R. Helmly, commander of U. S. Army Reserve Command, stressed the importance of modernization. “I think we have to streamline and flatten our command and control structure to push more resources into the operational pool.**

**The realignment impacts 9,000 Army Reserve Soldiers located in 25 states. The Army Reserve major subordinate units include the 350<sup>th</sup>, 351<sup>st</sup>, and 353<sup>rd</sup> Civil Affairs Commands, each with subordinate brigades and battalions, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Psychological Operations Groups, each with four battalions and subordinate companies.**

**“We are proud of our heritage, we’re proud of our roots in specialized military operations, and we are especially proud to have been apart of SOCOM and Army Special Operations at this time in our country’s history,” said Maj.Gen. Herbert L. “Buz” Altshuler, commanding general, USACAPOC.**

**Wagner and Altshuler presented the Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command with the Army Superior Unit Award by placing a streamer on the command’s flag.**

**Citing the value of CAPOC’s contributions, Wagner explained that the Army Superior Unit Award is very important, but only a token of recognition for the command’s exceptional service from Sept. 15, 2004, to Sept. 15, 2005. The award recognized the difficult and challenging mission of supporting civil affairs and psychological operations units, individual soldiers, USASOC and the Regional Combatant Commander, worldwide.**

**USASOC will retain prepotency for civil affairs and psychological operations – including doctrine, combat development and institutional training. Additionally, the 95<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Brigade (Provisional) and the 4<sup>th</sup> Psychological Operations Group, which were part of USACAPOC, will remain assigned to USASOC.**

**On May 16, the Department of Army announced the Department of Defense-directed decision to realign Army Reserve civil affairs and psychological operations forces to USARC.**

**- USASOC -**

# 2006 DUES ALERT

- Treasury report Bank Balance 6/15/06  
\$2166.56  
John Cheney, POVA Treasurer

2006 Dues = \$30.00

2007 – 2008 = \$50.00 ( If received in 2006)

Please send money to: POVA  
c/o John Cheney  
PO Box 3242  
Grapevine, TX 76099

Email address: [hqcmdt@hotmail.com](mailto:hqcmdt@hotmail.com)  
Phone: 817-961-0033 John Cheney

# POVA CONSTITUTION

## Proposed Amendments to the POVA Constitution

**POVA members: Please find below amendments prepared by past President Richard Hofmann for the 2004 Business Meeting in Fayetteville. Except for the Amendment # 8, which was approved this package was tabled until this Reunion.**

**To date we have only received comments from our current President. He will email his comments to you if you want them before 16 September.**

**We call your attention to Amendments 2, 3, 6 and 10, which would be major changes.**

**Amendment # 2 Which addresses behavior of an officer or member--- there is no mechanism for removal spelled out in this amendment but the constitution states:**

3.3 Board of Directors: The elected officers as described in section 3.2 above will serve as the Association's Board of Directors. In addition, the Association's Chaplain will serve as a member of the Board of Directors. The officers of this Association will be as follows:

- The Board of Directors serves as the general secretariat and primary policy-making body of the Association. All policy decisions of the Board of Directors will be communicated to the Membership in the periodic newsletter, and will be subject to ratification at the periodic reunions to be held by the Association.
- In the event emergency action must be taken by the Association, the Board of Directors is empowered to take such action, subject to notice to the Membership.

Under no circumstances does any officer or the Board of Directors have authority to suspend, modify, ignore, or fail to honor the provisions of this Constitution and Bylaws.

Any and all deliberations of the Board of Directors will be recorded and maintained by the President.

3.4

**So it is apparent that any violation of the new amendment will be dealt with by Article 3.3 which implies the Board of Directors is the Judge and Jury with no appeal until a business meeting.**

**For the record, there has been discussion that the current President has violated the proposed provision in POVA emails and Newspaper Articles. If this amendment passes and a formal complaint is made, the Board must deal with it. No penalty is prescribed but in most organizations a guilty officer can be removed and membership revoked.**

**Amendment # 3 deals with the re-admittance of a member who has resigned. There is machinery to indicate who votes on re-admittance but no criteria to re-admit.**

**Amendments # 6 and #10 allows for ways to get member input between reunions and proxy voting. These amendments would involve mailings which may require POVA expenditures.**

**Our committee headed by VP Arlo Despain has not as yet made any recommendations to date on either the Hofmann proposals or anyone's comments. They are charged with reviewing other proposals and comments. It takes a simple majority to pass an amendment.**

**President Rosenberg has pledged that this time, all the amendments will be dealt with. This is a very important matter that can limit or control the conduct of the President and restrict a member's ability to resign and rejoin POVA. We all should thank Mr. Hofmann for his efforts.**

Mr. Secretary and Members of the POVA Board,

I hereby formally propose these amendments be brought before the full membership for consideration and vote at the 2004 POVA Reunion. (Ed Note: Except for Dues #8, these amendments were tabled at the 2004 Business meeting in Fayetteville.)

