



SABER

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



VOLUME 70 NUMBER 1

Website: www.1CDA.org

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2021

THE PRESIDENT’S CORNER

Allen Norris
(704) 641-6203
4-Seven@att.net



Fifty years ago, I was a Fire Direction Officer (FDO) with B battery 2/19 Field Artillery. We and elements of 2/7 Cavalry were on a fire base (FSB) somewhere in Phouc Vinh Province, South Vietnam. I do not remember the name of the fire base; we had been on so many by that time that I really did not care what it was called. At any rate, I was the definition of a “short timer.” My DEROS date was less than 2 weeks away. I was really looking forward to that date when I would be headed back to “the World” and home. Some Troopers got to leave in time to be home for Christmas. I did not get to go home for Christmas. I had missed the cutoff date by one day.

About a week before I was to leave, I was on duty as the Fire Direction Officer (FDO) when there was a report of incoming. We immediately called for preplanned defensive fire from neighboring fire bases. After some period of time having received no additional reports of incoming, we called for a cease fire. No rounds had landed inside the fire base and the remainder of the night was calm. The next morning, I joined a small group who went outside the base to check for damage. The group stopped to look at a small crater. I commented that the crater was caused by the explosion of an American hand grenade. (One of the courses I had taught before going to Vietnam was hand grenades). I am not sure what the others thought they were looking at; but my comment was basically ignored so I decided that my time would be better spent back in the FDC. Not all opinions are appreciated.

We recently lost two strong supporters of the Association and the First Cavalry Division.

COL (RET) Gene Wentworth passed away 29 October 2020. COL Wentworth was an Eagle Scout and a 1958 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Gene was a longtime member of the Association’s Board of Governors. His service with the 1st Cavalry Division was as Commander of the 15th S & T Battalion and Division G4. COL Wentworth was 84.

Eva Richardson passed away on October 17, 2020. Even after her husband Bill passed away in 2015 Eva continued to attend our annual reunions including 2019. The last few reunions she was accompanied by her daughters – thanks Sheron and Carol. She and Bill were also strong supporters of the 7th Cavalry Association. She was often front and center offering both the opening and closing prayers at the 7th Cav luncheons during our annual reunions. Eva was 96. Please see the last issue of the *Saber* for more details about Eva’s life.

2020 is finally over. It was a very trying time for most of us and we are all hoping that 2021 will be much better. Some are probably thinking that it cannot possibly be worse. We’ll see.

Stay healthy, stay safe. And, as always, thank you for your service.
First Team, Allen (TrailSpike 47)

THE DIRECTOR’S CHAIR

Dara C. Wydler
302 N. Main St.
Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703
(254) 547-6537
FirstCav@1CDA.org



The year 2020 has been far different than anyone could have imagined. The pandemic forced people across the globe to stay in their homes and observe safety guidelines, i.e., maintaining a double arm interval and wearing face masks – everywhere, all the time. Vaccines rolled out bringing hope and optimism however, we could all use some good old-fashioned luck – to keep us safe, sane, and wealthy in 2021.

German folklore suggests the first person you encounter in a new year will determine the tone for the next 365 days. Hence the reason why couples kiss at midnight. Greeks and Romans believe kissing under a parasitic plant (mistletoe) either brings fertility to couples or peace between enemies (if it were only that easy). Chinese culture says it is the color of your wallet that is crucial: black represents

Fifty years ago, I was a Fire Direction Officer (FDO) with B battery 2/19 Field Artillery. We and elements of 2/7 Cavalry

HORSE DETACHMENT by CPT Siddiq Hasan, Commander

This holiday season saw an uptick in the events for the Horse Cavalry Detachment in the unique year that 2020 became. We were honored to be invited to the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo in Arlington, TX at the beginning of December (photo below). This was a great event for the unit, being a nationally televised event on the Cowboy Channel allowed us to spread the 1st Cavalry brand. The latter part of December allowed us to spread joy across Fort Hood housing areas; we paraded through 12 housing villages bringing Santa to the masses in a socially distanced way. To show gratitude for the first responders of Bell County, the Horse Detachment color guard led a short parade through downtown Belton, while other parade participants laid wreaths at the Courthouse, Sheriff Department, Fire Department and Police Station.



L to R: SPC Kent, SSG Minor, SGT Ibarra, SGT Dillard in Arlington.

We are proud to announce our newest B Group spur holders CPT Hasan, SGT Dillard, SGT Casing, CPL Urioste, SPC Halverson, and SPC Szabo. All these riders must pass a written test and a riding evaluation. The written test reflects their ability to learn the concepts required progress in the riding ranks. While the riding evaluation is the practical application of that knowledge. Each of our newest spur holders have put in weeks of additional riding to perfect their riding seat, hands, and leg cues. The next challenge for them will be earning their A Group Spurs and buckle. Good luck to all our Troopers as they continue to better themselves, the mounts, and the Detachment!

Happy New Year! We welcomed our newest Cavalry School trainees on January 18th. 2021 is going to be a great year for the Detachment to continue the focused progression of our riders and mounts. Although we have not had a many public appearances for the past several months, this afforded time previously unavailable to train Troopers and mounts. This training is critical to ensuring the riding expertise stays in the Detachment as Troopers PCS and ETS. Gone are the days of staying at the Detachment for more than two years, so riders need to progress quicker. The added focus is also reflecting in our green mounts, many of them are close to being finished cavalry horses. Ideally, they will be finished before we get eight new mounts this year from the Texas Prison System.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! Feel free to call (254) 287-2229 with any questions. You can also find us on Facebook (1st Cavalry Division Horse Cavalry Detachment) where we post pictures from the barn and let you know about upcoming events and ceremonies. The Facebook page now has an official email that you can send questions and request for support to. HOT TO TROT!

THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR continued

prosperity and career progression, brown prevents overspending, and yellow attracts money. I wonder if they are referring to CAV Yellow. Many others believe filling your wallet with cash just before midnight means you may see a continuous flow of money over the next year.

The Irish tradition is to open all the doors of the house to allow the OLD year to escape. Maybe you chose to observe the weather, hung lemons in the windows, avoided eating chicken or lobster, paid off debts, cleaned (or did not clean) your house, or ate pork. Whatever your tradition was may it bring you and your families good fortune, progress, and honesty.

The ladies and I look forward to a great year culminating with a Cav-tastic 2021 Reunion and Veterans Day.

INDEX	PAGE	INDEX	PAGE	INDEX	PAGE
1CDA OFFICE NEWS	16	BOOKS OF INTEREST	20	LRRP	4
1CDA BAT	17	CALENDAR	2	NEW MEMBERS	17
5th CAV	5	CHAPTER INDEX	15	OTHER REUNIONS	5
545th MP CO	21	CHAPTER NEWS	14	REUNION	12-13
7th CAV	7	CHANGE ADDRESS	2	REUNION T-SHIRT	12
8th CAV	8	DOCTOR'S REPORT	11	SABER RENEWAL	2
9th CAV	9	DONATIONS	3	SOUVENIR SHOP	15
12th CAV	6	ELECTION	3	TAPS	5
15th MED	19	HICCUP	11	TROOPER'S TALE	3
20th ARA	18	HISTORIAN	10	VIETNAM REPRINT	17
77FA	20	HONOR ROLL	23	VIETNAM T-SHIRTS	19
82nd FA	11	HQ AND SPEC TRPS	22	WANTED	2

ADDRESS CHANGE

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

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

SNOWBIRDS

If you have two addresses during the year, we need to know them. Please give us the dates and addresses for both households.
(Circle one) Winter Summer
Rank and Name: _____
LAST 4#s SSN: _____ DOB _____
1: Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Dates: _____ Tel: (____) _____
2: Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Dates: _____ Tel: (____) _____

1CDA EVENT CALENDAR

Feb 26-28, 2021 Board of Governors Meeting, Killeen, TX
Sept 22-26, 2021 73rd Annual 1CDA Reunion, Killeen TX
(In Sept to honor Division's 100th Birthday!)

Nov 9-11, 2021 12th Annual Veterans Day in Washington D.C.
July 6-10, 2022 74th Annual 1CDA Reunion, Dayton, OH

SABER RENEWAL / DONATION FORM

☐ Renew my *Saber* \$ _____ for _____ year(s) @ \$10 per year (6 issues). Fill out and return the form below or attach your *Saber* label so we have your pertinent information.

☐ D-Trooper Fund \$ _____
In Memory of: _____

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

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

D-Trooper Program consists of a donation of \$25 or more. This donation will give you one year of *Saber* with the remainder going into the **D-Trooper Fund**. The **D-Trooper Fund** is one of the more positive means by which you can actively participate in furthering the programs of the Association and again show your pride as a CAV Trooper—a LifeTime Member of the First Team! If you choose to participate in the **D-Trooper Fund**, your name will be published in the Honor Roll section of the *Saber* newspaper and we will send you a certificate suitable for framing, for your first donation only.

LAST 4 NUMBERS OF SSN _____ DOB _____
Rank _____ Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____ Phone (____) _____
E-mail _____

CREDIT CARD # _____
EXP DATE: _____ CVV: _____
TOTAL AMOUNT \$ _____
SIGNATURE _____

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

LOOKING FOR A LONG LOST BATTLE BUDDY?

