



SABER

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

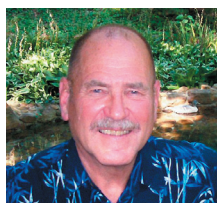


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MARCH/APRIL, 2012

The President's Corner



Most of the First Team is home. Still deployed are the Division Headquarters and the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade in Afghanistan and the 1st Brigade Combat Team in Kuwait. We wish the troopers serving in them well and pray for their safe return as they continue their service in far off lands. May the accomplishments and sacrifices of all those who served and still serve in harm's way assure a better, more secure life for the people with whom we have allied ourselves. The struggle for them will continue for some indefinite and challenging period.

During our February meeting of the Board of Governors at Fort Hood many of us were able to attend the first group of First Team Troopers returning from Afghanistan. The Advance Party of the Division Headquarters, 56 Troopers, was welcomed home by family, friends and a group of Association members. We had been at a reception that is hosted for the Division's leaders and went to Cooper Field to participate. It was one special event in a great weekend of taking care of the business of the 1st Cavalry Division Association.

The First Team lost one of our former Division Commanders on 15 February when LTG (Ret) John J. Yeosock died. While I never served with the general his record and accomplishments are testament to his character and performance during his Army career. My sympathies to his wife Betta and the rest of his family.

Here is a brief comment on political legitimacy. Political legitimacy depends upon popular support. This support in turn depends upon several factors, among them physical security, economic opportunity and development, the limited and proper use of coercive force, respect for the dignity of the individual and the elimination or at least minimization of corruption. Security is the first requirement for legitimacy. The establishment of a democratic form of government is viewed by the West as the next essential step. Elections, however, are just one step on the path to creating a perception of political legitimacy. Enduring security, economic development, respect for the individual and curtailment of corruption must follow closely on the heels of any popular vote. Just getting to this point is a challenge that involves a long and expensive commitment. Where democracy is not a tradition and where there are no constitutional protections for minorities, democracy may not produce stability. As we seek to establish regimes that respect the individual, we confront social and religious traditions that, following elections, generally produce political structures dominated by one or another group of traditional elites. The result may reestablish and strengthen inequality or seek to advantage one group over another. This may reflect a traditional power relationship or a new one. What may appear to be legitimacy may simply be a return to a form of "legitimized" suppression that hides inequality and contains the seeds of further violence. The liberal western idea that free expression of the general political will leads to fairness, economic progress and stability does not necessarily hold true. The minimum standards of legitimacy may be short-lived. We may find our interests again at risk. As we take control of the ground, establishing enduring political legitimacy is the challenge that confronts our political leadership.

As a final comment, severe systemic deficiencies characterize the regimes and militaries where we are directly involved in active assistance efforts. The normal "friction" inherent in all activities; political, military, economic and informational is consistently more inhibiting than that to which we are accustomed in our own institutions. Everything is more difficult. We must devise our strategy and plans to accommodate this new and complex context.

In closing, some of us were already using a USAA MasterCard before the establishment of a USAA MasterCard officially associated with the 1st Cavalry Division Association. The USAA will not automatically change an existing card of an Association member to that which benefits the Association. To benefit our Association, one must apply separately for the "official" 1st Cavalry Division Association/USAA MasterCard.

Lyman C. Duryea, 701 Timberlane Ln., McDaniels, KY, 40152-9724 (270) 257-9960 <LymanDuryea@Yahoo.Com>

Horse Detachment by CPT David Jackson



First Sergeant Donald Davis riding "Roper" in the Downtown Parade, Houston, Texas.

The Horse Cavalry Detachment just returned from participating in the largest rodeo in Texas - The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Most of the Detachment spent a week in Houston helping kick off the Rodeo festivities; on Saturday morning 25 February with the Downtown Parade and on Wednesday night 29 February as part of the Grand Entry for Armed Forces Appreciation Night. During the week, the Detachment also went to Houston-area High Schools as part of the Army's recruiting efforts. Teaming with the Houston Recruiting Battalion, we traveled to Van Vleck High School in Van Vleck, Texas and performed mounted Drill and Ceremony and had lunch with a great group of high school juniors and seniors. The next day we traveled to Spring, Texas and performed at Klein Collins High School, it was a great joint venture between the US Army's Recruiting Command and the US Army's First Team! Hopefully it pays off with some young Americans deciding that they too want to serve their Country.

March 9th saw the acceptance of six new Troopers to the ranks of the HCD; SPC Pemberton, SPC Strouse, SPC Burnham, PFC Holder, PFC Cassabarro and PV2 Whitehead. These Troopers made it through the trials and tribulations of their initial training phase at the HCD and earned their blue shirts and the opportunity to represent the First Team, congratulations to all of them!

On 17 March, the Detachment was in Dublin, Texas at their St. Patrick's Day Parade; a great event in the hometown of the famous late Dublin Dr. Pepper. The end of March found the Detachment in San Antonio, Texas at Fort Sam Houston for the Cowboys for Heroes Event. This event is sponsored by MWR of Fort Sam Houston and is a special day for Soldiers and their families. The Detachment performed a demonstration in the Alamo City and the folks loved every minute of it!

Continued on pg. 2.

DIVISION DOINGS

Most of the First Team is home from deployment and the Troopers of the Division Headquarters are currently in the process of returning from Afghanistan. The 1st Air Cavalry Brigade will begin its return from Afghanistan soon but due to the mission it will be a drawn-out process that will take some time to get them all home. The 1st Brigade Combat Team remains in Kuwait, training and preparing for any contingency missions needed. They will be home this summer.

The Commanding General of the 1st Cavalry Division, MG Daniel B. Allyn has been nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate for promotion to the rank of Lieutenant General and assignment as the Commander of the XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He will be replaced by MG Anthony R. Ierardi, who commanded the 1-7th Cavalry and was the Division G-3 from 1998-2001. The Change of Command is planned for a date after our reunion in Portland and MG Allyn is scheduled to attend the reunion.

The Department of Defense recently announced that BG Laura Richardson will be assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division as a Deputy Commanding General. She will be the first female to serve as a DCG in an Army Division. BG Richardson currently commands the Operational Test Command at Fort Hood, Texas. She commanded the 5th Battalion, 101st Aviation in Operation Iraqi Freedom and is an Army Aviator. Her husband, BG Jim Richardson, is currently the DCG of the First Team in Afghanistan and is also an Army Aviator.

Ironrose Honors Bataan's Fallen Soldiers by SPC Bailey Jester. 1st BCT, 1st Cavalry Division PAO

CAMP VIRGINIA, Kuwait - "We began walking the next morning. It was about 80 miles from where we ended up. It doesn't seem very far, but we were in such awful condition that 80 miles was a heck of a long way to walk. It took



Troopers honor the Bataan Death March

six days to get to San Fernando. There, the march ended and we got on board a train. But in that six days, a lot happened," a survivor describes the march in a personal account on Bataan Death March - A Survivor's Story.

Although this is only one survivor's story, there were many more who suffered the horrors and excruciating battles of the Japanese Bataan Death March. Continued on pg. 16.

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ADDRESS CHANGE

Don't Keep it a SECRET, Let us Know About It.
To submit by e-mail, send to membership@1cda.org.
Clip and Mail to 1st Cavalry Division Association
302 N. Main, Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703
Last 4 #'s of your SSN _____ DOB _____
Tel: (____) _____
Rank and Name: _____
New Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Unit: (1) _____ and (2) _____
Date of Assign: (1) _____ and (2) _____
E-Mail: _____
I served with the 1st Cav. Div. in (Circle one or more) Pre-WWII WWII
JAPAN KOREAN WAR KOREA '57-'65 FT BENNING VIETNAM
FT HOOD GULF BOSNIA AFGHANISTAN IRAQ FT BLISS
I DO/DO NOT authorize release of my personal info to Assn. members.
I served with another military unit during a war time period? YES NO

SABER
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e-mail: firstcav@1cda.org
Home Page: <http://www.1cda.org>
EDITOR: Lorinda Davison
ASSISTANT EDITOR: Martha E. Fisher
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Dennis E. Webster

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: (____) _____

Calendar of 1st Cavalry Division Association Events 2012
June 6-10 - 65th Annual Reunion, Portland, Oregon
November 8-11 - Veterans Day Gathering, Arlington, VA and Washington, DC
November 11 - 4th Annual Veterans Day Dinner, Arlington, Virginia

OTHER REUNIONS
5th U.S. Cavalry Association, 1-5 May. Ashbury Hotel & Suites, Mobile, AL. Information at <www.5thCav.org/2012ReunionInformation.html>.
15th MED Association, 2-6 May 2012. Marriott Cool Springs, Franklin, TN. Information available at <www.15thMedAssociation.Com/Reunions/2012Reunion/2012Reunion.html> or contact Art JACOBS, <AJacobs@ValkyrieConsultingGroup.com>.
Echo Recon, 1-5th CAV (Vietnam 1969-70), 3-6 May 2012. Greystone Lodge, Gatlinburg, TN. Information at <www.EchoRecon.com/reunion/reunion.html>.
B Co., 2-8th Cavalry (Eager Arms 1967-68), 2-6 May 2012. Crowne Plaza Dulles Airport, Herndon, VA. For more information e-mail <eagerarms@hotmail.com> or visit <www.eagerarms.com>.
Aerial Rocket Artillery Association, 2-20th ARA, 23-27 May 2012. The Benson Hotel, Portland, OR. Information available at <www.AraAssociation.Com/2012_Reunion.html>.
D Co., 2-8th Cavalry (Airborne), 1965-72, 20-24 June 2012. Denver Marriott Tech Center, Denver, CO. Information on website: <angryskipperassociation.org>. Contact Robin Woo, (916) 488-9354, <rwoo@surewest.net>.
C Co., 2-5th CAV, 20-22 September 2012. Hilton Garden Inn, Columbus, GA. Contact John McCorkle, 707 W. College Ave., Jacksonville, IL 62650, <JohnMcCorkle@frontier.com>.
E Co., 1-5th CAV "Recon Platoon" (Vietnam 1968-69), 28 September - 1 October 2012. Comfort Inn & Suites, Memphis, TN. Information available <<http://echorecon1-5.com/reunion2012.html>>.
1-9th Cavalry "Bullwhip Squadron", 11-14 October 2012. Shilo Inn & Suites, Killeen, TX. Information available at <www.BullwhipSquadron.org>.
A Co. and D Co., 227th AHB (Vietnam Era), 8-13 November 2012. Grand Plaza Hotel, Branson, MO. Information at <www.Reunion.A227AHB.org> or contact Howard Burbank, <ChickenMan@A227Slicks.org>.

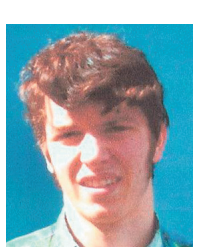
Horse Detachment
Continued from pg.1.
This coming April is a very special month at the Horse Detachment as we will be conducting the "A-Group" Test for Troopers who are eligible. The "A-Group" is the highest level of riding that a Trooper can attain at the HCD. Good luck to all those who take it, hope you have studied! April will also mark the 40th Anniversary of the Detachment's first public performance: a parade in San Angelo, Texas. We hope to re-create history and go back to that very same town and participate in their Frontier Days on 28 April.
As always you can catch up with us at the barn and we will be very busy at Cooper Field soon too with numerous changes of command and the return of the Division Headquarters from Afghanistan! Practice demonstrations are open to the public on most Thursdays at 10 o'clock; just call if you have any questions (254) 287-2229.

ARTICLE SUBMISSION
Manuscripts should be originals or clear copies, either typed or printed double-spaced in near-letter quality printer mode. Word processor submissions are accepted via e-mail or a mailed CD in WORD. Please include a printout. Attach a self-adhesive label with photo information to the back of photos and cutlines for each photo (and where you would like them placed). Include name and address if the photo is to be returned. Please do not send panoramic photos wider than 8.5 in.
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, "thank you" notes 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.



Dear Editor,
What the Ia Drang Scholarship Grant Means to Me.
I am currently a Pre-Dental Hygiene student and just started my second full time semester. It has been a real challenge not having a computer at home. I've spent a lot of valuable study time going back and forth from the library and taking Composition I, requires a computer for everything you do. This scholarship grant has allowed me to purchase a computer for my home, as well as paying for about one third of my degree expenses.
Since all of my Chemistry class information is only available online, I have already found it a great resource in getting me to my goal of becoming a Dental Hygienist. Since purchasing the computer, I have been able to access all of the resources available to me online. This has allowed me to keep up with what I'm learning and has already improved my grades. Thank You to all of the 1st Cavalry Division Soldiers.
Kenda Gabler



Dear Editor,
I never met my Grandpa, Charlie. He died before I was born. I've heard stories about him from different family members, seen old photographs of him in uniform or at dinner parties and held some of his medals and awards. But, of course, even in combination, these memories and anecdotes will never add up to the experience of actually knowing the man. And while I may never be granted the ability or opportunity to get to meet Grandpa Charlie, an honor like this scholarship helps me connect to him in some way, bringing me that much closer to understanding him as a great man and a part of my family.
Connor Desha



Dear Editor,
I am forever grateful for the courage and sacrifices of the 1st Cavalry Division. In World War II my parents, Charles and Marion Harper, were being held prisoners by the Japanese in the Philippines. They so often spoke of the heroism of our American troops in freeing them from the Santo Tomas prison camp.
My mother and dad have passed on and are much missed. But please know that our family will always carry gratitude and honor and our prayers for our military and their families.
Gratefully, Mrs. Judy Harper Austin



Dear Editor,
Enclosed are 3 photos of myself. I served in the 1st Cavalry Division - B Troop, 5th Cavalry from 1936 until 1948. I don't know if you want these photos or not but just thought I would send them to you. I have duplicate photos in my photo album. I was proud to have served in the horse mounted troops. We patrolled the Mexican borders and we stopped a lot of illegal weapons trying to cross the border into the U.S. I am now 88 years old and still riding my second horse Commanche II. Commanche number one is buried here at Fort Ord, California and the BLM is taking good care of her gravesite. The General here at Fort Ord gave me permission to have her buried on Post. Her gravesite is in front of the old 11th Cavalry horse water trough that is still here on Fort Ord. He told me she served here longer than most of the troops so she deserved to be buried here. {Editor's Note: The photos were of poor quality and were not able to be published. The photo used was in our archives.}
Yours Truly, Allan MacDonald, B Troop, 5th Cavalry

Dear Editor,
I have been in the hospital several times in the Fort Hood area and recently required some blood transfusions on a couple of occasions. I greatly appreciate the leadership of the Division getting the word out to the units and the many individual Troopers of the 1st Cavalry Division that answered a request to donate blood on my behalf. Most of them did not know me and only knew that a 1st Cavalry Veteran needed help. I was able to talk to a few of them that stopped by my room but to all of the others that donated blood I want to say Thank You.
COL (Ret) Joseph W. "Doc" McNaney, 15th MED, 1969
Continued on pg. 17.

LIFE APPLICATION/SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL BUSINESS STYLE CARDS are available at 200 for \$15.00. No hassle with having to carry legal size sheets of paper (Life Membership Applications) or sub forms. Orders will be sent to printers for printing when 3-4 are accumulated. Please be patient with us. Sample below. (Actual size 3" x 2")

 1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 302 N. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703 (254) 547-6537 firstcav@1cda.org		
NAME _____		
POSITION IN CHAPTER _____		
UNIT _____		
DATES OF ASSIGNMENT _____		
STREET ADDRESS _____		PHONE: _____
CITY, ST, ZIP _____		(000) 000-0000
E-MAIL: _____		(000) 000-0000 Cell

Enroll me as a Life Member.....	\$10.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Business Cards	\$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

\$10 covers your subscription to *SABER* for one year.
 \$25 makes you a D-Troop member plus a one year subscription.
 \$50 makes you a D-Troop member plus a one year subscription and you receive a suitable poster. Live the Legend Print
 \$100 makes you a D-Troop member plus a one year subscription and you receive a Spirit of the Cav print.
 \$500 makes you a Silver Brigade member plus a 10 year subscription.
 \$1,000 makes you a Gold Brigade member plus a 20 year subscription.
 All D-Troopers receive certificates suitable for framing.
 Brigade members receive handsome 1st Cavalry wall plaque.
 All donors (\$25 or more) receive mention in the Honor Roll column and may dedicate gifts. D-Troop milestones can be achieved cumulatively. We will keep track of your contributions..
 Associate Membership - for those with no service with the 1st Cav. Div.
 \$15 one year Associate membership plus a one year subscription.
 \$150 Life Associate plus a five year subscription and you receive a framed certificate.

LAST 4 NUMBERS OF SSN _____ DOB _____

Rank _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

Dates Assigned (1) _____ (2) _____

I served with 1st Team in Unit (1) _____ and (2) _____

E-mail _____

I Authorize release of information to: No one ___ Other Members only ___
 Other Members and USAA Only ___

I served with the 1st Cavalry Division in (Circle one or more)

Pre-WWII WWII Japan Korean War Korea '57-'65 Fort Benning
 Vietnam War Fort Hood Gulf War Bosnia Afghanistan Iraq Fort Bliss

Have you served with any other military unit during a war time period? YES NO

MUSEUM NOTES



W. Terry Maddox
 522 County Road 3371
 Kempner, TX 76538
 Executive Trustee, 1st Cavalry Division
 Association Museum Foundation
 TerryandKelly@embarqmail.com

After the July Reunion, I reported on the progress of the Mounted Warrior Museum being proposed for Fort Hood.

At the February 2012 meeting of the 1st Cavalry Division Museum Foundation, we received an update from the foundation that is pursuing the fund raising and eventual construction of the new museum. The name of the museum has been changed to the Mounted Warrior Museum and Soldier Center. This will allow the museum, after completion, to provide services that can be paid for by appropriated funds. Note that NO appropriated funds can be used for construction of the museum. The current goal of the Mounted Warrior Museum Foundation is to have the museum open by 2019. The cost estimate is now \$130 million of which a little over \$1 million has been raised so far. The location of the new museum will be in the vicinity of the 1st Cavalry Division horse stables and will have direct access to Business Route 190. As I stated previously, all Fort Hood museums will be consolidated under this new museum. The plan still has the equipment display at the present 1st Cavalry Division Museum to remain with some additions to be added from other units. Some unique pieces of equipment will be moved to the new museum.

One important decision has yet to be made. That is the future of the Crossed Sabers Chapter Souvenir Shop. I will keep you informed as this and other decisions are finalized. There is further information posted on the Mounted Warrior Museum Foundation website at <www.MountedWarfareFoundation.org>.

New Members Listing

1LT ADAMS, EVAN N. TX D 1-8C 1002
 E-4 AMMONS, CHRISTOPHER H. FL A 2-82FA 1204
 SPC ANDERSON, ANDRIA HI 27BSB 0708
 SPC AZUERO, PEDRO R. TX E 2-7C 1108
 SPC BAER, KATE ALEXANDRA TX HHC 1BSTB 1201
Continued on pg. 10.



CHAPTER NEWS

COLUMBIA-WILLAMETTE CHAPTER

The planning for the 65th Annual 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion is coming along very well. The hotels are filling up nicely and may be full by the time this update appears in the *Saber*. We will find overflow hotels if necessary. Tour registrations are coming in as well. Remember to register early for the tours since they have limited seating. We will be coordinating all facets of the reunion with the Red Lion hotel to make sure that everyone has a wonderful experience. The local chapter members will be meeting at the Red Lion Hotel in April and May to get the lay of the land and make sure that nothing falls through the cracks. Reunion registration is running ahead of the last three years with good turnout from the western states. So get out that registration form, fill it out, and send it to the Association HQ in Copperas Cove, Texas. We sincerely look forward to seeing all of you here in the magnificent Pacific Northwest this June. From Ft. Hood to Mt. Hood! Klaus Lachmann, Publicity Coordinator

CROSSED SABERS CHAPTER

The Chapter is still attending the Fort Hood Installation Newcomer Orientations and trying to recruit those newly assigned to the Division to our Association. As the Chapter which includes the active duty Troopers we feel that this is an important task.

With three of our Brigade Combat Teams at Fort Hood and the rest to return over the next several months we look forward to having everyone home for a while and are in the process of planning some events for the Chapter.

We'll be bringing quite a few items from the Souvenir Shop to the reunion in Portland and hope to see all of you there. Jerry Eller, President

JAMES J. MASON WEST MICHIGAN CHAPTER

The Chapter started off 2012 with our monthly meeting and Bingo on 29 January. The GRHV is in turmoil with the State of Michigan closing one floor of the facility under the guise of "remodeling." We urge each warrior in the state to send your thoughts to our Governor.

Bingo will again be headlined on 29 April, 29 July and 30 September. Thanks to generous pledges from our members we will again be privileged to support this "giving back" through the end of 2012.

We are on the downhill slope to spring here in the Great Lake State. I'm sure glad that I don't own a Ski Resort! Bob Anderson, Secretary

NEVADA CHAPTER



We have had a great first year as an official chapter. The Chapter is actively supporting the USO at McCarran International Airport by volunteering time at the canteen. We also help serve dinner to and socialize with the vets at The US Vets Facility in Las Vegas one Saturday a month.

This was our first year to participate in the largest Veterans Day Parade west of the

Mississippi. We were allowed two vehicles and had special guests in them. One was Gold Star Mother Marsico Lilliam. She rode in a classic gold Cadillac. The other vehicle had some of our auxiliary members. Heading up the troop was our banner being held by two ROTC students from Las Vegas High School.

The Nevada Chapter will be helping to mark and honor veterans' grave sites at the Boulder City Cemetery this Memorial Day. The Chapter is also planning a Spring Soiree and hope to make it an annual event for the Chapter. Ken Gallagher, Secretary

NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

Our Spring meeting is scheduled on Saturday, 5 May 2012 at the Ridgefield Park Elks. We have COL David A. Lesperance who is presently attending the Army War College as our guest speaker for the meeting. COL Lesperance has been with the 1st Cavalry Division multiple times and has served at Fort Hood, in Bosnia as a Company Commander in I-8 CAV, and in Iraq as the commander for I-8 Cav. He has also served in the 1-12th Cavalry and the 1st BCT as an Executive Officer. New Chapter shirts will be available along with decals, patches and 1st Cavalry pins at the meeting.

Visit our Facebook page (New York New Jersey Cavalry) and check out the photos in the "Way We Were" section.



Paul Brian, Rick Bassuk, Al Lynch, Mason Holmes, Bruce Peterson and John Schwan at the Auto Show.

SHERIDAN'S CAVALRY CHAPTER

At the Chapter's 14 January meeting we elected new officers. Our officers are: Bruce Peterson, President; Joe LaPorte, Vice-President; Jerry Bodenow, Treasurer; Allen Lynch, Secretary; and Mason Holmes, Membership and 2014 Reunion Chairman. Allen would really like someone else to take over as Secretary soon. It should be noted that no money was spent by any of the candidates to get elected.

The Chapter has started to assemble a photo directory of all members envisioning both

a current photo and a "back in the day" photo. Numerous Chapter members attended the Chicago Auto Show in February as part of Operation Support Our Troops - America (OSOT-America) <www.osotamerica.org>. OSOT-Aneruca has mailed in excess of 1,000,000 pounds of packages to deployed patriots and will host the "Rockin' for the Troops" concert featuring the LT Dan Band with Gary Sinise on 21 July. We will be there again.

Due to the planners hard work and the Patton Museum and family, the staff car in which GEN Patton was riding when the accident that would cost him his life occurred traveled from Fort Knox to Chicago for the duration of the Auto Show. It was the backdrop for a public appearance by our own Medal of Honor recipient, Al Lynch, where he swore in new recruits and visited with show attendees. The US Army Recruiting Command exhibit was a popular place even by the recruiters from the other services that came to visit with Al in a show of respect for him and his accomplishments. Bruce Peterson, President

61st FA News



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Carlsbad, CA
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Gordon@DLSea.Net



Hi everybody, this issue of the *Saber* should be getting to you right about tax

time. Hope you all sent in your share to Uncle Sam with a smile. We have lots to be grateful for in this great nation.

From Ted Covington... "Forgetting, it turns out, has enormous value for concise understanding and for emotional health: Hot dog!" Ted sent this bit of wisdom along back in January from an article in the Jan/Feb issue of Scientific American Mind. Who knew that memory loss was so essential for improved mental well-being. I must be in great shape!

Received this from Jimmy Marks after the story in the last issue of the *Saber* regarding SFC Charles Roy. His remains were finally identified and the family held a memorial service on January 17th in Blue Springs, Missouri... "Thanks Gordon. That is really good news and I hope it brings closure to the family. I wrote several times in *Saber* about Roy and finally heard from Michael Cornwell who was a member of service battery and was captured along with Roy and knew of the circumstances of his death. I first met Charles Roy in December, 1949, at Camp Drew, Japan. Roy was the same age as my father and was a corporal, a World War II veteran and I was an 18-year-old private so our relationship was strictly military business and never social. While I never got to know him well, I did know that he was a quiet man, very thorough in carrying out his duties and was well liked by everyone. He had the duties of a Sergeant and was perceived as being strict but fair, a Professional Soldier! In Korea he was the Ammunition Sergeant for Battery A, 61st Field Artillery Battalion. On 5 November, 1950 when the battery came under attack by a large Chinese force, Roy and his ammo section were camped out by a bridge that the Chinese were trying to blow up in order to isolate the British Brigade. Roy and his section bore the brunt of the attack and raised the alarm which resulted in alerting the battery that we were under attack. This probably saved lives as Roy and his men were some distance away from us as a safety measure (in case an ammo truck blew up it would put only the ammo boys at risk). In any case it gave us a few minutes to prepare firing lines and brace for the onslaught. The 61st had numerous casualties that day, but the Chinese suffered massive casualties at the hands of the artillerymen of the 61st. Later the British Brigadier remarked that it was like a scene from Napoleonic wars with Chinese bodies stacked in front of our guns. The battle resulted in the 61st being awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, thanks to heroes like SGT Charles Roy, a true American Patriot. Roy and the others will never be forgotten. It is gratifying to know he is finally home. COL Jimmy C. Marks, former SFC 61st Field Artillery." Thanks so much for the information, Jimmy.

My wife and I are all set for our vacation in Branson and Hot Springs, Arkansas in early May. We'll be attending the 61st FA Battalion Association reunion in Branson on May 7-9 and looking forward to it. I think I did attend one way back in the '90s when we lived in Marietta, Georgia and the reunion was, I think, in Eagan, Minnesota.

I know I've written previously about Honor Flights taking WWII veterans back to Washington, DC to see the WWII memorial. Now, in the latest issue of Military Officer Magazine, I found an article on Valor Flights that take Korean War veterans to see the Korean War memorial in Washington. You can get more information on the flights at www.valorflight.com. Right now the initial consideration is for veterans who live in the five counties comprising the Tennessee Valley (Limestone, Madison, Morgan, Marshall and Jackson). Valor Flight is based in Madison, Alabama and the flights leave from Huntsville. Their first flight was last November and the next one is scheduled for November of this year. Hopefully they'll be able to follow in the footsteps of the Honor Flights and make their service available to veterans throughout the United States. Like most charitable organizations they are short of funds and always looking for additional sources of income and donations. Again, more complete information can be seen on their website or by writing to them at Valor Flight, P.O. Box 1353, Madison, AL 35758.

For any of you that would like to see the *Saber* on line, just go to ... <<http://www.1cda.org/SABER.htm>>. As I've mentioned before, these are huge files and it may take several minutes to download them.

Dennis, at HQ sent out this reminder on the Division Association Reunion on June 6-10... "The hotel is beginning to fill up and we are receiving registrations for the 65th Annual Reunion in Portland, Oregon. If you are planning on attending the reunion make sure that you reserve your room and send in your registration form to us so we can properly prepare for this reunion. The Columbia-Willamette Chapter has done great work in setting the reunion up and coordinating some great tours for us. The hotel, Red Lion Hotel, is right on the Columbia River and a great spot for us to gather. Plan to attend and register early with the Association! Information and registration forms are available on the web page. We will be holding elections at the reunion and if you are interested in serving on the Board of Governors or as a Foundation Trustee see the information on our web page for details." It sounds like they have a lot of things planned for the five-day event. I went a couple of years ago and would recommend attending if you can possibly make it.

Received the newsletter from Bill and Pat Stewart regarding 61st FA Bn Association Branson reunion May 7th-9th. It is being held at the Camden House and the phone number for reservations there is (800) 335-2555. Bill reminds everyone to identify yourself as being with the 61st and you'll get the \$68 per day rate. He also reminds everyone that reservations should be made as early as possible as they haven't reserved too many rooms. Of course, you should be receiving this issue of the *Saber* just a few weeks ahead of the reunion so if you haven't already made them you better be prepared to make alternate plans. As usual, he and Pat have arranged a leisurely schedule with plenty of free time between events for socializing, relaxing, etc. It sounds like fun and I hope to see many of you there.

Just before submitting this article I got the following from Bill Stewart... "As you can tell by the 61st FA Bn Association newsletter, the Branson reunion agenda is all set. Reservations for the activities are already being received. After our ad came out in the American Legion magazine, I have had several phone calls

regarding it. At least some people are reading the ads. Also, after the newsletter was sent, I have had several e-mails, phone calls and even letters that they appreciate the news Pat and I send them even though they can't attend the reunions. These calls are very much appreciated. Everything is OK here except for minor aches and pains and we are enjoying a mild winter so far. Hope to see many of you in Branson. I also got info on the Korean Veterans Reunion in Nevada on October 1-4. If anyone is interested in going, they can contact me and I will forward them a copy." Thanks for the update, Bill. Looking forward to seeing everyone in Branson next month.

I also have received the information on the October 1-4 Korean War Veterans Reunion in Laughlin, Nevada. It's being held at the Tropicana Express hotel and it looks like your host, Dick Gallmeyer, has put together a fine agenda for the four days. For more information contact Dick at (800) 523-4715 or (757) 366-0393 or via e-mail at <msg1gal@aol.com>. You can also contact the hotel directly at (800) 243-6846 and mention group code 17261 to get the special room rates (\$20.99 + tax).

A few days later, we received the notice from Laurie Heagy regarding the Chitose-Younguns group reunion in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania on September 12-15. It will be held at the Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Center (Tel (717) 334-8121 or on line at www.eisenhower.com). They have blocked out a number of rooms for the group if you make reservations no later than August 13th. After that you may still make reservations if rooms are still available. They, the Moser Clan, have all kinds of activities planned ranging from an appearance by General Robert E. Lee to Civil War battle enactments to dinners, tours, etc. For further information please call or contact Laurie Heagy at (610) 682-4735 or (484) 269-4619 (cell) or via e-mail at <lheagy@hotmail.com>. She can be reached via regular mail at 51 Glen Road, Mertztown, PA 19539. An alternate contact would be Arthur Moser at (610) 395-1278 or PO Box 52, Breinigsville, PA 18031.

