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Newspaper Clipping from Poughkeepsie Journal

San Dewayne Francisco

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An afternoon at the fair and a

Twenty years ago, Terri Francisco Farrell's brother was shot down over Vietnam. Nine years ago, the Air Force declared him officially dead, killed in action.

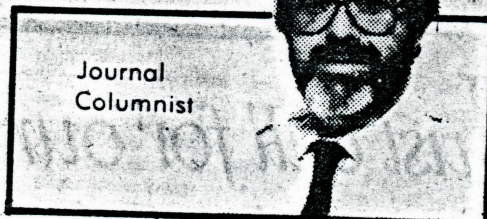
This summer, Terri saw his name on a printout at the Ulster County Chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) booth at the Ulster County Fair. There was an 'S' after his name on the printout. It meant, she was told, there was evidence he had been sighted; he might be alive.

That 'S' began a chain of events that had Terri grasping for information about her brother; information that revived her hopes, that recalled her despair.

The bottom line is she has no more reason to hope that her brother is alive today than she did the day she went to the Ulster County Fair. The problem is it took seven weeks to find out.

Terri seems more disgusted than angry. And she also sounded disappointed when I

Larry Hughes



got off the phone with her Friday afternoon.

We're talking here about an area of discomfort somewhere between false hopes and high expectations.

Terri moved to Dutchess County about a year ago from the state of Washington. She lives in Staatsburg and is a part-time student at Dutchess Community College where she also has a job in the library's Instructional Media office.

Early last month she met Ray Gallagher of the VVA at the fair and mentioned that her brother — Lt. San DeWayne Francisco

— and another aboard a reconaissance Nov. 23, 1968 over the name and the 'S' out provided by a Omega out of Spenc

"I felt kind of w the week. "It was boondocks or some It was news to me that they had the int

The 'S' after her the door to a lot of tion new? Is it acc sighting? What was

Terri had thought Instead, she has lear nam war has long nightmare will neve

After all these ye son for hope that h else she had become — the post-Vietnan who would have us

2E—Poughkeepsie Journal

Sunday, September 25, 1988



Terri Francisco Farrell, whose brother was shot down 20 years ago over Vietnam.

Sighting wo

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ing just as much emotional suffering to these families as is the government.

Terri made phone calls and wrote letters to people and groups who provided her not with answers but additional addresses and phone numbers.

Ray Gallagher gave me a phone number for Task Force Omega. Janet Schilling out in Iowa told me the information she provided to others came from an outfit called Homecoming Two based in Kansas.

I called John Nevin out there and John read me an intelligence report which I had been led to believe — talking the previous day to the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia — was available only to the immediate next of kin of servicemen either unaccounted for or declared killed in action.

But John Nevin — who for four years has been gathering information from a variety of sources because he doesn't think the government is doing enough — not only had this report but was reading it to me