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

SABER

The newspaper of the 1st Cavalry Division Association
published during each even numbered month at
302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703
Phone: (254) 547-6537 / 547-7019
Email: firstcav@1CDA.org
Website: <http://www.1CDA.org>
www.facebook.com/AlumniOfTheFirstTeam

Dara C. Wydler: Executive Director
Tina Wilgeroth: Program Director / Editor / Graphics
Karleen Maloney: Memberships / Scholarships / Chapter Director


ARTICLE SUBMISSION

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


LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:



This scholarship means a lot to me because it will enable me to progress on my journey throughout college. With the help of this scholarship, I will be able to pursue a career that I am passionate about and help people in my community. Given the challenges this year has presented in terms of education, this scholarship has been very helpful. Being at home and having online classes has been difficult but knowing that I have all the resources necessary to pay for my education is very reassuring during this time.
Caitlin Evans



This scholarship expands my college experience greatly. As a junior, this scholarship has allowed me the opportunity to graduate a semester early and join the teaching field as soon as possible. Because of this scholarship, I am able to do what I love earlier than I thought was possible, and I am very grateful for it. As well as being able to graduate early, I was also able to add in a few extra credits to obtain a Psychology minor that will go with my Early Childhood Education Bachelor's degree. Psychology has always been a field that has interested me, and I am now able to further my curiosity and use that minor to help me become a better teacher!
Caroline Evans

WANTED:

SP4 LOUK: 1ST BDE, FORWARD SUPPORT ELEMENT
I am looking for Spec4 Louk (he was from the Midwest) and he was assigned with me on January 27, 1968, with 1st FSE. We were at the Quang Tri Airfield and we were moving out of LZ English. We were assigned as a movement control element moving into both Phu Bai and then the Quang Tri Marine Airfield (and ultimately to LZ Jack Rabbit). Elements of both the 1st and 2nd Brigade of the Cav were moved through the Marine Airfield. On the night of January 27th, we took several incoming 122-mm rockets that killed a complete battalion staff to include their commanding officer, LTC Long.
Earlier in the afternoon Spec4 Louk located a two-man foxhole that had been vacated on a sandy part of the tarmac. While moving in, he fixed up a blast shield that was put in front of the entrance where I was laying down and we had a rocket hit around 50 yards in front of the foxhole. His blast shield was blown up along with part of the sandbags around the foxhole. I never properly thanked him as I was sleeping on my flack vest as a pillow and it caught some shrapnel, but the blast shield certainly saved my life.
COL Thomas "Mike" Jackson 281-242-1181 or <1OEJA10@gmail.com>.

JERROME (JERRY) CHANDLER: 82nd ARTILLERY
I am researching and writing a book about the 9 men from my hometown, Norfolk, NE, who died in the Vietnam War. One of these men was Jerrome (Jerry) Chandler, who served in Vietnam from July 1966 - Summer 1967. He was a radio-teletype chief attached to E Battery, 82nd Artillery, 1st Cav Airmobile. If you knew Jerry during his first tour of Vietnam, I would like to talk to you.
Thanks, Keith Walton (307) 359-8218 <kwalt1022@yahoo.com>



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

KOREAN ALLIANCE

Second Brigade (Black Jack), 1st Cavalry Division, then Commanded by COL Sean Bernabe, deployed to Korea from June 2015 to February 2016 in support of United States Forces Korea and assigned to Second Infantry Division. The purpose of their deployment was to deter aggression and maintain peace on the Korean Peninsula; and if deterrence fails, “Fight Tonight” in support of the U.S. Republic of Korea Alliance. An Alliance that started with the first amphibious land-



Wreath Laying Ceremony



38th Parallel Monument relocated



Korean Veterans who served with the Division during the Korean War

ing of 1st Cavalry Division at Pohang Dong, South Korea in July 1950 following the North Korean invasion of South Korea in June 1950. This was one of several firsts the Division would accomplish to include being the “First in Pyongyang” the capital of North Korea. After 549 days of continuous combat, the Division would return to Japan until 1957 followed by a return to the Korean Peninsula until 1965.

The 549 days of combat with our Korean Partners would shape what is today the best Alliance between two Armies. An Alliance that was forged in blood and steel and 71 years later continues with strength and resolve.



FIRST TEAM!

The Black Jack Brigade Troopers took the opportunity to continue the strong relationship with their Korean Partners through several partnership events, professional development and Team building events and Korea War battlefield site circulation.



Museum south of the DMZ. 1st Cavalry and the breakout.

Depicted in the photos are the monuments and memorials from 1st Cavalry Division’s 549 days of continuous conflict. The wreath laying ceremonies were combined and present were the Korean Soldiers who fought side by side with our Troopers who continue to be incredibly proud of their service not only to their country but being part of the First Team.

MICHAEL A. BILLS
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army, Retired.
Former Commander (2014-16), 1st Cavalry Division/8th U.S. Army



Hill 303 monument of the massacre of 1st Cavalry Troopers on 17 Aug 1950 above the city of Waegwan Korea, 42 prisoners and 4 survivors shot by the North Koreans.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – REUNION 2021

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 25 September 2021:

- 1st Vice President
- 2nd Vice President
- 3rd Vice President
- One Foundation Trustee
- Ten Places on the Board of Governors

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, 2020 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 30 June 2021 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 organizations 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 General Membership meeting at the 73rd Annual Reunion of the Association on Saturday 25 September 2021 in Killeen, TX. Nominations from the floor will be accepted. A Life Member making such nomination will be expected to provide the information outlined above on the nominee and in addition provide assurance that the nominee is either present at the General Membership meeting or has agreed to accept nomination to the specified office.

SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS

1CDA supports four scholarships for qualified applicants:

ACTIVE DUTY SCHOLARSHIP

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

FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

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

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

IA DRANG SCHOLARSHIP

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

SUPPORT THE FUTURE, DONATE TODAY!
NOT available online

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

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

Form of Payment:

☐ Cash ☐ Check Enclosed ☐ Credit Card

Credit Card # _____

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

Name on Card: _____

Signature _____

Phone # _____

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

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

LRRP/Ranger News



Ken White
3834 Inverness Road
Fairfax, VA 22033
(703) 989-7630
KenWhite68@yahoo.com

Hello from the nation's capital. The National Museum of the United States Army at Fort Belvoir, Virginia finally opened its doors to the public on Veterans Day, November 11,

2020. The opening was marked by a virtual ceremony due to the Covid-19 virus and was broadcast as live video so it could be viewed online. The ceremony consisted of a sequence of pre-recorded speeches by high-level dignitaries, which included acting Secretary of Defense Christopher C. Miller and Secretary of the Army Ryan D. McCarthy, both former Army officers, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Army General Mark A. Milley, and Army Chief of Staff, Army General James C. McConville. The speeches were followed by a ribbon-cutting ceremony featuring the Army's Golden Knights Parachute Team parachuting out of C31 Fokker F27 Troopships onto the museum grounds and delivering a ceremonial saber to SGT James Akinola, the U.S. Army Soldier of the Year. The saber was then presented to Museum Director Tammy Call to cut a black-and-gold colored ribbon signaling the official opening of the museum. Sergeant Major of the Army, Michael A. Grinston was also in attendance.

The ceremony lasted only 36 minutes, yet it was very impressive. If you have the time, you may want to go online and view it. It is available on several websites, just search for 'Opening of the National Museum of the United States Army.' The museum is the "first comprehensive and truly national museum to capture, display, and interpret over 245 years of Army history," according to General McConville.

Projections for attendance at the museum estimate that 750,000 people will visit it annually, but for now, Covid-19 related attendance restrictions are in place that will limit attendance. Tickets are required for admission. However, they are free and are available online on a first-come, first-serve basis. They are time-and-date stamped and must be obtained in advance. According to the museum's website, this is intended to regulate capacity. One last thing, the museum is located adjacent to the golf course on the North Post of Fort Belvoir, but it is not accessible from the post. You must exit the post and access the museum via the Fairfax County Parkway, just north of where it ends at U.S. Route #1.

While the ribbon-cutting ceremony was taking place at the museum, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) was conducting its Veterans Day Observance at The Wall on The National Mall, some 20 miles north of Fort Belvoir. Like the ceremony at the museum, it too was virtual and was broadcast as live video so it could be viewed online. If you would like to view it, use your browser, and go to URL <<http://www.vvmf.org>>, click on *Remember & Honor Those Who Served* on the banner across the top of the page, then click on *Ceremonies*, and finally click on *Veterans Day*.

The theme of the Veterans Day Observance focused on War Dogs (i.e., sentry dogs, scout dogs, and combat tracker dogs) used by the U.S. Military in Vietnam. Apparently, it was a subject that the VVMF had wanted to showcase for some time, according to host Jim Knotts.

According to the video, sentry dogs were used within each branch of the U.S. Military in Vietnam, and they were also used by the U.S. Air Force (USAF) at facilities in Thailand. These dogs were first used at the airbase in Da Nang in northern South Vietnam starting in March 1965, shortly after the U.S. Marines arrived there to help defend the base. The base was being used jointly by the Republic of Vietnam Air Force (VNAF) and the USAF to conduct bombing operations over North Vietnam. It was constantly coming under attack by local Viet Cong forces and the sentry dogs were used as a first line of defense against the attacks. The dogs and their handlers usually worked at night and carried out the mission of detect, detain, and destroy. Shortly afterwards, sentry dogs were deployed at the airbase at Bien Hoa, 20 kilometers northeast of Saigon, which was also being used jointly by the VNAF and USAF, and at naval installations at Qui Nhon and Cam Ranh Bay on the coast in central South Vietnam. Sentry dogs were also deployed at ammunition depots, supply areas, camps, flight lines, and other sensitive areas. Most of the sentry dogs were German Shepherds, although a diversity of breeds was initially accepted, but as experience with the dogs was gained, the choice became the German Shepherds. Most of the sentry dogs were trained at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, although some of them were trained at Showa (Tachikawa, Japan). Most of the dog handlers were also trained at Lackland or Showa, but some were trained in-country.

