

SABER

Published By and For the Veterans of the Famous 1st Cavalry Division



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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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1CDA President 2025-2027



Greetings Troopers, It's a great week to be a Cav Trooper. I was privileged to attend the casing of the colors ceremony on August 28, for the 3d Armored Brigade Combat Team (ABCT). The Greywolf ABCT along with enablers from across the Division are deploying to Europe in September in support of NATO and the EUCOM AOR. They will be spread across several countries and participate in numerous training exercises during their deployment. COL Mike Ziegelhofer and CSM Alejandro Pulido have done a great job training the Team for their mission and they looked sharp on Cooper Field; it was a beautiful Cav morning. For me it was great to see COL Ziegelhofer again. He was a very young Captain when we were both deployed to CSTC-A in Afghanistan back in 2007. CPT Ziegelhofer was aide for the CSTC-A Commander, MG Bob Cone and I was on the staff. GEN Cone later served as the III Corps Commander at Fort Hood and retired in 2014 after serving as the TRADOC Commander. Seeing Mike yesterday made me think of Bob Cone and smile. He was one of the finest leaders that I had the honor of working for and he unfortunately passed away from cancer much too young in 2016. GEN Cone had three tenants that he led by - be prepared, trust in God's providence, and make it personal. They continue to serve me well every day. Shortly after our Jul/Aug *Saber* was published, we received the unfortunate news that the Army planned to deactivate all horse units with the exception of the Old Guard at Fort Myer/Arlington and the Fort Sam Houston caisson. This included our own 1st Cavalry Division Horse Cavalry Detachment (HCD). The Army issued instructions for these units to deactivate within the year. There was an immediate call to action led in large part by our past 1CDA President, Scott Sjule, who served in the HCD for many years and retired as their 1SG. Phone calls were made, letters were written, and emails were sent. I thank the many of you who answered the email request to contact your Congressional Representatives and ask them to weigh in on revisiting the decision, not just based on emotions but also on the fact that our 1CD HCD does more for Army recruitment and civilian support to the Army than any other single entity or event.

We have not heard anything official yet, but I remain confident that the deactivation will be reversed. Thanks to Scott for leading this effort and again to all of you who took the time to contact Congress. If you did not receive the email from Dara asking you to participate, please call the office and provide an updated email so we can contact you when needed.

2-5 September was Cav Week celebrating the 104th Birthday of our great Division. There were numerous events including sports competitions, a Division run, a reception on Cooper Field, and birthday cake! If you're considering a trip to Fort Hood, Cav Week is a great time to be there, and you have lots of time to plan for 2026.

We absolutely intend to have Cav Reunions at Fort Hood again, but we are waiting for hotel accommodation to improve. Till then a trip during the birthday celebration is a great alternative.

Speaking of Reunions, it is not too early to start planning your trip to New Orleans from 8-12 July 2026. It is going to be a great event, and our itinerary includes the World War II Museum, which I am very excited to visit for the first time, and I understand it to be amazing.

Please plan to attend and please invite a Cav Trooper to come with you, we are especially interested in attracting Desert Shield/Desert Storm and OIF/OEF Veterans but anyone and everyone who served in the Cav is welcome to our Reunions.

Bring your Battle Buddy – old or new!
First Team, Rosey Carter

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HORSE DETACHMENT by 1LT Denning, Executive Officer

It has been an extremely busy and eventful summer for the Horse Cavalry Detachment, as we have supported numerous Change of Commands and Change of Responsibilities across the Division. For Battalion level events we provide a mounted flower delivery during the ceremony and for Brigade level events we conduct a Cavalry Charge. These ceremonies keep the spirit and history of Horseback Cavalry alive.

In addition to our support of Fort Hood, we hit the road and participated in events all over the state of Texas. We celebrated the 4th of July in a parade through the streets of Belton. We provided mounted color guards at rodeos in Gatesville, San Saba and Central Texas.

Back at the Stables we have been hard at work improving our Horsemanship skills. For two weeks in August every Trooper in the detachment took part in our Horsemanship Intensive. Troopers went back to the basics of riding and reinforced their skills and built upon what they have learned in the HCD. The training exercise culminated in rehearsals for our weekly demonstrations. Troopers familiarized themselves with multiple weapon systems to include carbines, revolvers and sabers. Training does not stop here as we will be conducting our semi-annual "B" Group riding test next month. Troopers will be testing their knowledge and skills to climb the ranks of the Detachment.

The Horse Cavalry Detachment is fully open to the public! Please come visit us at our barn for a barn tour or our Thursday 1000 demonstration at 69007 Trooper Loop, Fort Hood, TX. We love and appreciate the support that this amazing community bestows on us and look forward to our continued engagements and exchanges long into the future. Please call (254) 287-2229 with any questions. Check us out on Facebook (1st Cavalry Division Horse Cavalry Detachment) where we post pictures from the barn and strive to keep everyone informed of upcoming events and ceremonies. HOT TO TROT!

THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

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Twenty-four years ago, on September 11, 2001, our country as we knew it drastically changed. For those of us who lived through it, our memories of that dreadful day remain vivid. We remember where we were and what we were doing. We remember the fear that

grasped our nation. But most of all we remember our heroes.

COL (Ret) Richard "Rick" Rescorla, a Vietnam Veteran who fought at the Battle of Ia Drang with B Company, 2-7 Cavalry Regiment, was the Vice President of Security at Morgan Stanley. Rick successfully evacuated 2,700 employees, all while singing *God Bless America*. He was last seen on the 10th floor of the South Tower when it collapsed. For his efforts during 9/11, Rick Rescorla received the Presidential Citizens Medal posthumously by President Donald Trump. A monument in his honor is located at the National Infantry Museum Walk of Honor in Fort Benning, Georgia.

LTG (Ret) Patricia Horoho, a trained trauma nurse, was working in an administrative position when the Pentagon was hit. She established a triage area and began treating the wounded. She and other colleagues assessed burns, started IV's, used belts as tourniquets and whatever other supplies they could get. She stayed until the next morning and was there when firefighters unfurled a large American flag.

These are just two of the many heroes who jumped into action after the terror attacks. There were New York firefighters and paramedics who ran into the Twin Towers to help and never came out. There were store owners and employees who pulled people into their buildings as the Towers collapsed, saving countless others. Passengers on United Airlines Flight 93 made the heroic decision to fight back and regain control of the doomed flight.

Patriot Day, held annually, to honor the loss of 3,000 lives. "We remember, God of history and remembrance, we remember. We remember when the towers fell, and the lives we lost; we remember the dust and the smoke, the despair, and the grief. We remember that sense of vulnerability and shock. We remember the numbness that overwhelmed us as we watched our screens for hours, waiting for an explanation and understanding that never came. We remember." (Author unknown)

Veterans Day is just around the corner, and we will be participating in the National Veterans Day Parade in Washington, D.C. on 9 November 2025. Please reach out to my office via email or phone call. You can also annotate your plans to march when you register for Veterans Day. Start making your plans and come spend the holiday with us and several thousand other Veterans.

NOTE: Still waiting for the completion of the printing process for the Oral History Book. As I continue to get updates, I will pass them along to all of you via the website, Facebook, or *Saber* news.

ADDRESS
CHANGE

Don't Keep it a SECRET, Let us Know About It.
To submit by e-mail, send to memberships@1CDA.org
Clip and Mail to 1st Cavalry Division Association
302 N. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703

Last 4 #'s of your SSN _____
Tel: (____) _____
Rank and Name: _____
New Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
E-Mail: _____

SNOWBIRDS

If you have two addresses during the year, we need to know them. Please give us the dates and addresses for both households.
(Circle one) Winter Summer

Rank and Name: _____
LAST 4#s SSN: _____ DOB _____
1: Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Dates: _____ Tel: (____) _____

2: Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Dates: _____ Tel: (____) _____

1CDA EVENT CALENDAR

Nov 9-11, 2025

16th Annual Veterans Day, Washington D.C.

Feb 21, 2026

Board of Governors Meeting, hybrid

July 8-12, 2026

78th Annual 1CDA Reunion, New Orleans

SABER RENEWAL / DONATION FORM

☐ Renew my *Saber* \$_____ for _____ year(s) @ \$20 per year (6 issues).
Fill out and return the form below or attach your Saber label so we have your pertinent information.

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☐ Association General Fund Donation \$_____
In Memory of: _____

Your "*In Memory of*" acknowledgements will appear in
the HONOR ROLL section of the *Saber*

Honor Roll privileges are given to members who make a donation of \$50 or more to the Association, or scholarship donations to the IaDrang or the Foundation. Honor Roll privileges do not include calendar donations nor Saber renewals.

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You can also renew online at www.1CDA.org
Log in>>> Saber Newspaper >>> Saber Subscriptions/Renewals

Help us recruit,
make sure those that you served within the
Division are also members of the
1st Cavalry Division Association!

SABER

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ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Original, clear copies, typed or printed are accepted via e-mail at Programs@1CDA.org.
Articles should be received at National Headquarters no later than the 1st of every odd month. Any article received after the 1st of the month will be put in on a space available basis.
Opinions expressed are the writers and not necessarily those of the *Saber* or the 1st Cavalry Division Association.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To be considered for publication, letters should not exceed 300 words and should be of general interest and in good taste. Letters express the writer's opinion, not that of the *Saber* or the 1st Cavalry Division Association.
Political endorsement and poetry cannot be used. Form letters or third-party letters are not acceptable. Letters which contain libelous or obviously untrue statements will be automatically rejected.
All letters must be signed with addresses and telephone numbers included. Names will be used with the letters but addresses and phone numbers may be omitted. Letters also may be edited for length or clarification.
We reserve the right to reject for publication any letter received. Unused letters will not be acknowledged.

OTHER REUNIONS:

C Co, 1-12 Reunion Muster of Troopers who served 1965-1972, 15-18 October 2025. Wichita, KS. See website for hotel details and registration form, if issues contact Ron Sauers, <shakey25@frontier.com> to send you the form.

1st Cavalry Division Association 78th Annual Reunion, 8-12 July 2026. Sheraton New Orleans, 500 Canal St, New Orleans LA. Reservations Dept: (504) 525-2500, Press 1 or use the provided link to make reservations on-line: <<https://book.passkey.com/e/51069296>>. Do NOT reserve more than one room.
Have your upcoming reunions posted here!
Email to Programs@1CDA.org

TAPS:

We were notified of the following deaths:
ANDERSON, Trooper Gair M., E Co, 52nd INF, 1967-68. 10 July 2025.
AVERA, LTC John (RET), C/1-77 FA, 1965-66. 28 August 2025.
BEVER, CPL Joseph J., B Co, 1-8 CAV, 1948-1950. 12 April 2025.
BILLY, SGT Francis, B/1-77 FA, 1969-70. 11 July 2025.
BOWE, Trooper Curtis R., C Co, 1-9 CAV, 1970-71. 16 August 2025.
ESCOBEDO, CSM (RET) Natividad, A Co, 1-8 CAV, 1965-66. 21 May 2025.
GILL, SGT Robert C., H Co, 75th Inf, 1968; A Co, 1-9 CAV, 1969. 21 August 2025.
HANSON, SP4 David E., H Co, 75th INF, 1971-72. 30 May 2025.
JOHNSTON, MAJ James H., 1-7 CAV, 1970-71. 17 June 2025.
JONES, CSM (RET) Alzalkia C., 1-7 CAV. 23 August 2025.
LANGBEIN, SP4 Bruce W., A Co, 2-8 CAV, 1970-71. 18 June 2025.
LEWIS, SGT Owen L., C Co, 1-12 CAV, 1965. 18 August 2025.
LORENZ, SGT Gary T., H Co, 75th INF, 1970-71. 8 July 2025.
PELLINGTON, SGT Jack W., C Co, 1-77 FA, 1966; A Co 2-12 CAV, 1967. 1 August 2025.
PERKINS, SFC J.C., 1966-67. 21 August 2025.
SCHWARTZ, SGT Mark, HHB 1-77FA, 1969-70. 29 August 2025.
YATES, SP5 Thomas E., 229 AVN, 1968-69. 20 June 2025.

ACTIVE-DUTY TAPS:

We have not been notified of any non-combat Active-Duty deaths.

WANTED:

CPT RONNIE JOHNSON B/2-7 CAV


CPT Ronnie Johnson, call sign Amber Outlaw 2/6 is looking for his Outlaw Family. He served with B/2-7 Cav, 1969-70. He is hoping his platoon is still alive and would like to reconnect. Please reach out to him if you know or served with him. 540-520-5391 or <ronjohnson1946@icloud.com>

1ST AIR CAV BDE BATTLE BUDDIES, 1970-1971

My name is John "Bad Pizza" Huszczo. I want to connect with the guys in my group that were in Phuoc Vinh, Vietnam, 1970-1971. Please email or call me, 440-655-5304 or <JohnnyHuszczo@gmail.com>.

LOOKING FOR A LONG LOST BATTLE BUDDY?

If you have been searching for someone that you served with within 1st Cav, try posting it here.
Submit requests to
<Programs@1CDA.org> for the next Saber!





Culmination of treasured long lost stories or photos from our members.

Send your stories to Programs@1CDA.org

Submitted by SP4 John E. Reif, who served in HQ 27th Maintenance Battalion, An Khe, Vietnam, Sept 17, 1966-Sept 17, 1967

I've been trying for years to locate people I have served with. I look forward in hearing from my battle buddies. <johnreif505@gmail.com> 217-942-6127

It was a chilly day on April 18, 1966, when I was drafted into the United States Army. I departed from Roodhouse, Illinois on a Greyhound bus arriving at the St. Louis, Missouri Army Induction Center where I was sworn into the United States Army. Once sworn in, I boarded a bus to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri to begin my Basic Combat Training. Basic Combat Training (BCT) consisted of thirteen weeks of training in combat situations, survival, self-defense, fitness, firearm, and adjustment to Army life. After completing my Basic Combat Training, I reported back to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri for Advanced Individual Training (AIT). This training consisted of thirteen weeks on how to operate heavy equipment located at the million-dollar hole where all the heavy equipment machinery was housed.



On September 15, 1966, after completing Basic Combat Training and AIT my family drove me to the St. Louis, Missouri airport where I departed on my first jet flight to Fort Ord Army Base in California. When I arrived in California, I was ordered by the Army to stay in a motel. The next morning an Army bus came to the motel and took me to Fort Ord Army Base in San Francisco where I was issued everything needed to engage with the Viet Cong in Vietnam.

I was issued one M-16 rifle, two magazine pouches with six 30 round magazines per pouch, a steel pot with liner, body armor, two fragmentation grenades, two colored smoke grenades, jungle boots, and fatigues. From Fort Ord Army Base, I was taken by bus to Travis Air Force Base, California. At Travis Air Force Base I boarded an Airforce C-141 cargo jet on my way to Vietnam. I left California on September 16, 1966, and landed in Vietnam on September 18, 1966. By crossing the International Date Line I lost September 17, 1966. The flight from California to Vietnam made stops at Midway Island, Wake Island, Quam Island, Philippines, Japan, and finally Pleiku, Vietnam.

As the cargo jet was preparing to land at Pleiku, Vietnam, an Air Force man told me to hang on tight for a quick descent landing. The cargo jet went into a complete nosedive landing in a matter of minutes. Once on the ground I was quickly shuttled onto a Caribou C-7 two engine prop plane. For a quick entry and escape the plane had the back hatch lowered through the entire flight to An Khe. With the hatch open I got a chance to view the terrain. After flying around for what seemed like an hour, we landed at the 1st Cavalry Division Base An Khe, Vietnam. A Deuce-and-a-Half Army Truck was waiting to take me to the reception center and a C-ration meal. After being assigned a company and eating a C-ration I returned to the deuce and half truck which dropped me off at the outer perimeter of base camp where I began my first guard duty assignment.

By this time it was raining, overcast and very dark! The sun had gone down. I was placed in a fox hole with someone I did not know. Keep in mind, it is late and so dark you could not see what is in front of you! My heart was beating a mile a minute! What did I get into? After what seemed like hours a jeep with radar attached to the back of it came by. The driver stated that there was movement on the other side of the concertina wire. I did not know what to do or what to expect. You can bet I did not get any sleep that night. All I could hear was "boom swish" outgoing rounds. Then I heard "swish boom, in coming!" Over the radio came an excited voice, "Mad Minute, give it all you got!" I was ordered to open fire with everything I had. I was not about to argue for ask any questions. My adrenalin was on high. I fired round after round for over an hour. With my M-16 rifle and M-60 machine gun, I laid down a barrage of fire power. I tightly held onto my M-16 rifle and M-60 machine gun. I fired off all the M-18 Claymore mines.

When the sun came up, I could see what was in front of me. I saw a heard of water buffalo that I had just killed. They had gotten inside the safe zone and were up against the concertina wire. That is one of many nights that still haunt me. I learned quickly to paint the back side of the Claymore mines white, so you could see that they were pointed in the right direction, away from you! After completing my first night of guard duty, a deuce and a half truck arrived and took me to my assigned company, Headquarters 27th Maintenance Company.

Then I reported to Headquarters 27th Maintenance supply room. I needed to get my cot, bed supplies, and be assigned a tent to sleep in. While talking with the Supply Sergeant, he asked me if I could type (thank you, Mrs. Langer). I said yes, I had typing in high school. He then told me to tell the First Sergeant I was willing to work in the supply room. The First Sergeant immediately assigned me to the supply room.

TROOPER'S TALE COLUMN

was created for our members to share your photos or long lost 1CD war stories.

Please consider sharing yours!

Send to Programs@1CDA.org

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

OIF / OEF VETERAN 1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion News

SSG Brandy Harvest HHC 1BSTB, 2007-2009
Luckybme04@yahoo.com

SSG Kenneth Pannell HHC 1BSTB, 2005-2009
KaPannell@gmail.com



This column is a collection of stories submitted from 1BSTB Soldiers that served during OIF / OEF.

On June 2, 2007, there was an IED strike on the EOD escort team while traveling south on Route Vernon. An armor piercing IED known as an explosive formed projectile (EFP) struck the RG31. Three of its tires were blown with additional damage to the windshield. Two Soldiers were injured. Communications between the TOC and the Soldiers were down. Through quick reactions and well-trained knowledge of the Soldiers, communications were reestablished and evacuation of the injured were conducted. The injured Soldiers were returned to Fort Hood. Their injuries may have taken them out of the fight but the fight was not taken out of them.

On June 22, 2007, Task Force Ironclaw HHC was clearing Route Redlegs north of Baghdad. Fellow unit 2-8 CAV provided security while the route was being cleared. As the route was being cleared, a large buried IED was detonated by insurgents. The blast caused a 15 ft by 30 ft crater in the road by using 400 lbs. of explosives. No Soldiers were harmed.

The SIGINT section took a break every quarter to have a section BBQ. The BBQ consisted of drinking near beer, grilling steaks, and socializing with each other. The BBQ helped the section come together and boost morale. The SIGINT was a Brigade asset always going out on missions with the maneuver units in the midst of the night.

Credit to the Soldiers of the 1BSTB Battalion Yearbook 2006-2008 Publication

In Memory of SGT Jack W. Pellington C/1-77 FA, 1966 & A/2-12 Cav, 1967 of Kinnelon, NJ October 13, 1945 – August 1, 2025



Jack at 2025 Reunion

If you have ever attended an association reunion, it is quite likely you have run into Jack Pellington while in the gift shop.

We lost this dedicated Trooper on August 1st. Since 2001 (maybe even earlier), Jack has been volunteering in the gift shop. Helping the ladies unpack and set up for the ensuing onslaught of First Team shoppers.

At every reunion, we were greeted with a good morning hug; he never hesitated to help anyone one of us. His last reunion was in Reno 2025.

Rest in Peace our friend and we will meet again on the other side; have the coffee ready and arms open for an overdue hug.

Since his loss on August 1st, we have come across numerous postings from friends.