Les Newman (Svc and A, '42-'46) sent this to me... "Hey, Gordon, I know this is about two months too late for your November/December *Saber* column, but I bet as a former member of the 61st you may be interested in a little history I wrote for the benefit of my grandkids at Christmas. A World War II Christmas. Sitting here looking out my window on this rainy Christmas Eve, my mind wanders (it does that a lot lately) back to the most depressing Christmas I ever experienced. Why am I writing about it? Only to give you a basis for thanksgiving for the Christmas you enjoy. It was December 25, 1943. We had broken camp at Camp Strathpine, near Brisbane, Australia, had packed all our gear and were waiting for trucks to take our field artillery battalion to the docks on the Brisbane River to board a ship bound for we knew not where. Rumor had it that it would be New Guinea where some heavy battles were going on but the destination was classified. As we waited, we were served lunch consisting of cheese sandwiches and water. As we bitched about our "Christmas Dinner," we were startled by the sound of a shot and found our battalion survey officer, LT Waller, had killed himself with his carbine while sitting on his cot in his vacated tent. Then, as we dealt with this, we loaded on the trucks and arrived at the ship docks at 3pm. We were shocked to find that our ship was a Liberty Ship, the John Jacob Astor and not only were we going to board it, but another artillery battalion would too. This would be about 1000 men with gear on board a ship not designed to carry any passengers at all. We were assigned spaces just below deck on pieces of plywood as a bunk, but being the hottest time of the year south of the equator, no one could stand the heat below deck. Everyone milled around topside. You could not move two feet without bumping into someone. Our field kitchens were set up on the open deck and served two meals a day. Latrines were canvas covered 2x4x built out over the side of the ship. No bath facilities. Rationed fresh water for drinking only. Merry Christmas! We left Brisbane harbor hoping for a quick voyage to wherever. So we sailed up the coast, across the Great Barrier Reef and dropped anchor in the harbor of Townsville, Australia. We did not budge for ten miserable, hot, depressing days! When we finally pulled up anchor a cheer went up that could be heard all the way to New Guinea where we finally ended up. The best part of the this experience was that our genius mess sergeant served a turkey and dressing dinner on Christmas day evening as we left Brisbane harbor. Compared to those guys fighting those battles at the time it wasn't such a bad day after all! For what it's worth! Les Newman, December 24, 2011." Thanks so much, Les. Really appreciate your taking the time to send it along.

Got a nice e-mail from Jane and Tom Arthur. They're now full time residents in Palm Desert, California. Tom is having his medical problems with cancer and I'm sure we all wish him the best. My wife and I usually try to spend a week or so in the Palm Springs area every year or so. The next time we do we'll stop by and say hello.

Received this sad notice from Peter O'Brien in late February... "Hi Gordon, the 1955 Red Raider Football Team sadly notes the passing of halfback Ted Boyatzies, a member of Battery B, 82nd FA Bn. (The Football Team was TDY'd to the 61st for rations and hospitality.) Ted was retired in Hartfield, Virginia, with his wife, Linda. They both had careers at Iowa State University. Pete." Thanks for the note Pete. Forwarded the information on to Dennis at the Cav HQ and Dan Gillotti, the 82nd scribe. Dan was able to provide Dennis with Ted's rank (CPL) while with the 82nd.

We now have seven individuals who are getting this article via e-mail. Anyone who also would like it that way, just give me a call or drop me an e-mail saying so!

Monica Iglesias (wife of Lou) sent this note to Bill Stewart and he forwarded it on to me... "It is with great sadness I write to tell you Lou died on Friday, February 24, 2012. He went into the emergency room on 2/11 for a collapsed lung, had surgery and never recovered. Hoppe and Mara came in on Wednesday. So the two buds got to see each other and briefly speak. I called Jim Barth last night because he always shared the blind material available with Lou. So, please let the 61st guys know. Thanks and God bless you all. Monica." Lou served in A Btry, '49-'51. Our condolences to Monica and the family.

Just another reminder that I still have some of the 61st FA Battalion crests available. Just drop me a line or give me a call. They're only \$3 each.

Take care, 'Sta Bueno and keep those cards, letters, phone calls and e-mails coming!

Read the SABER on-line at <www.1cda.org/SABER.htm>

5th CAV News



Jim Stanford
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 Royse City, TX 75189-2306
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 <TrooperJm@GMail.Com>



Greetings all. While some of our friends are in the grips of winter, many of us in the southern climes have been

wondering "where winter went?" or "When will winter get here?" Hopefully, we won't have an early outbreak of rough weather with thunderstorms and all that accompanies them. Sadly, Branson, Missouri was one of the early targets of the tornadoes, just a week before the tourism season began.

I regret to report that I was unable to attend the 1st Cavalry Division Association's Board of Governors meeting at Fort Hood the last weekend of February, but, I did have good reason that I couldn't travel, even the short distance from my home to Fort Hood. I had just gotten out of the Dallas VA Hospital, following a week's stay which had been preceded by another week in a civilian hospital in Rockwall, Texas, that included 5 days in the ICU unit.

I haven't been in a hospital of any kind, as a patient, since 1968 in the Far Eastern hemisphere. Those hospitals were military hospitals during a time of armed conflict.

Like many veterans, I'd heard about all the horror stories about VA hospitals throughout the system. I had read about unsanitary instruments, outbreaks of incurable infections and some cases of downright mistreatment of patients.

I am also familiar with the seeming mob scene on the first floor of the Dallas VA facility, where the majority of outpatient services and clinics are located. I wasn't prepared for what I found in the hospital operation above the first floor. My concern was raised, however, when I found out that room 248 is on the fifth floor! What? Why, that just don't make sense. Seems like in every other hospital, Room 248 would be on the second floor.

Oh, well, I still remember my E&E (Escape and Evasion) training and will put it to use, if need be.

I found out I didn't need E&E, but I wasn't good enough to keep them from making me a human pin cushion.

The VA doctors were concerned with my heart and acted, initially, on the reports from the civilian hospital. But they were also examining my respiratory system, where I was also having problems.

By the time I was ready to leave the Dallas VA facility, I had found that the staff members were strong, caring people who go out of their way to make you as comfortable as possible; they deliver your meds, treatments, and meals on time, almost always with a smile or a cheery attitude. The resident doctors, while young, (I guess everybody is



Although the photographer was a little out of focus, this bevy of beauty was a welcome sight to this old vet's eyes. The quartet included (L-R) Ally Traylor, Ann Lux, Amelia Bren, and Alyssa Torres visiting with the Author in The Dallas Veterans Affairs Hospital. Just about as much of a morale booster as anyone my age should be allowed. (Courtesy photo by VA)

LTG (Ret) JOHN J. YEOSOCK – 1937-2012



Lieutenant General (Ret) John J. Yeosock, who commanded the 1st Cavalry Division from June 1986 to January 1984 died on 15 February 2012 at the age of 74. In addition to his position as the Commanding General, General Yeosock also served as the Division's Chief of Staff from 1980 to 1981 and was the Assistant Division Commander of the First Team from 1983 to 1984.

He was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania on 18 March 1937 and died in Peachtree City, Georgia. After graduating Valley Forge Military Academy, General Yeosock attended Pennsylvania State University earning a degree in Industrial Engineering, and later earned a graduate degree in Operations Research/Systems Analysis from the United States Naval Post Graduate School.

During his 33-year career with the United States Army, General Yeosock served in Germany, Vietnam, Korea, Saudi Arabia, and across the United States. He commanded the 3rd Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, the 194th Armored Brigade, the 1st Cavalry Division, the Third United States Army, and he commanded all of the coalition ground forces during Desert Shield/Desert Storm. He retired from the Army on August 31, 1992.

His awards include Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Bronze Star Medal with V Device (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and Combat Infantry Badge.

General Yeosock is survived by his wife of 51 years, Betta, two children John and Beth, their spouses Susan and Paul, grandchildren Matt, Amanda, Addison, Nate, and brother Michael, wife Patricia.

Memorial services were held on February 19, 2012 at the chapel of Parrott Funeral Home with LTG (Ret) Paul Funk, Pastor Miriam Beecher and Mr. Alvin Hobbs officiating.

Interment services will be held on June 8, 2012 at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

In lieu of flowers those desiring may make donations to The American Cancer Society, 301 Kelly Drive, #3, Peachtree City, GA 30269.

young when you're my age) seemed highly competent and were cheery and friendly. I only found one doctor who seemed to have a bad Patient/VA doctor relationship.

I will report that I am home and recovering, trying to regain what strength I'd lost while lying around for more than a month with problems. I will also report that above the 1st floor of the VA Hospital in Dallas there really is a hospital that is functioning at a high level with competent, caring people. I wouldn't hesitate to go back if I really, really had to.

My stay took place during Veterans Appreciation Week at the hospital in which local celebrities came and visited "the troops". There were beauty queens, local TV personalities and the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders.

It all sort of reminded me of being in the hospital in the Philippines at Clark AFB when the Bob Hope Show came through with Rachael Welch. I didn't get to see the show, but Ms. Welch came through the ward and signed autographs and pictures for the patients.

Well, on to more pressing information.

An e-mail from CPT Beverly C. Read, advised me that he is looking for a medic who saved his life in Vietnam. Read was the company commander of Delta 1-5 Cav on New Year's Eve, 1967 when he was shot by a sniper. LT Leonard Edwards and SGT Barton were also hit.

CPT Read reports that he died on the operating table and his family was notified, but he was revived and his family was notified again the next day.

"Doc" Horton, who was the senior medic for the company, not only saved Read's life but found his left thumb in the dirt, taped it to his arm for medevac and the thumb was later reattached by doctors in the 67th Medevac Hospital. After four months in the hospitals, CPT Read was medically retired.

"I feel blessed to be alive and would like to see "Doc" Horton again to thank him in person," Read wrote.

So "Doc" Horton, if you are reading this, you can contact CPT Read at <breadsantafe@gmail.com>.

They might be able to get together at the Delta 1-5 Cav ('66-'68) reunion in April (9-13) which is scheduled for Branson, Missouri. The contact is James Buckner at (479) 521-6951 or Louis Perosi at <smallstock@verizon.net> or call (888) 282-2802 Ext. 19. The group currently has over 40 members located and would like to find many more.

Speaking of reunions, the 5th U.S. Cavalry Regiment Association will hold their 17th annual reunion at Mobile, Alabama, May 1-5. Guests will have the unique opportunity of touring the battleship USS Alabama, as well as hold their very own Mardi Gras banquet complete with a king and queen to rule over the festivities.

The reunion will be held at the Ashbury Hotel and Suites, 600 W. I-65 Service Road in Mobile.

Registration and other information about the reunion can be found at the 5th Cav website: <www.5thcav.org> or call Jim Reecamper at (417) 844-5347.

Obituary. LTC (Ret) Walter R. (Russ) Miller, Jr. died November 1, 2011 in San Antonio, Texas. He served in the U.S. Army 27 years, including a number of assignments in 1-5 Cav. His decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross (4th OLC), the Bronze Star and the Air Medal (2d award) with V device.

He was survived by his wife of 47 years, Carol Hightower Miller; a daughter, two sisters and five grandchildren.

Services were held Nov. 5, in Port Gibson, Mississippi with full military honors and burial in the Wintergreen Cemetery in Port Gibson.

That's about it for this installment. Time to do my exercises (baa-humbug).

TAPS

We have been notified of the death of the following:

BERRY, CPT Alan R., C Btry., 1-21st FA, 1966, HHB, DIVARTY 1966. 30 January 2012.

BOWEN, PFC Wesley L., B Co., 1-5th CAV, 1951-52. 22 January 2012.

BOYATZIES, SP-3 Eleftherios "Ted", B Btry., 82nd FA, 1955. 19 February 2012.

CAUDILL, SSG Bealer V., D Co., 5-7th CAV, 1966-67. 17 February 2012.

CHEESMAN, PFC Edward C., E Trp., 5th CAV, 1943-45. 22 October 2011.

CIULLA, T-4 Stephen B., HQ, 2nd BDE, 1944-45. 23 January 2012.

CUNNYNGHAM, SSG Henry K., A Btry., 99th FA, 1942-45. 23 February 2012.

DAUGHERTY, SP-4 Kenneth N., HHC, 13th SIG, 1958-59. 21 August 2011.

DONATELLI, SGT Thomas, C Trp., 12th CAV, 1943-45. 7 February 2012.

DONNELLY, SFC (Ret) Donald R., I&R Platoon, 7th CAV, 1949-51; RCN, 7th CAV, 1966. 23 July 2011.

GARRARD, T-5 James W., 302nd RCN Trp., 1946-47. 21 February 2012.

HARDIN, SPC (Ret) Kevin M., D Co., 3-8th CAV, 2005-07. 22 January 2012.

IGLESIAS, CPL Louis J., A Btry., 61st FA, 1949-51. 24 February 2012.

KING, CPL Bernard R., A Btry., 82nd FA, 1949-52. 2 March 2012.

KNIGHT, LTC (Ret) James M., HHC, 1CD, 1978-79. 1 November 2011.

PAWLIK, T-SGT Wadsworth H., 302nd RCN Trp., 1942-45. 8 June 2011.

PIATEK, SGT Ronald H., HHC, 2-12th CAV, 1969-70. 29 February 2012.

SHEPHERD, MSG (Ret) Waymond A., 545th MP, 1966-67. 12 November 2011.

SKINNER, MAJ (Ret) Thomas A., B Det, 27th MNT, 1969-70. 30 January 2012.

SPIRES, LTC (Ret) James W., HHC, 2-7th CAV, 1965-66. 17 February 2012.

WEST, SP-5 Jackie Lee, E Btry., 82nd FA, 1966-67. 27 January 2012.

WILSON, SSG Gary D., D Co., 1-8th CAV, 1967-68, 15th ADM, 1968. 4 January 2012.

YEOSOCK, LTG (Ret) John J., HHC, 1CD, 1980-82; 1983-84; and 1986-88. 15 February 2012.

ACTIVE DUTY TAPS

We have been notified of the death of the following Active Duty Troopers in the United States that were not combat related:

ROBINSON, PFC Joe C., A Co., 1-8th CAV, 2009-12. 9 February 2012.

We honor the passing of our friends and comrades in arms.

12th CAV News



Ken Howser, Jr.
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Facebook.Com/12thCavalryRegiment Association – The latest

situation report is that we each need to verify all pertinent contact information (cell phone, e-mail, land line, postal address) with the secretary. It won't hurt to notify the Division Association either. New members and old have ways of moving or changing their data and not remembering to notify us. When in dire chances we wish to contact you all channels are dead-ends. At one time we had plenty of names and addresses and could tell you those that were incorrect - no longer. We cannot serve and help you if we do not know how or are unable to reach you. My addresses are listed here and on the website, so up-date the Home Boy.

Our beloved Treasurer Roger King has relinquished the reins to the books and Doug Warden has graciously answered the bugle call to be interim Treasurer. As with any change in leadership problems occur. Check your membership date on the Crossed Sabers and see if it matches with your records. If you spot any irregularities notify Doug at one of his addresses below and he will try to make a remedy. If you cannot afford Regimental yearly dues please also see (contact) Doug. Again, it all comes down to getting the databases tweaked and maintaining them at the highest level. Keep those cards, letters, e-mails and phone calls coming, I can't write this on my own. (Actually? I could but it would not be a pretty sight.)



Homecoming 1-12

0325 1-12 Cavalry Notes: *Mrs. Susie Carter the BN FRSA, was recognized at this month's Recognition Ceremony by the 1st Cavalry Division. *The next major happening is the change of command slated for 11 May for all the battalions under 3BCT." - Susie Carter

0525 2-12 Cavalry Notes: Congratulations to the following: volunteer of the month Brandie Mastroianni; 1LT Alonzo McNeal, D Co Platoon Leader graduated as a Ranger at Fort Benning; Mrs. Diva Vincent, wife of SGT Antonio Vincent, F Co FSC, was recognized on 19 Jan., '12 for her outstanding performance as F Co's FRG Leader; Ten Battalion NCO's were inducted into the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club on 24 January. In other news, 2-12 Scouts conducted Sniper tryouts from 24 to 27 January 2012. Six out of the original twelve candidates were selected to join the Sniper Section. (Our Troopers



Diablo Company 2-12 CLS Course

are the Best!) Twenty Troopers from Diablo Company executed a 40 hour CLS Course at the MSTC in order to enhance their medical skills. Diablo Company executed M9 Preliminary Marksmanship Instruction (PMI) on 31 January, 2012 in preparation for Small Arms Marksmanship Qualification. First Platoon, HHC, 2-12 Cav conducted Observation Point (OP) training on OP Curry located in the Fort Hood training area. The intent of this training was to familiarize the Soldiers of the FIST Platoon on OP operations. Bravo Company held a Pie In the Face fundraiser to raise money for a family bowling event. The family bowling event took place at the Phantom Warrior Lanes on 27 February. The 2-12 Cav Egg Hunt was scheduled for children 0-12, split into 4 groups March 25 at the Division Museum. Prizes were awarded for finding the winning eggs in each group. For the waist watchers, there was no chocolate – it is still Texas! (it melts.) <Facebook>

0725 Brand Some - "ATTENTION Troopers and Ladies of the 12th Cavalry Regiment Association: Our 7th Annual Reunion will be at Basecamp Branson, Missouri, LZ Savannah House Hotel, 4th-8th September, 2012, (Tue-Sat). All details may be viewed on the 12th Cavalry website. We have Blocked 120 Rooms at Savannah House w/excellent conveniences and have reserved rights to an exceptional Hospitality Room, dates 4-7. Tues the 4th, Hamburger/Hotdog/Baked Beans Welcome Reception will be 1800 hrs, in the Hospitality Room Area. The Banquet will be held Fri the 7th at the Camden House Conference Center affiliated with Savannah House. The Savannah has 154 Rooms available during this time; when the blocked 120 are filled, the remaining 34 can be used for the 12th Cavalry if reservations are made early. Features are: Double Queen Rooms, King Rooms, King Jacuzzi Suites, and 2-Bedroom Executive Suites w/Jacuzzi. All rooms include daily breakfast and an evening snack offering of cookies, cobbler and ice cream from 2000-2300 hrs (there will be a special snack table for those dealing w/Diabetes.) Standard Room Rates are \$78.00 per night; we are trying to get these reduced to \$68.00 per night. Friday Banquet will be sit-down served, at \$28.00 per person - menu has not been determined. We encourage all to make early reservations and those who have not made a 12th Regiment Reunion recently or ever; You Will Miss a Once in a Lifetime Opportunity if You are AWOL! After three (3) Years of Pleading, Badgering and Codgering we have received a commitment for Banquet Keynote Speaker Joseph L. Galloway (War Correspondent, Author, Writer-Consultant) and author with lgt Hal Moore of *We Were Soldiers Once and Young* (which was the basis for the movie *We Were Soldiers*.) For questions call or e-mail: Thomas Crabtree, Cell (432) 853-4851, Home (432) 689-8330, <mmctlc3@aol.com>; Doug Warden, Cell (405) 826-8008, <dougwarden444@hotmail.com>; Terry Combs (President 12th Regiment Association), Cell (918) 931-8352, <ixxi@sbcglobal.net>. More information as details are finalized. We are looking forward to a better than ever Reunion this year. Time is running short so make your Plans and Reservations ASAP!!" <12thCav.US>

0925 Taps – SGT Thomas Donatelli, C Troop 12th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division 1943-45, Vero Beach, Florida, died on 7 February. Trooper Donatelli was very proud of his time in the 12th Cavalry Regiment and enjoyed

0001 Hey Sailor, new in town? When I look good you feel better. If old age doesn't kill me I will live till I die.

0125 12th Regiment Association – The latest



Sergeant Thomas Donatelli (Center), WWII Trooper 12th Cavalry Regiment 2006

May flights of angels bear him home. Memorial contributions may be made to Our Savior Lutheran Church, Vero Beach, Florida 32960 - Dennis Webster <Legacy.Com> and <VeroNews.Com>

1225 2-12 Vet – "His military service is over, but a Jacksonville veteran fights an unfinished battle in the Middle East. Former Army SPC Will Highsmith wants to bring Ali, 32, to the United States. Ali, whose surname can't be used to protect his identity was a translator in Iraq. Ali, who he considers a brother, is in danger each day. "Ali's work was invaluable and his loyalty should be rewarded." At first, troops couldn't communicate with Iraqis because no one spoke Arabic. Without Iraqi workers like Ali, understanding those who lived in the war zone may never have happened. When it became unsafe for Ali to stay in his own home, he started staying with the Army - sleeping in the same room as soldiers. Ali went beyond the call of duty, Highsmith said. On a July, 2003 day, Highsmith's platoon came under heavy gunfire, one soldier was wounded and the others chased their attackers down a narrow alley. Their commanding officer called for a someone to man a Humvee roof machine gun - Ali volunteered. Allowing a non-soldier to handle that weapon isn't following protocol. But it exhibited one thing: "Pure and utter trust in this man." The last time Ali heard from the State Department was about four months ago. He has no job and has been living off savings that have nearly run out. Leaving his house is a rarity these days, Ali said. He applied for jobs, but no one will hire him because he worked with the U.S." <Jacksonville.Com>

"One of our interpreters (Ali) who lived with 2-12 Cav full time and went on pretty much every mission at great personal risk. He worked with us day and night, becoming one of about 10, full-time, 24/7 interpreters we used for the most dangerous missions. To give you a bit of indication of our trust for these guys, they were allowed to carry loaded pieces with them in our presence. And their work was thankless. We never gave them notification of a mission prior to several minutes before SP and they took it all with a smile. Ali really did do some Hooah stuff. Went in on room clearings with us. Wants to join the Army and go to AFG as soon as he gets here, should he be lucky enough. And he was in Saddam's Army (by conscription, not by choice) and survived." - Richard Kehoe

1525 D Troop- Jay Mumaw is seeking information from anyone on Trooper Robert Jay Bennett, Jr. Bennett is his uncle, he has his discharge papers and has been told there was a picture of him on his mount, but right after he received his horse they disbanded the horse cavalry and started training as infantry. Trooper Bennett was in D Troop 12th Cavalry, he was a Heavy Machine Gunner 605 (.30 cal), he served in New Guinea, the Bismarck Archipelago, the Southern Philippines and Luzon. Jay has seen three or four pictures of him in his fatigues, he appears to be on an island - one is of him and his buddies holding a Japanese flag. Jay has read all he can find about the 12th in books and the Internet, now he would like to correspond, call or write any and all willing WWII D Troop veterans to understand the situations and realities of those times and that war against the Japanese. His address is: Wm. Jay Mumaw, 2712 Charwood Place, Sanford, NC 27330, (803) 389-4582. <Jay704@Yahoo.Com>



Remember When the 12th Had a Band?

1725 Re: Union – The 65th Annual Reunion of the Division Association, 6-10 June, 2012, Portland, Oregon. It is never too early in the year to plan and execute your glorious arrival to the blare of jubilant trumpets, fifes, drums and unfurled flags and pendants. Follow your personal guidon or muse to the great Pacific Northwest: chill-lax with the active duty female and male soldiers and veterans both male and female in a relaxing but still military setting on America's left coast. The Division Association and the Columbia-Willamette Chapter have planned lots of tours and activities so you need not laze away in your room until the next meal or flex your pecks around the pool. Once you get out, look around and meet some of the locals, you might wish to move there full time! Get the tickets and reservations in early, they go fast and furious. Same with gas and airline tickets.

They were not giving them away and they aren't getting cheaper the longer you hesitate. The last I heard OPEC was not in a generous mood and unlikely to become generous until right before the election.

1925 The Vets4Warriors Peer Support Line is staffed entirely by Veterans and sponsored by the Office of the Secretary of Defense. "We are all Veterans of the United States Military and we are all here to help the men and women who are currently serving or have served in the National Guard and Reserve. While our mission is to serve military and Veterans, we are a separate organization outside of the military. We are also separate from the Veterans Administration. We don't discuss your calls with the military, the VA or anyone else; your calls to us are completely confidential and, if you choose, you may remain anonymous. Our staff will listen and not judge you for anything. If you want to just talk, we will support that. If you need some information, we can help you find it. Our deal is to partner with you on your quest and do our best to help you succeed." 1-855-Vet-Talk. <Vets4Warriors.Com>

2125 A Troop 4-12 Cavalry – For you members the Vietnam group is having a reunion and Remembrances at the Wall in Washington, DC, October 4 through 7, 2012. The Springfield Hilton Hotel, Springfield, Virginia will be the Troop headquarters. Trooper registration is \$50 and \$6 for a ticket to the Wall, per seat. A special rate has been negotiated with a cutoff day for those rates of 16 September. Rates are \$157 Monday-Wednesday and \$99 Thursday-Sunday. The hotel offers free shuttle to Metro and other sites, with discount coupons for breakfast in their restaurant. Group code is **4THS12** and reservations can be made by calling Hilton, (800) 717-3691; the hotel direct, (703) 971-8900; or online <SpringfieldVa.Hilton.Com>

2325 – Ain't Presidential elections great? Only 8 more long months of inter-Continued on pg. 8.

7th CAV News



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I recently uncovered three of my Soldier's Notebooks buried in a bunch of stuff from those days of

promotions. Along the way we've set conditions to transition our MRAP fleet to Bradley's and heavy equipment so that we continue to train and provide options and capability for our Nation. We have an exceptionally strong Squadron comprised of incredible Troopers and their families. It's a privilege and honor to command such warriors. The Colonel and CSM spoke at our reunion luncheon at Fort Hood last June.

Colonel Southerland will be passing the baton sometime in March to LTC Robert Kuth, who sends this note. I am more than willing to work with the 7th Cavalry Association once I've taken command. I also know the incoming 2-7 CAV Commander, LTC Jay Miseli who is scheduled to take command this summer. Colonel Kuth is a graduate of Florida State University. Thanks for the note, thanks for your service and thanks for your continued support to the 7th CAV.

From Jim Savage comes this report from, Salisbury, North Carolina. In the years following his military service, SGT Rodney Cress never thought his platoon leader would one day present him with an award for bravery. But on Monday, 21 February '12, Cress received the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device for heroism during the Vietnam Winter-Spring Campaign of 1971. At the time of this action SGT Cress was an infantry squad leader in C 2-7. His platoon leader, LT Doug Paetz, recounted the incident during a ceremony Monday morning at The Event Center on the Webb Road campus of Cornerstone Church. "I'm honored," Cress said after the ceremony. He added the only thing that would've made it even better was if his whole platoon could be standing alongside him and receiving their own accolades. Paetz spoke about the patrol and the ambush. Their job on March 7, 1971, was to scout an area looking for enemy forces that might pose a threat. The patrol came upon a few unfinished enemy bunkers and ultimately found themselves surrounded. Paetz also told those gathered at the ceremony that a scout dog, named Tonie, alerted the 10-man patrol mere seconds before the ambush. Cress positioned himself and his squad, getting them out of harms way as well as taking out several enemy combatants who were firing on his men from a nearby bunker. Running out of ammunition, the soldiers began taking on enemy fire from three sides. Supporting air assets tried to drop more ammunition but it failed to reach them. The small patrol crawled, walked and ran more than 500 yards through the jungle. There was a significant enemy presence as subsequent airstrikes and a barrage of gunfire were directed on the area of the firefight, leading to several secondary explosions. Finally, air support was able to help the men and they made it out of the area without any deaths. "Somehow, somebody was looking over us," Cress said while accepting his award and recalling the "ferocious" battle that lasted nearly two hours. "It's truly a miracle no one was killed," he said. Cress' leadership was an "inspiration" to his squad and "surely instrumental in the successful completion of their mission that day," Paetz wrote in a summary of the events he submitted to the government for consideration of the award. Paetz, who had reconnected with Cress on Facebook, realized he had not received the distinction and in March 2011 he made the recommendation to the Army. The process took nearly a year and Cress was notified of the honor a month ago. US Senator Richard Burr, who helped cut through the government red tape, was on hand and presented him with an American flag. Cress said he counts it a blessing to be able to say he made it back home to Rowan County. His family sat in the front row beaming with pride. "I would definitely say we are proud of him," said his wife, Millie. The ceremony was the first time Millie had heard what her husband and his men endured that day in the jungle. She was amazed at what he and the other men experienced, she said. "We are very proud," said his son, Brian Cress. Julie Sloop, Rodney Cress' daughter and niece Lori Burke were also in attendance. Congratulations to Rodney and to the dedication of a Junior Officer to see that an oversight was corrected even after 41 years.

Scott Smith sends in this report of the passing of his West Point classmate. LTC (Ret) Jim Spires who served as the S-3 of the 2-7 at LZ Albany in November of 1965. Jim was from Cadet Company A-1 (which comprised the tallest Cadets at West Point, 6'2 and above at that time). Also a vignette from Jim's brother Jeb, hi everyone, we had a little family viewing before sending Jim off to cremation yesterday. My brother once told a story about prayer. He had asked a group of people in the family what the moment when they felt closest to God was. Jim's answer was that when he was at Ia Drang and holding up the flashlight for the helicopters to come in at night for the wounded, he simply prayed, "God, keep me alive so these men can be saved." Everyone who was there talks about seeing the tracers flying around him and Jim could even see the man who was trying to shoot him. It is a miracle that he wasn't hit and he was thankful for every day he got after that. He accepted his illness with dignity to the end. Russell Wilson via Scott sends his thoughts. I am so very sorry to get the sad news of Jim's passing from Bud Alley this evening. Words cannot express how I feel, it is so sad to lose such a good man to such a tragic illness. You probably do not remember me but we did meet in DC on one occasion, or maybe more, at the Cav Reunions. I am not a big reunion attendee, but I was always pleased that Jim remembered me from our days in Vietnam as I was his radio operator part time on various operations. On the night of November 17, 1965, he helped me into a helicopter to fly out of LZ Albany which probably saved my life as I was wounded and may not have made it till morning. We both laughed in DC about me and my determination, to not give up my weapon that night as he shoved me into the chopper. He convinced me that he might need another rifle when the NVA came back for their next attack. I learned later, that luckily, their next attack did not come that night. Jim was good man, a great soldier and for those of us that survived Albany that day, know that he was instrumental in organizing our defenses on the ground to defend ourselves and that he was primarily responsibility for calling in much needed artillery and air support. His efforts never received the recognition that it deserved. I am proud to have served with him. I know this is a difficult time for all of the family. I live in Granbury, Texas and would be proud to travel to the Chicago area to pay my last respects to Jim and his family. Thank you and may God Bless!

