



THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SENTINEL

SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION CHAPTER 78

The LTC Frank J. Dallas Chapter

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ODA 3116, 3rd Special Forces Group
Fort Bragg, NC

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A Silenced Pistol Used by MACV-SOG

Painting Honoring Three
SF Soldiers Killed in Jordan



SENTINEL

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From the Editor

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COVER: SOG commander (Ret.) MG John K. Singlaub and Green Beret medic Gary Mike Rose who is slated to receive a Medal of Honor from President Donald Trump later this year. Photo by Thom King.



Lonny Holmes
Sentinel Editor

ODA 3116
3rd Special Forces Group, Fort Bragg, NC

Warrant Officer Rusty Cotterman, Executive Officer of ODA 3116 set up a demonstration booth with his team members at the Annual Special Forces International Convention this year. Thus members of ODA 3116 met and conversed with Chapter 78's contingent who attended and the Sentinel printed a photograph of this interaction.

W.O. Cotterman sent us a nice Letter to the Editor. I responded, asking him several questions about himself and ODA 3116. He stated: "Myself, well I have 5 combat deployments to Afghanistan and one to Tajikistan. I started out as a 18B, then an 18F, now I'm a warrant. On my team most guys have multiple combat trips and JCETS."

"ODA 3116 has run numerous commando missions and participated in some of the larger operations conducted by 3rd group in Afghanistan. Next up for us is Africa so hopefully we can pick a fight there!"

His and the teams response to running the demonstration booth at the conference; "...occasionally you get a gem like supporting the SFA. We actually finished SFAUC a few days before but we said we absolutely wanted to do it. I can say for entire team we completely enjoyed it. It was a complete honour to meet all of you guys and just talk about the old and new days of the Regiment. I hope the guys understand how much we appreciate the legacy and respect the work you did before our time."

The ODA has had two team members KIA in Afghanistan whom they continue to honor; "One of the two men was SSG Chris Falkel Silver Star awardee. His father is the owner operator of Junior's Bullet Pens, Mr. Jeff Falkel who wrote the story of Chris in his book *The Making of Our Warrior*. The other ODA 3116 KIA was CW2 Mike Duskin. Currently in our area some of the guys have set up the Dukin Stephens foundation (Riley Stephens had served on 3116 as well and was KIA while serving on 3123). This charity has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for local school scholarships and other charitable givings."

Connecting the current War on Terrorism to the past Vietnam War, enlisted members of ODA 3116 wore MACV-SOG Recon Team patches on their uniforms while deployed. Our chapter member John Stryker "Tilt" Meyer provided those SOG Team patches to the ODA team members.

3rd Special Forces ODA 3116 continues to support America in its current war, but just as important support its team members, by honoring those who fell in battle and developing a charitable organization to support their community with local school scholarships.

A "Tip of the Beret" to 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) Operational Detachment Alpha 3116. ❖

Lonny Holmes
Sentinel Editor



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and sfa78cup.com



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The President's Page | August 2017



Bruce Long
President SFA 78

Call to order for our July 2017 Chapter meeting was at 0950 hrs. Our invocation was given by Paul Gomez (husband of Doreen Gomez, Richard's Executive Assistant).

Our pledge of allegiance was given by our SGT of ARMS Mark Miller.

New members: Bob McClain transferred from Chapter 3 (Thailand). Bob is an old friend who served with the 12th SF as an ODA Commander and with 46th Company

and 5th SF in Vietnam. Bob brings a lot of knowledge to the Chapter. WELCOME ABOARD Bob!!!

Richard gave the Treasurer's report and after June expenses we have a balance of \$245. There will be an additional deposit after the July meeting in the neighborhood of \$300 due to the collection of book sales and fines for not having your Beret at the meeting. There were also some individual contributions.

Reading of the Minutes was waived.

Range Day Update: We will attempt to have our next Chapter meeting in August at the Prado Dam shooting range. Richard Simonian will coordinate with ARTEMIS. More to follow on this subject.