Synopsis of proposed amendments:

- 1: Clarifying the role of Vice President, and establishing a process of succession.
- 2: Keeping the newsletter, web site, etc. free of political endorsements and denominational agenda.
- 3: Re-Application of Resigned Member
- 4: Separating Article VI - Amendments and Conclusions into Separate Articles
- 5: Protection of Association Assets
- 6: Non-Reunion Year Business Meetings
- 7: Past President as Board member
- 8: Dues---PASSED
- 9: Composition of the Board
- 10: Voting by Proxy, Majority Needed to Approve Amendments, and Notification Procedures

**Proposed Amendment #1 - The Office of the Vice President, VP Duties, and Succession**

Purpose: This amendment is offered because in the current Constitution there is no clear-cut differentiation between vice presidents, the duties of vice president, and who should assume the Presidency should that office become vacant.

Recommended change are in bold:

Amendment: Section 3.2 b.1 shall read:

b.1: Vice Presidents: **The membership shall elect one First Vice President, and sufficient additional**

**vice presidents** to allow the full and proper performance of all Association goals and objectives. Sufficient vice-presidencies will be maintained to allow the elected involvement of several Members, so as to assure broad-scale participation in the affairs of the Association. In the period between Reunions, the President may appoint additional Vice Presidents, subject to approval of the Board of Directors at the next Reunion.

### **New Section – Duties of the Vice president**

Amendment: Article III, Section 3.2 b.2 shall read:

b.2 The First Vice President shall represent the Association with other organizations upon the direction of the President, and shall preside over regularly scheduled, special, and Board meetings when the President is absent or unable to attend; and shall perform such other tasks as directed by the President, the Board of Directors, or the membership.

### **New Section – Succession in Office**

Amendment: Article III, Section 3.2 b.3 shall read:

b.3 In the event of the President's resignation, or his/her inability to perform the duties of the Presidency, or if the office of the president should otherwise become vacant, the First Vice President shall assume the office and duties of President.

### **Proposed Amendment #2 - Use of Association Communications Channels**

Purpose: This amendment is being offered because attempts have been made to use our communications channels to support national political candidates, and in one memorable case, to promote satanism. This amendment will make the formal statement that we're keeping clear of those arenas.

Amendment: Article I - General Provisions New Section 1.4 shall read:

The Association's communications channels, including its newsletter, web site, and print and electronic mailing lists shall be reserved primarily for materials relating to psychological operations and veterans issues, and other materials which may be of interest, education and benefit to veterans and POVA members. These channels shall, however, remain free of materials and messages promoting political parties, political candidates, and/or promoting specific religious denominational agenda.

### **Proposed Amendment #3 – Reapplication of a Resigned Member**

Purpose: This amendment provides a structure for members who have repudiated POVA to return to the fold. This doesn't affect the ability of a lapsed member to re-join by paying dues, or an individual who has left office - just those who've rejected overall membership outright.

Article II - Membership New Section 2.7 Shall read:

Any member who resigns his/her membership and who then wishes to re-join the organization must make application to the Board of Directors for reinstatement, who must approve such reinstatement by simple majority of those voting only in the case that a board member has cause to object to the reinstatement. Upon application for reinstatement, the President must query the board to find out if there is an objection for cause. Upon receipt of an objection and written reason for an objection, the President shall poll the Board with copies of all votes to the Secretary.

**Proposed Amendment #4 – Separating Article VI Amendments and Conclusions into two sections.**

Purpose: This is simply a housekeeping amendment to make addressing these two issues easier to deal with. It'll become clear as you read the rest of the amendments.

Amendment: Article VI is hereby renamed "Voting Procedures"; A new Article VI Entitled Conclusions is hereby created.