In early 1966, the Army and Marines started using scout dogs to complement infantry operations. The scout dogs frequently walked point for the infantry companies at the request of battalion or company commanders and served as the "eyes and ears" of the units. They were trained to look for booby trap wires, hidden caches of food or weapons, and enemy soldiers lying in wait to ambush the infantrymen. They also assisted in searching villages and suspected areas of enemy activity. When a scout dog alerted, the handler passed the information to the platoon leader who then moved his Troops forward. The dogs also frequently participated in combat engineer operations.

One of the first scout dog units to arrive in Vietnam was the 25th Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog), which arrived in-country in June 1966. It was assigned to I Field Force, Vietnam (pronounced "FIRST" Field Force, Vietnam), and attached to the 1st Cav. At one point, there were three separate and independent scout dog platoons attached to the 1st Cav: the 25th Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog), the 34th Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog), and the 37th Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog). All three of these units remained attached to the division until it stood down in 1971 and returned to the U.S. Between 1966 and 1969, 22 Army scout dog

platoons and four Marine scout dog platoons were deployed to Vietnam to support Army and Marine infantry operations, according to the video.

The scout dogs, like the sentry dogs, were trained at Lackland or Showa, and their handlers were usually trained there also, but not always. Some were trained in-country.

Combat tracker dogs were also used in Vietnam to chase down Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Army soldiers attempting to break contact with American units and flee back into the jungle, tracker dogs were used by special tracker teams to locate the fleeing enemy so contact could be reestablished with them. These dogs were also used to find missing personnel (i.e., downed pilots and wounded Soldiers left behind on the battlefield). Like the scout dogs, tracker dogs were used at the request of battalion and company commanders to complement ground operations.

The biggest difference between tracker and scout dogs was that tracker dogs used body odors, airborne scents, fresh footprints, and blood trails as scents to sniff to track someone or something, whereas scout dogs were trained to alert to unfamiliar things, mostly in the air but also on the ground, as in the case of trip wires, enemy personnel, and booby traps.

Black and Yellow Labrador Retrievers were preferred as tracker dogs because they were very well disciplined even in dangerous situations, according to John Duple, 62nd Infantry Platoon (Combat Tracker Dog), which was attached to the 1st Cav. "They did not bark or alert the enemy, unlike other breeds of dogs, such as bloodhounds and beagles." Tracker dogs were trained at the British Jungle Warfare School in Johore Bahru, Malaysia, as were most of the dog handlers. As the war went on, however, training facilities were established at Fort Gordon, Georgia, to reduce the load on the British Jungle Warfare School. According to the U.S. Military, 4,244 war dogs served in Vietnam. The U.S. War Dog Association, based in New Jersey, however, estimates that the number of dogs that served in Vietnam was closer to 4,900 but incomplete records in the early years of the war make it impossible to come up with a more accurate number. Each dog had an identification number, that is, a service number, tattooed inside each of its ears.

More than 10,000 dog handlers served in Vietnam, and 297 of them, along with one veterinarian, and two vet technicians, died in Vietnam. One handler, SSG Robert W. Hartsock, 44th Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog), from Cumberland, Maryland, received the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously for his extraordinary heroism and bravery in defending against a sapper attack at the Dau Tieng base camp of the 25th Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade, Hau Nghia Province, on February 23, 1969. When the U.S. military withdrew from Vietnam in 1972, most of the dogs that survived were either euthanized or given to the Army of the Republic of Vietnamese (ARVN), according to the video. Only about 200 of them were returned to the United States.

The names of the 4,244 dogs that served in the military in Vietnam, are inscribed on a memorial at the Motts Military Museum in Groveport, Ohio. The names of the 297 dog handlers, one veterinarian, and two vet technicians, who died in Vietnam, are also inscribed on the memorial.

On a different note, the following email was received from **David Dempsey**, who served in the 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry: "Mr. White, My name is David Dempsey. I served w/ Echo Recon 1st Battalion, 5th Cav from November 1968 to November 1969. I attended what was called LRRP School in December 1968 - best training I ever had. Regarding Deverton Cochrane, I have read two quite different reports as to his disappearance. The first is that his team reconnoiter FSB David the day before and on mission day he was hit as he exited the helicopter. The rest of the team was unable to get to him because of withering enemy fire. The report goes on to state that he was hit directly in the chest. Because of intense fire from the enemy, the team was forced to egress on the same helicopter. The other report is similar to yours. This incident has always interested me, and I would be interested in your thoughts. Thank you. David Dempsey, <dempseydavid11@gmail.com>."

[OFFICIAL AAR from the National Archives] On 17 June 1970, Ranger Team 52, at 1730 hours, while moving into a wood line at YU386618, came under enemy small arms and automatic weapons fire from bunkers and trees. The Team returned fire until contact was broken at 1745 hours. The contact resulted in 1 enemy KIA, 2 Ranger KIAs, and 2 Ranger WIAs. One of the Team members evaded to FSB David to bring assistance since the Team's radio was destroyed by enemy fire. A search of the contact area on the 18th resulted in the recovery of the 2 wounded Rangers but there was no trace of the 2 Ranger KIAs. Further searches of the area were conducted until 30th June, to which there was negative findings. [END OF OFFICIAL AAR from the National Archives]

One of the things that is interesting about this incident from the perspective of the LRRPs, is that Team 52 was inserted onto the ground the day after FSB David was attacked on June 13/14th, 1970 by North Vietnamese Army sappers. FSB David was located in eastern Cambodia and had been established there as part of the U.S. Military's effort to clear out the North Vietnamese Army units that were using Cambodia - a neutral country- as a staging area for attacks into South Vietnam. Team 52 was inserted into the area on the morning of June 15, 1970. It makes you wonder if the team was put out there to locate the encampment of the North Vietnamese sappers who attacked FSB David. Once the National Archives in College Park, Maryland reopens from the Covid-19 shutdown, I plan to visit there and locate the AAR for the 1/9th Cav that rescued the two wounded LRRPs and see if it provides any further detail on the incident.

On a final note, the Covid-19 vaccine is on the way, so remember to get it, and when in public wear a mask until health officials give the all-clear signal for not having to wear one any longer. And I hope that everyone had a joyous holiday season and that you and your families have a healthy, happy, and prosperous 2021.

RANGERS LEAD THE WAY.



Scout Dog, LZ Jane, Thua Thien Province, 1968



25th Inf Plt (Scout Dog), LZ Betty, Quang Tri City, February 1968



5th CAV News

Harold P. "Doc" Truitt
4584 50th St W
Rosamond, CA 93560
661-810-5971
rr3-6bandaid@antelecom.net



Pride in one's unit is something that occurs, (I would suppose), in most military organizations. It is a fact however that not all units are created equal, even though some units of varying size, that have come and gone have done some amazing things. What amazes me about our Division, and the 5th Cav, is the exceptionally long history of imaginative and courageous application of military power. In this issue I had hoped to present an accurate and colorful description of what we did in Viet Nam. It was published in Stars and Stripes shortly after it happened and very beautifully written. The account was sent to me by retired SGM Ernest O. Zenker on original newsprint and I liked it a lot. On asking Stars and Stripes for permission to present it here the agreement required complete, unedited use. Since a part of the original story was not present that I could see, I could not fill in the blanks and put it in. It is no secret how the 1st Cav has adapted and reformed over the years, and we do see depictions of how we worked in Viet Nam, I try not to get into too many "war stories" of personal and generic interest as we usually see a few of these in our publication anyway. Descriptions of how well we operate as a unit that allow us to see how consistent, imaginative, and courageous our efforts have been I like to see presented. It gives substance to our pride and scope to our history. We always need that!

Gary Marstall, Greg Rice, and James Smith have all been in touch since our last article. So have my good friends Jonathon Shockley and David Garcia. Thanks, in each case for your support. In addition, Rich Sherwood usually gives me a hand editing and in other ways and has here as well.

The 5th Cav Assoc newsletter is presently produced by our treasurer, Rich Sherwood. We are lucky to have him for several reasons. This last issue of that missive includes a story Rich located, written by Charles King in a book titled *Campaigning with Crook* now out of copyright and can be obtained from Google Books for free. It can also be found from other sources. King was an officer of the 5th Cav at the time. Many of the officers at that time had served in the Civil War and it is explained that though following that conflict many served at ranks below that achieved during its progress, they are referred to, as a courtesy, at rank held during that war. Rich uses King's own narrative as it is both descriptive and colorful. I will show a capsulized version to demonstrate the 5th Cav's adaptive nature pointing out that such is not new to our unit. The story is part of the campaign that followed the Little Bighorn and Custer's defeat there. Companies of the 5th under Wesley Merritt, were on their way to support GEN Crook in his efforts, they traveled north from Cheyenne toward Fort Laramie. I open King's narrative at:

On Saturday, the 15th of July, just at noon, General Merritt received the dispatch from the Red Cloud agency which decided the subsequent movement of his command. Merritt's information was from MAJ Stanton, substantially to the effect that eight hundred warriors would leave the reservation on Sunday morning, fully equipped for the warpath, and with the avowed intention of joining the hostiles in the Little Bighorn country. To continue on his march to Laramie and let them go would have been gross, if not criminal, neglect. To follow by the direct road to the reservation, sixty-five miles away, would have been simply to drive them out and hasten their move. Manifestly there was but one thing to be done: to throw himself across their path and capture or drive them back, and to do this he must, relatively speaking, march over three sides of a square while they were traversing the fourth and must do it undiscovered (skipping ahead for brevity). We have marched eighty-five miles in thirty-one hours and here we

are, square in their front, ready and eager to dispute with the Cheyenne their crossing on the morrow.

