DESERT SHIELD FORCES REMEMBERED

by QM2 John H. Gamez USN

The August 2nd Iraqi invasion of Kuwait not only shocked the world but also had a profound effect on service members and their families stationed in and around Norfolk, Virginia. Within hours Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine and Coast Guard units were put on alert. As in other wars and crises, families from what is known collectively as Hampton Roads said goodbye to loved ones in uniform.

Although gone, they are not forgotten. Soon yellow ribbons appeared on cars, trees, buildings, and clothing. Since the majority of area forces are stationed in Norfolk, the City Council felt the need to show support for area families and forces. They felt a flag would be most appropriate.

Designed by Francis McDonald, Communications Administrator for the City of Norfolk, the multi-colored flag serves to represent each armed force. Green is for Army, Navy Blue for Navy, Red for Marines, Blue for Air Force, and Red for the racing stripe on Coast Guard vessels.

Called "Norfolk's Salute to Families and Freedom", the 3x5 foot flag was raised at ceremonies at City Hall Plaza on August 29th. It was replaced permanently by a 8x12 foot flag on September 5th. The flag will be flown for the duration of the Gulf Crisis.

Ombudsman Lisa Veasley and Rear Adm. Kenneth L. Carlsen, commanding officer of Norfolk Naval Base, display a flag specially designed as a salute to Hampton Roads military deployed to the Middle East. The flag was raised with the American flag at an August 29 ceremony in City Hall Plaza in Norfolk. (Photo by Ashlyn Barnard. Navy News, Sept. 5, 1990)
FROM THE PRESIDENT . . .

DON HEALY

As this new decade begins, let me take this opportunity to wish all of NAVA’s members a happy new year and hope that it will bring us all many new and exciting things.

You will continue to note changes in NAVA as 1991 begins, the most immediate is the increase in dues. They are explained more fully in Nick Artimovich’s article this issue on “Budget and Dues” (page 6) but let me apologize to those who will be hurt financially by this increase. We try to maintain quality for the least possible cost, after all, NAVA is not here to make a profit, it is your organization.

One immediate benefit to our stateside members will be evident. The conversion to second class postage should put your issue of NAVA News in your mailbox weeks earlier than you’ve been used to receiving it. This season you will also be seeing special publications over and above the six issue of NAVA News. Hopefully, these will ease the pain of the increase.

On happier thoughts, this may be a very exciting decade for “flag nuts.” The painful dissolution of the Soviet Union may provide international flag watchers with many new flags from places they never imagined as possibly adopting flags. As a Risk (the board game from Milton Bradley) player, I know I leapt for joy when Irkutsk declared itself “sovereign and independent” of Russia. Now if only I knew what their flag is! This is just one small example.

Within the United States, Minnesota is debating a new state flag — the inspiration for our next NAVA meeting.

Speaking of NAVA meetings, I would like to publicly thank Kevin Harrington and Sandra Armstrong for all their hard work putting together a very successful NAVA 24. Those that didn’t make it, missed a memorable weekend.

Now it’s time to prepare for NAVA 25 — in Minneapolis!

CONTRIBUTORS

Nick Artimovich
John H. Gamez
John Lindert
Lee Herold
Don Healy
Patrick Kamański
Michel R. Lupant
Earl Williams, Jr.

I am making another minor change in my abbreviations to conform more closely to international use: green will be indicated by “V”. As before, the sizes in parentheses indicate which size flags I have in my personal collection. I welcome correspondence from fellow collectors, and anyone else who shares an interest in the changes in national flags over time.

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COLLECTOR’S CORNER

L is for Lebanon

by Nicholas Artimovich

Because of the momentous changes in Eastern Europe this list includes two countries which are not members of the United Nations, but which may be in the foreseeable future. In addition, Liechtenstein, I am told, is now a U.N. member as well. It seems that membership in that world body is “treading water” with the new members (Liechtenstein, Namibia) being offset by East Germany and South Yemen merging with their neighbors. It remains to be seen if “Kuwait” indeed becomes “Province 19” and ceases to exist as an independent nation.