Here are a few:

From Ray Bossard: "There was a wake for Jack on Thursday night that was attended by all of Jack's and The Pellington family friends. I posted Jack's flannel shirt in the photos first

as Jack told the family to bury him in his flannel shirt, jeans and jungle boots otherwise no one would know him. The family buried him in his Dress Blues with all his medals and ribbons which was the way to go, they did however bury him in his jungle boots.

The entire family was sporting 1st Cav pins as Jack was very, very proud of his service with the Cav in Vietnam.

On Friday they laid Jack to rest at Mount Rest in Butler, The Army sent a unit to handle the burial service, and the local Veterans organization handled the firing squad and played taps. Charlene was presented an American Flag for the years of Jack's faithful service.

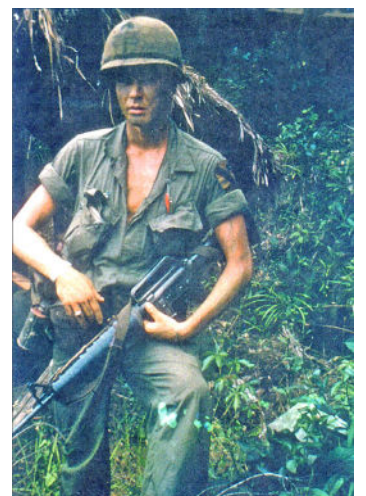
As I had posted when Jack passed, he was a valuable member of whatever organization he was a member of and will be missed by all of them.

Rest in Peace Brother, you were one of a kind and we won't see the likes of you again."

From Operation Toy Train: "Jack helped plan our very first toy collection train in 2009 and was the person responsible for devising and implementing our whole method of counting, recording, sorting, packing, and stowing toys that we still use today. Every single one of the 382,605 toys that our organization has collected over the past sixteen years passed by Jack and was recorded on Jack's clipboard. Jack faithfully served not only Operation Toy Train, but our nation, seeing service in Vietnam from 1966 to 1967.

We proudly dedicated our baggage car #1702 in Jack's honor on December 15, 2024, surprising him that morning when we unveiled its renaming as the "Jack W. Pellington." When the car is eventually repainted, Jack's name will be put back in the same spot, so that every toy collected by Operation Toy Train in the future will continue to pass by Jack.

RIP Jack. Wherever you are, we hope you're enjoying your three brand-new (clean!) plastic bendy straws."



LRRP/Ranger News

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Loel Largent

Loel Largent Memorial Garden

Brothers – greetings from Tennessee! Want to start this article off by honoring one of our brothers who did not make it back – Loel Largent.

Loel was born on 13 March 1959 in Rusk, Texas. He was a member of the Rusk High School Class of 1968. Following graduation he enlisted in the Army in August of 1968 and ultimately achieved the rank of Sergeant. Loel was buried in the Cedar Hill Cemetery in Rusk. There is a garden in Rusk commemorating the life of Loel. When his family received his personal belongings they found 2 poems in his wallet...

*"If you would walk along the street in a small country town
Tell me, just what would you see if you stopped to look around?
Would it be the flowers and the soft green grass at your feet?
Or would you see the beer cans and garbage in the gutter along the street?
Would you see beautiful children playing in front of happy homes?
Or would you see the prideless tramp who on the dark street roams?
I hope that the majority who read this little verse would see only that which
is better and say a prayer for that which is worse!"*

*Oh for a single day when all that is, is gay.
Just for one beautiful night,
When every star is shining bright.
A time when every soul abounds with love,
And each heart in flight on wings of a dove!
When every eye would see but gay colors,
And every mind, will peace among brothers.
Oh, for a day, when love is no longer a lease
– just one day – in a world of PEACE!*

Paul Alfaro's (deceased Feb 2021) account of Loel's (and Bull Durham's) last mission:

(Paul was assigned to team Three six as the ATL. The TL's name was Bull.)

There was Loel, Whitey from my old team and two cherries. Both Bull and Loel were short with just 24 and 25 days left in country. It was strange that they were still in the field, but I guess the CO had his favorites in the company. The TL did not say a lot. It might have been because he was short and did not want to take the time to get to know me. Maybe he felt he was getting the short end of the stick from the CO. In fact he did not speak to me until the next day before our mission.

"I heard good things about you from Spanky. I think everything will work out okay." "I feel the same way, Bull." "Loel's my point man, he has been for twelve months. I hope you do not mind." "Mind? Bull, you are the TL, not me. It's whatever you want." Tay Ninh was our next mission and because of all the action that was coming out of there I was a little apprehensive.

"How do you want to work this?" "Well," as I spread out the map, "I thought if we landed over here we could work our way in towards this trail." "Let's not waste time. Let's just land next to the trail and go into the jungle right here" as he pointed with his finger on the map. I did not say a word. It was his team and he knew what he was doing. That night we spent at base camp; I did not sleep much.

In the morning we were inserted. As we ran into the tree line we saw the trail, it had not been used. Going in an additional 25 feet, we stopped. As we sat, out of the corner of my eye I saw movement. We then picked up after about ten minutes and moved farther into the wood line. It was there; we found the real trail. As we moved down the trail we found foxholes with food and water next to them. The enemy had seen us come in and had moved back. I turned to look at the cherry. The weight of the pack was already making him fall behind. I then motioned for Bull to stop.

We continued to move slowly down the trail. As we came to a bend, they were waiting for us. Two of them were standing and not in position yet. I opened up on them with my M-16, placing my fire directly in their midsections. The initial return fire hit our radioman in the head. The bullet tore the left side of his skull exposing his brains. He fell forward. The rest of us had already hit the ground and were returning fire. Luckily, we were in a small depression, so it was hard for the enemy to get a clear shot at us, even though we were only twenty feet from them. As I saw them move trying to get to a better position to fire at us, I put a round in them.

We were fighting forty men, but they must have been raw recruits, because all

of their rounds were going over our heads. At that moment the radio man started to moan. Bull stopped firing to help the radio man. He placed a bandage around his head, not to stop the bleeding but to keep dirt from getting into the wound. I didn't think it was possible for him to still be alive.

As he moaned the enemy increased the tempo of their fire and direction. We were helpless as we watched him and could not give him anything for the pain. We tried to talk to him. We screamed at him. We did everything but hit him to keep him alive. I turned around and somehow Loel was behind me laying on the ground. The cherry was in the rear and dazed. He was not firing because we were in the front. Just then an RPG slammed into our position. "Cover our rear and get that man up." He looked at me not knowing what to do. I yelled at him to turn around to protect our rear in case the enemy tried to out flank us. I looked at Loel and saw a bullet hole in the right side of his head, just above his ear. I turned and saw that Bull also had a bullet hole above his ear. I yelled at the cherry to look for a sniper in the trees, and a red line appeared across his cheek. He turned his head, "I see him. I see him. He is in the trees." "Well, shoot him." He picked up the M-79 and shot just above the sniper. The explosion tore his head off and the body hung there. "I got him! I got him!" "Good. Now cover our rear!"

Whitey was on the radio calling for an extraction team. Then the enemy decided to rush us. There were about ten of them and I think they wanted to take us alive. That was their mistake. I was shooting on instinct as I fired my rifle left to right they fell back, as if they hit an invisible wall. In that instance I realized I was surrounded in total darkness. I was aware but had the strange sensation of floating without substance, moving towards a light. My first thoughts were of my parents, my brothers and sister. What is going to happen to them? Who is going to take care of them? The closer I floated towards the light, the brighter it became. I realized that this was death. Any thoughts of my family did not matter anymore. My life was over and I was dead. Death did not want me at that moment and I returned. It seemed like hours but it had only been a fraction of a second.

I was still fighting. I reached down and turned the URC-10 on. (The URC-10 is a beacon or locator if left on for five minutes this was a code for the whole area to be bombed.) Whitey saw a woman in black reaching for him and was shooting at her. "I see death! I see death!" he yelled. "Whitey, get down! You are going to get hit." Then the enemy stopped firing and he sat down. "She is gone, Chief. She is gone." I knew they were going to attack us again, but from which direction?

Whitey and I were the only ones fighting and had expended nearly all of our ammo. "Whitey, get Bull's ammo. You take the right side." I then stripped Loel of his ammo and got ready. "Talon three six, Talon three six, Blue Max two eight Lima." "Chief, Blue Max is on station." It had been 45 minutes of fighting and finally help had arrived. "Two eight Lima, I am sending up a star cluster to mark our location." "Three six, roger. Got star cluster, be there in a minute." The enemy decided to attack us again. We were lucky that they did not change the direction and were still to our front. A B-40 RPG slammed into the trees behind us and two grenades landed five feet from me. The explosion was close, but Bull's body was in front of me and absorbed most of the concussion. "Those gooks are throwing grenades at them. This is two eight Lima, where do you want me to fire?" "Lima this is three six, fire 360 degrees all around us." "Three six, how close?" "Lima, ten feet." "Three six, that's too close." "Lima, do not worry about us. Just get them off our back." "Three six, mark your position... OK, three six stand by."

The helicopter began to dive and opened up with his mini gun. The jungle cowered as the deadly rain bent the vegetation. Deliberately he began to encircle us with his fire. "How is that, three six?" "Closer, Lima, closer." The circle became smaller until the ground churned in front of us and the cries of the enemy echoed in the jungle as the mini gun ran over them. "Three six, I see thirty gooks leaving the area, I am going after them." "Lima let them go and cover our ass." "Sorry three six, but I see them in an open field and I am not going to let them get away." "Sonofabitch!" We are alone again. "Talon three six, this is dust off five five, over." "Five five this is three six." "Will be at your location in about four minutes, over." "Whitey, you and the cherry get Nelson on the dust off. I will cover for you." I looked to see how many rounds I had left, there were only three.

The radio man was placed on the med-evac helicopter and left. The extraction helicopter came to pick us up, but we were not going to leave Bull and Loel's bodies. "Come with me," I said to the door gunner. He looked at me as if I was insane. "OK, give me your M-60." He did and I ran back to where the bodies were to wait for Whitey and the cherry.

About a minute later they came and one of the pilots was with them. This beautiful sonofabitch came out of his helicopter and was helping us carry the bodies back. I could not believe it. I heard the moans of the enemy that were still alive. I walked into the bushes and could see the pile of bodies as they lay there, the M-60 had a mind of its own as it opened up on the wounded Soldiers. "Come on Chief, come on. They're dead, let's get out of here." I looked and the cherry was standing next to me. As we lifted off, an air strike started to hit the area we had just left. With my hand I reached down and turned off the URC-10. Flying back to Tay Ninh, I looked at the bodies thrown in a corner as if they were garbage. The tears began to drop from my eyes. Both Bull and Loel had less than a month left before they were to return home. It seemed a waste for them to die with so little time left. If I am going to die, I hope it's soon. I do not want to suffer anymore.

Thanks Paul
Loel, Bull - Rest in Peace Brothers!
For those who've fought for it, Life has a flavor the protected will never know
RLTW

PLEASE CONTACT THE SCRIBE ABOVE
TO SHARE YOUR
LRRP RANGER STORIES!



5th CAV News

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Rich Sherwood

When it was assembled, all the battalions of the 5th Regiment were in the Division but by Vietnam the Army had decided to replace regiments with battalions as the basic organization of the division leaving only two of the original three battalions in the 1st Cavalry. While we were in Vietnam, 3/5 was part of the 9th Infantry division. During my tour it was assigned to the Cav for a few days, making for a *Stars & Stripes* article, nice pictures, and a good beer-story about how APCs could not climb B-52'd rubber trees but GIs can. I understand the 3/5 guys were very uncomfortable waiting in the shade of their tracks while we climbed through a field of trees piled crisscross next to one another in order to join 3/5 for the *after* set of pictures.

Other battalions of the 5th Cav were created and assigned to other divisions. I don't know whether any exist now, but some of those Soldiers are members of the 5th Cav Association.

The 5th Cav Association completed the election of new officers in Reno this year. We have a new Secretary, Jim Noel, and Treasurer, Gary Marstall. Jim and Gary were with 1Cav in Desert Storm. We are glad to see them take over the organization. And we are glad that they are so diligently working on recruiting their contemporaries, GWOT and current Soldiers. I hope that the 5th Cav may return to sponsoring annual reunions so local Soldiers may join us.

While they are busy recruiting and reorganizing the Association, I hope we can provide a place where family and friends can look for information on our membership and direct them to places where they can continue their search. One of the most rewarding things we have done is to reunite children with their dad's compatriots.

Many Veterans of my era were silent about their service, even in their own family. Some felt pressure on Veterans to be silent. Some found conflict in their own family about their service.

I could have been one of those who stayed silent. I never spoke about my past and was silent about my time in the Army. When I ETS'd Veteran status did not seem like a plus in the workplace. It was luck that my platoon sergeant called me on the phone more than 25 years ago and asked if I was the Sherwood who had served with A 2/5. I was surprised at how much I liked the idea of meeting and talking to him.

Alonzo Jones was the force that brought his platoon and company together, building a strong group that meets every few years in different towns for two or three days in the same hotel, providing group dinners, and time for old buddies just to talk; refreshing memories and meeting the new generation of family who attend, and the Troopers we invite to join us.

When he called me, I was surprised that he had found me. I had entered and left the Army in Chicago; he was calling me in Virginia. He was coming to DC. Would I see him? I thought for a moment and said yes. When we met, we spoke from 7 in the evening to 6 the next morning. It was great to be able to speak with someone who shared my experience. I was only a small part of his Army, but he

was a very big portion of mine.

Through Alonzo, I began to hear from guys I had not spoken to since leaving Vietnam. People called me and sent me emails. A ready-built discussion group for just about every issue I still had from Vietnam. I belonged; people wanted to search my memory. I argued about when, where and what happened. It was great!

Of course, the group that I got into has shrunk over the last 25 years but I have found ways to expand it, usually because someone I already know has suggested it. A buddy from New York suggested that I attend the Cav Association's Veterans' Day in Washington. The first meeting for me was a very large get-together. And one it was impossible to stay alone at. A lone Soldier at the event soon had someone to sit with and draw him out. Where and when did you serve? Were you ever at this town, that LZ, or this duty?

Riflemen from every company of my battalion and every battalion of the Cav talked to me about their side of operations and engagements I participated in or of battles I had heard of.

That first event led to attending the 1st Cavalry annual reunion and from that to contacts crossing the country and generations. I enjoyed taking on various tasks and helping find our list of lost buddies and their families.

The other day, I realized that I had not contacted an old friend for quite a while, one of the medics from my tour. I called him and without too much preamble began to talk about the issue I wanted to address. When I stopped to breathe, he told me some of the things that happened in his life. He spoke for a while about them, then he redirected the conversation to the old days; a list of the men he had treated. He got me to speak about those I knew and what happened to them. When we finished, I made a note to call him again, then thought of what had just happened.

I hope that my friend feels better after talking to me. I know that I feel better after talking to him. Why is that so?

The conversation stimulated my thoughts, exercising my memory and attention. The discussion kept me alert as I evaluated new facts or remembered an old one and formulated sensible answers to questions.

Conversation got me out of myself. I sometimes feel like my problems are all big ones. Talking to someone who has a different problem gives me perspective. Talking to someone with a similar situation can affirm my solution or teach me a new approach.

When I let myself be alone for a long time, I can forget the skills necessary for conversation. Personal contacts and phone calls give me a chance to practice listening and speaking and give and take. As I get older, I realize how important verbal communication is. I need help more often and listening is a way of negotiating for it.

Conversation makes me quick to engage with others, to join in walks or participate in games and social events. I know that talk makes me feel better and anxious to share with still others.

Communication among us is good. Talking with people who share our background gives us a chance to share experiences and insights with those who truly get us. We share a perspective; one that makes for a more profound and authentic conversation. I prize conversations with those who share our service and our service background.

Sometimes those conversations are good medicine for the person we called. It always reinforces our sense of Veteran community and confirms the unique support we can offer one another.

Rich Sherwood <rsherwood001@gmail.com>

**Contact the scribe above to share your
5th Cav stories!**
**If you were ever a part of 5th CAV,
make sure you're a member
of their Association <www.5thCav.org>
SUPPORT YOUR UNIT LEGACY!**

NEW MEMBERS:

PV2 ABELLA, DAVIN FL HHC 1-5C
PVT AKINSANYA, KEHINDE TX 2-5C
E-3 ANDRAL, RUDDOCK TX H 2-8C
MSG BAILEY, GARNETTE VA F 2-12C
CPT BERGIEL, BLAISE GA B 227AHB
MAJ (RET) BOCANEGRA, STEPHANIE TX HHBN 1-1ACB
SPC BOWERS, JOSHUA TX 3CR
LTC BRADLEY, TERRY D. VA H 15TC
2LT BROWNLEE, DYLAN TX 2-7C
SSG CURTIS, JOVAN SR TX 1-96TRANS
SFC DAVIS, CRAIG TX 1-27MSB
SFC DAVIS, SHEBRA TX 1-27MSB
SPC DeHART, JOSHUA IN B 1-1BSTB
CPT DONALDSON, JARED TX 1-5C
COL DUCOTE, BRIAN GA HHC 1-1CD
CPT EALY, JAMES MI A 3-8C
1LT GALLOWAY, STARNICE SC HHC 01-12C
PFC GARDNER, WYATT WA HHC 1-1CD
2LT HAGER, JACK SCOTT TX C 2-8C
SFC HALL, LAWRENCE TX 3-16FA
SPC HERNANDEZ, JOSE FL C 3-16FA
SSG HERNANDEZ, SABRINA LYNN TX G 2-12C
SSG HOLT, CHARLES TX A 2-7C
PVT HURD, CHARLES NJ B 8ENG
CW3 JACKSON, LE MARQUIS VA D 1-27MSB
SGT JARRETT, QUINCY TX F 215TRANS
2LT JENSEN, BLAIR TX 3-16FA
SGT KENYOU, STEPHANE TX HHC 1-8ENG
SGT KINTGEN, ANDREW VA HHC 2-5C
SPC LEMONS, CHAD NV G 1-82FA
MAJ LUCHS, TIMOTHY TX 3-82FA

SFC MARTINEZ, NICOLAS TX HHT 3BCT
CPL MATYAS, JOHN NV B 2-19ARTY
SFC (RET) McCONNELL-ANTOINE, LASHANDRA TX 1-27MSB
SPC MEDECK, KYLE AR A 2-8C
SPC ORR, AARON TX 2-20FA
PV2 ORTIZ, CARLOS TX C 91ENG
E-5 PAUL, ROBERT MI A 2-12C
E-5 PETTY, LARRIE IN HQ C-12C
SPC QUACH, EDWARD TX D 2-227
SFC RAMIREZ, MIGUEL AK 1-9C
MSG RANDALL, NICHOLAS TX HHBN 1-1CD
PFC RATHBURN, GAVEN OH HHC 2-8C
E-4 ROBINSON, HERMAN PA HHC 1CD
E-4 ROCKWELL, MICHAEL TX B 1-8C
E-1 ROSENBAUM, JEREMIAH MT C 1-9C
SFC SANTIAGO, GABRIEL A. TX E 1-17ASC
SPC SCHUYLER, KEITH TX HHC 2-5C
PVT SERRATA, BRYAN TX 2-12C
PFC SHOEMAKER JONATHAN W MO 1-15BSB
E-3 SINGH, POSHAN RAJ TX C 533SUS
MAJ STILL, KERRY MI DIVARTY
SFC SZATNY, REGGIE NJ 1 1CD
2LT THACKER, DANIELLE CA E 3-227AVN
2LT TUCKER, CHAD TX HHBN 1-1CD
PFC VALDEZ, ANGELICA TX 1-1CD
PFC VILLEGAS, JUAN III TX A 1-DIVARTY
SPC WEATHERS, JALEN TX DIVARTY
SPC WHITT, C.J. SC 1-27MSB
CPT WILLIAMS, BRONZEN TX 1-1CD
SPC YOUNG, KEISHA TX 1-27MSB



WELCOME TO THE 1CDA TEAM!