Merritt left his supply train with his quartermaster, LT Hall to catch up later, and Hall did so early the next morning.

To our rear is the line of bluffs that marks the tortuous course of the stream, and the timber itself is becoming mistily visible in the morning light. A faint wreath of fog creeps up from the stagnant water where busy beavers have checked its flow, and from the southward not even an Indian eye could tell that close under those bluffs seven companies of Veteran cavalry are crouching, ready for a spring.

Another minute, and two miles away we sight another group of five or six mounted warriors. In ten minutes, we have seen half a dozen different parties popping up into plain sight, the rapidly scurrying back out of view. At five o'clock they have appeared all along our front for three miles, but they do not approach nearer. Their movements puzzle me. We do not believe they have seen us. They make no attempt at concealment from our side, but they keep peering over ridges towards the west, and dodging behind slopes that hide from that direction.

It must be our indefatigable Quartermaster Hall with our train. And he has been marching all night to reach us. He is guarded by two companies of stalwart infantry, but they are invisible. He has stowed them away in wagons and is probably only afraid that the Indians will not attack him.

The little hill on which we are lying is steep, almost precipitous on its southern slope, washed away apparently by the torrent that in the rainy season must come tearing down the long ravine directly ahead of us. It leads down from the distant ridge and sweeps past us to our right, where it is crossed by the very trail on which we marched in, and along which, three miles away, the wagon train is now approaching. The two come together like a V, and we are at its point, while between them juts out a long spur of hills. The trail cannot be seen from the ravine, and vice versa, while we on our point see both. At the head of the ravine, a mile, and a half away, a party of thirty or forty Indians are scurrying about in eager and excited motion. "What in thunder are those vagabonds fooling about?" says Buffalo Bill, who has joined us with Tait and Chips, two of his pet assistants. Even while we speculate the answer is plain. Riding towards us, way ahead of the wagon train, two Soldiers come loping along the trail. They bring dispatches to the command, no doubt, and knowing us to be down here in the bottom somewhere, have started ahead to reach us. They see no Indians; for it is only from them and the train the wily foe is concealed, and all unsuspecting of their danger they come jauntily ahead. Now is the valiant red man's opportunity. Come on brothers Swift Bear, Two Bulls, Bloody Hand; come on, ten or a dozen of you, my braves-there are only two of the pale-faced dogs, and they shall feel the red man's vengeance forthwith. Come on, come on! We'll dash down this ravine, a dozen of us, and six to one we'll slay and scalp them without danger to ourselves; and a hundred to one we will brag about it the rest of our lives.

The color and commentary of King and the detail he describes make it worth reading his book instead of my much-condensed narrative, but the point of imagination, courage, and industry by the cavalry to achieve the assigned object is made. Making an eighty-five-mile detour in the Wyoming wilderness in that time, and the means of LT Hall to keep his wagons safe while not giving away the game, are hallmarks of what we have always tried to do. The native warriors did not get what they planned, and the fight went as you might expect. The above incident is referred to as "The Fight on the War Bonnet."

I am still looking for a good description of 1st Cav operations in Viet Nam. Something that shows the depth of our approach as well as effect. If you know of one give me a shout. I tried to get SGM Schenker's article out of the Stars and Stripes archives without success. It was titled "Night Assault-A Science Fiction Scene" and was written by PFC Phil Manger. This piece or any this descriptive are what I seek. It was dated Wednesday, Nov 13, 1968.

OTHER REUNIONS:

ACO 1-12 Cav, 19-23 Apr 2021. Double Hilton, Asheville, NC. Reservations 828-274-1800; POC: J.D. Kirby 770-534-8676.

D CO 2-12 Cav, 11-16 May 2021. Cabins in Edgar Evins State Park, TN. Reservations 800-250-8619; POC: Fred Wilson 740-331-1814.

12th Cav 15th Annual Reunion, 31 May-6 Jun 2021. Welk Resort, Branson, MO. Reservations 800-808-9355 GP # 633590 12th Cavalry; POC: Thomas Crabtree 432-853-4851.

15th Medical Battalion Association Reunion, 10-14 June 2021. Courtyard Kokomo, Kokomo, IN (near Grissom Aeroplex). Reservations 765-453-0800 use Group Code 15th Med Bn POC: Dan and Betty Korty, Call or text 765-714-6838. Info at <www.15thmedbnassociation.org>.

20th & 79th ARA Reunion, 30 Aug-3 Sept 2021. Holiday Inn Express 199 East Bay Street Savannah, GA. Reservations 912-231- 9000 or 888-978-6498; Hosts are Jerry and Ann Hipp.

A Trp, 9 Cav Vietnam Era Reunion, 1-5 Sept 2021. Albuquerque, NM; POC: Ron Livingston, <rflivingston@msn.com>.

77FA Reunion, 15-19 Sept 2021. Colorado Springs; POC: John Moran, <johnjanmoran@woh.rr.com>.

1st Cavalry Division Association 73rd Reunion (Division 100th Birthday), 22-26 Sept 2021. Shilo Inn, Killeen, TX. Reservations 254-699-0999 or 800-222-2244. Refer to pages 12-13 for other hotels, registration form & further information.

C Trp, 9 Cav Vietnam Era Reunion, 25-27 Sept 2021. Columbus, GA; POC: Pat Bieneman, (859) 771-6342 or <pcbnamin@verizon.net>.

D CO 1-12 Cav, 27-30 Sept 2021. South Point Casino Hotel & Spa Las Vegas, NV. Reservations 702-797-8901; POC: Tom Kjos 480-352-2583 or Fred MacLennan 347-853-1281.

Have your upcoming reunions posted here!

TAPS:

We were notified of the death of the following:

AMAGLIANI, CSM (RET) Chris, CSM 3-227 AVN, 2006; CSM 615th ASB, 2008; CSM 1ACB, 2012. 20 December 2020.

CAMARILLO, SGT Castulo Jr., B Co, 2-7 CAV, 1966. 16 December 2020.

CLARK, SP4 Stephen V., C Btry, 1-30 FA, 1968. 19 February 2020.

COOMBS, SSG Robert V., D Co, 1-9 CAV, 1965-67. 31 December 2020.

CREED, SP4 Ollie L., 27th MNT, 1967. 18 December 2020.

GLICK, COL Steven A., 1-77 FA, 1969-70. 10 December 2020.

GOEDKEN, CPL Francis "Frank" P., HHB, 99 FA, 1953-54. 16 July 2020. (Last Cav survivor of the Toya Maru)

GREEN, COL Tobin "Toby," G-3, 1CD, 2006-07; Cdr, 1st BCT, 2008-2010. 27 October 2020.

HANEY, Trooper Dennis L., 1CD, 1969-72. 18 August 2020.

HART, LTC Joe P., HHC, G4, 1CD, 1989. 21 November 2020.

JACOBSON, SP4 Frederick "Gary," B Co, 2-7 CAV, 1966. 1 December 2020.

KELLEY, 1SG (Ret) Fillmore, A Co 2-5 Cav & 1-7 Cav, 1965-72. 25 December 2020.

LOVELL, MSG James W., 1CD, 1945-46. 25 November 2020. (Imperial Palace Guard - Occupation of Japan)

MABE, SP4 Edward A., B Co, 2-7 CAV, 1967. 18 September 2020.

MCDOWELL, SGT Donald G., 1CD, 1967. 6 December 2020.

MOORE, SP5 Ronald E., HHC, 8th ENG, 1967. 11 August 2020.

MOZEY, LTC (RET) William B. Jr., C Co, 1-8 CAV, 1966. 20 December 2020.

RAMIREZ, 1SG (RET) Eduardo, B Co, 2/7 CAV. 20 April 2020.

REARDON, SGT James L., A Co, 2-5 CAV, 1966-67. 31 December 2020.

SEEBB, 1LT Walter J., Cdr, E Co, 8 CAV, 1952 & HHC, 2/8 CAV, 1953. 13 November 2020.

SPENCER, Trooper Ronnie J., A Co, 2-12 CAV, 1970. 30 December 2020.

STEPHENS, PFC William M., A Co, 2-8 CAV, 1944. 17 October 2020.

WEAVER, SGT William L., H Co, 75 INF, 1970. 25 November 2020.

WENTWORTH, COL (RET) Eugene "Gene" G. Jr., HHC, DISCOM, 1972; Bn Cdr 15 ST, 1973; DIV-G4, 1975. 29 October 2020. (1CDA Trustee - Foundation & Museum)

ACTIVE-DUTY TAPS

We have been notified of no non-combat Active-Duty deaths.

12th CAV News



Thomas Lon Crabtree
195 Buzz Street # 18
Branson, MO 65616
432-853-4851
MMCTLC3@aol.com
www.12thCav.US



Hear Ye...Hear Ye...Happy New Year and Semper Paratus!