1918-1940
R+R field with narrow horizontal W stripe. [30”x48”]
1940-1989+
R field with Y hammer, sickle, star. W/B/W wavy stripes across bottom of field. (Flag used during 1918-1940 is now flown by Latvia but not yet recognized by USSR.)
1947-1974
R with W tricophalic elephant under parasol. [4”x6”, 4’x6’]
1974-date
B with W disc in center. R stripes at top and bottom of field.

LEBANON

1920-1943
Vert R-W-B stripes with green and brown “Cedar of Lebanon” [2”x3”]
1943-date
Horiz R-W-B with “Cedar of Lebanon” in center of double width W stripe.

LIBERIA

1847-date
B canton with one W star. 11 stripes alternating R and W.
1951-1955
N field with W crescent and star.
1951-1969
R and V stripes added to top and bottom, respectively, of earlier flag [4”x6”, 4’x6’]
1969-1971
Horiz tricolor of R-W-N.
1972-1977
Arms (Y) added to 1969-71 flag consisting of Eagle of Saladin holding shield. Name of country is enclosed within a small frame at the bottom of the arms. Above the name of the country is a ribbon with “Federation of Arab Republics” that was common to the 1972-1980 flag of Syria and the 1972-1984 flag of Egypt. [4”x6”, 4’x6’]
1977-date
V (The world’s only monochromatic flag since Oman’s plain Red.)

LIECHTENSTEIN

pre-1937
B/R
1937-1957
Y crown added to upper hoist corner (to distinguish from Haiti)
1957-1982
Artistic revisions made to crown.
1982-date
Artistic revisions again made to crown.

LITHUANIA

1918-1940
Horiz Y/V/R [4”x6”]
1940-1989+
R with horiz V stripe at bottom, W fimbriation separates G from R.
1989+
(Flag used during independence is now flown by Latvia but not yet recognized by USSR.)

LUXEMBOURG

1845-1972
Horiz R-W-B
1972-date
Color shades and proportions defined.
NAVA SHOPPER,
A New Flag Book, Special Offer
by Don Healy

NAVA member Sue Leland is the co-author of the new flag book "FLAGS OF THE UNITED NATIONS STICKER BOOK" published by Scholastic Inc. This book, which will be released to the public in August 1991, is a "sticker" book that is aimed at teaching students both geography and flags. The list price for this book will be $4.95 (US) when released.

Sue has arranged with Scholastic Inc. to allow NAVA members to purchase this book at a discount that may be as high as 40% off. Retail members of NAVA will receive a separate mailing from Scholastic should they wish to stock this item.

At this time, any individual in NAVA wishing to obtain a copy, in advance of publication and at the discounted price, should drop a postcard to Don Healy (523 Centre St., Trenton, NJ 08611-3017 USA) giving your name and address and the number of copies you would like to receive. SEND NO MONEY AT THIS TIME!

When we receive the books from Scholastic Inc., we will notify you, of the exact cost. We will include $1.00 (US) for postage and packaging for North American members, $2.00 for European, Asian, African and Australian members.

Because of the nature of this offer, no orders received after April 15th, 1991 will be able to be filled, so don't delay.

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4" x 6" CORNER
by Don Healy

This installment is sort of "reader's mailbag" of bits and pieces which should cover a lot of areas.

The first two items are from Whitney Smith and Sue Leland respectively. Whitney reports that the former Moldavian SSR has changed its name to the Moldovan Rep. (yes, they dropped the 'i') and adopted a flag of blue, yellow and red vertical stripes, just like Romania. You can really load up on Chadian flags, it seems the whole world is converting to that one design.

Sue Leland reports that Los Angeles has joined the rush backwards in flag design. The southeast Asian nation re-adopted its old red flag with the tricolor elephant.

