

# AMUA TIMES

ARMY MARKSMANSHIP UNIT ASSOCIATION

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## What's Inside

AMUA President's Report Page 2
USAMU Commander's Report
Page 2 Mosely Retires
Page 3
Executive Board Ongoings
Page 3
Thanks for DonationsPage 4
Easley Range
Welcome MembersPage 5
TapsPage 5
Bosnia Training Page 5
Keeping in Touch



1954 Army Match Rifle Team - (L-R) Front, MAJ Carl Byas, MAJ Frank Palmer; Standing, CPT Murvale O. Belson, MSG Francis B. Conway, SFC John D. Martin, LT Herbert V. Voelker.

## USAMU: The Early Years, Part One

### SFC Conway Reports for Duty

This is the first of a three part chronology of the founding years of the USAMU.

LTC (Ret) Francis B. Conway

I have been asked to present information on the outfit when it was provisional, prior to becoming a TO&E unit in the Fall of 1956. So. I will be trusting to memory and a few official documents such as my 201 file, travel orders, etc..

On a set of orders dated 29 April 1954, I was transferred from Dct. 2, 9393 TSU, White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico to the administrative staff of the U.S. Army Rifle and Pistol Team, 3440 ASU, Fort Benning, Georgia with a reporting date of 18 May 1954.

Upon reporting I found LTC Smoot Commanding (from 25th Div Hawaii National Guard). LTC Smoot had been on maneuvers in the hills above Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941 and watched the whole Japanese attack. The Guard had only blank cartridges! The XO was a LTC Ellis Lea. who was later DCM. LTC Lea had been a competitive shooter back in the '30s as a trooper in the Virginia State Constabulary. I think the Pistol Team Captain was MAJ Leonard Robinson and Rifle Team Captain MAJ Carl Byas. 1SG was SFC Chasteen.

A company clerk came in shortly after I did, but I don't remember his name. MSG Brewer was Supply Sergeant and the only amputee that I ever saw on active duty! He had an artificial leg. A really prime soldier. MSG Daniel S. Huntley, probably the best demonstrator the Infantry School ever had, was assigned. But it was a week or so before I ever met him, as he was sweeping floors at Post Ordnance while one of their machinists was making us some fixed sights for our DCM 45's! Dan was on the infantry team that tested the carbines at Aberdeen Proving Ground when the test was being run to adopt a carbine!

Why was I selected? I found I was to be the armorer/gunsmith for the teams! I had some people that knew me in Headquarters, Ordnance Corps. I ran a small arms repair section in WWII in the ordnance battalion of the 8th Armored Division where we maintained 50% of all small arms of the division. In the Ordnance Board Detachment after the war, I was the most knowledgeable person about small arms on the Board and its detachment. I put in two winters in Fort Churchill, Canada on weapons testing under extreme cold conditions. At White Sands Proving Ground I ran the Post Shooting Team, as I had at Aberdeen,

U.S. Army File Photo

be

## **COMMANDER's** REPORT: USAREC, Our Game Plan

Col Arch Arnold

SGM O'Neil and I made our inaugural trip to Fort Knox in late April to report to our new higher headquarters. U.S. Army Recruiting Command (USAREC). We presented an introductory briefing on the AMU to the assembled cast of thousands to include Major General Gaddis. CG USARFC. Here is what came out of our exchange of information.

#### WHAT WE LEARNED ABOUT USAREC

USAREC consists of 6 brigades, 41 battalions, 279 companies, 1558 recruiting stations and 12000 great Americans. They have a daunting mission: keeping up the foxhole strength of the entire active and reserve Army..... that's about 700,000 spaces. To "make mission" each month each recruiter out there must bring 1 and 1/2 new recruits into the Army each month. Doesn't seem too hard, but most are falling a little short these days. Young Americans are less inclined to GO ARMY due to the strong economy (low unemployment) and college options. So our recruiters are working 14 hour days and 6 days per week to get the job done. Message: THEY NEED OUR HELP!

