

NATIONAL DUSTERS, QUADS & SEARCHLIGHTS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER # 3 – DECEMBER 2019

2020 NDQSA 38th ANNUAL REUNION NORFOLK, VA Dates: June 2 -7, 2020

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE Dear Brothers and Sisters



To all my Brothers and Sisters of the NDQSA. Another Holiday season is upon us and I want to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a safe sober and happy Holiday. After gathering information about construction progress at the ADA Museum in Ft. Sill, the decision has been made to hold the 2020 Reunion at our back up location Norfolk VA. Reunion Committee Members and I based on the information provided by the ADA museum indicated the museum may not be opened on schedule and even if open; all of the exhibits will probably not be ready. The Board will evaluate the status of the ADA Museum in 2020 for a possible site in 2021. Bruce Geiger and Bob Lauver have worked their magic again and negotiated us a good deal at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel with many attractions within walking distance.

I am looking forward to seeing you all in VA this coming June.

Robert "Bob" Cuce President NDQSA

FEATURED STORIES:

4/60th to Reactivate in 2020
Internet Finds
Army Museum to open

NEW MEMBERS/CONTACTS

[Barry Martino, B-1/44 '68-69 FL](#)
Dennis Andrus, H-5/2 UT

If the name is blue or underlined, you can click on it and send a message to the new member. Maybe he knows someone you served with? Send him an email!!

MEMBERS THAT HAVE PASSED

Buford Searcy, A-5/2 '67-70, 4Dec12, TX

He will be missed and we give honor to his service and his family.

DO YOU HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS?

Two pieces of contact information that frequently change are: cell phone numbers and email addresses. Typically there are about a half dozen emails sent out each year to every member with a valid (current) email address on record with the Historian. **If you (or a spouse) have an email address and you have not received any emails from the dqshistorian@cox.net, it is time for you to record your email address with him.** Simply [click here](#) and identify yourself clearly (full name). You might as well confirm your telephone numbers in the same email. When an email is sent to a bad email address, the Historian tries to contact the member by phone to determine their status. This is a time consuming effort, but it does give him a chance to talk to members.

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Minutes of NDQSA Board of Directors and Executive Officers Meeting October 30, 2019 have not been finalized as yet. They will be presented in the next issue of the newsletter.

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NDQSA 2020 Officer Elections

The 2020 Nominating Committee consisting of Joseph Belardo, John Huelsenbeck and Paul Hanson will be seeking any active dues paying member to submit his name for nomination or name others for the following executive officer positions for a two year term (2020-2022). The current president is allowed to run for one more additional 2-year term. All other executive positions are not term limited.

President: Incumbent - Robert Cuce

1st vice President: Incumbent - Paul Kopsick

2nd vice President: Incumbent - David McCray

Secretary: Incumbent - Garry Severin

Treasurer: Incumbent - Allan Penwell

Any Active member, in good standing, can run for any officer position. To run for office, whether a current officer seeking reelection or a member seeking election, you must provide to the nominating committee a recent quality photograph and a brief introductory biography so the voting membership becomes familiar with the nominee's qualifications. Members may submit their own names or the names of other eligible members for the ballot. As long as the nominee you recommend consents to be listed on the ballot, his name will be submitted for election to the voting membership. If you nominate a member, please provide the nominating committee with their telephone number.

Future newsletters will also contain election information.

When all nominees are in, a formal mail-in election ballot will be sent to all members via regular postage. The ballots will also allow for write-in votes of any qualified members who seek to run for an office. Furthermore, last minute nominations may be made during the annual membership business meeting at the 2020 NDQSA reunion in Norfolk, VA but know that hundreds of Active Members will have already mailed in their ballots by that day.

Joseph Belardo will chair the nominating committee and send all nominee information to the two other nominating chairmen, John Huelsenbeck and Paul Hanson, for review prior to making a formal election ballot.

