Vol.: 4:1



HONGKONG VETERANS ASSOCT OF CANADA.



BRITISH COLUMBIA BRANCH
MAGAZINE

WE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY OF WISHING ALL HONGKONG VETERANS, THEIR FAMILIES AND OUR FRIENDS

A, Very Hayry Eastertide

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

DO YOU KNOW WHO THE LUCKIEST PHOPLE OF EARTH ARE ?

TO MY WAY OF THINKING, THEY ARE THOSE WHO HAVE

DEVELOPED AT ALMOST CONSTANT SENSE OF GRATITUDE!

After reading, marking and inwardly dijesting the above, what with my family, my friends and the fellowship I've found in you-all, I'm pretty damsure I'm one of them.

ASSOCIATION OF CAMADA - BRITISH COLUMBIA BRANCH VETERANS HONGKONG

VOLUME 4: 1

SPRING 1930 PAGE 1

A "SAYONARA" TO THE SEVENTIES

If for no other reason, the decade that has just ended will be remembered for having give aus enough of happiness, sadness and excitement to warrant its own little niche in the annals of Hongkong Veterans history. For one-the ROLL CALL was born!

The final year, 1979, in particular, provided us with reason to see its ' passing with some regret, a lot of nostalgia and the satisfaction of watching the growth of closer bonds between comrades all over the world.

On the debit side, the inexorable march of Time took such respected and staunch members of our Branch as Padre Laite, Ernie Coulson, Dr. John Reid, Mousie Mawson and Mick Berzonski, as well as Scotty Temple and Dr.H.Morris. Other Branches also suffered similar grievous losses, with Manitoba losing four Ontario three and Quebec-Maritime five(including Maurice D'Avignon recently) members respectively, at time of writing.

On the credit side, it was gratifying to see: the achievement of higher pinnacles of recognition by the Roll Call; the way it continued to please, interest and promote good followship; the fact that we still have those two TALL MEN, Bob and Lionel at the helm and the opportunity to enjoy the warm hospitality of our comrades in Winnipeg and that of our A erican friends down in Auburn.

For all of this, we have to thank Hongkong Veterans and friends. Their wholehearted understanding and support provided the fuel that kept us going.

We look to the 80's with hope that this support will still be with us, for we sure intend to keep on going, as long as you want us to. God Bless.

THE ROLL CALL

IMPORTANT !! REMEMBER !!

MEETING-REUNION B. C. BRANCH ANNUAL

on SATURDAY, 15 MARCH 1980

at the BILTMORE MOTOR HOTEL

395, Kingsway(at 12th Ave), Vancouver.

As you all are aware, cost of everything has risen appreciably. However, special room-rate discounts, subject to a minimum of 20 rooms reserved by 7 March 1980, have been arranged for members and friends who intend to attend the above meeting and reunion.

It is important, therefore, that you cut-out, complete and mail the reservation slip on Page 17 of this issue immediately to: Lionel Speller, 3628 Saanich Road, Victoria, B.C. VOX 1X3, in order to enjoy this discount.

Room rates enjoying the discount(with Regular rates in brackets) are:

Double-w/twin beds \$24.00(332) Double-w/double bed 24.00(\$29) **28.00**(\$26) Single

Tax NOT included.

Programme for the day-15 harch 1980:

2:30 p.li. Annual Meeting Cocktail hour 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.i... Dinner

The accommodations and amenities are excellent, the location very good and includes private parking, and the hotel is only a couple of blocks away from the intersection of Kingsway and Broadway.

So, gang, let's start this new decade with a D-I-G B-A-N-G !! and make it a truly memorable one!!!

SO. FILL IN YOUR SLIP AND MAIL IT RIGHT AWAY AND DON'T FORGET TO MARK THE DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR-15 HARCH LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL!

REMEMBER TO CUT, FILL AND MAIL COUPONS ON PAGE 17 RIGHT AWAY!!!

EDITORIAL

Our attention has been drawn to the fact that some readers did not receive their Winter 1979 ROLL CALL and also, that delivery of same to others had been delayed until sometime in January 1980.

All copies were mailed by 7 December 1979 and it is therefore presumed the Christmas rush caused either the non-delivery or the delay. So Sorry! We have a few copies left, available on application, for them wot didn't get that issue.

we also advise that a number(in E.C) have been returned by the Post Office marked: "Moved - address unknown" and that no chaage of address has been supplied to us. We hope it is an oversight and urge that should you wish to continue receiving the Noll Call, send us your new address immediately.

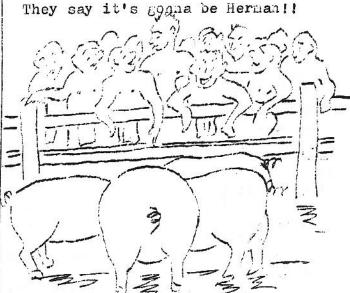
While we're on this, we think that all Branch members in B.C. will agree that it is illogical to force the Roll Call onto anyone who is not interested After the initial two editions in 1977 (funded by the B.C.Branch), cost of publication has been borne by voluntary donations from our readers, thus enabling it to be entirely self-sufficient to this day.

Rising costs, of supplies, postage and miscellaneous expenses covering communication, transport etc., has made it necessary to re-assess funding in order to maintain this self-sufficiency.

One way to help in reducing costs is to stop sending comies to those who do not want it. For this, we have inserted on Page 17, a coupon which please cut out, fill and return NOW-before you forget! This applies only to B.C.members who are getting their copies free. To those who have, and are continuing to, donated so very generously, it is NOT-repeat NOT - applicable. To them we say again: Thanks, chaps, we sure do appreciate your warm support.

Sometime ago a reader from the Valley wrote: "Why do B.C. members not have to pay? Its a good magazine for us Hongkong Vets and well worth the price..."

We hope it is. We think it is.



EXPECTATION BETTER THAN REALIZATION

WHAT GIVES, MISTER MINISTER?

A week before Christmas an S.O.S. to help out in entertaining a group of Veterans at the Legion Hall in Coquitlan, because the piano player had taken sick, saw me toting the old guitar down to meet about 25 old vets who'd the afternoon off from the Valley view section of Essendale.

That both they, the organisers, the outside visitors and I thoroughly onjoyed the sing-song and merrymaking that followed, is neither here nor there.