The U.S. Army Parachute Team, GOLDEN KNIGHTS, stationed at Fort Bragg were assigned to USAREC in 1997. We expect AMIPs role in USAREC to mirror that of the KNIGHTS in providing a positive and exciting image of the Army. Also, we are lucky they've already broken trail into USAREC to make our move go more smoothly.

#### WHAT THEY LEARNED ABOUT AMU

We have a 43 year track record as the world's most dominant shooting team.

Our soldiers are reliably fit, sharp and professional and exude confidence and enthusiasm. Thus they are perfect ambassadors of goodwill for the Army.

Our gunsmiths possess amazing talent and give us the technological edge over the competition.

The AMU team is peaking towards Olympic Gold in 2000 as well as continued dominance in Service Rifle/Pistol. WINNING is our job #1.

AMU wants to be the MVP on the USAREC team.

#### OUR GAME PLAN

We understand that our value to USAREC and the Army is founded on our reputation as the winningest and most dominant shooting team on earth. At all costs, we must keep our focus on WINNING! No one wants to enlist in an "also ran" outfit.

So, other than a new patch on our left shoulders, you won't notice much difference in the goings on at the AMU in the months ahead. We will protect our nearly perfect training environment and continue to compete in all the big matches everywhere.

Our shooters may spend more time on the road. In the off season. we'll be deploying shooters in pairs around the country to visit high schools and colleges. In season, we may be staying over after matches to do recruiting work for a couple of days. Also, you can expect to see recruiters and prospective recruits visiting us at Fort Benning and at matches. Bottom line: it's a good mission and we'll be good at it.

## PRESIDENT's **REPORT: Moving** Forward

Mac Johnson

Since our last newsletter. I was privileged to represent the Association at the second retirement of Red Mosely. This time he retired from the Army Marksmanship Unit after a distinguished career as a Department of the Army Civilian. The Director of the Civilian Marksmanship Program was kind enough to provide Red with an M-1 Garand that I presented to him at his retirement ceremony.

As I noted during his ceremony, Red is one of those truly world class gentlemen who takes pride in accomplishing every thing he does in a first class manner. And he did that for over 40 years! He is in your AMUA directory as Laurence K. Mosely. Drop him a note or call him and wish him well. We intend to try and give him a third career in some capacity with the Association.

Many of you know that under the direction of Willis Powell and last year's Executive Board a relook of our Constitution and bylaws was begun. In the last newsletter I mentioned that we are also looking into the possibility of incorporating and then becoming a taxexempt organization. We have been told that there may be some mandatory changes to either the constitution or bylaws or both in order to achieve tax-exempt status. Therefore, we are holding rewrite of the constitution and bylaws in abeyance until we are further along in this

Along these lines, thanks to those of you who volunteered advice and assistance in our quest for tax-exempt status. As soon as this develops further, we will let all of you know.

There was an article in our last newsletter concerning the rededication of Easley Range now that the brand new Service Rifle building has been completed. The Unit has announced that Colonel Boh Nett, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for service in the same theater in which General Easley was killed in action, will be the guest speaker. The ceremony is at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, June 4, 1999. We would enjoy seeing you there! It is easy to find--come to the 600-yard line!

You no doubt noticed that we added to the last newsletter and to this one an abbreviated version of the minutes of your Executive Board's meetings. All of us thought that would be an easy way for you to stay in touch with what we are doing or thinking about doing. One thing you will notice in this issue's minutes summary is that we redistributed the funds in our war chest so that they are actively making money rather than just sitting idly in a checking account. We placed them so they are easily available if needed, but always drawing interest. For simplicity and to avoid risk, we stayed with our local bank and with guaranteed earnings programs rather than develop an investment portfolio and take a chance on losing your

During my relatively short association with the Army Marksmanship Unit and the Army Marksmanship Unit Association. one of the things that has most impressed me is the quiet dignity of everyone involved with the shooting sport. It takes so much discipline, desire, and drive to make the guns, support the shooters, and have shooter fire national and world records that being the best in the business just seems the natural outcome to so many of you. And so you almost never brag about it. Now I am not suggesting that any of us (and certainly not those in the Unit) take up boasting as a way of life.