Please mail or email your nomination to the below address or call if you have any questions. **All nominations must be received no later than March 1, 2020.**

Joseph Belardo

C/O NDQSA Elections
527 O'Donohue Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
908-510-4349

Email: josephbelardo@yahoo.com

ITEMS LEFT AT THE WALL Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund



Text of the handwritten inscription upon the exterior helmet surface is transcribed in full, as follows;

".....A HELMET LIKE THIS HELPED
KEEP A PART OF ME ALIVE - SO I WOULD
ALWAYS REMEMBER YOU - YOUR
JOKES, THE WAY YOU LAUGHED, THE
STORIES OF YOUR FAMILIES AND YOUR
HOME. / WE SHARED SOMETHING
NOBODY CAN TAKE AWAY "VIETNAM". /
I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU. / THOSE OF
YOU WHO HAVE BEEN TURNING THIS
HELMET AROUND TO READ IT. / PLEASE
TURN TO THE NEXT VETERAN YOU SEE
AND SAY "WELCOME HOME" - THANKS
JOE BELARDO "C" - BTRY 1ST - 44TH
DUSTERS 67-68 CAMP J.J. CARROLL ROCK

PILE, CALU, KHE SANH, CONTHIEN -
DONG HA - KHE GIO BRIDGE, ROUTE 9 -
DUSTERS - QUADS AND SEARCHLIGHTS."

ITEM SUMMARY

Military issue, M1 combat helmet with handwritten inscription. The inscription is composed of concentric rings (proceeding from the crown to the brim) upon the exterior surface of the helmet shell, and is from, "JOE BELARDO "C" - BTRY 1ST - 44TH DUSTERS 67-68". In the inscription, Mr. Belardo states that, "A HELMET LIKE THIS HELPED KEEP A PART OF ME ALIVE - SO I WOULD ALWAYS REMEMBER YOU", recounts the shared experience of serving in Vietnam with his comrades in arms, and closes with the plea, "THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE BEEN TURNING THIS HELMET AROUND TO READ IT. / PLEASE TURN TO THE NEXT VETERAN YOU SEE AND SAY "WELCOME HOME" ". The artifact was left at The Wall by U.S. Army and Vietnam veteran Joe Belardo in November 1995.

TANK FARM OPEN HOUSE SEPTEMBER 7-8, 2019



Although a hurricane was bearing down on the east coast, it passed just early enough in the week to give us perfect weather for the Open House. Director Allan Cors reported afterwards that this was the largest turnout in the history of this event to date. Those NDQSA members that made it to the event on Saturday got a chance to ride on the duster. To see a clip of the guys riding around the field, click here. [\[LINK\]](#)

There is also great news on progress being made toward the construction and eventual opening of the Americans in Wartime Museum ([NMAW](#)). They have a new advocate and donations coordinator that in just the last month brought several million dollars into the program. Things are looking up!

EMAILS AND INTERNET COMMUNICATIONS

To: Joe (Belardo).

I just finished reading your book and found it very compelling. After reading about being the guy who manned the guns I thought you would like to hear from one who was under the guns.

In 1967 the 3d Battalion of the 39th Infantry (Army) was established in the Mekong Delta south of Saigon. We had two Twin 40s assigned to us (5/2d) acting as base security and road guards. In early 1967 I was traveling to an forward observation post 100 clicks from our southern berm. Halfway to that post I was engaged by a sniper who pinned me down in the roadway. He was splashing bullets close to me and I was in a very exposed place. All of a sudden I heard the tracks clanging on the road and the Twin 40 topped the rise to my right. He eyeballed the situation and I fired a couple of tracers to where I was receiving the fire from. The gun opened up and imprinted forever into my memory the sight and sound as the rounds impacted and the foliage blasted into the air. This was followed by the fast reactionary force investigating. No sniper was found and we returned to a normal day. Never met the skilled dustermen to express my thanks so I wish you will accept them in their behalf.

We in the 554th really appreciated having you guys around while we went about our duties. Thank you for that.

Chuck Heenan Sgt (Ret USA)
B Co 3/39 Inf 9th Infantry, 1967
Life member MOPH

Hi Chuck,
Thank you for the wonderful email and thank you for reading me book.
We had three (3) Duster and Quad 50 Battalions in Vietnam.
As you know by my book from I was in 1st / 44th which handled the DMZ down to Hue City
In the Central Highlands there was 4th/ 60th
In the south was 5th /2nd
We all had somewhat of a different duty assignment.
I am glad that we helped you on a very scary day and thrilled that you survived Vietnam.
They didn't find the sniper because the 40mm probably made him into dust.
Please email our historian Paul Kopsick at dqshistorian@cox.net and he will post it in our next newsletter and maybe you'll find out who it was.
Chuck - where are you now living?
Talk soon
Joe

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Hi Paul, Nelson Kelly here.