A note from HCOR James W. Dingeman: Sylvia and I want to send warmest greetings to all and best wishes to all our friends. We are doing OK, coping with the COVID 19. We are staying home and keeping our masks handy. We did not make it to Florida this fall and will wait for the situation to improve. Our attitude remains positive and upbeat, but we still have some senior citizen problems, but are always prepared to move out rapidly. All you folks take care, keep alert, be careful and follow safety guidelines. Happy New Year, proud to be a 12th CAV Trooper...Jim and Sylvia!

From the Crabtree Household: Maggie and I pray that all had a pleasant holiday season, and your New Year began on an upbeat note, in a good rhythmic, spirited positive expectation for 2021. We are blessed the holiday season was pleasant to us and fortunate (thus far) to not have been hit by the COVID 19 Bullet. For us, holiday expectations begin 31 Oct, accelerated around Veterans Week-Thanksgiving, and culminate 31 Dec, our anniversary date...20 years in 2020, in the year known as the cancelled year, Thank God we were not cancelled, did not cancel each other (HA!). Aside from a couple of diversionary visits back to 506 Valley and LZ Bird (Dec 1966) all is well that ends well. We welcome 2021!

For all of us who were panged by the deep hole in the gut from reunion cancellation, take heart and look up, five events on the plate in 2021, four among 12th Cavalry...1st Cavalry Division Reunion celebrating 100 years 22-26 Sept.

1st Plate: A CO 1-12, 19-23 Apr, Asheville, NC, Double Hilton. Reservations 828-274-1800; For information contact J.D. Kirby 770-534-8676.

2nd Helping: D CO 2-12, 11-16 May, Edgar Evins State Park, TN, Cabins. Reservations 800-250-8619; For information contact Fred Wilson 740-331-1814.

Entrée: 12th CAV 15th (15.5) Annual Reunion, 31 May-6 Jun, Branson, MO, Welk Resort. Reservations 800-808-9355 GP # 633590 12th Cavalry; For information contact Thomas Crabtree 432-853-4851.

Main Course: 1st Cavalry Division 100th year, 22-26 Sept, Killeen, TX Shilo Inn. Reservations 254-699-0999; For information contact the 1CDA office 254-547-6537.

Dessert: D CO 1-12, 27-30 Sept, Las Vegas, NV, South Point Casino Hotel and Spa. Reservations 702-797-8901; For information contact Tom Kjos 480-352-2583 or Fred MacLennan 347-853-1281.

With the vaccine in distribution and a veritable banquet of reunions on the menu, our appetites are increased for gatherings with the Brothers and Sisters, 2021 does hold promise for a good year! COVID threat should be in decline when the first gathering commences. Get in touch with your primary care teams for vaccine availability, contact the coordinators indicated above for safety concerns and threat levels in the locales where you wish to attend. Saddle up and be ready to make at least one if not two or all if possible.



Wilson, Mata, Crabtree, Chapman

Crabtree met with Three 2-12 Troopers of the last phase (late 1969-1971) Ron Rowden, Ken Chapman, Fred Wilson. We rigged up Fred's truck and sat in the back of his truck (photo above), entered the Veterans Day Parade 11 Nov as 12th Cavalry. Through the 13th we stayed busy with various doings and 12th CAV Esprit de Corps. The week closed Friday evening with dinner at The Welk, 13 of us enjoyed a Thanksgiving fare. Saturday, we said our see ya later parting words. All who travelled from OH, SC, KS, OK returned home safe and sound, two of us are here in Branson and well thus far. All are preparing for 12th Cavalry event 31 May-6 June here in Branson, information is in Crossed Sabers.



COL Phil Blake Command Staff College Ft Leavenworth

A year riding the reunion circuit can lead to a year to be remembered and good conversation when we get to our destined place at Fiddlers' Green, until then let us do it in Chargin' 12th Cavalry Trooper style!

There was an uptick to the lost year, Veterans Week here in Branson, 9-13 Nov with the cancellation of the 12th Cavalry 15th year event, five Troopers decided to show up anyway with spouses and other guests. Two C CO 1-12 originals of the (Airborne) period 1965-1967, Mario Mata and Thomas



Chapman, Mata, Wilson, Crabtree with Lawrence Welk statue

Received a call from J.D. Kirby just after Veterans Week to inform me that COL (RET) Phillip L. Blake was designated as a distinguished member of the 12th Cavalry Regiment. The recommendation was submitted by Leon J. Hinton (former Association President 2018-2020). Due to the changeover of officers June 2020 and cancelled Division Reunion in June we could not present the certificate as we usually do in our 12th Cavalry Luncheon Meeting. COL Blake served in A Co 1-12 (ABN) as CO and HHC as XO 1966-1967. Respected by 1-12th Troopers COL Blake, West Point 1961, was an inspiring leader in Vietnam and since. He was one of those officers whose primary concern was safety of the men he commanded, and he has been a sustaining presence at the 12th Cavalry Reunions in Branson. COL Blake has written several poems and other anecdotes about

the Vietnam experience and the men he knew and commanded. Following is one of his anecdotes that tells a moving and insightful story about the bonds of Brotherhood formed in War:

A Tale of Two G.I. Joes

Most Americans have heard of the mythical Soldier named G.I. Joe. He came out of WWII and became the name that represented every service member of that war and afterwards. This narrative concerning two Soldiers named Joe, who served in Vietnam 1966-1967 in 1st Battalion (Airborne) 12th Cavalry.

One G.I. Joe, 1LT Joe Anderson, USMA Class of 1965, who was a platoon leader in Co B, 1st Battalion (Airborne) 12th Cavalry. You may remember the TV documentary entitled "*The Anderson Platoon*" that focused on Joe and the platoon he led. Joe was highly decorated during that tour and again in his second tour 1970-1971. Joe later earned a master's degree at UCLA, was an instructor at West Point and was a White House Fellow before resigning from the Army as a Major in 1978. He entered the business world where he was remarkably successful, serving as CEO of several large companies.

The other Soldier named Joe was a young, enlisted man in Co A of the same battalion as Joe Anderson. Although they were there at the same time, it is likely that Joe Cunningham never crossed paths with Joe Anderson. Other than being Infantry Soldiers in the same battalion and answering to the same first name, they had little in common, except that both were African Americans. The only award Joe Cunningham received was a Purple Heart, and that is what this story is about.

Joe Cunningham was born 29 December 1947, grew up in Columbus, MS. After finishing school, he enlisted in the Army, intending to make it his career. He completed Basic Training and Advanced Infantry Training in early 1967 and was assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), Camp Radcliffe, South Vietnam. Further assigned to Co A, 1st Battalion (Airborne) 12th Cavalry. A specialist fourth class (SP4), machine gunner in the fourth platoon.

18 December 1967, the unit was engaged in the battle of Tam Quan in Binh Dinh Province. Joe's luck ran out that day. Co A was conducting platoon patrols in several different directions. The fourth platoon leader established a command post (CP) outside a village and sent out three squads on patrols. The CP consisted of the platoon leader, his radio-telephone operator (RTO), his medic, several other Soldiers including Joe and his machine gun. Located near the CP was a haystack and an old bomb crater filled with water. Soaked from rain the previous night, the Soldiers set fire to the haystack to dry themselves. The company commander, CPT Jack Burdett saw the smoke from his CP, knew it could reveal their position to the enemy, called on the radio to put out the fire. Some of the Troops started dipping water from the bomb crater and throwing it on the burning haystack, but it was too late. Munitions hidden in the haystack by the Viet Cong (VC) exploded violently, throwing out a rain of shrapnel. The RTO, SP4 Gerry Guidinas (who contributed this account), immediately started giving first aid to two wounded buddies. As he did so, he saw Joe Cunningham on the ground, his uniform smoldering. Joe had taken the brunt of the blast. He was riddled with shrapnel, but the wound on the side of his head was devastating. It was later found to be a traumatic brain injury. He was immediately evacuated by helicopter to a field hospital. His buddies were not optimistic about his chance of survival. It was not until many years later they learned that Joe had been further evacuated to Japan and then to the states where he received extensive, lengthy treatment and was eventually medically discharged from the Army. He was sent home in a wheelchair with no memory how he was wounded and little memory of his Vietnam service. He was a shell of the happy young man he had been. Joe's wife divorced him, but he later found a wonderful, compassionate woman named Nancy and married again.

Fast forward to 2011, the 12th Cavalry had been having reunions in the Ozark Mountain resort town of Branson, Missouri since 2006. Joe's brother Troopers had searched for Joe for years without success, but he was finally found, mainly through the investigative work of Truman Carroll (KY), another contributor to the story, with help from Gerry Guidinas (AZ). Joe's stepson bought tickets to fly Joe and Nancy to the reunion, and a generous buddy, Dennis Barrios (AK), paid for their hotel room.

Walking and talking was difficult for Joe, but it was evident that he was excited and delighted to be with some of his old friends from A Co, although remembering was difficult. Some of the guys had photographs from their Vietnam days that they displayed on laptops. Joe was positioned in a chair in the hospitality room for these sessions, surrounded by his friends, usually the only black face in a gaggle of white, and that face was aglow. He began to remember some of his old friends, but it was heart-wrenching to watch him struggle to do so.