AMUA TIMES Page 3



AMUA President Mac Johnson presents Red Mosely with an M-1 Garand given by DCM.

Red Mosely Retires
Laurence K. "Red" Mosely served as a Soldier,

Laurence K. "Red" Mosely served as a Soldier, competetive marksman and federal civil servent for forty-seven years.

#### **USAMU PAO**

Laurence K. "Red" Mosely ended an illustrious carreer on 27 March as he retired from civil service. He had been the training specialist at the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit for the last sixteen years.

Red was the oldest Olympian working at Fort Benning. His duties included being custodian for the Excellence in Competition Awards Program, operations officer for the annual Small Arms Firing School at the National Matches, and automation information manager at the USAMU.

"I've enjoyed everything I've done, both military and civilian, over the years," Mosely said at his retirement ceremony. I especially enjoyed working at the Marksmanship Unit."

Mosely said he plans to travel and visit relatives and try to catch up on some work around the house that he and his family have been ubnable to do because of his busy job.

He served in the Army from 1952 to 1979, retiring as a command sergeant major. He was assigned to the Marksmanship Unit Pistol Branch from 1958 to 1962 and 1965 to 1968 as an instructor and shooter then as the officer in charge of the branch from 1970 to 1973.

Red also served as the Committee Group sergeant major with Fort Benning's Infantry Training Brigade during the congressionally mandated One Station Unit Training test for initial infantry training, as well as serving as the brigade operations sergeant major with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division, in Korea, and as the brigade intelligence sergeant with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, in Vietnam.

His many military awards and decorations include the

U.S. International Distinguished Badge, U.S. Army Distinguished Pistol Badge, and the President's Hundred Tab.

Red started shooting in 1952 and has numerous marksmanship accomplishments including being a 1960 Olympian, winning a Gold and Silver Medal at the 1963 Pan American Games, as well as being the Grand Pistol Champion and winning three Gold Medals at the 1958 Military Olympics in Athens. Greece. He was the 1966 Interservice Rapid Fire Pistol Champion and set an interservice record in rapid fire pistol in 1964.

He and his wife, Trudy, live in Columbus and have two children, Ellen and Ernest, and two grandchildren, Casey and Cory.

"I felt privileged to be associated with so many worldclass shooters over my career with the Marksmanship Unit," Mosely said. "I'll miss the day-to-day contact with them; they're the best."

Mosely said he plans to enjoy being retired, but he will do some volunteer work with the Army Marksmanship Unit Association.

## Executive Board Ongoings

The Executive Board met two times since our last publication. The following extracts from the minutes should keep the membership updated on significant events.

- 1. Easley Range dedication is scheduled 4 June. COL (Ret) Robert Nett. Medal of Honor Winner will be the guest speaker. The Board approved expenditure of no more than \$200 for refreshments.(See Easley Range article for more details.)
  - 2. AMUA monies will be placed in accounts as follows:
    - Keep \$1000 in current checking account.
    - Put \$5000 in a 6 month CD
    - Put \$5000 in a 1 year CD
- Put treasury balance in a money market account (interest bearing) for ready accessibility as needed. Add money to this account if checking account balance gets too big.
- 3. The following personnel were appointed by the President to look into the possibility of incorporation under 501e tax exempt status: Al Mullins (Chair), Mac Johnson, Carter Berry, Jack Horner, and Rick Hawkins. If approved as a 501e organization, the Constitution and Bylaws would have to be revised.
- 4. The Treasurer reported a 31 March balance of \$13,544 with an additional \$897 deposited by 13 April. He will deposit funds in compliance with paragraph 2 above.
- A one year license granting use of space in Sharpe Hall to AMUA was approved by the Garrison Commander on 9 March.
- A modest number of AMUA pins and patches will be maintained as "For Sale" items. (See page 5 for more info.)
- The AMUA computer and software were discussed. The original software was donated and is getting old. Hardware and software need to be upgraded.
  - 8. The USAMU update was provided:
- SPC Jason Parker and SSG Ken Johnson of International Rifle and SGT Armando Ayala of Running Target made the Pan Am team at Wolf Creek.
  - USAMU becomes part of USAREC 1 October.