Our Secretary Gary Macnamara visited Jim Duffy at the Palm Terrace Rehab facility in Laguna Woods. Jim is doing well, and is on the mend. Jim will probably be there for approximately two weeks. I also spoke with Jim at the writing of this column and Jim sounded good, spirits high, feeling a lot better and looking forward to going home within the next week or so, that is, if the swelling in his leg goes down.

As most of you know, A Company returned with all of their personnel to Los Alamitos on May 24. Tony Pirone gave us a rundown on his experiences in Afghanistan, which all of us found to be very interesting to say the least.

A Company is still on terminal leave and will not be drilling until September. A parachute jump is tentatively scheduled. I will put out more information on this event as it becomes available. So, what's in store for A Company in 2018? Looks like some deployments to Europe.

SOD (North) is preparing for deployment to Afghanistan sometime next year.

Our October 21st Chapter meeting will be very special, as Billy Waugh (SGM, SF Ret) will be our guest speaker. The event will be held at a local restaurant that can accommodate a large turnout. For some of you who don't know about Billy, he co-authored the book *Hunting the Jackal* published in 1985, and was a contractor for the CIA, and deployed to Afghanistan right after 9/11. Google his name if you want to know more about this Ret SGM. Billy also

speaks to Officers who are attending the SFQ course once a month at Camp Mackall. This will be a very special event. Please mark your calendars for Oct 21st.

The first annual Veteran's Shoot Out took place on July 29th from 1000 – 1300 hrs. at the Field Time indoor range located in Stanton, CA. This was a free event. Five Chapter members gave advanced notice of their interest in participating in this event; Tony Pirone, Don Deathridge, Mike Keele, Dave Thomas and Gary Macnamara. POC was Gary Macnamara.

On a lighter note, a birthday card signed by all of the Chapter members present was given to Richard Simonian. He would be 85 years old on July 17th. Way to GO!!!

We had a total of 20 Chapter members present for our July Chapter meeting.

SFA Conference will be held in El Paso, TX on June 12-17 2018.

NEXT CHAPTER MEETING:

POSSIBLY PRADO DAM. More information to follow.

As usual, any questions feel free to contact me.

Blong26774@gmail.com ❖

Bruce D Long
President, SFA Chapter 78
SGM, SF (Ret)



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Two SF Legends Meet



Photos by Thom King

During the early days of July, the newest member of Chapter 78 Doug “The Frenchman” LeTourneau had a few conversations with Jedburgh Team and SOG commander (Ret.) MG John K. Singlaub. In one of those conversations, LeTourneau told the 96-year-old living legend that Green Beret medic Gary Mike Rose was slated to receive a Medal of Honor from President Donald Trump later this year stemming from Rose’s time on the ground in September 1970 with Operation Tailwind – one of the most successful Hatchet Force missions in SOG history.

LeTourneau met Rose earlier this year in Alabama at a monthly veterans coffee clatch outside Huntsville. LeTourneau contacted Rose, asked if he’d like to meet Singlaub sometime before the end of July, as the good general was slated to go in for a heart valve replacement. After a few more phone calls and e-mails, Rose and his wife Margaret drove up to meet Singlaub, his gracious wife Joan and their daughter Debra.

Because Joan and Debra realized that this was such a truly unique meeting between two Special Forces legends, they quickly brought in professional photographer/vid-eographer Thom King. Thus, two living SF legends met in Tennessee, got to know each other while meeting their respective wives, and, of course, exchanged a few war stories along the way.

As we all know from the Singlaub legend,

he served with the OSS in WWII, spec ops Korea, was Chief SOG 66-68, after a Washington Post reporter printed private comments about the peanut farmer’s stupid planned policy in Korea, he stood by his words and refused to change his honest opinion and fought communism in El Salvador.