Glenn Nolan sends word that 4x6 inch flags exist for Racine, WI; Hagerstown, MD; and Colorado Springs, CO. He also sends along a couple of addresses to write to for some other city flags:

For the City of Waterloo, IA send $5.00 (US) to:
Lydia Clements, Waterloo Sister City Assc., Inc., 277 North Hackett Road, Waterloo, IA 50701.

For Stratford, CT's city flag, as well as their anniversary flag, send $5.00 (US) each to:
Community Development Dept., Town of Stratford, 2725 Main Street, Stratford, CT 06497.

Jon Radel reports that the new City of Phoenix, AZ flag shown in NAVA News (July/Aug 1990) is available in 4x6 inches for $3.00 (US) from:
Mr. Brian Suggs, Public Information Office, City of Phoenix, 251 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003.

Ernest Howard let me know that the Salvation Army offers a set of 4x6 inch flags (1 US, 1 Salvation Army) as item #4010-0401-001. This set costs $3.65 plus $2.75 postage. Write to:

Don Klett sent me information about several flags. The City of Bellvue, WA and the American President Shipping Lines flags are available for $2.50 each from:
Cutty Sark, 10235 Main Street, Bellvue, WA 98004.

While the Choctaw Indians and the first state flag of Oklahoma (red with the big star and "46") are available for $2.00 each from:
Elmer's Flag & Banner, 1332 NE Broadway, Portland, OR 97232.

Lastly, the flag of the Yakima Indian Nation/Treaty of 1855 can be obtained for $3.00 plus .25 postage from:
The Federated Tribes of the Yakima Reservation, P.O. Box 151, Toppenish, WA 98948.

Well, thanks to everybody who sent in news and addresses. That's what keeps this column going. I think this should keep you busy till next issue.

Book Review:
"FLAGS OF THE UNITED NATIONS STICKER BOOK"
by Nick Arimovich

A favorite "ice breaker" at NAVA meetings used to be reminiscing on how each member became interested in flags. In many cases, we became mini-vexillogists at very early ages. NAVA member Sue Leland, with co-authors Jan and Frank Asch, has produced a book which should stimulate a whole new generation of young recruits. Anyone who knows a youngster is probably familiar with today's kid's passion for stickers. To combine the varied and colorful array of the flags of the United Nations and accurately detailed maps of the world into a re-usable sticker book format was an inspiration that will surely please parents, teachers, and children.

Flags of the United Nations Sticker Book, published by Scholastic, Inc., is one of the most up-to-date compilations of flags of the world available at this time (publication date is November 1990.) While the reversion of Benin to the flag it used from 1960 to 1975 and the reunification of Germany, both of which occurred while the book was in print, are not included, the flag of the former countries and the new republics of Yemen (former Democratic Yemen and Arab Republic of Yemen) and Namibia (former South West Africa) are included. The 1947-1975 flag of Cambodia is correctly illustrated as the one now used by the regime recognized by the U.N., but the recent admission of Liechtenstein as a member is not recognized (its flag, however, is shown in the section on non-member countries.) Through no fault of the author, the publisher failed to make the minor modifications of the flags of Afghanistan, Dominica, and Romania as requested.

Flags of the United Nations Sticker Book includes "re-stickable" illustrations of 159 member states, the U.N. flag, the "Global Flag" and a set of colored stars, stripes, and multi-colored stars, stripes, and multi-colored stars, stripes, and multi-colored stars, stripes, and multi-colored stars, stripes,

