## THE

## SHARPSHOOTER



#### ROBERT FINCH CAMP No. 14 - TRAVERSE CITY

DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN - SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

2015 & 2017 Marshall Hope Award - Most Outstanding Camp Newsletter of the Order

2018 Abraham Lincoln Commander-in-Chief Award — Alost Outstanding Camp of the Order



#### Spring 2019 Vol. 6 Issue 2

Camp Officers 2018-19

Commander: Jno. Lantzer ajlantzer@yahoo.com

Sr. Vice Commander: Dav. Ramsey daveramsey77@gmail.com

Jr. Vice Commander: Jas. Ribby jimribbyrc@gmail.com

Secretary:

Dav. Smith, LM, PDC wyattusmagnus@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Dale Aurand, LM, PDC daurand321@yahoo.com

Patriotic Instructor: H.G. Smith docsmith99@yahoo.com

Chaplain:
Theo. Mattis
tedmattis@charter.net

Camp Council: Geo. Goodrich, PCC Gc\_Goodrich@yahoo.com

Wm. Skillman, PCC skillmans@aol.com

Jan White, PCC stocktrac@charter.net

Color Bearer: Jan White, PCC stocktrac@charter.net

Guide: Robt. O'Hara bobrenoh@aol.com

Guard: John Milks no e-mail

## Camp No. 14 Initiates Member in March



At the 09 March 2019 Camp meeting, Camp 14 initiated Brother Robert Kennedy. The initiation was conducted per SUVCW rituals by Commander Lantzer, Chaplain Mattis, and Guide O'Hara. Brother Kennedy has been a member of the Camp since 2017.

#### Marshall Swenor Grave Dedication Date Set

The Brothers of Robert Finch Camp No. 14 will be dedicating the newly placed headstone of Marshall Swenor on Saturday, 13 July 2019. The planned time for the ceremony's start is 10AM (1000). Mr. Swenor is buried in St. Francis Cemetery in Petoskey.

A short business meeting will be held following the ceremony, with a location to be announced shortly.

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend this event to honor one of our Noble Dead.



Camp Officers 2018-19 continued

Military & Veteran Affairs

Officer:

Calvin Murphy calvinm@kaltelnet.net

Signals Officer/Webmaster:

Jan White, PCC stocktrac@charter.net

Boy Scout Coordinator:

Jos. Conger K2rider@chartermi.net

Historian:

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Graves Registration Officer:

Jno. Sawyer sawyertc@gmail.com

War Memorials Officer:

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kokopellischwander@yahoo.com

Quartermaster:

Dale Aurand, LM, PDC daurand321@yahoo.com

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Recruiting Officer: Jos. Conger

Jos. Conger K2rider@chartermi.net

THE SHARPSHOOTER Editor David Smith, LM, PDC wyattusmagnus@gmail.com

## 2019 Camp 14 Meeting and Event Schedule

April 27 Department of Michigan Encampment

Okemos Conference Center, Okemos, MI

8:00AM (800)

May 18 Camp Meeting

Elks Lodge #323, Traverse City, MI

11:30AM (1130)

May 27 Memorial Day Observed

Various Areas within Camp Region

May 30 Memorial Day

July 13 Marshall Swenor Grave Dedication

Petoskey, MI 10AM (1000)

July 13 Camp Meeting

TBA - Petoskey, MI

Immediately following Grave Dedication

More dates to be released.

### USAF Thunderbirds to Highlight 2019 National Cherry Festival in Traverse City

The opening weekend of the National Cherry Festival will see the United States Air Force Thunderbirds fly around West Grand Traverse Bay. The dates will be 29 and 30 June 2019 from 1-4PM (1300-1600). A full practice show will be held on Friday, 28 June 2019. USCG Air Station Traverse City will host an open ramp to the public for all of the NCF Airshow demonstration teams and aircraft from 5:30-8:00PM (1730-2000) on Friday 28 June 2019 as well.





