

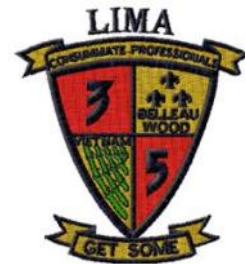
LIMA CO.

3RD BATTALION, 5TH MARINE REGIMENT
1ST MARINE DIVISION

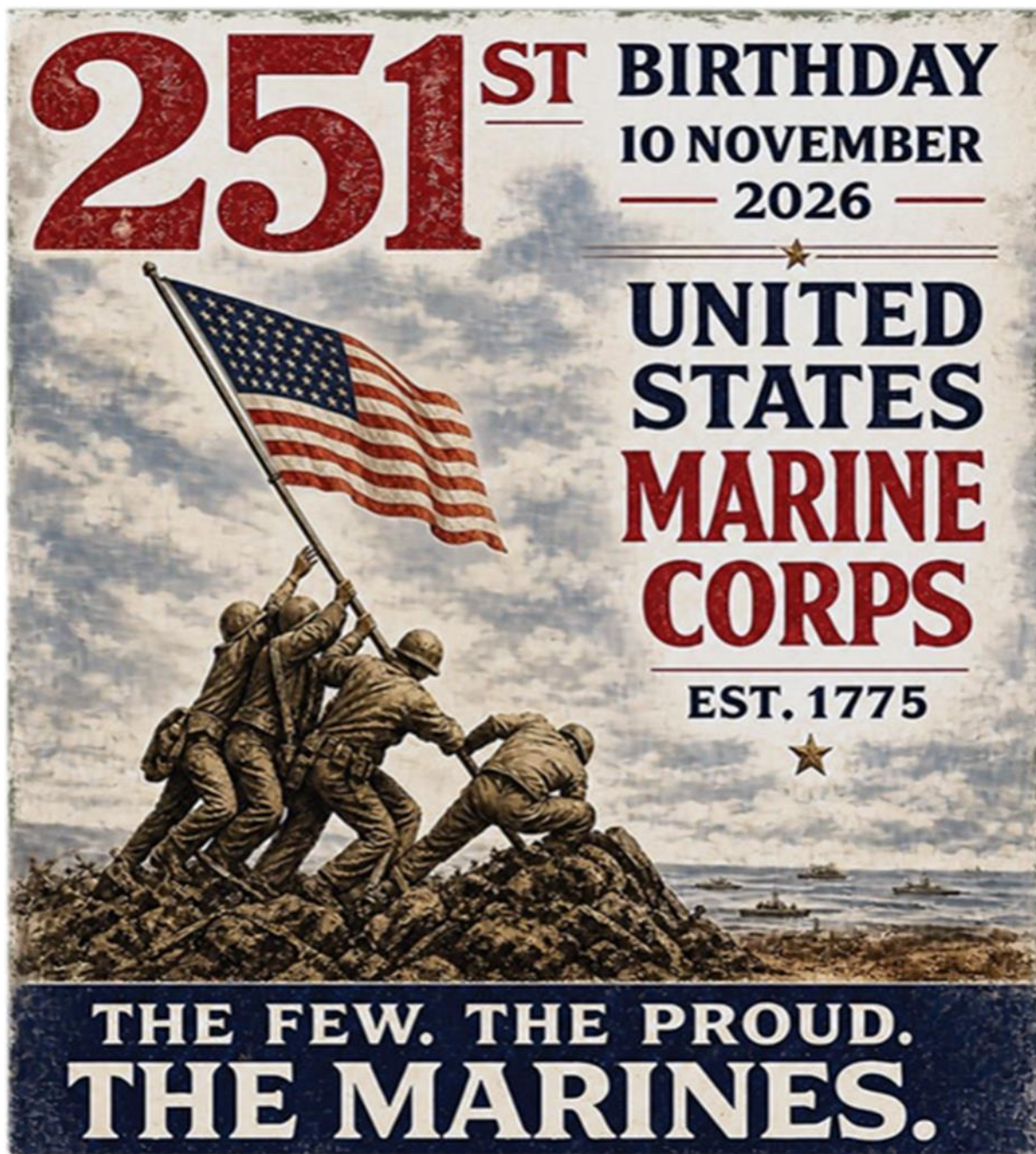


VIETNAM 1966-1971

David Acton, Newsletter Editor
6425 Evans Rd, Chittenango, NY 13037
315 - 687 - 9419 dacton@twcnny.rr.com