**Proposed Amendment #5 – Protection of Assets in a Merger**

Purpose: There's been a lot of discussion regarding the possibility of a merger with another organization. This amendment does not address the specifics of that discussion.

We need to keep in mind however, that the current Constitution strips the Association of all its funds and assets should a merger be agreed to. This amendment is designed to help protect our treasury and assets should such a merger be deemed appropriate at any time in the future.

Current Article VI, section 6.3 was written to concur with prevailing IRS code which says that a dissolving non-profit has to will its assets to another non-profit.

At present that section reads:

- 6.3. In the event this Association is dissolved or ceases to function, and any assets remain, said assets will be liquidated and any proceeds used to discharge any financial obligations of the Association.
  - a. If there are any remaining funds upon discharge of all financial obligations, such funds will be donated in the name of this Association to the Viet Nam Veterans' Memorial in Washington, D.C., for its continued maintenance and upkeep.
  - b. As used in this section, "assets" includes any cash, equipment, supplies, property, or any other thing of value which is owned by the Association; but does not include any property loaned to or used by the Association which has not been purchased by the Association or which has not been donated to the Association. Further, "assets" will not be defined to include any personal property of any Member which is being used to support the activities or administration of the Association.

I think we can keep this language, but add another amendment which would allow for the transfer of our assets prior to any dissolution and merger into another entity:

The new amendment (section number 7.1 - if the previously offered amendment is approved) to read:

Amendment Article 7.1 Shall read:

7.1 Should this Association consider merging with another Association or organization, said merger partner must be an existing 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization, or an existing 501 (c) 19 Veterans Organization.

That would allow us to "donate" cash and assets to the other entity before formally dissolving, thus preserving our stuff.

Amendment : Current Section 6.3 shall be re-numbered as Article 7, Section 2 ( 7.2 )

**Proposed Amendment #6 – Non-Reunion Year Business Meetings**

Purpose: In the future events occur between reunions which may call for membership attention and vote. But getting members together physically in an off year might be particularly difficult. This amendment will allow

"between reunion" meetings to be conducted my web site, mail and e-mail, with members voting by through the same channels. The benefit will be that the officers and Board could thereby get more work accomplished and the membership could take action, without waiting two years for confirmation. This is not a requirement for special meetings, but will provide a mechanism if such a meeting were deemed appropriate by the Board.

Amendment - Section 4.1 shall read (changes in bold)

4.1. The Association will meet as often as the Membership desires, and will attempt to conduct a general Membership reunion at least biennially. Specific meeting dates, times, and places will be determined by the Board of Directors and will be published in writing in the periodic newsletter as far in advance as possible. **Meetings called to conduct business between reunion events may be conducted by e-mail and/or postal notification, with members casting votes by e-mail, by or voting by postal mail. In such meetings notification rules and voting eligibility rules detailed in other sections of these By-Laws remain in effect.**  
**Proposed Amendment # 7 – Making the Immediate Past President a Board Member.**

Purpose: To provide the Board with the experience and continuity offered by retaining the immediate past president as a voting member of the Board of Directors. This amendment allows, but does not require, an immediate past president to become a Board Member for the following two years?

Amendment: Article 3.3 shall read:

3.3. Board of Directors: The elected officers as described in section 3.2 above, and the Association's Chaplain will serve as the Association's Board of Directors. The Association's immediate Past President may also serve as a full voting member of the Board for a term of two years after leaving the Presidency. This amendment goes into effect with the 2006 election of officers.

**Proposed Amendment # 8 – Dues**

Purpose: At present the amount of dues is set as a constitutional item. This amendment modifies the language so we won't need a Constitutional revision any time we want to adjust the fee.

Amendment: Section 5.1 shall read:

5.1. Annual membership dues are and payable each January 1. Members may pay discounted advance dues in the amount for a five-year period. The amount of the annual and five-year membership due are set by the membership. Dues payments will be made to the Association in a manner determined by the Board of Directors. There will be no prorating of annual dues.

**Proposed Amendment # 9 – Members of the Board of Directors**

Purpose: The the Constitution specifically names the members of the Board of Directors as:

President  
Vice President(s)  
Secretary  
Treasurer, and Trustees

In practice, however other individuals have been included and have voted in Board deliberations. This amendment, offered by Joe Rosenberg, reconciles the Constitution with traditional practice.