Through my working with co-author Leland, I gained an appreciation there is so little accurate information on flags for children. When she asked the publisher for page proofs to review, the response was "... for a sticker book? You must be kidding!" I also now see how nearly impossible it is to keep up with the changes while publishing an up-to-date reference on flags of the world. To Scholastic's credit, they have produced a very attractive and colorful item which should find its way into the hands of every grade-school aged relative of every NAVA member. This book will initially only be available through Scholastic's schoolroom promotions, the United Nations, and possibly directly through NAVA. Please check elsewhere in this issue of NAVA News for more information. The book's entry into the general bookstore market will be delayed until August, 1991, at which time it will probably be so outdated as to warrant a second edition.
FOR THOSE WHO WANT ... 'authentic' museum replicas ...", the Gallery of the Republic, helped by the National Archives, is offering a set of nine replicas of early American historical flags. Each replica in the set has been hand-made from silks and cottons that match fabrics used centuries ago. All of the historical details have been carefully recreated: ... the burns, tears, stains, and frayed edges ... The set includes the Goddess Flag of 1776, the Grand Union Flag of 1776, the flag used by John Paul Jones of 1779, the Great Seal of 1792, the Banner of the 13 Colonies of 1783, the Constitution Flag of 1787, the First Regimental Colors of 1791, the Whiskey Rebellion Flag of 1794, and the Star Spangled Banner of 1814. All of these may be had as a framed set for the small sum of $7,800. Should this be a bit steep, or you only want one flag, individual framed flags are available for only $875. Rush your order to the Bicentennial Commemoratives, 808 Seventeenth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006, or call (202) USA-1787. Keep this in mind for next Christmas for that friend, or organization, who has everything.

(From WE THE PEOPLE [Newsletter of the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution.] July/August 1990 Vol. 6, No. 4, page 10)

ED. NOTE: How "authentic" can these be when the original Star Spangled Banner is 30' x 40' I can't wait to see that individually framed!

FOR THOSE WHO DON'T LIKE THOSE ... 'burns, tears, stains, and frayed edges ...', Steve Coffey, '... ordinarily a mild-mannered, patriotic portrait photographer ...' of Huber Heights, Ohio is offering a $4.6 inch desk flag sprayed with a special fire-retardant chemical. He developed this version of the American Flag in response to Islamic radicals burning the flag and the publicity about surrounding the flag burning issue in the U.S. Unfortunately, Coffey's flag isn't 100% fire-proof, since a blowtorch will melt the flag, but an ordinary match will not affect it. Rush your order along with $6 to Steve Coffey, P.O. Box 624, Vandaliou, Ohio, 45377. Steve also sells '... his Grandfather Charlie Blosser's button hook for cleanly extracting hooks for a fish's mouth ...' for $7.95. Other goodies are available.

Contributed by Glenn Compton. From the DAYTON DAILY NEWS, Tuesday, September 4, 1990, p.1C.

NOW THIS SOUNDS INTERESTING ... 'Laguna Museum Shows 20 Flags but Waives 21st.' Political artist Mark Heresy is represented by an exhibition of 20 American Flags made of such materials as bullets and buckshot shells, cut currency, and human hair at the Laguna Museum of Orange County, California. A 21st flag, 'The Freedom of the Press' was not exhibited. Could the following factors have contributed to the decision not to display this particular work? First, the flag is constructed from photos from pornographic magazines and, second, the Laguna Museum is applying for sizable grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, and finally, the NEA now requires all applicants to certify that they will not produce or present work that the NEA might consider obscene. The Museum Director, Charles Desmarais, is quoted as angrily denying that the exclusion of the 'Freedom of the Press' flag was influenced by the fear of losing the NEA grant. He also declared that 'We select what we believe to be valuable and important to include for our public.' Responding to a question about whether he considers the 'Freedom of the Press' flag valuable or important, 'You can draw your own conclusions.' Heresy is quoted as stating that the exclusion of this work ... 'just reinforces what the piece says. It's very much about hypocrisy. It's a very cynical piece.' However, Heresy was also encouraged that the museum had the courage to present the other 20 works in conservative Orange County as they demonstrate his belief in America's bent toward censorship, militarism and materialism.

Contributed by Frederick Patten. From the LOS ANGELES TIMES, Saturday, October 6, 1990, p.1F.