What is important is that some, if not all, of these voterans - Canadian veterans - had bee transferred to Valleyview 3 from Shaughnessy Hospital which, according to statements made i the House of Commons on 24 January 1979, by the then Finister of Veterans Affairs, was the only hospital offering priority to veterans in British Columbia.

On Page 6, Spring 1979 issue of the Roll Call, figures entracted from Hansard showed an average of only 575 beds out of the 370 guaranteed for veterans use only, at Shaughnessy were being used by veterans at any one given time.

What we want to know is: Does the minister know why then were the above transfers made, were they necessary and if not, will he be looking into this apparent attempt to fiddle-diddle around the agreement.

The findings ought to be good!

CAMP 3-D ROSTER (Japanose listing)

The following is the list of Group 3all Royal Rifles - POWs at Camp 3-D, and is extracted from the original and official Japanese list:

Robertson, F Southworth, D. Pentland, G.P. Roes, D.T. Todd, E.C. Cole, E.W. Conway, C. Dissing, E.M. Maclaughton, W. Farace, P. Day, F. Syvret, D.A. Heath, H.S. Tyler,S. Englehart, R. Burton, T.K. Bisson, G.S. Boudreau, J.W. Campbell, E.A. Cyr, H.N. Cooper, F.A. Doiron, L. Day, W. Driscole, A.D. Edgecombe, G.F.

Fair, G. Gauthier, J. Harper, A.R. Hardy, J.R. Hotton, J.I. Hutchison, C.T. Johnson, L. LoBlanc, L. Lecouffe, L. LaPointe, E. Lollanc, F. Malley, J.M. Mulhorin, L.P. Macdonald, D. Macdonald, A.R. McKonna, P.S. Malboouf, A. HcDavid, C.E. McLaughlin, A. Mercoux, G. Petc, L. Rowland, R. Russell, H.L. Wallaco, J.A. Wurn, G.A.

The above is the third of ten Groups of 50 Canadian POWs ,totalling the 500 who were at Ca p 3-D.

We have published the official list of Sendai 2 and this (Camp 3-D) is the second. We seek the official list for Migata and other caps. Anyone possessing such lists please forward to the Roll Call. We'd sure appreciate it.

PHOTO PAGE TO RETURN

An attempt to revive our Photo Page shows both pascable and poor results. The pictures showed through, thereby preventing printing on the back of the sheet and consequent loss of valuable space, in this issue.

After serious thought, whilst spending two whole hours in the shower, we have decided to carry on with the Photo Page but to print it on the last page (Page 17) of all future issues. Smart! What?

Photos submitted for publication, are requested to be in black & white, not larger than 3" x 4", sharp, no prints from newspapers and non-returnable.

"LEST WE FORGET"

It is with decreat sorrow and regret that we amounce the passing of our former comrades, and extend to their wives and families our sincere condolences.

D'AVIGMON , Mourice

Queboc

DOW, Ron

Ontario

At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will be ember them.

hay thoy rest in Perce.

THE WIY AND THE WHEREFORE

Readers who have taken the trouble of sending cuttings from newspapers or magazines for use by the Roll Call for which we are deeply (rabeful, may have wondered why we have not used them in full, but instead, have offered comments or excerpts only.

The following in explanation, will, hopefully, be acceptable.

You will understand that the koll Call is, and has been, necessarily limited to 17 pages of news, letters, anocdotes and stories received from many sources and can therefore, only reprint articles according to space available, with variety being given priority.

Unlike newspapers, magazines and periodicals, we are in no position to print items which in their cases, are normally overly lengthy. Being fortunate enough to have so many of our readers sending in newsy items, we do not have empty spaces to fill. In fact, there are always carry-over steries to be used at sime later issue.

Aside fro this, news reporters are generally, apt to emphasize the miscries and sufferings all POWs experiched whilst incarcerated. These we all would prefer to forget and reviving unpleasant memories is not what we, as stated previously, wish to do.

In short, should you come across something printed elsewhere that's short, sweet, likely to bring on a smile and concerning the Hongkong Veteran in particular, shoot it in by all means. Then's what we'll be happy to use. Thanks.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear John: I can't remember if I paid for my Roll Call. If I already have, but this in the kitty.

It was nice to meet old friends in Winnipeg. Best of Luck.

Hew Richmond, Phil Doddridge Quebec.

Not to worry. You're up to date so into the kitty it's gone. Many thanks.

Dear John: Enclosed please find my donation towards the continuance of the Roll Call. I enjoy it very much.

Please advice Will HcAllister that I remember those days well, but my best days were when I went on a 'happy trip from the paint fumes in the nose of a frighter or other locations, where the tar and whatever else was mixed with it, out me in seventh heaven for a few hours.

Keep up the good work.

Winnipeg, Man. Gordon W. Wheatcroft

Sure appreciate your very generous support. Hy ecstatic moment came when we rescued the fish heads from the parbage cans and put them all away including, and especially, the eyeballs. John.

Dear John: Hope you had a very Perry Christmas when it came. To ware pleased to get the Roll Call and to see the letter we wrote you in same.

It will be sad for a lot of people because of the ones that have gone home since the last issue. We didn't know that Ida and Lionel had lost a loved one. Thanks for all. God Bless.

Calgary, Alta. Joe and Ivy Walton

Thank you, dears. Always happy to get your letters. Hope you had a nice and happy holiday season. John.

Doar John: Happy Tew Year.

I wish to renew my subscription to the Holl Call for 1980. Please find cheque enclosed for that purpose.

Winnipeg, Man. Clifford J. Carpenter

Many thanks and all the very best. How's about some news stories or whatever from your area? John Dear John and Comrades: Tell, another Christmas gone, also another decade. Hope the next decade treats us againg young fellows kindly.

I wonder how many of us recall the USS OZARK which transported some of us from Guam to Frisco, courtesy of the U.S. Mavy. I thought that being a wartime support vessel she would have been done away with a long time ago. But imagine my surprise when I ran into this photo(an attempt to revive our photo-page in thi issue will include the photo) and the story of the "Ozark" in a recent publication of Popular Aschanics. Am sending it along, John. Perhaps you can use it.

Last summer had a phone call from Chich Juerry. Spends his summer on Okanagan Lake, westside, winters down south. Have not not his though. Best of health and good cheer.

Vernon, I.C. Bill and Angie Achtymichuk.

We know Gordic Sissons was on it and possibly, Paddy Kosnan and Hill Laid-law. Come on, gang, let's start something: Whom else amongst you were on it too? Harry Creedon ran into Chick early last year, and I met him in Wianipe, at the Convention. Don't know where he's at right now. John.