A banquet is always on the last evening of these reunions, a Saturday night. Having learned that Joe's Purple Heart medal had been lost in a house fire some years earlier, his buddies had procured a

replacement with which to surprise him. The master of ceremonies, Doug Warden (OK) had asked me, his former company commander, to say a few words about Joe and his Purple Heart from the podium, and then take the medal to his table and present it to him. When I made that announcement, Joe indicated he wanted to come forward to the podium to receive his award, and to the surprise of everyone, he walked to the podium without any assistance. After I had pinned on his medal, Joe then further surprised us by expressing his appreciation clearly in several sentences and returned unaided to his table amid thunderous applause. It was an incredible moment. Joe's transformation during the few days of the reunion brought tears to the eyes of many of the tough old Veterans. Nancy later said that Joe spoke more words at that time than he had spoken in months.

The following day, after the usual memorial service, we all returned to our homes. Ten days later Truman Carroll received a midnight phone call from Joe's daughter, Stephanie, to tell him that her dad was gone. The next day Truman called the other A Co Troops with the sad news. We were stunned. He had seemed so hearty at the reunion. It was as though he had marshalled all his resources for one final time and then allowed death to overtake him. He was possibly the last casualty of the Vietnam War.

Truman and Theresa Carroll attended Joe's funeral, their expenses paid by his fellow Troopers, who also sent a beautiful floral arrangement. Truman brought a black Cavalry Stetson hat, which was placed atop Joe's casket. Truman later told me that, although they were the only white people in attendance, they were treated like family by Joe's widow, Nancy, even riding in the car with her to the cemetery.

Continued to pg. 7

7th CAV News



Karl Swenson
3526 E Park Ln
Bloomington, IN 47408
(812) 345-4055
kswenson1@wgu.edu



Greetings to all my 7th Cavalry brothers and sisters, and to you all, a Happy New Year! We are blessed to have 2020 in the history books as we move forward with life. As I put the final touches on this column, I am watching an attack being waged upon the United States Capitol Building while Congress is attempting to validate the election of the 46th president of the United States. Friends, I am saddened to see these repugnant results of what we all fought for, the freedoms for which our friends and brothers died. I am sure that none of us imagined that something like this would happen in our lifetimes. The last time this building was forcibly entered was in 1814, when the British forces burned the Capitol near the end of the War of 1812. May we soon begin to return to a more civilized and law-abiding time when protest is peaceful.

Did you know?? The 7th Cavalry Regiment is 154 years old. Now, for a bit of history. On 21 September 1866 - The 7th Cavalry Regiment was organized at Fort Riley, KS.

Today, the 7th Cavalry Regiment is represented by the following active Units:
The 1st Squadron, assigned to 1st Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division.

The 2nd Squadron, assigned to 3rd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division.

The 3rd Squadron, assigned to 2nd Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, at Fort Stewart, GA.

The 5th Squadron, assigned to the 1st Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, GA.

As we look forward to September of 2021, the 100th birthday of the 1st Cavalry Division, start planning to attend the Association reunion. It is scheduled for 22-26 September 2021, and will be held in Killeen, Texas. If you are even thinking about attending, make sure you get your reservations in soon (as in tomorrow!) as the hotel space fills rapidly. And since we are looking at history (would you have guessed that I taught U.S. History at the high school level?) let us consider the Cav patch.

First Team patch approved 99 years ago. The 1st Cavalry Division posted on its Facebook page that the yellow and black shoulder patch of the Division was officially approved by the Army on Jan 5, 1922.

The War Department issued a directive asking for the submission of possible designs for the 1st Cavalry Division's shoulder sleeve (shoulder patch) shortly after the Division was authorized on Aug 20, 1921. The Division was officially activated on Sept 13, 1921.

The design chosen by the Army was a distinctive bright-yellow Norman knight's shield with a diagonal stripe and the silhouette of a horse's head. This design was submitted by COL and Mrs. Ben H. Dorcy. At the time, COL Dorcy was commander of the 7th Cavalry Regiment at Fort Bliss. His wife, Gladys Fitch Dorcy, later would be considered as the official mother of the First Team. When asked about the design of the patch, Mrs. Dorcy said, "It is a big patch, worn by big men, who do big things." Pretty much says it all, Troopers.

The patch was required to "have only two colors, that it be an easily recognizable sign around which men could reassemble during or after battle, and that it would bring men together in a common devotion." And the patch is all of that. One can see a fellow Cavalry Trooper across a room or across a parade field. That yellow just jumps out at ya! Much more distinctive than other unit patches, plus it is big enough to keep us dry in a rainstorm, warm in freezing temperatures, and will stop bullets from breaking the skin. At least I was told those things by the sergeant in charge of orientation when I first joined the Cav in 1968.

What I am reading this month. I came across an interesting book that you may enjoy. The book is titled "*Comanche and His Captain: The warhorse and the soldier of fortune*" written by Janet Barrett. I've only read two books about horses in my lifetime; the other was "*Seabiscuit: An American legend*." I am not sure why I picked up *Comanche*, but I am glad I did! It proves to be a well-written, fast-moving history of the only survivor of the Battle of the Little Bighorn. The book is available from Amazon. On the back of the book is this: Against the fury of the Civil War and the challenges of securing the frontier, the intertwined stories of the tough mustang, Comanche, and the courageous Soldier of fortune, CPT Myles Keogh, move toward a climax that is both an ending and a beginning. They rode together for 8 years, a partnership that took them to the Battle of the Little Bighorn.

Comanche lived to be 29 and when he died, he was the first of four horses to be given a military funeral with full military honors. His remains were not buried but instead was preserved through taxidermy. Comanche is currently at the Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas.

7th Cavalry recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor. In this issue, we honor two recipients of the Medal of Honor, both of which were awarded posthumously.

On 1 December 1966, PFC Lewis Albanese, B Co 5-7 CAV (Airmobile), unparalleled actions saved the lives of several members of his platoon who otherwise would have fallen to sniper fire, and enabled his platoon to successfully advance against an enemy force of overwhelming numerical superiority near Phu Muu II, Republic of Vietnam, earning him the Congressional Medal of Honor.

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. PFC Albanese's platoon, while advancing through densely covered terrain to establish a blocking position, received intense automatic-weapons fire from close range. As other members maneuvered to assault the enemy position, PFC Albanese was ordered to provide security for the left flank of the platoon. Suddenly, the left



flank received fire from enemy located in a well-concealed ditch. Realizing the imminent danger to his comrades from this fire, PFC Albanese fixed his bayonet and moved aggressively into the ditch. His action silenced the sniper fire, enabling the platoon to resume movement toward the main enemy position. As the platoon continued to advance, the sound of heavy firing emanated from the left flank from a pitched battle that ensued in the ditch which PFC Albanese had entered. The ditch was actually a well-organized complex of enemy defenses designed to bring devastating flanking fire on the forces attacking the main position. PFC Albanese, disregarding the danger to himself, advanced 100 meters along the trench and killed six of the snipers, who were armed with automatic weapons. Having exhausted his ammunition, PFC Albanese was mortally wounded when he engaged and killed two more enemy soldiers in fierce hand-to-hand combat. His unparalleled actions saved the lives of many members of his platoon who otherwise would have fallen to the sniper fire from the ditch and enabled his platoon to successfully advance against an enemy force of overwhelming numerical superiority. PFC Albanese's extraordinary heroism and supreme dedication to his comrades were commensurate with the finest traditions of the military service and remain a tribute to himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army.

On 3 December 1968, SGT John N. Holcomb, D Co 2-7 CAV, distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader during a combat assault mission near Quan Loi, Republic of Vietnam. SGT Holcomb's inspiring leadership, fighting spirit, in action at the cost of his life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service, earning him the Congressional Medal of Honor. The citation reads:



For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. SGT Holcomb distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader in Company D during a combat assault mission. SGT Holcomb's company assault had landed by helicopter and deployed into a hasty defensive position to organize for a reconnaissance-in-force mission when it was attacked from three sides by an estimated battalion-size enemy force. SGT Holcomb's squad was

directly in the path of the main enemy attack. With complete disregard for the heavy fire, SGT Holcomb moved among his men giving encouragement and directing fire on the assaulting enemy. When his machine gunner was knocked out, SGT Holcomb seized the weapon, ran to a forward edge of the position, and placed withering fire on the enemy. His gallant actions caused the enemy to withdraw. SGT Holcomb treated and carried his wounded to a position of safety and reorganized his defensive sector despite a raging grass fire ignited by the incoming enemy mortar and rocket rounds. When the enemy assaulted the position a second time, SGT Holcomb again manned the forward machine gun, devastating the enemy attack and forcing the enemy to again break contact and withdraw. During the enemy withdrawal, an enemy rocket hit SGT Holcomb's position, destroying his machine gun, and severely wounding him. Despite his painful wounds, SGT Holcomb crawled through the grass fire and exploding mortar and rocket rounds to move the members of his squad, every one of whom had been wounded, to more secure positions. Although grievously wounded and sustained solely by his indomitable will and courage, SGT Holcomb as the last surviving leader of his platoon organized his men to repel the enemy, crawled to the platoon radio, and reported the third enemy assault on his position. His report brought friendly supporting fires on the charging enemy and broke the enemy attack. SGT Holcomb's inspiring leadership, fighting spirit, in action at the cost of his life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army.

Best Wishes. You know, as I look back over the year 2020, I cannot imagine suffering through a worse one ever. In my 72 years on this earth, I cannot remember one that caused me more grief, torment, or worry than this past year did. The nation became much more divided than ever since the Civil War. COVID-19 took away over 350,000 people. COVID also took away our relative freedom - freedom to visit friends, freedom to be with those we love, freedom to attend events like church and reunions. It is my fervent hope that those days will soon disappear, and they can if we all do our part. Be responsible, wear a mask. Yes, I am worried about your health, but I am also worried about me! If you wear a mask you are protecting me as well as yourself. Maintain six feet of distance and continue to wash your hands often. I believe that the vaccine is going to help but we must watch out for ourselves and for each other!