COMMERCIAL IN AID OF VEXILLOLOGY ... Earlier this year Britannia Development of San Francisco moved into a new office building in the Hacienda Business Park in Pleasanton, California. Britannia has a tradition of flying the flags of the state and city in front of its business. When they discovered that Pleasanton did not have a civic flag they suggested that someone do something about it. Prudential, a codeveloper of the business park, sought the approval of City Manager Deborah Acosta and then asked J. Stokes and Associates, the design company that creates the graphics for their advertising brochures to design a flag. Apparently one design has been submitted and rejected by Deborah Acosta since ... it was too far afield from the city seal, an oak tree with the city's incorporation date. The design will go through the same approval processes that subdivisions and buildings do. The second try will ... include more of the elements that "differentiate Pleasanton from other communities," including the harmonious mix of traditional downtown with the modern look of the Hacienda Business Park. According to Dave Williams, the Prudential spokesman.

From the VALLEY TIMES, Tuesday, September 11, 1990, p.4A and Saturday, November 10, 1990, p.4A.

IT'S TOO EARLY TO PREDICT A TREND ... The developers of the Metrocenter Mall that opened in March 1978 in southwest Jackson, MS, like to fly city flags at their shopping malls in the Southeast. So, when they built the Metrocenter they found that Jackson did not have a city flag. Apparently no one had thought to design one. The 'new' flag design consists of the the portrait of Andrew Jackson, the city's namesake, with the words 'Jackson' above the portrait and 'Mississippi below. The date, 1822, the city's founding appears on Jackson's chest. While the colors are described as red, white, and blue, no effort is made to indicate what part of the design is what color.


DO THEY BITE? ... The managers of the Plantation Apartments in Houston, TX, forced its residents to remove American flags flown in support of U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf. They claimed that the flags were a safety hazard. After two veterans groups complained that the managers were unpatriotic, the managers allowed the display of flags on doors and windows provided that they don't create a hazard.

From a wire service story in the VALLEY TIMES, Friday, October 26, 1990.

IN CONCLUSION ... Please send me any newspaper clippings, magazine articles, photos, drawings, or any information about flags in the printed press. Also send any updates to items that have been printed.

I am also interested in starting a flag registry to document flags we see in our daily lives, other than national and state flags. This would involve possible a dated photograph or drawing of the flag and a description of where it was flying and information about the observer. If you think this would be of value please respond by sending entries.

Send it to: John Lindert, 3177 Chateau Way, #207, Livermore, CA 94550-6837.
THE PUBLIC DESERVES ALTERNATIVES TO THE BETSY ROSS FLAG

by Earl P. Williams, Jr.

When I bought a replica of the Betsy Ross Flag 7 years ago to fly on patriotic holidays in the U.S., I had no interest in the history of flags and had never heard of the term “vexillology.” I knew that the story was legend, but I assumed that the flag was correct; after all, the correctness of the flag was “common knowledge.” To my surprise, the literature accompanying the flag stated that even if it did exist during the American Revolutionary War, it was hardly known at the time. It went on to say that the first Stars and Stripes had stars laid out in rows.

As far as I was concerned, this was the straw that broke the camel’s back. I wondered aloud: “When I was 10, I learned that the Betsy Ross story is a myth, but now I’m learning that the flag itself isn’t correct for the time frame. Why are the flag companies selling the wrong flag?”

My desire to get to the bottom of things launched me into vexillology, and the deeper I got into the subject, the clearer it was that the first flag with stars did have stars arranged in rows and that the designer was Francis Hopkinson. But this information was foreign to the public at large, so I decided to invest 4 years into researching and writing a booklet which describes the flag’s history and evolution for school children and the busy layman.

After my booklet, What You Should Know About the American Flag, was first published in 1987, it dawned on me that the flag companies themselves are partly to blame for the continuance of the public’s belief in the Betsy Ross legend. By not providing replicas of what the early Stars and Stripes really looked like, and by not mentioning Francis Hopkinson in their literature, they are keeping millions of Americans in the dark and depriving them of their heritage. Research has shown that most of the earliest Stars and Stripes flags in evidence were in the 3-2-3-2-3 horizontal arrangement (the Francis Hopkinson flag).

The flag that Francis Hopkinson proposed would have looked like this.

Flag companies should add these flags to their inventory of Revolutionary War-era flags of all sizes, including the tabletop variety. Just because the Betsy Ross Flag became popular with the public is no excuse for complacency either.

