



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SARGIS

GEORGE (BOB) R.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: 85 FRENCH LEA ROAD

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

23RD INFANTRY DIVISION - AMERICAL

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NYS CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth Class George Sargis was assigned to the 23rd Infantry Division (Americal) and stationed at the U. S. Army base at Chu Lai

Base Assignments:

Fort Dix, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established on 16 July 1917 as Camp Dix, named in honor of Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the American Civil War, and a former United States Senator, Secretary of the Treasury and Governor of New York / Ft. Dix was used for the mobilization, training and demobilization of soldiers from World War I through April 2015 / On 1 October 2009, Fort Dix was consolidated with an adjoining U.S. Air Force and Navy facility to become part of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL)

Chu Lai, Vietnam - Located approximately 56 miles southeast of Da Nang, Chu Lai was a U.S. military base from 1965 to 1971 during the Vietnam War / Originally established by the Marines, the base was handed over to the U.S. Army's Task Force Oregon in April 1967 and subsequently became the headquarters and base area for the 23rd Americal Division from September 1967 until November 1971

Miscellaneous:

After an Honorable Discharge, George (Bob) Sargis became the Assistant Manager at the AM&A's Shoe Department at the Thruway Plaza, later moving up to Department Manager

The 23rd Infantry Division, more commonly known as the Americal Division, of the United States Army was



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activated 27 May 1942 on the island of New Caledonia immediately following the attack on Pearl Harbor / This division was the only division formed outside of United States territory during World War II (a distinction it would repeat when reformed during the Vietnam War) / At the suggestion of a subordinate, the division's commander, Major General Alexander Patch, requested that the new unit be known as the Americal Division—the name being a contraction of "American, New Caledonian Division" - This was unusual, as most U. S. divisions are known by a number / After World War II the Americal Division was officially re-designated as the 23rd Infantry Division / The Americal was reactivated 25 September 1967 at Chu Lai in Vietnam from a combination of units already in Vietnam and newly arrived units / The Americal Division never lost a major battle in Vietnam, accounting for thousands of enemy dead and wounded, and is noted for its exemplary performance during the Tet Offensive, The Battle of LoGiang, the Battle of Nui Hoac Ridge (Hill 352) and throughout its approximate 6 year deployment in Vietnam / Americal casualties in Vietnam numbered 4,041 during 2,111 days of combat / The division was inactivated following its withdrawal from Vietnam in November 1971.



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHIEDER**

DONALD E

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP5

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

"B" TROOP, 3RD BATTALION, 8TH CAVALRY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

SHARPSHOOTER BADGE: M-16 RIFLE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist 5 Donald E. Schieder drove and maintained reconnaissance tanks / Schieder completed CPR training while stationed in Mannheim, Germany

Base Assignments:

Ft. Dix, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established on 16 July 1917 as Camp Dix, named in honor of Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the American Civil War, and a former United States Senator, Secretary of the Treasury and Governor of New York / Ft. Dix was used for the mobilization, training and demobilization of soldiers from World War I through April 2015 / On 1 October 2009, Fort Dix was consolidated with an adjoining U.S. Air Force and Navy facility to become part of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL)

Coleman Barracks, Mannheim, Germany - Named after Lieutenant Colonel Wilson D. Coleman, who was killed in action in France on 30 July 1944, Coleman Barracks is a United States Army military installation located in the Sandhofen district of Mannheim, Germany / The Coleman Barracks was assigned to U.S. Army, Europe (USAREUR) and administered by the U.S. Army Installation Management Command-Europe (IMCOM-E) / U.S. Army Europe left Mannheim's Coleman Barracks in 2011 only to return in 2015 on what was to be a temporary basis

Miscellaneous:

Donald Schieder graduated from Seneca Vocational High School and worked as a carpet installers helper prior to entering the Army / After receiving his Honorable Discharge, Schieder went to work for the City of Buffalo and retired in July 2009 as a Maintenance Supervisor



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The 8th Cavalry Regiment is a regiment of the United States Army formed in 1866 during the American Indian Wars / The 8th Cavalry continued to serve under a number of designations, fighting in every other major US conflict since, except World War I, when it was not deployed to Europe because it was already engaged in the Punitive Expedition in Mexico from 1916 to 1920 / The regiment originally was organized as horse cavalry in 1866, a designation under US military doctrine that emphasized both light cavalry and dragoon-type mounted and dismounted fighting roles, until 1942 / It served on foot during World War II and Korea, with some elements converting to airmobile infantry for Vietnam, while others were detached and assigned to West Germany as part of an armored task force to resist any potential Soviet incursion / 3rd Squadron, 8th Cavalry served as the divisional cavalry reconnaissance squadron (administratively under the 3rd Brigade), 8th Infantry Division at Coleman Barracks in Sandhofen, Germany