12th CAV News



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Semper Paratus and Salute! A 'Slow Hand' Salute, condolences, and prayers to SGT Owen Lee Lewis family of Rossville, GA. SGT Lewis served in Charlie Company, 1st Battalion (AIRBORNE) 12th CAVALRY, 1965-1966 in Vietnam. He was awarded Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal w/V, Combat Infantry Badge and Air Medal. He passed on to Fiddlers Green 18 August 2025, is interred at the Chattanooga, TN National Cemetery 1200 Bailey Avenue. SGT Lewis was highly respected and well-liked by his fellow Soldiers who knew him and his absence is felt by us who still gather at the reunions.



2-12th Landing Craft Insertion at Qui Nhon

A 'Snap Salute' to the Original Troopers of 1st Battalion (Airborne) 12th Cavalry and 2D Battalion (Airmobile) 12th Cavalry who made the voyage to Vietnam on the USNS Geiger (1-12) and USNS Buckner (2-12), landing at Qui Nhon, 13th September 1965. These men of the 187th Parachute Infantry Regiment/11th Air Assault Brigade and 2D Infantry Division, directly involved in the Training and Development of Airmobile/Air Assault Tac-

tics were the Torch bearers for those of us who came after.

They were welcomed by this message, from MG Harry W.O. Kinnard, Commanding General, 1st Cavalry Division, to the Officers and Men of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile):

"Today the 1st Cavalry Division celebrates its 44th Anniversary as a key member of the United States Army. It is particularly appropriate that this Organization Day commemoration finds the Division returning to the Far East.

In this Pacific Theater, in two wars, the 'First Team' has proudly acquitted itself. The Division's history is a glorious one. Its combat record is unsurpassed. General Douglas MacArthur once paid tribute to the 1st Cavalry Division in these words...swift and sure in attack, tenacious and durable in defense, and loyal and cheerful under hardship. It has written its own noble history.

Now the 1st Cavalry is known as the 'Air Cav,' and it has been restyled into a hard-hitting, fast-moving unit among Army combat units. We thus carry into action not only the old and glorious traditions, but the promise of even greater moments to come.

The eyes of the world are fixed on this Division. We are a symbol of our nation's determination to resist tyranny and aggression wherever it may appear. We are also the embodiment of an exciting new tactical doctrine.

Whatever lies ahead, we will prevail. We are the First Team!

H W O Kinnard

Highly trained, intensely motivated, 'gung-ho,' and not exactly sure of what to expect, Troopers loaded off the ships anchored offshore, lowered by net into LSTs that took them to the beach heads. It was here that the first traces of PTSD were experienced. Expecting to meet head on with enemy resistance, they were greeted by Village Urch, peddling soda pop and snacks, as they heard heavy weapons fire going off far beyond the landing areas. Rumor has it that, as some walked down the planks from the LSTs, they were ordered back onto the boats to accommodate the aerial recon choppers flying around for photo ops directed by MACV and Saigon PIO officials.

A lot of WTFs flew from the Soldiers' mouths. Determined to charge on in the manner of 1st-12th 'Chargin Chargers,' they were herded into a landing strip area and loaded onto Chinooks, Hueys, and trucks headed toward An Khe Camp Radcliffe where the Troops set about constructing a metropolis of pup tents and poncho liner lean-tos. In the SNAFU moments of offloading at the beachheads some of the Troops were separated from their platoons and companies which caused grave concern for the Officers and NCOs.



Initial Tent City An Khe Sep '65

Eventually, they regrouped with their assigned units. Hearing gunfire in the distance again, some Troops decided to dig foxholes around their lean-to's, though they had been instructed not to. One Trooper decided he wanted to add cover and dug 12 inches into the ground and hit the water table on an already saturated hillside. One NCO 'accidentally' shot himself in the foot, and was evacuated back to Qui Nhon, never to be heard from again.

After wading through the initial SNAFUS and FUBARS, 1st-12th and 2d-12th. Settled in, 2d-12th was the first battalion to go on designated mission. First Brigade Separate of the 101st Airborne had been in the An Khe area to provide security during camp construction. They were called into another AO and 2d-12th assumed this responsibility. What might be dubbed the first Air Assault, they were flown to Highway 19, spread out to recon and secure the camp area. No serious enemy contact was encountered until 10 October 1965, when 1st-12th Cavalry (Airborne), went on mission in Operation 'Shiny Bayonet.'

Under the command of LTC Robert Shomaker, 1st-12th was attached to 3d Brigade with the mission to land at several LZs in the Suoi Ca River Valley and secure objective 3 on a hilltop close to the primary LZ and block Viet Cong movement from east to west, along with a force of South Vietnamese Marines.

A four-day operation 10 October-14 October 1965. This was the 'Baptism of Fire' for the battalion. Morley Safer of CBS News was with the battalion and produced a documentary for CBS titled, 'Baptism of Fire' which can be viewed on You Tube. It involved all companies of 1st Battalion 12th Cavalry. Casualties incurred were 56 WIA and nine (9) KIA. Seven were killed by direct fire and two later died from their wounds. Five (5) of these were Bravo Company, three (3) Alpha company and one (1) Delta Company.



Chaplain Billy R. Lord in Branson, MO Sept 2016

Alpha Company losses were LT William Barrett, SSG Harold Michael Hambrick, Trooper Argenzio Nestor Lorenzo. Bravo Company losses were SSG Theodore Chambley, Trooper Gary Howard Jones, Trooper Gary Howard Jones, Trooper William Ross Romano, and Trooper Fred Toins. Delta Company Trooper Terry Tim Wright, 17 Years old. Trooper Wright's father was KIA in the Korean War.

Medals of Valor awarded were: 56 Purple Hearts; one (1) Distinguished Flying Cross to MAJ Joseph Bellocchi; two (2) Silver Stars were awarded, one (1) to Troopers Robert O. Martin

and one (1) to our esteemed Chaplain Billy R. Lord for saving numerous lives during the four (4) operations. It was confirmed that Viet Cong losses were 48 KIA, five (5) WIA and three (3) Viet Cong and 21 Viet Cong suspects were captured.

This was the battle and operation that set the standards for Airmobile operations throughout the remaining years of the Vietnam War. Numerous lessons were learned to codify the strategies and tactics developed in the years of training at Ft Benning. Aircraft readiness was set up to provide more efficient supply of needed equipment and rations in the field by keeping aircraft at forward command areas and loaded 24 hrs. prior to movement. Troops learned the value of traveling light, leaving poncho liners, personal items such hunting knives were left behind when going into the field. Expediting issue of lightweight tropical fatigues, and jungle boots for the Troops became a priority to enable easier movement and the habit of not wearing underwear became a fashion statement to lighten the load for the grunts.

The best lesson of all was learned in this operation, how to solve the jamming of the M16s. That was done by frequent and conscious cleaning to alleviate the 'gumming up of the weapon.' It was discovered that when fired in wet condition, due to the small caliber and close tolerances, a gummy mass formed by water and oil jammed the weapon. Frequent cleaning helped resolve the problem. The decision was also made for each man to carry 400 rounds of ammo and discouraging automatic fire except when necessary. These lessons passed on to incoming Troopers saved numerous lives further into the succeeding frays. Again, a Snap Salute to those who braved the initial enemy attacks and passed the lessons learned to those coming in behind. GEN Kinnard's remarks, "Whatever lies ahead, we will prevail. We are 'The First Team!'"

NOTES: Michael O. Gregory provided a thorough accounting of this operation, B Company, 1st Battalion (Airborne) 12th Cavalry, 1965-1966, in his published book, 'Shiny Bayonet.' It can be purchased through Amazon or 1st Cavalry Division Association Gift Shop.

Opening remarks by GEN Kinnard, were extracted from Volume 1, Issue 26, from the Buckner Banner, Sunday, 12 September 1965, published aboard the USNS Buckner enroute to Vietnam. Edited, written, and produced by the following 2d-12th Cavalry Troopers: Editor-CPT JD Coleman, Assistant Editor-PFC Jim Lull, Reporters-SP4 Steve Brickley, PFC Charles Ekdahl, Illustrator-PFC Larry McMahan, Production-SP4 Don Sadler, Typist-SP4 Dick Speroni--Salute To All!

GEN Robert M. Shoemaker retired in 1982. He was a dynamic presence in the Ft Hood/Killeen, TX area and served as Bell County Commissioner for many years. GEN Shoemaker departed 22 June 2017.

Chaplain Billy R. Lord retired as a full bird Colonel and served the community of Springfield, MO many years. He was an inspiring presence at our 12th Cavalry Reunions in Branson, MO from 2006 to when he left us 15 October 2021.

1st Battalion (Airborne) 12th Cavalry arrived at Qui Nhon 20 September 1965.

Until next time "May the Chief Chopper Pilot Hover over us, the Original Paratrooper correct our parachute malfunctions, and the Head Point Man keep us in the assigned AO!"

Crabtree Out!
"Boot to Boot"



GEN Robert M. Shoemaker
1-12th Battalion Commander 1965
(then an LTC)

**Contact the scribe above to share
your 12th Cav stories!**

**If you were ever a part of 12th CAV,
make sure you're a member
of their Association**

<www.12thCav.com>

SUPPORT YOUR UNIT LEGACY!

7th CAV News



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Greetings, Garryowen Troopers! Welcome to the Sept/Oct 2025 issue of 7th Cav News.

We begin with the minutes from our 77th Annual Reunion Unit Luncheon Meeting. Submitted by our Secretary: John Guillory:

Hello all. John Guillory here. Although I was unable to attend the reunion this year, our Association's Honorary Colonel, LTC (Ret) Albert "Bert" Guarnieri, graciously stepped in on my behalf and did an outstanding job gathering the details for this report.

The 2025 7th Cavalry Luncheon Meeting was called to order at 1200 hours by Association President Mike Campbell, who welcomed everyone to Reno, and to the 1st Cavalry Division Association's Annual Reunion.

Vice President Tim Hodge highlighted the ongoing challenges in recruiting new members and encouraged everyone to help expand our membership. Tim read the Treasurer's Report and noted that the Association is currently in need of a new Webmaster. He urged anyone with the appropriate skills or contacts to step forward ASAP.

LTC (Ret) Guarnieri congratulated the 36 members of the 7th Cavalry who signed in on the official roster and attended the luncheon. In total, 48 individuals joined us for the meal, once again making us the most well-represented unit at the reunion, just as we were last year.

Each 7th Cav member in attendance introduced themselves, named their unit, and shared when they served. This personal touch was well-received by all.

Next, Bert announced the Association Officer election results:

Vice President: Tim Hodge, Treasurer: Robert Anderson, Secretary: John Guillory

As all were running unopposed, each was elected by acclamation to serve a three-year term, concluding in 2028. President Mike Campbell will continue his term through our next meeting in July 2026.

Bert offered a prayer of remembrance for the Troopers we lost over the past year, specifically mentioning SGT Jerry Armstrong from C 2/7, with whom he served in Vietnam. A bell was sounded in Jerry's honor.

Bert then addressed the Golden Spur Awards (certificates) from the previous year. Tim Hodge committed to sending the recipients the awards. Bert read *The Perimeter* by James R. Larson. Copies were made available to attendees. Bert also shared his experience visiting Normandy in 2024 for the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings. While at Omaha Beach he collected sand and placed small amounts into plastic containers. Many attendees gratefully accepted one.

In closing, Bert thanked everyone for attending, rendered a smart salute, and adjourned the luncheon.



Here's a story from **Mike Dooley**, E1/7/1ACD/RVN: It was 1971 at the beginning of the stand down. We were on Firebase Eldridge for a time (in fact I think we helped build it). We were taken out of the field and reassigned to our company area in Bien Hoa. SGM (Ret) Jimmy Capshaw was E1/7 First Sergeant back then. He had an old female dog - the one in the photo - that stayed in a sandbagged culvert outside the company HQ during the heat of the day. Someone had a pet monkey that they chained to the same culvert. The monkey would sit on top of the bunker and wait for the dog to come out and then jump

down and try to have his way with her. This made Top extremely mad, and one day the monkey came up missing! I always wondered...

Great story, Mike! I'm sure Top Capshaw wouldn't have put up with that sort of monkey business without taking some serious action. I'm sure he will enjoy the story and the picture.

We had something similar happen in Phouc Vinh/1969. I'm sure there are some *Saber* readers who will remember this graphic demonstration of Darwin's law:

A pet monkey named Bobo broke his chains and escaped from his not very bright owner but never traveled too far from our company area due to the easy panhandling. Bobo was a friendly monkey who got along with everybody *except* his ex-owner - we'll call him "Bob" - who he hated with a burning passion. This eventually became mutual. Bob tried to catch Bobo dozens of times. It grew into an obsession with him and catching the monkey became his reason for living, all he thought about. Bob had a serious problem. One time he made a flying leap across a card table during an ongoing game of 7-card stud, landing right on top of the table which collapsed under him, scattering beer, chips, cards, and cursing GLs everywhere in another failed attempt to grab him, but Bobo was far too fast for Bob to catch.

Once Bob finally realized his disadvantage in the speed department, he started coming up with all kinds of crazy traps and snares to catch the runaway, but it was all to no avail. In addition to being faster, Bobo was also smarter than Bob and stole all the bait from the traps before destroying them and pissing all over the wreckage. Accurate power-urination in controlled bursts was Bobo's primary offensive weapon with "feces flinging" as a solid backup, but Bob couldn't admit to being outgunned and insisted on continuing this unconventional gorilla war in spite of being so obviously overmatched. It was Bobo who caused a massive escalation of the conflict when he started pissing in Bob's spare boots. Bob finally cracked up completely when the monkey, in one determined assault, pissed all over his bunk, tossed everything in his footlocker, chewed up his Cav wallet and, as a final insult, crapped in his helmet. Bob broke down and sobbed out his promise of revenge to anybody who would listen, although few were so inclined at that point in the conflict, not wanting to place themselves in the line of fire.

That night a wild-eyed Bob sat on his bunk, mumbling in the dark with an M-16 on his lap, locked and loaded, waiting for Bobo to try and steal the open can of C-rat ham 'n eggs sitting on the footlocker. Naturally Bobo, who like

everyone else, *hated* ham 'n eggs had anticipated Bob's ambush, ignored the bait, and climbed into the rafters above the white cargo chute that served as the hooch's interior ceiling and, with sniper-like accuracy, let loose a stream of monkey piss right through the silk. It was a perfect head shot. Bob totally freaked out, started screaming about killing the VC Monkey, and went to full auto spraying the ceiling with 5.56mm. Bobo, showing his superior intelligence, fled the scene but Bob had completely snapped and continued to rant and rave and fire for effect inside our company area until the MPs disarmed him and took him away in handcuffs. Bobo was back the next day hanging out with the guys patching the riddled roof. Bob never returned.



Disbanding the Army's Horse Detachments to save \$2M? OMG!

What a *wonderful* stroke of bureaucratic brilliance! Who was the DOGE child genius that thought this one up? And who are the groveling stooges and Washington butt kissers that continue to think this is a good idea at any level? It's hard to picture the 1st Cav without the Horse Detachment. Monty Python's "Search for the Holy Grail" comes to mind. Write to your representatives

and tell them to stop this silly uncalled for trashing of our heritage. I know we scribes are supposed to remain nonpolitical, but ya'll gotta admit that the boat ain't tied to the dock when it comes to this topic.

Anyway, since there's nothing any of us can do about it except complain and write letters of protest to our local reps, that's what I did. I wrote letters of protest to town, county, state, and federal policymakers - everybody I could think of. Here's one of them. Sure I know it's a little below his pay grade, but you never know:

Dear President Trump,

As a Vietnam Combat Veteran, Purple Heart recipient, and proud member of the 1st Cavalry Division Association, I write to you with deep concern of the Army's recent ill-advised decision to disband almost all of its historic horse detachments.

This decision is deeply troubling to many Veterans, active-duty Soldiers, and supporters of the military. It dishonors not only the legacy of the United States Cavalry but also disregards the important role the horse detachments play in recruitment, community engagement, and public relations for the Army, all to purportedly save a nearly meaningless amount of money. These units are not just ceremonial relics. They embody the living heritage of our Army's storied past, while offering a unique and highly effective form of outreach in a time when military recruitment faces unprecedented challenges.

According to Army figures, disbanding the Horse Detachments would save \$2 million annually. This is insignificant when placed in context. The June 14th, 2025, military parade in Washington, D.C. (\$24M) was a success due in part to the participation of The Cav's mounted Troopers. The media and public relations value of the horse detachments' service has been estimated to be well over \$8 million annually, not to mention the recruitment and retention value, and the immeasurable goodwill and inspiration they bring to communities across the nation. Disbanding the horse units to "save" \$2 million makes no business sense.

The Army talks about modernizing and streamlining, but history, tradition, and morale matter too. Eliminating the horse detachments sends the wrong message. It's not just about the horses. It's about identity, legacy, and connection.

I urge you to use your power as Commander-In-Chief to reverse this ill-considered decision. Congress must ensure that the Army does not sacrifice a priceless tradition and a proven recruitment tool for an uncertain, ill advised, and inconsequential cost saving. Please save the Army Horse Detachments. Respectfully, etc.

This is my first foray into writing a letter of protest to a government official. Do I think it will work? Well, it's been a couple of months since I sent letters to 26 politicians and I have not received a single response yet, so no, I don't think it will, but it felt good to do something, and even if it doesn't help, it couldn't hurt. I know the chance of any correspondence actually being read by the person it is addressed to are about one in a

zillion, but I also know that if we do nothing, that one chance turns to zero. Take twenty minutes and write a letter. Spend seventy-eight cents for a stamp or send an email to your representatives protesting the disbanding of The Army Horse Detachments.

That's it for this issue. Send in your stories. GarryOwen! Boz, out.



HCD in the 2025 ARMY-250th Parade

Contact the scribe above to share your 7th Cav stories!

If you were ever a part of 7th CAV, make sure you're a member of their Association

<www.us7thCavalry.org>

SUPPORT YOUR UNIT LEGACY!

8th CAV News
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314-229-7701
www.8Cavalry.com



Hello fellow 8th Cavalry Veterans and active 8th Cavalry Troopers. I am Larry "The Saint" Hempfling your new scribe for the 8th Cavalry in this *Saber* Newspaper. First things first. I would like to thank James "Top Gun" Dotson for his contribution to the *Saber* these past years and, also, his wife and editor, Jennifer for her part in posting the article to the Division for printing. A job well done by both Top Gun and Jennifer these past years. For those who don't know me, I served with Delta Co 2/8 Cavalry in 1968 and part of 1969 before I got a rear job. Delta Co had the call sign "Angry Skipper," and there will be more on that in the future articles.

I arrived in Vietnam in June 1968 at Cam Rahn Bay along with several of those men I had gone through A.I.T. with at Ft. Polk which was home of Infantry training in Louisiana. After days of waiting for orders, Mike "Mouse" McGhie, the former writer for *Saber* and President of 8th Cav, and several other men were assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division. Then off to An Khe to drop our duffle bags. Then on to Camp Evans for in-country training which was supposed to be for a week. That was maybe 4 days and it was another plane ride to LZ Sharion in I Corp where we found out we were assigned to Delta Co. I'll get into more of my tour in the future.

Having just returned from the 1st Cavalry Reunion in Reno I have some things fresh in my mind including the difficulty of travel these days. It took me 2 days to get to Reno and after sitting for 6 hours here in St. Louis for my flight to Dallas on Wednesday I was able to reschedule my flight to the next day. It worked much better and it was meant to be. Once boarding for Reno was announced to be only minutes away at Dallas to Reno, I was approached by a young man who asked, "You were with the 8th Cavalry?" Lt. Colonel John

Nimmons introduced himself and told me he is the current Battalion Commander of the 3/8 Cavalry. John spoke at the 8th Cavalry luncheon and was the keynote speaker at the banquet on Saturday evening as Top Gun told you in his final article in the July/August *Saber*. Through the weekend, LTC John and I have vowed to stay in touch when he returns to his job at Ft. Hood and wherever he is assigned to go overseas after. I look forward to doing that because I will have firsthand information to share with all of you when it is permissible by LTC Nimmons.