#### COMMANDER / From page 2

#### HELP!

The AMUA can help us in this new endeavor by hooking us up with the local recruiter's at the stations in your area. We are just a phone call or e-mail away. Encourage them to contact us.

#### FINALLY

We are having a great pre-season. Hope to see many of you at the Easley Range Dedication in June.

Shooting for Gold!

### Thanks for the Donations

Thank you to Phillip F. Cannella, Jr. of Columbus, GA for donating a text "The American Ritle by C.E. Hagie 1946" and a 1961 National Matches, Small Arms Firing School packet prepared by the Infantry School which included a coaches checklist, NRA literature, billeting and entry confirmation, individual squadding, civilian team certification, program of instruction, challenge procedures and target disking procedure instructions.

Thank you to Murvale O. Belson of Covington, TN for donating several items. Two Army shipping documents indicating his excellence in competition and distinguished badges had been sent. Three DA letters indicating National match trophics would be shipped and his 1952 leg badge was won as a team member with a score of 243. A smallbore southeastern regional program sponsored by Fort Benning R&P Club in July 1952. A national midwinter tournament program from St. Petersburg, FL in March 1954. Several smallbore match bulletins and a program from EUCOM held at Numberg in April 1950 and March 1951. Several newspaper articles and photos of various shooting competitions in Atlanta, Florida, Germany, Fort Eustis, & Virginia. One article pertaining to the 1952 National Highpower Ritle Championships held at Fort Benning and won by CPT Murvale Belson's team was written by Lee LaCombe. Lots of familiar names here - Kless Gyzen, John Kolb, James Duke, Ben Smith, John Asbury, James Manning, Sam Hardy, Tony Miranda, Warren Gandy, Herbert Koch, and Murvale Belson to name a few.

Thank you to Francis B. Conway for his very interesting notes about the early days of USAMU. These notes will appear in the AMUA Times as a series starting in this issue.

Thank you to Peter Giuchici for the very interesting story about MSG Joseph Klues and the remarkable contributions he made to Army marksmanship. The story about MSG Klues will appear in a later issue of the AMUA Times.

Thank you to Charles D. Davis of Columbus, GA for donating several items: Five USAMU manuals - Advanced Rifle Clinic: Profile of a Champion; Basic Smallbore Rifle Guide: Service Rifle Guide: Marksmanship Instructors and Coaches Guide. Several USAMU Lesson Outlines pertaining to the Fundamentals of Firing One Round: Effects of Weather; Aiming. Positions and Trigger Control: Mental and Physical Conditioning. Team Selection: Lesson Outline Preparation; Care of Equipment: Duties of Scorers and Pit Personnel Eight very good photos including one of LT Gary Anderson. A Concurso De Tiro, Panama news release. Eight monthly rosters printed between 1971 and 1978.

#### PRESIDENT / From page 2

However, in ease you haven't noticed, the entire Department of Defense is getting smaller and smaller in both manpower and dollars. So for those of us who are now civilians it would not be a bad idea to drop a line to our Congressmen/women and Senators every now and then and let them know what a tremendous asset the Army Marksmanship Unit is to our country.

The spring and summer shooting seasons for the Unit hold the promise of new records and many championships! Every time there is a match near you, please make an effort to get there and let the AMU team know you are pulling for them.

With the Olympics right around the millennium corner, all of the International shooters seem to have taken the Y2K Challenge. They are doing well and shooting some remarkable scores. Their Y2K Challenge comes in the form of a medallion of gold, silver, or bronze with 5 rings on it hanging from a ribbon around their neck!

