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United States Marine Raider Ass'n.



A non-profit National Organization

P. O. Box 83
Rough & Ready, CA 95975 1 January 1984

To Fellow 1st Raiders:

The purpose of this letter is to discuss membership and support of the United States Marine Raiders Association. An Association of Marines and Sailors who served in the four Raider Battalions in World War II.

We who served in the 1st Raider Battalion have had the pleasure and comraderie of the EDSON'S RAIDER ASSOCIATION for well over 35 years. We should belong to this magnificent "Band of Brothers", attend the annual reunion in February of each year at Quantico and support the organization. I think the fact that in recent years our attendance at Quantico has grown rather than diminish, even though we are getting no younger, attests to the loyalty and devotion that we have to each other and the memory of Edson's Raiders.

I also think that each of us who can should also support the U.S. Raider Association, in addition to our own Battalion organization. For many years, as you know, the Raider Association was held together by Lowell Bulger, who devoted his life to the furtherance of the association. Lowell was the catalyst in this organization as Pete Pettus was for many years in our organization. Neither organization would have survived without them. Lowell recently passed away after a long and courageous fight against cancer. Even though seriously and terminally ill, he never stopped working to record the history of the Raider Battalions, maintain the records of the Association and publish the 26 page RAIDER PATCH six times a year, as well as continuing to supervise the search for yet undiscovered raiders.

Now that Lowell is gone others are stepping in to do the work and carry on, even as Chet Gall, Irv Reynolds and others did for us.

The Raider Association has a reunion every other year. They have generally been on the West Coast, i.e. San Francisco, San Diego, Long Beach, etc. More and more of Edson's Raiders are attending these enjoyable and well run reunions; particularly those who are unable to get to Quantico, and many who do. The next gathering will be in Reno, Nevada in the fall of 1984.

The viability of the Raider Associations depends upon the dues and donations of each of us who are able and desire to support these most worthwhile organizations. Overall membership does diminish as the years go on. We are a "last man" unit. (There are about a total of 2,000 living Raiders on the U.S. Raider Association roster). Many of we 1st Raiders are members, some have been members and have let the membership lapse, others have never been members. I would like to encourage each of you who are not now members to give serious consideration to joining this "other" Raider Association. Dues are \$25 a year and can be sent to Colonel Archie Rackerby, USMC (Ret.) at the address on the letterhead above.

Thanks to each of you for your attention. Please give this some thought. Write or call me if you have any questions. I look forward to seeing many of you at Quantico in February.

Warmest personal regards,



L. E. Fribourg

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