Greetings John: I hope you and yours had a nice feative season. Received the doll Call and read it from cover to cover.

Enclosed a little to help you in the good work you are doing on the Roll Coll. All the best.

Surrey, B.C. Gerry McKright.

Your good mishes and everything sure appreciated. Pray 1900 will be good to you and yours. John.

Ty dear Johny: I trust the enclosed will help you defray the expenses of the good old Roll Call. It is a source of great confort to me I can tell you, as the old legs don't let me get out and around the way I used to. Thanks so much for a job well done in "79", old comrade.

Vancouver, B.C. Alfie Shayler Sorry about the legs, but I see the spirit's still there so all's AOK.

MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear John: First of all, sincere even if a bit belated Greetings of the Season!! May 1980 be a good year for you and your family.

Vol. 3:4 ROLL CALL arrived today and has been read cover to cover. Congratulations on its continuing success. Two

questions have surfaced.

First, being quite sure I was in arrears for my subscription for ROLL CALL, in 'ovember I sent a cheque along with a letter I wrote Lionel Speller to get me out of hock, so to speak. I don't know how long ago this current issue was "put to bed" so you hay well not have received my subscription dues. I hope that by now the cheque has been cleared since I know only too well what the costs of publishing and mailing are.

An item on Page 15 has really aroused my curiosity: the letter Lloyd Doull wrote, enclosing something I am alleed to have written and which clipping was sent to Lloyd from a friend in a small Ontario town. Question: What did I say and to whom?????

A letter, page 5 & 11, from one B. Kohut, made me wonder if he might have been one of our patients in Dowen Road Like many of our Canadian names, his was a source of bewilderment(pronunciation) to the Q.A. on whose ward he was a patient. To add to the bewilderment I used to call him "KANOOMS"- pronounced as in " in cahoots". Those poor English girls did have a time with our good Canadian hases:

If I am still in arrears, please let me know, but I hope I'm not. All the best.

Toronto, Ont. Kay Christie

Kay dear, your subs, like you, are OK all the way. Re clipping: It was the contents of one whole page from a paper which didn't indicate which or where it came from but under the by-line of Ron Lowman of the Toronto Star. It was not written by you but appears to be from interviews with Fred Tilston of Windsor and yourself and was titled "Fred and Kay and WWII". And as for "KAHOOTS"; Basil, hows about writing Kay to say how sorry you are for causing those 'pore English girls' so much trouble? Kay: Keep in touch and God Bless. John.

Dear John: Please find enclosed cheque for a year's subscription as I think it must be due. I would hate to miss an issue!

Keep up the good work. Maybe seeing you this winter as I hope to be out there February or March.

Heepawa, Man. Len E. Seaborn

Missed you the last time you were out here and hope I don't this time. I'm in the phone book; please don't fail to call me. John.

Dear John: Herewith some material which was given to me by Jack Christensen to read.

With his permission I took some photostats and advis d him that this material will be forwarded to you.

Herewith my modest contribution to your RLL CALL which I enjoy a great deal. Kindess regards and best wishes.

Vancouver, Anatole Zaitzeff

That was very generous of you, Tola. A condensed connectary on a portion of the material appears elsewhere within these columns. Did you know that Jack was another of the HKVDC members sent with yours truly to Sendai 2 from S.S. Po? Lawy thanks for your support. John.

Dear John: I have cajoyed the Shum Shi Po Story in the Winter 1979 issue of the Roll Call. It brings back memories of much the same emperience. The removal after the surrender Dec. 26 of some of the remnants of Mo.2 Scottish Coy., HKYDC of which I was one, from Chung Am Kok Peninsula, by devious ways to Argyle Street Camp, arriving December 26th. 1941.

I believe we were some of the first tenants of Argyle Street Camp. Enclosed a small donation towards publication of the Hell Call.

Lastzville, B.C. Joc Randle

That was a lovely and thoughtful gesture, Joe. Please kiss Flo for me and tell her Elsa and I will use that rain check to go ever and visit when the weather is fine. You guys at Argyle St were one jump and two days ahead of us getting to Kowleon. Imagine boiled rice on . or Year's Day! We got PH-T-T!!

WELL, SOMEBODY'S GOT TO SAY IT

The transfer of 25 veterans to Valleyview 3 from Shaughnessey Hospital and the DVA News elease of 30 dovember 1979 advising the relinquishment of ownership and operation of the Colonel Belcher Hospital in Calgary and the Edmonton Veterans Home to the Province of Alberta by the Federal Government (Pages 2 & 17 this issue), merits the following:

Although we can accept the argumentthat responsibility closer to home, at the Provincial level could be better monitored and needs of veterans more rapidly met - this in accuality does not appear to be so.

Here in B.C. we have watched this responsibility deteriorate to the extent that veterans have had to vie with the public for beds which are supposedly guaranteed for use by veterans only, and to wait in line for treatment and attention.

Now we discover that over 20 have been sent out to Valleyview, thus giving up THEIR guaranteed beds to some-one else.

What veterans expect, and have a right to do so, are care facilities in the form of nursing type hones funded and operated entirely by the Federal Government in perpetuity (or until we've all gone'). After all, it wasn't the Provinces which sent the boys off to war and all its attendant miseries. It was Ottawa.

One looks to the minister of Veterans Affairs for guidance, understanding and total involvement in the search to improve the plight and well-being of veterans and to fight to see that they - above all Canadians - are permitted to end their days with dignity and in contentment.

Instead, I find both the previous and now, the current, ministers, not only shedding their responsibility towards veterans in regard to provision of care facilities by passing same on to provincial governments but - and one helluva big BUT - shucking the responsibility of the very job they were elected to do in diverting funds delegated for use to benefit veterans towards that extravagant and ill-conceived relacation of the DVA from Ottawa (with more office space than it knows

DAINIPPONIC DIAGNOSIS



THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE!

what to do with) to the Province of Prince Edward Island, to the tune of a reported 30 millions plus, with an added ten millions or more annual pay roll to come and has the temerity to offer as the reason for it: "(The Minister, the Hon.Allan McKimon)... decided that the advantages of relocation to the Province of P.E.I. warranted the decision to proceed..."

We had previously, together with other Veterans Organisations, expressed our dismay over this decision and in the light of what has happened to those 25 veterans in B.C., repeat it in the event that it hadn't registered and adding to same, wish to point out that: the DVA's concern over the economic problems of P.E.I. at the expense of Canadian Veterans should be, in reality, no concern of the D.V.A. at all.