Looking forward to seeing you all in Killeen in September! It will be good to see you, to renew old friendships, and to create new ones. Since we were unable to meet in 2020, all the regimental business for the two-year period will be conducted at this year's reunion. I am sure that President John Guillory will have information in the next issue of the *Saber* so keep your eyes open. Your regiment needs your participation! Take care of yourselves and your loved ones. Til we meet again, Garryowen!

12 CAV NEWS

Continued from pg. 6

What can be concluded about these two G.I. Joes, Joe Anderson and Joe Cunningham? One was lucky and one was not? Maybe, but rather for me these were simply two brave, young American Soldiers who fought for their country in a bitter, brutal, and much misunderstood war. Neither one asked to go to Vietnam; most service members did not. They answered the Call of Duty. One survived and prospered; the other's life was marred and ended prematurely. I would like to think, however, that Joe Cunningham died a happy man, knowing that he was loved by his A Co Brothers. Phillip L. Blake, Colonel, U.S. Army (Retired)

Thank you, COL Blake and the Troopers who brought this story to Life, Salute! (TLC)

An inspiration to pack our bags to be ready to *Charge On* toward the gathering(s) of your choice, see you all at some or all of them, God Bless!

GOOD NEWS: 12th Cavalry Website being developed by Jocelyn Wilson will be fully operative 1 Feb 2021

Boot to Boot...Horse to Horse...Saber to Saber, Until next time...Crabtree Out!

8th CAV News



James "Top Gun" Dotson
P.O. Box 684
Murray, KY 42071
270-978-1075
airmobile68@gmail.com
www.8Cavalry.org



Another year, 2021. Never thought I would see it. What a year 2020 turned out to be. The sickness Covid brought, rioting in the street, the economy.... I hope we never see the likes of it ever again. We have all risen to meet the challenges of this awful year, and it is still not over. I pray that all of you have made it unscathed. No one has reported to me if they had any ill effects of the virus personally. Let us keep doing what we can to fight this, we all know the right things to do.

Contributions

I have a big concern about all the service organizations sending requests for contributions. It is getting to be too much. I get requests from the VFW, AMVETS, DAV, the National Vietnam Museum, VVA, American Legion, Purple Heart Association and more. I like to help with donations to Vets and do so quite often. The one I dislike the most is the one that mails nickels. Give me your thoughts on this matter.

To Yearn a Bit

The following poem is from the book "Honor and Courage" by Gary Bowles. It is so touching, I thought I would share.

To Yearn a Bit

*Across the fields of yesterday, they sometimes come to me.
Young men hard at war, the boys they used to be
In my mind I see their faces, As the memories begin
I wonder of the men they might become, and of all they might have been
Through the years much has passed, and surely, I have grown older
Yet I sometimes pause, to yearn a bit
To be once more a Soldier*

Doug Magruder used Bowles poem on a plaque to remember the "young men hard at war" with whom he had the honor of serving with in the 1st Platoon (White Skull) D Co 2/8 from October '68 to March '69. Thank you, Doug, for sending me this wonderful poem.

Being Raised by a PTSD Parent

As a child of a parent with PTSD, I would like to give some insight into the life of an individual who was raised by a PTSD patient and how it affected me as a child and an adult. This is a testament to my experience with having a parent with PTSD from being in a war.

I grew up not hearing much about the Vietnam war. My father is a Vietnam War Veteran and now that I am older, I believe it gave him too much anxiety to speak about his experience. It was not until I was in my early teenage years that my father began to advocate for him and other Veterans, and became involved with the VA. So, my adolescence was full of hard times with a parent who had undiagnosed PTSD and no one in the family could understand why he did, or acted, the way he did most of the time.

I had a wonderful childhood thanks to my dad. I was always close by him in everything that he did, even going to work with him while he worked several jobs. So, looking back I have seen it all. Most of the time we had a wonderful, loving, and easy-going life. But there were also times that confused me because I did not know, and neither did he fully know, what PTSD was. All the moments that PTSD made him edgy, jumpy, angry, misunderstanding, anxious, worrisome, and paranoid were very confusing. Of course, as a child, I just thought that is who my dad is. And at that time, he was undiagnosed, so I am sure that he wondered why he was the way he was often. Some examples of his extreme PTSD include never sleeping in a bed because he preferred a couch because he could be on his feet and at the front door if anything were to happen. He had anger outbursts that were unexplainable, and no one could understand where the anger was from. He had terrible nightmares. I remember waking up to my dad crying at night due to his dreams. I knew that his PTSD was bad when I started to get older and our relationship started to get worse. Eventually, he began seeing doctors at the VA and got some help. Our relationship today, I believe, is much stronger because of his PTSD diagnosis and understanding.

"A parent's PTSD symptoms are linked to their child's responses. Children usually respond in certain ways: A child might feel and behave just like their parent as a way of trying to connect with the parent. The child might show some of the same symptoms as the parent with PTSD." This is a direct quote from the National Center for PTSD and as one of these children, I can attest that no words could be truer.

The Bummer

The first time you saw the man you knew he was in charge. You cannot miss him. With a floppy boonie hat which looks like he is worn it for a decade, packing his trusty M-1 rifle, wearing a WWII style pistol belt. By the way, the M-1 he carries was a gift from a battalion commander. Yes indeed, he was the man. By many Troopers, he was the best NCO they every had.

Bummer came in country to the Cav in October 1965, a month after the division landed in country. He was assigned as a Platoon SGT for 2/8 Recon Platoon. In recon, the patrol's job was to go out and find the enemy, not necessarily to make contact. Just find 'em. Vietnam was his fourth war against communism in Asia. The Chinese civil war, later stages of the Huk rebellion in the Philippines, and twice in Korea. The Bummer holds the Silver Star, two Bronze, one Navy and two Army commendation medals, four Presidential unit citations and five Purple Hearts. He was a firm believer in the Cav's airmobile tactics... only way to fight a guerilla war, he said. A finer Soldier than Roy Bumgarner cannot be found. This column does not give me the space and time to do the man's life justice. I could write a book on him, and maybe I will some day. So, when the question comes up, "Who's the man?" the response most likely will be, from those who know him, "The Bummer."

Pabrade, Lithuania

Troopers from 2nd Battalion 8th Cav Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cav Division now reside at the Pabrade Training area, Lithuania. They are a rotational force to build interoperability with Lithuanian motorized infantry



Religious services are vital part of Ready to Fight

"Griffin" brigade and German Nato-enhanced forward presence battlegroup. They are settling in and getting ready for their first mission. Ready to fight.



M1 Abrams being off loaded bear Pabrade Training Area



Freezing Temps can't stop

LTC Steven Jackowski

I have been in touch with LTC Steven Jackowski, who commands 2/8 at Ft Hood. He has been most helpful giving me much info and as you can see below, he is quite a leader. He told me they have a monthly newsletter in the works which will highlight company and Trooper activities. When I get the information on how to get the newsletter, I will pass it on to you all. Thank you, Steve, and I hope to meet you at the Cav reunion at Ft Hood.

LTC Steven Jackowski is a native of Lockport, IL, LTC Jackowski enlisted as MOS 13B, Cannon Crewmember, in December 1995, and completed One Station Unit Training at Fort Sill, OK, in July 1996. He was assigned to Charlie Battery, 2nd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, at Fort Campbell, KY. LTC Jackowski commissioned in 2002 from the United States Military Academy and is a graduate of the Armor Officer Basic Course, Armor Captain's Career Course, Cavalry Leader's Course, Command and General Staff College and the School for Advanced Military Studies.

LTC Jackowski served with the 1st Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment, in Vilseck, Germany, as a Tank, Infantry and Support Platoon Leader from 2003-05. In 2006, he was assigned to the 5th Squadron, 7th Cavalry at Fort Stewart, Georgia; where he served as the S4, Assistant S3 and Alpha Troop Commander. After leaving 5-7 CAV, he commanded Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division. Following graduation from ILE and SAMS, LTC Jackowski served as the 1st Armor Division Maneuver Planner. Subsequently, he was assigned to the 4th Armored Brigade, where he served as the Executive Officer for 4th Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment and the Operations Officer for 1st Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment. While on a one-year assignment to Korea, LTC Jackowski served as the USFK J35 Ground Planner. From 2017 -19, he served as the FORSCOM Ground Liaison Officer to Air Combat Command at Langley Air Force Base. Currently, LTC Jackowski commands the 2nd Battalion, 8th (US) Cavalry Regiment at Fort Hood, TX.

LTC Jackowski previously deployed in support Operation Iraqi Freedom I and V and Operation New Dawn. His decorations include the Bronze Star Medal (1 OLC), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (3 OLC), Army Commendation Medal (6 OLC), Army Achievement Medal (2 OLC), Good Conduct Medal, the Air Assault Badge, and the Combat Action Badge.

LTC Jackowski is married to the former Shari Bartels of Lockport, IL. They were married on 8 June 2002 and have three children Seth (17), Ashley (15) and Kaitlyn (11).

In Closing

By the time this edition gets to you, it will be around February. As I write this, I have just called the VA in Marion, IL. They have the Covid vaccine in house, are starting to get the list ready on who gets the shot and when. Hang in there brothers, the Cavalry is on the way.