Amendment: Article 3.3.d is hereby created and shall read:

Other Offices: At anytime the membership or the President with the approval of the Board of Directors may see the need for additional elected positions. As of January 1, 2004, these positions are Liaison Officer, Veterans

Service Officer, Newsletter Editor and Co-Editor and Historian. These Officers are non-voting members of the Board of Directors. All offices created by the Board between membership meetings except those listed above will be confirmed by membership vote.

## **Proposed Amendment #10 - Voting by Proxy, majority to Approve Amendments, and Notification Procedures**

Purpose: The actual process of member voting is addressed in only one place in the current Constitution - Article VI, 6.1. And that only addresses Constitutional amendments.

By tradition all decisions have been made only by those attending reunion business meetings. Other paid members have not voted on other issues such as the election of officers, choice of next reunion site, where our donation should be made, etc.

Since there's currently no prohibition against proxy voting, members can cast their ballots that way if they want to – on all but Constitutional issues.

I believe paid-up members should be able to vote on any topic whatsoever. So I'd like to make proxy voting a clearly defined part of the Constitution. I also think it's appropriate that all members - regardless of their ability to physically attend business meetings, should also have the right to vote on all issues, including Constitutional Amendments.

To make it happen we need to:

Amendment: Current Article 6.3 is hereby renamed Article 7.1

Amendment - Article VI shall read:

6.1 All paid members in good standing shall have the right to vote on all issues before the membership either in person at Membership meetings or by written or e-mail proxy. To vote by proxy a member in good standing must provide an officer or other member of the organization with the written or e-mail authority to vote in their place. The individual holding said proxy must present such authority to the Board at the beginning of any meeting.

To give amendments more stature than routine issues coming before the membership I also propose the following change to 6.2

Amendment – Section 6.3 shall read:

6.2 (**Changes in bold**) Amends to this Constitution and Bylaws must be made in written form, and must receive support from a **two-thirds** majority of Members voting in a periodic meeting or reunion. Any approved amendment will take effect immediately upon voted approval by the Membership, **unless specifically stated otherwise.**

And to assure proper, timely notification of members on major issues:

Amendment - New Article 6.3 is hereby created and shall read:

6.3 Procedures for Presenting Proposals and/or Amendments for Vote

a: Any paid member in good standing may present a proposal or a Constitutional amendment for a membership vote.

b: Constitutional amendment proposals must be presented to the Board of Directors, in writing, in the specific language proposed, not less than 90-days prior to the meeting in which such amendments are to be considered and voted upon.

c: The Board of Directors shall notify all paid members in good standing through the Association newsletter, postal letter, e-mail, and/or web site of such proposals and /or amendments, along with their comments on the effects of such actions, not less than 60-days prior to the meeting in which such amendments are to be considered and voted upon.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard G Hofmann



**” SORRY, NO MORE MEDS FOR YOU, YOU NEVER SIGNED UP FOR PART D-E-F-etc ??? – MEDICARE, THE NEW PERScription COVERAGE!!**

©cgaidos2006

To: Members of POVA.

At the reunion two years ago, I was nominated for and elected as your POVA Vice President. As Vice President I sit on the side and listen, read e-mail, occasionally give advice, but mostly do nothing, as most Vice Presidents do.

Now, it's almost time for another reunion. As part of the reunion we elect officers for the ensuing two years. If you don't like the officers that are in office now, it is imperative that you attend the reunion in Branson, so we can make a change. Some don't want to attend the reunion because they disagree with an officer in our organization, or because they don't like the way POVA is heading. This makes absolutely no sense at all. Can you imagine not going to the polls in an election because you don't like one of the candidates running for office, or if you don't like the direction the city, county, state or nation is heading? That is why we have a democratic form of government. ***Come to the reunion and vote the BUMS out of office and help get control of your organization.*** Every vote counts. Your President has a strict agenda set up for the Membership Meeting in Branson. If we don't like this agenda, as members, we can change it. If you don't like the slate of nominated officers, **you** can change that also. Write ins are welcome.

I attended my first POVA reunion at St. Louis in 1994. I have attended reunions in Nashville (96), Anaheim (98), Evergreen, CO (2000), Baltimore (2002), Fort Bragg (2004) and will be at Branson this year. Hildegard and I plan ahead, and if that is the only vacation we take every two years, that's OK. We make sure we will be at all POVA reunions. This way we have an opportunity to renew old acquaintances, and to see a part of the USA we have not had chance to see before. When we fly across the country we don't stop with seeing just the place where the reunion is being held, we also spend some time visiting other sites in nearby states. This way we don't pay \$500 or more for just for a flight to the reunion, we make a longer vacation out of it. I also belong to the Special Forces Association, and though they meet every year, we have been to only one of their annual meetings. For us POVA is the priority.