The trip to the Reno Reunion was an adventure, as I expressed before, but as always, the Association provided a very good reunion. A group of us including Top Gun, Jennifer, Paul Braun, his wife Sharon and myself all rented a van and went on our trip down to Lake Tahoe. What a beautiful place with crystal clear water and breathtaking views. We made a few more stops including one for lunch on our way back. The Banquet on Saturday evening was fun as always, and as I mentioned earlier LTC John Nimmons was the keynote speaker. He provided us an update of current activities of not only the 3/8 Cav, but the whole Division.

I enjoyed the Reno reunion and I'm sure you will agree that it was a job well done by all of the dedicated people in the organization.

As previous writers have said, I welcome any contribution to this 8th Cavalry article. I know from talking to past writers that can be difficult to find things of interest without your help. Thank you in advance for any contribution that you might wish to contribute.

Our thoughts are with Gene Willis for his wife who had recently passed away. Prayers with Gene and his family. With that and until the next article, I will bid all of you goodbye for now.

Honor and Courage
Larry "The Saint" Hempfling, D 2/8 1968-1969



Paul Braun, Larry and TopGun

Please contact the scribe to share your 8th Cav stories!
SUPPORT YOUR UNIT LEGACY!
If you served with 8th Cav,
Join your 8th Cav Association



LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

I was honored to have the privilege of receiving this scholarship. After talking with my grandfather, I am proud to live in a country built by the sacrifices of so many before me. This grant is assisting me in my path towards a higher education and enabling me to give back to my community. It means so much to be able to continue in this legacy.

Many Thanks, Noah Fajen

Dear 1st Cavalry Division Association,
I am deeply honored and profoundly grateful for the Active-Duty Soldier Scholarship. This generous award will directly support my tuition at Southern Utah University, where I am pursuing a master's degree in music technology, specializing in studio technology. As a 42R Army Musician, this degree will enhance my technical skills, enabling me to contribute more effectively to the 1st Cavalry Division Band's mission success. Thank you for your unwavering support and belief in my potential.

Sincerely, PFC Wyatt Gardner

My name is Bryan Hollis, and I am the recipient of the 1st Calvary Association Scholarship Award. First let me explain a little bit about myself. I am a student with disabilities (Autism) and going to college for my degree in Teaching with Special Education. I want to teach kids with special needs to help them learn not to let their disabilities hold them back. That they are more than just whatever disability they may have. That they can do and achieve anything. I played high school football and participated in Special Olympics all four years of high school. I did not let my disability hold me back from what I wanted to do. I also gained the respect and admiration of not only my fellow teammates but inspired others with disabilities to try things outside of their comfort zone. I started my college career at Texas Lutheran University but since I could not get the full support that I needed I transferred to Lakeview Community College to continue my education.

Getting this scholarship is going to make it possible for me to achieve my dreams of going to college so I can be part of something bigger than myself. I want to thank the 1st Calvary Association for helping me to continue to achieve this goal. I could not believe it when I got this scholarship. I want to make not only the 1st Calvary Association proud that they gave me this scholarship, so I want to do well but also my parents, especially my dad who served in the 1st Calvary Division. Thank you so much for this opportunity to succeed and achieve my dreams.

I am happy to receive this scholarship from the 1st Cavalry Division Association. I am a student at Texas A&M Kingsville pursuing a degree on Civil Engineering. I heard many things about the 1st Cavalry Division from the father, who served in C Battery, 1-82nd Field Artillery in Sadr City, Iraq, during Operation Iraqi II, supporting 2-5 Cavalry Battalion Task Force Lancer. Their Soldiers were featured in the National Geographic series, "The Long Road Home," which describes the struggle of families and Soldiers during the Siege of Sadr City on April 4, 2004. That day will be known as Black Sunday. Sadly, eight Soldiers were lost and approximately 50 were wounded during the battle. The Siege of Sadr City was a blockade established by U.S. and Iraqi forces in the Shia district of northern Baghdad.

I made the trip to Fort Hood to visit the 2-5 Cavalry Memorial with my father. I had the honor of meeting and speaking with many Veterans of the Battle of Sadr City during their 10th and 20th anniversary ceremony. I'm grateful for the opportunity to meet many heroes of the 1st Cavalry. I am very thankful for receiving this financial help. I wanted to make this moment about remembering the heroes lost that day. I always have respect and pride for the 1st Cavalry, and I hope one day I get to serve my country like many before me. The 26 Fallen during the Task Force's one-year deployment are:

1SG Michael L. Anderson, SPC Robert R. Arsiaga, SPC Ahmed A. Cason, SGT Yihjyh "Eddie" Lang Chen, SPC Benjamin A. Czechanski, SGT Adam W. Estep, SPC Israel Garza, PFC Leslie D. Jackson, CPL Forest J. Jostes, SPC Robert T. Hendrickson, SPC Stephen D. Hiller, SGT Joseph Kelley, SPC James "Gabe" Kentfield, SGT Kevin Kerrigan, SGT Jeff Legg, SPC Jacob D. Martir, PFC Ryan McCauley, SPC Jose Rivera, SGT Jerry L. Rose, SPC Marco D. Ross, PFC Sean M. Schneider, SPC Casey Sheehan, SSG Destiny Shumpert, SGT Todd Singleton, SGT Lee C. Wilson, SGT Durward B. Worster

Sincerely, Fernando Quintanilla Jr.

Hello, my name is Dustin Thomas Rose I want to thank the 1st Calvary Division Association alumni for all their help so that I am able to continue my further education at the Citadel military college of South Carolina. It is my dream to serve as an officer in the United States Army in the intelligence field. Someday I may be able to serve in the 1st Calvary as my grandfather did. Once again thank you Cadet Dustin T. Rose

The 1st Cav Scholarship means so much to me because it recognizes the hard work, dedication, and responsibility I've learned through lessons that have helped shape me into the person I am as I prepare to go to college. This scholarship taught me patience, consistency, and the importance of showing up every day, even when it's hard. These values have carried over into my academics and future goals, and this scholarship helps support that next chapter in my life.

My dad, Jason Thomas, is a retired Veteran who served in the Iraq War, and he has been the best dad I could ever ask for. He's shown me what true strength and commitment look like, and even though I'm not following in his military footsteps, I've taken the lessons he's taught me and applied them to my own path. This scholarship is not just financial help but it's encouragement to keep working hard and a reminder that the values I've grown up with will always matter.

Samantha Thomas

Thank you so much for this award! I will be using this scholarship towards my books and tuition costs this semester. This support makes a huge difference as I work toward becoming a nurse anesthetist and serving patients in the future. Again, thank you so much.

Samantha Wendorf

Limited Edition 1st Cavalry Division Prints
Both Military Edition Prints are autographed by the artist and numbered



Turning the Corner
Task Force Baghdad
by James Dietz
31" x 19"
\$40

Operation Iraqi Freedom
Task Force Baghdad Print
As a commemorative to the division's tour of duty, this painting by James Dietz captures the essence of a street scene in Baghdad with Cav Troopers and the equipment they used in the effort to help the Iraqi people "turn the corner" on the road from tyranny to democracy.



Liberation of Baqubah
Oct 2006 - Dec 2007
Iraq
by Joe Kline
28" x 20"
\$40

Deployed to Diyala Province, Iraq in September 2006 with 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division. 1-12 CAV assumed an area of operations of over 300 square kilometers. The battalion pursued an aggressive campaign of counter-insurgency operations focused on securing the war torn provincial capitol. Determined to strike at the heart of the insurgency, 1-12 CAV established permanent combat outposts in the most dangerous parts of Baqubah: Buhriz, Khatoon, Old Baqubah and Tahrir. From these outpost 1-12 CAV conducted aggressive, near-continuous combat operations to destroy the insurgency. The Liberation of Baqubah was in keeping with the proud history of the 12th Cavalry Regiment.

1ST CAVALRY DIVISION PRINTS

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1st CAVALRY DIVISION
ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN

Dennis Webster
513 Louise St, Copperas Cove, TX 76522
254-220-2164
Dennis.Webster7@gmail.com



Recently, the 1st Cavalry Division Historian, MAJ Steven Northrop, pointed out that the listing of Commanding Generals of the 1st Cavalry Division on our website <lcd.a.org> was incorrect. He noticed that we listed BG George Vidmer as the CG in September 1936, but records indicated that BG Vidmer retired in 1935. MAJ Northrop was correct, and I cannot tell how or when we made this mistake. Visit <<https://lcd.a.org/history/division-commanders/>> to see the corrected listing.

Eighty-one (81) men have commanded the 1st Cavalry Division since 1921. Some of them temporarily filled the position until the next CG could take the reins, BG Walter C. Short did that twice.

I'm providing the list and some short notes on most of the CG's and will try to do a similar column on the Sergeants Major but adding them would make this too long.

COMMANDING GENERALS OF THE
1ST CAVALRY DIVISION

1. MG ROBERT L. HOWZE
1921-1925

was the first CG and was awarded the Medal of Honor for actions in the American Indian Wars while assigned to the 6th Cavalry Regiment. Howze Auditorium on Fort Hood is named in his honor.



MG Robert L. Howze

2. BG JOSEPH C. CASTNER
1925-1926

commanded an Infantry Brigade in World War I and has Mount Castner and the Castner Glacier located in Alaska and the Castner Range National Monument in El Paso named in his honor.

3. MG EDWIN B. WINANS
1926-1927

commissioned out of the US Military Academy served with the 5th Cavalry Regiment and later commanded a Squadron of the 7th Cavalry on the Punitive Expedition into Mexico in 1916.

4. BG SAMUEL D. ROCKENBACH
1927

in 1918 he organized, trained, equipped, and deployed the first American tank units to the European Western Front during World War I.

5. MG GEORGE VAN HORN MOSELEY
1927-1929

served in the Philippine-American War, the Pancho Villa Expedition and commanded a brigade in World War I.

6. BG CHARLES J. SYMMONDS
1929-1930

served with 12 CAV and 7 CAV. He commanded the 2d Brigade at Fort Bliss from August 1926 to May 1927.

7. BG GEORGE C. BARNHARDT
1930

8. MG EWING E. BOOTH
1930-1932

served with 7 CAV and commanded the 1st Cavalry Brigade in Arizona before commanding the Cavalry School at Fort Riley, Kansas.

9. BG WALTER C. SHORT
1932-1933

10. MG FRANK R. MCCOY
1933

served in 8 CAV, 7 CAV, and commanded the 165th Infantry Brigade in WWI.

11. BG WALTER C. SHORT
1933-1934

was the U.S. military Commander responsible for the defense of U.S. military installations in Hawaii at the time of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 Dec 1941.

12. BG HAMILTON S. HAWKINS
1934-1936

commanded the 1st Brigade from 1932 to 1934 and then commanded the Division.

13. BG FRANCIS LEJ. PARKER
1936

14. MG BEN LEAR
1936-1938

was part of the Equestrian Team, which won a Bronze Medal in the 1912 Olympics.

15. MG KENYON A. JOYCE
1938-1940

commanded the 1st Cavalry Brigade at Fort Clark, Texas followed by command of the 1st Cavalry Division and later IX Corps in World War II.

16. MG ROBERT C. RICHARDSON JR.
1940-1941

assumed command of the 2d Cavalry Brigade at Fort Bliss, Texas followed by command of the Division on 10 October 1940.

17. MG INNIS PALMER SWIFT
1941-1944

transitioned the Division from horse to infantry while retaining the cavalry heritage. After he left the Division, he commanded I Corps.

18. MG VERNE D. MUDGE
1944-1945

was the Division Chief of Staff at Fort Bliss, then commanded 2d Brigade. As the CG was inspecting a destroyed enemy dugout when a dying Japanese soldier detonated a grenade, with shrapnel from the blast seriously wounding Mudge in the abdomen on 28 February 1945.

19. BG HUGH F. T. HOFFMAN
1945

took over when MG Mudge was wounded and later returned to command the 2d Brigade.

20. MG WILLIAM C. CHASE
1945-1949

was the first person to refer to the 1st Cavalry Division as the First Team. Led the 1st Brigade into Manila and the 1st Cavalry Division into Tokyo. The Division HQ Building at Fort Hood is named in his honor.

21. BG WILLIAM B. BRADFORD
1949

22. MG JOHN M. DEVINE
1949-1949

commanded the 8th Armored Division in WWII in Europe and was reverted to BG in 1945, ordered to Tokyo to be CG from May to August 1949.

23. BG HENRY I. HODES
1949

24. MG HOBART R. GAY
1949-1951

took command in Japan and took the Division to Korea. Commanded during the Pusan Perimeter and the break out and push into North Korea. Relieved from command after the Chinese overran the 8th Cavalry Regiment at Unsan.

25. MG CHARLES D. PALMER
1951

commanded the Division Artillery in Japan and during the Korean War before becoming the CG.

26. MG THOMAS L. HARROLD
1951-1952

commanded the Division during its stationing at Hokkaido, the northernmost island in Japan.

27. MG ARTHUR G. TRUDEAU
1952-1953

commanded the 1CD in Japan and then the 7th Infantry Division in Korea.

28. BG WILLIAM J. BRADLEY
1953

29. MG JOSEPH P. CLELAND
1953

commanded the 40th Infantry Division in Korea and the 1CD in Japan.

30. MG ARMISTEAD D. MEAD
1953-1954

served as an Assistant Division Commander of the 3d Infantry Division during the Korean War and was awarded the Silver Star Medal.

31. BG ORLANDO C. TROXEL JR.
1954 -1955

commanded the Division Artillery prior to taking command of the First Team in Hokkaido, Japan.

32. MG EDWARD J. MCGAW
1955-1956

was an Artilleryman who served in the 82nd FA at Fort Bliss before WWII. Commanded the 1CD in Japan.

33. MG EDWIN H. J. CARNS
1956-1957

34. MG RALPH W. ZWICKER
1957-1958

participated in the Normandy landings on D-Day with the 29th Infantry Division. Going ashore pre-first wave with roughly 100 Soldiers as Forward Observer/Beachmaster in the Easy Red Sector of Omaha Beach. He was commanding the 24th Infantry Division in Korea when it was redesignated as the 1st Cavalry Division.

35. MG GEORGE E. BUSH
1958-1959

awarded a certificate of achievement to Mrs. Gladys Dorcy, naming her the "mother" of the Division for her part in designing the 1st Cavalry Division patch.

36. MG CHARLES E. BEAUCHAMP
1959-1960

37. MG CHARLES G. DODGE
1960

commissioned in the horse cavalry but was later transferred to armored units. During World War II, he was chief of staff of the 8th Armored Division and fought in France, Holland, Germany, and Czechoslovakia.

38. MG FRANK H. BRITTON
1960-1961

39. MG JAMES K. WOOLNOUGH
1961-1962

was the Commander of the 7th Cavalry Regiment during the Korean War and commanded the Division in Korea on the DMZ.

40. BG D. C. CLAYMAN
1962

41. **MG CLIFTON F. VON KANN**
1962-1963
served as a key member of the “Howze Board” in 1962 to develop and test the concept of air mobility.

42. **BG CHARLES P. BROWN**
1963

43. **MG CHARLES F. LEONARD JR.**
1963-1964
won the silver medal in the 1936 Olympic Pentathlon, scoring the first perfect score, a record that still stands in the pistol event of that competition.

44. **MG HUGH EXTON**
1964-1965
was the last CG in Korea.

45. **MG HARRY W. O. KINNARD**
1965-1966
commanded the 11th Air Assault Division (Test) at Fort Benning which became the 1st Cavalry Division Airmobile and deployed the Division to Vietnam. The 1CD also earned the first Presidential Unit Citation presented to a Division during the Vietnam War.

46. **MG JOHN NORTON**
1966-1967
made four combat jumps during WWII, his third was D-Day, 6 June 1944 when he led his men in the dark over St. Mere-Eglise, France.

47. **MG JOHN J. TOLSON**
1967-1968
commanded the Division in the second biggest battle of the war: Operation Pegasus the relief of the Marines in Khe Sanh where all three brigades engaged the enemy.

48. **BG RICHARD L. IRBY**
1968
during the Korean War he served as a battalion commander with the 1st Cavalry Division and was awarded the Silver Star.

49. **MG GEORGE I. FORSYTHE**
1968-1969
served in WWII, Korean War and Vietnam War. From 1970 to 1972, he oversaw the transition of the Army to an all-volunteer force.

50. **MG ELVY B. ROBERTS**
1969-1970
was chief of staff, 11th Air Assault Division, the division that tested the airmobile concept and became the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). He commanded the 1st Airborne Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, during its first battles in the Central Highlands of Viet Nam, 1965–66 and commanded the Division in Vietnam against enemy strongholds in Cambodia in May 1970.

51. **MG GEORGE W. CASEY**
1970
he served first as chief of staff, then as the commander of 2nd Brigade, and later as assistant division commander in Vietnam. On 7 July 1970, he was killed in a helicopter crash when the Huey helicopter he was co-piloting hit a mountain due to poor weather going to visit wounded Troopers.

52. **MG GEORGE W. PUTNAM**
1970-1971
he served as Division Artillery Commander and Division Chief of Staff in 1967 and 1968. The last CG to command in Vietnam, he stood the Division down in 1971.

53. **MG JAMES C. SMITH**
1971-1973
commanded 1-9 CAV in Vietnam, was the DISCOM XO, and commanded 1st Brigade in Vietnam. First CG at Fort Hood.

54. **MG ROBERT M. SHOEMAKER**
1973-1975
commanded 1-12 CAV and 1-9 CAV in Vietnam. Was the Chief of Staff and Assistant Division Commander in Vietnam leading Task Force Shoemaker into Cambodia.

55. **MG JULIUS W. BECTON JR.**
1975-1976
led Troops in the Korean War and Vietnam War earning two Silver Star and receiving two Purple Heart Medals.

56. **MG W. RUSSELL TODD**
1976-1978
commander of the 3rd Brigade, 25th ID in Vietnam. In 1972, he headed the modern volunteer Army office at the Pentagon, coordinating the transition from a drafted Army to an all-volunteer force.

57. **MG PAUL S. WILLIAMS JR.**
1978-1980
commanded the 1-69th Armor, 4th ID, in Vietnam from March to September 1967.

58. **MG RICHARD D. LAWRENCE**
1980-1982
commanded the 1st Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas and was the Senior U.S. Military Advisor to the Camp David Accords.

59. **MG ANDREW P. CHAMBERS**
1982-1984
served with 1-8 CAV in Korea in 1962-63, was the XO of 1-12 CAV in Vietnam.

60. **MG MICHAEL J. CONRAD**
1984-1986
commanded 2-8 CAV and served on the Division staff in Vietnam 1969-1970.



MG Robert M. Shoemaker

61. **MG JOHN J. YEOSOCK**
1986-1988
served as the Division Chief of Staff and later as the Assistant Division Commander.

62. **MG WILLIAM F. STREETER**
1988-1990
served with the 11th ACR in Vietnam and commanded the 2d Brigade, 1CD at Fort Hood.

63. **MG JOHN H. TILELLI, JR.**
1990-1992
a career Cavalry officer who commanded the 2d ACR in Gergmany and the 1CD at Fort Hood and during Operation Desert Shield/Storm.

64. **MG WESLEY K. CLARK**
1992-1994
commanded an infantry company in Vietnam with the 1st ID.

65. **MG ERIC K. SHINSEKI**
1994-1995
served twice in Vietnam and was wounded losing the front of one of his feet. After a year in the hospital he returned to active duty. Retired as the 34th Chief of Staff of the Army.