NEWSLETTER #156 ❖ NOVEMBER 2026



NOVEMBER 10TH ❖ USMC BIRTHDAY

General John A. Lejeune's Birthday Message

"On November 1st, 1921, John A. Lejeune, 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, directed that a reminder of the honorable service of the Corps be published by every command, to all Marines throughout the globe, on the birthday of the Corps. Since that day, Marines have continued to distinguish themselves on many battlefields and foreign shores, in war and peace. On this birthday of the Corps, therefore, in compliance with the will of the 13th Commandant, Article 38, United States Marine Corps Manual, Edition of 1921, is republished as follows:

""(1) On November 10, 1775, a Corps of Marines was created by a resolution of the Continental Congress. Since that date many thousand men have borne the name Marine. In memory of them it is fitting that we who are marines should commemorate the birthday of our corps by calling to mind the glories of its long and illustrious history.

""(2) The record of our corps is one which will bear comparison with that of the most famous military organizations in the world's history. During 90 of the 146 years of its existence the Marine Corps has been in action against the Nation's foes. From the Battle of Trenton to the Argonne, marines have won foremost honors in war, and in the long eras of tranquillity at home generation after generation of marines have grown gray in war in both hemispheres, and in every corner of the seven seas that our country and its citizens might enjoy peace and security.

""(3) In every battle and skirmish since the birth of our corps marines have acquitted themselves with the greatest distinction, winning new honors on each occasion until the term marine has come to signify all that is highest in military efficiency and soldierly virtue.

""(4) This high name of distinction and soldierly repute we who are Marines to-day have received from those who preceded us in the corps. With it we also received from them the eternal spirit which has animated our corps from generation to generation and has been the distinguishing mark of the marines in every age. So long as that spirit continues to flourish marines will be found equal to every emergency in the future as they have been in the past, and the men of our Nation will regard us as worthy successors to the long line of illustrious men who have served as "Soldiers of the Sea" since the founding of the corps.'

"The inspiring message of our 13th Commandant has left its mark in the hearts and minds of all Marines. By deed and act from Guadalcanal to Iwo Jima, from Inchon to the Korean Armistice, in interventions from Lebanon to the Dominican Republic, and from the opening battles in Vietnam to the Mayaguez rescue, Marines have continued to epitomize those qualities which are their legacy. The success which they have achieved in combat and the faith they have borne in peace will continue. The Commandant and our many friends have added their hearty praise and congratulations on this, our **251st** birthday."

[For more Marine Corps information see Lima 3/5's [Newsletter #151](#).]