A special "Thank You!" to those of you who wrote to me with your ideas and suggestions. I encourage all of you to do that as often as you like.

#### EARLY YEARS / From page 1

and was also State high power rifle champion, along with State gallery rifle champion. I had made the 4th Army Rifle Team in 1952 (2nd Place) and was on the All Army Team in 1953, winning the Coast Guard Trophy with a new NM record.

Back to the unit - we were assigned to HQ Co. of School Troops, the Infantry School, but TDY to the U.S. Army Rifle and Pistol Team. We lived in their barracks (Just across 1st Div. Road from Range HQ). We had company duties. KP, CQ, and had to take Saturday morning training (unless we had a match and sometimes even then).

I remember one time when we were standing annual inspection by the full colonel who was commandant of the school. One of our people was MSG Graham who was known as "Radar Graham" due to his two hearing aids! When the colonel got to him, he said, "SGT Graham, I don't believe that I have ever seen that badge that you are wearing. What is it?" SGT Graham said, "Distinguished Marksman Sir." The colonel said, "Well keep up the good work sergeant, some day you will make expert!" Graham took off his DM and refused to wear it for about a year!

The "word" was out that the Rifle and Pistol Teams were formed at the request of GEN Matthew Ridgway. 8th Army Commander during the Korean War. GEN Ridgway carried a model 1903 bolt rifle! He was very unhappy with the inability of the average G.I. to hit the thousands of Chinese coming across the border. He definitely felt that some training was needed. Of course the word "Training" did not appear in our title for some time. In the first couple of years we changed our name several times: U.S. Army Rifle and Pistol Team, CONARC Rifle and Pistol Team, back to U.S. Army, and finally a name with marksmanship training - USAMTU.

The better part of this "History" will have to be from my point of view as the gunsmith. Some of you shooters can fill in your part.

<u>Stories needed</u>: If you remember a funny, inspiring or interesting shooting experience, please share it with us, so we can share it with the membership through the *AMUA Times*. Please send your experiences or second hand stories to: AMUA Editor, PO Box 52025, Ft Benning, GA 31995-2025.

## Easley Range Ceremony Set

The rededication of EASLEY RANGE is officially set for June 4, 1999 beginning at one o'clock at Easley Range. Fort Benning, Georgia. General Claudius M. Easley was one of the most ardent supporters of marksmanship for the U.S. Army in the 20th century. Members of the USAMU family are cordially invited to attend this ceremony.

Col (Ret) Robert Nett. Congressional Medal of Honor recipient during the Battle of Leyte, will be the guest speaker. Others who have indicated attendance include CWO4 (Ret) Coats Brown, then MAJ Easley's firing partner and Coach of the 1937 All Army Rifle Team; LTC (Rct) Claudius M. Easley, Jr.; the family of T/5 Anthony J. Posl, GEN Easley's driver; and the family of COL Tom Maertens, who served with GEN Easley and was a member of the 1937 All Army team. The family of the 7th Division Commander during the Battle of Leyte and Okinawa as well as many shooters have expressed an interest in honoring GEN Easley.

Please join us in this historic event. The project officer for the ceremony is SFC Charles Hearlth, (706) 545-7174.



### Welcome New Members

Mulberry, FL John Bakach Colorado Springs, CO Brian Epperson Ellcton, FL Jack Harwick Matthews, NC Augustus Moore Wilmington, DE Chet Skinner Favetteville, NC Kenneth Steen Chico, CA Larry Wilkins

Pass the word about AMUA. Send us the names and addresses of old shooters who may not be aware of AMUA. We will inform them of our association, the reunion dates. and the great fun we have talking about the old days.

### Taps, Present Arms

Donald E. Hilker (MSG Ret) expired on 3 March 1999 of respiratory failure and cancer. Don shot, coached or was NCOIC of service rifle teams at Fort Riley, Europe, Fort Benning, Third Army, and Korea during the late 1950s and early 1960s. He retired from the Army in 1968 and had a second career with Eastem Airlines.