Additionally from Karl Haartz, SSG Bealer V. Caudill, D Company, 5-7 1966-67 left us on Friday February 17, 2012. Bealer had been fighting cancer for the last 3 years and had stayed in touch with many of us with his computer up until the last 6 weeks. Bealer was laid to rest on February 21 in Sparta, North Carolina.

My father's health issues will preclude my attendance in Portland. Julie and I were so looking forward to a trip to the Pacific Northwest and we hope that every attendee has a great time. If you haven't done so, please make your reservation ASAP. Garryowen from Michigan.

long ago. Perhaps you remember the myriad of "stuff" that we recorded in these little books: Chains of Command from LBJ through our very own Drill Sergeant. My DS in Basic Combat Training at Fort Benning, Georgia in late spring of 1968 was SSG Adams, a combat veteran of the 9th Infantry Division. Our Senior Drill Sergeant was SSG Jesse Galvin, who in a company formation was awarded the DSC for Gallantry but interestingly enough, his name is not listed in B.G. Burkett's book *Stolen Valor*. I had an occasion to actually speak with Burkett once and we had a lively debate over that omission. I told him that I was at the ceremony and a photo appears in our BCT Handbook but his sources didn't show Galvin's name. This is another mystery that I'll someday get an answer to. Perhaps it lays within the PIO office files at Fort Benning from June of 1968. Do any of you still have your Soldier's Notebook? If so, I'd love to hear from you.

For those of you who served in the 1-7 during the latter part of 1969 here is a clip from YouTube filmed at LZ Jerri, sent in by Joe Persuad who served in Bravo Company. The 1-7 Cav was on Jerri in September 1969 and then moved to FSB Wescott and back again to Jerri in November. I think once before the mortar attack that devastated Bravo Company (September) and also right after the mortar attack they sent us back to Jerri because we only had about 40 guys left. It is also where we picked up CPT Dillon as our new CO. I don't know when this news clip was shot and I don't know who the Colonel is in the beginning. I also do not know if that is 1-7 guys that they show. The announcer makes reference to an attack on Bu Dop a week earlier. When we got mortared, the NVA attacked Bu Dop too and just about every other company in the area was hit as well. So, this could be Bravo as the timing is right. We were on Jerri for awhile getting replacements before we went back out in the field again. I do remember getting sniped at couple of times while at Jerri, but not mortared. When we got sniped a track or a jeep with a quad fifty rolled up and sprayed the area we thought the fire was coming from. Jerri was a crappy LZ. Small, tight and the sand bags on the bunkers looked like they were put together by 1st graders. I was glad to get off of there <www.youtube.com/watch?v=b9pFIwbx7Vk&feature=results_video&playnext=1&list=PL1C8400D4496E3C91>. Thanks Joe for this report and I apologize for the long delay but space was limited. On November 20, 1969 after a several hour firefight on the 16th, Alpha company was relaxing on Jerri when we were mortared with devastating results: one bunker received a direct hit and two of our comrades were killed: Raymond Chartier and Brent MacArthur and several others wounded badly enough to be medevaced back to the States. This was a serious AO with a determined NVA opponent.

Upcoming changes to our 7th Cav Association rosters: We will now be printing the roster every 2 years instead of annually. It costs approximately \$500.00 to print the roster and for the past several years, new members haven't covered the cost of printing. Of course, we will continue to provide an update sheet identifying all new members since the last printing and any Sustaining Member will also receive an updated roster. This year's roster will also include those Troopers that have missing or have incomplete addresses. Several rosters ago, I stopped including those approximately 250 names to save paper, which saved money, but with this new schedule they will again be included so that with careful reading by you, we might again regain contact with.

Karl Haartz, 1st VP of the 5-7 Association reminds all of you troopers to make your hotel reservations today! Even if you are not quite sure if you will be attending or not, you can always cancel. Please don't do multiple rooms if you are not going to use them. We are working with the hotel as we are now at 108% of the rooms we blocked out. We are ahead of the Nashville reservations of 2010 and we don't want to use an overflow hotel. Call them today at (210) 354-2800. Thanks Karl for this report. I was privileged to attend one of their dinners several years ago and I can tell you that this group of warriors does a first rate job.

Garland Schnack sends us this report. The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following website for veterans to gain access to their DD-214s online: <<http://vetrecs.archives.gov/>>. This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy of their DD-214 for employment or other purposes. NPRC is working to make it easier for veterans with computers and Internet access to obtain copies of documents from their military files. Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use a new online military personnel records system to request documents. Other individuals with a need for documents must still complete the Standard Form 180, which can also be downloaded from the online web site. Because the requester will be asked to supply all information essential for NPRC to process the request, delays that normally occur when NPRC has to ask veterans for additional information will be minimized.

MG Anthony R. Ierardi, a 1982 graduate of Washington and Lee, has just been chosen as the next Commanding General of the 1st Cavalry Division. General Ierardi was promoted to Major General in November 2010 and is currently the Director of Force Management for the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff in Washington. He's had numerous assignments during his career and spent two previous stints with the 1st Cavalry including Commanding Officer of the 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment. Welcome Home General!

From LTC Dolph Southerland and CSM Mervyn Ripley, Garryowen 6 and 9 respectively comes this report from Kuwait. Since our last update, Garryowen has been extremely busy and we continue to be grateful and proud of the varsity performance that this team is putting forth. As the last US forces departed Iraq in December, Garryowen was there as the reaction force by ground and air. With that chapter closed, we have quickly transitioned to a new mission with a renewed emphasis on training in a back to basics" approach. Here are just a couple of highlights. Since our departure from Iraq, Garryowen Troopers have fired over 254,000 rounds of ammunition, executed demolition training and regained proficiency with our UAVs. Most recently, we executed a "Scout Stakes" where each of our scout sections honed their individual and collective reconnaissance skills. Additionally we've reenlisted 37 Troopers and performed numerous

8th CAV News



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Hi again,
 It's a beautiful, sunny day here in Florida on this 25th of February

while back home in Michigan the snow falls. Not having to drag out my snow blower this morning was a good reminder why I decided to become a "snow bird." The gentle Gulf breeze coupled with a bright, blue sky warms the heart and raises the spirit of those of us whose limits of advancing age and of health no longer allow us to enjoy the thrill of winter sports; I told someone recently that the only thing snow does for me these days is to cause me to slip and fall! *C'est la vie!*

With the Division and Regiment Association reunions coming up in Portland this year, I decided to check off another item on my "bucket list". Having never taken a cross-country train trip, I've booked passage on the Empire Builder, the three day trip from Chicago to Portland; it should be a great adventure. I was surprised how inexpensive the ticket was. Judging from the description in the flyer, it looks to be a very enjoyable trip. Though the route terminates in Portland, the reservation agent at the reunion hotel said that if one gets off at Vancouver, Washington, they will pick up as that station is only 5 minutes away. It paid to tell her I was taking the train – who would have imagined that a reunion in Portland, Oregon was just that short distance from Vancouver? Live and learn, as the old saying goes. Hmmm – and I used to teach map reading and land navigation at the Michigan Military Academy in the old days.

From our regimental history comes this item from the team at <www.eagerarms.com>: "Bravo 2-8th was awarded the Valorous Unit Award by the Commanding General of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), Major General John Tolson, during a ceremony in February, 1968 at Quang Tri, Vietnam. A Valorous Unit Award is the second highest unit decoration which may be bestowed on a US Army Unit, equivalent to the Silver Star for an individual, the highest being the Presidential Unit Citation. Bravo 2-8th CAV received this award for extraordinary heroism in action against a large-scale enemy force during 16-17 May, 1966. Not much was known about this action, and after a great deal of research, we finally obtained a copy of the after action report and all the recommendations leading to the approval of this award. See this site: <www.eagerarms.com/valorous-unit-award.html> for a unique collection of documents and photographs that provide a complete description of this award starting with the extraordinary acts of gallantry by Bravo Company troopers, the recommendations and approval process for this award by the chain of command, and concluding with the official presentation of this Valorous Unit Award to Bravo Company by the 1st Cavalry Division commander. [*The Valorous Unit Award is worn by troopers today while they are assigned to Bravo Company 2-8th CAV, but it is also considered an individual award for those who served in the cited action and is worn by them permanently.* ed.] Read this gripping account of exceptional bravery and determination by the troopers of Bravo 2-8 Cav."



Left to right is Albert Morris, Ralph Burton, Whitey Reese (yours truly), Floyd Abbott, and Jim Brandon.

By the way, the "eagerarms" group is holding their annual reunion this year in Washington, D.C., May 2-6. Information is available at their web site, <www.eagerarms.com>.

Whitey Reese sent me a note recently. Although he recently passed on responsibilities for our web site to another, he didn't really add free time to his personal calendar – he's already volunteered as a Range Safety Officer at his local city shooting range. Whitey served with G Company 2-8th CAV from December,

1948 to July, 1951. He included a great photo of his "gang" with this note: "I have attached my favorite photograph of the 'gang' from back in 1949. 'Twas in a Tokyo beer hall, back when we 'were young'! We were all from G ("George") Company, 8th Cav Regt (Inf) stationed just outside of Tokyo at Ropongy. The following year we all shipped out to Korea as a unit, Morris (Li'l Red) was KIA at the Battle of Unsan 1 November '50, Burton was WIA at Unsan. Reese was WIA 9 Sep '50, Abbott was WIA 25 Aug '50, and Brandon was WIA and MIA 1 thru 25 November at Unsan. Danged if'n that didn't take care of all of us, eh? I managed to visit with Brandon in Tennessee once before he passed away in September 1981, and have seen Burton a couple of times in Illinois. A great bunch of troopers, and I salute each and every one of them!"

What a great photo, Whitey! One thing that grabbed my attention was the khaki's these guys were wearing. When I was drafted in 1966, we were still being issued those same uniforms, but during AIT at Fort Jackson we turned in the shirts to have the sleeves cut off – someone up the chain of command decided that this needed to be a short-sleeve uniform, so off with the sleeves and the tie that went with it. Later they got rid of the khaki uniform altogether, much to the regret of many of us. In a later commercial wash & wear fabric version [not the Sanforized® issue version which was hot, heavy and wrinkled easily], it was a great "Class B" uniform in warm weather, and the wool version was really classic, often worn by DI's at our training centers – it was really sharp!. As time passed, away went black and gold US Army and black on white name tapes on fatigues, various overcoats, raincoats, hats, patrol caps, Army Whites, Tails, Officers Mess variations of many of these uniforms, tans, fatigues, and now the Class A/B greens, etc.... Do you still remember the day when we were not allowed to stop off-post even for gas or groceries on the way home after duty when dressed in fatigues? We had to be at least in a Class B uniform. I always thought that doing away with shoulder patches on uniforms would have a negative effect on esprit de corps. I don't know if it did or not, but I still remember the XO in our OCS Company (91st) at Fort Benning back in 1966 proudly wore his big, bright yellow and black CAV patch (prior to the days of the subdued patches) on the right shoulder of his fatigues along with his sew-on white CIB, and from that time on I wanted to be a part of the CAV. For those of you who might remember 1967, the first of the "subdued" CAV patches was kind of a black on dark bronze background; they were soon changed to black on OD along with name tapes, US ARMY, and subdued rank insignia. I think I might still have one of those first "subdued patches" somewhere in all my "stuff." Talk with some of the WWII and Korea vets, and there were many other uniform changes as well over the previous years. We used to joke that some retired sergeant major must have owned stock in the uniform companies. How things change with each generation!

I received several letters, e-mails, and a couple of phone calls regarding the column in the last issue of the *SABER* concerning the tragedy that befell C 2-8th CAV at the Bob Hope Christmas show in 1967 and the events in Korea at Thanksgiving time many years before. While the details of these events vary in the memories of one trooper from another, the painful memories are still very much alive even 50-60 years later. The comments of these survivors of the horrors of war made me think of the young troopers serving today who will struggle with and carry their own memories of war through the rest of their lives. For those of us who have lived all these years with our own battle memories, it is important to befriend a young returning soldier and listen to his/her story with empathy, helping him or her to confront these difficult thoughts and deal with them in a healthy way. Too many returnees have few resources to which they can turn for help in adjusting to life back "in the world." They often need us older combat veterans to assist them in the transition or to simply walk the journey with them as a friend who really does "understand" in the subtle ways that a service member who has not served under fire or no civilian can. If I can suggest – be a listening friend to a returning combat vet.

See you in Portland? Introduce yourself – I'll be the old, grey-haired fat guy. Oh, now that I think about it, that could describe more than one of us!

Bonus points if you can stomach the commentators and experts telling you how to vote, why you are wrong and trying to turn your vote. I will buy more books in which to bury myself in my bunker and listen to streaming Internet radio without the politics poison. I will exit that bunker like a groundhog on 6 November and place my X for ? . Thought I would tell didn't cha?
 "Write if you get work!"

12th Cav News

Continued from pg. 6.

minable political posture, bluff-n-blunder, apoplectic rhetoric, political tomfoolery and campaigning to go! Every month the time grows shorter but never short enough or fast enough. The long series of primary debates are finally over and there are only the conventions and the 'presidential' debates to sweat through.

THE HICCUP - Health Care Information Committee Report



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Recent columns and comments in the *SABER* have touched upon a scourge of our time: PTSD...as it occurs among both active and former military. However I believe that insufficient attention is being paid to the horror for which PTSD may be a

precursor: Veteran suicides. We know that the 1st Cavalry Division itself leads the way among active and reserve formations in leadership's concern about and the establishment of programs to prevent suicide among those still serving on active duty. That wonderful fact notwithstanding, a major and not-yet-well-addressed problem, as I see it, is the suicide rate among veterans...and especially young veterans.

Let me offer a few facts, primarily about veterans in Nevada, which I hope are not typical—but which I believe may be typical and which indeed highlight the problem. This crisis is described by data from the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services: a. From 2008 to 2010, the suicide rate among Nevada veterans was 2.5 times higher than the rate for all Nevadans; b. From 2008 to 2010, the suicide rate among Nevada veterans was FOUR times higher than the rate for non-veterans Nation-wide; c. In 2010, suicide accounted for more than 25 percent of all deaths of veterans 24 years of age and younger; d. From 2008 to 2010, there were 373 veteran suicides in Nevada.

And since we know that many veterans aren't in the VA system (perhaps best gatherer of veterans' health data) and we realize that veterans' death certificates frequently don't mention military service, I wonder if these staggering statistics aren't well on the LOW side of the actual situation?

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have taken a terrible toll on our young service men and women. A majority have come home to poor economies (particularly

true in Nevada, Michigan and elsewhere) and to communities and universities that simply do not have a clue about what they have experienced and how to facilitate their reintroduction into society. Sociologists have long recognized that one of the more significant keys to suicide prevention is a feeling of 'belonging.' Once a former Trooper finds himself among a community of non-veterans in Las Vegas, in Laramie, in Jersey City or almost anywhere, he is bound to feel separated from his comrades. He no longer 'belongs.' That's where our Association's chapters... and you as individuals...can help. Many chapters have turned to the business of recruiting younger Troopers; we do this for a variety of reasons...and perhaps the most charitable of these reasons is the fact that an association with US can be helpful to THEM. I realize that the New York/New Jersey, the Nevada—and many other—chapters are working this problem...and I salute them.

The Center for a New American Security recently published a report entitled, 'Losing the Battle: The Challenge of Military Suicide' which blames high suicide rates on systemic failures. It cites 'a flawed mental health screening process; a cultural stigma attached to seeking help; an insufficient number of care providers; too much prescription medicine (an astounding 14 percent of the Army population is prescribed an opiate) and the fact that multiple agencies across multiple jurisdictions have trouble getting on the same page.'

As veterans ourselves, we know that some of the warning signs of potential suicide are fantasies and talk of killing oneself, recklessness, rage, withdrawal from family and friends and drug and prescription medication abuse. Even for those of us not of a particularly religious persuasion, two verses from the Bible can be helpful. The first is Ephesians 4:32---'Be kind to one another, tender hearted.' The second is Galatians 6:2---'Bear one another's burdens.'

We Troopers can appreciate what some of our brothers and sisters are experiencing. If you or someone you know—Trooper or not—is at risk, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at (800) 273-8255. Please."

9th CAV News



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I'll bet most of you remember a car, possibly your first car, that you developed a "relationship"

with; nothing immoral or kinky but a real soft spot in that tough Cav Trooper memory for a hunk of metal and an engine. How many of us have wondered what happened to our first car? If we have, we likely haven't gone out searching junk yards for the car no matter how important it was to us.

One 9th CAV Trooper did just that but it wasn't a car he was looking for, it was a helicopter. It was an OH6A Cayuse, known as #990 to be exact. SSG Nathan "Nate" Shaffer, who was a door gunner in C Troop had such a relationship with #990. He flew many missions on #990 in Vietnam and even named the helicopter ZIT, after his girlfriend at the time, whose name was TIZ (her name spelled backwards).

Not all love stories have a happy ending, but this one does. A search that began back in 1994 has produced more than satisfactory results. The Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association had a list of helicopters that survived the war in Vietnam. Nate found out that #990 had been returned to the States and had been in service in Chicago, New York and had been sent to Texas as part of the Border Patrol and finally to Arizona with the Border Patrol. As part of Nate's 60th birthday, he was able to go to Arizona to see #990 and even got to go for a ride in it. The helicopter was later sent to Utah to be used by the Department of Agriculture before being retired to the bone yard.

In March 2009, Nate went to the Spencerville Area Veterans Memorial Park Commission to see if they could request #990 to be a part of the Veterans Memorial Park but the Army Disposition Center was not releasing any equipment at that time.

Later, Nate learned that his helicopter had been donated to the Motts Military Museum in Groveport, Ohio where the 1-9th CAV has a Memorial. There were problems getting the helicopter sent from the bone yard, where it was being scavenged for parts, to the museum so Nate volunteered his time to haul #990 to Ohio. Motts Military Museum gladly accepted his offer. Equipment to haul the helicopter was not available so Nate bought a trailer to haul #990 to Ohio and even picked up a set of rotor blades along the route. Nate also volunteered to restore the helicopter for display at the museum.

When he got back to Spencerville with #990 his wife, Tiz, was able to see the helicopter that was named for her in Vietnam for the first time.

Nate took the helicopter to his friend, Bob Dresen's place where they started repairing the helicopter in an effort to make it look like it did in Vietnam. Dresen is a former Marine and obviously a good friend. They were ably assisted by several other friends with the restoration process.



Door gunner Nate Shaffer and pilot Bruce Campbell in ZIT in Vietnam and at the Motts Military Museum.

A dedication of the helicopter is set for Saturday, 19 May 2012 beginning at 1000 hours at the Motts Military Museum located at 5075 S. Hamilton Road in Groveport, Ohio.

I received a letter sent to me by COL (Ret) James W. "Pete" Booth who is the Honorary Colonel of the 9th Cavalry Regiment and the past President of the 1st Cavalry Division Association.

Pete says: "About a year ago Mrs. Anne Martin Tredway contacted me. She wanted to set up a memorial honoring the memory of her husband Bob. We discussed several potential actions including donations to the 1st Cavalry Division Museum, Sabers to selected individuals and so on. I was scheduled to go to Fort Hood in a couple of months, so I asked her to wait until I had talked to Dennis Webster, our Executive Director, to get his ideas. Dennis and I talked it over during my visit and we decided that recognizing/honoring the 1st Cavalry Division NCO of the Year in perpetuity would be an outstanding program. This idea had strong appeal because the Division selects the NCO of the Year with a rigorous selection process already established and the memorial recognizes and honor their selection.

"We all agreed that a serious pistol (for example, .45 caliber Strum Ruger or comparable pistol) properly engraved would be an appropriate award and would be coveted by the recipient. Ann agreed to donate sufficient funds to the Association to fund the pistol in perpetuity with interest earned on her donation. Dennis agreed to handling the details of purchasing the pistol and complying with Texas law and Fort Hood regulations on registering weapons. Ann then followed up with a letter to the Commanding General explaining her/our proposal and asking his approval. Of course MG Allyn is currently posted in Afghanistan complicating communications, but that problem was solved by the Rear Detachment Commander in short order."

The letter from Anne to MG Allyn says:

"My husband, COL Robert N. Tredway USA (Ret) graduated from West Point in 1958 and made the Army his career. Bob was a professional in all of his assignments in the service of his country, but he particularly loved the 1st Cavalry Division and the 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry. He commanded C Troop in 1969.

"In recognition of the love and dedication to the Division and to the soldiers of the Division, I would like to establish a living memorial, in Bob's name, honor the 1st Cavalry Division Noncommissioned Officer of the Year.

"Allow me to provide a little background about my husband's service and why

I believe honoring the recipient is appropriate to Bob's memory. His Army service included two tours in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot and Troop Commander in the 1st Cavalry Division in 1969 and 1970. Bob was a recipient of the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross (Oak Leaf Cluster), Bronze Star (3 Oak Leaf Clusters) and the Purple Heart (1 Oak Leaf Cluster). After retirement from the Army he continued his commitment to the Army and its soldiers through volunteer service with his West Point Class, the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association and as a founding member of the Combat Helicopter Pilots Association. His commitment to the First Team and the 1-9th was unwavering. That was borne out by the tributes given by those with whom he served, he commanded, and those with whom he worked as a volunteer. His commitment to the well being of today's troops was exhibited by the Wounded Warrior Mentoring Program founded by Bob and several '58 classmates to provide outreach to wounded members of the Armed Forces at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. They were responding to needs that could not be met by the medical system. It was noted in a 2008 ASSEMBLY article. He served as a member of the 1st Cavalry Division Association Board of Governors from 2000 to 2009.

"I could write several pages detailing Bob's leadership and humanitarian qualities and also many examples of his belief in and commitment to the ideals of duty, honor, country that have been noted by many people over the years, but I select these few above as a demonstration of his continued concern and commitment to the American Soldier.

"I believe a process that would lend itself to long term implementation would be to provide the funds establishing a line item endowment in the 1st Cavalry Division Association from which interest would be used to fund the awards in perpetuity. My suggestion would be presentation of an appropriate pistol (make and model to be determined by the Association) and would be engraved with the recipient's name and year of presentation as well as an appropriate annotation in honor of Bob to the NCO of the Year. I've had preliminary discussions with Association Past President "Pete" Booth and Executive Director Dennis Webster and will look to them for guidance in establishing these memorials. I would be appreciative of any additional guidance from your office.

"I hope and trust that we can work together to honor both these young men and women early in their service and the memory of my husband who served the soldiers who came behind him for so many years after his retirement.

Sincerely, D. Anne Martin Tredway"

MG Allyn replied quickly to Anne with the following:

"I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your great and gracious donation to the 1st Cavalry Division Association and for enabling us to continuously recognize the 1st Cavalry Division Noncommissioned Officer of the Year. It is critical that we highlight inspirational leadership among our Noncommissioned Officer Corps, as they are truly the backbone of our Army. I'd also like to thank COL (R) Bob Tredway for his stalwart service to our great Nation. We are honored to have his name associated with outstanding Leadership, Courage, and Professionalism.

"CSM Vimoto and I are humbled to serve with Leaders like you and Bob, and we thank you for your Dedication, Patriotism, and Selfless Service. We look forward to your continued support for the First Team and our Troopers in the days ahead.

First Team! Daniel B. Allyn, Major General, U.S. Army, Commanding General"

Thanks to Pete for sending this in to us and to Anne for her generosity and desire to honor the NCO of the Year with the "Tredway Pistol".

It should be noted that COL (Ret) James W. "Pete" Booth has written a book. It's not about his time as the Commander of the 1-9th Cavalry in Vietnam but it is about the development of armed helicopters in the U.S. Army and their first employment in combat. The book is titled: *Returning Fire* and is published by *AuthorHouse*. Pete was involved with this unit, UTT/197th Armed Helicopter Company and served with them in Vietnam from June to December 1965 as a Company Commander but the book covers other periods through the stories submitted by others that served in the unit. The book can be purchased on-line from the publisher and from Amazon and several other sites.

In the last issue we started an After Action Report from Operation JEB STUART III, 17 May 1968-2 November 1968. Here is some more from that AAR: July saw the continuance of extensive reconnaissance by the Air Cavalry Troops and continued ground reconnaissance by D Troop. During the month increased emphasis was placed upon the gathering of intelligence through the use of "sniffer". These missions increased markedly during the month as the enemy began evading contact with the First Team. Armed reconnaissance teams and TAC Air were employed with sniffer aircraft thus providing the capability to exploit immediately "max mode 1" readings obtained by the sniffer. Night hunter killer operations were conducted by A Troop in conjunction with the 1st Brigade; there actions resulted in successful interdiction of the main rivers leading into the 1st Brigade TACR and the destruction of several enemy sampans.

General reconnaissance in the Jeb Stuart III AO continued throughout the month of August. During the month both A and B Troops were put under the operational control of other XXIV Corps elements. C Troop supported the entire division with reconnaissance during one period of time during the month. Special emphasis was placed on denying the enemy the use of previously occupied positions in Base Areas 101 and 114. Continued pressure was placed upon the enemy throughout the AO as elements of 1-9 continued to find numerous bunker complexes and enemy staging areas. Upon insertion of the blues on 20 August near Quang Tri City, A Troop came in contact with what was later determined to be an enemy battalion. This contact was exploited by D Troop and other elements of the First Team and resulted in 144 NVA KIA as well as several enemy captured. The month was characterized by a general scaling down of offensive operations conducted by the enemy and an increase of sniffer and other intelligence gathering missions by 1-9.

We'll end this report at the end of August and pick up with more in the next issue.

Send me some personal stories or items of interest for the column. I'm sure that many of you have some great stories to share. I think we would also be interested to know what is going on in the three squadrons of the 9th Cavalry at Fort Hood, Texas.

30th FA News

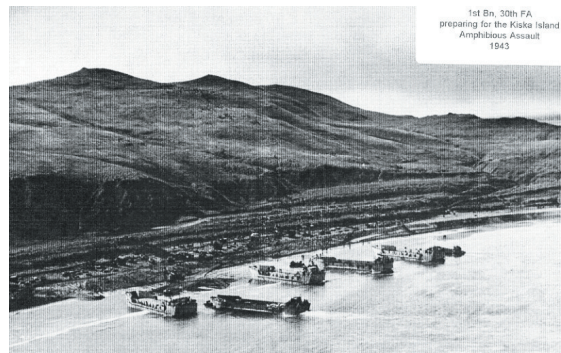


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The 30th Field Artillery Regiment with 1st and 2nd Battalion, 30th FA was re-activated on 5 June '41, at Camp Roberts, California,

under the command of LTC (later MG) Ray W. Barker. The 30th FA Regiment with two Battalions was assigned to III Corps Artillery and armed with truck-drawn short-barreled "Schneider" 155mm Howitzers. The 1-30th FA was commanded by LTC (later BG) Lester A. Daughterty.



1-30th FA preparing for Task Force "KISKA" amphibious assault '43.

Plans for Christmas furloughs were interrupted when news was received on 7 December '41, of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Upon receipt of this news, all leaves, furloughs and passes were canceled. On 11 December, the Regiment received orders to move to San Jose, California. During this time, recon was made for position areas to be used to protect nearby airfields and intensive training was conducted including basic infantry

tactics. On 1 January '42, the 30th FA Regiment moved to Orange, California. Their mission was to emplace their weapons in defensive positions along the Southern California coast.

Then on 3 May '42, the 30th FA Regiment received PCS orders to Alaska. Five combined freight and passenger trains were used to move the 30th FA Regiment to Camp Murray, Washington, where they would load aboard ships.



C-1-30th FA Tents, Amchitka Island, Alaska '43.

On 7 June '42, the 1-30th FA boarded the *SS DAVID W. BRAUNCH* for transport to Fort Richardson, Alaska. Upon arrival on 16 June, the 30th FA Regiment came under the command of the Alaskan Defense Command. The 1-30th FA was assigned the mission of defending the harbor and port, which the 2-30th FA was moved to Kodiak Island, for the defense of Dutch Harbor.

On 20 May '43, 155mm Guns M1 (Long Toms), were issued to the 1-30th FA and all 155mm

Schneider Howitzers were turned-in.

On 16 July '43, orders were received for a PCS to Adak Island, in the Aleutian Islands chain (1700 miles long). Their ship departed on 28 July and arrived at Adak Harbor on 30 July where they were ordered to stay onboard their ship.

On 2 August '43, their orders were changed and they were attached to Task Force "KISKA", as Medium Artillery Support for the 7th Infantry Division's attack on Kiska Island, being held by the Japs. To support the attack the men and equipment of the 1-30th FA were off-loaded awaiting LSTs to take them to Kiska Island. On 13-14 August, LSTs 450 and 461 were loaded and both ships then move to Kiska Island as part of the invasion fleet. On 15 August '43, an



Task Force KISKA Patch 1943.

invasion force of 34,426 Allied troops landed on Kiska. The leading assault force landed only to find the island abandoned. Under the cover of fog, the Japs decided that their position in Kiska was vulnerable after the fall of Attu Island. They had successfully removed their troops on 28 July without the Allies noticing. The Army Air Force had been bombing abandoned positions for almost three weeks. [Editor's Note: The Japanese must have discovered that the Hard Chargers were ready to kick some ass and decided they better clear out!] Consequently, 1-30th FA was moved to Amchitka Island to defend it from possible attacks by the Japanese.

The troops began digging in their gun pits and living quarters for the long, harsh Alaskan winter. Consequently, tents were dug in to a depth of 4 feet, wall and rafters were built and a second tent placed over the first. In addition, peaks and corners were wired to stakes to overcome the persistent wind. Soon after, their previously turned-in 155mm Schneider Howitzers arrived and were re-issued to the Battalion for close-in fires if necessary.

As the year 1944 began, a Service Practice with both weapons systems was fired from 18-22 January. During March '44, the 30th FA Regiment was alerted for a PCS back to the US and preparations for movement began immediately. The hauling of equipment to the docks began on 5 April and all troops embarked on 8 April, aboard the *USAT CHIRIKOFF*, which left the port on the same day. The Hard Chargers must have done a great job of defending their island as they

Japanese never attacked Amchitka Island while they were there. After a very quiet and uneventful voyage they arrived at Prince Harbor, British Columbia on 17 April. Debarking and movement to the Port Edward Casual Area was completed by 18 April. The next few days were used in processing the men, turning in arctic clothing and issuing new blouses and overcoats.

On 21 April '44, the first troop train carrying elements of the 1-30th FA departed for Camp Pickett, Virginia. After 22 months in Alaska the troop trains carrying the 30th FA entered the United States at North Gate, North Dakota, on 25 April '44 and arrived at Camp Pickett, Virginia, on 27 April. The entire 30th FA Regiment was initially assigned to the XVIII Corps, to serve as the Corps Artillery. Within a few days after arrival all personnel were released on leaves and furloughs based on 20 days at home and travel time.