They should acquire, maintain, and read the latest scholarly literature on vexillology and update their literature and facts accordingly, whether they have a flag consultant or not. Smithsonian Institution books such as Grace Cooper’s Thirteen-Star Flags: Keys to Identification and Furlong and McCandless’ treatise So Proudly We Hail; Whitney Smith’s The Flag Book of the United States; Edward W. Richardson’s Standards and Colors of the American Revolution; the 1989 revised edition of Our Flag, U.S. Government Printing Office; and my article ‘The ‘Fancy Work’ of Francis Hopkinson,” Prologue, Volume 20, No. 1, pp. 42-52, are excellent sources.

I hope that the companies will take a close look at all of the historic flags and literature that they are selling and revise them as warranted. I am one of several vexillologists in the United States hereby volunteering to assist the flag companies in revising their material. This revision must be done because those who educate the public hold a sacred trust.

ADDITION: I am pleased to announce that at the time of this writing, The Flag Guys is planning to stock the Francis Hopkinson Flag in tabletop and flag pole sizes. I heartily applauded their “can do” attitude. Anyone wishing to purchase the Hopkinson Flag should contact Mr. Byron W. Ward, The Flag Guys, 283 Windsor Highway, Newburgh, NY 12553, Phone (914) 562-0088, FAX (914) 562-6172.

CENTRE BELGO - EUROPEEN d'ETUDES des DRAPEAUX

BELGIAN-EUROPEAN FLAG STUDIES CENTRE

The Flag of the Belgian-European Flag Studies Centre, is a gift of Mr. R. Lachenal (Ets FIDRA, Nivelles, Belgium). The drawing is by Lucien Philippe.

The purpose of CEBED, which at the start, was created from my own collection of books and flags, is: 1) to promote the study of flags, emblems, of their history, their symbolic meaning and their uses throughout the world; 2) to foster vexillological relations; 3) to officialize the numerous relations that have been established with the authorities and collectors all over the world; 4) to make the numerous documents it holds accessible to all thanks to exchange and this way set up a vexillological data bank.

It is an association which is politically neutral and has no commercial purpose. The Centre can publish vexillological studies.

At first no subscription is necessary to get in touch with the Centre as the aim is to develop exchanges. In the absence of mutual exchanges a contribution will be required to cover duplication expenses and postal charges. The publication of a bulletin particularly concerning the Centre is not to be expected in the immediate future. As a matter of fact there are currently quite a number of bulletins of very high quality. I will keep on collaborating with the various editors by conveying to them the information that will reach the Centre.

Michel R. Lupant
Centre Belgo-Européen d'Etudes des Drapeaux
6, Clos de la Pasture, B-1340 Ottignies, Belgium
Telephone: (0 10) 41 43 85

Flag for the 60th Birthday of the King of Belgium and the 40th Anniversary of his accession to the throne.
THE BUDGET, SPECIAL PROJECTS, AND DUES

OR, WHOEVER SAID “NO NEW TAXES?”

from Nicholas Artimovich, Budget Committee Chairman, Special Projects Chairman

At the annual meeting in Toronto it was voted to raise membership dues across the board. This was done in order to avoid a deficit budget for 1990/91 that would put NAVA “in the red” (by about $2,000 per year, when at that rate our present bank balance would evaporate in a little over three years.) The cost of printing and postage for NAVA News and other publications has risen and continues to rise as would be expected, but even these were not the principal reason for the need for the first dues increase since NAVA XX (1986 in Trenton, NJ.) It was last October, at the meeting in Dallas, when it was decided to pursue the use of a mailing service to replace the donated services of Dettro Flags (See November/December 1989 NAVA News; this made the big change in the budget picture. It was felt that 1) NAVA should pay it own way for distributing its publications; and 2) it needed to have a permanent mailing address.