66. **MG LEON J. LAPORTE**
1995-1997
served as a Platoon Leader, 238th Aviation Company (Aerial Weapons), in Vietnam 1971. Served as the Division Chief of Staff during Desert Shield/Storm and then commanded 3d Brigade at Fort Hood.

67. **MG KEVIN P. BYRNES**
1997-1999
served as the Division Chief of Staff, commanded the Division Artillery, and led the Division during its deployment to Bosnia as the CG.

68. **MG DAVID D. MCKIERNAN**
1999-2001
was the Division G-3 and later commanded the 1st Brigade at Fort Hood.

69. **MG JOSEPH F. H. PETERSON**
2001-2003
was briefly the CG of the 3d Infantry Division before coming to the First Team.

70. **MG PETER W. CHIARELLI**
2003-2005
was the Division Operations officer, Chief of Staff, and the Assistant Division Commander for Support. Commanded the Division during its first deployment during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Retired Vice Chief of Staff of the Army.

71. **MG JOSEPH F. FIL JR.**
2005-2008
commanded 1st Brigade at Fort Hood and was CG at Fort Hood and during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

72. **BG VINCENT K. BROOKS**
2008
was a staff officer in 2-5 CAV, 1st Brigade, and Assistant Division Commander at Fort Hood.

73. **MG DANIEL P. BOLGER**
2008-2010
commanded the 1CD at Fort Hood and in Operation Iraqi Freedom in Baghdad.

74. **MG DANIEL B. ALLYN**
2010-2012
commanded 3d Brigade, 3d ID during invasion of Iraq and commanded the Division in Afghanistan. Retired Vice Chief of Staff of the Army.

75. **MG ANTHONY R. IERARDI**
2012-2014
commanded 1-7 CAV and was the Division G-3 at Fort Hood 1998-2001.

76. **MG MICHAEL A. BILLS**
2014-2016
commanded 3d ACR in Iraq and commanded Regional Command South in Afghanistan as the First Team CG.

77. **MG JOHN C. THOMSON III**
2016-2017
commanded the 41st Fires Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood 2009-2011 and commanded the Division is Operation Freedom’s Sentinel in Afghanistan.

78. **MG PAUL T. CALVERT**
2017-2019
commanded the 2d Squadron, 3d ACR at Fort Hood and in Iraq. Served as the Deputy Commanding General for Maneuver prior to commanding the Division.

79. **MG JEFFERY BROADWATER**
2019-2021
served in Operation Desert Storm with the 2-11th ACR, commanded the 3-7 CAV in Iraq during the “Surge.”

80. **MG JOHN B. RICHARDSON IV**
2021-2023
served multiple tours with Cavalry units in Iraq which included command of the 5th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st ID.

81. **MG KEVIN D. ADMIRAL**
2023-2024
he has three commands in combat: 1st Battalion, 36th Infantry, 3d Cavalry Regiment, and Task Force Southeast in Afghanistan.


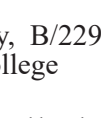
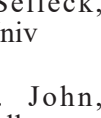
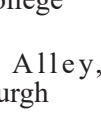
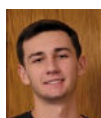


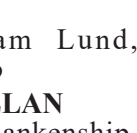


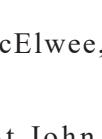
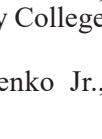
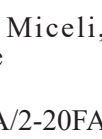
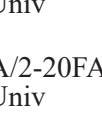

82. **MG THOMAS M. FELTEY**
2024-Present
enlisted in the New Jersey Army National Guard in 1988 and was commissioned from ROTC at Rutgers in 1993. He has six deployments in support of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.



MG Thomas M. Feltey

Foundation of the 1st Cavalry Division Association 2024/2025 School Year Scholarship Recipients

100% DISABLED SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS							
<p>ASHLEY ALEXANDER child of Clinton Alexander, 2-8 Cav, Univ of West Florida</p> <p>KEVIN ARELLANO child of Guido Arellano, HHC/7-17 AVR, Univ of Texas</p> <p>KERRA BETTELYOUN child of Christopher Bettelyoun, C/2-8 Cav, Univ of New Mexico</p> <p>AMBER BUCKLEY child of David Buckley, C/1-5 Cav, Lees-McRae College</p> <p>MAKAYLA CALHOUN child of Dewey Calhoun, A/8 ENG, Univ of Mary Hardin Baylor</p> <p>EMMA COLAVITA child of Christopher Colavita, 2-8 Cav, Univ of Alabama</p> <p>CAITLIN COSTELLO child of Charles Costello, B/115FSB, Univ of North Carolina</p> <p>HANNAH DINSMORE child of Robert Dinsmore, 1-7 Cav, Central Texas College</p> <p>EMMA FENCL child of Bryan Fencl, B & HHC/15BSB, Univ of California</p> <p>ANNA FENCL child of Bryan Fencl, B & HHC/15BSB, Mount St Mary's University</p> <p>KIRA FOX child of Delon Fox, B/1-9 Cav, Fort Hays State Univ</p> <p>AMANDA GATES child of Donald Gates, 1CDH, Michigan State Univ</p> <p>AARON GOMEZ child of Roy Gomez, D/4-9 Cav, Anderson Univ</p> <p>ADRIAN GOMEZ child of Roy Gomez, D/4-9 Cav, Texas State Univ</p> <p>ALENJANDRO GOMEZ child of Roy Gomez, D/4-9 Cav, Texas State Univ</p> <p>DESIREE GOMEZ child of Raul Munoz, D/3-5 Cav, Univ of Mary Hardin-Baylor</p>	               	<p>NATALIE GOMEZ child of Raul Munoz, D/3-5 Cav, Univ of Mary Hardin Baylor</p> <p>MAKAI GOUDEAU child of LTC Michael Goudeau, 1ACB, Texas Tech University</p> <p>SIMON GREY child of Gordon Grey, C/1-7 Cav, Univ of Idaho</p> <p>HUNTER HASLACH child of David Haslach, 2-5 Cav, Columbia Southern Univ</p> <p>BRYAN HOLLIS child of Don Hollis Jr., 1-7 Cav, Northeast Lakeview College</p> <p>JACE HOWARD child of Sidney Howard III, 91st ENG, Univ of Alabama</p> <p>KARRINGTON HOWARD child of Sidney Howard III, 91st ENG, Auburn Univ College of Pharmacy</p> <p>SIDNEY HOWARD IV child of Sidney Howard III, 91st ENG, Univ of Alabama</p> <p>BRANDON JIMENEZ child of Steven Jimenez, A/8 ENG, UT Health Science Center</p> <p>CADENCE JOHNSON child of Stephen Johnson, 1-9 Cav, Baylor Univ</p> <p>WARNER JOHNSON child of Stephen Johnson, 1-9 Cav, Trinity Univ</p> <p>BRY KURTH child of James Kurth Jr., HHC/1CD, Univ of Mary Hardin Baylor</p> <p>HANNAH LANE child of Scott Lane, 452nd ORD, Penn State Univ</p> <p>HOPE LANE child of Scott Lane, 452nd ORD, Penn State Univ</p> <p>AUGUSTINE LUND child of Eric Lund, HHC/1CD, Univ of North Carolina</p>	        	<p>ETHEN LUND child of Eric Lund, HHC/1CD, Yale Univ</p> <p>ISSAC LUND child of Eric Lund, HHC/1CD, Harvard College</p> <p>ERIC LUNGER child of William Lung-er, C/1-759MP, Montclair State Univ</p> <p>MATTHEW LUNGER child of William Lung-er, C/1-759MP, Louisiana State Univ</p> <p>NOAH MARTINEZ child of Johnnie Martinez, 1st BSB, Texas A&M Univ</p> <p>BRENDA MARTINEZ child of Johnnie Martinez, 1st BSB, Texas A&M Univ</p> <p>STEVEN MCDANIEL JR. child of Keisha McDaniel, C/115FSB, Pratt Institute</p> <p>KYLIE MCKENZIE child of Angela McKenzie, 1CDH, Baylor Univ</p> <p>AVA MCKENZIE child of Angela McKenzie, 1CDH, McLennan Community College</p> <p>JONATHAN MISENHEIMER child of Jill Westfall, 15th FSB, Univ at Buffalo</p> <p>ELIANA MORA child of Adolfo Mora, Jr., HHC/13 SIG, Western Washington Univ</p> <p>EMMA NORDSTROM child of Mark Nordstrom, HHC/115 BSB, Oregon State Univ</p> <p>JOHN OGIDAN child of Olufunso Ogidan, 115 BSB, Univ of Texas</p> <p>CALI OLVERA child of Pedro Olvera III, 1-8 Cav, American Public Univ</p> <p>SAMANTHA PARKER child of Michael Parker, HQ/1CD, Texas A&M Univ</p>	          	<p>MARISSA PINSON child of Joshua Pinson, C/8 BEB, Central Texas College</p> <p>DYLAN PLAKE child of Kenneth Plake II, B/1-9 Cav, McMurry Univ</p> <p>FERNANDO QUINTANILLA JR. child of Fernando Quintanilla, C/1-82 FA, Texas A&M Univ</p> <p>HADES TAKII-RAMOS child of Hermes Ramos, 3 BDE, Univ of Mary Hardin Baylor</p> <p>DAYSHAWN ROBINSON child of Cedric Robinson, B/27 MSB, Unity Environmental Univ</p> <p>DUSTIN ROSE child of William Rose, A/1-227, The Citadel</p> <p>SOPHIA ROSIN child of Alex Rosin, 2 BDE, Univ of Michigan</p> <p>MATALYN SCHELLINGER child of Matthew Schellinger, 227 AVN, The Citadel</p> <p>D'ANTHONY SMALL child of David Small Jr., C/215FSB, HHC/15BSTB, St. Philips College</p> <p>ANJELA SMITH child of Bruce Smith, 545 MP, Ohio State Univ</p> <p>SHANICE SMITH child of Patriena Smith, HHC/4BSTS, Texas A&M Univ</p> <p>SAMANTHA THOMAS child of Jason Thomas, HHC & F/2-5 Cav, Univ of Nebraska</p> <p>RAQUEL WILSON child of SFC Robert Hale, HHC/27MSB, Forsyth Technical Community College</p> <p>LUCCA WRIGHT child of Phillip Wright, 68 CHEM, Univ of California</p> <p>JOHN YOUNG IV child of Nichelle Anouar, E/115 BSB, Stetson Univ</p>	           

IA DRANG SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS						
<p>HARDY BROWN grandchild of Hardy Brown, C/1-7 Cav, Francis Marion Univ</p> <p>JORDAN CANDELAS grandchild of Harold Matos-Diaz, C/1-7 Cav, Franciscan Univ</p> <p>JOSEPH CANDELAS grandchild of Harold Matos-Diaz, C/1-7 Cav, Franciscan Univ</p> <p>JACOB DEVNEY grandchild of Alan Devney, B/1-7 Cav, Florida State Univ</p> <p>JONATHAN DORSEY grandchild of Tommy Dors- ey, B/229 AVN, Florida State Univ</p> <p>JOSHUA DORSEY grandson of Tommy Dorsey, B/229 AVN, Okaloosa Technical College</p> <p>DANIEL DUKER grandchild of Patrick Selleck, D/1-7 Cav, James Madison Univ</p> <p>JACE ESSIG grandchild of Don St. John, HHC/2-5 Cav, McPherson College</p> <p>ROBERT EVANS III grandchild of Jesse Alley, HHC/2-7 Cav, Univ of Pittsburgh</p> <p>NOAH FAJEN grandchild of Richard Fajen, D/2-5 Cav, Univ of Iowa</p> <p>MADELINE GAMACHE grandchild of Walter Gamache, A/1-8 Cav, St. Charles Community College</p>	     	<p>LAUREN GEISS grandchild of James Patzwall, A/1-5 Cav, KIA, Ohio State Univ</p> <p>JAMES GEISS grandchild of James Patzwall, A/1-5 Cav, KIA, Univ of Florida</p> <p>EMMYE GUYER grandchild of Ronald Guyer, HHC/1-7 Cav, California State Univ</p> <p>MICHAEL HARE grandchild of Leland Komich, B/229AVN & B 228AVN, Johnson & Wales Univ</p> <p>JON HART grandchild of John Hart, C/229 AHB, Linn-Benton Community College</p> <p>MARY IZZO grandchild of James Mullen, C/2-5 Cav, Univ of Notre Dame</p> <p>CODY KING grandchild of Felix King, Jr., B/Co 2-8 Cav, KIA, Boise State Univ</p> <p>SOPHIA KNOPF grandchild of Roger Knopf, 2-7 Cav, Michigan State Univ</p> <p>MADELEINE KNOPF grandchild of Roger Knopf, 2-7 Cav, Michigan State Univ</p> <p>SYDNEY LUND grandchild of William Lund, 2-7 Cav, Univ of Colorado</p> <p>MACKENZIE McCLELLAN grandchild of Clyde Blankenship, A/1-5 Cav, South College</p>	  	<p>SHELBY McCLELLAN grandchild of Clyde Blankenship, A/1-5 Cav, Mountwest Community & Technical College</p> <p>JASON MONICA grandchild of Roger Bartholomew, 2-20 ARTY, KIA, Univ of Georgia</p> <p>SHANNON MONICA grandchild of Roger Bartholomew, 2-20 ARTY, KIA, Univ of Mississippi</p> <p>OWEN MOODY grandchild of Leland Ko- mich, B/229AVN & B/228AVN, Northeastern Univ</p> <p>LAGAN O'DRISCOLL grandchild of Claude Roy, B/1-5 Cav, Husson Univ</p> <p>ASHLEY PERRETTA grandchild of Robert Parretta, C/2-7 Cav, Univ of Rhode Island</p> <p>LINDSEY PERRETTA grandchild of Robert Jeanette, C/2-7 Cav, Univ at Buffalo</p> <p>ANDREA PODOBNIK grandchild of Thomas Podobnik, A/1-8 Cav, Univ of Mount Union</p> <p>LONDON PODOBNIK grandchild of Thomas Podobnik, A/1-8 Cav, West Virginia Univ</p> <p>ABIGAIL ROBERTS grandchild of Marvin Roberts, C/2-7 Cav, Univ of Virginia</p> <p>LAUREN SCHOENBERGER grandchild of David Hoepf, C/229AVN, Franciscan Univ</p>	<p>JOHN SEARS grandchild of John Prokopowicz, 10 RRU 3 BDE, Indiana Univ</p> <p>SOPHIA SEARS grandchild of John Prokopowicz, 10 RRU 3 BDE, Purdue Univ</p> <p>ABBY SIMPSON grandchild of Robert Miller, 1-7 Cav, Delta State Univ</p> <p>JORDAN SMITH grandchild of Walter Niemey- er, A/1-7 Cav, Horry-George- town Technical College</p> <p>BRODIE SOLOMON grandchild of James McElwee, A/2-5 Cav, Eckerd College</p> <p>AIDEN St. JOHN grandchild of Don St. John, HHC 2-5 Cav, Tarrant County College</p> <p>CATHERINE WASENKO grandchild of George Wasenko Jr., HHB 2-7 Cav, Virginia Tech</p> <p>ADAM WATERS grandchild of Carmen Miceli, A/1-7 Cav, Univ of Delaware</p> <p>AUTUM WILDER grandchild of Bruce Wilder, A/2-20FA ARA, Bowling Green State Univ</p> <p>KIRA WILDER grandchild of Bruce Wilder, A/2-20FA ARA, Bowling Green State Univ</p> <p>HANNAH WILSON grandchild of Dennis Wilson, 2-7 Cav, Univ of Richmond</p>	     

2025 FOUNDATION OF THE 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION OVERVIEW

The Foundation of the 1st Cavalry Division Association was established for the purpose of providing financial assistance in the form of scholarship grants towards the pursuit of an advanced education. These grants are reserved for children of those Soldiers of the 1st Cavalry Division who died or were totally and permanently disabled from wounds received or disease contracted while serving with the 1st Cavalry Division in any armed conflict. Additionally, children of members of the Association who die while serving with the 1st Cavalry Division in peacetime and Active-Duty Soldiers who are currently assigned or attached to the 1st Cavalry Division and their spouses are eligible to receive scholarship grants.

The Foundation also administers a separate program for descendants of Soldiers who served in designated qualifying units that engaged in the battles of the Ia Drang Valley during the period 3 through 19 November 1965.

The Foundation is a tax-exempt charitable organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and all donations are tax-deductible.

BACKGROUND

The scholarship program was initiated by the Association in 1967 during the Vietnam War in response to requests from the Sergeants Major of the Division who committed their support to perpetuation of the program.

A trust agreement was signed on 16 August 1968 establishing the Foundation. Since that time, no child of a Trooper that has been killed or disabled has been turned away for lack of funds. Between the generous donations of Association Members and scholarship drives within the Division, the Cavalry has taken care of its own. In the 1970s, in response to a perceived downtrend in applications from the aging children of the Division’s Troopers that were killed in action from the Vietnam War, eligibility was expanded to children of Association Members killed or disabled while on active duty with the Division. This extension produced an unexpected response from Vietnam Veterans who were still producing children. In 1988, again at the behest of the Division Sergeants Major, the program was expanded further to include Active-Duty Soldiers and their spouses while assigned or attached to the Division. The Foundation assumed responsibility for the Ia Drang program in early 1994 and was awarded the first grant from this program in 1997.

Since its inception, the Foundation has provided:

- Over \$1,286,759 to 638 children of Troopers that were killed in action or totally and permanently disabled.
- Over \$470,900 to 472 active-duty Troopers and their Family members.
- Over \$1,282,594 to 381 descendants of the Ia Drang battles.

Scholarships currently provide \$2,500 per year with a maximum of \$10,000 for four years of schooling per student.

Funding for the program, less the Ia Drang element, derives primarily from the Foundation’s primary investment portfolio and random donations from the membership and those interested in providing support for education. The Association annually provides \$12,000 to satisfy projected shortfalls up to a predetermined maximum. All eligible candidates for grants who are children of deceased or 100% disabled members of the Division are funded. Active-Duty Soldiers and their spouses compete for grants and selections are made annually after the mid-year Trustee Meeting.

Funding for the Ia Drang program comes from donations specifically earmarked for this category of grant. Ia Drang funds are separately invested in a fenced program to build up investment monies which will sustain additional grants from its proceeds.

LEADERSHIP OF THE FOUNDATION

Six trustees elected by the Membership of the Association manage the Foundation of the 1st Cavalry Division Association. The trustees provide oversight and direction for the Foundation by meeting twice yearly to review operations and the fiscal ability of the investments to fuel the scholarship programs. While the day-to-day operations of the Foundation are run by the Foundation Secretary and the Association office staff, the trustees set clearly defined standards of eligibility and ensure that money is available to provide grants to those who meet the criteria. The Executive Director of the Association is a non-voting member and performs the Foundation Secretary duties.

The Trust Agreement, signed in 1968, requires that six Association members each be elected for three-year terms with one of the trustees being elected as the Executive Trustee. Each year the membership of the Association elects two trustees at the General Membership meeting of the Association conducted during the annual reunion. This provides the Foundation with continuity by ensuring a minimum of four trustees will continue their service to assist the two newly elected members. The Executive Trustee of the Foundation submits a report to the Board of Governors at each of their meetings and a report to the Association at the General Membership meeting.

Current trustees and the year their current term expires are: Executive Trustee Scott Sjule (2028), Trustees Rosey M. Carter (2026), Starr Corbin (2026), Timothy Hodge (2027), Glen Vela (2027), and Michael Vuolo (2028).

APPLICATIONS

For more information or an application to register for benefits send a request to the Foundation of the 1st Cavalry Division Association, 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703, or e-mail us at <firstcav@1CDA.org>. You may also print the on-line Registration Form, fill it out completely, and mail it with all required supporting documentation to the Foundation of the 1st Cavalry Division Association.