Art Sievers expired in April in the state of Washington. An accomplished and respected Chief Petty Officer, he shot and coached the Navy Rifle Team for years. Art once coached the Palma Team to a win. He gave pistol clinics and coached Junior Olympic Shooting Camps at the State and National level. Art retired from the Navy as a L/CDR at the Naval Academy where he coached the midshipmen pistol team for several very success-

Lawrence E. "Gene" Enterkin (LTC Ret) expired on 26 April from heart failure. Gene shot service pistol and was a member of the winning team at the Nationals for All Army in the 1950's. He was a competitor and official in numerous national and international competitions. He was an international coach for USAMU in the mid 1960s. He organized and served as Commander of Third Army AMU. His final marksmanship tour was as OIC of the Infantry Center Post Team 1969-70. Gene retired in 1970. He worked as Deputy DCM for 3 1/2 years, and owned The Powderhorn, a local gunsmithing and specialty reloading shop.

### USAMU conducts training in Bosnia **USAMU PAO**

Three service rifle shooters of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit spent 20 days in Bosnia training snipers for the U.S. Army as part of a Fort Benning Mobil Training Team. The team also consisted of soldiers from the Ranger Training Brigade, the 29th Infantry Regiment, and the Dismounted Battlespace Battle Lab.

From Jan. 12 to 31, USAMU shooters SSG Grant L. Singley, SGT Emil Praslick III and SGT Kyle A. Ward joined others in conducting counter-sniper training in Bosnia.

The team provided advanced marksmanship training and sniping and fieldcraft techniques to 30 soldiers from the 1st Cavalry Division and two from the 10th Mountain Division so they could maintain riot control in an urban setting and create a show

On the frozen snow-covered Glamoc Range, the soldiers were given training in engaging stationary targets, sniper employment and marksmanship training on the M-24 sniper system, which was prototyped and tested by the USAMU Custom Firearms Shop. They were also given instruction in ballistics in Tuzla.

Singley, the 1998 National Service Rifle Champion, Praslick, the 1998 Interservice Service Rifle Champion, and Ward, a gold distinguished rifleman, used their expertise to ensure all the sniper students successfully completed the training. They also used the Noptel computer program, which integrates a laser device with a computer program, in enhancing their training.

The service rifle shooters, along with USAMU gunsmith SGT Robert B. DeWitt, also went to Fort Hood Feb. 1 to 12 to train 30 soldiers of the 1st Cavalry Division preparing to deploy to Bosnia.

## Keeping in Touch

Ken Hamill

●Frank T. Lohman retired and living in Maryville, TN. Shot service rifle 1956-59 with Fourth Army, USARPAC and All Army. Assigned to USAMU 1960-63. Member of winning National Trophy Team 1959 & 60 and Interservice Team Champions in 1960. Coached long range team matches. Coached smallbore rifle at lowa State University 1966-68. Director of Civilian Marksmanship and XO National Board for Promotion of Rifle Practice 1969-74. Retired from Army 1974. Director of Transportation for a rural school district for 20 years. Hobbies include Habitat for Humanity, RV travel and family.

● Robert W. Lang retired and living in Fort Worth, TX. Joined the Army following Pearl Harbor. Became a Ranger and was 1SG of E Co. 2nd Ranger Bn during the D-Day landing and scaling the cliffs at Point du Hoc. France. Was one of 16 men from Co. E to walk off the point. Recalled to active duty for Korea as a WO, where he recieved a battlefield commission. Shot service rifle and bolt gun at Fort Riley, Fort Lewis, Alaska, 3rd Army and All Army. Coached the big team to wins at Quantico and Camp Perry in the late 50's, early 60's. Coached the international rifle team through the 1962 World Championships in Cairo, Egypt. Spent final tour at USAMU following Vietnam, retiring from the Army in 1964.