First off since going to a few reunions I have met a few Brothers I was stationed with in Vietnam. I will be honest, I was completely 'mind-blank' pretty much to what happened and when during my tour. I was stationed on Hill 65 with a G-29 searchlight unit assigned to a Marine Company. I had a choice at end of tour to extend 30 days or get transferred to a different unit for rotation reasons. I think someone called it "the McNamara shuffle". I opted for transfer and ended up with a Duster unit. Didn't even know what a Duster was. My OJT was: stand up, exposed from the waist up and keep dropping 4 round clips in to the guns. Why I didn't extend 30 days I don't know?

We did some convoy escorts and would get to areas that were under alert for attack and did perimeter defense. We could fire without permission from higher ups as artillery needed. I remember one such event where we were sent to a Seabee compound that came under alert and I could not believe how nice this place was. Buildings with screens, a flower garden by the main

entrance that I was told later on was the CO's pride and joy. We asked if we could get some chow and was told the CO said we didn't have a voucher for that. WHAT? We been living on c-rations and you can't give us some chow and we are protecting you?

Later on some Seabees brought us some chow by our track on the base perimeter. Nothing happened but I was amazed that this base was so nice. One thing that did happen was one of the Seabees gave me some reel to reel recorded tapes. I had purchased a Sony reel to reel tape recorder with built in speakers in Danang but no tapes to play so I was loving life.

After this came the Tet offensive and we escorted what I was told was the first convoy to get through to the MACV compound at Hue. Came under attack a couple of times and several 2½ ton trucks with canvas covers, loaded with Marines were hit bad. The most horrible thing I saw was a family, MamaSan, PapaSan and Baby San dead on side of road next to their push cart caught trying to escape and pigs eating them. God that was horrible.

Going through Hue I was amazed that this was at one time a beautiful City before Tet offensive. Street lights, sidewalks etc. Burned out now. We made it to MACV compound and was positioned by the bank of Perfume River with orders to fire at will. Next day a second Looie shows up and says "we are going to attack" WTF ?? As we were going down a street in Hue the track in front of us took a direct rocket direct hit.

While at Nashville reunion I met Floyd "Red" Seratte and he told me he was on this very track. That was very emotional for him and me. I don't know how many survived that. I thought the RPG round went through the turret but Red said it went through the hatch door.

Oh by the way did I tell you that when we left the Seabee compound we *accidently* ran through someone's flower garden?

NOTE: If you remember in the last newsletter there was a photo of D-132 "Reds" track with Willie Wong on the back next to a wounded soldier. That photo may have captured the incident that Nelson is describing here...amazing!



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In Remembrance

I apologize that it has taken me so long to send you the pictures of Joe. The picture of Joe on the tank was taken at Camp Pendleton State Military Reservation in Virginia Beach, VA in October of 2017. If you have any questions or need additional information please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you, Bonnie Maka



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REMEMBER

NDQSA is an IRS 501(c) (19) non-profit veteran's organization so if you are of means and in a giving state of mind, know that you can put NDQSA in your estate plans for when you leave this mortal plane. Also, NDQSA has several vehicle restoration projects we are still trying to complete: the Widomaker gun-truck still needs to payoff the loan of the gun mount (20K) and we are still looking for an appropriate Mutt M151 jeep (10K) for the Xenon SLT we have at the Tank Farm.

+ + + + + + + + +



Joe Maka (B-1/44 '66-67) passed away in August of 2018. He went over on the boat and was stationed around Dong Ha.



This great photo showed up on a companion Facebook page. This is Track B47 of 5th/2nd ADA. The Track Commander is reported to be SSG Carl Henderson (seated); SP4 Condon Payne (boonie hat), SP4 Tom Glass is sitting on the barrels of the gun Two of the other crewman are reported to be PFC Woodstead and PFC Schulty. Read their story from an earlier newsletter story at <http://www.ndqsa.com/201403.pdf>

From Wikipedia:

The battle of Cholon and Phú Thọ Racetrack began during the early hours of 31 January 1968 and continued until 11 February 1968. The attacks by Vietcong (VC) forces were one of several major attacks around Saigon in the first days of the Tet Offensive. The attacks were repulsed with the VC suffering heavy losses and substantial damage to the densely populated area of Cholon.