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCOTT
BARRY**

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: MARILYN DRIVE

- Vietnam Era**
 Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-6

Year Entered: 1973

Year Discharged: 1980

Unit / Squadron:

USS CANOPUS (AS-34)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

First-Class Petty Officer Barry Scott received his Navy training in Electronics and maintained seagoing and landbased communication equipment / Scott was stationed in Rota, Spain for three years and worked on submarine sonar gear

Base Assignments:

Naval Training Center (NTC), Great Lakes, Illinois - Naval Station Great Lakes (NAVSTA Great Lakes) is the home of the United States Navy's only boot camp, located near North Chicago, in Lake County, Illinois / Important tenant commands include the Recruit Training Command, Training Support Center and Navy Recruiting District Chicago / Naval Station Great Lakes is the largest military installation in Illinois and the largest training station in the Navy

Naval Air Station (NAS), Jacksonville, Florida - During World War I, the area now occupied by NAS Jacksonville, was named Camp Joseph E. Johnston and was commissioned on 15 October 1917 / The United States Army trained quartermasters and the center included more than 600 buildings; by 1918 Camp Johnston was the largest of all Quartermaster mobilization and training camps / On 15 October 1940, Naval Air Station Jacksonville was officially commissioned and became the first part of the Jacksonville Navy complex that would eventually include NAS Cecil Field and Naval Station Mayport / During the late 1940s, the jet age was dawning and in 1948 the Navy's first jet carrier air groups and squadrons came to NAS Jacksonville / By April 1949, NAS Jacksonville was the East Coast's aircraft capital, with more naval aircraft stationed here than at any other naval base from Nova Scotia to the Caribbean / In 1973, with the assignment of Helicopter Antisubmarine Wing One, the station's primary mission became antisubmarine warfare / In 1970, a major reorganization of the Naval Reserve resulted in three separate Naval Air Reserve flying squadrons being activated at NAS Jacksonville / A piece of history and Navy and Marine Corps tradition was lost in 1986 when the last unit of Marines left NAS Jacksonville



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/ Marine Barracks Jacksonville had been one of the first groups to arrive at the base in 1940, but left due to mission realignments and a reduction in Marines authorized for Marine Corps Security Force duties at U.S. Naval installations / Naval Air Station Jacksonville is one of the Navy's finest installations and is the recipient of the 2012 Presidential Excellence Award and 2013 Commander, Navy Installations Command Excellence Award

Naval Air Station (NAS), Rota, Spain - Naval Station Rota, also known as NAVSTA Rota, is a Spanish naval base commanded by a Spanish Rear Admiral and fully funded by the United States of America / Located in Rota in the Province of Cádiz, near the town of El Puerto de Santa María, NAVSTA Rota is the largest American military community in Spain and houses US Navy and US Marine Corps personnel / There are also small US Army and US Air Force contingents on the base / NAVSTA Rota has been in use since 1953 when Spanish dictator Francisco Franco strengthened relations with the United States in order to improve local economies / The Chief of Naval Operations deployed Submarine Squadron 16 (SUBRON 16) to Rota on 28 January 1964 and in the early 1970s, the submarines assigned to SUBRON 16 were completing conversion to the Poseidon missile / At its peak size in the early 1980s, NAVSTA Rota was home to 16,000 sailors and their families, to include two permanently forward deployed aviation squadrons, Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron Two (VQ-2) and Fleet Logistics Support Squadron TWENTY TWO (VR-22). VQ-2 was based at Rota from 1959 until 2005

