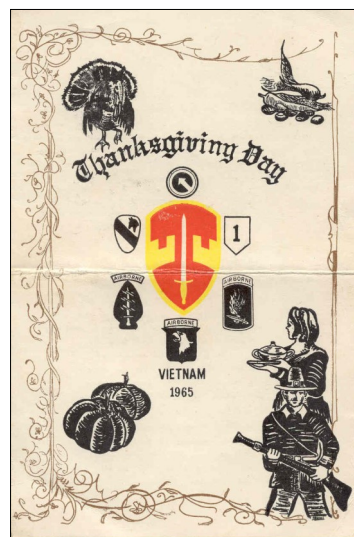
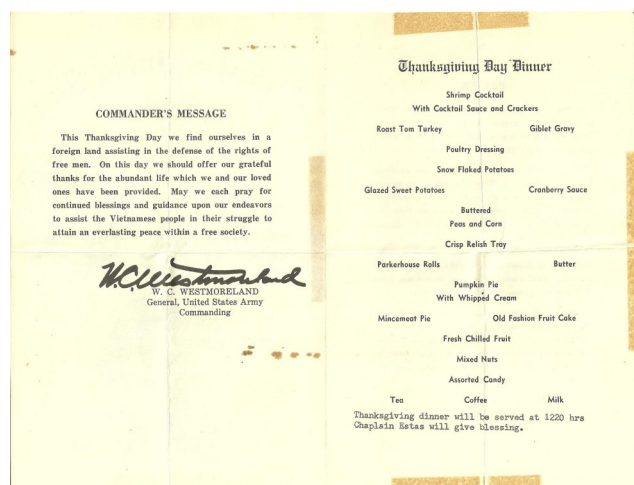
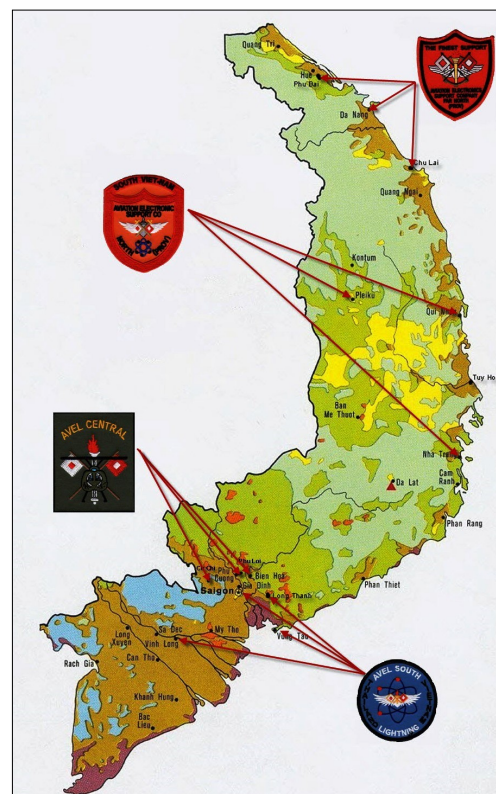
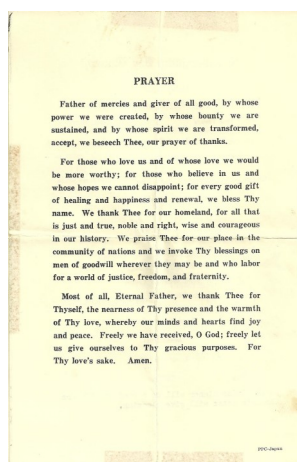
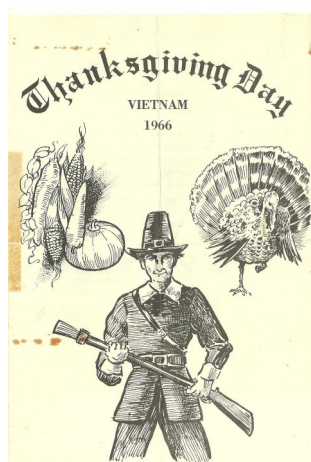


AVEL VIETNAM

Newsletter - October/November 2020

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

I want to wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving! I hope you can enjoy this holiday with family and friends, surrounded by warmth, friendship and love. We all remember spending Thanksgivings far from home in Vietnam. It was a time filled with thoughts of home and reflection. Now, give thanks that we are all here but remember those we have lost over the years.