Opens June 4th 2020

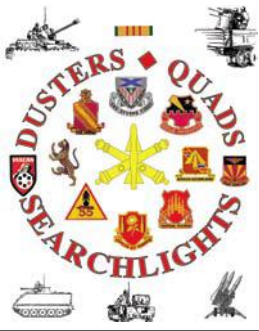
Ft. Belvoir, VA

The [National Museum of the United States Army](#) at Ft. Belvoir, VA is scheduled to open its doors to the public on June 4, 2020, while NDQSA has their 38th annual reunion in Norfolk, VA.

The National Museum of the United States Army ([TheNMUSA](#)) will be the first museum to cover the Army's entire 244-year history. There are other branch-specific or conflict-specific museums such as the Infantry Museum at Fort Benning, Georgia, and the National World War II Museum in New Orleans.

Like other D.C.-area museums, admission for the Fort Belvoir, Virginia, museum will be open for free to the public on a timed-entry ticket system. Museum officials expect as many as 750,000 visitors in the facility's first year. Make plans to stop by on your way back from Norfolk.

The museum will tell the Army's story through soldier stories. The narrative begins with the earliest militias and continues to present day.

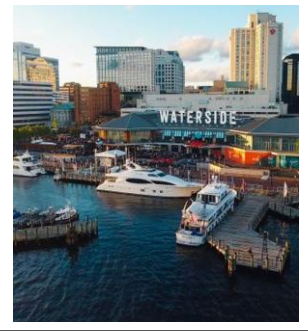


38th Annual NDQSA Reunion

“Operation Hampton Roads”

Norfolk, VA

June 2nd – June 7th, 2020



NDQSA is pleased to announce our
38th Annual Reunion will be in Norfolk, VA
Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel
777 Waterside Drive
Norfolk, VA23510
1(757)622-6664
<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/orfsi-sheraton-norfolk-waterside-hotel/>



Room Rate: \$114 + tax King or 2 Queens

Discounted Buffet Breakfast \$16pp All Inclusive

Discounted hotel self parking voucher: \$10/day

NDQSA Group Rate 3 days pre/post above dates
(5/30/20– 6/09/20 Based on hotel room availability!)

Sheraton Central Reservations: 1(800)325-3535

Problems Call Hotel Direct: 1(757) 640-2762

(Office hours: Monday-Friday 9am–5pm Eastern)

Ask for: JoAnne St.Louis - Group Reservations

Reservation Cutoff Date: May 12th, 2020

Phone & Online Reservations Must Mention:

**National Dusters, Quads & Searchlight
Association Reunion**

Online Reservation Link: [\[Click here\]](#)

Book Your Hotel Reservations ASAP!

Reunion Events & Registration Form to follow!

Norfolk Regional Airport (12miles) has Taxi & Uber

Activities & Area Attractions

Norfolk Waterfront



MacArthur Memorial & Museum



Mermaid Winery



Chrysler Museum



Chrysler Museum Glass Studio



Hampton Roads Naval Museum



Botanical Gardens



Nauticus Maritime Museum



Seafood Restaurants



Virginia Zoo



Plan to arrive early or stay after the reunion to take advantage of the wonderful sights, sounds and history that is Norfolk

Battleship USS Wisconsin



Naval Base Tours



Waterside Pavilion & Restaurants



Spirit of Norfolk Cruise



Norfolk Harborfest



Harborfest Concert



D-
/ /20 # \$
Q- S- E- P

Mailing Label ->
Cut out and tape
to envelope

NDQSA
PO Box 890130
Oklahoma City, OK 73189

2020 MEMBERSHIP INVOICE / ROSTER UPDATE / PRODUCT ORDER FORM

(Tear off this page and mail it in with your up to date contact information and unit history)
This version supersedes any previous forms as certain options are not available.

Roster Contact Information (Please Print)

Are you a new or existing NDQSA contact?

(New) (Existing) circle one

First Name: _____

Middle Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Nickname: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email(s): _____

Home Phone: () -

Cell Phone: () -

Service Information (Vietnam) (fill out even if on file)

Dates of 1st tour (m/yr): ____/____ to ____/____

Addn'l tour (m/yr): ____/____ to ____/____

Primary MOS: _____

Primary Battery/Unit: _____

Attached To: _____

Names of bases:

Names/hometowns of buddies you knew:

Rank (highest grade while in Vietnam)

Grade: Officer: _____ NCO: _____ EM: _____

Valor Awards

PH () DSC () SS () BS/V () ACM/V ()

If you want to get the newsletter only by email and forego
the paper mailed copy, please check this box. () ←

If you want to switch back from email to paper mail, please
check this box. () ←

DUES - DONATIONS – PRODUCT ORDERS

Make check/MO payable to NDQSA

Shipping is included in the price of all items.