Rose was the medic on Operation Tailwind, one of the most successful Hatchet Force missions into Laos, that went 25 clicks west of PF AO. Wounded on the first night of the operation by RPG shrapnel, he kept three seriously wounded indig alive, treated more than 50 indig and SF. Upon final extraction in a Marine CH-53D, a door gunner was shot in the neck. Mike saved his life. After that chopper crashed, Mike and other SF men went back into the chopper to recover the wounded, the lame and intel. The 16 SF soldiers received 33 PHs on that mission. He’s awaiting the phone call from the White House to set the date to receive his MOH. ❖

ODA 3116, 3rd Special Forces Group • Fort Bragg, NC



- 1 Five SF from 3rd SFG(A) wearing five different MACV-SOG combat patches while deployed in Afghanistan. Each patch represents a different MACV-SOG TEAM from the Vietnam era, given to Rusty Cotterman by John S. "Tilt" Meyer. Second from the left is Rusty Cotterman.
- 2 Rusty Cotterman in Afghanistan with a MACV-SOG Recon Team Idaho combat patch.
- 3 SFC Rusty Cotterman on left and team mate holding their MACV-SOG patches after receiving an Army Commendation Medal for Valor in Afghanistan. Rusty has since been promoted to Warrant Officer.

- 4 John "Tilt" Meyer, Capt (R) Mike Rose and ODA Team 3116 Rusty Cotterman and team member meet at SFA International Conference.
- 5 ODA Team 3116 SSG Christopher M. Falkel was KIA near Kandahar, Afghanistan August 8, 2005, while he was deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.
- 6 ODA Team 3116 CW2 Michael S. Duskin was KIA October 23, 2012 while he was deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Wardak Province, Afghanistan.



The High Standard HDMS .22

A Silenced Pistol Used by MACV-SOG



1

By Gene Williams



Gene Williams

In April 1968 a 4th Infantry Division convoy was ambushed by a North Vietnamese company on the road between Kontum and Pleiku. My recon team RT Delaware from MACV SOG, FOB-2 Kontum received an order to deploy immediately to find the ambushers. As I packed my gear one of the armorers showed me a science fiction looking pistol and asked if I wanted to carry it. I test fired 10 rounds — a full clip; no kick, no sound, no flash just “psst-psst-psst.” The pistol was the famous High-Standard HDMS silenced .22 firing .22 long rifle cartridges. I was hooked.

The High-Standard HD was designed in 1926 by Carl Gustav Swedilius. It was heavy (40 oz) but inexpensive and with a Luger style grip fit the hand beautifully. It sold very well throughout the Depression era.

Shortly after Pearl Harbor the War Department ordered 34,000 HD's to use for pistol training — it was cheaper to shoot .22's than .45's and did kick like the 1911. They were labeled HDM (HD Military). “Hi-Standard Model HD-Military” is stamped on the left side of the bolt; “Made in the US High-Standard mfg co. New Haven, Conn, patent pending”. .22 cal long rifle” on the left side of the receiver.

In 1942 OSS was organized under General “Wild Bill” Donovan. It's research wing quickly identified a need for a suppressed pistol and after a number of experiments settled on a version of the HDM with an integral silencer. From October 1943 to March 1944 some 2,600 silenced HD's known as the MS (Military-Silent)(HDM/S or HDMS) were made, serial numbered 114,000 to 117,000.