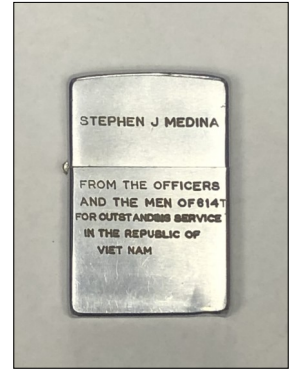


Zippo Lighter Found in Nebraska

This Zippo Lighter was recently found in Seward, Nebraska. It is now in the hands of the Nebraska National Guard Museum. They are looking for the rightful owner to return the lighter to him.

Does the name ring any bells? Was he a soldier or civilian contractor.

If you have any information on him please send it to me at: jmccabe51@gmail.com.



Basic Training Starts Issuing New Army Greens Uniform



A basic combat training battery at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, is the first in the Army to get the service's new World War II-style dress uniform, according to an Army news release.

About 200 trainees with the 434th Field Artillery Brigade, a basic training unit at Fort Sill, received the new Army Greens uniform Oct. 14, the release stated. Drill sergeants and recruiters started receiving the new uniforms this summer, as well.

Each trainee is issued one uniform, which includes jacket, pants, dress shirt, brown Oxfords, matching socks, their rank, two T-shirts, ties, gloves and a garrison cap, the release added.

Other basic training locations are expected to start issuing the new uniforms by December, service officials involved in the effort previously said. By next spring, Army Greens should be available at Army and Air Force Exchanges across all posts.

"We're the first Army training base to get the Army Green Service Uniform, which is pretty neat for obviously these soldiers in training and obviously for the leadership," said Sgt. Maj. Donald Harding, the 434th's senior enlisted soldier, in the release.

The new uniform is modeled after the one worn by the World War II generation. It "brings back the tradition and the histories of the U.S. Army," Harding added.

By March 2021, most soldiers should be able to purchase the new uniforms across AAFES locations. However, the new uniforms won't become mandatory until October 2027, according to Col. Stephen Thomas, a project manager involved in rolling out the new Army Greens.

The new uniforms will cost soldiers approximately \$500.

"In introducing a new product, the price point is going to be a little higher," Thomas told Army Times in August. "As we transition this program to sustainment, if you will, that price point will go down."

Enlisted soldiers receive an annual uniform allowance of roughly \$460. All of the new uniform items are also made of higher quality material and should last longer, according to the Army.

Continued on Page 3

“As we introduce the Army Green Service Uniform, soldiers will continue to receive that clothing replacement allowance, which is designed to offset the cost of the [new] uniform over time,” Thomas added. “The Army Green Service Uniform is [also] designed to have a longer service life, which is six years, as opposed to the current Army service uniform life, which is four years.”

The new uniform’s coat and trousers are made of a 55/45 poly-wool blend. The shirt is made of a 65/35 polyester-cotton blend.

Brown jump boots for paratroopers who are authorized to blouse their boots, and other uniform alterations for specific units, were still being worked through when Army Times spoke with Thomas in August.

What do you think of this uniform? I would like to post your opinions.



Mike Royko on Veterans Day

In 1993, the late, great Chicago columnist Mike Royko wrote what may be the best column on Veterans Day ever. It’s reprinted below. Royko was a Korean War veteran.

I just phoned six friends and asked them what they will be doing on Veeran Day.

They all said the same thing: working.

Me, too.

There is something else we share. We are all military veterans.

And there is a third thing we have in common. We are not employees of the federal government, state government, county government, municipal government, the Postal Service, the courts, banks, or S & Ls, and we don’t teach school.

If we did, we would be among the many millions of people who will spend Monday goofing off.