The Executive Board made some inquiries, received estimates from mailing services, and selected a Trenton, New Jersey firm that is now handling our distribution; another provides the mailing address. The cost of folding, stapling, labeling, sorting, etc. provided by a company and no longer borne by volunteers, must be figured into our budget. The permanent mailing address eliminates the problems in forwarding and reforwarding mail as officers change with each annual election.

In the past years, NAVA had been operating well within budget. Funds were accumulated in the years that money budgeted was not spent on “NAVA Reprints.” In Dallas, my Budget Committee report included an approximate balance of $7,400.00 and suggested that the organization find some vexillological project to make use of this money. I was appointed, in absentia, to chair a “Special Projects Committee” to do just that. The balance in October 1990 was reduced to $7,505.37 (Annual Report NAVA Budget Committee, NAVA News, Nov./Dec. 1990, p.4), for the reasons explained in paragraph one.

During the past year, I have corresponded with my committee consisting of Grace Cooper, Annie Platoff, and Whitney Smith, to investigate alternatives for NAVA to put these funds to good use. The following guidelines were proposed to assure that the money was being well spent:

1. The project should measurably advance vexillology.
2. The project should benefit NAVA members (especially in U.S. and Canada).
3. The project must give credit to NAVA for its contribution.
4. The project should allow NAVA input/supervision into the project at least to the extent of its financial contribution.
5. The project should be an on-going one (even if NAVA does not continue its involvement), or must have a clear termination date.

Alternatives we considered and rejected included: upgrading NAVA News (color photos, larger issues), publicity efforts (advertising in magazines), and retaining a paid staffer to conduct NAVA business (the mailing service provides much of what a paid staff would be expected to do for an organization such as ours.) Four alternatives did receive interest and have generated much discussion. These are presented here in no particular order. The Special Projects Committee would appreciate if you would take the time to express your opinion on “if” and/or “to which project” NAVA should apply these excess “one-time” funds.

A. Flag Preservation

Many states and provinces are recognizing the value of the old flags in their collections, especially the U.S. Civil War period flags of silk with hand painted emblems. In the few cases of which I am aware, “preservation” consists of removing flags from display, taking them off their staff, laying them out flat, photographing them, and shelving them in carefully controlled environments. Because of the extreme care and extensive laboratory and storage areas need to do this without damaging what remains of some of these flags, the cost per flag is a minimum of one to two thousand dollars. There are literally thousands of flags in need of preservation, and NAVA would have to select those two, three or four that deserve our attention and our funds.

B. Flag Inventory

Individual NAVA members have seen some of the wonderful collections of historic flags in State Capitals, historical society collections, military installations, etc., but very few of us have an appreciation of the extent or depth of these collections as a whole. A few states, in conjunction with their preservation projects, are photographing their own flags and publishing information on them. This leaves a vast number of flags for which we have little or no recorded information available. An inventory should, as a minimum, list all flags meeting certain criteria located in every historical collection to which we could gain access. Ideally, the inventory would collect documentation on the age, size, condition, usage, design, significance, history, etc., of these flags, as well as photographs of each. The data should be stored in a format readable by a personal computer so that items of interest can be sorted and printed for study.

C. Vexillological Bibliography

This proposal consists of assisting the Flag Heritage Foundation in developing the Flag Bibliography International. This is a proposal to create a professional, annotated, on-line, continuously updated bibliography of all published manuscript materials related in any way to the flags of the United States and Canada and to make the bibliography as widely available as possible to vexillologists and other interested individuals and institutions. Ultimately, this proposal would be extended to include references to flags of other nations.

D. Special NAVA Reprint

NAVA could use its funds to reprint an especially useful out-of-date publication relating to flags. This could be a full color reproduction of an antique chart of flags of the world or a book more extensive than the short pamphlets we have seen produced to date, including photographs and other illustrations.

The Committee would appreciate your thoughts on these proposals. The 1991 NAVA meeting will probably be when the decision will be made on which proposal, if any, will be funded. Please mail your suggestions to me, Nicholas Artimovich, Chairman, Special Projects Committee, 6260 Lightpoint Place, Columbia, MD 21045 or to any of the committee members: Anne Platoff, Grace Cooper (Star Route Box 43A, Great Cacapon, WV 25422) or Whitney Smith.