● Paul L. Davis lives in Union, SC. Served as Operations Officer at USAMIU from 1974 until his retirement in 1979. Paul successfully led ellorts to introduce M-16 and M-60 competition at Post. Army Area and All Army Championships. Became and remains SAI of Union HS JROTC program. Paul coordinated efforts to build a ten point, 50 meter & 50 foot baffled range at Union High. He coaches the rifle team and has a very competitive program. He was Director of the Junior Olympic Shooting Camps at the Olympic Training Center, Colorado Springs, CO for several years. He is a member of the NRA National Coach Development Staff and an Assistant U.S. Shooting Team Coach for Junior Development.

©Kenner F. Ravencraft retired and living in Honolulu, HI. Started shooting service rifle in 1957, and won the new shooter individual infantry trophy at All Army that year. Distinguished in 1958. Was the 6th shooter in the Army to fire a 250, and was awarded a 30-06 bull gun. Started coaching in 1961. Coached USARPAC to wins at All Army in 1962 & 1963 and again with the M-14 in 1974. Cracker was an experi

Photos needed: If you have a 8" X 10" shooting photo of yourself or a team, please photo copy it, identify the event, date, people and send it to: AMUA Historian, PO Box 52025, Ft Benning, GA 31995-2025. Photos received will be captioned, placed in document protectors and the appropriate binder and stored in the USAMU Photo Archives.

enced and respected coach for years with All Army, including several summers on TDV status, and while assigned to USAMU. He was also the NCOIC of the international rifle team for a while. He retired from the Army in 1975. He worked for R.J. Reynolds Tobacco in Honolulu for 14 years. He plays golf, visits da kine budd frequently and enjoys his family.

• Rocco DiLorenzo retired and living in Smiths, AL. Shot service pistol 1956-63 at Fort Campbell, 3rd Army, USAREUR and All Army. Assigned to USAMU 1958-61. Was a pistol gunsmith 1963-67 at USAREUR and 3rd Army. Retired from the Army following a Vietnam tour in 1968. Attended Air Conditioning & Refridgeration and windows 95 for his home computer at Columbus Tech. Worked for Columbus Maytag 1971-73. Enjoys photography, attending school and his computer.

• Raymond B. Burton retired and living in Columbus, GA. Assigned to USAMU 1959-66 as enlisted records clerk and personnel sergeant, and to USAREUR AMU as the budget NCO and First Sergeant 1966-69. Retired from Fort Benning and the Army in 1981. Attended Columbus Tech courses in marketing, appliance repair and windows 95 for his home computer. Ray is the newly elected AMUA recording secretary. He is an occasional fisherman and enjoys the outdoors.

©Francis B. Conway joined the Army after Pearl Harbor. Became a Ordnance NCO. Later asssigned to ordnance board at APG and testing guns in cold weather up in Canada. Shot gallery and high power at Aberdeen. While Sands PG, and with Fourth Army in 1952. Assigned to USAMU as a gunsmith in 1954. Won the Wimbledon in 1955 & 56. Received a direct commission to Captain from E-7 in 1957. XO of Eighth Army and USARPAC in 1958. USAREUR Rifle OIC, then XO, then Commander 1961-66. Assigned to USAMU as Ordnance officer 1966 until retiring from the Army in 1970. Commander of USAMU May 1969. Coached the Bolivian Rifle Team in 1977. Had a gunsmithing business for 25 years. Life member of several veterans organizations. Built his own Thompson for the New Mexico machine gun competition. Life member of the Picacho, Las Cruces Gun Club.

◆Ralph O. Thompson and wife Dorothy celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on 5 May 1999 at Braunfels, TX.

Information for the "Keeping in Touch" column needed: If you shot for the Army, your old friends want to hear about you. Send us a description of your experiences, when and where you shot, coached, accurized weapons, or other duties. When did you get out of the Army? What did you do? School? Work? When did you retire? What are your hobbies? Please jot down some information about yourself and send it to: AMUA Times Editor, PO Box 52025, Ft Benning, GA 31995-2025.

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