No man was spared and no woman was safe as scoundrels from the Devils Arm of the Special Pirate Organization (DASPO) stormed ashore at unsuspecting ports around the Caribbean waving their credit cards with deadly abandon.

Lead by that son of Bluebeard, Terrible Ted Acheson, the gray group of gregarious photographers laid waste to everything in sight firing broadsides of images from their digital doohickies until at last Ted fell to the ravages of time.

So the Brethren of the Coast keel-hauled Ted and forced him to walk the plank before electing Murderous McMinn as captain of these scurrilous shellbacks.

Avast Matey more info on page 8
Hey Mom, cross your eyes and you can see Dad in 3D.

‘Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse; when stealthily at last, Chuck Abbott under the tree did plant two rolled canvas memo- ries with full copyright. We believe that all of the work we did in pursuit of our official duties is “work for hire” and just as in civilian life the works of an employee are owned by the employer who commissions the work.

By law, the US Government may not hold or be granted a copyright of its own. It can, however, accept the transfers of copyrights from other parties.

As soon as you create a photo or any other form of original expression you are granted an automatic copyright (you don’t have to file for it although filing does confer some legal advantages).

Scott and Chuck Logan Jr. display canvas prints as Sr. holds grandson Luke

Dick created the original along the lines of, “Oh my God, especially since these prints were in lieu of new BMW convertables. Scott and Chuck were amazed on Christmas morning Chuck’s photos up for grabs. Many stock photo houses will not a creature was stirring, not

Continued on page 12

The good news is that if you make a creative statement, you have created a new derivative work and receive automatic copyright. This is good news and bad news for all of us. The bad news is that once a picture enters the public domain its copyright is gone forever. The good news is that if you have a creative bent, you too can create “derivative works” and receive copyright benefits.

Mail Call

Aloha, DASPO Cruisers

I trust that everyone has regained their sea-legs and readjusted to “normal” life. Up front, I must say that Nancy and I had the most enjoyable time! Memories of this DASPO reunion, which was my first, will stay with me forever. When Ted first mentioned the cruise to me, I was in our sunroom on speaker-phone. When the conversation ended, I thought about how much I would love to participate. It was on my Bucket List of things to do, but I thought perhaps Nancy wouldn’t be interested in cruisin’ with a bunch of war buddies 20 years PN (pre-Nancy). About that time Nancy came in and said, “You should do it!”

And so we did............ Within minutes after everyone had assembled at the hotel, it seemed for me that thirty-nine years had simply vanished. It seemed as though it had been only weeks, or perhaps months, at most, that I had last seen everyone. The feeling of camaraderie and brotherhood was instant. One instance at the pool that was noted not only by me, but others of you, was when the chopper flew overhead. At the first sound of the rotor blades, everyone, in unison, looked and turned an ear to the sky. “Nope, it’s not a Huey!” Thus, our eight day journey together began. Probably one of the more fortunate persons aboard ship that first night was none other than Captain Hook. During our first dinner, Nancy made a hasty retreat from the restaurant, only to be detained by Captain Hook for a “photo-op.”

Little did he know that Nancy had forgotten to put on her seasick patch 24 hours BEFORE she sailed. Luckily for both, she made it to the room in time. By day two, she had gotten her sea-legs a

For me, the trip was not for the excursions per se, but for the group as well as one-on-one interactions with my family of brothers with whom I had lived and shared a life for 2 1/2 years. Early on, Chuck and I discovered the Lido deck. It was open 24 hours and one of the few places Chuck could sit back and enjoy a good cigar. Our first night on the Lido deck began about 10:30 - 11pm. Before we knew it, it was 5:30 am. Subsequent evenings also ran well into the night. Little by little, as we promoted our inner sanctum, others began showing up. It became the unofficial meeting place.

It was good, however, for Nancy and me to stroll throughout the ship at various times of the day or night and run into someone in our group. Never was there ever the exact same group. That’s what made each encounter so special. All of the evening meals were great times of fellowship.

Another moment I’ll remember is our meeting with the other vets at Frankie & Johnnie’s. (Do you reckon they know about DASPO now?)