NOVEMBER 10TH ❖ USMC BIRTHDAY

Lima Co. 3/5 Reunion



VIETNAM 1966-1971

11702 AVERY LANE
BRIDGETON, MO 63044-2105
(314) 291-1725
E-mail: dmnordmann@att.net
Dan Nordmann, Editor



November 2013 . . Newsletter #98. . Happy 238th Birthday USMC



This is where it all started

SEMPER FIDELIS

Lima Co. 3/5 Reunion



VIETNAM 1966-1971

11702 AVERY LANE
BRIDGETON, MO 63044-2105
(314) 291-1725
E-mail: dmnordmann@att.net
Dan Nordmann, Editor



Nov. 2014. . . Newsletter #102. . . Happy 239th Birthday

November 10, 1775



America's Finest For 239 Years

SEMPER FIDELIS

Lima Co. 3/5 Reunion

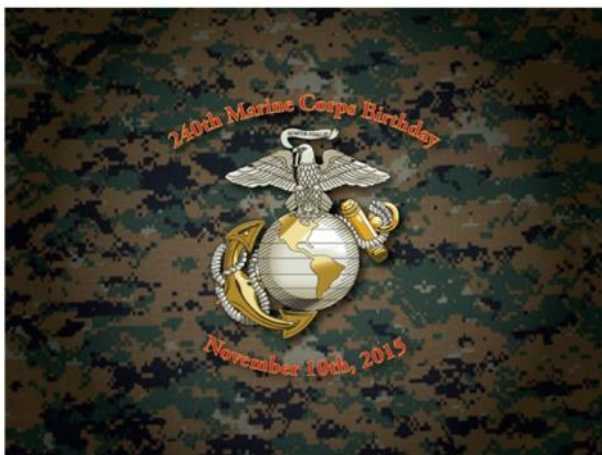


VIETNAM 1966-1971

11702 AVERY LANE
BRIDGETON, MO 63044-2105
(314) 291-1725
E-mail: dmnordmann@att.net
Dan Nordmann, Editor



Nov Dec 2015. . . Newsletter #106. . . USMC 240th Birthday



SEMPER FIDELIS

Lima Co. 3/5 Reunion



VIETNAM 1966-1971

11702 AVERY LANE
BRIDGETON, MO 63044-2105
(314) 291-1725
E-mail: dmnordmann@att.net
Dan Nordmann, Editor



Nov. 2016. . . Newsletter #111. . . Happy 241st Birthday



SEMPER FIDELIS

NOVEMBER 10TH ❖ USMC BIRTHDAY

Zoom out (Ctrl+Minus key)

Lima Co. 3/5 Reunion



VIETNAM 1966-1971

11702 AVERY LANE
BRIDGETON, MO 63044-2105
(314) 291-1725
E-mail: dmnordmann@att.net
Dan Nordmann, Editor



Nov 2017. . . Newsletter #115 . . . 242nd USMC Birthday



HAPPY BIRTHDAY LIMA 3/5

SEMPER FIDELIS

Lima Co. 3/5 Reunion



VIETNAM 1966-1971

11702 AVERY LANE
BRIDGETON, MO 63044-2105
(314) 291-1725
E-mail: dmnordmann@att.net
Dan Nordmann, Editor



Nov 2018. . . Newsletter #119. . 243rd Marine Corps Birthday

MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY



HAPPY BIRTHDAY LIMA 3/5

SEMPER FIDELIS

Lima Co. 3/5 Reunion



VIETNAM 1966-1971

11702 AVERY LANE
BRIDGETON, MO 63044-2105
(314) 291-1725
E-mail: dmnordmann@att.net
Dan Nordmann, Editor



Nov 2019. Newsletter #123. 244th Marine Corps Birthday

MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY



HAPPY BIRTHDAY LIMA 3/5

SEMPER FIDELIS

Lima Co. 3/5 Reunion



VIETNAM 1966-1971

Dan Nordmann, Editor
11702 Avery Ln.
Bridgeton, MO 63044-2105
Home 314-291-1725 314-954-3311 Cell
dmnordmann@att.net



Nov 2020 . . Newsletter #127 Happy 245th Birthday



SEMPER FIDELIS

NOVEMBER 10TH ❖ USMC BIRTHDAY

Lima Co. 3/5 Reunion



VIETNAM 1966-1971

Dan Nordmann, Editor
11702 Avery Ln.
Bridgeton, MO 63044-2105
314-954-3311 Cell
dmnordmann@att.net



Nov 2021. .Newsletter #131 . . Happy 246th Birthday



SEMPER FIDELIS

Lima Co. 3/5 Reunion



VIETNAM 1966-1971

Dan Nordmann, Editor
11702 Avery Ln.
Bridgeton, MO 63044-2105
314-954-3311 Cell
dmnordmann@att.net



Nov 2022 . Newsletter #135 . . . Happy 247th Birthday



SEMPER FIDELIS

LIMA CO. 3/5/1 MARINES



VIETNAM 1966-1971

David Acton, Editor
6425 Evans Rd
Chittenango, NY 13037
315-687-9419
dacton@twyny.com



MARINE CORPS 249TH BIRTHDAY

NEWSLETTER 145

The Marine Corps was formed
on November 10, 1775
by the Second Continental Congress,
with the first Marines enlisting under
Commandant Samuel Nicholas.
But it was not until 1921 that the Corps
began celebrating that historic day
officially as its birthday.



Marine Corps Heritage Foundation
www.marineheritage.org



Take part in the tradition November 10 by mailing Order 47 on the reverse side.

According to tradition, Tun Tavern was where the United States Marines held their first recruitment drive. On November 10, 1775, the Second Continental Congress commissioned the innkeeper and former Quaker Samuel Nicholas to raise two battalions of Marines in Philadelphia.