## Ellsworth, Michigan - What's in a Name?

Many Michiganders are familiar with the village of Ellsworth, Michigan located in Banks Township of Antrim County. Did you know that the small village was once known as Ox Bow, and also Needmore. Actually, Ellsworth included both the settlements of Ox Bow and Needmore. However, the name changed to what we know it today as Ellsworth by Louis DeLine, the first Postmaster of the village. Mr. DeLine was a Civil War Veteran, and his commanding officer was Colonel Elmer Ephraim Ellsworth, commander of the 11th New York Volunteer Infantry, the "Fire Zouaves". In honor of his commanding officer, Mr. DeLine named the town for Colonel Ellsworth.

As many of you know Colonel Ellsworth was the first Union Officer killed in the Civil War. Colonel Ellsworth was killed in the Marshall House in Alexandria, VA. Also, he was the friend of President Abraham Lincoln. As there are many great writings on this important event in Civil War history, several links are provided for your review of Colonel Ellsworth's biography and the story of his demise:

https://armyhistory.org/elmer-e-ellsworth/ https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/the-death-of-colonel-ellsworth-878695/ http://www.mrlincolnandfriends.org/the-sons/elmer-ellsworth/



Col. Elmer E. Ellsworth

Portrait of Col. Ellsworth in the

National Portrait Gallery, Washington D.C.

## McPherson GAR Post 18's Last Big Encampment



The above picture is of the McPherson GAR Post 18 on 10<sup>th</sup> Street in Traverse City taken during August 1899. This was of the last major Encampment held in Traverse City. In the foreground is H. Monroe Morse, the drummer boy is Harry L. Morse, and at front left is W.W. Smith. These men are the ancestors of Camp 14 Brothers Jim Morse, Jr. and Jim Morse Sr.

The picture is courtesy of Jeff Morse.

## GAR Annual Memorial Service

#### THE MEMORIAL SERVICE.

Note.—This beautiful Memorial Service, which should be held once a year, may be by a single Post, or by several Posts combined. The immediate friends and relatives of all soldiers who have died since the last similar service, should be invited to attend.

"He that loseth his life for Ny sake shall find it."

#### A MEMORIAL SERVICE

TO BE USED IN THE

#### POSTS OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

IN

#### Grateful and Devout Commemoration of Deceased Comrades.

#### MEMORIAL SERVICE.

[ The Post will open without ceremony, the officers in uniform, and sentinels properly stationed; the friends and relatives of the decased, present by invitation, seated in the body of the hall. The altar will be covered with the national flag, draped black and white, and ornamented with flowers. A chair (or chairs, according to the number of deceased comrades), suitably draped, will be placed between the Post Commander's chair and the altar. The person appointed to deliver the address will be seated on the right of the Commander. A comrade will detailed as drummer.

The exercises will begin with a voluntary or chant, and proceed as follows ]:

Post Commander. - Adjutant, for what purpose is this meeting called?

Adjutant.—To pay our tribute of respect to the memory of our late comrade [or comrades]—.

Post Commander.—Have you a record of his [their] service in the cause of our country, and in the Grand Army of the Republic?

Adjutant.—Commander, I have.

Post Commander.-You will read it.

The drummer will beat three rolls upon a muffled drum immediately after the reading of each record.]

Post Commander.—The record is an honorable one, and, as the memory of all faithful soldiers of the Republic should be cherished and their record preserved, I direct that it be placed in the archives of the Post for future reference.

[The exercises will continue with a responsive service by the Chaplain of the Post and the Comrades and friends present, or the choir, as may be thought best.] Chaplain.—"What man is that liveth and shall not see death? Shall be deliver

his soul from the hand of the grave? If a man die, shall he live again?"

Comrades [or choir].—"Jesus Christ said, 'I am the Resurrection and the Life. He that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. And he that liveth and believeth in Me shall never die."

Chaplain—"Let not your heart be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions. I go to prepare a place for you."

Comrades.—"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors."

Chaplain.-"They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more."