Eight days is a long time for a cruise. But even with eight days, it seems as though I only got to spend a brief moment with each of you. I
wish time had permitted more quality time with each of you.

One of the treasures of the trip for me was having Nancy getting to know my “other” family.

As I have often told others over the years...every G.I. has a sense of brotherhood with a couple of their comrades. Yet with DASPO, it’s not so much a sense of brotherhood as it is a sense of family. We were unique. We were family. WE ARE family.

As Nancy and I continue our life’s journey, we are hopeful that our paths will once again intersect with each of you. We live just outside Little Rock. Soon to have neighbors (just 60 miles away in Hot Springs), the McQuiston’s.

Should you and your family happen to be in our neck of the woods, we would love to have you visit. Come by and just sit a spell or spend the night. At least give us a call to meet for coffee if you’re just passing through. ’Til next time.

PS...We took hundreds of photos. We’ll sort through and e-mail soon. Also, I would appreciate everyone e-mailing me their (and spouses) birthdates, mm/dd/yy. (Spouses’ birth year not necessary.)

In this first run, white shirts with a black logo and letters are available. If any DASPO folks or friends wish to have a quality tee shirt, a sweat shirt or both with the DASPO logo and “Combat Photographers Association” on the chair’s rear panel. As it turned out, the art work we created for the chair is also perfect for tee shirts and sweat shirts. The silk screen belongs to the Association so we can do this at a good price.

If any DASPO folks or friends wish to purchase to me.

Questions? Call me: (415) 924-5312

Remember! Send the size and number of tee’s or sweat’s you wish to purchase to me. I would end up in Guam the next day.

Don’t sweat it, Stew has us covered. Here he models the latest apres cruise casual wear.

During the DASPO Reunion Cruise, the membership gave Ted Acheson a directors chair with the DASPO logo and “Combat Photographers Association” on the chair’s rear panel. As it turned out, the art work we created for the chair is also perfect for tee shirts and sweat shirts. The silk screen belongs to the Association so we can do this at a good price.

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NEW DASPO PRESIDENT

LOGAN McMinn:

Just when you thought you had retired a new job comes along.

First, the newsletter always needs material. Let me know what’s going on in your lives—good times and bad—and I will make sure it’s shared with all our readers. And send photos. After all, that’s what the Newsletter is for.

Second, there are still a lot of former DASPO members who are missing from our roster. Please take the time to go to http://www.vietnamproject.ttu.edu/daspo/roster.html and go through the list. There are a lot of holes in the information, even some entries with last names only. Even if you can provide only a first name to one of these, they have helped.

Third, it costs a lot more to print and mail paper copies of the newsletter than to send it over the internet, so if you are getting paper newsletters yet have an email address, please send it to me at lilmcminn@comcast.net. We’re running this association on a shoestring budget and every saving counts.

And fourth, don’t forget to pay your dues!

Looking forward to hearing from you soon.

—Logan McMinn
Pacific Detachment 1971-1974

Present Arms!

When Ted Acheson asked me if I would stand for the presidency of the DASPO Combat Photographer’s Association, I accepted at once. Two reasons. First, Ted has worked his tail off during his years as president and now he wanted and deserved a rest, so it was hard to deny him when he asked. Second, I was flattered. (You love me! You really love me!) It wasn’t until much later that I realized Ted never told me how many others turned him down before he got to me.

I’m reminded of an old Robert Redford movie, The Candidate, in which he plays a vacuous character who wins a race for the Senate, and in the final lines of the story, on learning he had won, he asks, “What do we do now?” Well unlike him, I know exactly what to do: beg for help.

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The Caribbean was only a shake down cruise.

We Had So Much Fun In The Caribbean...
Sailing, feasting, shopping, feasting, exploring, feasting, socializing, feasting, live entertainment, feasting, relaxing, feasting, and did I mention, feasting? Forty nine DASPO alumni, their spouses, and their friends boarded the Carnival Miracle for eight days of adventure and pampering at sea. The evening before, most of the group gathered at the Marriott Town Suites Hotel near Fort Everglades and spent the evening on the patio greeting members as they arrived. The next morning, a charter bus was waiting in the parking lot to take everyone to the embarkation pier. Sailing from Fort Lauderdale, Florida around the east end of Cuba, and then on to Panama, Costa Rica, and Belize, the band of adventurers encountered smooth seas, tropical temperatures, and perhaps a bit more liquid sunshine than they would have liked. But the rain came mostly at sea (where there was plenty to do indoors) and held off while the group was on land, so nobody was deterred from taking the shore excursions they wanted. There were plenty of things to do on shore, suiting everyone from the most athletic to the most sedentary. And on board, the service and accommodations were first rate, with a friendly and attentive international staff.