LIMA CO. 3RD BATTALION, 5TH MARINE REGIMENT 1ST MARINE DIVISION



VIETNAM 1966-1971

David Acton, Newsletter Editor
6425 Evans Rd, Chittenango, NY 13037
315 - 687 - 9419 dacton@twyny.com



NEWSLETTER #151 ❖ OCTOBER 2025



MARINES
— 1775-2025 —
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SEMPER FIDELIS

SAMUEL NICHOLAS FIRST COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

[Major Samuel Nicholas](#) (1744 – August 27, 1790) was a Continental Marines officer who was the first officer to be commissioned into the force (predecessor to the United States Marine Corps) and by tradition is considered to be the first Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Military Service

On November 28, 1775, Nicholas was commissioned a "Captain of Marines" by the Second Continental Congress, [3] which was the first commission issued in the Continental Naval Service.[4][3][5] Eighteen days prior, the Continental Congress resolved on November 10, 1775,

That two battalions of Marines be raised consisting of one Colonel, two Lieutenant-Colonels, two Majors, and other officers, as usual in other regiments; that they consist of an equal number of Privates with other battalions; that particular care be taken that no persons be appointed to offices, or enlisted into said battalions, but such as are good seamen, or so acquainted with maritime affairs as to be able to serve by sea when required; that they be enlisted and commissioned to serve for and during the present war with Great Britain and the Colonies, unless dismissed by order of Congress; that they be distinguished by the names of the First and Second Battalion of Marines.[6]



Historic Marine Corps
Portrait of Nicholas

Captain Nicholas no sooner received official confirmation of his appointment to office than he established recruiting headquarters in Philadelphia. It is famous in Marine Corps history that his first recruitment drive was held at Tun's Tavern. This is also where many consider that he was first commissioned to the Marine Corps by the Second Continental Congress. By January 1776, having recruited a sufficient number of Marines for the vessels that comprised the Continental Navy in the waters of Philadelphia, Capt. Nicholas assumed command of the Marine Detachment on board the Alfred. With Commodore Esek Hopkins in command, the Alfred set sail from Philadelphia on the morning of January 4, 1776.

Flag of the Commandant
of the Marine Corps



NOVEMBER 10TH ❖ USMC BIRTHDAY

10 November 2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

For 251 years, the United States Marine Corps has been our Nation's premier expeditionary force in readiness. Born from the sea and forged in the fires of conflict, Marines have fought, and won, in battles all over the world. From our first amphibious landing 250 years ago at Nassau to the volcanic sands of Iwo Jima, and from the bold invasion of Inchon to the mountains of Afghanistan, we have always marched forward with rifles in hand. The Marines who came before us paved our legacy in sweat and blood. They built a foundation of excellence and proved time and again that Marines remain ready to answer the call.

As we reflect on our proud and illustrious history and commemorate the founding of our Corps, we must take inspiration for the future. We are marching forward, as we always have, to fight and win our Nation's battles in every clime and place. We're preparing every day by innovating and evolving. Through our ingenuity, ruthless adherence to standards, and sheer grit, we continue to demonstrate the unmatched lethality of our expeditionary naval forces.

Today, the operational demand for Marines is high. At this very hour, 40,000 Marines are forward deployed and stationed around the world to secure liberty and to strike when our adversaries test our resolve. Just as always, Marines are ready to go wherever the Nation needs us, whenever it needs us.

Sergeant Major Ruiz and I could not be prouder of your dedication to upholding our legacy as America's *Soldiers of the Sea*. This is who we are, and we are up to the challenge. We are honored to stand beside you as we prepare for the fights ahead. Happy 251st Birthday, Marines!

Semper Fidelis,



Eric M. Smith

General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps



NOVEMBER 10TH ❖ USMC BIRTHDAY

RECOMMENDED BOOKS ON THE U.S. MARINE CORPS COMMANDANT'S 2026 PROFESSIONAL READING LIST

The following titles are part of the Marine Corps Commandant's 2026 professional reading list, highlighting various aspects of Marine Corps history, leadership, and culture:

First to Fight: An Inside View of the U.S. Marine Corps

Victor H. Krulak *[Ed.: He's on our Lima 3/5 roster as a chaplain]*

An insider's perspective on the Marine Corps, blending history with personal experience.

The Last Stand of Fox Company: A True Story of U.S. Marines in Combat

Bob Drury and Tom Clavin

A detailed account of the Korean War and the defense of Fox Hill by Captain William Barber.