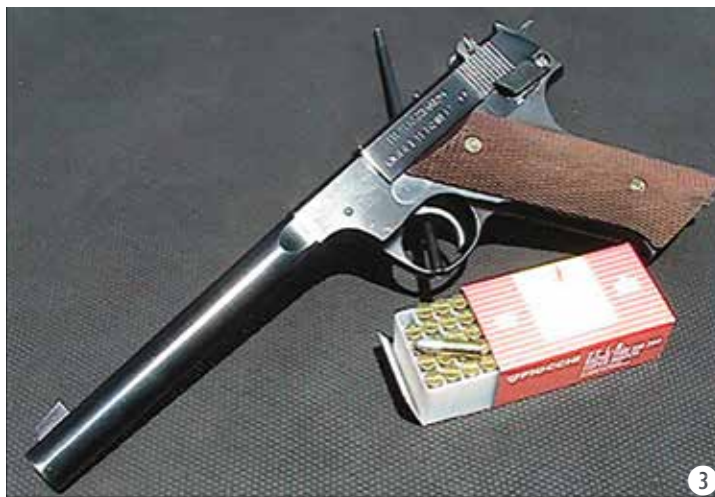
OSS was so proud of the gun that exemplars were given to a number of US generals and admirals. General Donovan even gave one to FDR. The story goes that Donovan took an HDM into Roosevelt's office and while FDR was talking on a phone, fired several rounds into a sandbag without attracting attention. FDR allegedly said afterwards, “Donovan, you're the only Republican I'd ever let get near me with that thing.”

It was used in both theaters of the war. The Alamo Scouts used it to shoot game in enemy territory. Some went to resistance groups. There were some problems of jamming and the silencer screen needed cleaning every 200 rounds or so if using lead (non-jacketed) ammo. But, the gun was a hit and a coveted prize to carry.

- ① High Standard HDMS
- ② Advertisement for High Standard HD
- ③ High Standard HDM
- ④ High Standard HDMS in its box



2



3



4

After WWII apparently the OSS HDMS inventory was transferred to the War Department. The guns wound up in Marine Corps stocks and with Special Forces when SF was organized in the early 1950's.

In addition, in 1947 the CIA was formed as the successor organization to OSS. CIA apparently ordered some 3,000 more HDMS's – the exact number is classified. Some apparently had no identifying markings. What is known is that they were issued to U-2 pilots and that Francis Gary Powers had one when he was shot down over the Soviet Union, SN 120,046 — High-Standard has “no record” of this serial number.

HDMS's were used in Korea. In Vietnam Seals, Marines, MACV-SOG, Air America and the Phoenix Program had them. One was allegedly used to assassinate a high level North Vietnamese official in Hanoi.

Were those stocks of HDMS's at FOB-2 in 1968 CIA or OSS models? We'll never know unless one of the armorers happened to have recorded the SN's. Some 400 of the original OSS HDMS's are believed to be still around today although no one knows for sure. How many of the CIA models remain is anyone's guess; CIA isn't talking.

5th SFG men who were deployed in Afghanistan and Iraq after 9/11 have told me that they had a number of silenced weapons but never saw an HDMS. However, I personally saw one in Afghanistan after 9/11 carried by a special ops contractor (didn't see the SN so can't say whether it was an OSS or CIA model).

There are a few HDMS's in civilian hands. There is one in the NRA museum outside of Washington DC. The one given to Admiral Nimitz is in the Museum of the Pacific War. Per people who have toured the CIA Hqs museum at Langley, there are two on display there, one at an exhibit devoted to OSS and General Donovan. Arms Tech Ltd made a very accurate HDMS copy in the early 2000's which sold out immediately at a price of \$2,500. You can still find WWII War Department HDM's on the market but even these are pricey.

As mentioned I carried that pistol on my first operation out of FOB-2. We found the NVA company; they walked past us during the night as we lay not 10 yards from the high-speed trail. I don't know what I'd have done had I had to use the thing. I can't imagine a .22 LR could stop a man very easily. But, at least it looked really cool — maybe the most important point of all. ❖



- 5 HDMS in profile
- 6 Jedburgs in pistol training
- 7 Francis Gary Powers and his U-2
- 8 Medal of Honor winner SSG Drew Dix from 5th SFG attached to the Phoenix program and his Phoenix team
- 9 RT Delaware 1-2 Jimmy Marshall returning from a mission



Painting by artist Ken Pridgeon honoring the three SF Soldiers killed in Jordan on November 4, 2016 — SFC Matthew C. Lewellen, SSG Kevin J. McEnroe and SSG James F. Moriarty. The father of SSG Moriarty, James Moriarty, an attorney, attended the trial in Jordan which found the perpetrator guilty.