THE FONZ

As a self-taught, self-proclaimed and self-respected amateur philosopher, I have come to the conclusion that after having survived those four hectic years as a POW, nothing can or will ever met me down!

This neartening conclusion leads me to the thought that whatever I say or do to anyone, be it good or otherwise, the effect on someone else is exactly the reverse.

Therefore, a ything I do or say, MUST BE GOOD!!

After which ponderous thought, I must confess I can't believe I thinked the whole thing! JONA

HITHER AND YON WITH FONZ

Appears like our exhortations to gettogether down hosa, Arizona-way, fellon fortile ground. Received a long distance call from Harry Creedon who reported holding a reunion at his place which included Art Lousier, Ray Sellars and Art Munn(the latter two just visiting) and himself. He did not mention the pre sence of ladics, but we're sure Helen and Dorsen were there. Then I told Harry about our snow and cold spell, he countered with a smug: "Why, we've got 75 fahr right now!" and I am sure I did hear snickering in the background. In any case, It must have been some re-union, but, Harry, did you have to wake me up at 3:00 a.m. (PST) to tell me all about it? And while we're at it, to Ray and Art(Nunn), don't you think you also belong on the Roll Call's mailing list?

And speaking of cold and wetness, I, who keep bragging about our climate, received my cummprance December 17. Woke up that morning to find eight inches of water in the rec-room. For every bucket I bailed, two returned. Ended my in four hours running around locating and buying a sump pump. Must ad it that like our weatherman, I was all wet and literally!

On the very same subject, visiting parents and folks in Vancouver from Vilna, Alberta, was our friend Ed Bergen. And after driving around in water hub-cap high for a couple of days, Ed was reported to have said: "This is really Beautiful ".C. It reminds no of Venice, Italy!!" Iss O.K., Ed! We can take it!

Every once upon a time, one makes a mistake - Even I!! Reporting on our participation in the AMEXPOW Parade in Auburn, Mashington in the last issue, we atated that 'Oor Bob rode in his own jeep(with driver) up front. Wrong! he shared a jeep with our friend Codr. Joe Fernandes of Washington State, up there at the head of the parade. So Sorry!

With about 960 HK Vots still alive and kicking and calculating that an average of 30 of us to each year, I will be 102 when my turn comes to go!SHEESH!

If you guys ca top this for dedication, please lot us know. Ford(Tiny) Martyn, of Phoenix, Arizone, POW in Congkong, is a third concration kinnipeg Grenadier. His Dad, Deais Martyn, was with the Gronadiers in both the Great War(1914-13) and in World War II(1939 -45) and his Grand-Dad saw action as a Grenadier in the Boor War(1900-1) in South Africa. Tiny didn't say what his Great Grand Daddy did, but in view of the feet that there wasn't a major war on then nor was there the Grenadiers, we think we can safely assume that he did all his fighting with bare knuckles!

It is with regret that we report that our good friend and comrade, Lionel Speller, will be undergoing eye-surgery sometime about the end of this month (February). We wish him the best and a speedy recovery and commiserate with Ida. My wife, Elsa, underwent a lens-transplant operation in Movember last, and, thank you, is recovering well although ever so slowly. As a result, she very sweetly handed me the household chores on a platter and the frustrations Frantic Fonz finds fixinfood to feed le femme, you wouldn't believe!

Tom Mulvaney tells how he discovered a cache of rum stashed away by an undentified brass and after making inroads into same, returned to his listening post up in the hills. Looking over the side Tom was anaged to see the trees and brush moving uphill in his direction. His imagdiste report was answered by: "Lay off the stuff and keep your eyes peoled!" A second look confirmed that the forest was really moving uphill, upon which, without further ado, Tom let fly indiscriminately with his Vickers and was elated to see a co pany of Japs forsake their camouflage and depart in haste in the direction of Tokyo, leaving a number who'd departed to join their ancesters earlier.

Tom's still searching for the particular brand of Jameican joy-juice which he insists, permitted him to shoot straighter than he ever had!

THE SHUN SHUI PO STORY (continued)

We entered into the Carp with relief, both mental and physical and what was more, surprised that we weren't searched at all. It became apparent in the first few weeks that our captors did not know what to do with us and were playing it by ear.

Two single strands of barbed wire stretched around the perimeter of the Camp and, together with single Japanese sentries 200 yards apart, was all that lay between us and freedom. This resulted in a number of local HK Volunteers slipping through the wire at night to return home and one, after discovering that his family had evaded the Japanese blockade on board a Chinese fishing junk to find refuge in the neutral Portuguese Colony of Macam some 40 miles away, returned to Shum Shui Po to join his mates.

Our first quarters were in the Jubilee Buildings down on the waterfront,
and from there, we could see clearly
the damage caused by our guns in the
area surrounding the Camp, and that of
the Japanese artillery and aerial bombardment of Stonecutters Island which
lay between us on the Kowloon mainland
and the Island of longkong.

Our first quarters were in protty bad shape themselves, but with little to do between their time of arrival and nightfall, PC is set down to getting things shipshape for what would be their first good night's sleep since the surrender on Christmas Day. But this was not to be, for suddenly most realised that they were hungry and hadn't eaten for 24 hours.

In answer to enquiries as to when were we to eat, we were told that the RASC, being the unit most conversant with supplying meals, were in the process of preparing supper.

With all due res ect to that unit, they may have been excellent caterers when everything was normal, but under the circumstances, as rice cookers when there was only rice to cook, they were total disasters. Dinter consisted of a dollop of soggy, mixed with raw, grains of rice brown in color and smelling of gunny sack. The rumour that they'd shoved the rice, still in sacks, into the cookers and considered it fit for consumption when the stench damn

BY JOHN FONSECA

near overcame the entire cookhouse staff was given credibility when bits of sack together with weevils and sand had to be pick out of the soggy lump of "goo" that was our New Year's Eve meal.

whis state of affairs continued for some time, with the exception that when it wasn't rice, it was dried green peas - normally soaked overnight so that the peas would absorbed water and thus return to their normal size prior to cooking- mixed with sand(added by dishonest suppliers in order to make up the correct weight) which created have you.

The last straw came when the Japanese sent in an undisclosed quantity of pork and POWs, eagerly awaiting the first meal of meat in weeks, found only a thin soup on the surface of which bits of fat floated disconsolately.