The application forms for Association Members who are active-duty Troopers currently serving with the First Team and their Families are no longer open. You can get the information about this program on our web page at <www.1CDA.org/Scholarships>. Printed forms are available at the National Headquarters in Copperas Cove beginning 1 April 2026. You can also fill out the online application and attach required documents.

DONATIONS

Please mail your tax-deductible donations to the Foundation of the 1st Cavalry Division Association, 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703. Donations will be acknowledged in the Saber newspaper. Donations of \$100 or more will receive a tax certificate as required by the IRS. Donations intended for the Ia Drang Fund should be made out to the Ia Drang Scholarship Fund.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

The Association has an ongoing Brick and Paver program where all the proceeds will go to the Scholarship Fund. Brick and Pavers will eventually be installed around the 1st Cavalry Division Memorial on Cooper Field.

ACTIVE-DUTY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

SPC JOSHUA BOWERS

3CR, Western Governors Univ



PFC WYATT GARDNER
1CD Band, Southern Utah Univ

CPT ADRIAN GONZALEZ

2ABCT 1CDD, Texas A&M Univ Central Texas

SGT STEPHANE KENYOU

HHC 2 ABCT 1CD, Univ of Maryland

TIFFANI PEOPLES

spouse of SGT Jacob Peoples D/115th BSB, Texas A&M Univ Central Texas

KARIZA SOLIZ

spouse of SFC Erik Soliz HHC/215th BSB, Columbia Southern Univ

SFC ERIK SOLIZ

HHC 215th BSB, Columbia Southern Univ

SAMANTHA WENDORF

spouse of 1LT Cody Wendorf, Texas Christian Univ



KIA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

DAVID SULLIVAN

child of Christopher Sullivan, A/2-12 Cav Technical Univ Munich

“I am attaching my annual donation of \$300 to the scholarship fund activities of the Foundation of the 1st Cavalry Division Association.” Brian wrote that every year with his donation.

It was very important to my husband, Brian Bollinger, to send his donation every year in support of the very special work that you do. He was a young officer/Ranger sent to Vietnam in early November 1965 and into the Ia Drang Valley with the 1st Air Cav, 2-7 under LTC Moore. He was a young officer leading his young team. Many of those young Soldiers did not come home. Brian died very suddenly in November 2024.

I will continue to support your work as you carry on your commitment to the children and grandchildren of the 1st Cav Soldiers, Brian’s personal commitment and wish.

“Your excellent work is not only appreciated, but it also holds a special place in the hearts of all who served. We are truly grateful for your dedication and commitment.” From Brian G. Bollinger

Sincerely yours,
Margaret Bollinger

Making a donation to the Foundation to help a student achieve their educational goals.

CONSIDER DONATING TODAY

SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS

1CDA supports four scholarships for qualified applicants:

ACTIVE DUTY SCHOLARSHIP

Soldier has to be a member of 1CDA & assigned to 1CD. This grant is offered to the Soldier and spouse.

FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

100% Offered to the child/children of 1CDA members with a 100% disability rating, that were assigned to 1CD.

KIA To be used by child/children of Troopers killed in action while assigned to 1CD.

IA DRANG SCHOLARSHIP

Exclusive to the children & grandchildren of the Veterans who were involved in the battles of the Ia Drang Valley during 3-19 Nov 1965.

BY MAKING A SCHOLARSHIP DONATION, YOUR NAME WILL APPEAR UNDER HONOR ROLL ON PAGE 23.

Active Duty	Foundation	Ia Drang
\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

Form of Payment:

☐ Cash ☐ Check Enclosed ☐ Credit Card (Service Charges Apply)

Credit Card # _____

Exp Date: _____ CVV on back: _____ Total Amt: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature _____

Phone # _____

MAIL TO: 1st Cavalry Division Association
302 N. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522

All scholarships of the 1CDA are tax-exempt charitable organizations described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and all donations are tax deductible.

CHAPTER NEWS UPDATES

We invite all of our Chapter Presidents, VPs or POC's to contribute any photos, news, or updates about your Chapter, to be **posted here in the Saber!** We would love to hear updates from all of our Chapters spread across the United States. **WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO USE THIS PLATFORM TO SHARE YOUR BULLETINS.**

Submission deadline to appear in the next Saber is **Monday, November 3, 2025.**
Please send to Memberships@1CDA.org

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER



Our next general meeting is **Saturday, October 11, 12:30, Manchester American Legion**, 20 Legion Way, Manchester, CT, 06040. All members, prospective members and guests are invited, no matter what branch of service. Call president Keith Moyer for details, 860-885-4330 or email [<kpmoyerco@hotmail.com>](mailto:kpmoyerco@hotmail.com).

This photo is from our annual Chapter Summer Barbeque meeting.
Front row L-R: Tom McBriarty, Al Johnson, Jack Kranyak.
Back row L-R: Glen Bentz, Tom Uznanski, Keith Moyer, Bob Waz, John Larsen, Len Lapsis.

FLORIDA'S FIRST COAST CHAPTER



Greetings from the income tax free state of Florida. Our moose head watches over us and his former brethren are offered as a burger option at this meeting location. Our V.P. Sam chose to echo his attachment to our mascot.

Soon we will travel to St. Augustine to join with our brethren from the Ormond Beach VVA group. We will meet at the Ford dealership on U.S. 1 where, surprisingly, where the cafeteria may be better known than the car lot.

We have supported our local City Rescue Mission in their efforts to tend to homeless Veterans with meals, beds, and jobs.

To be put on the notification list of meetings and locations, email me at [<the-crimms@gmail.com>](mailto:the-crimms@gmail.com). Soon we will have programs on yoga lifestyle, investing for your future even at our ages, and a Congressional update.

FORT KNOX CHAPTER

We hosted a group of Vietnam Veterans and 38 widows at our replica Vietnam Memorial Wall on Sept 2nd. I am presently working on bringing a UH1 Huey to our Wall next year, July 3, 2026. I have a group of Veterans out raising funds to cover all costs and have already raised more than 50% of the funds needed to support this mission. We are having our annual picnic on 20 Sept and all local First Team members will be there.

Robert W. Griffin Vice President.

NEW CHAPTER FORMING

In the **Murrietta, CA** area

Meeting on **Saturday, October 11, 2025**
5:00pm
41890 Enterprise Circle South
Temecula, CA 92590
Contact Matthew Rico:
858-525-1283 / mlrico40@yahoo.com

NY/NJ CHAPTER

Our Chapter held a well-attended chapter meeting on September 20 at the Elks Lodge in Ridgefield Park, NJ. The members were entertained by a power-packed PowerPoint presentation given by Joe Belardo and Walter Kaczmarek, titled "Reflections of Vietnam."



Joe Belardo

Belardo took members back on an impactful photo timeline presentation of his eye-opening, heartwarming, and sometimes painfully true account and one-on-one encounter with the Vietnam War. Joe walked the chapter through his entry into South Vietnam in 1967, on to the DMZ, across to Dong Ha, Gio Linh, Con Thien, Camp JJ Carroll, the Rockpile, Calu and finally to the TET Offensive battles at Khe Sanh and Hue City. He reminded members of the living conditions, everyday life, key battles, loss of friends, Agent Orange, PTSD, and the realities of war and finally coming home. Joe brought a display of

inert military memorability to show to the chapter.

Kaczmarek shared his "one-of-a-kind" battle experience from the battle of Hue City during the 1968 Tet Offensive. He was part of the group that took down the North Vietnamese Army flag flying over Hue and raised the American flag in its place with shouts of victory from American Soldiers who fought in the battle.

The next chapter meeting will be held on **October 25** starting at **10:00 am** at the **Elks Lodge** in Ridgefield Park, NJ. Contact Robin Bartlett, President at [<Rbbartlett01@gmail.com>](mailto:Rbbartlett01@gmail.com), 201-856-7530 for more information and to be added to the mailing list for future meeting announcements.



Walter Kaczmarek

CHAPTER IRS TAX PACKETS

The IRS has mandated that each chapter submit a yearly report to ensure compliance with their regulations. Currently, the National Headquarters files a chapter's tax form on their behalf. Failure to submit the required packet on time will result in your taxes not being filed appropriately.

Your Chapter can choose not to be under our tax-exempt umbrella. However, National Headquarters still requires a yearly packet for each chapter. The Chapter would also be required to file any tax forms.

I mailed, emailed and handed out tax packets at reunion. Check your email. Please take the time to complete the packet and mail it to the 1st Cavalry Division Association. You may also send the forms via e-mail to [<memberships@1cda.org>](mailto:memberships@1cda.org).

Call Karleen if you need assistance with the packet.

I have not received tax packets from Five Chapters. I did not renew your 990N's.

- California Central Coast Chapter
- James J. Mason, West Michigan Chapter
- Jumping Mustangs Chapter
- Kettle Moraine Chapter
- Sheridan's Cavalry Chapter

I will be pulling charters October 27.

CHAPTER INDEX

**CALIFORNIA
CENTRAL COAST**
Pres: Barney B. Jones
P.O. Box 444
Pebble Beach, CA 93953
(831) 917-5952
Email: firstcav-cc-chapter@outlook.com

COLUMBIA-WILLAMETTE
Pres: Terry Low
16560 S Harding Rd.
Oregon City, OR 97045-9679
(503) 210-5558
Email: tangolima2505@comcast.net
Website: www.Hood2Hood1stCav.webs.com
Meets 1200 2nd Thurs of each month at the Elmer's Restaurant, 10001 NE Sandy Blvd, Portland, OR. No meeting in Dec.

CONNECTICUT
Pres: Keith Moyer
48 Boretz Rd.
Colchester, CT 06415-1009
(860) 885-4330
Email: kpmoyerco@hotmail.com
Facebook: CTCav
We meet quarterly. Email me for info. All new & prospective members welcome.

CROSSED SABERS
Pres: Tony Cole
(254) 394-2891
Email: Olesarge19d@outlook.com
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division Association Crossed Saber Chapter
General membership meetings Mar & Oct.
Stable Calls: 4th Thurs of each month, 6pm, except Nov, Dec and the month of the Association Reunion. Stable Calls at various locations in Central TX area.

FLORIDA'S FIRST COAST
Pres: Jesse Crimm
4445 Silverwood Ln
Jacksonville, FL 32207-6241
(904)534-8899
Email: thecrimms@gmail.com
Meets at noon on 3rd Tues of every month. Locations alternate between westside & southside Jacksonville. Call 904-534-8899 to be notified & placed on mailing list.

**FLORIDA TROOP E
"BLACK HAT"**
Pres: Juan Kellogg
607 SE 47th St., Apt. 7
Cape Coral, FL 33904-5506
Email: juankellogg@embarqmail.com
Website: www.seahog.org/cav/index.html
Meets 4th Sat each month from Sept.-May 1:00 pm at Mission BBQ, 12984 S. Cleveland Ave, Fort Myers, FL 33907

FORT KNOX AREA
Pres: Thomas Ken O'Barr
12210 Valley Dr.
Louisville, KY 40026-9501
(502) 228-8032
Email: ko42@bellsouth.net
POC: Robert W. Griffin
64 Tabor Lane
Elizabethtown, KY 42701-6158
(270) 737-5908
Email: lyngriffxx@windstream.net
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Div Fort Knox Area Chapter
Meets 3rd Sat of the month at 11am at Camp Knox Masonic Lodge #919, 1158 N. Dixie Hwy, Radcliff, KY.

**JAMES H. UNRUH
CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA**
Pres: Michael T. Mazzaro
Cenpenn Chapter. 1CDA
P.O. Box 10033
Lancaster, PA 17605
(717) 389-1000
Email: cenpenn1cda@gmail.com
Meets 1800 2nd Tues of each month, except Nov, Dec, and Jan at Lititz VFW Post 1463, 14 N. Spruce St., Lititz, PA 17543

**JAMES J. MASON
WEST MICHIGAN**
POC: Bob Anderson
9030 Conservancy Dr. NE
Ada, MI 49301-8822
(616) 682-5446
Email: rj.anderson2243@comcast.net
Website: jjmwmc1cd.com
Meets on 3rd Thurs of Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, and Dec, at 7pm, at the Grand Valley Armory in Wyoming, MI.

JUMPING MUSTANGS
Pres: Wayne Volk
3106 Nebraska Drive, Unit 2
Bismarck, ND 58503
(701) 226-9929 or (701) 527-1262
E-mail: lois.reinhardt@midco.net
POC: James C. Knafel
5510E - 500 South
Columbia City, IN 46725-7621
(260) 244-3864
Email: jjknafel@gmail.com
Website: www.JumpingMustangs.com

KETTLE MORaine
Pres: Fred Douglas
2742 E. Main St, Lot 5
East Troy, WI 53120-1379
(262) 379-9930
Email: FDouglass@centurytel.net
POC: Michael Lorber
4819 Longwood Dr., Mt. Pleasant, WI 53403-9769
(262) 554-8310
We meet quarterly on 2nd Sat of Mar, Jun, Sept at 12pm at the Bunker in Waterford, WI. Election of officers are the 2nd Sat of Dec at 12pm at Meyers Restaurant in Greenfield, WI.



**LOS ANGELES/
ORANGE COUNTY**
Pres: John Guillory
780 Mandevilla Way
Corona, CA 92879-8251
(951) 283-7458
Email: manhunter6869@yahoo.com
Vice Pres: Scott Alexander
5310 Silver Canyon Road A
Yorba Linda, CA 92887
Email: salexander48@hotmail.com
Meets quarterly (Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct) 0900 on 3rd Sat of month at American Legion Post 132, 143 S Lemon St., Orange, CA 92866

**LRPP/RANGER of the 1st Cav
Division during the Vietnam War**
Pres: Doug Matze
9623 Springhouse Dr.
Chesterfield, VA 23832-9304
(804) 790-1955
Email: Doug.Matze@lycos.com
Website: www.lrrprangers.com
Full chapter meeting during Reunions.

NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY
Pres: Robin B. Bartlett
63 Burlington St.
Norwood, NJ 07648-1515
(201) 856-7530
Email: RBBartlett01@gmail.com
Facebook: New York New Jersey Cavalry
Instagram: NYNJcavalry
Meets quarterly at Elk Lodge 25 Cedar St, Ridgfield Park, NJ, 10am-1:30pm. Free coffee & buffet lunch. Send email to be added to mailing list for updates on upcoming meetings.

**NORTH CAROLINA
TARHEEL**
Pres: Johnny Parker
10915 Tradition View Dr.
Charlotte, NC 28269-1411
(704) 517-5445
Email: shagon19@gmail.com
Contact for Membership: Don Gibson
803 McDonald Church Road
Rockingham, NC 28379-8529
(910) 417-9104
Email: dtbjgibson@gmail.com
Meets 2nd Sat of Mar, Jun, Sept & Dec.

**SHERIDAN'S CAVALRY
(Greater Chicago Area)**
Pres: Rich Hildenbrand
(630) 665-8183
Email: rich.hildenbrand@outlook.com
Temp POC: Donna Pacanowski
6043 W. 59th St
Chicago, IL 60638-3553
(312) 401-0548
Email: dnnpcnws9@gmail.com
Facebook: Sheridan's Chapter 1st Cavalry Division
2025 meeting dates are March 8, May 10, August 9 (picnic), October 11, and December 6 (Christmas party). All Meetings and events held at Roselle American Legion Post #1084, 344 East Maple Ave., Roselle, IL 60172.

**WALTER H. WESTMAN
NORTHLAND**
Pres: James D. Wright
12781 Able St. NE
Blaine, MN 55434-3261
(763) 757-7140
Email: 1stCav-MN@comcast.net
Facebook: Walter H Westman-Northland Chapter 1st Cavalry Division Association
We meet quarterly, locations change each time to different areas of the state. Call for updated information.

**WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON
NATIONAL CAPITOL REGION**
Pres: Linda Jantzen
3913 Ridge Road
Annandale, VA 22003
(210) 849-9036
Email: signalinda88@gmail.com
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division Nat'l Capitol Region
Meets 3rd Sat in Jan-May off Jun-Aug. Meets again Sept-Dec. Nov meeting held in conjunction with 1CDA Veterans Day gathering.

Send us YOUR Chapter photo, so it can appear in the next issue!

CROSSED SABERS GIFT SHOP located at 1CDA HQ



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GOT CAVALRY HISTORICAL QUESTIONS?

Did you know we have a 1CDA Historian?


Reach out to **Dennis Webster** with any questions, or information regarding 1st Cavalry Division history!

Dennis.Webster7@gmail.com or 254-220-2164

From the
Director's Desk

Office of 1CDA

WE SUPPORT



The mission statement for *Soldier for Life* is to connect Army, governmental, and community efforts to build relationships that facilitate successful reintegration of our retiring Soldiers, Veterans, and their Families in order to keep them Army Strong and instill their values, ethos, and leadership within communities.

Soldiers start strong, serve strong, reintegrate strong, and ultimately remain strong as Army ambassadors to their communities. The 1st Cavalry Division Association (1CDA) and its members will help to ensure Veterans connect to resources and their communities as they make the important transition from Active, Reserve, Guard or become civilian leaders. The 1CDA stands ready to help prepare those Soldiers to thrive as civilians and Veterans.

Why is this important to the Association?
The *Soldier for Life* concept helps Veterans ‘bridge the gap’ from the service through reintegration into their communities. The 1CDA has 25 chapters across the US to help facilitate veterans during their reintegration and beyond. It is here that their Army Story becomes a legacy that perpetuates the proud traditions of the 1st Cavalry Division. “Once Cav, Always Cav.... First Team.”

IF YOU'RE VISITING FORT HOOD

If you’re visiting Fort Hood, be sure to visit the 1st Cavalry Division Headquarters (Bldg. 28000). They have a free 1st Cavalry Division Walking History Tour. The tour is outdoors. It starts at the south entrance of Heritage Hall (1st Cav HQ) and walks around Cooper Field. Open to the public. If you want to watch from the comforts of your home, check out this link:

<<https://youtu.be/zE5npJiKpUo>>

You can also still visit the Horse Cavalry Detachment for a barn tour, they do their weekly Cav Demonstration on Thursdays, 10am at the stables, but call to verify 254-287-2229. They are located behind the National Mounted Warfare Museum, which is now open!

National Mounted Warfare Museum hours are Tuesday thru Saturday from 10am-5pm, 254-286-5684. No visitor pass is required for The Detachment nor the Museum, as they are not on post.

COMMEMORATE A FALLEN COMRADE

with our **Brick & Paver Campaign**
Buy a brick to be engraved & placed by
Heritage Hall at Division Headquarters

1CDA BULLETINS:

As of September 2025

- The **Oral History Book** is still in the printing stages. Stay tuned for updates via website, Facebook or Saber. Sorry for any inconvenience.
- Associate Memberships are increased to \$20

1/1/25: \$10 charge for each calendar requested
7/1/23: Saber price increased to \$20/year or \$75/5 years
1/1/22: ALL Bounced Checks will incur a \$25 fee

The next *Saber* newspaper is the **November / December 2025** edition.
Deadline for submissions of your stories or photos is **Monday, November 3, 2025.**
Please email to Programs@1CDA.org

SABER WRITER OPENINGS:

- 9th CAV Scribe
- 15th Med/15th BSB Scribe
- VA News Updates

CARRY ON YOUR UNIT LEGACY!
Share YOUR Stories

Consider writing for your Unit Column
Email for details: programs@1CDA.org

TROOPER'S TALE COLUMN

Do you have a long lost 1st Cav Division story to tell, perhaps you want to share an old photo of you and your battle buddy?

Share your treasured thoughts with your 1st Cavalry Division Association Family and they will appear in the Trooper's Tale section of the *Saber*!

Email to Programs@1CDA.org

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

DONATION CHECKS

When sending in multiple donations to either Association, Foundation and IaDrang, we ask if you could please do it by writing out separate checks to each entity.
It will make the banking process smoother since they are all separate bank accounts.

Many Thanks!