Panama offered shopping and a dozen guided excursions to see the Panama Canal, native Indian cultures, tropical rain forests, historic cities, or to kayak, fish, or play golf. Starting at Limon, Costa Rica, travelers could explore the magnificent rain forests either by bus or by zipping through the canopy on a high-wire. Several of the group came back with stories of their tours of the banana and coffee plantations with a new appreciation of the work and care needed to bring these products to market. Belize was mostly about the Mayans, which drew the largest single group of DASPO travelers of any on the cruise. Unfortunately, heavy rains delayed smooth seas, tropical temperatures, and perhaps a bit more liquid sunshine than they would have liked. Fortunately, the rains at Altun Ha were still incredible enough.

Being aboard ship created one minor problem: we weren’t able to sit as a group at dinner, but Ted Acheson was able to secure a private room where we held our traditional Missing Man Ceremony, commemorating and remembering those who are no longer with us. Immediately thereafter, we held our business meeting. Some highlights: John Gilroy reported that the Association has over $1000.00 in its operating budget (send in your dues now). The Rein-Yoho scholarship fund has reached a milestone; it now exceeds $14,000, and has begun paying out money to students. Ted Acheson donated a vintage Filmo 16mm motion picture camera kit to be auctioned off, with the proceeds going to the fund. It was a nice kit with three lenses, the instruction manual, accessories and the familiar leather case. After a spirited round of bidding, the kit went to Logan McMinn, who laid out $650 for it.

Ted Acheson was surprized with a personalized folding director’s chair in appreciation for his service to the Association, both as president and as organizer of the reunions. It’s reported the idea was John Gilroy’s. Stewart Barbee pronounced the chair and saw to the personalization. The meeting was closed with the traditional group shots, and, of course, the even more traditional photo of John Glunt gettin’ some sugar.

One special event wasn’t on the cruise itinerary. Another passenger arranged for a reception for all the military veterans on board in one of the lounges. Attending were vets from WWII to the current Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts. The DASPO group was the largest of course, but it was a pleasure to hear the stories of those who served on other conflicts, and especially to hear the zeal and dedication of the young men and women who have served so recently. It was reassuring to know that there are people who still value service to their country and who still are willing to put their lives on the line for it.

We’re Going To Try It Again —In The Mediterranean!
Everyone enjoyed the Caribbean cruise so much, Ted was asked to see what he could do in Europe, and here’s what he found:

Costa Magica
9 Night Lisbon/casablanca
(Savona Roundtrip)
Departs Savona, Italy Oct 17, 2009
DAY/PORT ARRIVAL DEPARTURE
Sat, 17 Savona - 5 pm
Sun, 18 At Sea
Mon, 19 Malaga - 12-6 pm
Tue, 20 Casablanca -7:30 am 10:30 am
Wed, Cadiz 8:30 am 6-30 p.m.
Thur, 22 Lisbon, 8 am 6 pm
Fri, Oct 23 Gibraltar, 1 pm 7 pm
Sat, Oct 24 Alicante, 12 pm 7 pm
Sun, Oct 25 Barcelona, 8 am 1 pm
Mon, Oct 26 Savona, 8 am
Arrival and Departure times may slightly vary by sailing date
An inside cabin on this trip is $867.50 per person based on double occupancy plus $100.00 on board spending credits per cabin.
This price includes port charges and fuel supplement charges.
An outside cabin on this trip is $1207.65 per person based on double occupancy plus $100.00 on board spending credits per cabin.
This price includes port charges and fuel supplement charges.
A balcony cabin on this trip is $1511.65 per person based on double occupancy plus $100.00 on board spending credits per cabin.
This price includes port charges and fuel supplement charges. These prices are as close as I can get with our discounts.