Which is why it is about time Congress revised the ridiculous terms of Veterans Day as a national holiday.

The purpose of Veterans Day is to honor all veterans.

So how does this country honor them?...

...By letting the veterans, the majority of whom work in the private sector, spend the day at their jobs so they can pay taxes that permit millions of non-veterans to get paid for doing nothing.

As my friend Harry put it:

“First I went through basic training. Then infantry school. Then I got on a crowded, stinking troop ship that took 23 days to get from San Francisco to Japan. We went through a storm that had 90 percent of the guys on the ship throwing up for a week.

“Then I rode a beat-up transport plane from Japan to Korea, and it almost went down in the drink. I think the pilot was drunk.



“When I got to Korea, I was lucky. The war ended seven months after I got there, and I didn’t kill anybody and nobody killed me.

“But it was still a miserable experience. Then when my tour was over, I got on another troop ship and it took 21 stinking days to cross the Pacific.

“When I got home on leave, one of the older guys at the neighborhood bar — he was a World War II vet — told me I was a ----head because we didn’t win, we only got a tie.

“So now on Veterans Day I get up in the morning and go down to the office and work.

“You know what my nephew does? He sleeps in. That’s because he works for the state.

“And do you know what he did during the Vietnam War? He ducked the draft by getting a job teaching at an inner-city school.

“Now, is that a raw deal or what?”

Of course that’s a raw deal. So I propose that the members of Congress revise Veterans Day to provide the following:

- All veterans — and only veterans — should have the day off from work. It doesn’t matter if they were combat heroes or stateside clerk-typists.

Anybody who went through basic training and was awakened before dawn by a red-neck drill sergeant who bellowed: “Drop your whatsis and grab your socks and fall out on the road,” is entitled.

- Those veterans who wish to march in parades, make speeches or listen to speeches can do so. But for those who don’t, all local gambling laws should be suspended for the day to permit vets to gather in taverns, pull a couple of tables together and spend the day playing poker, blackjack, craps, drinking and telling lewd lies about lewd experiences with lewd women. All bar prices should be rolled back to enlisted men’s club prices, Officers can pay the going rate, the stiff.

- All anti-smoking laws will be suspended for Veterans Day. The same hold for all misdemeanor laws pertaining to disorderly conduct, non-felonious brawling, leering, gawking and any other gross and disgusting public behavior that does not harm another individual.

- It will be a treasonable offense for any spouse or live-in girlfriend (or boyfriend, if it applies) to utter the dreaded words: “What time will you be home tonight?”

- Anyone caught posing as a veteran will be required to eat a triple portion of chipped beef on toast, with Spam on the side, and spend the day watching a chaplain present a color-slide presentation on the horrors of VD.

- Regardless of how high his office, no politician who had the opportunity to serve in the military, but didn’t, will be allowed to make a patriotic speech, appear on TV, or poke his nose out of his office for the entire day.

Any politician who defies this ban will be required to spend 12 hours wearing headphones and listening to tapes of President Clinton explaining his deferments.

Now, deal the cards and pass the tequila.



Christmas in Vietnam

We all remember those hot Christmas days across the pond. Please share your memories with the group.

Email me your stories for next months newsletter.

jmccabe51@gmail.com



NEW AVEL, AVIONICS AND VIETNAM VETERANS REGISTERED

None Submitted

TAPS

None Submitted

PHOTOS

None Submitted

CHANGE OF ADDRESS/EMAIL/PHONE

Dave D'Alonzo (Avel Central) has a new address: 1780 Estuary Lane Kissimmee, FL 34747
Manny Ramos (Avel Central) has a new address: 1243 Allerton Ave. Apt1, Bronx NY 10469
Paul McCarthy (Avel North and South) has a new email address: paulmax36627285@gmail.com

IN-COUNTRY



IN A "STIRRING" MOMENT, SGT. FERN
ATTEMPTS TO APPLY A LITTLE LEVITY!



IN-COUNTRY VET



THE REUNION
TOGETHER AGAIN, IN THE LAND OF THE BIG PX!



AVEL VIETNAM



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