In my first year as your Vice President, at times, I became disenchanted and considered running for President for 2006-2008. Since that time I have decided that I would seek no office this year. If the members wish, I will serve in any capacity I can. I do want to continue going to POVA reunions. My reasoning is that I enjoy the camaraderie at our biannual reunions. The reason I'd rather not serve in the organization's offices is that I am too lazy, as well as otherwise occupied. I am a volunteer for at least 20 hours each week for two different groups. That doesn't keep me from golfing and taking numerous mini vacations, but I won't spend a lot of time putting together a quarterly newsletter.

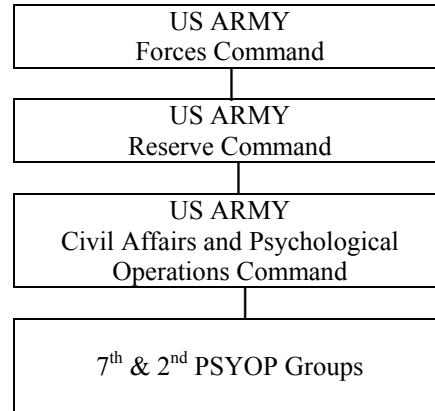
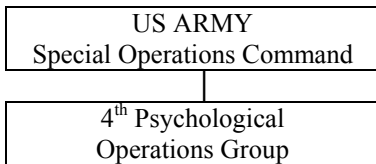
When we meet in Branson we will vote on Rick Hoffman's suggested changes to the constitution, most of which I support. This is an important reason for being present at the reunion. I will support any officers we elect in Branson in September, I urge all members to go to the reunion and participate in your organization.

Arlo C Despain VP, POVA

# NEWS FROM FORT BRAGG

**Doug Elwell – POVA Liaison**

## NEW COMMAND STRUCTURE FOR PSYOP \*\*\*\*\*



### The new command structure is as follows:

The 4<sup>th</sup> POG(A) now reports directly to USASOC. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> POG report to USACAPOC, which reports to USARC, which reports to FORSCOM. Both USASOC and FORSCOM are major commands (MACOMs) under the Department of the Army (DA).

The problems presented by the separation of the Active and Reserve Components of PSYOP have not all been resolved.

### Status of POVA – POA Fund . . . . .

By the mercy of God, we have no losses or serious injuries to report in the PSYOP community. Status of the POVA-POA Fund is at \$2104.00.

### Changes of Command . . . . .

On 15 June, the 3<sup>rd</sup> POB(A)(D) held their Change of Command Ceremony at USASOC's Meadows Field. After the remnants of Tropical Storm Alberto made its way through North Carolina on Wednesday, Thursday morning was bright and beautiful. The troops took the field to honor their outgoing commander, LTC Bradley Bloom, and welcome their incoming command, LTC Brian Cavanaugh MG Altschuler, USACAPOC Commander, was in attendance as the Battalion flag was passed by the 4<sup>th</sup> POG(A) Commander, COL, Kenneth Turner, from the old to the new 3<sup>rd</sup> POB(A)(D) Commander. Fair winds and following seas to LTC



Bloom and welcome aboard to LTC Cavanaugh.  
Doug Elwell - Liaison Officer

◀ As the Color Guard stands with the National Colors, the Battalion flag is about to be passed by Acting Sergeant Major Seagraves to out-going 3POB Commander LTC Bradley Bloom, on the right, through 4POG Commander COL Kenneth Turner, back to camera, to incoming 3POB Commander Brian Cavanaugh, on the left, at Meadows Field, USASOC, Ft. Bragg, NC, on 15 June 2006.