The Marines of Montford Point: America's First Black Marines

Melton A. McLaurin

Chronicles the integration of African Americans into the Marine Corps during World War II.

Additional Notable Titles

Marine! The Life of Chesty Puller

Burke Davis

A biography of one of the most decorated Marines in U.S. history.

One Bullet Away: The Making of a Marine Officer

Nathaniel Fick

A memoir detailing the author's experiences in the Marine Corps and the challenges of leadership.

Making the Corps

Thomas E. Ricks

An exploration of the Marine Corps training process and its impact on recruits.

With the Old Breed: At Peleliu and Okinawa

E.B. Sledge

Firsthand memoir of the author's experiences as a young marine during the ferocious campaigns in Peleliu and Okinawa.

Warfighting

USMC

Very simply, this publication describes the philosophy which distinguishes the U.S. Marine Corps. The thoughts contained here are not merely guidance for action in combat but a way of thinking. This publication provides the authoritative basis for how we fight and how we prepare to fight.

TUCSON, AZ ❖ 2027 REUNION

Lima 3/5's Forty-Second (42nd) Annual Reunion will be held May 19 – 22, 2027 at the Westward Look Wyndham Resort & Spa in Tucson, AZ. Information about the reunion was published in [Newsletter #155](#) and will be in the next newsletter, #157, January or February, 2027.

Below is a list of Lima 3/5 personnel who have signed up thus far... and there's room for a bunch more, including YOU. It will be great to see you in May! Guys, there aren't too many reunions to go... better to show up now, than to say "I wish I had gone to this one."

No.	Name	Date	Reunion	MOS	VN	Pt	Rank	Home	Banquet
1	Acton, David (Sallie)	9/11/2026	7	0341	69/70	0	Sgt	NY	2
2	Cantrell, Dan (Anne)	9/15/2026	23	0341	68/69	0	Cpl	WA	2
3	Freed, Dennis (Wendy Weeks)	9/1/2026	20	0311	67-68	1	Cpl	CA	2
4	Maxey, Skip (Kim)	9/3/2026	0	0341	67-69	0	Cpl	CA	2
5	Repko, Stephen (Marjorie)	9/8/2026	0	0311	69/70	0	Cpl	PA	2
6	Thomas, Wes	9/3/2026	6	0341	66	0	S/Sgt	PA	1
7	Van Reusen, Tony (Kathy)	9/8/2026	24	0311	67/68	1	Cpl	AZ	2

The reunion order form is on the next page for hats, shirts and the Saturday night banquet. Make your check payable to "Dennis Freed" and mail it to:

Dennis Freed
12 Dornoch Way
Trabuco Canyon
CA 92679

949-351-4718
dennis@themenace.us

*OFF YOUR BUTTS
ON YOUR FEET
OUTTA THE SHADE
INTO THE HEAT
SADDLE UP LIMA
WE'RE MOVING OUT

GUNNY LOUCKS*

TUCSON, AZ ❖ 2027 REUNION

ADVANCE ORDERS ONLY ❖ PICK UP AT THE REUNION ORDER FORM FOR SHIRTS/HATS MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 5, 2027

Shirts and hats are *LIGHT GREEN*, with the *USMC Lima 3/5 logo* embroidered on the front left breast and the *Vietnam Service Ribbon & 2007* on the left sleeve.

Polo Shirt S, M, L, XL \$28 ea. Size _____ Qty _____ \$ _____

Polo Shirt XXL / XXXL \$32 ea. Size _____ Qty _____ \$ _____

T-Shirts have silk screened USMC Lima 3/5 logo on the front left breast

T-Shirt S, M, L, XL \$19 ea. Size _____ Qty _____ \$ _____

T-Shirt XXL / XXXL \$23 ea. Size _____ Qty _____ \$ _____

Hats have the logo on the front and VSM ribbon on the back

Hats are adjustable \$18 ea. Qty _____ \$ _____

\$20 Postage for shirt/hat order if not attending the reunion \$ _____

Total Shirt & Hat Order \$ _____

Banquet Dinner \$65 Per Adult # _____ @ \$65 = \$ _____
(Children under 12 Free)

My Shirts & Hat Order \$ _____

General Fund (contribution) \$ _____

MY TOTAL FOR 2027 TUCSON, AZ REUNION \$ _____

This will be my first (1st) reunion: Yes _____ No _____

★ ★ ★ **ORDER FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 5, 2027** ★ ★ ★