Dues: circle payment(s) for (2020) (2021) (2022) (2023)

DUES ARE \$25 PER YEAR \$ _____

Donations: Quad 50 restoration \$ _____

Searchlight restoration \$ _____

Searchlight Print (\$60 min) \$ _____

Operation Eagle Repair \$ _____

Product: NDQSA Emb. Patch ____ @ \$5 = \$ _____

NDQSA Logo Decal ____ @ \$5 = \$ _____

Bumper Sticker ____ @ \$10 = \$ _____

Circle (Duster)(Quad)(SLT)(HAWK)(Vulcan)

Challenge Coin: ____ coin **@ \$12** = \$ _____

Lucite Challenge Coin: ____ **@ \$25** = \$ _____

NDQSA Pin Set: ____ sets @ \$8 = \$ _____

.50-cal bottle opener **@ \$14** = \$ _____

NEW NDQSA HAT ____ @ \$15 = \$ _____

NDQSA T-shirt (black)(grey)

Size: ____ # ____ @ \$15 = \$ _____

NDQSA Polo Shirt (black)(tan)

Size: ____ # ____ @ \$30 = \$ _____

(regular) (tall)

No more jackets being produced

TOTAL \$ _____

If paying dues presents a hardship for you but you still
want to be an Active Member, check this box []. ←

Some members have made donations to assist you.

NDQSA PRODUCT ITEMS 2020



Logo Patch \$5



Logo Decal \$5



NDQSA Challenge Coin \$12 @
NDQSA Pin Set \$8 @



Lucite Coin \$25 50-cal bottle opener \$14



NDQSA Cap \$15 Made in the USA



New Products Size Chart Subject to stock on hand

Give 1st & 2nd choice on color

T-shirt: Medium
Black Large
Gray XL
XXL (Tall)
\$15 XXXL (Tall)
XXXXL

Mens Polo: Small
Black Medium
Tan Large
XL
\$30 XXL (Tall)
XXXL (Tall)
XXXXL
XL Tall
XXL Tall



Searchlight 50 Print (\$60 min)

Quad .50 print Sold Out



Brickmania's NDQSA Lego kits are sold out.



NDQSA BUMPER STICKERS
Duster- Quad-50-SLT-HAWK-Vulcan
\$10 each



FROM THE INTERNET

[Dennis Walden](#) to [23rd and 54th Artillery Groups & Subordinate Artillery Battalions Viet Nam](#)

I was looking through some of my 1970-1971 Vietnam photos scanned from 35 mm slides, and noticed what appears to be crewmen's names written on these two M42 40 mm Dusters. Photo quality is poor compared to today's digital photography, but I can make out JOHN, MICK in front, and REESE on the 2nd Duster. Does anyone recognize the names or faces of any of the crewmen shown in these two Dusters? One Duster is identified as US ARMY 12C 349, which I mistakenly took to mean 12th Cavalry. You can probably shed some light on that. They were stationed in support of 554th Combat Engineer Battalion at Thunder III in 1970. I hope we can ID some of the crewmen and get copies of the photos to them. I know they would appreciate it. I also had photos of two 5 ton quad 50 cal. trucks, but those slides went AWOL before I got around to scanning them. If they turn up later I'll post those too.

Historian's comments: At first I did not realize that the same Duster was in both photos. Note 12C346, the Duster with the camouflage pattern on it is in both images. I remembered that camo painting was rarely done and when I searched my archives from the 5/2d I located a photo of D-112 in Richard Shand's album and 'lo and behold' the driver's name on the front of the track is "Reese". Bingo! Hopefully Richard can shed some light on the events? Maybe the first track is D-111? If you have any info, contact the Historian.

What retired military weapons or vehicles would still be effective if brought back to the modern battlefield?