The outcry became so vociferous that the Migh Command (Maltby) moved us all out of Jubilee to billets in the huts east of the main drag leading to the theatre and separating the Hongkong Volunteers from the Regulars, provided us with our own cookhouse to be staffed by our own wen. In addition, the HKVDC was granted autonomy over our own area.

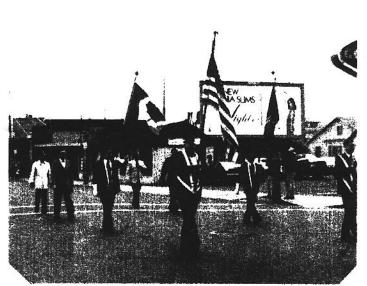
This gave us a much needed boost, as morale, because of the dysentery epidemic, followed by diphtheria which saw four to five me. dying daily had hit the camp, had sunk as low as one could imagine.

with the little money wo'd namaged to secrete plus what we earned, traded for or received from the outside, the plain rice diet could be made palatable by addition of soy, salted beans or garlic cloves purchased Thom the canteen.

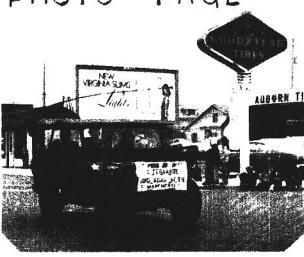
Also, we no longer had to stand in the parade ground facing Jubilee under a broiling sun or driving rain awaiting the mustering of all of six thouand or so men before being counted, but held our 'tenko' on the main road close to our huts.instead.

Don't believe we'll ever forget the night we stood for three hours in the rain on the parade ground, because of the successful escape attempt.

TO BE CONTINUED





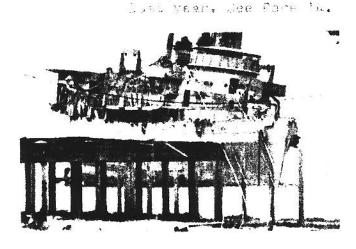


The Locke Leaf and R.C. Lranch Hunner flown in Auburn. Washington during the American SKPOW Memorial Parade toyomber 1931. Left: Bill and John, flarbearens. Pirat: Pres. Ecb Manchester & Omda. Joe Fernandes in VIP "Jeep".



Left: Remember when the Shumshaino, Sectomber lyas, from top of Jubilee Mug.hala drag lest contre, disgonally to conricht, showing theatre at far end(ton right dentw rel.Canadions and HVVDC coou led muts on right. ier gotr stexo≥∀97 of am left: Yawt it is cot car pearant to tre arean stat the eltime vi rendumnis, at one of our geomicus.Ernia(left) appears to have been shor shanead!! ention right The old ht Caladians home from team, begoned off riorida





REMEMBER VHEN?

The photo of Shumshuipo on Page 9 will bring back nostalgic memories of "the place we used to dwell!" to all of us who were there.

Taken from the top of Jubilce Building, sometime after the Japanese surrender in 1945, the large P W letters is located just about where we used to assemble - standing in the hot sum or rain for hours - for "Tenko" in the earlier days of the Camp.

If I remember correctly, the huts in the right foreground, housed the Japanese Camp storehouse and guards quarters, while those on the other side of the roadway(left) included the pig pen and farm, which when the food situation improved in 143, was shut down.

It also appears that the whole areathe parade ground, Jubilee, guard-huts
and piggery, became off limits some
time after most of the able-bodied had
been shipped to Japan, as a wire feace
can be discorned scaling it off from
the rest of the Camp.

The first but on the far right side of the crossroads, was the infamous Major Boon's Office, with the four parallel rous of buts ru ming morth, holding the MKVDC and further back, almost in line with the theatre(that big building at the far end of the avenue) housing the Grenadiers and Moyal Mif-

The front row of huts to left of the avenue, was occupied by the Hongkon, defenders' doctors, amongst which were Albert Rodrigues, G. Belcan, J. Robinson, M. Brown, J. Allan-Cray, R. M. Coombs, Bard and Mony Dauson-Grove. Ashton-Rose of the Indian Army M.C. was also there and with the Camp Chapel of St Michael the Archangel located at the crossroads corner, effectively separated the Regulars from the Volunteers!

Apropos of nothing, that'squat' many windowed white hut at the top left corner of photo, was appropriately enough the Camp Lenjoi!

The photo should, as it did to me, trigger memories of many events that happened to us, individually or collectively. You are invited to write in and tell us about it. It will help immensely towards the writing of the Shunshuipo Story.

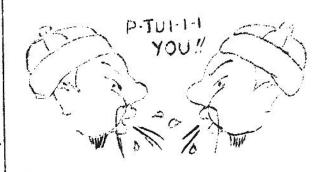
A "REQUIEM" FOR A GOOD SHIP

We were as much surprised as was Will Achtymichuk, who sent us the photo of the USS "Ozark", beached somewhere off the coast of Florida, after Hurricane Frederic had blown her from her moorings well out in the Gulf of Hexico, and driven her 50 miles or so to wherc she lay in four feet of water when the photo was taken in October 1979, to learn that she was still afloat! This ship, which provided so much unuttorable joy and caper expectation to a number of Canadian POWs who, after their release from camps in Japan, were brought home to Canada in her from Guan, was thought to have and, hopefully, reincarnated as a part of the big U.S. Navy flat-top, USS "Kittyhawk" to fight again sometime, somewhere.

We can imagine, and also share, the shock of the non who were on her, when they hear that instead of ending her days with dignity, the "Ozark" was destined to the inglorious role of a "target ship" for the U.S.Air Force and will, eventually, "go down to the seas " a victim of our side's gractice bombings!

We know for certain that Will and Gordic Sissonswere on board for that long voyage home. We would like to know who clse were also on beard and would appreciate their names or anything in way of a story of that eventful trip back. It's the least we can do and she certainly deserves a Requien of one sort or another.

OUR ASININE ARTIST was asked to illustrate: A SPITTING IMAGE



AND HE CAME UP WITH THIS !!

