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## 12 FIELD REGIMENT (VIETNAM) ASSOCIATION

(A Branch of the Royal Australian Artillery Association NSW Inc)

This letter is only being sent to previous serving soldiers (1968 – 1969) of the Units listed below

Gentlemen,

As you know there is a 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Coral / Balmoral event happening in Canberra next year (May 2008). Attached you will find a current listing of members who were in or attached to 12 Field Regiment and were at F.S.B.Coral / F.S.B. Balmoral and at anytime during operation Toan Thang. I know this is a big ask on many memories, but we want you to go through the listing if you were serving in 102 Bty, HQ Bty, L.A.D., 131 Div Loc Bty, 161 Fd. Bty and A/2/35 U.S. Bty. Please find who you know is missing that figured in that operation, and give us their names addresses and phone numbers should you have them.

I do know that all on the listings were not necessarily at Coral / Balmoral but it is of primary importance that we locate every member as possible who was on that given operation to join us next year. I do hope we can get as much help from you as possible on this important matter.

I do remind you that we do have addresses on a few that are missing who haven't joined our Association for one reason or another. But this is the easiest way to get a good overall balance on who is missing. Should you have to phone a friend who could cast some light on the situation, it would be greatly appreciated.

We will not at any time use Association funds for any part of the Coral reunion, as we are here to represent all members of 12 Field Regiment. So I appeal to you to help us find missing members of your given unit that were at Coral/Balmoral. PLEASE HELP YOUR MATE to join us for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battles next year, and just as importantly, those who were not. The important thing here is to remember that your mate has to be part of the above unit achievements during our tour.

In conclusion, please assure your mate, should you make contact, that we want as many Coral /Balmoral blokes and partners there as possible who will be largely subsidised by the D.V.A. and Defence related industries, should we be successful. We also want any member of any Unit or Sub-Unit of the Regiment who were not involved, to attend as well. You will also be subsidised, but not necessarily to the degree of Coral / Balmoral

veterans. This is unavoidable as the D.V.A. has strict guidelines as to the amount of people it subsidizes. We know you will understand, but you will however be given assistance in many ways.

It must be remembered that the funding is for The Anniversary of the Coral / Balmoral Battles as outlined to the D.V.A. All members of the Regiment for both tours are more than welcome to join us for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Though it may cost you a little extra to be with us for this occasion, we hope you understand.

If you are not a member of the given Batteries you still have an obligation to track down those who were there to let them know what is happening. Let us know who, and where they are, regardless of their absence in past reunions. We know there are some out there who don't want to go back, but it is our duty to let them all know of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in May 2008.

All you have to do is the following,

Send, phone, or email us every member of your unit (or detachment) that you remember in our period of the war (1968-69), whether it be any Battery, Alfa Gun through to Foxtrot, Sigs, Command- Post, Drivers etc. We are still missing integral members of the Regiment who were with us during our tour of the country. This listing shows who WE remember as being there. We want names and addresses of men YOU remember as being there, as he would of you. PLEASE HELP!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Please do not rely upon another member of your detachment to reply, He will be relying on you. I also point out that this letter is being sent to all, whether on email or not, and the postage costs are being carried by 3 members of your committee. Please help us help your mate. That's all we ask.

Members of 161 Field Battery, 104 Field Battery, 131 Div Loc Battery and A Battery 2<sup>nd</sup> / 35 U.S. (Mdm) Bty will receive this letter by way of their own battery Newsletter or via their Web-sites.

We do require the names of soldiers and their wives/partners who, for financial reasons, would not be able to attend the May Reunion 2008. Be assured, this matter will be handled with strict confidentiality. Those, who already have responded to this question in previous correspondence, need not respond to this again.

Thank you, in anticipation.

Rob Costello  
President 12 Field Regiment (Vietnam) Association

For the CHAIRMAN, Coral /Balmoral Artillery Committee (May 2008)