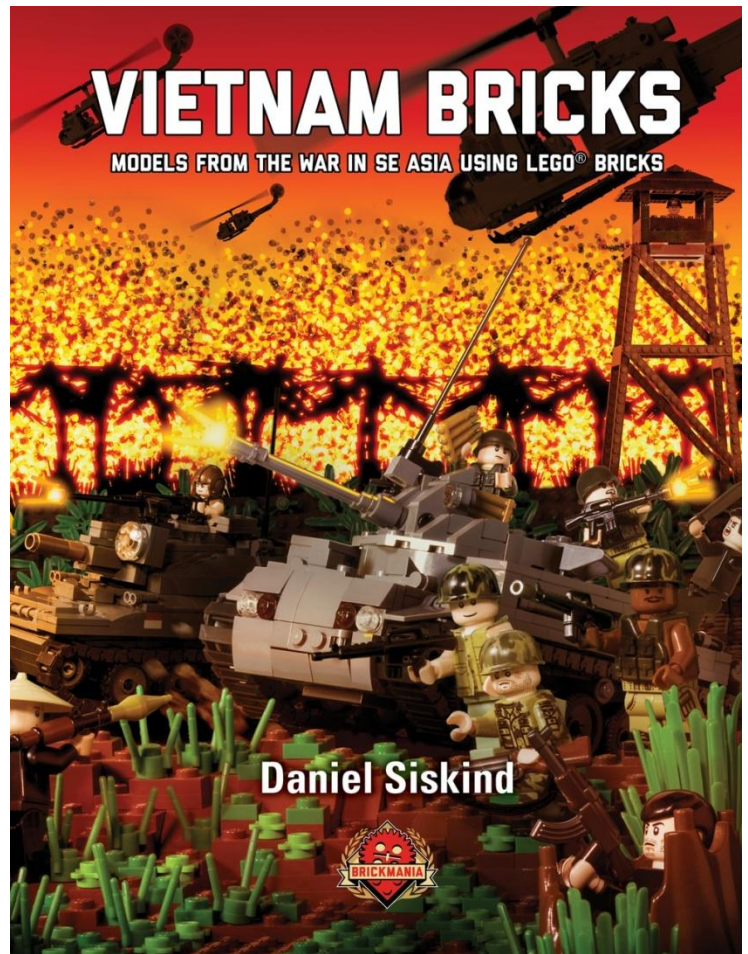
[Pavel Fekula](#), Active in Russian-American Relations



I actually think the M42 Duster would be extremely effective at urban warfare. Its dual 40 Bofors cannons might not be strong enough to pierce through the armor main battle tanks, however they would be more than capable of decimating enemy firing positions in brick and concrete buildings. The range of its 40 mm shells would make useful for supporting infantry assaults from outside the range of small arms, although it would still be vulnerable to anti-tank guided missiles. The M42 would be able to send more firepower down range in a shorter amount of time than any main battle tank in service, given that each of its 40 mm cannons has a rate of fire of 120 rpm.

Additionally, conventional tanks have occasionally gotten into trouble in urban environments, where their guns could not elevate enough to fire at the enemy. The Russians learned this the hard way at the Battle of Grozny in the first Chechen War. However, given that the M42 was designed as an anti-aircraft gun, it would have no problem elevating its cannons to shoot back at soldiers firing on it from rooftops.

Editor's response: All well and good, but try standing up out in the open to load the guns. Enemy snipers would have a field day picking off the crews. The guys that went into Hue during Tet would have something to add to the discussion.



Here is the cover of the Brickmania book with construction plans for several Vietnam era kits including the M42A1 Duster. I do not have any news about any new ADA kits being reissued in the near future.

Brickmania has opened a new store in the Washington DC area in Chantilly, VA. If you are in the area stop in a see my NDQSA kits that are on display.





Veteran's Day 2019

The weather was perfect in Washington DC for the event. Attendees at The Wall today were NDQSA President Bob Cuce; Vice President - Paul Kopsick; Director - Bruce Geiger; and members - Al Hansen; Paul Peters; Richard Burmood; Ray Villaneuva; Rich Liebendorfer and Barry Willever. Nancy Smoyer was a Donut Dolly and volunteers each year at The Wall.

[Barry Willever](#) was met by a new veteran that was on a 'Freedom Flight' from Utah, Dennis Andrus who saw Barry's NDQSA Hat and Quad-50 Jacket and introduced himself. The typical statement of most new contacts is: "I never knew you guys existed!"...well welcome to NDQSA Dennis.

VVMF works with the Department of Defense to make sure The Wall is accurate. Names are added for those service members who have met the Department of Defense criteria for addition to The Wall, having sustained wounds in Vietnam from which they eventually perished. No new names were added to The Wall this year.