Naval Support Activity (NSA) Charleston, South Carolina - Naval Support Activity Charleston, originally designated Naval Weapons Station Charleston, is a base of the United States Navy located on the west bank of the Cooper River, in the cities of Goose Creek and Hanahan South Carolina / The base was commissioned on 5 November 1941 as the United States Naval Ammunition Depot (NAD) and was used as an ammunition collection and distribution point during World War II / During the mid-1950s, the installation was expanded with the Northside area called the Naval Weapons Station Annex and charged with new duties that included the handling of guided missiles and the docking, servicing and loading of submarines / In 1960 the Polaris Missile Facility Atlantic (POMFLANT) was constructed within the base to enable the handling of Terrier, Tartar, and Hawk, missiles / On 30 September 1981, the Station acquired the nearby Charleston Army Depot and the station's name was changed to Naval Weapons Station South / In 1995 POMFLANT was decommissioned and the fleet ballistic missile operations moved to Kings Bay, Georgia / The Naval Nuclear Power Training Command school opened in 1998 and today, is a training center, with the Naval Nuclear Power Training Command (NNPTC), Nuclear Power Training Unit, Propulsion Facility, and Border Patrol satellite academy

Miscellaneous:

Barry Scott graduated from Ellicottville High School and attended SUNY Fredonia prior to entering the Navy / After his Honorable Discharge from the Navy, Scott used his Navy electronic training to find employment in the private sector, retiring from Windstream Communications as a Design Engineer / Barry Scott is a member of the West Seneca Lions and American Legion Post 735

Electronics technicians are responsible for electronic equipment used to send and receive messages, detect enemy planes and ships, and determine target distances / They maintain, repair, and calibrate all electronic equipment used for communications, detection tracking, identification, and navigation / Specially qualified electronics technicians are employed onboard nuclear-powered ships to operate the nuclear reactor and maintain its control subsystems

USS Canopus (AS-34) was a Simon Lake-class submarine tender of the United States Navy, operational from 1965



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to 1994 / The Canopus was commissioned on 4 November 1965 and sailed for the Caribbean on 7 January 1966 / Stationed at Holy Loch, Scotland until November 1975, the Canopus was instrumental in establishing several new maintenance concepts while completing, on schedule, every submarine refit during the 67 months at Holy Loch / During the last year at Holy Loch, Canopus received numerous awards including the Ney Award for the best large mess afloat, the second consecutive Battle Efficiency "E", the CINCLANTFLT Golden Anchor Award for personnel retention, and the Navy Unit Commendation for her role in the first FBM Submarine Extended Refit Period / In 1976, Canopus underwent an extensive refit at Charleston Naval Shipyard and returned to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, for refresher training / Canopus returned to Rota, Spain in December 1976 / In 1984, Canopus underwent an overhaul at Charleston Naval Shipyard, which lasted until 1985 / After a short stay at Charleston, Canopus sailed in July 1985 to Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Georgia/ The USS Canopus was decommissioned from active service on 7 October 1994 and scrapped in 2010



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Name: **SMACZNIAK JR.**

JOSEPH E.

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP5-E5

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1975

Unit / Squadron:

85TH QUARTERMASTER

Medals / Citations:

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

ARMY MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Fort Dix - Located near Trenton, New Jersey, Fort Dix was established on 16 July 1917 as Camp Dix, named in honor of Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the American Civil War, and a former United States Senator, Secretary of the Treasury and Governor of New York / Ft. Dix was used for the mobilization, training and demobilization of soldiers from World War I through April 2015 / On 1 October 2009, Fort Dix was consolidated with an adjoining U.S. Air Force and Navy facility to become part of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL)

Fort Lee - Opened in 1918, Fort Lee in Prince George County, Virginia was named for Confederate General Robert E. Lee / Fort Lee was the headquarters for the U.S. Army Combined Arms Support Command (CASCOM)/ Sustainment Center of Excellence (SCoE), the U.S. Army Quartermaster School, the U.S. Army Ordnance School, The U.S. Army Transportation School, the Army Logistics University (ALU), Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA), and the U.S. Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA)

Nahbollenbach Army Depot - Nahbollenbach Army Depot in Idar-Oberstein is approximately seven miles from Strassburg Kaserne, southwest Germany. Nahbollenbach was a German Army depot until the end of World War II when it was turned over to the French Army / In 1950, the Depot it was turned over to the US Army and used as a Quartermaster Depot, a General Depot and as a US Army Depot. US Army Depot / Nahbollenbach was the headquarters of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, Europe (MATCOM) / Nahbollenbach was deactivated in 1975.