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TREASURER DECLARES PERSONAL DIVIDEND

Good News/Bad News

from Dave Pawson

To all my friends and colleagues out there in NAVAland: The good news is that Kris and I are expecting our first child at the end of May. We are both very excited about this, as you may well imagine. We both hope that it’s a girl (although I privately hope that whichever it is, it’s a vexillologist).

Now the bad news: there is no way that we can take a six-week-old to Barcelona, so I’m afraid we will miss yet another Flag Congress. We had been looking forward to this trip to Europe, and regret that we will not be seeing our flag-friends from other lands or my old stomping grounds back in Heidelberg and my “family” and friends in Germany, England, and Poland.

While I have your attention: I would like to thank Jon Radel for the note that he included in the Nov./Dec. 90 NAVA News regarding the Kentucky Civil War flag display. This is what I was writing about in the last issue of 1988 - letting other members know about these things before it is too late. I do not know if I will be able to see the display myself, but I am certain other members within range of Frankfort will be stopping in. I hope that all of our members will be as considerate as Jon if they become aware of flag-related events in their own areas.

PAGE 6 NAVA NEWS January/February 1991
LETTERS . . .

Dear Don:

Many thanks for the lovely plaque in recognition of Dettro’s service to NAVA. We certainly appreciate this recognition and are proud that we have been able to contribute to the growth of NAVA over the years. Our son’s wedding in Dallas was indeed a joyous occasion, but we missed seeing our friends at the NAVA Convention. I hope that we will be able to join you next year for NAVA’s 25th birthday celebration.

Sincerely,

William C. Spangler
President, Dettro Flag Company

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Dear Don:

Thank you so much for the beautiful plaque in recognition of service to NAVA. I thoroughly enjoyed doing my bit for your organization and it was a pleasant association working with you, Grace Cooper and Gus Tracchia. Give them my regards and my best wishes to them.

Sincerely,

William Schaffer

P.S.

Thank you so much for the lovely plaque going to Dettra for fixing our offices and the government building in Comrat, Soviet Moldova, yesterday.

Sincerely,

Wandie Cooper

WELCOME . . .

TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

SCOTT T. FORBES (Active), 612 13th St., #13, Boca Raton, FL 33486 — 3HJ 2HU.
ROLAND P. GILL (Active), 610 Eastland Ave., Ruston, LA 71270.
EDWARD J. HARRELL (Active), 4626 N. Friday Circle, Cocoa, FL 32926 — 3HJ 2HU.
DR. DAVID McKNIGHT (Active), 44 Evelyn Crescent, Toronto, ON M6P 3C9, Canada.
ROBERT C. RUNGEE (Active), 95 B1 Shadow Lane, West Hartford, CT 06110 — 3HJ 2HU.
PAXTON K. WILLIAMS (Active), 8850 Dony's Drive, Houston, TX 77040-1537 — 3HJ 2HU.

Key to symbols in the 1989 Membership List.

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GOVERNOR PROCLAIMS HAWAIIAN FLAG DAY
— JULY 31 —

The Governor also signed “Act 215, revising Hawai‘i law to officially define and describe the flag and prescribe its proper use in official and public display.” These two legislation are the work of Patrick Ka‘ana‘i, a member of The North American Vexillological Society, and the Huna Hanauna Society, a Hawaiian organizational philosophy.

Attending Governor John Waihe‘s signing ceremony were members of the Huna Hanauna Society, the Daughters and Sons of Hawaiian Warriors and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

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The document contains text related to the American Vexillological Association (AVA) and its activities. It includes information about the executive board, committees, coordinators, and a note about vexillological affiliates. There is also a section titled "EDITOR'S NOTES" which discusses the return of Vexi-Bits and provides guidelines for contributions. The text also includes contact information for various members and committees. The document is written in a formal and professional tone, typical of organizational newsletters or reports.