THE MIIGATA STORY. COMCLUSION

BY BOD LANCHESTER

We had become full working residents of Niigata, our length of tenure was in the hands of the Gods. Each day the able-bodied picked up their working tools and slugged it out from dawn to dusk. This was in the latter part of 1943, there were signs of winter approaching, there were also rumours running thru the camp, that we were soon to be moved to larger quarters, in fact, the early sick prisoners who remained in camp, were being taken to the new campsiteto do jobs of clean-up. Other rumours had it that a group of American prisoners from the Phillipines would be joining us shortly.

sure enough the rumours bore fruit, we did receive our matching orders, the move was to be made to a large camp on the hill on the outskirts of town and farther from our jobs. The new camp was well laid out, eight buildings in all, the sleeping quarters were double tiered, a cook-house, wash hut, guard-room, general quarters for the Japanese and a hospital. We moved just before the snow began to blow. The Americans joined us a couple of weeks later. Our new members had had a long and arduous trip, many of them were in poor shape on arrival. The clothing they had brought were not quite suited for the cold weather they were experiencing and, very quickly they began to suffer because of this.

The first few days after the arrival of the Americans, the Camp was in a turmoil; reorganization was needed; everyone excited about sharing information, food, cigarettes and clothing, as a result not much of anything got done. The Japs, however, soon put a stop to our little party and in a few days they had us back on track and working twice as hard. The new men found the jobs most difficult due to improper clothing and because of the beatings they had taken on their trip to Japan. In short order, the casualties began to rise, deaths became more numerous.

Winter was soon upon us, the snow began piling up in great mounds throughout the Camp, we began to look like a turnelled fort of snow and ice. To be exact, we had seven feet of snow dropped on us this first winter! We spent a very lonely, dreary Christmas, little food and no cheer and we lived in hope that the new Year would bring an improvement in conditions. The New Year was on us, then, shortly after midnight 1944, disaster struck! The snow had been piling up all through the day, continuing through the night. All huts had been closed for the night, full of sleeping men, when in the early morning a great crashing noise reverbrated through the Camp. Everyone makened to the shock, stomached tightened with a sickening sensation as sudde fear of the unknown strikes home. With the first shock wave over, everyone began moving, hoping upon hope that whatever happened, would not suddenly repeat.

When things settled, it was found that due to the weight of the snow, one of the smaller huts had collapsed burying all the occupants under heavy wooden beams, roofing, clothing and snow! All members in camp along with the Japanese, set to work clearing the debris. The outcome, a sad story of eight Canadians killed and many more injured. There was no further sleep that night. As a result of the accident, our good friends decided there would be no work the next day. It would be spent examining the situation, trying to determine who and what was at fault. We were soon back at work after the official enqu-

iryand it was decided to move the camp once again.

We all picked up and moved to Camp #3; a much smaller camp, built to house members of the steel mill crew -"Shintetsu". In this situation, we were again subjected to over-crowding, poor feeding arrangements, cold weather. In all a most agonising time. We were destined to remain in this situation for the period January to march 1944. It was during this three month period that the Japanese cruelty expressed its worst side. It was a time when two prisoners lost their lives, partly as a result of their own misdirection and partly because the Japs wanted to provide a graphic example to other prisoners who might have ideas of taking things into their own hands. One American and a Canadian, in two separate incidents, died of exposure, resulting from being

(concludes on Page 14)

YANKING YANKS EARNS THANKS!

The following is extracted from letter to President Bob Manchester from Past Nat'l Commander and currently, International Co-ordinatorol the American EX-POW, Inc., and our friend, Harold L. Page:

".... I am writing primarily to say
"Thanks to you Canadians" for your sincere friendship, as shown in your
great gamble in getting six of our Citizens out of Tohran.

I have sent letters to your Nat'l President, Lloyd Doull, and to Nat'l President E.J. Musgrove, Nat'l POW Association of Canada (E.T.) as follows:

"On behalf of Mat'l Commander Herman E. Holon, and the membership of the American Ex-Prisoners of Tar, Inc., we wish to thank you, Mr. President, your membership and all Canadians for the heroic act of your Prime Timister Joe Clark, and Ambassador Maylor in helping six members of the American Embassy in Tehran escape the unjustified and hundliating retention of American personnel by the student mob. We greatly appreciate your stand and concern for the welfare of our Americans.

Sometimes it appears A erica has Allies only when they need help or want assistance. If we freeder loving countries are to enjoy our priceless heritage, we just unite to the fullest. We are again refinded of your true friendship, both personally and nationally we shall long remember: "

Yours in Ex-POW Followship,

Buckley, Wash. Herold L. Page

Por nada, anigo! Glad for the opportunity. We don't for ot what you-all done for us back in the fall of '45:!

CALLING IT A DAY!

The arc informed that Jack Davies has decided to retire as of 1 April 1920, and will be relinquishing both his work and his post as franch Treasurer on that date. He plans to take a well earned six-month vacation in the U.K. Congratulations, thanks for a good inning and a happy retirement, Jack, from all of us.

RELEMBER TO MAIL YOUR RESERVATION SLIP (on Page 17) ofr OUR AH UAL MEETING on 15 MARCH 1980, TODAY! B.C. and Other Branches - News Items

B.C. Branch: Annual Meeting and Election of Officers, Sat. 15 March 1980, (See Page 1 for further details)

Dues are due for 1980. \$10.00 per yr per member. Wives FREE.

Hongkong Vets residing in the U.S.A. who have been refused treatment at U.S.V.A. Centres, are to mail their complaints to: Mr. Y.Armstrong, Chief of Entitlement & Benefits (Treatment), Dept.Vets Affairs, Ottawa, Ont. KIA OP4 with copies to Lionel Speller, Sec.

Lost Trails: Thereabouts or addresses of the following are being sought:
Alfie MacIntyre Nike Melkowski
A.J. McIvor Nike Soroka
Ernie West

Please send information to Lionel Speller A.S.A.P.

A Reminder: Reservations for Hongkon, Pilgrimage 1980 should be mailed to Art Lousier, Space C-7,5200 East Main St.Mesa, Arizona, U.S.A. 85205, now!

March 1980 at the Army Havy Hall, on Young Street, commencing 8:00 p.m.

Prosident: As this will be the first Meeting of 1930, and the first eeting under the leadership of our new executive, I wish to extend a personal invitation to all he hers to come and attend, take part in and enjoy the fellowships we have in our Association. Frank Harding, President.

New Executive: For the year 1980:

Immediate P/Pros: Dert Delbridge
President: Frank Harding
Vice/Pres: Art Ballingall
Sec/Treas: Harry Atkinson:

tly at Door Lodge and in good spirits: Fred Adams, John Tahiller, Ron Bennett and Ernie Heal. Paddy Dalzell reports.

