

Joel. Seems like Ron is living a very rich and full life. Stephanie, thanks again for your spt.

I've been busy with sch this past semester. If anyone gets down to FL anytime, give me a holler.

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I regret to inform you of the death of our classmate **Donaldson P Tillar III**. Donald and several other soldiers were killed when the UH-60 Blackhawk that Donald was piloting was shot down over Iraq on 27 Feb. The source of my info is the DA Casualty Report and an article in the 3 Mar issue of the *Washington Post*. I apologize to you and Donald's parents for anything that I may have said here that is misinformation. Donald is survived by his parents, COL USA (Ret) & Mrs Donaldson P Tillar Jr.

We will miss him.

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Well, congratulations are in order all over. Congratulations to all those who STRENGTHENED THE LINE in Desert Storm. I guess the Supe gave his one rocket cheer at the correct time. Also, all of us have pinned on the silver bar: remember when we were plebes and had to learn "Benny Havens" ("In the Army there's sobriety/promotion's very slow...")?

I have a lot to tell. Scotty Rauer dropped me a line from an empty Ft Bragg. He just got assigned there after Apache sch at Ft Rucker, where he and Ike Wilson became the first fly-boys from our Cl. Remember guys: little bullets, big sky!

Dave Ice's mom sent me a ltr from Toledo, OH. Dave has been hanging out with fellow B-1 boys Doug Datka, Jon Wildermuth and Darryl Scherb (and his dog Pipes) in Herzog, Ger. Jon departed for the desert in Aug 90. John Kelly's mom also wrote to say John and Juan Dominguez left for the desert in Dec.

Rob Bozic sends his best from the Sinai as part of the Multinational Forces there (the "other" Gulf). He writes of the exciting action there, such as camel races and cactus watching. Drive on, Boz.

From Israel, Melinda Nelson and Steve Choi sent ltrs relating their Scud-



1989: Firebirds Scott Rauer and Ike Wilson

hunting experiences. With A/1/7 ADA, Steve, Eric Handy and Bill Braswell are protecting the city of Haifa. B/1/7 ADA is near Tel Aviv with Melinda and Mark Mooney. The rest of the bn went to Saudi with Lori (Hess) Tompos, Omar Cutierrez and Gerald Lilly. Steve writes also that on 11 Aug 90 John Reynolds married his longtime sweetheart Andrea in Karlstein, Ger. Good luck to them!



1989: Fire control station for Patriots in Israel

Marc Lee and John Viggiano sent an interesting note from Saudi. They are with the 24th ID along with Stu Kinder, Eric "Cheesestick" Miller, Mark Jennings, Bill Welsh, Jeff Castille, Rob Forte, Dave Trybula, Rob Holmes, Al Linden, Mike Rumagen, Bruce Estok, Matt Curtis, Mike Minogue, Tony Fletcher, Hal Hatchett, Frank Brunner and Mike Garvin. John arrived at 2/7 Inf, went to NTC, then to Desert Shield/Storm. A busy time for all! John had an interesting description of life in the sandbox: "Our abodes are M2's with camou nets and sleeping bags... meticulous maggots are everywhere. Nights are spent training until the wee hrs of the morn (or just plain being lost)." I still owe Marc a steak dinner for coming to my rescue at the Chickasaw Pub at Benning...

Mark Jennings also sent a ltr from "the world's largest beach." He has been working with John Ford, Mike Fran-

comb, John Ulsaker, Neil Creighton, Jim Kim, Joe Hawes, Al Vernon, Bob McCann, Greg Conti, Lou Lartigue, Mike Brumagin, Dave Gravel, Matt Curtis, Don Brewster and Tony Castagno. He describes the desert as "liveable."



1989: Mark's new staff, "strengthening the line in the sand," Saudi Arabia, Aug 90: Castille, Creighton, Jennings, Trybula, Kim and Ford

Dave Gravel praised the soldiers' willingness to endure the hardship and separation. Phil Cuccia echoes the same ideas.

Frank Oprandy sent news of his 28 Jul 90 wedding to Tracy Banes. Frank stood tall with Mike Young, Tom Champion, Jim Callerami and Mark O'Brien. All these guys were roommates at flight sch. Frank recently ran into Jim Kardos' big brother in a Saudi parking lot. Jim is in Korea enjoying saki wine. Frank asks that Rich McCauley get in touch with him at 3d ACR. Congratulations to Frank & Tracy!!

Dennis Fehlinger sends his best from Ft Carson where his Cobra plt is doing great and wondrous things. Dennis married longtime sweetheart Leslie at Ruckering in Apr 90. Attending the wedding



1989: Leslie & Dennis Fehlinger

were Kevin Petit, Doug Sutter, John & Tracy Barth, Steve & Wendee Workman, Rob Mitchell and Conan Ward. Dennis & Leslie are happy at Carson with their