On 12 May '44, the 1-30th FA was re-designated as the 521st FA Battalion. In addition, the 2-30th FA was re-designated as the 550th FA Battalion and the 30th FA Regiment Headquarters was re-designated as the 30th FA Group, to which the 521st FA Battalion and 550th FA Battalion were assigned. As soon as the men returned from leave, training began as preparation for the Individual Training Program Tests. There tests were given to the 521st FA Battalion by XVIII Corps Artillery on 11 to 13 June '44 and were passed satisfactorily. Most of the men had now been with the 30th FA Regiment since it was re-activated in June, 1941. Almost all of them had completed 3 years of service and were wearing 1 Service Hash Mark, 4 Overseas Bars, a Good Conduct Medal, an American Campaign Medal and an Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with one Bronze Service Star (Aleutian Islands). Men of the 521st FA Battalion/1-30th FA were also wearing Task Force "Kiska" patches on their right shoulder.

On 17 July '44, the 521st FA Battalion conducted a PCS move by motor vehicles from Camp Pickett, Virginia, to Camp Butner, North Carolina. The 521st FA Battalion departed on 17 July and arrived at Camp Butner, North Carolina, later that same day. Preparation for Battery and Battalion AGF Tests became the primary objective of training during this period.

On 5 August '44, the XVIII Corps was re-flagged as the XXII Corps and the



30th FA 155mm Aleutian Islands, AK '43.

521st FA Battalion was assigned as the XXII Corps Artillery. The 521st FA Battalion conducted field training and successfully completed Btry Test by 22 August. There was a change in plans and on 27 August, orders were received to move the 521st FA Battalion by motor vehicles to Fort Benning, Georgia. They departed Camp Butner on 31 August '44 and arrived at Fort Benning on 2 September. The 521st FA Battalion was assigned

to perform dual principal missions while at Fort Benning, Georgia. As School Troops, the Firing Batteries were to conduct various types of demonstrations and problems in Field Artillery live-fire exercises. Preparations for Overseas Movement (PQM) training and preparations for the AGF Battalion Firing Btry Tests were conducted as was practicable.

By 17 November '44, the 521st FA Battalion successfully passed all POM Training requirements and alerted to move to Fort Bragg, North Carolina on 5 December. At Fort Bragg, final training was completed all men were issued new uniforms and equipment and packing of organizational equipment was Completed. Next stop was Camp Kilmer, New Jersey.

The opening of 1945 found the members of the 521st FA Battalion at the Staging Area at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey. Finally, on 27 February '45 the 521st FA Battalion moved to the New York Port of Embarkation and boarded the *SS URUGUAY* and sailed for France the same day. The ship arrived at LeHarve, France, on 11 March. The 521st FA Battalion remained at Camp Lucky Strike in France until 12 April '45. They then moved through Cochem and Treis, France and across the German border on 14 April, into Polch, Germany. Effective 1 May '45, the 521st FA Battalion was re-designated as the 30th FA Battalion. By 21 May, the 30th FA Battalion had moved through Muenstermaifeld, Germany and onto Kaiseresch, Germany. Then on 22 May '45, the 30th FA Battalion moved to Eppenbrunn just outside Pirmasens, Germany and remained there until 26 June. From there the 30th FA moved onto Baumholder, Germany on board the *SS HERMITAGE* on 25 July and arrived at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey on 4 August '45. From there the 30th FA Battalion closed into Fort Bragg, North Carolina, 5 August '45. Veterans of the 30th FA Battalion (aka 1-30th FA and 521st FA Battalion) added the WWII Victory Medal and the European-African Middle East Campaign Medal with 2 Bronze Service Stars to their awards along with two additional Overseas bars. During WWII, only a few Field Artillery units had the distinction of earning both the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal and the European-African-Middle East Campaign Medal. For its service in WWII, the elements of the 30th FA regiment earned three Campaign Streamers: Aleutian Islands, Rhineland and Central Europe.

New Members Listing continued from pg. 3.

E-5 BANDA, TOM TX A 2-5C 6804
PV2 BARRETT, BRYAN TX C 2-12C 1111
SP-5 BEACH, JAMES EDWARD NC HHC 8ENG 7001
PV2 BLUMENSTOCK, TYLER PA 1BCT 1201
2LT BOND, CHRISTOPHER M. TX 215BSB 1202
PFC BOOZER, JR., LOUIS E. TX A2-82FA 1202
SPC BOYD, NAQUAN NY B 27BSB 1109
CW4 (RET) BREWER, CASTO LELAND GA A 2-8C 6711

SPC BROWN, GARY L. TX A 2-82FA 0911
MSG BROWN, TORRENCE T. TX HHC4BCT 0801
PFC BUNTON, MARK S. FL 3BCT 1201
PFC BUSBOOM, CHRIS AZ 3BCT 1201
CPL BUSSE, FRANCIS O. ND D 2-17FA 6605
PFC CAIN, DUSTIN TX A 2-82FA 1011
SFC CARRIER, DANNY R. TX 3BDE 65
E-4 CASSIE, JOHN W. CA C 2-5C 7001
SFC CASTRO, LUIS TX A 2-82FA 1012
SPC CHAN, YING TX C 2-12C 1007
SGT CHASE, AARON TX A 2-82FA 0806
PV2 CHILDERS, JUSTIN TX A 2-82FA 1009

E-4 CHRISTIAN, RICHARD M. FL HHQ8ENG 6601
MAJ CLAUSS, TIMOTHY TX HHC 4BCT 1201
CPT COOMBS, ROBERT A. TX HHC 1-5C 1002
PFC CRAWFORD, TYLOR TX A 2-82FA 1011
MS. DAMVELD, AMY WI 1-ASSOC
CPT DEMPSEY, LEKISA TX 115BSB 1201
E-4 ECKERLE, JEROME R. IN 229AVN 6607
SGT EDDINGS, BROADUS R. TX C 2-7C 1004
SGT EMRY, DAVID E. TX A 2-82FA 0911
MR. EPLING, BUDDY CO 1-ASSOC
PVT ESCOBEDO, JOSHUA CA C 2-12C 1111
Continued on pg. 11

27th ORD/MNT/MSB/BSB News



Ed Jones
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 (630) 554-9245
 ECJones19@Aol.Com

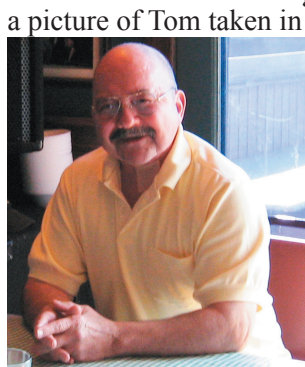


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 11210 Shadowmere Mews
 Columbia, MD 21044
 JLRam80@Aol.Com



Tom Skinner

Unfortunately, I must start this edition with sad news. Tom Skinner, a Vietnam Veteran of the 27th Maintenance Battalion, who commanded B Detachment in the 1969-70 timeframe, passed away on January 30, 2012 after a long battle with brain tumors. He was buried with military honors at Bushnell National Cemetery in Florida. Florida was "home" to Jo Ann and Tom, after many years of traveling. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Jo Ann and all of their family. If anyone would like to make a contribution in Tom's name, he had asked that donations be made to the "Wounded Warrior Program." The address is available on line. I am including



Paul McGreevy

a picture of Tom taken in 2010 at the Minneapolis CAV Reunion. I was also just notified by Ed Jones that Paul McGreevy, another Vietnam Veteran of the 27th Maintenance Battalion also passed away, late last year, after a long bout with cancer. Ed was notified by Tom Stenehjem, who was a good friend of Paul's. Paul and Tom were part of the original group that formed the 27th Maintenance Battalion at Fort Benning and deployed with the Battalion to Vietnam in 1965. I am including a picture of Paul taken at one of our reunions here in the Washington, DC area. This particular picture was taken in November, 2006. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Paul's family and friends.



As promised in the last edition, I am including a few more pictures from the Veterans Day Reunion held here in the Washington DC area in November 2011. The first is of Larry Harmon on the left with his wife Nina on the far right, and in the middle are Dave Whitaker and his wife Karen. Larry served with the 27th Maintenance Battalion in Korea during the 1963 - 65 timeframe, and Dave commanded the 27th BSB when it was being formed at Fort Bliss, Texas and then took it to Iraq when it was deployed during 2008/2009. As of this writing, Dave is assigned to the Army G-4 Section at the Pentagon and will be retiring from the Army on March 30, 2012. The latest news is that he will be going to work with a defense contractor in Huntsville, Alabama. We wish Dave and Karen the very best as they transition to a new life. Dave was superb in keeping us veterans of the 27th informed and abreast of what was going on in the 27th BSB while it was being formed and deployed. Our many thanks to Dave for all his support!



The second picture from the November Reunion is of another former Battalion Commander, Terry Beynon with Ron Stokes, a Vietnam Veteran. Terry commanded the 27th MSB at Fort Hood, and in Bosnia, during the 1999 - 2001 timeframe and Ron, who has been a faithful attendee at many of our reunions, served with the 27th Maintenance Battalion in 1968 - 69.

In the last edition, I mentioned that Ed had a new find in Ron Hart. I have since had some e-mail exchanges with Ron, who served with the 27th Maintenance Battalion in Vietnam during 1968-69. Ron is now living near Sundance, Wyoming. He is an "avid cyclist with just over 4100 miles year to date (2011)." Their youngest son graduated from the Physician's Assistant Program at Stanford University in January, after being an RN. His oldest son is an Infantry LTC, currently serving on the Joint Staff in the Pentagon, after serving in Iraq with the 1st

Armored Division. He graduated from West Point in 1995. Our congratulations to Ron, his wife, and their two sons!

Fred Vath, who was another new find of Ed's, and attended our November CAV Reunion, was kind enough to send Ed and I a copy of the orders assigning the 27th Maintenance Battalion to Vietnam in 1965. Included in the orders is a complete list of all the troopers assigned to the 27th as it deployed. If anyone is interested in seeing that list, please let Ed or I know and we can send you a copy. Fred was on that list and served just over a year in Vietnam in 1965-66. Thank you Fred.

Now on to news about the current troopers of the 27th BSB. I had asked LTC Pat Cortez a couple of questions, which he has been kind enough to answer in depth. As mentioned in a previous *SABER*, I was interested in how the Forward Support Companies of the 27th BSB operate. The Forward Support Companies (FSC's) have about 140 troopers assigned and have the full range of technical skills to include, supply, transportation, maintenance, and medical. They are on the TO&E of the 27th BSB, but are permanently OPCON to the maneuver battalions they support. This is both when deployed and in garrison. There are four FSE's, one for each Infantry Battalion and one for the Artillery Battalion that is organic to the Brigade. The maneuver battalion commanders rate the commanders of the FSC's and the commander of the 27th BSB is the indorsing officer. There is considerable controversy about this set up and lots of opinions! That is a large slice of the 27th BSB that is not under his control.

The other topic I was interested in was the amount of turnover of personnel while deployed and upon return from a deployment. While deployed, the turnover is not too heavy and is limited to personnel who have medical or legal problems (UCMJ issues) or conditions at home that require a trooper to return. Normally it does not have a major impact on the unit unless it is a key personnel slot. Since the 27th BSB has returned to Fort Hood, they have had turnover exceeding 50%. This is due to PCS, ETS, and other moves by troopers. The problem this creates is that the new training cycle starts shortly after the unit returns from their deployment, but the replacement personnel show up over a considerable length of time. In fact, replacements are still showing up as this is being written. That greatly complicates the training cycle as normally it would progress from small unit training up to company, then battalion, and then brigade. As LTC Cortez states, "The days of taking your whole company to the range and shooting zero then qualification and figuring you are good for six months, are a thing of the past. A good range today will have lanes for zero, qualification, optics, reflexive fire and concurrent training going on the same range for example. We have to be able to receive a trooper and get them up to speed fast while continually improving the proficiency of the ones that remain in the organization. We are currently focused on certifying leaders, building teams, receiving our equipment from various sources, establishing our systems and individual training." Sounds



like a tough and demanding job for all concerned!

Pat was also kind enough to send some pictures, of which I will include two in this edition. The first is of 1SG Lewis of HHC leading a class on Soldier Counseling. This is obviously a major topic in today's Army with all

the problem concerning post traumatic stress and suicides.

The second picture should look familiar and is of 27th BSB NCO's going through part of the obstacle course. I don't know about others but this tower always scared the hell out of me when doing it! Hope it brings back fond memories to all of you!

My thanks to LTC Pat Cortez for taking the time from his busy schedule to keep us up to date on the 27th BSB activities!

On a final note, if any of you are planning to attend the CAV Reunion in Portland, Oregon this coming June, Dennis Webster has advised that reservations at the hotel are filling fast, so you are encouraged to get a move on and make your reservations with both the hotel (Red Lion Hotel on The River - Telephone (800) 733-5466), and with the 1st CAV Association!



New Members Listing continued from pg. 10.

SFC FARMER, JAMIE L. TX HHC 2-7C 0810
 E-4 FERNANDEZ, MICHAEL R. TX A 2-82FA 1008
 E-5 FRANCISKOVICH, DEAN CA A 2-5C 7003
 SP-4 FRANCO, LARRY NY B 1-7C 6812
 SFC FULLER, DORALO TX HHC 4BCT 0910
 MSG FULLER, III, JOHN R. TX HHC 4BCT 1106
 PFC GANNAWAY, RAVEN CA 3BCT 1201
 SFC GARCIA, ARTHUR TX HHC 4BCT 0503
 PFC GARDNER, BRENDEN R. TX C 2-7C 1008
 SSG GONZALES, ARMANDO O. TX 2-82FA 0812
 E-6 GORE, ANTOINE K. TX A 2-82FA 10
 1LT GRANT, WILEY TX A 2-82FA 1003
 CSM GREENING, MAURICE S. TX 4BSTB 1112
 SPC GUTIERREZ, GUSTAVO TX C 1BSTB 1201
 PFC HAMLIN, BRYAN WV C 2-12C 1111
 SPC HAMMOND, TYLER TX HHC 2-7C 1110
 SPC HOLDBURG, GORDON TX A 2-82FA 0905
 PVT HOMERSTON, ADAM D. RI 4BCT 1202
 E-5 HURST, WILLIAM R. WV 15SS 7001
 SGT HUSTED, TRAVIS TX C 2-12C 0803
 SSG JAMES, MYLES TX A 2-82FA 10
 PFC JASIE, JOSHUA MA B 27BSB 1006
 SSG JOHNSON, AARON TX A 2-82FA 0302

PFC JOHNSON, JAMES P. OR H 2-19FA
 CPL KAMPS, ANTHONY TX E 2-7C 0908
 SGT KEELER, MICHAEL TX A 2-82FA 1107
 MR. KUDYK, JOHN MA HQ 15ADM 6802
 SP-4 LaFOLLETTE, EARL M. FL 2-12C 6508
 PFC LEHMKUHLE, RYAN TX A 2-82FA 1011
 CW4 LEMIEUX, PAUL E. CO 8ENG 7205
 1LT LLOYD, J. PAT NC D 2-5C 67
 E-5 LODOEN, GARRY P. AK B 1-7C 67
 PV2 LYLES, SHAQUITA M. SC HHC 1CDH 1202
 2LT MALISE, NATHANIEL TX A 2-82FA 1107
 SFC MALO, JOHN J. TX D 1-12C 0511
 SFC MARCISZEWSKI, BRUCE TX A 2-82FA 0001
 SP-5 McGIFFIN, GERALD B. MD A 8ENG 6207
 E-4 McGRATH, GERALD P. IL A 1-5C 6509
 CSM MENTON, CHRISTOPHER TX 4BCT 1201
 SGT MERRICK, JEFFREY TX A 2-82FA 0803
 CPL MILAZZO, JOSEPH S. CA 2-4C 5712
 CPT MILLER, RYAN TX C 2-12C 1003
 CSM MONTALVOORTIZ, FRANCISCO TX HHB 3-82FA 1201
 SP-5 NAUGLE, KARL E. SC HHB 2-19FA 6906
 CPT OAKLEY, GLENDA TX HSC 615ASB 0607
 SPC OLSHOVE, DAVID A. TX A 2-82FA 1008
 SPC O'TOOLE, CHRIS TX A 2-82FA 1201
 SPC PAINTER, SEAN M. TX A 2-82FA 0711

SP-5 PARKER, CLAUDE O. FL C 8ENG 6712
 SFC PARKS, MARLOW TX A 2-82FA 1008
 SGT PASERO, KARL OR B 2-5C 6703
 WO1 PEARSON, ARNOLD C. TX 1BCT 1202
 SP-4 PENFIELD, BERNARD B. CO 8ENG 66
 SSG PEREZ, ANTONIO TX A 2-82FA 1010
 SGM PERKINS, ROBERT S. TN 11AVN 6407
 SGT PHILLIPS, JEREMIAH M. OK BAND 1103
 SGT PICKENS, DAVID M. TX A 2-82FA 1202
 SSG (RET) PRICE, OLLIE B. CO 2-19FA 6607
 SSG RAMIREZ, GIL CA A 2-82FA 0803
 SGT RAMOS, EDISON TX A 2-82FA 1202
 SGT RANDELL, TAD TX HHC 2-12C 0906
 SGT RANGEL, RUBEN R. TX A 2-82FA 0510
 SGT REDNER, RYAN D. TX A 2-82FA 0711
 SGT REED, BRIAN TX C 2-7C 1006
 SGM REED, MICHAEL TX HHC 1-7C 1108
 SPC REEVES, ISAAC L. TX 2-82FA 07
 E-4 REMILLARD, BRIAN WA A 2-82FA 1010
 E-5 RICHARD, DAMIEN TX HHB 2-82FA 1004
 PFC ROSE, JACOB G. UT 3BCT 1201
 SSG SAELEE, KAOFONG TX A 2-82FA 1101
 SP-4 SALAME, JESUS JESSE TX HHC3BDE 7006
 E-4 SANDOVAL, EDWARD MO 1CDH 6912
 SPC SAVOY, JONATHON TX A 2-82FA 1010
 PFC SCANLON, PETER G. CO 3BCT 1202
 SSG SCHAEPMAN, SPENCER D. TX D2-5C 0909

Continued on pg. 14.

**65th ANNUAL REUNION JUNE 6-10, 2012 - PORTLAND, OREGON
Ft. Hood to Mt. Hood!**

The Troopers of the 1st Cavalry Division Association will meet in Portland, Oregon to celebrate our 65th Annual Reunion. Don't miss this great event.

LODGING

The Red Lion Hotel on the River will serve as Reunion Headquarters for the 65th Reunion and all of our regularly scheduled events will occur here. The hotel is located at 909 N Hayden Island Drive, Portland, OR 97217. For reservations call toll-free (800) 733-5466 or local (503) 283-4466 and make sure that you identify yourself as part of the 1st Cav Division Association to obtain our special rate of \$109 per night plus tax (12.5%). Rates are for single and double occupancy, additional fees apply for larger groups in rooms. Suites are \$139 per night. Parking is free. The hotel provides an airport shuttle for those who are flying into Portland. Additional information on the hotel and what it offers is available on our web page at <www.lcda.org/65th_Reunion.htm>.

The Red Lion is located on the Columbia River and is only about 15 minutes from the Portland International Airport. The hotel has 320 recently renovated guest rooms, including 24 suites, featuring private balconies, some with river, pool and tennis court views. All rooms offer free high-speed wireless Internet access, 32" LCD televisions, refrigerators, microwaves, coffee makers, in-room safes and phones. The hotel is pet friendly hotel and 100% non-smoking. Shenanigans Restaurant, Lounge and Café offer a wide variety of all the northwest has to offer serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. Tuxedo Charlie's Lounge serves creative libations 7-days a week. There are additional restaurants and fast food venues within walking distance of the hotel.

Our overflow-hotel for the reunion is the Oxford Suites located just across the parking lot from the Red Lion. The Oxford Suites Portland - Jantzen Beach has numerous types of suites and we have blocked several Standard King, Executive King and Standard Double Queen Suites at a special rate of \$85 per night plus tax. Other types of suites are available at their regular rates. The Oxford Suites offer a complimentary full hot breakfast buffet. All of the regular amenities are offered in these large rooms and includes complimentary high-speed internet. Contact the hotel for airport shuttle service (some fees may apply). Call (800) 548-7848 or (503) 283-3030 for reservations at the Oxford Suites Portland.

Jantzen Beach RV Park is located at 1503 N. Hayden Island Drive and is about 1/2 mile from the Red Lion Hotel. Information and rates are available on their web page <www.jantzenbeachrv.com/>. They have Woodall's highest 4W rating and are also AAA and GoodSam rated. Free Wi-Fi and cable, water and sewer, with 20, 30 and 50 amp hook-ups.

REUNION EVENT OVERVIEW

The Columbia-Willamette Chapter welcomes each of you to Portland for the 65th Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association.

As usual, this reunion will include a Welcoming Mixer for adults and a Children's Poolside Mixer on Thursday; Gold Star Family Breakfast, Ladies Tea, War Era Lunches and Sweetheart Dance on Friday; Unit Lunches and our Annual Association Banquet on Saturday; and Group Breakfasts and Memorial Service on Sunday. The Chapter has set up a special tour of Fort Vancouver and Vancouver Barracks (\$15 per person) on Friday afternoon with a shuttle bus running every 20 minutes from the hotel to the fort. Fort Vancouver was built by the Hudson Bay fur trading company and was in operation from 1824-1860 and has reenactors recreating life as it was in the fur trading days. Additional details on this are available on the web page. We will have meetings of the Chapter Presidents and the Foundation and Museum Foundation Trustees on Thursday, the Board of Governors on Friday and our General Membership meeting on Saturday morning where elections for officers of the Association will be held.

The Gold Star Family Member Breakfast is becoming a major event and we want everyone that is in contact with the families of our fallen Troopers to invite them to attend. There is never a registration fee for our Gold Star families and the Association will pay for their breakfast at this event.

The Sweetheart Dance raises funds to support the Foundation of the 1st Cavalry Division Association. Proceeds help fund scholarships for the children of Troopers that were killed in action or were totally and permanently disabled.

The Reunion Banquet will mark the end of the term for our current President, Lyman C. "Chan" Duryea and see the gavel passed to Jerry F. Eller who will serve as our President for the next two years. The Commanding General of the First Team is scheduled to provide a "State of the Division Address".

If you have not been able to attend one of our Memorial Services and hear the "Long Roll Muster", please plan on attending this one. This is a very special way to honor those that gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Seating for all events is open with the exception of the Reunion Banquet on Saturday night. If you are attending the banquet, you must get your tickets marked with a table number at the Banquet Seating table prior to Saturday noon. If you want to sit with specific people, we recommend that you all go to the Banquet Seating table together with your tickets available. Don't wait until the last minute or we may not be able to accommodate your needs.

Cavalry casual attire is appropriate for all reunion events. We are always questioned about attire for the banquet. Wear what you feel comfortable wearing; a coat and tie, your uniform (if it still fits), casual clothing with open collar or jeans. We want you to attend and aren't overly concerned with what you wear, as long as it isn't indecent!

The Association provides a Reunion Room in the Red Lion during the reunion for you to gather together and enjoy yourself. Drinks in the Reunion Room are free but we ask that you generously donate to help us pay for this room.

The Crossed Sabers Chapter Souvenir Shop will set up a gift shop in the Red Lion close to the Reunion Room to sell all kinds of First Team merchandise including shirts, hats, Stetsons, pins, decals and other items. If you didn't pre-order your reunion T-shirt they will have a few on hand to sell at the reunion. Sizes and quantities will be limited.

TRANSPORTATION

Air Travel - Portland International Airport (PDX) is located 15 minutes (9-12 miles) from our hotels. It is a major metropolitan airport with service currently provided by: Alaska Airlines, American Airlines, Continental Airlines, Delta Airlines, Frontier Airlines, Hawaiian Airlines, Horizon Air, JetBlue, Sea Port Airlines, Southwest Airlines, United Airlines, US Airways, and Air Canada.

Train Travel - Amtrak's Coast Starlight stops at downtown's Union Station on its run between Los Angeles and Seattle; the Empire Builder connects Portland

with Spokane, Minneapolis, and Chicago; and the Cascades runs from Eugene through Portland to Seattle and Vancouver <www.amtrak.com>.

Automobile - The Red Lion Hotel is located off of Interstate 5 at exit 307.

TOURS

In addition to the Fort Vancouver Tour set up by the Columbia-Willamette Chapter, they have also coordinated for two (2) additional tours run by Carol Breck Destination Management Services on Wednesday, 6 June and Thursday, 7 June. **Registrations for the tours must be received prior to 7 May 2012.** Sign up in advance, the tours will not be available for purchase at the reunion.

The **Scenic Gorge Tour** will travel by restroom equipped motorcoach along the Old Columbia River Gorge Highway with its commanding views, compelling vistas, rock pinnacles, and enchanting waterfalls with lunch at Multnomah Falls. After lunch, the tour continues to Bonneville Dam and fish hatchery. View fish migrating through underwater fishways, and learn about the Dam's operations, navigational history and fish migration through the numerous educational exhibits and shop in the gift shop. Cost for this tour is \$50 per person.

The **Evergreen Aviation Museum Adventure Tour** is also by restroom equipped motorcoach through the fertile Willamette Valley countryside and includes a box lunch. The Evergreen Museum is home to the Spruce Goose, Howard Hughes "Flying Boat" and a diverse collection of over 40 aircraft that celebrate the lives, innovators, pilots and veterans who courageously pioneered flight in these remarkable machines. Cost for this tour is \$55 per person.

More detailed information on these tours is available on our web page at <www.lcda.org/65th_Reunion.htm>. Children must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. For special accessibility needs, dietary considerations and additional information, call Carole Breck Destination Management: (503) 699-9841, or E-mail <cbreckdm@aol.com>.

Mail your Tour Registration form with full payment by check or money order to: 1st Cavalry Tour Registration, c/o Carole Breck Destination Management, 47 Eagle Crest Drive, Suite 46, Lake Oswego, OR 97035. (Do not mail tour registration forms to the Association office in Texas). A \$32 fee will be charged for returned checks. An E-mail confirmation will be sent to you once it is determined the minimum participation for your selected tour(s) has been met and at that time your check will be processed. Tour guide will have a list of participants on the day of the tour. (Provide your e-mail address in the space provided on the tour registration form.)

Cancellation: Refunds minus a \$5.00 handling fee will be made only if written notice is received **prior to May 7, 2012**. Individual Tours may be canceled if the minimum per tour guarantee noted in the description for each tour is not met. In this event your money will be refunded in full after the Reunion.

Carole Breck Destination Management reserves the right to alter or amend the itinerary or change the attraction order.

Join us in Portland as we go from **"Ft. Hood to Mt. Hood"!**

Carole
Carole Breck Destination Management

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 2012

#1	Time	Tour	Qty	\$/pp
	9:00 am.-	SCENIC	_____	@ US\$50.00 = \$ _____
	4:00 p.m.	GORGE	_____	
		(35 Minimum)		
THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 2012				
#2	10:30 a.m.-	EVERGREEN	_____	@ US\$55.00 = \$ _____
	4:00 p.m.	AVIATION	_____	
		MUSEUM	_____	
		(75 minimum)		
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED			US\$ _____	

Please Complete the following: (PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY)

Name _____
Spouse/Guest Name(s) _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Country: _____ Zip Code/Country Code: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

- Payment must accompany registration
- Make Checks or Money Orders Payable US\$ Funds on US Banks to: "Carole Breck Destination Management". Mail to: 1st Cavalry Tour Registration, c/o Carole Breck Destination Management, 47 Eagle Crest Drive, Suite 46, Lake Oswego, OR 97035.

Each Tour Participant is required to read and sign the following waiver prior to participation in all tours.

LIABILITY WAIVER

In consideration of Carole Breck Destination Management's planning and coordination of these tours/activities, I/we do hereby release and discharge forever, and by these presents, do for ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators and assigns release and discharge forever, Carole Breck Destination Management, their subsidiaries and affiliates, and their officers, directors, agents and employees, from any liability, direct and indirect, and all claims, demands, damages, actions, causes of actions, or suits at law or in equity because of matters, incidents or things done, omitted or suffered to be done by anyone, which may hereafter arise, directly or indirectly, from or out of participation in program tours/activities. I/we also agree not to allow any other individual to participate in my/our place(s) without prior notification to Carole Breck Destination Management.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____
(Note: Parent or Legal Guardian must sign for children and note child's name)

65th Annual 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6

1300-1800 Registration Desk Open
1300-1800 Souvenir Shop Open
1300-2400 Reunion Room Open

THURSDAY, JUNE 7

0900-1800 Registration Desk Open
0900-1800 Souvenir Shop Open
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
1030-1130 Chapter President's Meeting
1300-1400 Museum Foundation Trustees Meeting
1430-1530 Foundation Trustees Meeting
1700-1900 Welcoming Mixer (Hors d'oeuvres/Open Bar)
1700-1900 Kid's Mixer (Pool Side)

FRIDAY, JUNE 8

0730-0900 Gold Star Family Breakfast
0900-1800 Registration Desk Open
0900-1800 Souvenir Shop Open
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open

FRIDAY, JUNE 8 - Continued

1030-1200 Ladies Tea
1230-1430 War Era Luncheons
1400-1800 Fort Vancouver Tour
1500-1700 Board of Governors Meeting
2000-2400 Sweet Heart Dance (Supports the Scholarship Foundation)

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

0900-1100 General Membership Meeting (Elections)
0900-1200 Registration Desk Open
0900-1700 Souvenir Shop Open
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
1200-1400 Unit Luncheons
1745-1845 Cocktails (Cash Bar)
1900-2200 Association Banquet

SUNDAY, JUNE 10

0700-0830 Group Breakfast Buffet
0700-0830 LRRP/Ranger Breakfast Buffet
0900-1000 Memorial Service (Long Roll Muster)

1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 65th REUNION - 2012 REGISTRATION FORM

Mail to: 1st Cavalry Division Assn. - Reunion
302 N. Main Street, Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703

I will attend the 1st Cavalry Division Association 65th Annual Reunion at the Red Lion on the River Hotel in Portland, Oregon June 6-10, 2012. Cancellations must be received by 5:00pm Friday, June 1, 2012 in our office (254-547-6537) for a refund. **Seating at all functions is limited.** Hotel cancellations must be done personally with the hotel.

Register early.

YOU MUST BE AN ASSOCIATION MEMBER TO REGISTER. PLEASE PROVIDE ALL THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION.