A REMIIDER

We wish again to advise that to ensure publication of information, submissions from all Branches must be addressed to and in the hands of the Editor of the Roll Call no later than the 10th day of the 2nd month of each quarter.

IT'S REALLY A SHALL WORLD AFTER ALL!

Speaking of long voyages home following our release from camps in 1945:

Another group of Canadians and 5000 or so American POWs, which included the late Paddy Keenan and Bill Laidlaw were transported from Guan on a liberty ship - name unavailable - to San Francisco.

The Canadians were entrained in a special "sleeper" coach (much to the distust of their American comrades who travelled in day coaches) for their journey north to Seattle. After an overnight stay at Fort Lewis, they finished the last leg on board the Princess Margerite, landing in Victoria.

Nuch to Paddy Keenan's delight and surprise, the train conductor turned out to be a buddy (and bugler) Grenadier who'd gone over to Europe during the Great War (1914-18) with Paddy. You can bet they had a lot to talk about after over a quarter century!

Again, when the Officer in chargeof Troop Transportation, one Harry Craig, who'd gone down to Scattle to arran e transfer of Canadian POWs, cane face to face with Bill Laidlaw, there followed a second noisy re-union. Bill and Harry went to school together! I am told, Harry is still here in Vancouver. Anyone else around who also made that voyage? And can you name the ship?

"SO SORRY"DEPARTMENT

On our Photo Page re the USS "Ozark" we said: "See Page 14". Iss mistake!! You'll find it on Page 11.

In Letter to the Editor from Gordie "heatcroft, Page 4, we typed:" in the nose of a frighter"! instead of: "in the nose of a freighter". But not so big mistake! Anyone who's been on one of those god-forseken hulks which took us from Shumshuipo to Japan, while unknown subs lurked around and about, was sure on a FRIGHTER!

THE ROLL CALL: Sponsored by the B.C. Branch, Hongkong Veterans Association of Canada.

Editor: John Fonseca.

Mainland: 796 Adiron Ave, Coquitlan, B.C.

V3J 4K2. Vancouver Island: c/o Lionel

Speller, 3628 Saanich Rd, Victoria, B.C.

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THE NIIGATA STORY - CO CLUSION (cont)

tied like dogs to stakes in the centre of the Camp compound, given no food or water, very little clothing and no protection from the elements day or night. It was one of the lowest times in morele for the rest of our comrades. In early April 1944, we were returned to the large camp on the hill, with the exception of the "Shintetsu" gang, they remained to finish out the captive years in Camp #3.

During the remaining time, April 1944; to September 1945, we did see some of the steel gang on occasion, but for the most part they were lost to us until liberation.

The big carp on the hill became the final resting place for a good many of the prisoners. We endured the company of rats, fleas, dust, rain and snow; managing to hold down many assortments of rice, horrible greens, rotten fish and the remains of horses and cows. We put up with daily chores of slinging coel, heaving pig-iron, toting bags of soy beans, charcoal and sulphur, withstood the many beatings of our vicious guards and the finally it was all over. We who were fortunate enough to withstand the agony, were on our way home.

There are many other stories of Miigata, which I will leave for others to tell.

THE END

AND MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

John: This (enclosed) article appeared in the Dec. 7 edition of the Peterborough Examiner. Thought you would appreciate receiving it. Best wishes for the New Year.

Ottawa, Ont.

Vern J. Murphy Chief Information Services, DVA.

Nice thought for which many thanks. Its length prevents reprinting in its entirety, but there is one passage I think the boys will appreciate and understand:

"Dec.7,1941, Pearl Harbour Day. We will all remember Pearl Harbour. How many will remember the 17 consecutive days of fighting that tied up 60,000 Japanese troopsso the British and Americans could struggle back to their feet in the Pacific area? Seventeen days of fighting to hold what Churchill called an "untenable position that the Japanese would take anyway.

We have lamented Dieppe. Then will we acknowledge Hongkong? BOB CURRIE " (In some quarters and after 39 years, they're trying their damndest to forget having to acknowledge. ED)

Vern, there are two Curries, Edw in and Richard listed officially as Hon-kong POWs, but no Bob. Is he a relative?

Dear John: Just a few lines to enclose cheque for your paper. To would like our subscription kept up and also the one to: Mrs. Alice Davis, Minnipeg, Man.

She really enjoys the paper for although her husband passed away in '43 in Hongkong, she renembers so many of the boys. She was able to attend the reunion last summer in Finnipeg and said it was very enjoyable. Keep up the good work. A very happy holiday season to you and your faily.

Winnipeg, Man. Frances Zytaruk

Frances dear, many thanks for your unfailing support. I don't remember if I met Mrs Davis at the Convention. If not I am sorry, but sorrier that I couldn't visit with you and Mick. Please tell him: keep the old flag flying and in touch.

John.

Dear John: You will find enclosed subscription to Roll Call for John Younger, brother of Lloyd from B Company. He and his wife run the block where I ended up at. A very nice place sponsored by Army & Mavy Club. Success to the Roll Call and you and yours.

Victoria, B.C.

J. W. Leeson.

John: checked with Lionel who mails copies destined for the Island. You should have received your copy by now In the meantime, thanks. Hope to see you over here next re-union.

Dear Johnny: I meant to write a note to you long, long ago but time passes by too swiftly. We thoroughly enjoyed seeing you and all our other Canadian friends at our Veterans Day paradeand gathering in Auburn in Movember.

Enclosed is a small donation for the Roll Call which we enjoy from cover to cover. You do a fine piece of work in an interesting way, always.

Do hope you and your family had the most Blessed of Helidays. Our best regards to your Elsa. Hope she had the very best results possible with her recent surjery.

Seattle, Wash.

Joe Colloway

Sure appreciate the nice thoughts. It was great meeting you, Charlotte and the gang and you boys did us real proud. Alsa sends her thanks and recrets that she wasn't able to attend. Her surgery was only a wock before. See you over here in harch? Please try.

Hi John: Just a few words to say Thank you - for the Holl Call. /e both
enjoy it very such. I get to read it
first because I'm sig or that Esther.
So Esther says she will get her own but one is enough. Just fooling:

Tall, John, lots of luck and keep up the good work. See you in April.

Ponticton, B.C. Maurice LaPointe.

