

From the Editor | September 2026



How Miller
Sentinel Editor

This September marks 25 years since the 9/11 terrorist attack on the Twin Towers in New York. Special Forces led the response to that attack.

We are bringing you the second part of our summary of the Chapter 78 trip to Normandy, where 82 years ago, the U.S. and its allies elevated their response to Hitler's devastation of Europe. While we were already advancing on Japan, which had perpetrated its surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, we began our on-the-ground response to the Nazis in North Africa and on to Italy.

Part 2 picks up on 5 June and continues the already acclaimed After Action Report with highly personal and moving descriptions by Aaron and different members of the tour.

The Normandy D-Day invasion was to strike straight at the German homeland and crush the Nazis. This largest invasion ever from the sea did indeed herald the end of the Nazi madness. The cost in lives to the allies was enormous, and this trip by six Chapter 78 members and some of their wives was to honor both the fallen and the survivors.

Aaron Brandenburg, our most recent past president, is an eloquent and compelling writer. If you have not yet read part one in the

August *Sentinel*, I encourage you to do so now, visit <https://www.specialforces78.com/summary-of-the-chapter-78-delegation-visit-to-normandy-france-for-the-82nd-anniversary-of-d-day-part-1/>.

Our regular *Sentinel* contributor, Marc Yablonka, tells us about the beginnings of the AFN. From an experimental high-wattage San Francisco radio station, broadcasting to South America and the Far East, to the current Armed Forces Network, Marc shows us how the station developed and served the troops in WWII, Korea, and what most of us remember in Vietnam. This is a revealing tribute to those who helped brighten many millions of military days. Hopefully it will bring back some happy memories.

Among the many celebrities mentioned is Chris Noel, who is still serving veterans in West Palm Beach, FL.

We pay tribute to Salvador "Sal" Sanders, one of our chapter's original members, who passed away on July 19. He was laid to rest with full military honors at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Cypress, California. He will be remembered and greatly missed.

We appreciate your continued support, and please keep sending your stories to us to share with the Regiment. ❖

How Miller, *Sentinel* Editor

Salvador E. Sanders

Aug 25, 1934 — Jul 19, 2026

Salvador "Sal" Sanders, one of the few remaining original members of SFA Chapter 78, passed away on July 19, 2026.

Sal was born in Canon City, Colorado. Although he lived in Southern California for many years, his heart remained in the Colorado Rockies, as well as the Catalina Mountains and Sonoran Desert of Arizona, where he attended the University of Arizona.

He enlisted in the Army in 1951 and completed Special Forces training. After leaving active duty in 1961, he continued his military service as a Special Forces reservist before joining the Arizona National Guard's 158th Infantry Regiment (Bushmasters).

While working full time, Sal earned a BA from California State University, Long Beach, in 1970 and a JD from Pepperdine University School of Law in 1973. He passed the California Bar in 1974 and began a legal career specializing in mediation.

Sal was an active Chapter 78 member for many years, volunteering at the Green Beret Shooters Cup and other chapter events. His presence at our meetings was always appreciated, and he will be greatly missed.

He is survived by his wife, Joan Skogsberg Sanders; daughters Linda Marie Armstrong, Theresa Ann Alviljar-Eulberg, and Cynthia Marie Beltz; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