(145)

## **Ancestor Spotlight**

Submitted by John Lantzer, CC

#### Nehemiah Hurlbutt

27<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry, 1<sup>st</sup> Co. SS G-Grandfather of John Lanzter, CC & Brother Doug Hulbert

Nehemiah L. Hurlbutt was a 43 year old man when he enlisted at Ovid, in Clinton County Mich. Feb. 1864. He enrolled for three years and was assigned to the 1st Company of Sharpshooters of the 27th Michigan Infantry. These 125 men of the 1st Company were designated "Sharpshooters" not for their excellent marksmanship but because all of the 1st Company men carried the latest and most destructive firearm of the war, the "Spencer repeating rifle". After a very brief training time, Nehemiah and the 1st Company were attached to the 27th Michigan Infantry and were on the field of battle at the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor and small skirmishes in between. On July 30th 1864 Nehemiah Hurlbutt and the men of the 27th found themselves leading their Brigade as the Mine south of Petersburg was sprung and were among the first to reach the "Crater" under murderous fire. Upon reaching the North rim of the Crater, Nehemiah was driven back by the Confederate reinforcements pouring in to secure the breach in the lines created by the explosion. Seeking shelter from the on slot of bullets, Nehemiah sought refuge behind the rim of the Crater, but soon found himself being drawn down its slope by the press of bodies of men seeking the same until he lodged at the bottom of the hole. Shot thru both calves by a mini ball Nehemiah found no escape from the peril of the Crater until the battles end and those attempting to provide aid were allowed to enter the grounds and try to assist the wounded. Nehemiah was placed on a litter and transported to the nearest rail line heading to a Hospital in Washington D.C.

Although Nehemiah was found and transported to a hospital the roster for the 1st Company Sharpshooters August 1st list him as dead and his official records list him killed on July 30, 1864 at the Battle of the Crater. Nehemiah Hurlbutt continued to recover in Washington D.C. and on June 8th 1865 he was deemed to be fit enough to return home but there was a problem, Nehemiah Hurlbutt was dead and the war was over. Nehemiah was brought back to life, reinstated, and discharged from the military and lived twenty-one more years on a small farm outside of St. Louis, Michigan. On April 12th, 1887 at the age of 68, Nehemiah L. Hurlbutt passed from this Earth. Upon his death Nehemiah's Widow petitioned the Government and received a pension of 12 dollars a month. The pension paperwork states that Nehemiah's death was caused by wounds suffered in the war. Nehemiah L. Hurlbutt was laid to rest in the Oak Grove Cemetery in St. Louis, Michigan.

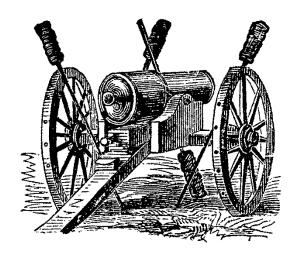
Just recently our friend Chris Czopek was able to have the Brown Book listing for Nehemiah Hurlbutt changed to reflect an accurate date of Death and tells of Nehemiah's Civil War story in his account of "the Man who died and lived to tell about it".



Nehemiah Hurlbutt

### Camp 14 Memorial Service Set for May Meeting

At the 18 May 2019 Camp 14 Meeting, the annual Memorial Service will be conducted per the ritual for those Brothers that have left us during the past year. For Brothers in attendance, please drape your membership badges accordingly in preparation for the ceremony.



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## Northern Michigan Military Installations - Past & Present

Starting with this issue of The Sharpshooter, a new feature will include a different Northern Michigan Military Installation to be highlighted. This includes presently active installations all the way back to those of Colonial America.

#### **Empire Air Force Station**

Empire, Leelanau County, Michigan

752<sup>nd</sup> Radar Squadron (formerly 752<sup>nd</sup> Aircraft Control & Warning Squadron) United States Air Force

CALLSIGNS: Redman; Falcon; Freak Show

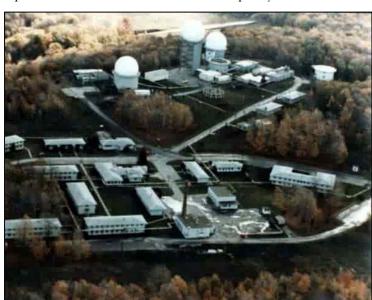
Many folks travelling north on M-22, or from various scenic viewing points along Sleeping Bear Sand Dunes notice a large "snowball" structure towering from the hills above the village of Empire on Lake Michigan. That snowball is the radome of an ARSR-4 radar operated and maintained by the Federal Aviation Administration as part of the Joint Surveillance System (communication and data to both the FAA and USAF control centers).