Are you a member of the 1st Cavalry Division Association? Yes ___ No ___

Please Print Clearly or place a Return Address Label. Don't forget Nickname.

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY, STATE & ZIP _____

NICKNAME _____

GOLD STAR FAMILY MEMBER _____

Telephone # (____) _____

Preferred Unit(s) order (1) _____

(2) _____

Date(s) Served in 1st Cav (1) _____ to _____

(2) _____ to _____

I served at/during (Circle one or more): WWII Japan (Anytime) Korean War Korea 1957-65 Fort Benning Vietnam War Fort Hood Gulf War Bosnia Iraq War Afghanistan Fort Bliss Other _____

I will be accompanied by my spouse or other (Full Name and Nickname) _____

and the following persons, please specify relationship. (Family members only.)
Name _____ Nickname _____ Age (Children) _____

Is this your first 1st Cav Division Association Reunion? ___ Yes ___ No

My e-mail is: _____

I am staying at: Red Lion Inn ___ Oxford Suites ___
Home ___ Local ___ RV ___

Other _____

Please specify where you are staying, as it will help us to find you in the event of an emergency. Thank you!

Registration fee required for **Association members only** (Widows and Gold Star Family members pay no fee) - no fee for family members accompanying Association member. Registration includes: Name Tags (required for admission to Reunion Room and other activities), Official Reunion Program, Reunion Pin and information package.

FUNCTION	NO. OF TICKETS	COST	TOTAL AMOUNT
Registration Fee (Member Only)		\$20.00	\$ _____
Postmarked After May 4, 2012		\$40.00	\$ _____
Active Duty (Must have Active Duty ID Card)		\$10.00	\$ _____

THURSDAY, JUNE 7

Welcoming Mixer _____ \$28.00 ea. \$ _____
Kids Mixer (6 & Over) _____ \$13.00 ea. \$ _____

FRIDAY, JUNE 8

Gold Star Breakfast _____ \$20.00 ea. \$ _____
Ladies Tea _____ \$16.00 ea. \$ _____
War Era Luncheons
World War II Veterans _____ \$28.00 ea. \$ _____
Korean War Veterans _____ \$28.00 ea. \$ _____
Vietnam War Veterans _____ \$28.00 ea. \$ _____
Gulf/Iraq War Veterans _____ \$28.00 ea. \$ _____
Fort Vancouver Tour _____ \$15.00 ea. \$ _____
Sweet Heart Dance _____ \$ 7.50 ea. \$ _____

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

Unit Luncheons _____ \$28.00 ea. \$ _____
I wish to attend lunch with: (Circle one)
5th Cav 7th Cav 8th Cav 9th Cav 12th Cav Artillery
Engineers HQ & Special Troops LRRP/Ranger Silver Wings

Reunion Banquet

Adult _____ \$50.00 ea. \$ _____
Child (12 years and under) _____ \$25.00 ea. \$ _____

I wish to sit at the Reunion Banquet with: (Circle one)

5th Cav 7th Cav 8th Cav 9th Cav 12th Cav Artillery
Engineers HQ & Special Troops LRRP/Ranger Silver Wings

Banquet table seating is assigned during the reunion. **You must take your banquet tickets to the Banquet Seating Table to get your table number assigned. NO ONE will be admitted without a table number on their ticket.** To assist us in organizing the seating, please circle the unit that you wish to sit with at the Banquet.

Please get your table number assigned prior to noon Saturday.

SUNDAY, JUNE 10

Group Breakfast _____ \$25.00 ea. \$ _____
LRRP/Ranger Breakfast _____ \$25.00 ea. \$ _____

And a little extra to help cover expenses? \$ _____

Please renew my SABER Subscription (\$10 per year) \$ _____

New Life Membership (\$10) RANK _____ \$ _____

Last four of SSN _____ DOB _____

Grand Total (Don't forget the Registration Fee) \$ _____

(Circle One)

___ Credit Card VISA or Master Card Only ___ Check ___ Cash

Card Number - Print clearly _____ EXP Date _____

Signature - Credit Card Payment Only _____ Date _____

99th FA News



Jim Miller
819 West Howard St.
Winona, MN 55987-2642
(507) 454-4224
jimarmil@hbci.com



I read the book *South to the Nak-tong, North to the Yalu* that was recommended to me by Jim Warren. OK, I'll

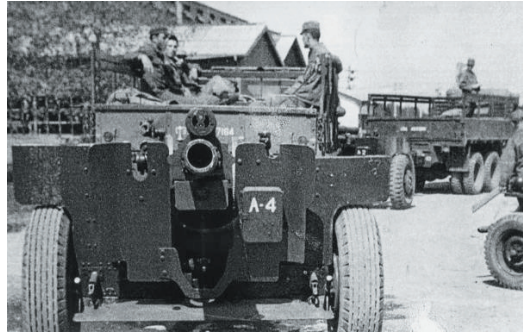
admit I didn't read all 776 pages, I read mostly material that pertained to the 1st Cav Division during the first part of the war. This was more or less the official report of the Korean War and I found out some interesting and some disturbing items while reading. Maybe you knew this, I didn't; the brain trust in Tokyo decided the war was over when we captured Pyongyang so they sent orders for ships loaded with ammo on their way to the Far East to turn around, sail back to the US. We ended up rationing artillery fire for the lack of ammunition. I wonder if they sent the ships with the winter clothing back also.

I was surprised to learn how close we came to being pushed off the Korean peninsula in those first dark months of the war. I knew that our sector was having a hard time keeping the North Koreans at bay, but I didn't realize that things were so bad in other parts of the battlefield. The enemy was close to breaking through to Pusan in the Southwest and nearly made a mad dash down the east coast through Pohang Dong. I had a little difficulty with the author's description of Bowling Alley fighting. I certainly remember that part of our fighting; it was tough. The author gives very little credit to the 1st Cav in that situation. Those were pretty exciting times.

I also wasn't thrilled with his account of the fight at Unsan. Although he told of the heroic actions of CPT Jack Bolt and C Btry of the 99th and the 3rd Battalion of the 8th Cav there, he offhandedly reported that most of Hqs Btry 99th FA Battalion successfully escaped the Chinese envelopment. As I remember very little of Hqs Btry got out of there whole. I know the wire and radio sections along with FDC were there supporting artillery fire until the bitter end and there were men in those sections killed, wounded and captured.

However most of the book was filled with detailed accounts of the fighting and I certainly understand that every unit's actions couldn't be reported or the book would have been 7,776 pages or more. I'm glad I read as much as I did and it certainly made me feel lucky to have left there on my own two feet.

Parts of the book are on-line if you Google: *South to the Nak-tong, North to the Yalu*.



Howitzer #4, A Btry, 99th FA, at Camp Drew 1947.

At about the same time, I found the report of 1st Cav DivArty actions from July 15, 1950 to October 1, 1950. This was the official report from DivArty Hqs. You have to kind of read between the lines. The author used the term "Displaced," several times such as, "The 99th, and 61st were forced to 'displace' twice on August 21 by heavy enemy mortar and small arms fire." What that meant to the wire sections and the cannoneers was a heck of a lot more serious than the word sounds. To us, wiremen, it meant running all new wire to other units and to our own batteries and sections. For the cannoneers, it meant closing the trails and loading the howitzer, moving to a new position, laying the piece again, and getting everything ready to fire. In addition, of course, we had to set up perimeter security and dig new foxholes. All of this under enemy fire of course. An artillery unit is much like a circus when it comes to setting up and moving. It isn't just pull into an area and park your truck; there is a pattern much like a choreographed dance. When it has to be done as often as we did it, it's a real hassle. I remember those days when sleep was a real luxury. I was glad he gave a lot of credit to the 92nd AAA (AW) unit that was with us. Like all the rest of the units, they were very under strength. There was supposed to be a battalion for 1st Cav DivArty. Instead there was one battery split up among the units. They were equipped with quad 50 caliber machine guns mounted on half-tracks. They were lethal weapons and their crews manned them courageously in our defense and save our rears many times.

Something new in communications happened to me recently. I talked to Jake Stotts, and Willard Messman, both former wiremen, at the same time on a three-way call courtesy of Jake's new phone contract. The only other time I've done

New Members Listing Continued from pg. 11.

SSG SCHWINDT, JEREMY L. TX C 2-12C 1110
SPC SHARP, DERRICK TX A 2-82FA 0710
1LT SHEPHERD, BRIAN TX A 2-82FA 1009
CPL SICILIA, BRUNO TX A 2-82FA 07
1LT SIEVERT, JOHN R. TX C 2-7C 1104
E-5 SILVA, MANUEL NJ D 2-8C 6910
E-3 SIMS, JACOB C. FL 3BCT 1201
SGT SMITH, DARRYL TX E 2-7C 1110
SFC SMITH, DEMETRIUS L. TX HHC4BSTB 1012
SGT SNOWDY, DUSTIN TX 2BCT 1202
SP-4 SOTO, JOSE J. PR HHC 1-77FA 82
SGT STICKRADT, TERRY J. MI A 1-9C 6706
CW3 (RET) STOVER, JR., WALTER H. TN HHC 228AVN 6905
E-4 STRANGER, CHARLES G. NC B1-7C 6804
1SG TAYLOR, ROBERT TX A 1-8C 09
E-4 TAYLOR, STUART TX E 2-7C 1001
SSG TEAL, BRYAN TX A 2-82FA 0811
SPC TIMM, JACOB D. CA A 3-82FA 9704
PFC TINSLEY, JOHN E. TX A 2-82FA 0812
SPC TORRES, ORLANDO TX A 2-82FA 0811
CW2 TOTTEN, ROBERT G. OR HQ2-20ARA 6807
E-4 Van VEEN, ANDREW H. TX A 2-82FA 1010
MR. Van VRANKEN, STEVEN R. WA C2-8C 7205
E-4 VEGA, DAVID TX C 2-12C 1006
PV2 VILLALOBOS, STEVEN TX A2-82FA 1105
MAJ VODARICK, DAVID TX HHC4-5ADA 0401
Continued on pg. 17.



that is with a doctor's appointment when I have to have a couple of things done at the same time.

Jake told me he had been in the wire section and became a driver. I was a cannoneer who became a truck driver who became a wireman. Jake was captured at Unsan and spent 33 months in a Chinese prison camp. I was glad to talk to Jake and Willard who both live fairly close to each other in Indiana and happy that they are still kicking. We talked about various men in the battery and it was handy for me to reach over and get a complete battery roster from January, 1950 which Richard Meyer had sent with a Christmas card. We talked about the 1SG's Robert Craddock and George Freese and when Jake or Willard would ask, "Who was that guy...?" I would just look at my roster and we'd have an answer. Thanks Richard, and thanks Jake for getting us hooked up.

I have to apologize for last issue's photos. As I told you, my computer crashed and I didn't have my photo scanner hooked exactly right; computers are fussy little machines and so I had difficulty scanning a photo from the Sullivan collection. It was too dark and I couldn't fix it so I just threw in a photo of me and some other 99th FA Troopers at Camp Bender clowning around while getting ready for a big inspection. If you recognized me, I'm second; the bigger guy right behind me is Ken Jackson who was KIA at the big B Btry landmine incident. Ken was in Hqs Btry wire section but went to check on a buddy of his in B Btry wounded in the first explosion and KIA in the second along with several others. It was a bad day for the 99th for sure. Richard VanGiesen and I exchanged several e-mails about this recently.

I talked to R.J. Clark recently. R.J. was among the missing for a while, but he assured me he was just busy and out of touch.

John Perkins called and we talked a lot about some of the B Btry folks. Troy Gordon, Marvin Jensen, and Ray Nebe were part of the conversation. Sounds like Ray is recovering from his stroke which is good news.

Jo and Charlie Green continue to keep me informed about some of the B Btry people also. They've been married for 55 years. Jo said that Marion Burdett had a hip replacement done. We older people are getting like the Bionic Man. I got new eyes, several people have new knees. I wonder if they can do a brain transplant?

I received a request for information from Dillon Wallace who was Hqs Btry clerk in 1945 in Japan when the 99th was at Camp Drake. He states the T-5 that he took over for became the 99th SGM Dillon is wondering if anyone knows what happened to SGM Breakenridge, Brakenridge, or Breckinridge. If anyone has any information, please get in contact with me or Dillon Wallace, 1227 Audubon Pl., Shreveport, LA 71105.

I hope everyone had a nice Easter. Take time out to help our fellow vets; we have a bunch of 1st Cav Troopers coming back from the Mid-East who might need a hand. Remember, we're all in this together. CSMO



Camp Bender, Ota, Japan, 1949:
Back L-R: Capuano, Brickly, Isula;
Front: Fecteau, R.J. Clark.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – REUNION 2012

The By Laws of the Association provide that the officers and members of the Board of Governors shall be elected by the General Membership at the General Membership meeting conducted during the Annual Reunion. Further, that the President may appoint a Nominating Committee to nominate candidates for office and that other nominations may be made by Life members from the floor at the General Membership meeting. The Resolutions of the Trust Agreement of the Foundation of the 1st Cavalry Division Association and the By-Laws of the Museum Foundation require the election to the Board of Trustees for positions coming vacant each year shall occur at the Annual Reunion. Candidates for all offices must be Life members of the Association.

The President has appointed a nominating committee to recommend Life members of the Association for election or re-election to fill the terms of office for the following positions that become vacant as of 9 June 2012:

1st Vice President,
2nd Vice President
3rd Vice President

Ten Places on the Board of Governors

Two Trustees of the Foundation

Two Trustees of the Museum Foundation

Any Life member of the Association, including an incumbent, who wishes to be considered by the nominating committee for one of these positions should forward a letter to the Chairman, 2012 Nominating Committee, 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703, requesting consideration for nomination to the specific office. The Nominating Committee must receive all requests no later than 11 May 2012 to assure sufficient time for processing and full consideration. Requests must be accompanied by appropriate documentation that includes proof of service with the 1st Cavalry Division (e.g., a DD214 or equivalent) and a biographical sketch. The biographical sketch needs to outline the applicant's full name and provide ranks, dates of service and units assigned to in the 1st Cavalry Division. Additionally, it needs to provide the dates and positions for any offices held at National or Chapter level in the Association and similar information for any other veteran's organization the applicant belongs to. Any instances of special support for Association programs should also be included if applicable.

The election will be held during the Reunion at the General Membership meeting conducted on Saturday, 9 June 2012 in Portland, Oregon. Nominations from the floor will be accepted. A Life member making a nomination from the floor will be required to provide the information outlined above on the nominee and additionally provide assurance that the nominee is either present at the General Membership meeting or has agreed to accept nomination to the specified office.

CHAPTER INDEX

ALL THE WAY BRIGADE CHAPTER
Pres: Bennett Guthrie
29112 S. 558 Road
Park Hill, OK 74451
(918) 207-2982
E-mail: bennettguthrie47@msn.com
Call or e-mail for meeting info.

BUCKEYE CHAPTER
Pres.: Frank D. Forestiere
Buckeye Chapter, 1st Cav Div Assn.
PO Box 340038
Columbus, OH 43234
(614) 889-2358
E-mail: buckeyechapter1cda@yahoo.com
Meet on 3d Sat. of Mar., June, Sep. and Dec. at VFW Post 1598, 677 E. 11th Ave., Columbus, OH

CENTRAL SAVANNAH RIVER AREA CHAPTER
Pres: John Rangel, Jr.
2665 Teakwood Dr.
Hephzibah, GA 30815
(706) 771-1173
Website: gandata.com/First_Cav.htm
Meets on 2nd Sat of mo., 1400 at Ryans Steak House on Peach Orchard Rd., Augusta, GA (Mar., June, Sept. and Dec.)

COLUMBIA-WILLAMETTE CHAPTER
Pres: Randy Putnam
1004 SE Althaus Dr.
Troutdale, OR 97306-1626
(503) 544-7868
E-mail: WRP@destinywarriors.com
Meets 1830 3rd Wed of odd mos. at the Village Inn, 1621 NE 10th Ave., Portland, OR 97232. No meeting in Dec.

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER
Pres: Keith Moyer
48 Boretz Rd.
Colchester, CT 06415-1009
(860) 537-1716
E-mail: kpmoyerco@hotmail.com
Contact: Keith Morin
84 Dibble Hollow Lane
Windsor Locks, CT 06096-2731
(860) 627-9711
E-mail: nriinc@sbcglobal.net
http://www.conncav.com
Meeting info in newsletter and on web page.

COWBOY STATE CHAPTER
Pres: L. Pete Quinnett
11 Lone Cedar Dr.
Gillette, WY 82716
(307) 682-5354
E-mail: pbquin@vcn.com
POC: George Cook
1400 O'Shannon
Gillette, WY 82716
Meets in July and on the Sat. closest to Sept. 23.

CROSSED SABERS CHAPTER
Pres: Jerry Eller
808 S. 2nd St.
Killeen, TX 76541-7703

FIRST CHAPTER
Pres: Robert H. Wolfe
4756 Haracourt Dr.
El Paso, TX 79924-3047
(915) 755-7944

FLORIDA CHAPTER
Pres: Leo 'Doc' Williams
3098 Golden View Ln.
Orlando, FL 32812
(407) 277-5763
Meets quarterly at different locations around the state.

FLORIDA TROOPA "LAKELAND AREA"
Pres: Walter C. Smith
5090 Ironwood Trail
Bartow, FL 33830
(863) 644-7207
E-mail: tarbucket67@yahoo.com
POC: Verlin Buck Rogers
(863) 858-3559
E-mail: vrogers8@tampabay.rr.com
Meets at 1100 on the 1st Sat. of mo. at L.J.'s Diner & Lounge, 1395 E Main St., Bartow, FL (corner of Main and Hwy 17 South)

FLORIDA TROOP B "BAKER TROOP"
Pres: Bill Franklin
473 Kimberly Dr.
Melbourne, FL 32940
(321) 255-0868
E-mail: swfwfw@aol.com
Contact: Frank Alverson
12468 Boney Rd.
Jacksonville, FL 32226-1983
(904) 757-7009
E-mail: mcalverson@comcast.net
Meets qtrly for dinner at area restaurants in Melbourne, Merritt Island area, usually on Tues. evening.

FLORIDA TROOP C
Pres: Leo 'Doc' Williams
3098 Golden View Ln.
Orlando, FL 32812
(407) 277-5763
Meets 2nd Sat. at 11:00am of ea. mo. at VFW Post 2093, 4444 Edgewater Dr., Orlando.

FLORIDA TROOP E "BLACK HATS"
Pres: W. E. "Stretch" Hungerford
15 Desert Candle Circle
Lehigh Acres, FL 33936
(239) 369-7871
E-mail: wdhung@earthlink.net
Website: http://www.seahog.org/cav/index.html
Meets 4th Sat. ea. mo. from Aug. - May 1:00pm. at the Country Kitchen, 2921 E. Palm Beach Blvd. in Fort Myers.

FLYING HORSEMAN CHAPTER
(Upstate New York Area)
Pres: Thomas R. Randall
209-A Harmon St.
Elmira, NY 14904-1220
(607) 259-9881
Vice-Pres: Charles T. Sullivan
148 Decker Rd.
Lowman, NY 14861-8900
(607) 737-0743
E-mail: firstcavhorse@aol.com
Meets 1st Sunday each month at the Elmira Am. Legion Post #443.

If you have changes to this listing, contact the Association at (254) 547-6537 or e-mail at <membership@1cda.org>.

FOLLOW ME CHAPTER
Pres: James R. Lee
3 Marriott Court
Columbus, GA 31907
(706) 568-3732
E-mail: ljam93@bellsouth.net
Meets 1900 4th Tues. ea. mo. Veterans Ctr., 1000 Victory Dr., Columbus, GA.
No meeting in December

FORT KNOX AREA CHAPTER
Pres.: Robert L. Magruder
8012 Boadfern Dr.
Louisville, KY 40291-2304
(502) 239-1522
E-mail: bobmagruder@bellsouth.net
POC: Larry A. Whelan
2103 Winston Ave.
Louisville, KY 40205
(502) 485-1270
E-mail: lawhelan@insightbb.com
Website: www.1cda.org/fort_knox.html
Meets 3rd Sat. of mo. at 1100 at the Barker Masonic Lodge, 705 Main St., West Point, KY.

JUMPING MUSTANG CHAPTER 1-8 Cav
Pres: Tom Brett
4216 Wynnwood Dr.
Annandale, VA 22003-3453
(703) 642-1595
E-mail: tombrettphoto@cox.net
POC: James C. Knafel
5510E - 500 South
Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 244-3864
E-mail: jknafel@earthlink.net
Website: www.JumpingMustangs.com

KETTLE MORAINE CHAPTER
Pres: Dick Schwarten
W152 S7917 Mystic Dr.
Muskego, WI 53150
(414) 422-8555
E-mail: DickNSue@wi.rr.com
Contact: Harold Bourne
6415 Carolann Dr.
Brown Deer, WI 53223
(414) 255-7829
Meets held at 3 month intervals with a banquet dinner in Dec. when elections are held.

GERALD F. KINSMAN CHAPTER
Pres: Owen Levine
77 Clubhouse Dr.
Leominster, MA 01453
(978) 534-6284
E-mail: sonny01453@comcast.net
Meets yearly.

JAMES J. MASON WEST MICHIGAN CHAPTER
Pres.: Doug Kamphuis
86 Birchwood Ave.
Holland, MI 49423
(616) 392-5074
POC: Bob Anderson
9030 Conservancy Dr. NE
Ada, MI 49301
(616) 682-5446
E-mail: rj.anderson2243@comcast.net
Website: jjmwmc1cd.com
Meets Sept.-June on 3rd Thurs. of mo. at 7pm, at the Grand Valley Armory in Wyoming, MI.

LAST FRONTIER CHAPTER
(Chapter forming in Alaska)
POC: John W. Thomas
225A Akutan Ave., Apt. A
Jber, AK 99505
john.thomas71@hotmail.com
Contact for meeting info.

LOS ANGELES/ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER
Pres: John Guillory
780 Mandevilla Way
Corona, CA 92879
(951) 278-3740
E-mail: fisheye1@sbcglobal.net
Vice Pres: John Burgner
228 South Hacienda St.
Anaheim, CA 92804
(714) 535-0737
E-mail: jburgner@sbcglobal.net
Meets 0900 on 3rd Sat. of mo. at Brea Veterans Club, 735 S. Brea Blvd., Brea, CA

LRRP/RANGER of the 1st Cav Division during the Vietnam War.
Pres.: Doug Parkinson
PO Box 131
Bayside, CA 95524
(707) 822-8421
E-mail: DPA@Humboldt.com
Website: www.tomah.com/lrrp_ranger/
Full chapter meeting during Reunions

NATIONAL CAPITOL REGION CHAPTER
Pres: Eugene N. Russell
7923 Jansen Dr.
Springfield, VA 22152-2413
(703) 569-2770
POC: Henry DeMeritte
1420 Fisher Ave.
Woodbridge, VA 22191
(703) 494-5507
E-mail: ner1stcavdivassn@yahoo.com
Website: 1cda.org/national_capitol.htm
3d Sat. of the month Sep.-Oct., Jan.-Jun., 0900 at the American Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst Ave., Springfield, VA. Breakfast available prior to start of mtg.

NEVADA CHAPTER
Pres: Ken Gallagher
E-mail: abnrrngnam71@hotmail.com
POC: J.H. "Mac" McCracken
225 S. Wallace Dr.
Las Vegas, NV 89107
(702) 595-1253
E-mail: LuckyMac7@cox.net
Meets the first Sat. of the month at 10am at the American Legion Post 8, 733 Veterans Memorial Dr., Las Vegas.

NEWYORK/NEWJERSEY CHAPTER
Pres: Bob Arbasetti
60 River Rd. #E103
Bogota, NJ 07603
(201) 883-0343
E-mail: nynjcavalry@optimum.net
Facebook: New York New Jersey Cavalry
Meets at Elk Lodge at Cedar and Spruce, Ridgefield Park, NJ.

NEW YORK TROOP
Troop Commander: Joe Panzardi
89-59 217th St.
Queens Village, NY 11427
(718) 776-9749
e-mail: aircavny@verizon.net

NORTH CAROLINA - TARHEEL CHAPTER
Pres: Allen O. Norris
8160 Waterford Dr.
Stanley, NC 28164
(704) 483-8778
E-mail: anorris@infionline.net
Contact for Membership: Don Gibson
803 McDonald Church Road
Rockingham, NC 28379
(910) 895-0747
e-mail: dtbjgibson65@yahoo.com
Meets 2nd Sat of Mar., Jun, Sept. & Dec.

NORTHWEST CHAPTER
Pres.: Roy Rio
(360) 871-5867
E-mail: allrio@live.com
POC: Ric James
PO Box 1305
Bremerton, WA 98337
(360) 536-1050
E-mail: arejay5353@aol.com
Meets 1200 1st Sat. of even months - contact Roy Rio or Ric James for meeting place.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER
Pres: Robert Stauffacher
18355 Drennan Rd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80928
POC: William Tuedaell
306 Kenwood Cir.
Colorado Springs, CO 80910
(719) 636-3063
E-mail: williamandkristine@comcast.net
Website: 1cda.org/rocky_mountain.htm
Meets 9am 2nd Sat. of mo. at at Retired Enlisted Assn. Chapter 1, 834 Emory Cir., Colorado Springs.

SHERIDAN'S CAVALRY CHAPTER (Greater Chicago Area)
Pres.: Bruce Peterson
614 Burch St.
Sugar Grove, IL 60554
(630) 466-9059
E-mail: petersob@mchsi.com
Website: www.sheridansfirstcav.com
Meets at the American Legion Post #1084, 322 E. Maple Ave., Roselle, IL 61072 at 1pm.

SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO CHAPTER
Pres: Clifford Boxley
24 Paseo St.
Lamar, CO 81052
(719) 336-7385
E-mail: crboxley@hotmail.com
POC: John Campos
1308 Lewis Ave.
La Junta, CO 81052-3024
(719) 384-0379
Website: www.firstcavalry.net
Meets 1st Sat. of ea. mo. at 10am at the Holiday Inn in LaJunta, CO..

WALTER H. WESTMAN NORTHLAND CHAPTER
Pres: Donald A. Delsing
3697 Gresham Ave. N.
Oakdale, MN 55182
(651) 770-5422
E-mail: dandmdelsing@aol.com
POC: James D. Wright
12781 Able St. NE
Blaine, MN 55434
(763) 757-7140
E-mail: 1stCav-MN@comcast.net
Meets quarterly at different locations. Call or write for information.



Ken White
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KenWhite68@yahoo.com

Hello again from the nation's capital. It is late February and it is looking more and more like springtime is almost here. Like much of

the country, we've had a very moderate, almost mild, winter here in the mid-Atlantic area. We know they all won't be like this, so we need to enjoy this weather while we have it.

I had mentioned in the January/February 2012 issue of the *SABER* that the Army has been hard at work in their research labs in efforts to improve the taste and energy-enhancing qualities of Meal Ready to Eat (MRE) rations. Well now you'll be happy to hear that the Army isn't stopping there. Army mess halls will soon be serving more fruits and vegetables, whole grains, lean meats and low-fat dairy products in an attempt to improve the nutritional standards of food served on post. First Lady, Michelle Obama and Pentagon officials recently announced during a visit to a military base in Arkansas the first program in 20 years to improve the quality and variety of military food. Mrs. Obama said "I am proud to announce that the Department of Defense is making a groundbreaking commitment to the health of our troops and their families. We need you fit and strong. We need you to step forward and lead by example." About a quarter of the 17- to 24-year old entry-level candidates for the Army are too overweight to serve or to make it through their first enlistment, according to the Pentagon and the Defense Department spends more than \$1 billion dollars a year on medical expenses related to excessive weight.

The following account was received from LTC (Ret) Jim Wright (1967) by way of Bill Carpenter. In July 1967, Jim was the platoon leader of the LRRP platoon at LZ Uplift in eastern Binh Dinh Province, located approximately 18 kilometers south of LZ English in Bong Son. As a 1st Lieutenant, he had been recruited by CPT Bruce Tucker (KIA), commander of the LRRP Detachment, upon discharge from the 67th Evac Hospital in Qui Nhon. He was recovering from a wound received two months earlier when he was a platoon leader with Delta Company, 2-5th Cav.

"On July 25th, one of the deployed LRRP teams [operating in the southern Cay Giep Mountains, approximately 14 kilometers north-northeast of LZ Uplift,] reported the presence of a sizeable enemy unit nearby, possibly an NVA or VC regiment. This resulted in a command decision to conduct a B-52 Arc Light strike in lieu of trying to deploy already engaged ground units. This decision and timing required the unscheduled movement of the affected LRRP team to a location south of a specified east-west grid line before the bombing strike. It also meant establishing radio communications outside the prearranged commo check time for the team. In these instances, the general SOP required LRRP teams to immediately establish radio contact if a helicopter overflew their location at treetop level."

"On the morning of July 26th, we left LZ Uplift in order to establish communications with the LRRP team and to communicate the movement requirements. The LRRP Huey included a crew of four (a pilot, a co-pilot, and 2 door gunners), myself and SGT Jim Horne, LRRP operations sergeant. As we completed low level flights in the vicinity of the LRRP team, I observed what appeared to be a column of men moving along a nearby ridgeline. As we attempted a closer inspection, we started taking significant ground fire causing the pilot to take evasive actions to include a rapid increase in altitude. During this process, I was successful in establishing commo with the LRRP team and making them aware of the situation and of the need to get south of the designated east-west grid line before the Arc Light strike occurred."

"Suddenly the Huey shook rather violently but seemed to be under control. At this point, a door gunner informed SGT Horne and me that the tail rotor had been shot off and that we were experiencing other problems with the hydraulics and aircraft controls. The forward airspeed kept us from an immediate and uncontrollable descent to the ground. The associated aircraft problems and rapid loss of altitude also precluded the execution of the 'school solution' for a missing tail rotor, which called for a running landing on some sort of airstrip. Given that these were the days before helicopters were equipped with collapsible fuel tanks, the risk of a catastrophic explosion upon crash landing was high, and could likely be reduced only with a 'cushioned' crash into triple canopy jungle or into

Continued on pg. 18.



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Hello once again fellow Sky Troopers. It seems like just last week I was sitting here writing the Jan/Feb article. Let's not delay and pull pitch to launch the mail sortie.