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Miscellaneous:

Joseph Smaczniak Jr. graduated from John F. Kennedy High School in Cheektowaga and attended Bryant & Stratton Business College where he graduated in June 1969 / Smaczniak enlisted in the U.S. Army in July 1969

Quartermaster Corps. - The United States Army Quartermaster Corps is a Sustainment, formerly combat service support (CSS), branch of the United States Army / It is also one of three U.S. Army logistics branches, the others being the Transportation Corps and the Ordnance Corps / The U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps mission is to support the development, production, acquisition, and sustainment of general supply, Mortuary Affairs, subsistences, petroleum and water, material and distribution management during peace and war to provide combat power to the U.S. Army / The officer in charge of the branch for doctrine, training, and professional development purposes is the Quartermaster General.



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Name: SMITH

JAMES

A.

Hometown: LANCASTER

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-3

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Private First-Class James A. Smith was attached to an Artillery Division

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After receiving an Honorable Discharge, James Smith was employed by General Motors, Power Train Division, where he retired.



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Name: **STAWARSKI**

Hometown: WEST SENECA

TED J.

Address: ORCHARD AVENUE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

1ST ARMORED DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL / 2 OAK LEAF CLUSTERS

Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Specialist (E-4) Ted J. Stawarski was deployed to Vietnam during the Tet Offensive and served as a Power Plant Engineer at Camp Holloway in Pleiku from January 1968 through August 1969

Base Assignments:

Ft. Dix, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established on 16 July 1917 as Camp Dix, named in honor of Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the American Civil War, and a former United States Senator, Secretary of the Treasury and Governor of New York / Ft. Dix was used for the mobilization, training and demobilization of soldiers from World War I through April 2015 / On 1 October 2009, Fort Dix was consolidated with an adjoining U.S. Air Force and Navy facility to become part of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL)

Fort Belvoir, Virginia - The base was founded during World War I as Camp A. A. Humphreys, named for Union Civil War general Andrew A. Humphreys, who was also Chief of Engineers / The post was renamed Fort Belvoir in the 1930s in recognition of the Belvoir plantation that once occupied the site, but the adjacent United States Army Corps of Engineers Humphreys Engineer Center retains part of the original name / Fort Belvoir was initially the home of the Army Engineer School prior to its relocation in the 1980s to Fort Leonard Wood, in Missouri / Fort Belvoir serves as the headquarters for the Defense Logistics Agency, the Defense Acquisition University, the Defense Contract Audit Agency, the Defense Technical Information Center, the United States Army Intelligence and Security Command, the United States Army Military Intelligence Readiness Command, the Missile Defense Agency, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, all agencies of the United States Department of Defense

Fort Hood, Texas - Located in Killeen, Texas, the United States Army post was named after Confederate General



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John Bell Hood and is the largest military base in the world (by area) with more than 215,000 acres / During the late 1960's, Fort Hood trained and deployed a number of units and individuals for duty in Vietnam / As the United States ended its role in the conflict, thousands of returning soldiers completed their active duty with one of the fort's divisions

Camp Holloway, Pleiku, Vietnam - Camp Holloway was a United States Army helicopter base at Pleiku in the Central Highlands of Vietnam from 1962 through the early 1970s / The camp was named in 1963 for CH-21 helicopter pilot Warrant Officer Charles E. Holloway, who in December 1962, became the first aviator assigned to the 81st Transportation Company to be killed in action / At its peak, Camp Holloway was home to two additional UH-1 "Huey" assault helicopter companies, a CH-47 "Chinook" company, an O-1 Bird Dog reconnaissance airplane company, a CH-54 "Skycrane" company, and other supporting units

Miscellaneous:

Prior to his enlistment in the Army, Ted Stawarski graduated from Hutchinson Central Technical High School, (informally known as Hutch-Tech) in Buffalo / Following an Honorable Discharge from the Army, Stawarski was employed by Buffalo Forge Company

The Tet Offensive was one of the largest military campaigns of the Vietnam War, launched on 30 January 1968, by forces of the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese People's Army of Vietnam against the forces of the South Vietnamese Army of the Republic of Vietnam, the United States Armed Forces, and their allies / It was a campaign of surprise attacks against military and civilian command and control centers throughout South Vietnam / Though initial attacks stunned both the US and South Vietnamese armies, causing them to temporarily lose control of several cities, they quickly regrouped, beat back the attacks, and inflicted heavy casualties on North Vietnamese forces / The name of the offensive comes from the Tết holiday, the Vietnamese New Year, when the first major attacks took place



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STERLACE**

ROBERT

A.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE)

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:
