

# 761<sup>st</sup> Tank Battalion & Allied Veterans Association



July 14, 2011

The 761<sup>st</sup> Tank Battalion and Allied Veterans Association invites you to attend our 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Reunion and Banquet/Tanker Ball. The reunion will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel Tampa – Airport/Westshore August 18 – 21, 2011.

A special day is planned for Friday. We first will visit The Armed Forces Military Museum in North Largo then have lunch with Helen "Taffy" Bates, the widow of Colonel Paul Bates, the well-beloved commander of the 761<sup>st</sup> Tank Battalion. The Armed Forces Military Museum is a first class 35,000 sq. ft. museum of military memorabilia, vehicles, tanks and a motion simulation theatre. If you are an original 761<sup>st</sup> Tanker, you may recognize artifacts from many years ago while touring the museum. These items were donated to the museum through the generosity of Taffy Bates to honor the memory of the 761<sup>st</sup>.

After the museum we will travel a short distance to the Florida Aquarium to board a their new (air conditioned inside) 72 foot catamaran and journey out into the bay to see dolphins, numerous species of birds and fish, manatees and much more. Two good reasons not to miss this trip!

The banquet is Saturday August 20, 2011. A full registration package is \$150.00 per person; however, individual events can be selected if you cannot join us for the entire program.

A registration form is attached for your convenience which should be mailed in the enclosed envelope by August 4, 2011.

Call the hotel to make your reservations. The cut-off date for hotel reservations is Thursday July 28, 2011 for our discounted room rate. Mention the 761<sup>st</sup> Tank Battalion & Allied Veterans Association to get our special group rate. The Hotel will offer these special rates 3 days before, during and 3 days after the reunion.

The Embassy Suites Tampa – Airport/Westshore 555 North Westshore Boulevard Tampa, Florida 33609 1-800-362-2779 or 1-813-875-1555

### **Guest Suites (One Bedroom with two Queen Beds)**

#### Room Rate\*

\$100.00

\*Includes complimentary full breakfast and Complimentary Managers Reception from 5:30-7:30pm daily \$8.00 parking is waved for registered guest in our group.

The Embassy Suites Hotel offers a complementary shuttle for all guests for pickup and drop off at the Tampa International Airport. The shuttle will also be available for groups of up to 11 individuals to travel to and from area businesses within a 5 mile radius of the hotel. There are many destinations in Tampa that would interest you.

For original members of the 761<sup>st</sup>, 758<sup>th</sup>, and 784<sup>th</sup> Tank battalions and widows: we have a contract in force that makes us responsible for 35 room nights. The Association will reimburse attending members \$25 for each of the three room nights of the reunion up to a total of 35 total room nights, bringing your room rate down to \$75 plus tax. This will hopefully help with your overall trip cost and encourage as many of you as possible to attend.

Please plan to join us in Tampa, Florida to celebrate our 63<sup>nd</sup> annual reunion We are looking forward to seeing you,

## John S. Weston

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#### Enclosures:

- 1. Registration Form
- 2. Souvenir Book Form
- 3. Return Envelope
- 4. Membership Form