"Hank I am looking for info on CW2 John Malloy who was a helicopter pilot with Bravo, 229 from April 1969 until March 21, 1970, when he died from injuries sustained in a March 14, rotor strike that occurred during a re-supply mission for C Troop, 1-9th Cav. I went to high school with John and his wife. I was the last of his friends to see him alive, as I was in Bien Hoa, where he visited me in February 1969. I went home March 8, 1970. Do you remember him? Thanks Steve Atwood, 15th Admin Co., 1st Air Cavalry <kinwood4@yahoo.com>. The incident was in Phuoc Long Province, III Corps., March 14, 1969. The aircraft was a Aircraft: UH-1H tail number 67-17785 <<http://us.mg4.mail.yahoo.com/neo/incident/700314211ACD.HTM>>." John, I did not know CW2 John Malloy. I'm hoping one of the readers will remember. Thanks for writing and sharing.

Hi Hank, it's Joe Mirabella, long time no talk. I hope you and your family are well. I've been reading the column on the web and wanted to write to let you know I had the chance to track down a good friend, Dan Green, after reading about him in your column. I was interested in reading his book *The Red Tavern* but had the darndest time finding the book. It's self published through Lulu.com. I was able to buy a copy, read it and was inspired to find Dan...the last time I spoke with him was over 20 years ago. Anyway after some very good investigative efforts, I was able to e-mail him through his work in San Antonio, Texas - Dan's the secretary of his church. Needless to say our telephone call was very special... we laughed a lot about common experiences we had flying together. He is doing well with some medical issues. We have exchanged some current photos and it seems we have grown a little"...I wonder if the two of us would fit in my H-13 and, if we could, would there be enough power to get off the ground. Anyway, I thought I would drop you a line to say hello and bring you up to date, tell you all is well in Florida and to pass on my hello's to Fred and Bob at the NY-NJ chapter. Stay well Joe." <josephmirabella@hotmail.com>. Great hearing you reconnected with Dan. Good hearing from you.

Roger DeWitt reflected on a Lightning Bug-Firefly mission of yesteryear. I really liked those night "Bug" missions as I was excused from duty the following day. Roger wrote: "I was working as liaison to Brigade until a couple weeks before my rotation. To keep up flight time, I would sometimes ride right seat on the flare (read target) ship. One evening we took heavy fire from a single weapon from one of the villages NE of LZ English near the coast. We continued to drop flares and left our nav lights on bright as the aim became better. Before the guns silenced the action I felt the chink and then the thud of a round directly under my seat. I was sure it had hit the bottom armored plate. Being late and the guns low on fuel, we retired to our pads for the night. We searched under my seat and no penetration, so we laid out under the chin and took off a couple panels until we found the round. It had been a tracer with the lead bouncing off the floor interior and the brass tube for the marker bouncing around inside. We all laughed, especially at me as I vowed never to fly again in my short time. I moved into the bunker after my replacement as LNO took over. Back to that mission; the chief handed me the small lead reminder and I declined and said it was his ship and he would have to patch the damage. It was his. He refused and replied I was at the controls when we were hit and that I had brought the crew home in "almost" one piece. I put it somewhere and lost it over time. A couple of weeks ago, I opened a medal presentation box for my DFC and there was that relic. I've opened that every few years and never noticed it before. Now the mystery over memory. It was a routine mission for the time. There were no discussions or medals awarded and all was forgotten before I left country. Now who did I have as A/C? He was one of the younger pilots who had excelled. Who maintained the ship and who were the gunners. We knew those guys by their first names back then and the rank was pretty liberal until you made O-3. No the EM didn't call us by our first names, but it was often "Sure Mr. D". I look inward at times and realize so much is gone forever. Thankfully faces and names come back easily and I have found some of us again. We didn't lose a Huey to ground fire while I was there even though we did lose a few to other causes. God smiled on us as he tested us (or we tested ourselves). That was an accomplishment I was sure would have me in front of the AG. Roger DeWitt A/229 1967 23rd Arty IIFF 1970, Kiowas In country SIP <hueytaxi@msn.com>".

Carl Buick, O-1 Pilot, E Btry, 82FA, 0-1 pilot, 70-71 <carlbuick@gmail.com> sent a nice short note commenting on the Jan/Feb Wings article. Carl, I enjoyed, thanks.

Steve Buckey sent the Wing mail box an e-note. Those of you who attended the reunion Silver Wings Luncheon will remember Steve as his knowledge, wit and humor entertained us. "I have recently moved to another Safety position, outside of the 1st Cav Div. Mostly due to the current downsizing of the entire military no less. I am now assigned to the 172nd Separate Infantry Brigade, who are stationed out of Grafenwoer, Germany. Myself and the unit are currently deployed in Afghanistan, FOB Sharana and should return this Spring. The unit is under the Regional Command-East, (RC-E) which is headquartered by the 1st Cav Div. Go figure. So, I did not move too far away from my fellow brothers in arms. With the upcoming uncertainty of the two heavy Brigades that are scheduled to disband or move back to the US from Germany, I may be right back in the CAV next year. Too bad, I was looking forward to the German beer. Wishing you well." V/R Steven Buckey, (CW4 Ret.)(1st Cav Div, 2003-2011, 615th ASB, HQ 1CD) Safety Manager Task Force Blackhawk, (172nd Infantry Brigade) FOB Sharana, Paktika, Afghanistan <steven.a.buckey@us.army.mil>.

"Mr. Hank Llewellyn. I live in Lock Haven, Pennsylvania. I am a life member of the 1CDA. I was in the 571st Medical Company (AA) which was under 4/3 ACR out of Fort Carson, Colorado in 1996 and attached to A Co., 215 FSB in DISCOM. I have since learned my old unit has become C 2-227 Aviation Regt, 1 Air Cav Brigade. I am so proud to be affiliated with 1st Cav and find its really

neat how my unit is now assigned to 1CD. I really like your section in the *Saber* as I learned a lot. I hope to hear from you. Thank You and God Bless. Very Respectfully, SSG Kraig Morris, USAR, Ret. <kraigyahoo.com and kraigyahoo.com>." Kraig, thanks for writing. Hope you found the information I provided useful. Perhaps a reader can help as well.

A note from Gene Beyer, "Guys, I have informed most of you that Ron Miller* and I came in the service on the same set of orders, went through basic officers course and Airborne tng at Benning and then went to flight school together. We were stick buddies in advanced portion of flight school flying H-19's and were assigned to 2nd AVN Co. 2nd INF Div out of flight school. What he did was nothing short of a miracle. He covers it well in his book. It is a good read." The book, *Vietnam Special Flight, Inc.* Just made the main page at Google, you can get a brief explanation of the book and order one if you like, the best deal is the paper back at \$14.95---a steal I might add. *Ron Miller, National Advisory Committee, Veterans Business Affairs, U.S. SBA(2002-2011) National Veterans Adviser, National League of POW-MIA Families.

Johnny Hubbs wrote asking for some help with an information request he received at his 229th website. "My name is Randall Horn from Clover, South Carolina. I am seeking information about my uncle, Steve Horn. Uncle Steve passed a few years ago from cancer. I am trying to piece together some history on his service in Vietnam and hoped that maybe you could help, or at least point me in the right direction. Here is what I know, so far. Steve was a pilot, CWO 1, graduating in class 69-3 b1, serving with B/229 AVN. Killer Spade, 1st Air Cav from 69-71. I would like to communicate with anyone who knew and served with him in country. Any help you can give me is greatly appreciated! You may contact me at this e-mail, or any of the following <RHorn2001@aol.com>, (803) 222-5997 or (704) 524-6277 (cell). Thank you again for any help you can provide."



Mr. Horn (photo) served in the United States Army, having served two tours in Vietnam. He was Chief Warrant Officer and received the Bronze Star Medal for Meritorious Achievement in ground operations against hostile forces during the period of April 1969 - April 1970 in the Republic of Vietnam. He received Air Medals for Meritorious Achievement while participating in aerial flight during the period of May 1969 - April 1970 and from June 7, 1971 - September 26, 1971 in the Republic of Vietnam. He received the Distinguished Flying Cross for Heroism while participating in aerial flight on February 3, 1970 in the Republic of Vietnam. Mr. Horn was trained in Helicopter Safety at the University of California Los Angeles. Anyone from the unit during his tour dates, please take a few minutes to contact Randall.

Bill Sindelar <Bucko00@sbc.global.net> sent in the following in reply to a previous request from Marvin Ross. "Read your articles in the *Saber* and always find them interesting. I sent you a picture some time ago of the Caribou with the 17th Aviation Company stationed first at Pleiku and then to An Khe 1966-67. I served with them until the Air Force took them over. I did not see an e-mail address for Marvin Ross. Are you aware of one? I am sending you some of what he requested. I remember well when the Air Force took us over and they complained because we were living in tents! Ha! They came from wooden barracks and showers. I spent time after they took over with the 2nd of the 19th Artillery, until I left for home in 1967. I was at LZ Pony, LZ English, LZ Hammond, LZ Green, LZ X-ray, Bon Son, Oasis, New and old Pleiku and An Khe. Thanks for your articles. I know it does take time to write them among other daily activities. I live outside Cleveland, in a suburb called Parma here in Ohio. Been married for over 40 years now and my old body feels it! Ha! I turned 21 years old a few months after I was honorably discharged in 1967, time did fly by fast. Hope the above pictures will help you and Marvin." Bill thanks for helping out. Hank

I want to thank everyone who sent an e-mail commenting on the Jan/Feb column. Glad you enjoyed reading it. One more piece of information before I shut down this month's flight. Veterans enrolled in the health care system of the Department of Veterans Affairs have begun to receive personalized booklets that explain their health care benefits and contain other useful information. The new booklet, called a *Health Benefits Handbook*, will provide a personalized listing of health benefits based on each Veteran's specific eligibility. The handbook will also have contact information for their local VA medical facilities, appointment scheduling information, guidelines for communicating with their clinical team and, as applicable, information about co-pays. Distribution of the handbooks began in February, with all 8.5 million Veterans enrolled in VA's health care system scheduled to receive their handbooks by 2013. Veterans will receive updates to their handbook to reflect changes to their benefits or eligibility. VA operates 152 medical centers and more than 800 community-based outpatient clinics. Last year, inpatient facilities treated more than 690,000 patients, while outpatient clinics registered more than 79 million visits. For more information about the Health Benefits Handbook, visit www.va.gov/healthbenefits/vhbh or call VA's toll-free number at (877) 222-VETS (8387).

Spring is upon us. Didn't get here soon enough for me. Wishing all well. Until next time, "Clear right!"

Division Doings

Continued from pg. 1.

March.

On April 9, 1942, after the three-month-long Battle of Bataan, 72,000 American and Filipino soldiers were forced to surrender to the Japanese army.

Upon surrendering, prisoners were stripped of their weapons and valuables and ordered to march. Many were beaten, bayoneted and executed. During the six-day march, somewhere between 18,000 and 20,000 prisoners died.

"The march I participated in was nothing like what the soldiers had to go through back in 1942," said Cumming, Georgia native, SPC Justin Larson, a medic assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division. "I grew a respect for the fallen soldiers of Bataan, the 26.2-mile march I did was difficult, but the conditions were much better."

The memorial march was started in 1989 by the Army Reserve Officers' **Continued on pg. 21.**

15th MED/15th BSB



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 (623) 972-4395
 MBodnar27@Juno.Com
<http://15thMedAssociation.Com>

Art Jacobs e-mailed info for the 2012 15th MED Association Reunion and mentions, "I am the Vice President of the Association this year and, at the Reunion in May, will become the President. Here

are the particulars: 15th Med Battalion Association Annual Reunion Dates: 2-6 May, 2012 Place: Cool Springs Marriott Hotel, Franklin, Tennessee Contact: Art Jacobs (MEDEVAC Pilot 1968), Reunion Chairman Telephone: (615) 430-0950 e-mail: <ajacobs@valkyrieconsultinggroup.com>.

Art also posts: "It is with much sadness that I inform you of the death of Marty Walker, age 69, in Sanford, North Carolina. He passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his family on August 25, 2011 after a two-year illness that he handled with strength and grace - qualities we all knew him by in Vietnam. Marty was one of the best pilots and one of the most beloved men in the MEDEVAC Platoon in 1967-1968. I will never forget seeing his smiling face at LZ Jane when I replaced him as he was getting ready to go home. He was proud of what he accomplished and gave to MEDEVAC. He taught us all how to conduct ourselves and to never forget our crewmen. Marty was born in Takoma Park, Maryland, on June 4, 1942 and married his high school sweetheart, Betty Wright, in 1961. After the Army, Marty worked for IBM for 31 years and then ten more years at Stanley Works. In over 40 years of employment, Marty missed only four days of work. He was a long-time volunteer for Habitat for Humanity and in 2007, Marty and his son Duke traveled to Guatemala to help build a church.



Skytroopers assault from LZ Betty, Phan Thiet 1967. Photo by Gary JACOBS B 2-7 Cav '66-'67. <http://pzzzz.tripod.com/LZBetty.html>

Randy Carson, 9484 N. Highway 99 SPC 38, Stockton, CA 95212-1610 writes: "Dear *Saber*, My name is Randolph Byron Carson, Randy for short. I served with 15th MED for one Asian vacation '67-'68. I was a door gunner in An Khe, Vietnam. I was proud to have helped save a lot of lives.

"While there, I met a first sergeant by the name of Pat Swain. We became good friends in a short time. He was the best friend any man could ever have. There was a thing going around between us. He was called 'Papasan' and I was called 'Babysan' because he always looked out after me making sure that I brushed my teeth daily and saved my life. When I came home, he was serving his second tour.

"Sometime later, he called me at my mother's home. He was in an accident and wanted to see me. So I went to Oklahoma where he, his wife and two sons were living. I did not make it in time and my 'Papasan' died in the hospital. It tore a great deal out of me because the only man I ever loved died before I could say goodbye.

"Many years have gone by and even now at sixty-five, I still think of him and his family. I know his two sons would have been proud of their dad.

"If there are any old 15th MED people out there that know Randy Carson, alias 'Babysan,' drop me a line. There was [is] a saying, 'Once CAV, Always CAV'; also, 'If you were not CAV you weren't squat'; only we used another word which was slang for excrement!

"I will always, until I die, remember the only time in my life that I was ever proud of myself. I came from a family of fourteen. Most are dead and I will be next. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of you. Sincerely, Randy 'Babysan' Carson."

Larry G. Hatch <campingout@comcast.net> just signs, "Olympia."

John McFarlane <mophair@aol.com> from Saint Louis, Missouri comments: "My first look at the Website and it's great. Brought back many memories, good and bad. Mostly sadness at losing touch with those who shared such an intense\ insane time. I was a Medic in '67-'68. I'd like to hear from anyone who remembers the lift missions up north and at Phan Thiet, the ammo dump blowing up and English; TET up north, supporting the jarheads, or the times we were hit.

"I can't remember everyone but I flew with Land, Hatcher, Baderschneider, Ruiz, Vining, Dibble, Behm, Wellner, I think Korty also. I was there for part of the time with Crespi and Gibbs. Finally, remember, in Dibble's words, 'You call, we haul, that's all!'"

Letters to the Editor

Continued from pg. 2.

Dear Editor,
 We would like to point out two errors in an article in the last issue about the history of the 2nd Battalion, 19th Field Artillery.

The article states that two days after the attack on FSB Jay, B Battery 2-19 was "located at FSB Illingworth" and that "FSB Jay had been overrun two days earlier". Neither of these statements is true. First of all, FSB Jay was successfully defended. Although there were significant number of American casualties, 13 KIA and 53 WIA*, B 2-19 was still combat ready as were the other units that were on FSB Jay.

Also, B 2-19 moved to FSB Hannas the afternoon of March 29. B 2-19 was on FSB Hannas and fired in support of Illingworth when it was attacked on April 1, but was never on Illingworth.

*Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April, 1970, TAB S: Attack of FSB Jay.

First Team, Mark Moberg and Allen Norris - B Btry., 2-19th FA.

Dear Editor,

This past November at the Veterans Day dinner I had the privilege and honor of sitting next to COL William J. Richardson, U.S. Army (Ret). He told me about his recently published book *Valleys of Death*. It is a detailed account of his experience as a soldier and POW during the Korean War.

Upon returning home, I went to Barnes & Noble and found it in stock.

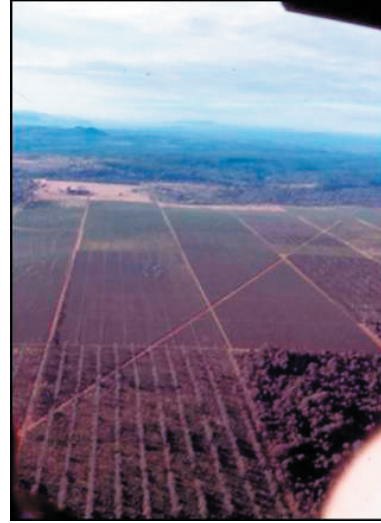
Tim Becker <tbecker@martinmusic.com> says, "Member 15th MED December, '68-December, '69. Air Ambulance Platoon Medic; August, '69-December, '69 attached to 2-7 CAV so CMB could be awarded. I'm still sad from the experience."

David Cooper <dcooper533@comcast.net> of Dallas, Georgia, inquires, "Has anyone heard or had contact with Clay Keyes, crew chief '70-'71 MEDEVAC?"

Mike Taylor <mtaylor@farmersbankgroup.com> in Warren, signs in, "Thank you for your service. Thank you for flying into Hell to get our boys out."

MEDEVAC '69-'70 gunner Dave Parks <shootdown@yahoo.com> notifies, "Devil Dan Wilkerson has passed to Fiddlers Green." Dave says there is a number to call his daughter on the FB 15th MED page or wall, for any information you might need. Contact Dave to clarify.

The first installment of 1st Cav Vietnam reminisces came in from Al Joy: "Surprise Attack (Joy and Price) by Al Joy.



Catecka tea plantation, SW of Pleiku, Oct 1965. Photo from 11th Pathfinders' excellent Vietnam photo history Web page <http://11thpathfindercompany.com/Training%20&%20Deployment%20Photos.htm>.

"We were on the perimeter near what was called the 'Tea Plantation' near Pleiku. It was our first night there and although there was an open area two hundred yards to our right, probably a quarter mile across, there was a line of high brush and scrub trees just twenty-five yards in front of us, which in our minds looked like the ideal spot to infiltrate the line.

"We had pre-dug foxholes, dug with a backhoe, just the width of a backhoe blade, probably three feet wide (just the width of a wooden pallet) and armpit deep, maybe seven to eight feet long with a pile of dirt two and a half to three feet high, behind the hole.

"Our first job was to build a castle wall of sandbags on the front edge of the hole and cover the whole thing with a tarp to deflect any grenades that might be lobbed in. The second phase was to set multiple trip flares, rattle traps and claymores.

"By the time we finished it was dark and we settled in for the night taking two hour shifts. Although the foxhole had water up to our knees, we had bailed out the water dug sump holes and were high and dry (four feet below ground)

thanks to the wooden pallets. I had completed an uneventful shift and had turned the watch over to my buddy and settled into a well earned sleep.

"Suddenly, I was awakened by a burst of automatic M-16 fire and jumped up to face what I believed to be a full attack of at least a battalion of North Vietnamese. When I looked down the barrel of my M-16, I could see that all of our flares and booby traps had been set off. The jungle ahead of us was lit up like a county fair and the guys on both sides of our position for two hundred yards were letting loose like it was a 'mad minute.' I let loose with four magazines killing every shadow and bush that caught my attention and every other trooper on the line for a quarter mile followed suit.

"After a couple of minutes things quieted down and I finally asked what had happened, I was told, 'a cat.' I was really frustrated and lit into my partner about how we had spent all that time camouflaging our position, setting up the wires and positioning the flares so we wouldn't be surprised in the middle of the night and he ruined it all by shooting at a cat.

"When he finally calmed down a bit, he said 'Yeah, but that cat was this big'" indicating a two foot height. It seems that there was just enough light for him to see what he thought was a V.C. crawling towards him on his hands and knees and just as he was about to put him on the 'used to be list,' the cat discovered that what he had been stalking wasn't edible and let out a scream.

"My buddy was so surprised he missed the cat and went ballistic, emptying his rifle. The cat spun around and although he had come through all of our wires, grenades and flares without setting any off, he set them all off on the way out.

"The cat escaped which was probably a good thing. If the SPCA/PETA ever found out we had tried to kill a furry little kitty, they would probably have shut the whole war down."

Always remembering our 1st Cav troops on duty around the world; over and out.

FIRST TEAM! Garryowen, SO THAT OTHERS MAY LIVE

In February, I returned to Fort Benning where it all started for me. The Infantry Museum was everything I had heard and more. On display was the Davy Crockett nuclear weapon which had been assigned to my mortar platoon and at the time Top Secret. To my knowledge it is the only nuclear weapon assigned to battalion level and intended for use in a tactical situation. Over the years I have asked many former military men if they were familiar with the weapon and no one was. We only fired it one time on a range at Fort Benning using HE rounds. There were two Davy Crockett's and the one on display is the larger, XM-29, the other was designated XM-28. One thing we always joked about was the maximum range of 3,500 meters and the bursting radius of 3,500 meters. We decide if we ever fired it we would take one step back. At the time our unit was the 2-23 INF/2nd Infantry Division (1963) which was the precursor to the 11th Air Assault Test Division (1964) which was the precursor to the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) (1965).

Garryowen, William D. Carson

New Members Listing

Continued from pg. 14.
 PV2 WALSH, II, JOSEPH W. NY 4BCT 1202
 PFC WELTER, STEWART TX A 2-82FA 1010
 SPC WHITTAKER, LUCAS M. TX 4BCT 1202
 2LT WILLIAMS, CHARLES TX C 2-12C 1105
 SGT WILSON, RICKY A. TX A 2-82FA 1001
 SSG WILSON, VIRGIA R. TX HHC 4BCT 0909
 SSG WINSTON REGINALD TX A 2-82FA 1002
 SPC YOUNG, GREGORY TX B 2-82FA 1202



20th and 79th Artillery Regi-



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 Parrish, FL 34219-9200
 (941) 776-8704
 WBWilder@charter.net
 www.AraAssociation.Com/



Mail Call is active again! I received an e-mail from Alan Olsen who flew in A Btry 2-20 in 1966-67. The e-mail was address to Cecil Hengeveld. I include pertinent parts here for your reading. He enclosed the following photos taken during his tour of duty with A Btry, 2-20th ARA, in 66-67.



Olsen is standing outside his platoon hooch next to the sign listing all the pilots in the 3rd platoon. Cecil Hengeveld, an active member of the Aerial Rocket Artillery Association, whose name also appears on the sign as one of the WO1, retired as a Brigadier General of the Pennsylvania National Guard.

Olsen talks of a particular mission to Phan Thiet. Teams of two at a time took off, planning fuel stops enroute. To Olsen it was another flight over a beautiful countryside.

He relates that as they approached Phan Thiet, (then platoon leader) CPT Herb Hirst radioed to the flight that he had to go to the bathroom and wanted him to fly cover. (Herb informed me by phone that he had taken the weekly malaria pill and he really had to go!). Mother Nature will have her way! As they neared the coastline, Herb



UH-1 in flight to PhanThiet

dove for the beach and told us to arm up and fly cover. So in enemy territory, with which we were not familiar, he landed and sprinted from the helicopter to the sand dunes. We flew vigilant cover as we had on any other mission. We were the only cover and help they had. Alan recalled thinking to himself that they were all going to get killed because Herb had to go. After a few minutes he returned the favor, letting my crew land while he covered us. He states, "We were in and out as fast as we could, looking around for the bad guys coming over the sand dunes." All in all, it took only 10 minutes for that complete action.

Alan's Aircraft Commander at Phan Thiet was LT Monroe "Monty" Balton; call sign Armed Falcon 29 Echo. Alan stated that he learned much from him and attributed much of his flying skills and success to Monty's instructions. Monroe "Monty" Balton separated from the Army and became an attorney for the Federal Aviation Agency in California.



Olsen's helicopter on the beach

Olsen left in 1967, completing his tour of duty in the Dak To area. He further stated, "We were

getting the hell shot out of us and I had just a couple weeks left. The morning that I found .50 cal holes in my rotor blade, I went to my commander and asked to fly combat service support missions. He let me spend my last two weeks flying troops and supplies out of Pleiku to Dak To."

Alan then flew CH-34's and Hueys in Germany on border patrol in 1968. He received orders back to Vietnam a year later and transitioned into the AH-1G Cobra enroute. His second tour of duty was with the 7-17 Cav at Pleiku serving as unit IP.

Alan left the Army in January 1970, took advantage of the GI Bill to finish college and earned several fixed wing ratings, did some civilian helicopter and fixed wing flying for a few years afterwards, with his last helicopter flying for ARCO oil in Alaska.

He retired from teaching woodworking/metalworking for 27 years in 2000, re-married, and moved to New Hampshire, where he taught for another 6 years. Now fully retired, he, like the rest of us wonders how he ever had time to work.

Alan thanks for sharing your story. I find it interesting that you followed me

in ARA in 1966 and again in 1969 with the 7-17 Air Cav Squadron at Pleiku.

I know that there are stories out there that need to be recorded for our members. My mailbox is waiting for yours. Please put pen to paper and tell your stories.

Now, let us continue our coverage of the operations of the battalion where we left off at the Battle of LZ Bird in Dec of 1966 in the Sep/Oct 2011 issue. In 1967, the battalion continued a vigorous civic action program with emphasis on schools, medical aid and long-range civic improvement programs. This was a joint effort with the communities providing the labor and those materials within their resources and battalion providing material and technical support.



ARA Gunships at Bong Son



CH-47 Chinook "Guns-A-Go-Go"

Operation PERSHING actions throughout 1967. During the year the unit added the mortar aerial delivery system to its arsenal. The 81-mm mortars were used on interdiction targets with canopy cover. By the end of the year the battalion had fired 500,000 rockets since arriving in Vietnam. For actions by the 2nd of the 20th ARA Battalion from December 6-10, 1967, the battalion was awarded the Valorous Unit Citation. The citation read "the officers and men of the battalion displayed extraordinary valor in accomplishing all assigned tasks in the face of almost certain death." The battalion's aircraft flew at ground level between the division's forces and the enemy, providing a screen for the Skytroopers to withdraw so heavy artillery could destroy the enemy bunkers.

On December 29, 1967 at 1740 hours an UH-1B #64-14034 from Charlie Battery was lost to hostile fire near Quang Nam. The aircraft crashed and burned in the water. Lost in the crash were Aircraft Commander WO Larry R. Doyle, Pilot WO Ronnie H. Beals, Crew chief PFC Lupe P. Lopez, and door gunner Corporal Clifton Henson. The aircraft was in a combat support mission. During the approach to the target area, they received a large volume of 7.62mm fire that hit the fuselage numerous times causing them to crash into the water.

Again, I remind all members of our approaching fifteenth (15th) Annual ARA Reunion to be held May 23-27, 2012, at the Benson Hotel in Portland, Oregon. Herb and Cindy Hirst are our host this year and have planned a great reunion for us. There will be time for two exciting guided tours. The first on Thursday to the North Oregon Coast to Cannon Beach with its sandy beaches, galleries, and shops, and then on to the Tillamook Cheese Factory and Tillamook Forest Visitors Center. The second on Friday along the Columbia River Gorge to Crown Point, Multnomah Falls Lodge and Bonneville Dam and Fish Hatchery, Numerous sightseeing opportunities for all, plenty of good food, and the opportunity to renew old friendships and make new ones.

I am working with Herb and Cindy on getting a confirmation on our guest speaker. We have three people who are busy and are coordinating their present schedules to determine their availability. Either way we go, you will be glad you came. The message each one has will be a meaningful listening experience to anyone who served in ARA. Mark your calendars and let's meet in the ARA Hospitality Suite, The Benson Hotel, 309 Southwest Broadway, Portland, on Wednesday, May 23, 2012. Remember that this is an election year and we will be voting for a new Board of Directors. See you there!

LRRP News

Continued from pg. 15.

a body of water, such as the South China Sea. As I recall, at least one or two of the helicopter crew members were non-swimmers so we quickly ruled out the water landing. It finally came down to attempting an autorotation without the benefit of a tail rotor over a nearby beach area."

"The odds for injury or death were high but we had great confidence in the skills of the pilot, 1LT John Othmer, of Spokane, Washington and co-pilot (identity unknown). We also switched to the distress radio frequency, 44.44, to report our situation and probable crash location. Luck was with us, our call was picked-up by MG Tolson, Division Commander, who was conducting an air assault operation in a nearby AO. He assured us he was coming to our aid."

"At about 350 feet altitude, our airspeed dropped to a point where the helicopter went into an uncontrollable spin and crashed to the ground. Upon return to consciousness, I discovered that we had crashed on the beach just east of Dam Tra-O Lake northeast of the Nui Mieu Mountains, approximately 8 kilometers northeast of LZ Uplift. The helicopter was on fire but the fuel tanks had not yet exploded. Also, the main rotor blade had hit the ground in a manner that sent the aircraft's transmission through the tail boom and not through the passenger compartment. I was unable to breathe or move much of anything below my neck. SGT Horne pulled me clear of the crash to avoid being caught in a fuel tank explosion. As he turned to assist the others, he collapsed and I believe he became paralyzed. At this point, gunfire and rockets suddenly erupted as MG Tolson landed a reaction force [to keep the enemy soldiers away from the crash site]."

"LT Othmer and I were initially medevaced to LZ Uplift and then onto the 67th Evac Hospital in Qui Nhon for evaluation and treatment. Both LT Othmer and I were diagnosed with broken backs and some paralysis, and were transferred to Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines, and then

on to the 249th General Hospital in Tokyo, Japan. The medical developments of the co-pilot and the two door gunners are largely unknown. SGT Horne was believed to have been evacuated to Hawaii where he underwent surgery and was then sent on to a stateside hospital and discharged to a VA hospital in Arkansas. In any case, I am hopeful that all of the crew members and SGT Horne were not badly injured and were able to experience a decent quality of life. I know I owe SGT Horne my sincerest thanks for his assistance which may have contributed to the severity of his own injuries. I believe that MG Tolson received a valor award for his rescue efforts while being under fire. Further, I was saddened to hear that CPT Tucker was killed shortly after this incident while doing a commo check for another LRRP team."

"Needless to say, I recovered from my injuries and eventually returned to the 1st Cav in Vietnam in time to command a rifle company in the 2-12th Cavlry coming out of Cambodia. This time, however, I completed my 12-month tour of duty and made it back safely to the land of the big PX."