Before the FAA controlled the Empire radar site, it was known as the Empire Air Force Station (AFS), manned by the 752<sup>nd</sup> Aircraft Control & Warning Squadron (AC&W) later redesignated the 752<sup>nd</sup> Radar Squadron (RADRON). The Empire AFS began operation in 1951. The Air Force radar site was a small community within itself having the operational buildings and equipment to operate the various the site with various radars and communications equipment for the respective time period (e.g. height finder radars, search radars, ground-to-air transmitters, etc.) for the required air defense mission of early warning and ground-control intercept (vectoring fighter interceptor aircraft from such Air Force Bases as K.I. Sawyer, Wurtsmith, Kincheloe, and Selfridge, etc. as required). Additionally, in support of operations, Empire AFS had a dining hall, various housing units, motor pool, commissary, exchange, supply, heating plant, recreation, etc. It is estimated that total peak personnel stationed at Empire AFS topped about 300 in the 1950s.

Empire AFS personnel were also responsible for the maintenance of four remote unmanned gap-filler sites that were located in places where the main search radar lacked coverage. The remote gap-filler radar sites were located at: Petoskey, Shelby, Alpena, and Saugatuck (all Michigan).

Empire AFS was drawn down over a period from 1978 to 1983. The 752<sup>nd</sup> Radar Squadron was inactivated in 1978, resulting in effect the station being closed. A small contingent of Air Force personnel remained until 1983 as equipment was phased out and the Air Force site was completely closed.



Left: A past aerial view of a large portion of the cantonment area of Empire Air Force Station. Picture from radomes.org

Right: The current ARSR-4 radar site at Empire maintained by the FAA. Picture from radomes.org



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#### Commander's Corner

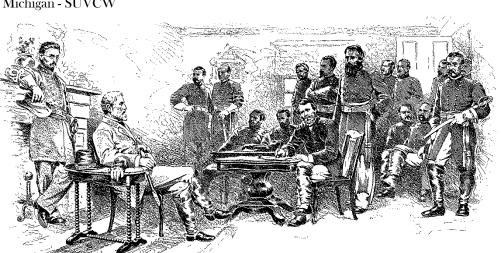
John Lantzer, CC

Spring is fast approaching Northern Michigan and I find myself out of doors more and more. On the south side of the house there are hints of early flowers starting to push themselves up thru the warming ground. Daffodils and crocuses that will brighten the space as well as bring a smile to my face are always the first. Seeing these first splashes of color always causes me eye to look over to the fence row that contains a dense wall of dense, gnarly, twisted shrubs. It looks like just a wall of ugly, dead sticks protruding from the snow now but I know that in a few week those sticks will start to leaf out and a beautiful violet and white bloom will take place and the scent from those lilac bushes, carried by a southwest breeze will fill the house with spring.

The coming of spring always brings with it the evidence of rebirth and helps me to remember the new start that was experienced with the coming of a New Year and although we have celebrated a few early holidays, spring and the lilacs signal the first major holiday of the New Year. Monday, May 27th will be the day the nation has set aside to celebrate Memorial Day this year. In preparing for that celebration this year I have been looking back at some history and reviewing thoughts of others for some perspective. David W. Blight, a Civil War historian at Yale University, has written about what he regards as the first Memorial Day. It came on May 1, 1865, less than a month after the surrender at Appomattox, when thousands of former slaves and other African-Americans in Charleston, S.C., pooled their efforts to give proper burial to several hundred Union soldiers who had been held as prisoners of war at a racetrack and had died there under atrocious conditions. The field was covered with flowers for the occasion, and schoolchildren and women's groups marched and sang patriotic songs, including "Rally Around the Flag" and, of course, the National Anthem. It was a spectacular display of love of country, and of hope for the future.