USEFUL VETERAN ASSISTANCE INFO:

<<https://www.archives.gov/>> National Archives & Records Administration, Veteran service records

<<https://www.archives.gov/personnel-records-center>> Central repository of personnel-related records for both the military and civil services of the United States Government. 314-801-0800

<<https://www.veteranmedals.army.mil/>> U.S. Army Veteran Medals

<<https://nvf.org/>> National Veterans Foundation: crisis management, information and referral needs of all U.S. Veterans and their families. 310-642-0255
Vet-to-Vet toll-free helpline: 888-777-4443

<<https://nationalresourcedirectory.gov/>> Dept of Veteran Affairs, The National Resource Directory is a searchable database of resources vetted for Service members, Veterans, family members and caregivers. 800-342-9647

<<https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>> Veterans Crisis Line 800-273-8255

<<https://www.dav.org/>> Disabled American Vets is a non-profit charity that provides a lifetime of support for Veterans of all generations and their families. 877-426-2838

SPECIFICALLY FOR TEXAS VETERANS

<www.TVC.texas.gov> Texas Veterans Commission advocates for all Texas Veterans, assisting with: VA Claims, Employment, Education, Entrepreneurship, and VA Healthcare Advocacy. 254-238-7124

<<https://www.texvet.org/>> Informative resource guide for Texas Veterans and family members. 512-341-4924

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Front



Back Design

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written across the Baldrick
Back: "Remembering 5,618" with Color image of Memorial
Wall & Flag



Front



Back Design

ENGINEER News



Steve Richey
P.O. Box 250
Wildomar, CA 92595-0250
(714) 931-3123
D9Dozer@verizon.net

was relayed to me by two of my friends in the 8th Engineers who were there. That was the reason I mentioned Shakey's Hill. Ken Haartz from Thorton, NH, sent me a video of Shakey's Hill. Was a tough place, a lot happened there, and I'm glad I missed it.

Clearing the roads of mines was a tough job. I found this story to be a good one.

Marty Suydam remembers:

I was working with B Company in an area near Song Be. It had been heavily mined by friendly forces, but the documentation was missing. Brian Hays, the Company Commander, decided the normal methods were too dangerous and we needed to clear a wide swath fast. He arranged for a CH-47 to pick him up with a fuel bladder filled with napalm. Then they flew over the field releasing the napalm bladder and following it by tossing a thermite grenade after it. KABOOM!!! And then many minutes of separate mine explosions as the napalm continue to "cook" the area.

Extracted from a story posted on the 8th Engineer Facebook site an anonymous Soldier offers a brief glimpse into the life of a minesweeper: "...most now have a time to reflect and think as trucks move along the deserted road. The experienced are mentally prepared for the events of the day, alert to the ever-present ambush threat. The new men are a little nervous and uneasy, their eyes flick to the shadows in the tall palm trees that line the road near the base camp. The day begins to come alive as the sun lights the bright green vegetation covering the coastal mountains.

The task is to clear the road of Vietcong mines. The men are careful and methodical. There is no room for impatience or sloppy work here; lives and equipment depend upon them. The sun now bathes the whole landscape; men begin to sweat. The red earth, tall elephant grass now crowding the roadway, and the tangled jungle hillsides absorb and reflect the heat of the morning sun. Insects are flying. One alights on the neck of a man probing for a suspected mine located in a destroyed bridge bypass. Sweat begins to run down his arms and back it drips off his nose and chin.

He discovers a typical Vietcong pressure plate. It is wrapped in plastic sheeting. Tension mounts as he probes. The pressure plate, fashioned to the two boards, is separated by small bamboo blocks that keep the electrical contact wires fastened to the boards from touching. He disarms the mine by disconnecting the wiring and follows it to the part of the old Lambretta battery and the mine, also wrapped in plastic. The team leader calls for the grappling hook, pull rope, and lifting device.

Unit policy is to remove mines from the roadbed whenever safely possible to avoid additional damage to the road and to provide intelligence about new or unusual minds and explosive devices. The team leader carefully places the tripod at the edge of the hole, drapes the pole rope and grapple loosely over it and gently hooks the grapple into the wrapping of the mine. Meanwhile another sweep team, a detector operator, and a probe man, are checking the sides of the road. They must find and neutralize boobytraps that may be awaiting the men where they will seek cover. This is done in case the mine is booby trapped and explodes as it is pulled free. The team takes cover; the mine is lifted out of the road. No explosion! It consists of a small homemade can of ChiCom explosive fitted with a detonator from a dud artillery round, a new combination for this section of the road and something more for the intelligence files. The mine is disassembled, its separate parts placed in special containers and the team moves on."

Steve Richey remembers:

I was a surveyor for S-3, HHC of the 8th Engineers. There were six or eight of us. We did lay out for new buildings, established elevations for moving dirt to build air strips, did a lot of lay out for the air strips, length, width, rounded centerline crowns for the strip itself for the heavy monsoon rains to run off, establish drainage ditch grades so they would flow and carry water away from the air strip, and since we had so many trees and jungle vegetation around a lot of our airstrips, we established clear glide angles. I can remember LTC Smith asking to see the glide angle and checking in when he flew out to Bu Dop.

To establish a glide angle, we would set up our theodolite surveying instruments at the point on the runway the planes were expected to touch down. We'd level our instrument, then turn it toward where the planes would approach, raise the sight tube to a specific degree as shown on a vernier on the instrument that measured degrees, and look through the tube. All the trees that were above our cross hairs were in the glide angle and had to be removed. To remove them, the demolition guys would strap C-4 on them and blow them down.

The rule was to set charges on only ten trees at one time, but it was Vietnam, we were way out in the jungle, it was not safe to be out in the trees with so many of the enemy around us, therefore, there were times when a lot more than ten trees were wired with C-4 and then detonated. Some of the explosions to clear trees were just epic. It would rain bark, limbs, and chunks of trees after such an explosion for a full thirty seconds. This happened at Bu Dop especially.

In April of 1969, fifteen days before I was to DEROS, we built a runway right on the Ho Chi Minh trail. When I arrived in the combat assault, I found way out in the middle of nowhere, the VC had actually paved a portion of the road, because they used it so much. Not good! If they used the road so much they needed to pave it, it was a pretty good assumption, there were plenty of them near, hiding in the thick wooded area surround our new LZ Elaine.

The area was exploding with artillery fire as we started down to land in our Huey with the rest of the birds in the combat assault. The two cobras alongside us, nosed over and made a strafing run as soon as they saw the two Willy Peter white smoke rounds go off below us. The cobras darted down, firing their mini-guns and we landed right behind them.

I remember jumping off the skids of the helicopter, looking down to make sure I wasn't going to step on anything that might puncture me or blow up, and in between my feet, was a pretty little double X case red bone three bladed pock-

In my last article I wrote a little about Shakey's Hill. I got the name of the guy Shakey's Hill was named after wrong. His name was Chris Keffalos. He was killed and received the Silver Star.

What the 8th Engineers did while they were at Shakey's Hill,

etknife. I still have it today.

Soon the dozers showed up and began clearing around the perimeter of where we were to build the air strip. I got busy and established the center line of the strip, set a row of centerline stakes, set the end and edge stakes, and then the stakes for the drainage ditch on both sides of the runway. With that done, I then began to establish the elevations of the ground at each stake, marking whether at the point the stake was set, we would need to remove or add dirt. In building a runway, the first thing you actually construct is the ditches. You want a place for the water, which we often had more than plenty of, to drain away from what you were building.

We had been told in three days, at ten in the morning, a C-5 Caribou would be landing on our airstrip and it needed to be done. On the third day, at eight in the morning, the motor graders were making some touch-up passes on the air strip, and a General arrived along with our Battalion Commander LTC Smith. We fell in on the air strip about 9:45 to listen to a speech the General wanted to give about the good job we had done. Yeah, 9:45! At 9:55 we heard the Caribou approaching. Jeeze Louise, this plane was about to land on our formation!

One of our Sergeants, right in the middle of the General's speech, yelled over the General's speech, "Formation! Back up!" which was the most unmilitary command I'd heard in a while, but was extremely appropriate! We all quickly backed up just as the Caribou touched down on our new strip, whooshed by us, slowed and turned around at the east end of the air strip, powered up, raced back past us, then lifted off and vanished off to the west. I don't think the General ever finished his speech.

This was the LZ where SGT Mathias became the Swamp Thing. He had come out in the LTC's bird and while the LTC was taking care of business at the TOC, he walked down to talk to his guys on the airstrip. He was the motor pool sergeant. On the LZ, they had been clearing bamboo with Bangalore torpedoes. The made a giant noise, a big black smoke explosion, and it rained pieces of bamboo after each explosion. The explosions shook the ground.

I heard, "Fire in the hole" ever so faintly. It was not loud at all. The guys set the Bangalores off and when they did, the Sarge jumped into a ditch, which was understandable, but #1 it was our demo guys, which he didn't know, and the ditch he jumped in had three feet of the greasiest, slimiest smelliest water in all of Vietnam, which he soon found out. I was looking right at where he had disappeared under the water when he slowly raised his head with the nastiest goo dripping off his helmet and his eyes as big as saucers. I told him the explosion was one of ours and then watched him slowly stand and climb out of the swamp water out of the ditch.

He stood there with his arms away from his body, just dripping green goo and looking damaged and defeated. His freshly starched clothes, his shiny boots, and his pretty red neck scarf, was now all slimed. Right then he became in my mind, "The Swamp Thing." He had made a real effort to look good on the one day he got to travel with the LTC and now he was so nasty, the LTC told him to find another way back to our base camp. He wasn't letting him get back in the helicopter in the stinking mess he was in. I still laugh when I think about how bad SGT Mathias looked and smelled.

We were engineers and did a lot of demolition with explosives.

Marty Suydam remembers:

I was flying into Bu Dop one morning when the camp was receiving a lot of fire. That day I was commander of the helicopter, normally it might have been LTC Smith. As we were making our approach to landing amid Cobra gunships putting grenades and machinegun fire into the jungle, the jungle to the north of the airstrip erupted. It looked like ICBMs being launched.

I told the pilot to abort the approach until whatever was going on in the jungle had settled down. After landing I was able to do what was planned and I had a little time to ask around what happened. The answer was something to the effect: "...we calculated the charge and then decided, if that was just good enough, maybe more charge would better, so we put 5 times the charge...since we had extra C-4 available." Thus, trees were not just cut, they were launched."

Steve Richey remembers

I was there when they blew the trees at Bu Dop to lengthen the runway. Bu Dop was a very dangerous place. Lots of people shooting at us because of the Green Beret camp there. Outside the wire was especially dangerous. The rule was to wire only ten trees at a time with C-4. Since it was very dangerous, the Captain in charge chose to wire over 100 trees and then detonated the charges. This explosion was what Marty saw as he flew into the LZ.

The above articles were taken out of *I Remember: Skybeavers*.

**Please contact the scribe to share your
Engineer stories to appear here!**





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Check out the USAA website
<https://nflsweeps.usaaevents.com/?event-id=50017335>

SAVE THE DATES:
for the
**1st CAV DIV ASSN
78th ANNUAL REUNION**
July 8 - 12, 2026
in New Orleans, LA
at the Sheraton, New Orleans
500 Canal St. / 504-525-2500

Plan to visit the WWII Museum
Visit the New Orleans Convention and Visitors Bureau
<https://www.neworleans.com>

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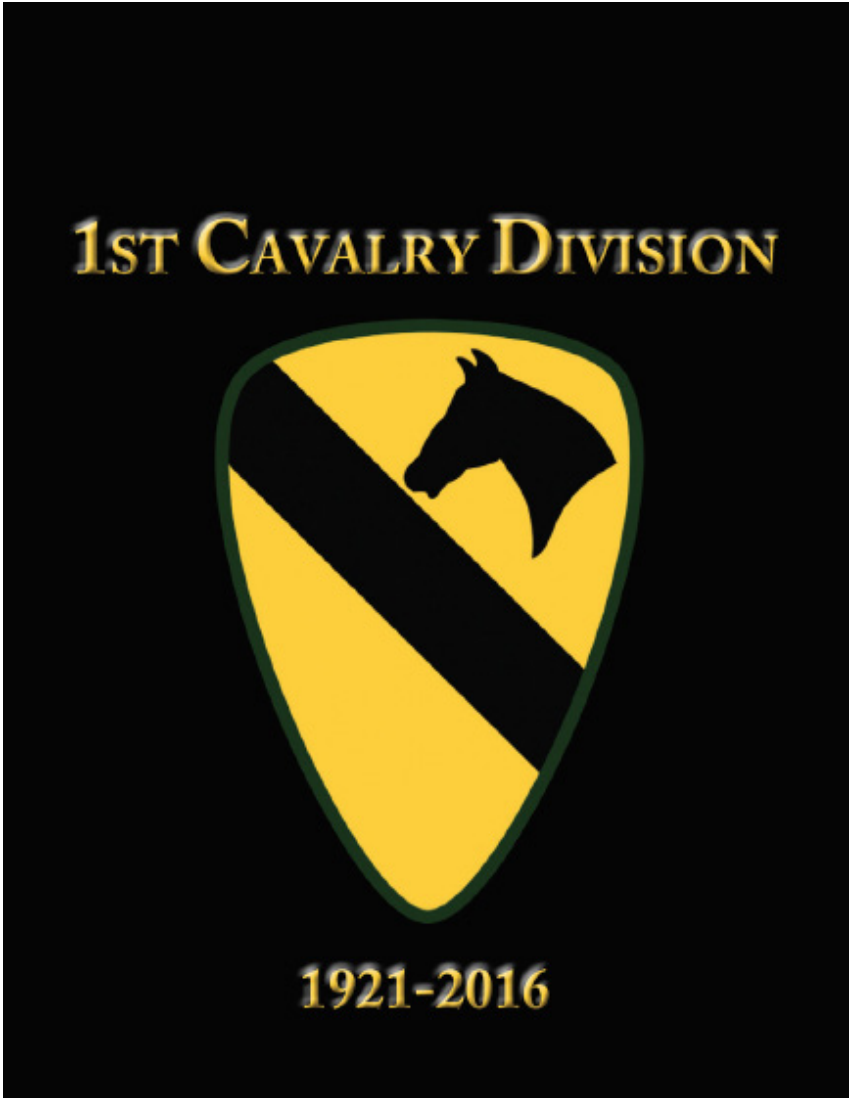


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- Richly illustrated with historic and modern photographs, charts and diagrams
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This quality publication is printed on number one grade, acid-free, double-coated glossy paper to ensure the highest caliber photo reproduction, and smyth-sewn for longevity, meaning the pages are stitched together and bound to last. This Deluxe Hardbound Edition is bound in a classy, black leatherette cover.



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1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
16TH ANNUAL WASHINGTON D.C.
VETERANS DAY RECEPTION

The 1st Cavalry Division Association in conjunction with the William A. Richardson National Capitol Region Chapter will sponsor a Hospitality Suite and small gift shop from **9-12 November** and will host the **16th Annual First Team Veterans Day Reception** which will be held on **Tuesday, 11 November 2025, 1830 hours**.

Once again, the Association will participate in the **3rd Annual National Veterans Day Parade** honoring those who took the solemn oath “to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, against all enemies both foreign and domestic.” The parade will take place on **9 November**, and will march up the National Parade Routes, Constitution Avenue from the National Archives to the White House. There is a link on <www.1CDA.org> for further information.

For accountability, please submit the order form below along with your money to the 1st Cavalry Division Association, 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703.

- Full payment must be received no later than **31 October 2025**.
- We can accept all credit cards – ensure that your card number and expiration dates are written correctly and legibly.
- Provide your name, address, unit you served with and the name(s) of your guests with your payment.
- If you wish to attend the parade, please let us know. Dara will send in the application for the group.

On **11 November**, wreaths will be placed at the World War II, Vietnam, and Korean War Memorials as they are each year on Veterans Day.

1. World War II Memorial Ceremony begins at **0900**
2. Vietnam Memorial Ceremony begins at **1300**
3. Korean War Memorial Ceremony begins at **1500**

Call the hotel and tell them you are with the 1st Cavalry Division Association, **Crowne Plaza Washington National Airport Hotel**, 1480 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia. Call 703-416-1600 to make your reservations.

Join us in D.C. for Veterans Day!



16TH ANNUAL VETERANS DAY RECEPTION
\$50 per TICKET

Tuesday, 11 November 2025

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FIRST TEAM

You can fill out the above Veterans Day Reception form and return in the mail or go to our website, <www.1CDA.org> to sign up online.



AIR CAV NEWS



LTC (RET) J. Shawn Perry
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(254) 458-0428
Stetsonlife1cda@gmail.com



Dear Fellow Troopers and Saber Readers,
As your dedicated Air Cav News contributor and a proud member of the 1st Cavalry Division Association, it’s always an honor to bring you stories that celebrate our legacy while looking ahead to the future of Army aviation. From my perch here in Albertville, Alabama, where I juggle duties as General Manager of Sand Mountain Park and Amphitheater, parent leader in Scouting America Troop 4071, and even tinker with restoring estate tobacco pipes in my downtime, I’m reminded daily of the discipline and camaraderie that define our Cav family. Today, let’s dive into some gripping tales from our Iraq deployments, explore cutting-edge innovations shaping tomorrow’s aviators, and invite you to share your own experiences for upcoming editions.

Let’s start by reflecting on the valor of the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade during key phases of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF). In the fall of 2004, as part of OIF II, the brigade was deeply embedded in Task Force Baghdad, having deployed in March that year to help stabilize the capital amid rising insurgency. From September to December, our Troopers faced intense urban combat, securing volatile areas and supporting broader coalition efforts. One standout operation was the extension of initiatives like Operation Iron Fury, launched in August but carrying momentum into the fall, where Soldiers from the Ironhorse Brigade Combat Team (BCT) disrupted insurgent networks in Baghdad’s outskirts, reducing attacks and paving the way for Iraqi forces to gain footing. By November, elements of the 2nd BCT advanced into Fallujah during Operation Phantom Fury (also known as Al-Fajr), a pivotal assault to reclaim the city from militants. Helicopters from the 1st Air Cav provided critical air support, inserting Troops, evacuating wounded, and conducting reconnaissance that turned the tide in house-to-house fighting. These months were marked by heroic acts, like Specialist Dante Battle from the 3rd BCT securing perimeters under fire, embodying the “First Team” spirit that saved lives and advanced the mission. Casualties were heavy, but the brigade’s adaptability—using Kiowa Warriors for close air support and Black Hawks for rapid insertions—demonstrated why air cavalry remains indispensable in asymmetric warfare.

Fast-forward to the 2006-2008 period, another crucible for the 1st Air Cav during OIF 06-08. Deploying to Camp Taji in 2006, the brigade assumed a central role in the Baghdad surge, as violence peaked and the nation teetered on chaos. By November 2006, the full 1st Cavalry Division took command of Multi-National Division-Baghdad, overseeing operations to clear, hold, and build in the city’s hotspots. From September 2006 through December 2008, our aviators flew countless missions, from Apache gunships striking IED emplacements to Chinooks delivering supplies to isolated outposts. A key highlight was the brigade’s innovative tactics during the 2007 surge, where integrated air-ground teams dismantled al-Qaeda networks in the “belts” around Baghdad, reducing sectarian violence by over 80% in some areas. Stories abound of pilots like those in the 4th Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, who braved RPG fire to medevac comrades, earning Silver Stars and forging bonds that endure today. The deployment wrapped in December 2007 for many, but the lessons—emphasizing rapid mobility and precision strikes—echo in our doctrine still. These operations weren’t just about combat; they built partnerships with Iraqi units, laying groundwork for eventual drawdown.