On a slightly different note, I want to thank everyone for responding to Bill Carpenter's e-mail requesting input on the proposed design of a unit insignia with Crossed Sabers, or Crossed Infantry Rifles. As mentioned in the e-mail, the LRRP/Ranger unit is one of the few units of the 1st Cav during the Vietnam War that does not have one. As we understand it, the reason is simple. At the end of the war, the LRRP/Ranger unit was inactivated and there were not enough Cav Veterans wanting to buy a LRRP/Ranger unit insignia, so the souvenir shop never stocked them. We would like to change that now. Your e-mail responses came in almost two-to-one in favor of the Crossed Sabers with "LRRP" above them and nothing below them. The Crossed Infantry Rifles with "75" on top and "H" below came in second. We are working with the souvenir shop to get these insignias ordered and ready for the reunion in Oregon.

RANGERS LEAD THE WAY

82nd FA News



"Can and Will"
Dan Gillotti
4204 Berkeley Drive
Sheffield Village, OH 44054
(440) 934-1750
FirstCav68@Roadrunner.Com

a Battalion FDO with 1-30th FA in March-June '68. We suspect he was transferred to another unit, possibly to take command of a Btry in a DS battalion, or possibly transferred to DIVARTY. I know he was in the Captain's Field Artillery Career Course at Fort Sill in late '69 to early '70. In Vietnam he always talked about buying a powder-blue Jaguar Convertible when he got home. When I last saw him at Fort Sill in 1970, he was driving a powder-blue Jaguar Convertible. Please contact me with any info you may have.

Condolences: I was forwarded the following e-mail from Peter O'Brien.



82 FA members of the 1940 DIVARTY Football Team

was retired in Hartfield, Virginia, with his wife, Linda. They both had careers at Iowa State University. Also, Bill Thomason received an e-mail on 11 February 12, from Carolyn West. Carolyn is the wife of SP5 Jackie West, E-82nd FA and she informed us that Jackie passed away. Jackie was an OH-13 and UH-1 Crewmember from July '67 to July '68. He resided in Franklin, North Carolina. Our sincere condolences go out to both the Boyatzies and West families.

E Btry, 82nd Arty Vietnam: I received this story from Bill Thomason titled, *One on One with Night Hawk on the night the VC Sappers paid a visit to Camp Gorvad, Phuoc Vinh Vietnam Late Summer 1969.* "The following story was provided by Jon Snowgren who was a pilot of a "Night Hawk" helicopter. In '69 a hunter-killer team concept for protecting Camp Gorvad was formed with an armed UH-1 Helicopter from E-82nd Arty escorted by an AH-1G Cobra from B-2-20th FA, more commonly referred to as "Blue Max". The Night Hawk flew "black out" at 400 feet, patrolling the AO at 40 knots. The mission was to identify the enemy with the Infra-red searchlight (we called it Star Light Scope) and then "mark" the enemy targets with a 50,000 watt Xenon searchlight. One night a Night Hawk was returning after patrolling AO. With the lights of the base camp in sight, Night Hawk received a call that there was movement near one of the bunkers on the east perimeter of the base camp. The request was for the Night Fighters to make a pass over the area and see if they could spot any activity. The reported activity was outside the wire in the location of the approach end of the Phuoc Vinh runway between which was located the E-82nd FA operations shack, barracks and mess hall. With clearance from the tower, Night Hawk made a pass over the area at about 400' altitude with the light in Infra-red mode. Nothing unusual was seen, but the guys on duty in the bunkers were quite persuasive in their story of hearing movement in the wire. The Night Hawk crew decided to descend and use the white light at a 20 knot slow and 30' low pass just outside of the wire looking in toward the bunkers. The dim lights of the base camp located just beyond the rubber trees flickered on and off as Night Hawk flew along the perimeter wire. On this pass the crew noticed a dark bundle of something. Climbing higher to make another pass from a better view point the crew spotted



E Btry, 82 Arty Night Hawk 1969

a VC Sapper naked and in the wire with a rack of B-40 rockets strapped to his back and a launcher cradled over his right arm, about 40 yards from the bunker. He was too close to the bunker to use the Night Hawk's mini-gun for fear of endangering the well-being of the troops in the bunker. The crew quickly decided that on the next pass Night Hawk would use the white light to mark the target and the guys in the bunker would engage the target. Ka Boom! A secondary explosion from the B-40 rockets on the Sappers back

82nd FA News: Happy Easter! May God bless all of our 82nd FA Regiment Troopers and bring them and all of our 1st Cav Troopers safely home.

Wanted: We are still looking for CPT "Bill" Potts who was

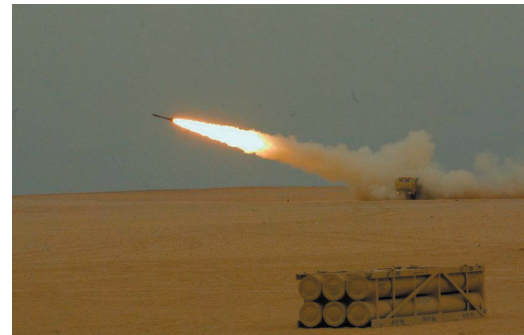
"The 1955 Red Raider Football Team sadly notes the passing of half-back Eleftherios "Ted" Boyatzies, whom was a member of Battery B, 82nd FABattalion. The Red Raider Football Team was TDY to the 61st FA for rations and hospitality. Ted

rocked the perimeter and lit up the night sky. Knowing now that if there is one VC in the wire then there were many who intended to follow. Night Hawk climbed to the standard operating altitude of 400 feet and the light man began his search with the light in Infra-red mode now looking down at a field of one to two foot tall grass that had grown up over the cleared area between the perimeter wire and the distant tree line. Meanwhile, because of the close proximity of friendly troops, the village buildings to the south and out of concern for the safety of the guys on the green line Blue Max elected to land and call it a night. The first target was spotted almost immediately and the beam of the light hit the ground like an explosion. It was now Night Hawks job to deter the threat and secure the perimeter. The mini-gun gave a deafening two second burst. A solid stream of tracers impacted the spot where a dark clump of camouflaged VC lay at the end of a clear and pronounced trail through the grass. It was Bunker One and Night Hawk One and the road map for success was clear. All Night Hawk had to do was find a trail through the grass that lead from the tree line toward the perimeter and shoot the dark clump at the end of the trail. It was all over in a matter of 15 to 20 minutes. There were no new trails leading from the tree line to the bunkers and no VC at the end of a trail that was still moving. To the knowledge of the crew no return fire was ever received and Night Hawk took no hits. When first light came the Night Hawk crew took advantage of something they had never had an opportunity to do before. They walked through the wire and onto the field of grass and bid farewell to the enemy warriors that had given their life for their cause. Years later the AC of the Night Hawk met a senior official of the Vietnamese government who had been an Anti-Aircraft Battalion CO of the North Vietnamese Army and whose responsibility it was to shoot down the American aircraft over North Vietnam. The two became quite close over a two year period and from time to time they would share their story and emotions over a couple of drinks. When asked for the reason why North Vietnam was fighting in the South the answer came from the old commander, "because the Americans had invaded the South." and when asked for the reason why America fought in Vietnam, the answer came from the Night Hawk AC, because we were told that the North Vietnamese were invading the South." CW2 Jon Snowgren can be contacted at: <snowgren@gmail.com>. Article assembled and submitted to Dan Gillotti by Bill Thomason.



A Btry, 1-82 training in Kuwait

point, the Dragons have assumed duties within ARCENT, transitioning from their role as Infantrymen back to their traditional role of Artillerymen. Over the course of a few days, the Soldiers of 1-82 FA reorganized into firing batteries, pulled the Battalion's equipment from the draw yard in Kuwait and started artillery training. One week later, the Dragons fired their first rounds, completely recertifying the Battalion Howitzer and FDC sections. The Battalion again reorganized into an artillery Task Force when C Battery 1-94 FA (HIMARS), from the 75th Fires Brigade at Fort Lewis was attached. Task Force Dragon assisted ARCENT by training and evaluating a sister artillery battalion, the 1-125 FA, 1-34th Infantry Division (MNARNG). The Soldiers and NCO's of Task Force Dragon demonstrated what proper artillery training looked like from the Soldier level on up to



C Btry, 1-94 HIMARS training in Kuwait

the Platoon Leader and Platoon Sergeant level to their Artillery brothers. In the first 60 days in Kuwait, Task Force Dragon certified 28 Howitzer sections (12 National Guard) and 8 HIMARS launcher section, combined firing over 1200 rounds of 155mm and over 40 rockets. In addition to the training of our own Soldiers, the Battalion established a "military to military" partnership with the Kuwaiti Land Forces Artillery Brigade, rebuilding relationships with the Kuwaiti Army. The phenomenal work of our Soldiers has truly set the standard for operations in the Ironhorse Brigade

as we continue our mission in Kuwait. CAN AND WILL! POC for this article is CPT Timothy Martin, Commander of A/1-82 FA.

Maybe someone will send me a few pictures (hint-hint) and a really good story about your darling escapades on the field of battle! Keep in mind that at least 51% of your stories must be true!

Can and Will ~ Sir!

Crossed Sabers Chapter Souvenir Shop

P.O. Box 5774
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FAX: 254-532-6490

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<www.crossedsabers-chapter-giftshop.com>

The Crossed Sabers Chapter Souvenir Shop is a non-profit organization. Net income is distributed to the Association for application to the Scholarship Program and other ongoing programs as needed, to the Soldier Travel Fund which allows active duty soldiers of the Division to attend away Reunions as guests of the Association, to the 1st Cavalry Division Museum and to fund other activities for the Troopers and families of the 1st Cavalry Division Association. The manager, Michelle Wolfe, accepts telephone orders with payment by MASTERCARD, VISA or DISCOVER credit cards or you can order on-line using credit cards. **Printed catalogs are available for \$3.00 from the Association, 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703. Make your check out to 1st Cavalry Division Association.**

Thank you for supporting the Souvenir Shop and the Troopers of the 1st Cavalry Division Association.



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ENGINEER News


Jesse Crimm
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up, take over their bar, charge the tab to them, crash in their rooms, track sand into the lobby of the fancy hotel, pop smoke and then de-de mau the grid square! Your initial point of contact for all this fun is Jim Bowers, <jjb77faregt@aol.com>. In honor of the Arty, we Engineers offer these joint ops pictures.



Joint Engineer/Artillery Operations

The VA Sucks: We would all agree each having our horror stories. However, one of our brothers, Robert Tagge, has a list of dozens of VA web site sources for you to use to get what you deserve. (Notice that statement can be taken two ways so use your resource wisely.) Bob will send you the extensive list. Contact him at <rwtagge@gmail.com>.

Another Dirt Pusher Shoves In: From the liberally frozen northland of Michigan, Bob Denton met roll call. In response to recent articles, Bob states that he served with Bill Bennett, Bobby Bright and James Kendricks in the '67-'68 period. Bob presently is assisting Vets in need of trauma therapy using a ministerial approach. He recommends the book *War and Soul* by Ed Tick. Bob can be reached at (231) 258-8477. Scotty Olson if you are reading this call Bob.

Our Favorite Phrase—R&R: This rich story is contributed by our own Don Manville. "I was at LZ English and after 10 months in Vietnam, I finally got my turn to go on R&R. Not many choices as the officers had first choice for the best places. However, Hong Kong is what I ended up with. I believe it was 4 days and 3 nights. On the flight from Saigon, I had met a bunch of guys from another outfit and they were all from New Jersey. Once we arrived at the processing point, you were called up by rank to pick places to stay based on availability. So all the officers were getting first choice of the best hotels! Since I didn't have my rank on my uniform, I waited until they got to the lieutenants and I got in line. I picked the Park Hotel in Kowloon. No one seemed to notice me. The Park Hotel is a top hotel and was super nice. The first day I took the Star ferry over to the Army/Navy PX. Not sure what it was called but it was several floors of things to buy that the military had checked to be sure you were getting good stuff for a reasonable price so you didn't have to buy from street vendors and get ripped off. I got a little carried away buying stereo equipment and things for my wife. They would also pack and send it home for you. I didn't have much money as most of my pay was sent home every month (before credit cards). Within a few hours I had spent almost every dollar I had. I made a call home asking my wife to wire some money to the Case bank. She tried but I never received it. I had enough money for the next day but by then I was down to just a couple dollars. While walking the streets I ran into the bunch from New Jersey. They were all Italians and were looking for an Italian Restaurant to go to. They asked me to come along but I said I couldn't. They told me to come along and it was on them! We had a great Italian meal. My last night in Hong Kong I went into the Hotel Bar and asked the bartender what I could get to eat for the \$1.36 I had. He told me a cheese sandwich and a beer. Just as I finished the sandwich, a group of Merchant Marines came in. One asked me if I was on R&R from Vietnam and I told him I was. He ordered more beer and told me I couldn't buy anything that night as long as I wanted to stay! Upon my return to LZ English I was sent to the 1st Cav Headquarters in An Khe for a special assignment. That's another story!"

Roll Call Formation: Thanks to Steve Richey the following Engineers are either accounted for or need to check in before the First Sergeant puts you on S burning detail.

SGT Tom Guitierrez - last seen in Bakersfield, California, Guy Patterson - rumored to be a Bud brewmaster in Florida, Doug Chase - Dug up from under the streets of Boston subway, Mike VanGordon - no longer cuts hair but retired from chopping down delinquent tax payers for the IRS in Kansas City, Missouri, Lynn Titus - rounds up for the Cowboys in Dallas, K. C. Jones - also steers his way around Texas, Ratcliffe - same same only for the Panthers in North Carolina, Al Fursa - missing but not forgotten, Paul Smith - combined his Engineer and artist skills by becoming an Arch A Tech somewhere on the east coast, CPT Betteridge - builds McMansions and other structures on the east coast, Mike Lapansky - last seen waving his terrible Steeler towel in Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania, Herm Wright - digs for subsidized green energy oil wells in Houston, Texas, Ron Powell - was last seen walking over a hill in The Dells, Wisconsin, SGT Hart and CPT Sheehy - are missed but not forgotten, SGM Salazar - digging foxholes in El Paso, Texas we think, Doc Stone and LT Brown -- missing but not forgotten, Tayler - became a recruiter of all things, Little Joe - has had a whole and term life career in insurance, Dave Morken - should be in the new 1st Cav group in Nevada as he lives in Laughlin. Wonder what his deal is? Has anyone seen Gibson? Steve Richey concluded his inquiry by stating "I wonder what happened to all the guys... did they do OK in life... have they faired well? I'm sure most did. Hell, after you make it through Nam, it's a cakewalk. I like to talk to them, not so much to reminisce, but I do like to know if their lives turned out well. We did spend quite a bit of time together. Often it was intense living. The prevailing thing about all of us is we're introverted. Few of us want to spend much time talking about Vietnam and for lots of good reasons. The few times I have found someone I spent time with in Vietnam, has been good. There's a connection there, not found in nearly all other friendships. We never talked about the war, but we did talk about some of the guys and the funny things that happened...and there were a lot of those."

Thank You From All Us Engineers: Peter Macfarlane of Kitty Hawk, North Carolina sent me six pictures of us in action in WWII. Peter was in B Troop of

the 5th Cav from 1942 to 1945. In his words: "These pictures were given to me in the 1980's by a former officer from the 8th Engineers whom I first met at an auction in Dutchess County, New York. He was from the city of Catskill, New York. At my age, 91, I have forgotten his name. In WWII, the only contact I had with the 8th Engineers was once our platoon from B Troop, 5th Cav made a patrol ahead of our advance in Batangas Province, Luzon, Phillipines to secure a bridge on a vital road going north from San Pablo. We had one squad of 8th Engineers with us to remove any explosives set to destroy the bridge. We had got there in time as the explosives were all in place (big yellow blocks of Picric Acid) that the engineers deactivated and removed. We set up a defensive perimeter and waited till the general advance caught up with us." I sent the pictures on to Dennis Webster for inclusion in our 1st Cav Museum. Guess What? Sure enough there is a Cat Dozer, a Bailey Bridge and Pontoons all included in the photos. Almost every picture has local labor working beside the soldiers. That is what we now call Contracting. Unfortunately, the present picture quality does not lend itself to reproduction in newsprint. So go to the Museum and whisper a thank you for Peter Macfarlane. (Yes it's spelled correctly per specific instruction from the Pete man himself.)

In Broad Daylight: One day, David Williams was so weary of being grubby that when the water tanker rolled up he stripped and turned the hose on himself with God and anybody else watching, including perhaps the hooch girls. That was one story David told on himself when he called from New Jersey. David was a former 11B that took a re-enlistment to get into HHC of the Engineers in 1969. SSG Delk was his re-enlistment NCO who granted David a 30 day leave. During that time, David went back to the world, met his correspondence girl friend for the first time, married her on the spot and 41 years later still has the same ring on his finger. David is not doing too well having survived a stroke but manages to keep in touch via the 1st Cav web site. If Billy Ray Brock or Ricky Picklesteiner (that's right Picklesteiner) are reading this, please call David at (856) 769-0913. Getting into the Engineers did not stop rockets from occasionally interrupting his days in An Loc and Quan Loy. During one attack, David went head first into a perimeter hole only to meet a couple of other guys already there. Somehow they got untangled and lived to tell the story. If your coffee ever tasted funny, it was because David and some others may have loaded it up with the required malaria tablets that you refused to take otherwise. At any rate, Welcome Home David and keep posting on the web site.

The Seasons Over But The Thought Remains: You are reading this in April, 2012 and the last football season has ended. Perhaps you have thought what do we Vets and Tim Tebow have in common? Other than a few million dollars in loose change, we share enough to warrant space in this paper. In one sentence, Tim and I have come to understand that there was, is and will be God. Yes, the liberal press can rant all they want but we know better and it's time to push back. It's real simple. For those of us who have survived the human wreckage of war, we know we have been set aside for some purpose in the here and now. We may still be working on that purpose, even seeking it, but we know it's here. Tim gets it in the same way without the bullets and bows to our mutual Creator. Tim and we know that football is not important. What we do for the good of others counts for more than 1,2,3 or 6 points in the game of life. Now get out there and help fellow vets! Need a push in a direction? Try Purple Heart Homes. If you can hit a nail with a hammer you just qualified to help. Are you aware and concerned that a third or more of all homeless men are vets? Looking for a way to help? Try visiting <veteransinneedfoundation.org> for starters.

Observation Post Assignment: Who noticed the two separate grammar errors in the Nov/Dec, 2011 Engineer News section? Hint #1: You just got a hint in the previous sentence. Hint#2: It's a past and present verb tense disagreement in the same sentence. A prize awaits the 23rd person to respond to this query. Ok, Ok, maybe the 3rd person will do. No, it's not a trick. The quiz and prize are real.

We Read You 5x5: From off the pages of our web site, Mike Schwering decided to give a call. Mike lives in Colusa, Illinois and served during 1969-1970. Mike said he was no hero but we were all heroes in a small way. Tony Lockhart was his squad leader as the two of them shared the joy of Tay Ninh and LZ's Grant, Carolyn and Becky.

Search And Rescue: Mike Brothers of Vermilion, Ohio, (440) 670-1325 is looking for SSG Richard Howard of Philadelphia. Mike and Richard served together in HHC, Maintenance Platoon, Camp Evans, 1969.

From The Web Site: Donald Marchand of Biddeford, Maine posted that he served in HHC during 1966 in the water purification section of supply. His sergeant was "The Stick" Tomsick and his three pals were John Thomas from South Point, Ohio, Johnson from Hartford, Connecticut and Womble. Don honors his lost cousin LT Labonte who also served in the Engineers. Don also states that another of our Engineers, Juan Cintron was present at the LZ where LT Labonte was lost. Those who wish to contact Donald may do so at (207) 467-1683.

From The Web Site II: Claude Parker was kind enough to respond and chat a bit. Claude had quite a journey during his '67-'69 tour in C Company attached to the 3rd Brigade. Hue, Khe Shan, Ashau, Quan Loy, TET and Fish Hook were all known to him. If Curtis Bocchi, John Kochan, or SSG Mendenhall are reading this, please contact Claude via the web site or through this column. Engineers are creative. One night when Parker and his friend Brown could not find a seat at a movie, Brown popped a CS canister to clear the place out. Front row seats became available. On April Fools Day, Claude became a part of a major operation. All the brigades converged onto the hilltops and into the valleys between. Even MG Tolson visited the engineers to ensure they had enough C4 and chain saws to clear the area so the 105s could be dropped in. One night the "leadership" took up all the ID tags and cut the US off uniforms. It seems like an incursion into Laos was to be done by unknown troops carrying M16s and eating C Rats. True to form, the artillery blasted away for a couple of weeks then all were jerked out for yet another mission. Thanks for checking in Claude. Contact Claude at <coparker49@gmail.com>.

Is Your Name Here? Bill Arasz of Lakewood, New Jersey, whom we have heard from before, continues to look for his buddies from '67 to '68 mainly SGT Henderson and Gilligan (Slick as he was known). Also, Ed Gaines, Bob Haff, Garry Rousso, Sam Bellow, Jimmy Kendricks, Bill Bennett and Bob Comer are among those recently attending a reunion of Engineers. (WAIT A MINUTE! Why do the names Kendricks and Bennett keep surfacing? ---See the Dirt Pusher **Continued on pg. 23.**

545th MP COMPANY



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Greetings Fellow 545th MPs

It is my sad duty to inform you that on November 12, 2011, MSG Waymond Shepherd who served with the 545th MP Company in Vietnam as both Platoon Sergeant and Desk Sergeant from 1966 until 1967 passed away in Nashville, Tennessee. Shep is survived by his wife Judith, sons Allen W. and Karl L. Shepherd and sister, Julia Bell. Burial was at Mount Olivet Cemetery on November 16. Shep was one of our founding Association members and a great supporter of the association. Heaven will surely be a better place now that he is there. May he rest in peace.



MSG (Ret) Waymond Shepherd

I am extremely humbled to be associated with troopers such as all of you and even more so to be allowed to operate and manage our organization with your blessings and approval.

In June of this year, I will be 68 years young. Occasionally, I feel my age – especially when I rise in the morning, but the minute I sit down at my desk, I am taken back in time to when I was a very young Captain and commanded the best damned MP Company in the US Army and I feel like a young man again! My wife, Pam, always says that I shuffle off to work in the morning to my office and when I come back to the kitchen for my second cup of coffee I've got a spring in my step. Well – that's very true!

With the passing of MSG Waymond Shepherd, the realization hit me that we can't all live forever. We have lost all of our WW II 545th veterans and most of the Japan and Korea veterans and the Vietnam veterans are beginning to go as well. I'll just bet that Saint Peter has a 545th MP on the gate in Heaven! One of the main reasons that we stood up the Association was to preserve our unit history and collect as much information, documents and photos that we could while we still had veterans from days gone by that could provide such information. We have been very successful with that. The MP Museum and the MP Historians office has more artifacts, photos and documents on file for the 545th MP Company than all the other MP units in the US Army combined!

Our Old Timers Honor Guard is well known Army wide and our award winning web site is viewed by not only our members but staffers in the Combined Joint Chiefs office and the PMGs office as well as MP from other units (to include Marine Corps MPs) as well.

The association now has a contract of sale for 361 acres in Missouri where, hopefully, we will build our unit home! We already have responses from two very large organizations that inform us that our prospectus is being reviewed with the possibility of providing us funding to purchase this property.

I've probably got another four or five good years left in me and I don't want to waste a minute of it. My goal during that time is to double our current membership and have the Camp Cunningham property purchased and buildings coming up out of the ground at that location. Once we get the main gate shack, the MP Station, motor pool and our new Headquarters building completed, I can turn the association over to some new blood – hopefully a very young Captain or Major that has some years left on him (or her).

None of this could have been or be possible without the support that I have received from all of you! What a superb group of people you are! Typical of 545th MPs! As ISG Bill Sykes used to say "even the 545th F__k ups are better than any MP from any other unit in the Army!"



COL (Ret) Robert K. Byrd

With all of this in mind, I would hope that you would contact any 545th veterans that you know who are not yet members of our association and direct them to our web site to sign in, keep those photos, documents and artifacts coming and above all continue to support the association financially!

I soon expect to have photos and other documents from COL (Ret) Robert K. Byrd's retirement and will share them with you as soon as I have them. Robert was the 2nd Platoon leader of the 545th during Desert Storm and the 1CD PM during OIF II and one of our founding members. Robert also served as our second Association Commandant and was

extremely helpful with setting up our web site. The MP Corps lost a good man when Robert retired.

Our very own LTC Madeline T. Bondy, who is currently the PM at Fort Rucker, Alabama has received her deployment orders for the Sandbox. As most of you know, Maddy was a Platoon Leader and later the XO in the 545th MP Company from 1987-1990 at Fort Hood, Texas. She also deployed with the 545th to Europe during Operation Reforger. We wish her much luck with this new assignment and look forward to hearing from her upon her arrival over there.



SFC (Ret) Robert Williams

SFC (Ret) Robert Williams, who served with the 3rd Platoon in the 545th MP Company at An Khe and Camp Evans, Vietnam from 1967 until 1968 has postponed his back surgery until he gets another opinion, but is receiving injections to control his pain.

SSG (Ret) Katherine E. Knobel is finally getting some tests to determine exactly what all her new medical problems are and how they can be treated. Kate served in the 545th from 2000-2005 at Fort Hood and Iraq and is on our Association Staff as our Casualty NCO. Both Kate and her Husband MAJ Tom Knobel have been very big supporters of our association. Tom arrived home from his deployment a few days ago and of course Kate is very happy about that. Tom is our Association Air Operations Officer.

SSG (Ret) Warren E. Sessler who served with the 545th MP Company in the Motorcycle Squad/Traffic Platoon at Camp Crawford, Japan from 1954 until 1956 is back up and running for the Association after all his Chemo Therapy and surgeries. He is currently touring various military trade shows in search for artifacts for the association. Warren is our PIO NCO and Liaison to the MP Museum. You can't keep a good 545th MP down for long!



SSG (Ret) Warren E. Sessler

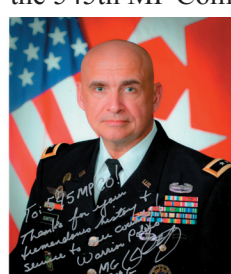
Sp-4 Michael L. Shinall who served with his wife, SP-4 Billie Jo Shinall in the 545th MP Company at Fort Hood, Texas from 1974 until 1976 is home from the VA hospital with his failed liver. He is on the list for a donor transplant and our prayers go out to him and his family that they soon find one! Mike was in surprisingly good spirits when I spoke with him on the phone.

Let's all keep these 545th MPs on our personal prayer list! I know our Chaplain will add them to the Monthly prayer list.

Another month is upon us and that brings with it the new monthly bills and expenses normally incurred by our association. On top of that I would like to continue to send out info packets to prospective Corporate Donors and that means additional printing and postage costs. If you can spare even one or two dollars, please send them. There is a link to PayPal in the Donations Tab in our award winning Web Site.

If you have not yet sent in your DD Form 214, 201 File, Biography, ERB or ORB and a good photo of yourself in uniform please do so soonest. I've been going over our personnel files and note that several of you have not done this yet.

Thanks to all of you who continue to send in all those great photos and artifacts and also donations. We truly have a great organization and I am very fortunate to be a part of it! You folks make me proud each and every day that I served in the 545th MP Company!



MG Quantock

MG David Quantock who is the current Provost Marshal General of the US Army recently sent us an autographed photograph for our web site and you can view this photo on the Main Page of the site as well as the Generals Tab where we have autographed photos from some very famous generals starting with Douglas MacArthur who personally gave it to our Provost Marshal, MAJ Phelps in Japan in 1948.

I have one more item of member news to report. Our very own LTC Christopher P. Gerdes who served in the 545th MP Company in the 5th Platoon at Fort Hood, Kuwait and Iraq in 1991 during Desert Storm has recently been assigned to the Office of the Provost Marshal General as the Operations and Liaison Officer in the Pentagon. We wish him luck in this new assignment.



LTC Christopher P. Gerdes

We still have a several weeks of winter weather to contend with, so let's all be careful out there and drive carefully and dress appropriately. Until the next issue

Division Doings Continued from pg.16.

Training Corps at the New Mexico State University.

Participants come from across the globe to commemorate this event for many reasons: personal challenge, the spirit of competition or to foster esprit de corps in their unit.

"I originally thought it was just a 26.2-mile ruck march," admitted Park Rapids, Minnesota, native, SPC Logan Carmichael, a medic assigned to the Lancer Battalion. "I was ready for the challenge, but after researching the history of it, it motivated me to complete it."

It was early morning and the air was brisk and the sky was dark, but the 1,400 participating service members still gathered around the start line, patiently waiting for the march to start.

The 26.2-mile march consisted of five and a half laps around the camp. Participants were allowed to march, walk or run. With a steady pace, Eastland, Texas, native, SPC James Garcia was able to complete the march in less than 10 hours.

"I was ready for a challenge," explained Garcia, a signal support specialist assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 115th Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division. "So, I signed up for the march. It wasn't until afterward that I learned what the importance was."

Although the soldiers had different reasons for completing the march, in the end, the motives were similar.

"I wanted to honor all those who fell during the march back in 1942," Larson concluded. "I felt very humbled upon completing the march. I feel as though I honored those men, but wish there was more I could do."

Spearhead Aircrews Play Key Role in Rescue Mission of Stranded AUP Personnel by SSG Joe Armas, 1st Air Cav Bde. PAO

GHOR PROVINCE, Afghanistan – Soldiers from Task Force Spearhead, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, teamed up with coalition special operations forces to conduct a search and rescue mission near the village of Cabalaq, February 22.

Initial reports indicated that roughly a dozen Afghan Uniformed Policemen had been trapped there as a result of an avalanche. When the mission to rescue the policemen was briefed, the soldiers from TF Spearhead had to deviate from their initial plans that evening.

"We were postured for another mission when we got word that the policemen were trapped," said MAJ Bryan Woodcock, from Cheyenne, Wyoming, the operations officer for TF Spearhead, 1st ACB.

"The determination was made that the best option was to switch gears and use what resources we had available for the rescue mission," he added.

Woodcock said the mission presented numerous challenges; two of them being lack of communication with the stranded personnel and the extreme weather conditions that awaited the aircrews at the landing zones in the vicinity



TF Spearhead Blackhawk flies over snow capped mountains in Afghanistan.

Continued on pg. 22.

