

From the Editor | May 2025



How Miller
Sentinel Editor

We start this busy *Sentinel* with a call from “Doc” Padget for us to contribute to a follow-up survey on Agent Orange and its effects on us and our families, and an early “warning order” about SFACTION 2025, to be held alongside SOAR with a shared common Hospitality Room.

Then we go close to home in Southern California, covering the exploits of chapter member Jim Cragg during the Pacific Palisades fire, and the enormous pride he has

in what our U.S. Army does for people during disasters. He himself is contributing a very large effort to help as well, along with American Legion Post 283 (he is their most recent past president), along with many others. It started as a harrowing experience and is being replaced by a feeling of hope, which is what he is trying to accomplish, with more than half of the residents now saying they intend to stay and rebuild.

Despite the recent sad loss of his son Kevin, longtime Chapter Secretary Gary Macnamara stood up and was the guest speaker at the annual AVAG-sponsored Vietnam Veterans Day celebration at Brookhurst Community Center in Anaheim. Chapter President Aaron Brandenburg adds an inspiring tribute to Kevin.

Our cover photo is of a young Clyde Sincere. Debra Holm, with lots of help, pays tribute to one of the few remaining SF “Originals,” Clyde Sincere, who passed away on March 17, 2025. His lifetime of service, including combat heroism, a stint as SOA president, and continual mentorship, will be missed and long remembered.

Johann Hindert has written an enlightening book, *German Irregular Warfare*, about the noted contribution of the Germans to irregular warfare from our Revolutionary War, when the Hessian officer Johann Ewold wrote his authoritative and detailed analysis of the irregular warfare of the Americans, to the present. He tells of the influence of many German irregular warriors who later wrote about what they learned, including the oft-quoted Carl von Clausewitz and Otto Skorzeny, who led the raid to rescue Mussolini, and others.

What we know of the OSS is largely centered around the Jedburgh teams, usually three or so men who parachuted into enemy territory and helped organize, supply, and teach the Marquis. Many famous names came from them, such as Aaron Bank, who stood up the 10th SFG, and Jack Singlaub, who was a Chief SOG in Vietnam. But there were also the Operational Groups (OGs), who were significantly larger, typically 3 officers and around 100 enlisted soldiers who were able to provide an immediate punch and were to act as a cadre for a larger indigenous unit. In John Shaver III’s master’s thesis, *Office of the Strategic Services: Operational Groups in France During World War II, from July to October 1944*, he describes the OGs and gives accounts of six of the first teams deployed. Percy Red was the first, and its exploits are described in report form here. This document was brought to our attention by previous contributor Erik Brun, who wrote about the Viking Battalion.

I could not name one person in my generation who has not heard of war reporter Ernie Pyle and his hometown stories of men in combat in WWII. Our regular contributor, Marc Yablonka, tells what was so special about Ernie in a reprint from his 1995 *National Amvet Magazine* article.

Then, in “Go for Broke,” Marc tells of the most highly decorated WWII unit for its size and strength and the story behind it. The 442nd Regimental Combat Team was 6,000 men strong, almost entirely comprised of Japanese-American volunteers. They adopted as their motto a famous saying in Hawaii at the time: Go for Broke.

In our online version of the *Sentinel*, we present from our May 2021 issue “Cambodian Incursion, 1970 — Part One.” As we reach the 55th anniversary of the “Cambodian Incursion,” we are sharing with our now-wider audience an article centered on my own experience. Our A camp, A325 Duc Hue, joined with A326 Tra Cu in a joint mission across the border into the Communist sanctuaries in Cambodia.

The results of the mission were to eliminate the NVA and Viet Cong that were left in the area, along with the destruction or repurposing of many tons of weapons, ammunition, and supplies buried in the area. The trio of articles were about our local mission, the overall efforts of allied ground and air units, and the Cambodian exploits of SF and CIA legend Billie Waugh.

Finally, we have pictures from our March chapter meeting.

Please keep sending us your stories to share with your fellow Green Berets and others. ❖

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SFA Chapter 78 Monthly Meeting

May 17, 2025

Breakfast – 0800 • Meeting – 0830

Courtyard by Marriott

5865 Katella Ave, Room A, Cypress, CA 90630

**Next scheduled chapter meeting
June 21**

2025 Meeting Schedule

July 19 • August 16 •

September 20 • October 18 • November 15

December (to be announced)