We will have a complimentary bottle of Presco in each cabin and also a one hour cocktail party with dry snacks. After we get the shore excursions I will create a list that we will consider traveling as a group.
I am working on the air fares from Alitalia for us and should have a handle on them soon. We will be flying into Genoa, Italy. I would suggest that we fly in a couple of days early to get over jet lag. It also would give us a chance to explore the city. I haven’t pinned down the airfare from the US to Genoa, but it should be around a thousand dollars per person round trip. I’m trying to get a flat rate from each traveler’s home airport.

Jolly Hotel Plaza in Genoa - sites show 4 star: The price is $89.00 per person, per night. Transfers from the airport to the hotel will not be available; however, transportation from the hotel to the ship, and from the ship back to the airport, is $24.50 per person each way. I would recommend reading the traveler reviews on Trip Advisor, just put the name of the hotel into Google and Trip Advisor will come up as one of the first search results.

If you are interested, please let me know by either email: FourVid@aol.com or by regular mail: 
Ted Acheson, 
204 Whispering Springs Lane, 
Georgetown, TX 78633.

I need an initial count by Jan 25th.

—Ted Acheson
history than anybody else, so the chances of you creating a meaningful and commercially valuable new creation are greatly enhanced.

So the Christmas present for all DASPO shooters is that it might be worth going back to the shoe boxes in the garage and even getting online to search the national archives to see if any of your images that are floating around out there can be imbued with new meaning and context and then protected with copyright.

It doesn’t do us any good to bemoan that our work is in the public domain, but we need to remember that we, as part of the public, can have an equal right to use the work as we see fit.

You can sell your images. You can add value by adding historical background and narrative. You can create new “derivative works” which are eligible for copyright. You can set up your own stock image business by ordering prints from the National Archives and then providing a more streamlined delivery process than the government can.

If you want to know more or offer an opinion, you can contact Roger at r.b.hawkins@alumni.cmu.edu or call him at 602.539.0492.

The Abbott Montage
Continued from page 3

things that happened that day.
We celebrated Marilyn’s 60th birthday Saturday. Cheers.

—George

Ted, thanks for the newsletter. The picture of the football team in Hawaii brought back memories. Thanks for a job well done as president.

—Jerry

Ted, just got the latest issue of DASPO magazine, great read. Have attempted to ring Bones about Lisa’s upcoming date in November. She moved home in September to live here (A Thai Citizen). Want to invite Bones on the 27th of Nov. You gonna be in town? Best.

—Tom Mintier

Hi Ted and Cindy, thanks for the e-mail. We certainly had a wonderful time with everyone and are really hoping that we can manage to make the next one to spend some more time with the whole group. Have been intending to send out a message to all but on return we installed a new computer which had been here before we left and managed to corrupt our address book in the process.

Anyway, yes it was great and we believe that we could not have been made to feel more welcome..

Sorry to hear that you are having such a difficult time closing your business. Always seems to be another government form and one more question.

Our address is:
Barb and Stan Pratt
208 Watts Hill Road
Honesdale, PA 18431

2009 Vietnam Center Conference
Laos, Cambodia, and Thailand and the Vietnam War
March 13th-14th, 2009

Mail Call
Continued from page 4

Ted, first, the newsletter was fantastic as usual. That cover shot of Abbott is awesome. Putting it over the map makes a powerful cover.

I wanted to share with anyone that has shot a feature length film; Recently I googled Progress to Peace a film shot by Swain “C.”

I ordered it and it was neat to watch the DVD and remember

Our phone is:
570-253-6327
The kids were glad to see us. For three days it was difficult to pry them away, but we enjoyed every minute. Will send more later,

—Barb and Stan

2009 Vietnam Center Conference
Laos, Cambodia, and Thailand and the Vietnam War
March 13th-14th, 2009

This event will take place at the Holiday Inn Park Plaza in Lubbock, Texas. Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you!

Conference Hotel Information
Holiday Inn Park Plaza
3201 South Loop 289
Lubbock, Texas 79401

Phone: 806-797-3241
Fax: 806-791-3781
Reservation Information
The Vietnam Center Conference
Group Rate for reservations will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.