Thank you two dears for the generous enclosure which has gone into the kitty. Esther: when Elsa wants to get a-hold of something before I do, she pinches he belly-button which puts no in a cona for two hours. Try it on haurice. He won't like it but you'll get it first next time. John

AN ECHO OF SENDAI_2

Through kind courtosy of Jack Christensen, who passed on a sheaf of documents he'd received from Carlos Araulphy, both former POWs in Shumshuipo and Sendai2, to our new member Amatolo Zaitzeff ad who in turn sent them in to the Holl Call, the following should be of interest to ex-Sendaians.

The papers included a deposition by Carlos supplied to the War Crimes Tribunal at the trials of the Camp Commandant, Lieut. Ninomiya; its Hancho-Deno Cpl(Oy! Oy!) Ozawa and his aide, the most savage and brutal of the trio, Pte Wakamatsu.

The deposition -five foolscap sheets in all - is too longthy to be reprinted here at this time, for it describes the Camp, the Mine, living and working conditions in detail as well as providing evidence against the trio in regard to treatment of POWs there.

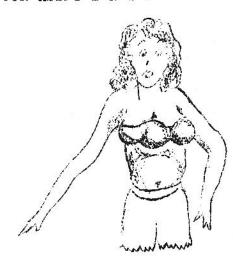
Of importance, however, is that all three were found guilty and Wakamatsu was sentenced to 18 years imprisonment, the Camp Commandant 5 years and Hancho Dono Ozawa 4 years respectively.

Of particular and personal interest, was that Carlos Arnulphy, 42-year old member of the HKVDC at that time, was one of four shovellers in the five-man gang of which your Editor was driller.

It was Carlos, together with George Davreux, and the two Silva boys, hario and farciano, who clawed desperately through the debris which blocked the collapsed coal face behind and under which yours truly was buried. It was the four who, with superhuman strength born of desperation, moved a two-ton slab of 'danso' beneath which your Editor was pinned and brought him cut to safety.

I don't remember if I'd over thanked them - was blooding like a stuck pig and probably too scared to think at the time - so, if I hadn't, here is a 35-yearbelated'thank you, gang!' Without you, there probably would never have been a Roll Call!

Carlos, Mario and Marciano are still in Hongkong and apparently getting along fine. Don't know where George is at, but wherever you-all are: Greetings and salutations! We haven't forgetten. OUR ASINIME ARTIST on TV COMMERCIALS



THE NEW AND TRULY CROSS YOUR HEART!

PILGRIMAGE TO HONGKONG 1980

Some chagrin has been expressed over our lack of coverage of the proposed Pilgrimage to Hongkong in December. This is not so. In all truth, except to keep repeating dates and the fact that it would be a total-package deal (Page 15, Roll Call Spring 1979 issue) we were unable to provide that most important of all information as to what the cost would be, until we received it directly from the tour-promoters late September last.

To those who agree, we say this: Firstly, it would only be repeating what the promoters have already done directly to every member of the Association; secondly, we are not prepared to use valuable space to do so; and thirdly, the information on cost is still unclear for, barring the land arrangements, everything else is subject to change.

Although we whole-heartedly support the intent and spirit of the Pilgrimage, we will not have the Roll Call used as a vehicle for prenoting what professionals, who are being paid for the task, are supposed to do.

From the very start, the Roll Call has rejected the idea of advertisements. We see no reason to change our minds and we do not intend to start now.

So, my friends, rest assured that there will be full coverage of the Pilgrimage. But only AFTER they have returned, not BEFORE!

IN GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We wish to acknowledge with deepest appreciation, receipt of donations in many instances, additional, to subscriptions from outside of B.C .- to help keep the holl Call rollin'.

The following were received during period 4 August 1979 thru 1 February 1980, were sent directly to the Editor and do not include those sent to our Branch Secretary, Lionel Speller, nor straight subscriptions from readers.

Paddy Dalzell Art Lyons Mrs Lorna Fox Dr.Pat Cheyla(US) Alf Matthe s Ernie Meal Ray Stodgell Ev Laurence Harry Creedon Gordon Williamson O.M.Collett Basil Kohut Cliff Meucomb Nick Zytaruk Faurico LaPointe Mrs Annic Oomen

Alf Shayler Fred Reich Gordon Wheatcroft Gerry McKnight John Lecson Anatole Zaitzeff Len Scalorn Tom Forsyth Joe kandle Kca Boll Joe Galloway (US) Fred D. over

We feel you-all should know that your so very generous summort chabled us to produce: the Fall 1979, Winter 1979: and this, Spring 1980, editions of the Roll Call and still leave a coupla bucks in the kitty! A mere "THANK YOU" doesn't seed enough, but this one come alloway from the ticker!

D.V.A. NEWS RELEASE - 30 November 1979

The DVA has agreed to transfer ownership and operation of the Edmonton Voterans Home (as of 31 December 1979) and the Col Belcher Mospital, Cal ary (as of 1 April 1930) to the Alberta Government.

The transfer agreement includes a capital contribution of \$6,646,000 from the Federal Government for improvements to Col. Belcher Hospital with a guarantoed 185 priority bods for DVA patients at that hospital.

The University of Alberta Hespital will assume full responsibility for the management of the Edionton Veterans Home and guarantee 146 priority beds for DVA patients there.

A further News Rolease of 6 Dec 1979 advised the tabling of a bill in Parliament designed to amend legislation dwaling with veterans benefits.

To: The Socretary C.Branch 3628 Seanich Rd Victoria, B.C. v8x 1x3

R.: B.C. ERANCH ANNUAL MEETING 15 MARCH 1980

I will be attending the above Annual Meeting.Please Lake the following reservations in my name:

ROOM(s)

Single

Double with twin beds Double w/double bed

DINNER(s) persons

Signed.....

To: The Editor, The holl Call, 796 Adiron Avenue Coquitlan, D.C. V3J 4K2

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I understand and accept that non-receipt of the above instructions by you, will result in deletion of my name from your mailing list.

AMERICAN EX*POW CONVE TIONS A warm "WELCOME" is extended to all HK Vets by our American friends to the following:

Western States Amer. Def. of B & C. on 10-13 April 1980 in Eugenc, Oregon. Contact: Chidr W. Mattson, 23779 Hall Rd Cheshire, Oregon, U.S.A. 97419 for reservations, details.

Washington State AMEXPOW Reunion, 30-31 May 1980 in Bollevue, Washington. For reservations contact : Chidr. George Fernades, 3114-128th Avenue N.E., Bellevue, Wesh., USA 98005. Tel:206-885-6240.

AND A HAPPY EASTER TO YOU ALL !!