Make check payable to:
Dennis Freed

Send Order Form to:
Dennis Freed
12 Dornoch Way
Trabuco Canyon
CA 92679

949-351-4718

dennis@themenace.us

Name _____

Spouse/Guest _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Phone _(_____)_____ Cell _(_____)_____

E-Mail _____



LIMA 3/5

COMPANY MEMBERSHIP

LIMA 3/5



TAPS



JOHN M. CONLEY

Died: 9/26/2026
 Lima Co: Jan - Dec 1969
 Rank: Cpl
 MOS: 0311/0331, 2nd Plt
 WIA: 17-Nov-69
 Reunions: 0



NAME

Died:
 Lima Co:
 Rank:
 MOS:
 WIA:
 Reunions:



ROSTER & SOCIAL MEDIA

Lima 3/5 membership roster has 647 Marines & Corpsmen and 42 relatives & friends.

Lima 3/5 Website: <https://limathreefive.org>
 Rosters, newsletters, stories, videos, KIA memorial & more.

Lima Facebook Group (private group, must apply to join):
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/149906508829193>

Active	354
Lost Contact	39
Died	251
Do Not Contact (DNC)	3
Relative/Friend (R/F)	42



“WELCOME TO VIETNAM”

By Cpl. Tony Van Reusen
RVN Jan 67 - Jan 68

After spending over two weeks on the USS General Walker out of San Diego, with an overnight stop in Okinawa, we sailed into the Da Nang Harbor after dark in late January 1967. From the deck of the transport ship, we could see red and green tracer rounds cutting through the night sky to the south of the harbor. Several hundred anxious marines were spending their last night on the transport ship. After chow the next morning, we were told to saddle up, put on our field packs, helmets, shoulder sling our M-14s, and grab our sea bags; then waited to disembark. It was just like you've seen in WWII movies with Marines going over the side of the ship repelling down wide rope ladders and dropping into landing craft. When we got to shore, we waited for buses with chicken wire fastened to open windows. We were told the wire was to prevent grenades from being tossed into the buses.

Once on the road, we headed to the Da Nang Air Base. At the air base we were split into groups and sent to different C-130s. Our flight was headed south to the Chu Lai air base. We landed a short time later and then were loaded into six-by-six trucks and driven to a big aluminum warehouse on the airbase. Our sea bags were stored and we were told we would sleep on the floor. The next morning, we were given C-rations to eat for breakfast. Several hours later we were called into formation and names were read-off alphabetically. I was with two other marines that I had met at staging battalion at Camp Pendleton, Fred Tanke and Harry White. The three of us along with about 20 or so other marines including Frager Spates had been assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment that was based on hill 69. The group was loaded on two trucks and driven to the 3/5 base.

Upon reaching hill 69, we were again ordered into a line formation and told to wait for company assignment. I could see groups of two and three marines being peeled off and assigned to different companies (Kilo, Lima or Mike). When we got to the head of the line, I observed a First Sergeant making the assignments. The First Sergeant's last name was Washington and he was a mountain of a man and looked all business. Nonetheless I asked, “First Sergeant, is it possible for the three of us to go to the same company?” He looked at me with a stern face and said, “What the f#*k do you think this is? Summer Camp!” Tanke was assigned to Mike Company; White and I were assigned to Lima. I thought to myself **“Welcome to Vietnam.”**

Van Reusen on patrol →→→



**STORY #20 - DEER LICENSE**

LCpl. Ted Crisp
RVN Jan 69 - Jan 70

I remember when deer hunting back in the states, we were required to display a deer license permit in the middle of our back to hunt deer legally. My brother, Butch, sent me a care package and in it was a deer hunting license that I could display on my back. The only difference is that the license said it was a two-legged hunting permit.

I wore it for a couple weeks; our fellow Marines got a kick out of it until I finally lost it. When I left Viet Nam, I never hunted deer again. It seems that when you hunt the two-legged deer that hunts you back, there was just no thrill in it hunting the four-legged critters.

What can I say? I still like venison.





LIMA 3/5

COMPANY STORIES

LIMA 3/5



FLASH BACK ❖ FLASH BACK ❖ FLASK BACK

[2008 WASHINGTON DC](#)



[2009 CHARLESTON, SC](#)



US  MC