Shifting gears to the present, Army aviation is evolving at a breakneck pace, with innovations in training and helicopters ensuring we’re ready for tomorrow’s battles. Between 2023 and 2025, the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence (USAACE) has rolled out transformative programs. In August 2025, USAACE launched the Unmanned Advanced Lethality Course, equipping Soldiers with skills to integrate drones into manned aviation ops, focusing on lethal swarms for reconnaissance and strikes. This ties into broader reforms: In May 2025, the Army announced cuts to legacy platforms like the ApacheD, redirecting resources toward drone fleets to enhance survivability in contested environments. Helicopter-wise, the CH-47F Chinook Block II entered advanced training via immersive simulations from Engineering & Computer Simulations (ECS), delivered in May 2025, allowing pilots to practice complex maneuvers in virtual reality before real flights.

Training innovations are equally exciting. The Flight School Next initiative, spotlighted in April 2025, lets students lead change by flying commercially owned helicopters, bridging the gap between basic and advanced rotary-wing skills. By May 2025, the Army eyed new trainers like the MD 530F from MD Helicopters—American-made, combat-relevant platforms tailored for initial entry rotary-wing training, emphasizing affordability and realism. Robinson Helicopter introduced the R66 Army Trainer in May 2025, purpose-built with turbine engines for high-altitude ops, preparing aviators for real-world missions. CAE extended support for Advanced Helicopter Flight Training in March 2025, valued at \$180 million, incorporating AI-driven scenarios for UH-60M and AH-64E platforms. And in August 2024, decisions loomed on integrating the Future Long-Range Assault Aircraft (FLRAA), Textron Bell’s tiltrotor, into curricula for enhanced speed and range. These advancements, amid fleet trims like an 8% reduction in UH-60s by late 2023, reflect a shift to hybrid manned-unmanned teams, ensuring our edge in multi-domain operations.

Now, I’d love to hear from you! As we keep Air Cav News vibrant, share your stories—be it from Vietnam-era insertions, Gulf War exploits, or recent exercises. Got ideas for features on aviation tech, Veteran spotlights, or reunion tips? Email me at stetsonlife1cda@gmail.com. Your input will shape future editions, honoring our shared history.

In closing, stay safe, fly high, and remember: First Team! Looking forward to your tales.

Clear Right!
Shawn

Please contact the scribe to share your Aviation stories here!

545th MP Co News

Lawrence Gardner Ketron
232 New Beason Well Rd
Kingsport, TN 37660
(423) 967-8226
LGKetron@earthlink.net



The 545th MP Company of the 1st Cavalry Division (AIRMObILE) To the reader community: I have been asked to author a series of articles about the experiences of the men of the 545th MP Company of the 1st Cavalry Division (AIRMObILE). I joined the company in July of 1964, shortly after its inception at Ft. Benning, GA, as the 11th MP Company of the 11th Air Assault Division (TEST). The men still alive in the original company of 1964-1966 are now in their late 70's and early 80's and wanted their

CORRECTION FROM PREVIOUS ISSUE:

Chares Adcock said that he had not finagled a trip to the air base at Pleiku. He was on a legitimate trip back to An Khe to pick up our mail and just happened to swing by the PX.

RETURN TO THE TEA PLANTATION:

Your author's return to the tea plantation was short lived. Johnny Thompson and your author were sent to II Corps to guard material gathered from the battlefield. It seems that Soldiers were looking for a 'war trophy' that required no risk on their part. We were told to go to the end of the airstrip where a helicopter would be sitting to take us to II Corps. We settled in while the pilots went through their checklist (we thought). This flight was at night through unfriendly territory. The engine was building up RPM, the rotor was turning. All of a sudden there was silence. The pilots looked at each other. The right seat pilot was scanning the console and looked up at the overhead console. And said "oh, yeah." He flipped a switch. This time power came up. Don't know why we did not tap the pilot on the shoulder and say 'uh, we'll catch the next flight.'

Brigade headquarters moved out while the first brigade moved in to continue the search for PAVN that had survived the battle. We were set beside a beautiful lake. The lake was deep but the shore was very steep and difficult to get out of. After a Soldier drowned, swimming was no longer allowed.

RETURN TO AN KHE / A SERIOUS SHORTAGE

There began to develop a serious division wide shortage of alcohol. Your author had a friend place a pint of Jack Daniel in an oatmeal container and mail it to Jim Tykoski, the part mail clerk, company driver, etc. He was instructed to bring it to me when it arrived.

Please contact the scribe to share your 545th MP stories here!

DID YOU SERVE IN 1ST CAV DURING GULF WAR, BOSNIA OR WAR ON TERROR? WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We are looking to hear your 1CD war stories. Our older members want to hear from our younger generation of Troopers!

Please consider sharing your experiences with our 1st Cav Veterans!

LET YOUR STORIES BE HEARD

Share your significant memories, of you & your battle buddies in the field or down range.

LOOKING FOR ACTIVE-DUTY SOLDIERS GULF WAR, BOSNIA & WAR ON TERROR CAV VETERANS

Email to programs@1CDA.org today and they will appear in an upcoming *Saber*!

DIVISION DOINGS:

1st Cavalry Division Celebrates 104 Years of History and Legacy by SPC David Dumas, photos by SGT Lyca Williams



MG Feltey (left) & CSM Jackson (right) induct LTG (Ret) Paul E. Funk Sr. into the 1st Cavalry Division Hall of Legends during the birthday ceremony.

FORT HOOD, Texas - The 1st Cavalry Division celebrated its 104th birthday with a week-long event, "Cav Week". The Division hosted a variety of events and competitions to mark the occasion.

Cav Week, held annually, celebrates the Division's history and traditions, bringing together Troopers, families, and Veterans. "Every generation of Cav Troopers has lived the legend, but now it's our turn," said MG Thomas M. Feltey, commanding general of the 1st Cavalry Division, prior to the Division run. "Let's get this week started. It's a great team, it's our team, we are the First Team."

Preliminary rounds began on Sept 2, with Troopers competing against one another for the commander's cup trophy. It was then presented by Feltey and CSM LeVares J. Jackson, command sergeant major of the 1st Cavalry Division, during the Cav Week award ceremony.

Bright and early on Sept 3, the First Team conducted its Division-wide run, followed by a cake-cutting ceremony. Running three miles down Legends Way, every brigade traveled with pride as they waved their unit's guidons and sang cadences. Carrying over into a battalion command team competition, Troopers of the First Team had the opportunity to cheer on their leaders as they competed in the Army Fitness Test (AFT) on the historic Cooper Field.

With numerous sporting events filling the week, such as basketball, volleyball, softball, biking, and boxing, First Team Troopers represented their units and were able to build morale and esprit de corps among their teams and competitors. Additional competitions, such as the Five Stand Skeet Shooting, the Two Gun Challenge, small Unmanned Aircraft System (sUAS) competitions, and tug-of-war, gave Troopers the opportunity to participate and excel in a variety of activities. The diversity of events encouraged more Troopers to celebrate Cav Week in their own way, supporting the history and spirit of the First Team.

On the evening of Sept 4, a Cav Social was hosted on Cooper Field, inviting Troopers, families, friends, and Veterans of the 1st Cavalry Division to gather for food, music, and games. The event offered an opportunity for members to connect and socialize.

The closing ceremony of Cav Week 104 was supported by the 1st Cavalry Division Band and Honor Guard, and featured members from every unit in the division in a pass and review. The grand finale was a historic horse Cav Charge, led by the 1st Cavalry Division Horse Cavalry Detachment and supported by multiple aircraft from the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade. The ceremony provided a memorable and rewarding conclusion to the week-long festivities.

"To our Troopers, you are carrying the torch forward into the next chapter of the First Team's history, and I couldn't be prouder standing here with you today," said Feltey. "As we close Cav Week 104, take with you the cohesion, the dominance, and the pride you've built here. Take that back with you into your units, because one day, it won't just be about winning trophies on Cooper Field, but about winning where it matters most."

With this being the first time the entire Division participated in Cav Week together in four years, the celebration reunited every Trooper in the 1st Cavalry Division, strengthening morale and camaraderie, while celebrating the 104-year legacy of the First Team.

Continued to pg. 22



Hall of Legends Members with the 1CD Command Team CSM Dennis Webster, CSM Philip Johndrow, LTG Paul "Butch" Funk, MG Thomas Feltey, GEN Paul Funk, CSM LeVares Jackson, CW4 Jay Helm

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
1ST CAV DIVISION!

1st CAVALRY DIVISION
was activated at Ft Bliss on September 13, 1921

DIVISION DOINGS

Continued from pg. 21

Over 100 Bradleys from 405th AFSB, TLSC-E Issued to Cavalry Soldiers for Poland Rotation

by Cameron Porter, 405th AFSB Public Affairs Officer

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany – The 1st Cavalry Division is providing the Soldiers to support the next rotation of forces to Poland, and the 405th Army Field Support Brigade (AFSB) and Theater Logistics Support Center-Europe (TLSC-E) are providing them with the Bradley Fighting Vehicles they'll need for the mission.

Soldiers from 3rd Brigade Combat Team's 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, are deploying from Fort Hood, Texas, to Poland to support the mission, there. Meanwhile, over 100 M2A3 Bradley Fighting Vehicles were prepped and issued to them in Germany before being transported to Poland for the mission.

Almost three dozen Bradley Fighting Vehicles were issued to the Cavalry Soldiers from the 405th AFSB's Army Field Support Battalion-Germany (AFSBn-Germany) at the Coleman Army Prepositioned Stocks-2 (APS-2) worksite in Mannheim, Germany, recently. The rest were issued to the Cavalry Soldiers from TLSC-E, 21st Theater Sustainment Command, mainly at Maintenance Activity Kaiserslautern but also at Maintenance Activity Vilseck in U.S. Army Garrison Bavaria.

Army MAJ Alec Velasco, the executive officer at AFSBn-Germany, 405th AFSB, said his battalion worked for months to prepare the Bradleys, ensuring they were all 100 percent fully mission capable and ready for issue. He said it's been a huge focus for his battalion, the brigade and the entire theater over the past year. "We've been briefing U.S. Army Sustainment Command and U.S. Army Europe and Africa weekly on the status of these Bradleys since last August," said Velasco. "Between the Army civilians who work there, the green suitors there, and the team of contractors who do 90 percent of the heavy lifting to get these vehicles ready, it's been a huge collaborative effort."

"Initially, it seemed like an insurmountable task," Velasco said. "Progress was slow at first as we did the required technical inspections and ordered all the necessary parts. As parts started coming in, we'd start wrenching them down. As one system came up, we'd run the required tests on all the systems and often find more problems. But we kept at it, and progress really accelerated this past spring and summer to get to where we are today."

"Coming over here and falling in on this equipment ... is hugely beneficial for us. All we have to do is maintain the APS equipment and then give it back to the [405th AFSB] when we're done. We don't have to worry about taking it back home and fixing it as soon as we get back," said 1LT Robert Zelinski, platoon leader, B Company, 2nd Bn, 7th Cav Regt.

"We had no idea what we were walking into here, but from the first moment we got here, the team at Coleman was taking care of everything. This is the standard when it comes to maintenance professionalism. We really appreciate everybody from every level," said 1LT Reece Crook, executive officer, B Company, 2nd Bn, 7th Cav Regt.

"I've never seen Bradleys like this," said SSG Josue Betancourt, an M2 Bradley system maintainer from the field maintenance team supporting 2nd Bn., 7th Cav Regt. "It's the first time I've seen Bradleys in this condition my entire 10-year career, to be honest with you." "For the Bradleys at Coleman, the combined team there – with all the expertise and experience they have – made it all happen," said Velasco, adding that the Bradleys came to the Coleman APS-2 worksite and AFSBn-Germany after being utilized by Soldiers from 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cav Div, during a previous rotational mission to Europe.

The Bradley Fighting Vehicle is designed to transport infantry to key areas on the battlefield while providing fire support. It is equipped with a 25mm M242 Bushmaster chain gun, a TOW missile launcher, and a 7.62mm M240C machine gun. The Bradley also includes optics and electronics for target acquisition and communication. It can carry six infantrymen in addition to its three-man crew, supporting various combat operations with its protection and mobility features.

The Coleman APS-2 worksite is one of six APS-2 worksites in Europe, and AFSBn-Germany is one of four APS-2 battalions under the command and control of the 405th AFSB. The 405th AFSB's APS-2 program provides turn-key power projection packages ready to deploy at a moment's notice while helping to reduce the amount of equipment needed from the deploying forces' home stations.

The 405th AFSB is the premier logistics integrator and synchronizer for U.S. European Command, enabling readiness solutions to 'Support the Warrior' by operationalizing U.S. Army Materiel Command capabilities and delivering readiness within the U.S. Army Europe and Africa areas of responsibility at the point of need.

The 405th AFSB is assigned to U.S. Army Sustainment Command and provides materiel enterprise support to U.S. forces throughout Europe and Africa – providing theater sustainment logistics; synchronizing acquisition, logistics and technology; and leveraging AMC's materiel enterprise to support joint forces.

Greywolf Cases Colors for Upcoming Deployment by SPC David Dumas 1st Cav Div Public Affairs Photo by Julian Winston

On the historic Cooper Field under the blazing Texas sun, 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, cased its colors Aug 28 during a ceremony as the brigade prepares for an upcoming deployment to Europe. A color-casing ceremony symbolizes a unit's transition from its place in garrison to a deployed location. The unit's colors, which represent its lineage, honors and identity, are folded and placed into a protective sleeve. The act signifies the unit is ready to deploy, and the colors will not be uncased again until its return to garrison or the completion of the mission.

"We carry into this mission the proud lineage of the 1st Cavalry Division,

America's First Team," said COL Michael E. Ziegelhofer, commander of 3rd ABCT. "We are disciplined, fit and lethal, and ready to write the next chapter in our storied history."

The Greywolf Brigade will deploy to Europe in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve. The deployment is part of a regular rotation of forces, ensuring U.S. Army Europe has a consistent presence to deter aggression, strengthen NATO allies and assure regional partners. The casing of colors marks the culmination of months of training and preparation.

Over the past year, the brigade has conducted a series of exercises to include gunnery tables, live-fire training and rotations to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California.

Each of these events was designed to sharpen the brigade's ability to perform and ensure completion of their missions.

The 3rd ABCT has a distinguished history within the 1st Cav Div. Activated in 1917, the brigade has participated in campaigns across multiple theaters, including World War II, the Korean War and the Global War on Terrorism. Its Troopers continue to build on that legacy as they prepare for this new mission.

As the Colors were cased and the ceremony concluded, families, friends and fellow Troopers filled the seats of Cooper Field. The ceremony served not only as a formal transition to deployment but also as a reminder of the enduring bond between Troopers and the nation they serve.



COL Ziegelhofer & CSM Pulido Casing Colors

Fort Hood Soldiers compete like Dallas Cowboys at USAA Salute to Service NFL Bootcamp photos by SPC Julian Winston

ARLINGTON, Texas — Soldiers from Fort Hood's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) program took the field at AT&T Stadium August 19 for the USAA Salute to Service NFL Boot Camp, a unique opportunity to train like Dallas Cowboys players and compete for prizes.

The boot camp featured drills mirroring those used by NFL coaches to evaluate talent, including the 40-yard dash, broad jump, three-cone shuttle, receiving gauntlet and quarterback arm challenge. A live digital leaderboard tracked participants' scores in real-time, with the winning team earning tickets to the Cowboys' annual Salute to Service game.



Jerry Jones greets the Soldiers



SGT Sadie Clark, 1-82nd FA Regt participating

"Being a Dallas Cowboys fan myself, it was really fun going from the nosebleeds to right on the field where they play," said SGT Amber Solis, Fort Hood BOSS vice president. SPC Kristopher Landry, a tactical power generation specialist with 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, excelled in the athletic challenges, winning the 40-yard dash, the three-cone drill and the long jump.

"It feels good (to win)," said Landry. "I'm not where I need

to be, but it's still good to feel like I can keep up or be better than them."

Following the athletic competitions, the service members received an exclusive tour of the National Medal of Honor Museum to learn about the service and sacrifice of the service members who came before them. "Seeing the heroes who served before me and wore the same uniform before I did, it was truly amazing to see," said SPC Robert Winston, an automated logistics specialist with 115th Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division.

The Soldiers finished their day enjoying a VIP viewing experience of the Cowboys' practice at The Star. Before practice, Soldiers were able to meet Cowboys owner Jerry Jones and high five players on their way to the field.

"I've never been a part of BOSS event, so it's my first time," said SGT Sadie Clark, an aircraft powerplant repairer also with 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division. "I'm excited to get back to work and tell everybody about my amazing experience."

Fort Hood Garrison to Consolidate Official Social Media Accounts

FORT HOOD, Texas –Fort Hood officials consolidated their more than 16 garrison-services social media accounts to only two official Fort Hood Garrison platforms on July 18. This change will streamline and improve installation communication efforts. The two platforms will be the Fort Hood Garrison platform and the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation platform.

This effort aligns with Department of the Army requirements and allows the installation to speak with one voice so audiences can get the information they need

Continued to pg. 23

WANT TO SEE YOUR NAME UNDER HONOR ROLL SECTION?

Honor Roll privileges are given to members who make a donation to the Association, or scholarship donations to the IaDrang or the Foundation.

THANK YOU! to our members who graciously donate to YOUR Association!
We appreciate your generosity, we could not do it without our members!



HONOR ROLL

Thank you for the generous donations from our following Troopers:



8 th Cavalry Association	\$3,000
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As of September 2, 2025

Editor Note: Honor Roll privileges do not include calendar donations nor Saber renewals.

IaDrang & Foundation are both a tax exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in accordance with the IRS under section 501(c)(3), Charitable Organizations, Code Section 170.

DIVISION DOINGS

Continued from pg. 22
from consistent, centralized, reliable sources. Followers of previously separate agency pages will begin seeing redirect messages guiding them to the consolidated pages. Once the transition is complete, individual pages will be deactivated.
Official social media pages and websites where people can go for installation information include:
Facebook pages at facebook.com/forthoodarmy and facebook.com/forthoodmwr
Instagram at instagram.com/forthoodarmy and instagram.com/forthoodmwr
X (formerly Twitter) at x.com/forthoodarmy
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Fort Hood Media Center at forthoodmediacenter.com
Fort Hood's websites at home.army.mil/hood and hood.armymwr.com
For more information, contact the Fort Hood Garrison Public Affairs Office at 254-287-9993 or the DFMWR Marketing Office at 254-287-3985.

Soldiers, their Families Attend Central Texas State Fair, Rodeo



Photo by SGT Avery Brown, 1st Cav Div Band

The 1st Cavalry Horse Detachment, 1st Cavalry Division, holds the colors during the national anthem at the Professional Bull Riders Challenger Series at the Central Texas State Fair Saturday at Cadence Bank Center at Belton, Texas. Saturday was Military Appreciation Night for the state fair, with Soldiers and families in attendance, including Col. Mark McClellan, U.S. Army Garrison-Fort Hood commander. "Fort Hood is grateful for the consistent support of our surrounding communities, especially demonstrated during events like the Military Appreciation Night at the Central Texas State Fair and PBR Rodeo," McClellan said. "These events provide valuable opportunities for Soldiers, families and community members to forge strong partnerships by relaxing side by side, having fun and getting to know each other as people. That's important, because when it comes time to work together, the communication and coordination is seamless because of the solid foundation we've built."

A CALL FOR HELP

Unit Associations are in Fear of Losing Their Unit Legacy

With the majority of the 1st Cavalry Division Association active membership being Vietnam Era Troopers, the individual Unit Associations that fall under the 1CDA are in fear of their unit legacy dying out.

Most of the leadership in the Unit Associations are from the Vietnam Era. They are hoping to pass on the reins to younger generations.

If your unit has an association and you are not a member of it, please consider joining.

Also reach out and link in to your unit Scribe, their information is on the top of their column of this *Saber* newspaper.

Please step up.
These Associations need YOU!

- 5th CAV: 5thcav.org
- 7th CAV: us7thcavalry.org
- 8th CAV: 8Cavalry.com
- 12th CAV: 12thCav.com
- 15 MED: 15thMedBnAssociation.org