There will be many different public and private opportunities for the members of Camp #14 to participate in "a spectacular display of love of country, and of hope for the future" in the upcoming months, so start today to make your plans.

John Lantzer Commander – Robert Finch Camp No. 14 Department of Michigan - SUVCW







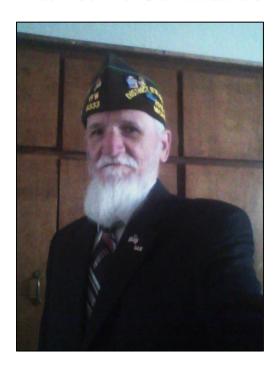
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#### Brother Rick Schafer Elected to VFW District 12 Commander

Brother Richard Schafer of Kaleva has been elected to serve as VFW Department of Michigan's District 12 Commander for the 2019-2020 term. This is his second stint as District 12 Commander, with the first during the 2007-2008 term. Brother Rick has served in many offices within the VFW on the Post, District, and National levels including: National Aide-de-Camp (2008-2009 & 2012-2013), District 12 Quartermaster (2009-2017), District 12 Junior Vice Commander, District 12 Senior Vice Commander, Post Quartermaster (since 2010), Post JVC, Post SVC, and Post Commander (1984-1985 & 1994-1996).

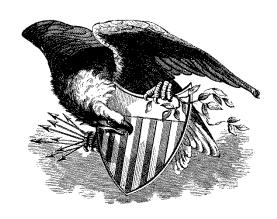
In addition to this, Brother Schafer was a Volunteer Firefighter & Medical First Responder for 30 years (1984-2014), and is a Village Council Trustee (since 1995). Brother Rick and his wife Judy have lived in Kaleva since 1978. Judy has served as Kaleva's Treasurer for 40 consecutive years starting in 1979. The couple is the epitome of giving their all to their local community.

Brother Schafer is a member of the Bear Creek VFW Post 6333 in Kaleva, Michigan.









## NMC Flag Holder Project/Partnership Update

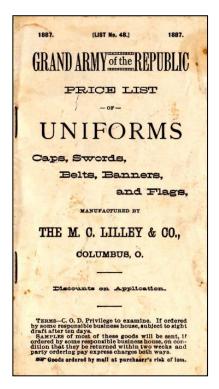


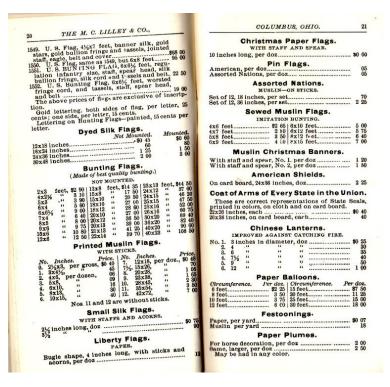
Submitted by: CWMO Schwander

Comrade Abijah Warner's flag holder was returned to his gravesite repaired and reconditioned on 07 April 2019. The GAR flag holder received weld repairs by the Northwestern Michigan College welding technologies program, with final repaint and recondition by Robert Finch Camp No. 14. As of this date, NMC has repaired 56 GAR flag holders. This has been a great partnership that will hopefully continue for many years to come.

#### GAR Merchandise from 1887

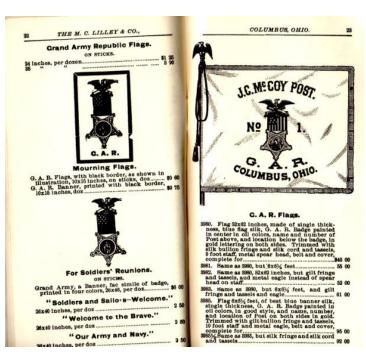
From time to time, The Sharpshooter will include pages from the 1887 catalog from The M. C. Lilley & Co., of Columbus, Ohio. This catalog was provided by Camp No. 14 Brother George Scheck. This is the fourth installment. Enjoy.