# MEMBER FEEDBACK

□ Michael L. Mitchell

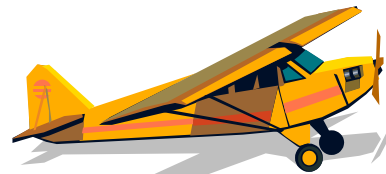
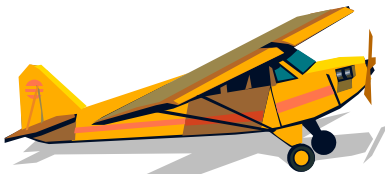
Michael, a POV member writes;

I really enjoyed the newsletter this time. I have been back to Vietnam 4 times since my first trip in 1970. The first time was in support of President Clinton's trip in 2000, and have been back to Saigon, and a first trip to Hanoi last February. I have been working for the State Department since 1995 as a Foreign Service Officer and was responsible for Management support to Vietnam Embassy and the Consulate in Ho Chi Minh City ( Saigon).

First time back was a little "scary", but it was a very rewarding experience and have met many Vietnam Vets re-visiting Vietnam since then. I am now teaching at the Foreign Service Institute in Arlington, Va., but do training throughout the World for our "Locally Engaged Staff" in our Embassies abroad.

In all of my trips back, I have only been treated with great kindness, and acceptance even when they discover that I was a soldier during the Vietnam War (American War). I have visited the War Remnants Museum in Saigon, and found a different look at the War, from their point of view. The most interesting was the tribute to Journalists which tugs at the heartstrings. I guess the most compelling of images was the display ( for sale) of High School rings that may have belonged to a fallen soldier from Indiana, or Oklahoma, or wherever. Just a chance to remember with someone else who was there.

Thanks again for letting me give a little feedback to all my friends.  
Mike



□ **CONTRA CROSS: INSURGENCY AND TYRANNY IN CENTRAL AMERICA 1979-1989**  
**WRITTEN BY: WILLIAM R. MEARA**

“ As you know, there aren’t many books about PSYOP , but here is one. I served in the U. S. Army’s 4<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Group and have just published a book about my experiences in Central America. Perhaps this would be of interest to members of the POVA.

William R. Meara

Published this month by Naval Institute Press

For more information on book and where and how to purchase please access this site. <http://www.contracross.com>

“Contra Cross is not only a refreshing and an uplifting change from most war memoirs, it is also punctuated with the beautifully written highs and lows of everyday life. Meara studiously avoids both personal aggrandizement and being an apologist for America politicians. His clear and uncommon common sense is refreshing and does much more. For the military historian as well as anyone seeking a deeper understanding of how American overseas assistance worked, this book is a must. The fact that the writing reflects intelligence, candor, and fairness to all sides is a terrific bonus.”

# NEWSFLASH

□ **UPDATE ON STOLEN DATA**

Veterans report on stolen data reprinted from The Essential Veterans Benefits, Legislature & Discounts Newsletter.

In its ongoing efforts to better determine what information was contained in duplicate database stolen from a VA employee’s home last month, VA has hired its own independent data forensic experts to analyze the original data. VA has received no reports that the stolen data has been used for fraudulent purposes.

Those who believe they may be affected can continue to go to [www.firstgov.gov](http://www.firstgov.gov) for more information on this matter. VA also continues to operate a call center that individuals can contact to get information about this incident and learn more about consumer-identity protections.

The toll free number is 1-800-FED INFO and is operating from 8:00 am to 9:00 pm EDT, Monday – Saturday. Make sure your credit is clean and get a free credit report from Experian today.

How do you feel about this action? Let your public officials know how you feel!

*Sounds good to us as long as they do not employ the Three Stooges as forensic experts.*

# DON'T FORGET!

## ► REUNION 2006 IN BRANSON, MO, SEPT. 14 – 17, 2006 ◀

POKER-PARTEE—MUSIC IN THE OZARKS-3 NIGHTS-2 SHOWS-2 DINNERS(Includes Banquet)—  
3 FULL BREAKFASTS(LOVE THOSE GRITS)

SINGLE \$354 PER PERSON

DOUBLE \$237 PER PERSON

THREE PER ROOM \$198 PER PERSON

QUAD-\$170 PER PERSON

ADDED NIGHTS \$78.50 WITH TAX

YOU MUST REGISTER WITH THE WELK RESORT--\$100 DEPOSIT DUE AUGUST 14

800-808-9355 –WE ARE GROUP 3401

1984 STATE HIGHWAY 165

BRANSON, MO 65616

POVA FEE \$35.00 EACH FOR MEMBERS AND FAMILY BY AUGUST 14. \$50 NON-MEMBER

To: POVA c/o John Cheney

PO Box 3242

Grapevine, TX 76099



### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS ~ EMAIL ADDRESS

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS ~ EMAIL ADDRESS			
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