Beside each name on The Wall is a symbol designating status. The diamond symbol denotes that the service member is known dead or presumed dead. The cross symbol denotes that a service member was missing or prisoner status when The Wall was built in 1982 and remain unaccounted for today. When a service member is repatriated, the diamond is superimposed over the

cross. In 2018, nine service members were repatriated and those service members will be officially welcomed home at the ceremony.

These nine service members were repatriated in 2018:

- Richard A. Kibbey; COL; USAF; Delmar, NY; Panel 14E, Line 129
- Larry R. Kilpatrick; LCDR; USN; Stone Mountain, Georgia; Panel 1W, Line 45
- Marshall F. Kipina; SSGT; USA; Calumet, Mich.; Panel 9E, Line 20
- Richard C. Lannom; LT; USN; Union City, Tenn.; Panel 42E, Line 19
- Frederic M. Mellor; LTC; USAF; Cranston, RI; Panel 2E, Line 52
- James B. Mills; LCDR; USN; Bakersfield, Calif.; Panel 10E, Line 130
- Robert G. Nopp; LTC; USA; Salem, Ore.; Panel 9E, Line 20
- Richard W. Podell; CAPT; USAF; Winamac, Ind.; Panel 21E, Line 80
- Peter J. Stewart; COL; USAF; Winter Haven, Fla.; Panel 6E, Line 12

VETERAN'S DAY at FT. SILL and The Eagle.



It was much colder in Oklahoma than WDC but the warmth of the shared fraternity of these men is much appreciated: Glenn Hasslinger, Patrick McLaughlin, Luke Clark and Thomas Bartley. Note the new cap on the top of the statue's base.



4/60th ADA TO BE REACTIVATED IN 2020-ish

We have preliminary information that the last of the three former M42 Duster Battalions deactivated in December 1971 will be reactivated in 2020 or 2021.

Note: everything is subject to change.

Luke Clark (H-4/60 '71) has been very visible in lobbying for the battalion when visiting at Ft. Sill.

From: Luke Clark [<mailto:lukeclark@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2019 5:26 PM

To: historian

Subject: Re: 4/60th Activation ?

Talked with the folks at Ft Sill. The 4/60 will be activated on 4 October 2020 at Ft Sill. **I informed them that many of us old 4/60 troops wanted to be a part of the activation activities.**

This will be a Shorad unit with a lot of fire power. Weapon systems include Stingers and 30mm garland cannon and and Hell fire missile backed up by a 7.62 machine gun.

Luke Clark

Also;

from Dennis Ruth (E-41 Quads '70-71) on a conversation with David Christenson at Ft. Sill.

“The upshot was the he confirmed that 4th/60th will be reactivated and is the next in line. The precise weapon system is not yet fixed and the reactivation date, currently projected for Sep/Oct 2021 could be moved up, depending on some DA-level funding discussions/decisions that are projected to be held mid Dec 2019. He promised to keep us informed.”

Dennis Ruth

HERALDIC ITEMS

COAT OF ARMS 60th ADA



Shield: Per fess embattled sable and gules fimbriated or a pile in bend of the third the lower portion obscured by the second tincture, in sinister chief a mullet of the third. *(I have no idea what this sentence says!)*

Crest: On a wreath of the colors, or and sable, a carabao skull sable horned or.

Motto: *Coelis Imperamus*
(We Rule the Heavens).

Symbolism: The shield is divided horizontally, the dividing line embattled to represent defense. The lower half of the shield is red for artillery; the upper half black and gold significant of service in the Orient. A searchlight beam symbolizes the never-ending vigilance the organization exercises in searching for enemy aircraft. The star has a double significance. It is symbolic of Texas, the Lone Star State, where the unit was reorganized after World War I, and its battleground in the sky.



The [carabao](#) horns are symbolic of service in the Philippine Islands. *(Note: Ironically, the carabao looks like the typical water buffalo found in Vietnam. Ha!)*

4th BATTALION, 60th AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY RA (Inactive)

Constituted 1 July 1924 in the Regular Army as Battery F, 60th Coast Artillery. Activated 1 April 1929 at Fort Mills, Philippine Islands. Surrendered 6 May 1942 to the Japanese forces on Corregidor Island, Philippine Islands. Inactivated 2 April 1946 at Fort Mills, Philippine Islands.