## THE SHARPSHOOTER

#### Official Newsletter of the Oldest Camp in the Department of Michigan







#### GAR Annual Memorial Service *cont'd*

#### 146 THE GRAND ARMY SONGSTER AND SERVICE BOOK.

Comrades.—" Neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat."

Chaplain .- "For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them and lead them unto living fountains of water."

Comrades.—"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

Chaplain .- "Their shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying; neither shall there be any more pain."

Comrades. -- "For the former things have passed away."

Then shall follow a hymn or chant by the choir. The comrades shall then form a square, enclosing the altar, the officers in front, the Chaplain at the altar. ] Prayer.—By the Chaplain, closing with the Lord's prayer in concert.

Chant. -By the choir.

[The comrades will return to their places.]

Reading of a brief selection of Scripture from the Ninetieth Psalm or the fifteenth chapter of the First Epistle to the Corinthians.

Hymn.

Address. Doxology.

[ After which the Post shall be closed as follows ]:

Post Commander.—Senior Vice-Commander, how should all men live?

Senior Vice Commander. - With trust in God, and in love for one another.

Post Commander. - Junior Vice-Commander, how should comrades of the Grand Army live?

Junior Vice Commander.-Having on the whole armor of God, that they may be able to withstand in the evil day.

Post Commander.—The last enemy that shall be destroyed is Jeath.

Comrades.-We thank God, who gave us the victory through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Commander.—May the Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, keep us by His gracious presence amid the conflicts of our mortal life, and at last receive us into everlasting peace.

Comrades. - Amen!

Post Commander. - I now declare this Post closed.

Norg.-The foregoing service was prepared by the committee appointed by Par. 4, G. O. No. 4. Series of 1874, and approved by Par. 1, G. O. No. 7, Series of 1874.

The End of the Soldier; the End of this Book.

#### THE BIVOUAC OF THE DEAD.

The muffled drum's sad roll has beat The soldier's last tattoo; No more on life's parade they'll meet, Or their brave deeds renew. On fame's eternal camping ground -Their silent tents are spread, And Glory guards with solemn round The bivouac of the dead.

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## Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9

#### Frances Finch Auxiliary News

The annual yearbook/scrapbook party is to be rescheduled to after the March meeting as weather forced the cancellation of the previous date. No further news to report at the time of this issue.

## President: Dorothy Rongey, PAP Vice President: Mary Rose, PAP

2018-19 Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9 Officers

Secretary: Lisa Smith, PAP Lisa Smith, PAP Treasurer: Pat. Instructor: Debra Downey Council #1: Darlene Hinkley Council #2: Karen Goodrich, PAP Council #3: Lorraine Jones Chaplain: Mary Rose, PAP Historian: All Sisters of Aux. No. 9 Press Corrs.: Mary Rose, Lisa Smith Girl Scout Comm. Lorraine Jones, Chair Girl Scout Comm. Emily Breaugh, PAP

Mary Rose, PAP

Counselor:



**Above Right (L-R):** PAP Lisa Smith, PAP Emily Breaugh, PAP Dorothy Rongey, PAP Mary Rose, Council Lorraine Jones, Pat. Instructor Debra Downey, and PAP Karen Goodrich at the November 2018 meeting.

## Meeting Location? Israel B. Richardson GAR Post 13, Harbor Springs

Submitted by CWMO Schwander



Above: Main and Gardner Streets in Harbor Springs



**Above:** G.A.R. letters prominently displayed on building.

At the corner of Main and Gardner Streets in Harbor Springs is a building with the letters G.A.R. located at the top front center. Brother Scott Schwander was tipped off to the building and its prominent letters, and he arrived on scene to survey the building.

The question beckons, is this the meeting location and headquarters of the I.B. Richardson GAR Post 13 of Harbor Springs?



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Robert Finch Camp No. 14 – Traverse City Department of Michigan www.robertfinch14.org John Lantzer, Commander



# THE SHARPSHOOTER can be found online at: www.robertfinch14.org

Find us on Facebook: Contact CWMO Schwander regarding the Camp's new Facebook page as it is a closed group (kokopellischwander@yahoo.com)



SGT. ROBERT FINCH, 1st MI SS, CO. B