HQ and Special Troops News



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There are many, many of you out there who could be contributing to this column. If you were a chaplain or a chaplain's assistant, legal clerk, headquarters

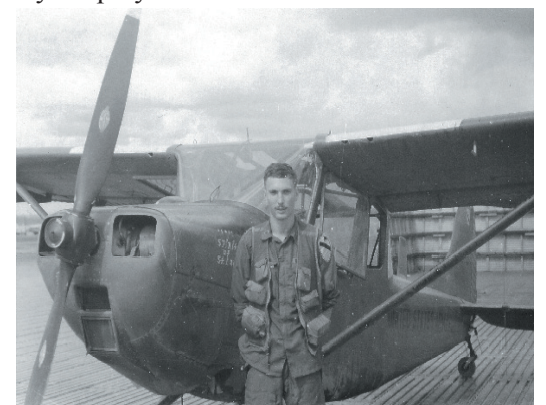
bit by one a couple of times walking by the hooch and they would jump on your neck and take a nibble. I was with B, 2-5 in '70 and also a part of HQ as a deuce n half driver to go to Bien Hoa and Long Binh for ammo and the laundry run and drinks. I remember the ole Sarge who used to ride shotgun with me...he drank whiskey but could shoot the hair off a fly a quarter mile away with that 60 across his lap. I also remember the recons and hanging with my friend Jim Baleau....brings back memories and not all were bad...had some good times there at Mace....as long as you got to the shower before 5am..ha! After that no water and you get to stink until another truck filled up the tank. Thanks for letting me reflect a little."

Thanks for the walk down memory lane, Charlie. You know troopers, it is a small world. The mention of the PIO officer in my last column, provided by Frank Smart from California, sparked some interest by others. It seems my 1st Cuz, another Cav Vietnam vet, knew J. D. Coleman in the Atlanta area after the Nam war was over and in fact served with JD in B Company, 2-8th in '68-'69 time frame. Jim Rowell, my 1st Cuz and I did not know we were both in the Cav in Nam until about ten years ago. Jim also said about JD Coleman: "JD Coleman was a good friend and we spent a few years of memories together over lunch and on the telephone. I hated to hear of his death back in 2005. He was a good man!" Thanks for the comments Jim but next time stay in your column for the 8th Cav! This is Headquarters and Special Troops! Now Jim and his lovely wife, Louise and Sue and I go to the reunions together as he lives only about 25 miles from me. It is indeed a small world!

I received an e-mail from Robert (Bob) Jacobs who told of his experiences in Vietnam. "I was a draftee who was assigned to the Cav in December of '69 as an 11B. While at the FTA (First Team Academy) in Bien Hoa I was lucky to be pulled for 71H (Personnel Clerk) training. After 3 weeks of that, I was sent to Division HQ in Phuoc Vinh as a night message writer in G-3 but the "Top" pulled some strings and reassigned me to the Division HQ Company Orderly Room. I eventually became the head clerk. As I tell friends, I was like Radar O'Reilly (of MASH) on steroids! One day in the spring of '70, the CO (CPT Robert Jackson) called me in and told me to pack enough supplies, including my Remington typewriter, to run an orderly room for a week. He also told me to keep my mouth shut about it and be ready to transport in the AM. In the morning, I was on a Chinook with destination unknown. As we hovered over our landing area, the driver from our supply room, a former grunt, informed me we were landing in Quan Loi which was our 3rd Brigade HQ. He also told me we were only a few clicks from the Cambodian border, so we guessed correctly that something big was about to happen. As we set up shop in an unoccupied hooch, we saw columns of the 1st ARVN Airborne, lots of network camera crews and much helicopter activity going on. Our location was just across from a major helipad and we knew this had to be major. A day or so later, I was handed a document to type. I looked it over and told the MSG who handed it to me that it was not in proper form for a military order. He told me to look at the bottom of the page; it was simply signed "Shoemaker". At the time, he was our Assistant Division Commander for operations and at that point, I became aware that I was part of "Taskforce Shoemaker". This became our "announced" invasion of Cambodia to clean out the weapons caches stored along the Ho Chi Minh Trail. I was told to type the order "as is" and run a certain number of copies. I would have loved to keep a copy as a souvenir but was forbidden to do so by the guard who accompanied me to the copier. The final enlightenment was that the document was sending the 1st Cav, the 11th ACR, 1st ARVN Airborne and other units into the "Theater of Cambodia". To my knowledge, all previous incursions were considered illegal expansions of war into a neutral country (It wasn't neutral to Uncle HO!). That's why I referred to it was the "announced invasion of Cambodia". That night, as I returned from the TOC to my hooch, I heard President Nixon over the radio telling the world what we were doing and why we were doing it. We took enough weapons and supplies out of Cambodia that it did slow the NVA down and hopefully saved some lives. It's been almost 42 years and I hope I remembered the events more or less correctly. Bob Jacobs"

Thanks Bob for that input. Bob's wife has been sick and Bob is taking care of her. Remember Bob and his wife in your prayers.

I also received an e-mail from a fixed wing pilot, Carl Buick, who flew for E Btry 82FA in '70-'71. I did not know the Cav had fixed wing aircraft. I'll put some of Carl's comments in the next *Saber* as his story is very interesting. Nothing like stealing ammo from the Artillery folks to fatten up my column! Meantime, as a teaser, here is a picture of Carl with his "airplane". Flying around in that thing in the heat of battle must have really been a "pucker factor" raiser!



Buick and his toy plane

Well, troopers, until next time, Sue and I wish you the very best. Keep your powder dry and your head down and may God bless you and the US of A.

Company C, TF Spearhead, 1st ACB.

Woodcock added, "We landed on about four to five feet of snow at the landing zone. The aircraft was essentially at a hover as we were loading and unloading people so we could avoid sinking the helicopter into the snow."

Cox said the aircrews had to get the rescue team personnel as close to the village as possible to facilitate their efforts to retrieve the stranded personnel.

As the aircraft made the initial landing near the village, a cloud of snow engulfed the area causing what is referred to as a "whiteout" that limited visibility and made it more complicated to keep the aircraft from sinking.

The rescue team exited the aircrafts and proceeded to retrieve the stranded policemen in the village.

Once the rescue team members retrieved the stranded personnel, the aircrews returned to transport those who were stranded to a medical facility nearby. As

Continued on pg. 24.

clerk, general's driver, staff officer, a commanding general, this column is yours! Let's get some input, folks! When you look through all the columns in the *Saber* and do not find one that represents your unit, then your comments and stories belong here. I know some of you have memories to share and war stories to tell. Also, you current active duty troopers, let's hear from you. You have some new war stories. All us old Vietnam vets have are old, old, old war stories! Almost as old as those old WWII and Korean War troopers. Let's hear from those older troopers in Hq and Special Troops. We need to get your stories because in case you had not noticed, you ain't getting any younger! This column is not just for Vietnam vets. It is for Hq and Special troops from WWII, Korea, Gulf War, Iraq, Afghanistan, Cold War, active duty, reserve duty, attached, assigned and all others.

Have you ever tried to locate the troopers you served with in Vietnam or any of the other wars in which troopers of the 1st Cav took part? A lot of men who served in the line battalions are able to contact their buddies because one friend remembers the name of another friend and on down the line. My cousin who was in B Company, 2-8th Cav, from '68 to '69, has been able to find most of the men in his company. The closeness of friends in combat is certainly stronger and longer lasting than the friendship of people you just happen to have served with in the military. Having spent 21 years in the Army, I was stationed at a lot of different places, in the Far East, in Europe and across the United States. I made friends at each of these assignments and still maintain Christmas card contact with many of them. But I do not have any really close friends from my time in Vietnam. I think friends who have been shot at tend to stay in contact more than friends who just served together.

I did manage to find my former commanding officer and the captain that was in charge of the CI section. The former commander (MAJ Charles Yeoman) is retired in Texas and the captain (David S. Jernigan) finished a career in the US Army and retired in the DC area as a LTC. It was great to talk with them on the telephone and to obtain their e-mail addresses. I also contacted MSG (Ret) Billy Madden who served in the 191st in '71. He also ran the 1st Cav Division Association's "shack" in Bien Hoa and was instrumental in signing up a lot of the troopers to lifetime membership in the association. His wife, Joyce, informed me Billy has had a stroke and lost the use of the right side of his body. Remember Billy in your prayers and Joyce, who is taking care of him.

One great service that some of you may not be aware of is a service provided by the Social Security Administration (SSA). If you know the name and social security number of your buddy, you can write a letter to him and forward it to the SSA, with an unsealed postage paid envelope and a letter detailing who the person is and why you are trying to contact him. If you have a valid reason, in the opinion of the clerks in the SSA, they will look up the trooper's records and forward the letter to his current address. Not a perfect system, but it does work sometimes. Additional information can be obtained from the SSA.

Dennis Webster, the man who keeps the association running, recently notified some of us that GEN Pete Chiarelli, former 1st Cav CG ('03-'05) and more recently the Vice Chief of Staff for the US Army, has retired. Since this column is for Hq and Special Troops, thought I would mention this event.

I was visiting my son-in-law, a major in the Army, stationed in the Pentagon, during the summer of 2011 and he signed Sue, our daughter and me into the Pentagon for a visit. I was stationed in the Pentagon from '66 to '68 (ODCS for Logistics) and wanted to try to find my old duty room 3D572. Well, the place has completely changed. Security is tight, they have re-arranged a lot of the offices and the troops even have escalators and do not have to walk up the stairs! While wandering the halls of the Pentagon, with my 1st Cav Vietnam Vet hat on, I was stopped by LTG Rick Lynch, former commander of 1-8th Cav. He was also the former commander of III Corps at Fort Hood and was then the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management. He was with two or three obviously important civilians but stopped to talk with me in the hall. He told me how much he appreciated my service and how he had enjoyed being assigned to the 1st Cav and III Corps at Fort Hood. I got to introduce him to my son-in-law, my wife and my daughter! It was certainly nice of him to take time out of his busy schedule to talk with an old soldier. I saw recently that General Lynch had been replaced as the ACofS for IM, and retired and hopefully will find time to attend a reunion. By the way, my son-in-law's last name is Payne. Major Payne! He is on the LTC list and is so glad he will be Colonel Payne instead of Major Payne! It's a shame he ain't CAV, but guess we can't all be Cav. Does that mean he ain't sh&\$? He and my daughter are going to attend the reunion in Portland with Sue and me in June. He is in Afghanistan but comes home in May.

Got an e-mail from Charlie Schadt about the picture I put in the last *Saber* of the monkeys at Fire Base MACE. Here is what Charlie said, "This is SP-4 Charlie Schadt writing and yes I recognize that photo of that person with those monkeys in the January/February *Saber*. I believe that those monkeys belonged to the Sarge in the motor pool. They were the nastiest buggers on base....been

Division Doings

Continued from pg. 21.

of Cabalaq.

"This was unlike any other mission I had flown in before," added Woodcock.

Flying the rescue team members into an area at 10,000 feet altitude combined with the extreme weather conditions required thorough mission planning, he said.

The crews had little time to prepare since quick mission execution was required. "They [the policemen] had already lost one person and we couldn't let them lose anymore, so we had to get out there as fast as we could," said SPC Daniel Cox, originally from Houston, and one of the crew chiefs who took part in the mission.

The actual insertion and extraction of personnel from the aircraft provided another challenging task for the aircrews, added Cox, who is assigned to

21st FA News



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I hope everyone got through the winter wherever you are located. Here in Michigan it was an unusual winter with snowfall well below the "normal" and no really cold temperatures; by cold I mean in the teens, zero or below. I guess we lucked out! When you live

in cold country as I do, the warm seasons are really anticipated.

In January, I received an e-mail from Dennis Webster, the Executive Director of the 1st Cav Division Association. He passed on information about the death of one of our 1-21 comrades. James N. Stratton reported to Fiddler's Green on December 31, 2011. James served in the Army for 11 years and was a SSG. He did three tours in Vietnam but as his obituary stated he was most proud to have been a "Trooper" in the 1st Cav. He served with Headquarters Battery, 1-21 in 1970-71. Whether you knew James or not he was one of ours and I ask that you remember him in your own special way.

John Krier, who many of you know, has been a driving force behind the 1-21 Association. John informed me recently that after many years of maintaining the 1-21 Artillery Association web site, he will step away from that duty after posting the information from this year's reunion in Portland. I am sorry to see John step aside as he has done great work but I can well understand his desire to do so. Please join me in extending profound thanks and gratitude to John for all the time, effort and resources he has expended over the years on behalf of our Association. There comes a time in any activity when others have to step up. In the vein that others have to step up, I took the liberty of asking one of our comrades, Steve Lowery, if he would be interested in maintaining the web site. Steve is a 1-21 veteran (2/83 - 6/84) and then he moved on to the 1st Armored Division. Steve is a real computer whiz. He developed and maintains the web site for our local 1st Cav Division Association Chapter in west Michigan. Steve accepted the challenge and will transition with John. With this transition, please take a minute to visit the web site and if anyone would like to see changes or other information shown on the web site or to be involved with the web site, let me know and I will pass it on to Steve. The more hands we have, the lighter the work.

I'm not sure about anyone else but I would like to see the memorial section of the web site expanded. This is the section where a brief biography is given for our comrades that were KIA. In order to do this, however, we will need your input and information about those that you know of and also research in various records to get as complete information as possible. This task would be a great volunteer endeavor. Let me know if you are interested. As stated above, many hands make light work and the web site as this article is only as good as you make it.

Toward the end of January I got a surprise call. In past columns I wrote that some of you had served with "Moose" and would like to get in contact with him. Well Moose, aka John Mulvey (A/1-21, 12/66-12/67), called and said he had heard that some people wanted to get in contact with him. Moose was in a gun section and then was volunteered to FDC where he ran a chart. He stated he also spent some time in the field as an RTO due to what could be called a personality conflict with the Battery Commander. In talking with Moose, he said he grew up in Grand Rapids, Michigan and lived there for some time after the service and then moved to Traverse City, Michigan. It's truly a small world as I moved here to the Grand Rapids area in the mid-70s and Traverse City is about two hours north from where I live so I hope we can also connect in the not too distant future. I mentioned that I remembered another guy from Grand Rapids when I first joined the battery by the name of Grassman. Moose remembered him as well and related a story of how they inadvertently ran into each other after the service. So if anyone knows anything about Grassman, let me know so we can close the loop. Moose doesn't get the *Saber* but sometimes gets a second hand copy from one of his customers. I passed his contact information to those that were seeking contact with him and got feedback that friendship has been renewed. It's really great that we can get people back in touch after all these years. While the time we may have served together was brief considering the span of our existence, the attraction is powerful. As Shakespeare so eloquently wrote "...we few, we

happy few, we band of brothers..." If you are looking for someone, let me know and I'll include it in an article. Moose is proof that it works.

I received an e-mail from Robert Holland. He writes: "I was an OH-13 pilot in E-Btry, 82nd Arty during the period July, 1965 to July, 1966. Throughout that period I was in the Direct Support Platoon. My mission was to provide helicopter support to the 1-21st Arty for their air observer. 99% of the time I flew an air cover mission, the observer was the HQ Btry commander, CPT Ray Dimmick. Ray and I became close friends, but we lost track of each other within a couple of years. I would greatly appreciate it if someone out there might have some information on his whereabouts.... In thinking back on those days, I wonder if anyone remembers the phrase "Terrell's Mountain Raiders". I recall flying buckets of paint out to a couple of troops that were painting Cav emblems on mountainsides. I believe the intent was to let the enemy know that "Terrell's Mountain Raiders" had been in the area... By the way, CPT Demmick was the air observer for the Ia Drang Valley battle." I don't know about anyone else but to me it's very interesting to hear about the first days of the unit and Cav's, deployment to Vietnam. If anyone has any information on CPT Demmick's whereabouts please contact Robert at <rgm.magic@verizon.net>. Also if any of the above mentioned painters read this I would greatly appreciate getting the full story to share with us.

Joe Koch volunteered to go next in the "How I ended up in the 1-21" series... Joe writes: "I was drafted 1-13/66 and went to Fort Dix for one week and then went to Fort Hood for basic. The unit was in admin storage and they did basic training. I stayed for AIT and got a FDC MOS. During AIT, I was offered an appointment to West Point. The Army offers about 10 appointments a year. I knew I was 6 months too old for the appointment, but the Army did not look at my birth date at that time. By the summer, I was trained as ADI and made CPL after 6 months in the Army and started training basic trainees. By the Fall, my CO called me in and said the Army realized I was 6 months too old for the appointment and I was offered OCS instead. Well all I wanted to do was stay in the States so I said yes. In November, I got orders for OCS at Fort Sill. I declined and a couple of weeks later I got orders to Vietnam... I got sent to Vietnam with a good friend in December, 1966. We flew from California on a Super Connie. It took 47 hours in the air with 4 stops. We were in a replacement company near Saigon and for a week or so had formations where people were told where they were going. My buddy and I thought **anyplace** but the 1st Cav would be ok... (Joe wrote later that they didn't want the Cav because they seemed to do so much fighting.) ... Well the call was made with the words 'The following people are going to An Khe', my name and my friend's name were called and I asked a guy where's An Khe and he said it was the base camp for the Cav. I am sure my friend and I expressed our displeasure with a few choice words. My orders were for A/1-21. After a pleasant ride on a C-130, I reported to the Battery area. The Battery was in the field but the XO looked at my MOS and I was told I would not be sent to the week of jungle school but I would report to the Battery the next day since I had a needed MOS and I would not need jungle school. So the adventure began..."

Thanks so much Joe... I am sure many can relate to Joe's situation as many of us were reluctant as well but once we joined the unit and got into the swing of things I don't think anyone would have wanted to be in any different unit. Speaking only for myself, I look at my time with the Cav as a great source of pride. I have a Cav sticker on my rear window of my car and I can't tell you how many people have given me a smile and a thumbs up. I dare say it's the most recognized division symbol.

In my last article I had a piece about Bill Thomason looking for his 1SG Cousins. Bill sent his request to the other artillery battalions as well. Bill contacted me to report that he had received information and reestablished contact with 1SG Cousins. Bill reported they had a great visit over the phone. With Bill's feedback and Moose making contact, it looks like these *Saber* articles about locating people do work. If anyone wants to locate someone, give me as much information as possible and I'll include it the article.

For those of you reading this article, I would like to hear your contribution to "How I ended up in the 1-21..." as every story is unique! It is these "human interest" type stories that really give life to the column and as I wrote many times before, this column is nothing without your stories and input.

Engineer News

Continued from pg. 20.

paragraph above.) Also from the web site, these alumni need to make roll call by contacting me; John Seitz, Albert Pryor, Donald Clark and Michael Gibbons.

Quit Smoking: Nobody loved a chest full of unfiltered Camel smoke better than me, nobody. But there came a time. Believe me, I am the last politically correct guy writing this column but there comes a time to face the facts. Do it guys and live to enjoy your grandchildren.

Recommended Viewing: YouTube, Mansions of the Lord, West Point Glee Club, submitted by our own Robert Tagge.

ROTC: Karl Marlantes, the author of *Matterhorn*, might have been the only Yale graduate to serve in Vietnam. His book is a well written novel even though he was a marine and went to OCS. Karl and the rest of us have some reason to rejoice because ROTC has been restored as a legitimate academic option to Harvard and Yale undergraduates. With the repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell by our legislative and executive branches of government, Harvard and Yale lost the loin cloth that covered their ejecting ROTC from campus in the first place. A grateful nation sighs in relief.

Quick Update: CPT Richard Estes found me via another Cav vet. Rich was the Bn S2 and B Co CO during '69-'70. More juicy details will follow in our May/June issue. In the meantime, if you are looking for Estes, call (408) 778-3979. Richard did file a preliminary report regarding his aerial recon of the route into Cambodia. "As I recall, this action happened just before the Cambodian incursion, but we didn't know it at the time. Since the 8-inch howitzers were track mounted and too big to airlift, they had to be driven overland. B Co. had the job of recon'ing and clearing the route from FSB Buttons to Buo Dop, including finding a suitable fording site across the Song Be (?) river, east of FSB Buttons. Fortunately, that actual movement of the howitzers went off pretty much without a hitch. However, prior to the move, during my aerial recon of the route, the chopper I was in developed mechanical problems, which we thought at the time was enemy ground fire hitting us and the pilot had to make an emergency autorotation landing in a totally unsecured clearing in the middle of nowhere. The

pilot told us to get as far away from the chopper as possible as soon as we hit the ground. He didn't need to tell us twice or explain why. That was probably about the hairiest situation I remember getting into. We were on the ground probably about 15 or 20 minutes, but it seemed like 15 or 20 hours, before we heard the faint "pop, pop, pop" of inbound helicopters of the 1st of the 9th Cav "Blues" coming in to secure the downed chopper and extract us. Up until that point, I'd always considered the "Blues" to be kind of "full of themselves." After that point, I worshipped the ground they walked on.

Tam Quan 1967: For those who participated in this action please contact Tom Kjos by phone at (480) 352-2583 or by e-mail at <tom.kjos@hotmail.com> [There is a space in his e-mail.]. Tom writes, These Engineer units in particular are called out in the 1st Bde., 1st ACD After Action Report: 8th Engineer Bn., 19th Engineer Bn. (Bulldozer)

According to that report, D7's were used early in the battle, on the 7th: "At 1406 hours (7 December, 1967), A and B Companies 1-8 Cav with flamethrower APC's again attacked the enemy positions and penetrated the initial bunker and trench network. The flamethrowers were especially useful in neutralizing the bunkers and trenches. Two D-7 bulldozers were brought into the contact area to begin destruction of the bunkers and trenches and to construct a causeway across the marshy rice paddy areas for use by the APC's."

Just A Reminder: Those 100 watt light bulbs that you have are now illegal. Possession could be construed to be intent to distribute. Be careful and lower your shutters after 6PM. "They" may be watching.

The Honor Roll: Next issue will have a list of names and either phone numbers or addresses of anyone who has ever contacted me regarding *SABER*. No, it won't be printed in Excel but maybe I can construct an e-mail version for those interested.

The Marines: Ok so they did it. Ok so it was out of bounds for professional military conduct. So give them a general discharge privately and get on with the rest of the mission to kill those who would kill us.



HONOR ROLL

Acknowledgement of generous donations from the following troopers:



UP TO \$25

SGT ANDERSON, Matthew A.
E-5 BANKS, Larry P.
CPL BELL, Jr., Calvin S.
CW4 BOEHM, Geoffrey M.
SP-5 BURROWS, Jr., Robert E.
E-7 BURZENSKI, Chester J.
PFC CARROLL, Rayford J.
SSG CASEY, George W. Jr.
SP-4 CLARK, John M.
MRS. COIL, Deloris
In Memory of my husband, TSG Clytus COIL.
E-4 CONNER, William R.
SFC (RET) CORBIN, Don R.
E-5 COX, Steven K.
2LT DEAL, Dennis J.
SP-5 LeRoy GARRETT, 1st KIA from 1-7 CAV, Happy Valley, 10/14/65.
SP-5 DUARTE, Dennis J.
MAJ EDWARDS, Jason C.
LTC GIETZ, Charles
MSG GRADY, John Charles, Jr.
E-5 GUTHRIE, Dennis G.
SP-4 HAMILTON, Larry L.
SP-4 HEINZE, Michael
CPT JACOBS, Arthur R.
CPT JETTER, Arthur C. Jr.
CW4 (RET) JOHNSON, Monte D.
In Memory of CW2 Paul FOTI, KIA, Cambodia March 1971, A Troop, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry.
MR. JONES, Clinton
In Memory of James N. STRATTON.
1SG (RET) JONES, Norman A.
E-4 KOPAC, Joseph J.
SGT LaBARR, Bruce A.
MRS. LYCZAK, Marlene
In Memory of my husband, 1SG Paul T. LYCZAK
SGT McGOWAN, James Jr.
E-4 (RET) McGORMAN, Christopher J.
SGT MIXSOOKE, Rueben M.
SP-5 MOLNER, Charles E.
CPT MOORE, Robert W.
LTC (RET) MUNN, Richard A. Jr.
CPT PASSARELL, Matthew J.
MR. PASZKIEWICZ, Rudy
SP-4 PETRICK, Dennis L.
SGT REARDON, Jr., James W.

PFC REISS, Ron
In Honor of Ia Drang and Ia Tae Troopers.
E-5 SCHNEIDER, Carl P.
MS. SMITH, Donna
In Memory of 1SG Paul T. LYCZAK
SGT SPIES, James P.
SGT STAHLEY, David V.
SFC (RET) SWANTEK, Robert C.
COL TAVEAU, Horatio Sprague
SGT TAYLOR, Peter
E-4 WILSON, Russell L.
SGT WULFF, Richard
SGT YATES, Bruce R.
SGT YEVONISHON, John S.

\$26 - \$50

SP-4 BARNHART, Clovis E. "Barney"
In Honor of the 5th Cavalry
MS. BOWES, Naomi
In Memory of James N. STRATTON
MR. BEGGIO, Robert J.
SGT BRENNER, John W. (Jack)
COL (RET) CHARLTON, Darrell T.
CPT HALL, Sanci M.
MS. HOLLIDAY, Peggy H.
In Memory of James N. STRATTON.
SGT HOOVER, Thomas J.
SP-4 HUBER, Jerry B.
MRS. LORD, Bettye E.
In Memory of Julie MOORE.
SP-5 MIRAGE, Paul
In Memory of Donald A. ORSINI, D Company, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry.
Scott and Barbara POULTON
In Memory of James N. STRATTON.
SFC (RET) ROMSTADT, Robert
In Honor of CSM Ray BALLENTYNE, Blue Max.

MG (RET) SMITH, Scott B.
In Memory of SP-4 Kenneth BERCIER.
MG (RET) SMITH, Scott B.
In Memory of SFC Cleveland JOHNSON.
MG (RET) SMITH, Scott B.
In Memory of SGT Robert McFALL.
MG (RET) SMITH, Scott B.
In Memory of SP-4 Dennis STEPHENS.
Raymond and Dee WALLACE
In Memory of James N. STRATTON.

\$51 - \$100

SP-4 GIAQUINTO, Frank
In Memory of Robert RUSHING, 2-20 ARA.
SP-4 HAMILTON, Larry L.
In Memory of Mac McCLELLAND, KIA, 20 February 1966.
E-4 McNICHOLS, Robert
MRS. PAWLIK, Dolores
In Memory of my husband, TSG Wadsworth H. PAWLIK.
SGT ORLANDO, Pete
PSG (RET) PALMER, Leslie L.
In Memory of SP-4 Roger Edward DENNY, A Btry. 1-30 FA, KIA 11 March '69 FSB Grant, Tay Ninh Province RVN.
SGT RAMOS, Carlos G.
In Memory of SGT Dennis R. "Suds" SUTHERLAND, C 1-12 CAV, Vietnam, 4/68-4/69.
1SG (RET) STUMPP, John H.
CSM (RET) and MRS. WEBSTER, Dennis E.
In Memory of LTG (Ret) John J. YEOSOCK
1LT WEEKS, II, Robert A.
1LT WETTENGEL, Jim

\$101 - \$500

BP AMERICA INC.
SP-4 FLAVIN, George
MR. JONES, Ralph H.
In Memory of FSB JAY, 3-29-70 and In Memory of FSB ILLINGWORTH 4-1-70.
CPT NEWSTEAD, Robert R.
MG (RET) SMITH, Scott B.
In Memory of my classmate and friend, LTC (Ret) James Whitney "Jim" SPIRES.
SP-4 STEWART, Carl A.
E-5 STOLTZ, E. Greg

The First Team Family Cares!
Your donations to the Foundation and Museum Foundation are tax-deductible.
We are also grateful for your support of the Association through donations to our D Troop program.

Division Doings

Continued from pg. 22.

the personnel approached the aircraft for extraction, Cox, along with other crew members and rescue team personnel, helped load the passengers on board.

"We had to literally pull the passengers up into the aircraft since the snow was so deep," added Cox.

In total, nine Afghan policemen and two Afghan women were rescued. They

all predictably seemed relieved as they departed the aircraft near the medical facility, said Cox.

Woodcock said completing a successful mission like this has big picture implications.

"You're doing a lot of things out here and you don't always see the immediate impact of what you accomplish," said Woodcock. "I think something like this goes a long way to show that we are committed to helping the Afghan people,

4th ANNUAL VETERANS DAY DINNER IN WASHINGTON, DC

The National Capitol Region Chapter in conjunction with the 1st Cavalry Division Association will host the 4th Annual First Team Veterans Day Dinner on Sunday evening, 11 November 2012 at the Crowne Plaza Washington National Airport Hotel, 1480 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia. The speaker is still being coordinated and will be announced as soon as it is confirmed.

A cash bar will open at 1800 and a plated dinner begins at 1900 hours. For dinner reservations please send \$45 per ticket to the 1st Cavalry Division Association, 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703. In order to ensure that you have tickets, full payment must be received by us no later than 22 October, 2012. Please do not wait until October to reserve your tickets. We urge you to send in your reservations and check or credit card number as early as possible. We can only accept VISA or MASTERCARD. Please ensure that your card number and expiration dates are written correctly. Please provide your name, address, unit you served with and the name(s) of your guests with your payment. Tickets will be available for pickup in the 1st Cav Division Association Hospitality Suite or at the door to the banquet room. Seating is limited due to the size of the room. We must make final coordination with the hotel before the event and we may not be able to accommodate late registrations.

VETERANS DAY 2012 IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

From Friday, 9 November to Sunday, 11 November 2012 the 1st Cavalry Division Association and the National Capitol Region Chapter will sponsor our annual Veterans Day Hospitality Suite and Gift Shop at the Crowne Plaza Washington National Airport Hotel for all present and former First Team members and their families. The hotel is located at 1480 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202. The 1st Cav Division Association room rate is \$119 for a single or double room plus tax (10.25%). We have contracted for complimentary parking at the hotel for guests of the hotel. Call the Crowne Plaza directly at (800) 227-6963 (800-2CROWNE) or do it on-line by going to <<http://www.crowneplaza.com/redirect?path=hd&brandCode=cp&localeCode=en®ionCode=1&hotelCode=WASNA&PMID=99801505&GPC=CAL>> to make your reservations. Be sure to tell them that you want the special "1st Cavalry Division" guaranteed rate. Room reservations MUST be made before Thursday, 9 October 2012 in order to receive the discounted rate. We have some rooms blocked for the evening of 8 November and on Monday 12 November to accommodate your travel

**4th ANNUAL 1st CAVALRY DIVISION
ASSOCIATION VETERANS DAY DINNER
NOVEMBER 11, 2012
\$45 PER TICKET
(Please print clearly)**

Name _____

Address _____

City/St/Zip _____

Telephone _____

Guests ____ Name(s): _____

Unit(s) _____

Tickets ____ Amount \$ _____ Check ____ VISA or MC ____

EXP Date _____

Credit Card Number - Print clearly _____

Signature - Credit Card Payment Only _____ Date _____

arrangements .

Wreath laying ceremonies will be conducted at the Memorials for World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War . The Ceremony at the Vietnam Wall is planned for 1300 and the times for the World War II and Korean War Memorial have not been set yet. Join us in honoring our veterans on Veterans Day.