Absorbed 1 August 1946 by Battery B, 60th Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion. (Battery B, 60th Coast Artillery, redesignated 1 August 1946 as Battery B, 60th Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion, and activated at Fort Bliss, Texas; redesignated 7 December 1949 as Battery B, 60th Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion, Mobile; redesignated 27 July 1950 as Battery B, 60th Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion; inactivated 17 June 1957 at South Hampton, England.)

Former Battery F, 60th Coast Artillery, reconstituted 12 August 1958 in the Regular Army and redesignated as Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 4th Missile Battalion, 60th Artillery (organic elements concurrently constituted). Battalion activated 1 September 1958 at Midway, Washington. Inactivated 15 December 1961 at Redmond, Washington. **Redesignated 25 April 1966 as the 4th Battalion, 60th Artillery. Activated 25 June 1966 at Fort Bliss, Texas. Redesignated 1 September 1971 as the 4th Battalion, 60th Air Defense Artillery.** Inactivated 31 July 1972 at Fort Lewis, Washington.

CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CREDIT

World War I

[St. Mihiel](#)

Meuse-Argonne

World War II

*Philippine Islands

Vietnam

- *Counteroffensive, Phase II
- *Counteroffensive, Phase III
- *Tet Counteroffensive
- *Counteroffensive, Phase IV
- *Counteroffensive, Phase V
- *Counteroffensive, Phase VI
- *Tet 69/Counteroffensive
- * Summer-fall 1969
- *Winter-spring 1970
- *Sanctuary Counteroffensive
- *Counteroffensive, Phase VII
- *Consolidation I
- *Consolidation II

DECORATIONS

*Presidential Unit Citation (Army), Streamer embroidered BATAAN (Harbor Defenses of Manila and Subic Bays, United States Army in the Far East, cited; WD GO 14, 1942)

*Presidential Unit Citation (Army), Streamer embroidered MANILA AND SUBIC BAYS (60th Coast Artillery cited; WD GO 21, 1942)

*Presidential Unit Citation (Army), Streamer embroidered DEFENSE OF THE PHILIPPINES (Military and naval forces of the United States engaged in the defense of the Philippines cited; WD GO 22, 1942, as amended by DA GO 46, 1948)

*Philippine Presidential Unit Citation, Streamer embroidered 7 DECEMBER 1941 TO 10 MAY 1942 (60th Coast Artillery cited; DA GO 47, 1950)



*Meritorious Unit Commendation, Streamer embroidered VIETNAM 1967-1968 (4th Battalion, 60th Artillery, cited; DA GO 1, 1969)

*Meritorious Unit Commendation, Streamer embroidered VIETNAM 1968-1969 (4th Battalion, 60th Artillery, cited; DA GO 39, 1970)



cited; DA GO 54, 1974)

*Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, Streamer embroidered VIETNAM 1967-1972 (4th Battalion, 60th Artillery,



DA GO 2, 1973)

Battery A additionally entitled to Presidential Unit Citation (Army), Streamer embroidered BINH THUAN PROVINCE (Battery A, 4th Battalion, 60th Artillery, cited;



1967—1969 (Battery D, 4th Battalion, 60th Artillery, cited; DA GO 53, 1970)

Battery D additionally entitled to Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class, Streamer embroidered VIETNAM

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Issue 3 December 2019

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However, if you see the number 0000 or 2019 and below, we have not seen a dues payment from you in a while. If you can't afford the dues, we fully understand so do not worry about it. We only ask that you update your status and verify your contact information, **phone numbers and email address**. Just mail in the info using the multipurpose form or send an email.

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The National Dusters, Quads & Searchlights Association™ (NDQSA™) is the original, official representative for ADA Veterans who served in Vietnam. NDQSA is the **only** organization of Vietnam ADA Veterans officially recognized by the Air Defense Artillery Association headquarters in Ft. Sill, Oklahoma. As a tribute to the memory of over 200 ADA Warriors who lost their lives during the war in Vietnam, NDQSA members have funded, constructed and dedicated a magnificent monument in the Memorial Park at Ft. Sill.

NDQSA was founded in 1981 by John Huelsenbeck et al, holds annual reunions and has grown to about 600 active members with a directory of over 2200 ADA Vietnam Veterans and supporters.

NDQSA is an IRS 501(c) (19) non-profit veteran's organization and is incorporated in the State of Indiana.

We welcome and encourage all ADA Veterans who served in Vietnam to join NDQSA and to share the fellowship, mutual support, and continued service to our nation on behalf of all military veterans and active duty personnel.