I want to thank all the people who have helped me so much and my Stetson's off to the brothers who went on to Fiddlers Green before us. Special thanks to Tommy "Smiley" Harris. Hope to see everyone soon.

Honor and Courage,
"Top Gun"



Want to see your name in the Saber under the Honor Roll?

Honor Roll privileges are given to members who make a \$25 or more D Trooper donation, donation to the Association, or scholarship donations to the laDrang or the Foundation.
Please Consider!

9th CAV News

Jim Kurtz

5235 Nottingham Lane
Fairfax, Virginia 22032
703-764-4489
kurtzjh@gmail.com



A DIFFERENT KIND OF NEW YEAR. As this is typed, it is New Year's Day, January 1, 2021. Coming next is the Lunar New Year, known in Vietnam as Tet. Because it is based on the cycles of the moon, Tet varies from year to year, between January 21st and February 20th according to Western calendars. This year the Lunar New Year falls on February 12th. In 1968, Tet was January 30th. On the next day, a Huey gunship from B Troop, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry was downed by enemy fire and the four-man crew was captured by the Viet Cong. Two made it home, two did not.

Years later, the Aircraft Commander, William Babcock would write the following about what happened to him and his crew that day:

- On the morning of January 31st, we were assigned to do a recon of some bridges in Hue, a major city in northern RVN. Aboard the helicopter were myself; the co-pilot, WO1 William Lee; the crew chief, Sp4 Richard Delgado; and our door gunner, whose name I still have not learned. (Sp4 Charles Simmons has since been identified as the door gunner. It was his first combat mission since arriving in Vietnam.)

- Unfortunately, no one knew that the NVA and Viet Cong had taken the city during the night in what became infamously known as the first day of Tet, 1968. The morning was overcast with low clouds, and to find Hue we flew toward the coast and let down over the water, picking up the Perfume River and following it into the city. At the first major bridge we came under intense enemy ground fire, severely damaging the helicopter. Immediately climbing back into the clouds, we headed southwest. Shortly thereafter, the aircraft became difficult to control and we made a descent through the cloud cover into a rice paddy. The only people we saw were an old farmer working the paddy with a small boy and a water buffalo. We set up a defensive position around our ship while we waited for the rescue ships to arrive (we did get off an emergency call after we were hit).

- Within 15 minutes or so, enemy mortar shells began to fall around us, and we took cover in the rice paddy. Our ammunition was soon expended, and we were overrun by the Viet Cong, 30 to 40 enemy soldiers. One group gathered us together and were playing with us while another group placed explosives on our ship. When the explosives detonated, they caused several unexpended aerial rockets to go off, which made everyone run for cover.

- When it was over, we had inadvertently separated into two groups, about 100 to 200 feet apart. Later, as the Viet Cong were moving us toward Hue, I heard helicopters coming, and as I turned to see where they were, I saw the Viet Cong shoot WO1 Lee and SP4 Delgado. The door gunner and I dropped for cover. The Viet Cong were shooting at us, and at the same time, the helicopters were shooting at them.

In his book *War Air Cavalry Style*, the late Bert Chole described the rescue of Babcock and Simmons:

- Warrant Officer Tom Maehrlein, from Bravo Troop, had been sent to Hue Phu Bai on a resupply run in his H-model Huey. He was confident (as only the young can be) as he climbed into the low ceiling and broke out on top at about 8000 feet. Flying with him that day was a new pilot, who was sitting in the right seat; the crew chief, SPC Dale Dungan; and the door gunner. Maehrlein would later remember that as they were descending in the clouds, he was most concerned about the wires around the antennas near Phu Bai. Just as he broke out of the clouds, about 100 feet from the runway, his radio came alive with "Mayday, Mayday, I've been hit and I'm going down!" He recognized the voice of LT Babcock and knew he could not be too far away. He executed a 360-degree turn to see where he might have gone down. He started overflying large groups of enemy soldiers. They started shooting at him, so he pulled up into the low-lying clouds and then back out. He did this, four or five times and saw smoke rising in the distance.

- As he flew towards the smoke, fire directed toward him became more intense, and he again flew into the clouds. He went through a layer of low-lying scud, into a space between the clouds, and he could see the smoke rising ahead. He flew to the smoke and lowered his collective. As he broke out of the cloud layer, he became the target of approximately 80 enemy soldiers. He kept his airspeed at 80 or 90 knots as he took in the scene below and ahead of him.

- The enemy were in two groups of approximately 40 soldiers per group. He saw one group below him with two of the gunship's crewmembers and a group ahead with the other two. His door gunner started shooting and most of the enemy in the group below him jumped into a nearby ditch, leaving the two captured B Troopers standing by themselves. He executed a hard left turn while lowering the collective, shooting an approach to the two Americans. They flew parallel to the ditch, as SPC Dungan fired down its length, killing and wounding an unknown number of the enemy. Upon touchdown, LT Babcock and SP4 Simmons leapt into the aircraft.

MANY NEW YEARS LATER. As related by former Dust-off pilot and author Phil Marshall in *Helicopter Rescues Vietnam, Volume XII*, William Babcock visited the Virtual Wall in 2009, looking for information on the families of his crew. He found the entry for Richard Delgado and left this message:

Dear Richard, I am writing to tell you that today, 43 days short of 41 years after the event, our names were forwarded to the Department of Defense, from the Research and Analysis Officer, with the recommendation that we be added to the list of Prisoners of War and Missing in Action in Southeast Asia. Our names will probably be the last to ever be added. It has been recommended that POW medals and status be awarded to us. You and William Lee were killed on that day, which lives on in my memory. I visit you both at the Wall, forgive me for not being there with you. Our door gunner is hopefully still around, and I pray that he will be found and recognized. I do not know his name. Our story can now be told. Brothers forever, William H Babcock

In response to the note, he had left on the Virtual Wall, Delgado's niece established contact with Babcock.

Eight years later, in November 2017, the local chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), held a Vietnam Veterans Commemoration at the Indiana Veterans Home in West Lafayette, Indiana. Among those invited was Charles Simmons, the door gunner whose first combat mission was on the first day

of Tet. After the event, he approached Kathryn Cox, a woman from his church who had spoken there. He told her he felt "led" to ask her to help him tell his story, one that not even his family had heard because he could never prove that he had been taken captive by the Vietcong on the first day of Tet 1968. Kathy Cox agreed to help and interviewed Charles to learn his story. She would later recall how from the very first, Charles stressed that all the glory for saving him that day belongs to God, and he shared stories of other times in his life when God had saved him from harm.

In April 2019, Charles Simmons' granddaughter volunteered her grandpa to be interviewed for a class project on Vietnam at Indiana's Ball State University. The instructor was so intrigued by what she heard in the phone interview that she spent hours trying to put it all together. Charles told Kathryn Cox that Professor Kathryn Rohe had turned up some good leads, so the two Kathryns got together and things started moving forward, including communications with William Babcock and the Delgado family. Efforts to connect with the family of WO1 William R. Lee, who had been in country only 17 days when he was captured and killed, have not been successful.

CPT Babcock informed Kathy Cox that he and his crew had been added to the list of POWs and MIAs in Southeast Asia, making Charles eligible for a POW medal. CPT B helped fill in the blanks on the DD Form 149, Application for Correction of Military Record, and Charles received his POW medal just a few months later, in a box among bills and junk mail, without so much as a citation.

Kathy Cox set up a video chat between Charles Simmons and William Babcock in October 2019. It was the first time they had seen each other since Tet 1968.

At the monthly meeting of her DAR chapter in November, she presented the story of Charles and his crew. In the audience was retired Air Force Colonel Tim Cahoon, who gave a program on Veterans in Indiana. Later, she got word he was trying to put her in touch with Phil Marshall, a Vietnam Dust-off pilot who had authored several books about Vietnam helicopter rescues.



Simmons in gunners seat

She learned that Phil Marshall wanted to include the Babcock-Simmons rescue story in his next book. Appropriate connections were made, including with the commander of the rescue Huey, Tom Maehrlein. Babcock had heard Maehrlein was killed in action during a second tour in Vietnam, but Phil Marshall checked the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association database and found Maehrlein was alive and well in New Jersey.

The book was published, and the chapter titled "Mission 22: First Day of Tet" is the basis for much of this column. There are 21 other helicopter rescue missions in that book alone, and a dozen books before it in the series. Phil tells me at least half the books mention the Cav in one way or another.

The ones I have read are great, so check them out. Find them on Amazon by searching for "Phil Marshall Vietnam."

Phil Marshall is always looking for stories for his next volume, so if you were a rescuer or a rescuee and have a story to tell, contact him at <DMZ.Dustoff@yahoo.com>.

Through Phil Marshall, Kathy Cox learned how the crew could be honored at the National American Huey History Museum. Richard Delgado's niece, Cecilia Luna, and Kathy led the fundraising efforts for a brick paver that will feature 1st of the 9th crossed sabers, "The First Cavalry Division," and the names of the four crew members, plus "RVN January 31, 1968."

In August 2020, Andy McCormick, a 1st Cav Veteran and ICDA member from Indiana, sent Kathy his copy of a recent *Saber*, suggesting the newspaper might be a good venue to share the story with a larger audience of Cav Veterans. She reached out to the 9th Cav Scribe, and here we are.

Also, in August, the 14th Annual Gathering of Veterans and Patriots was held at the site of the future National American Huey History Museum in Peru, Indiana. During the Sunday morning church service, the POW Medal was presented to Charles Simmons with appropriate ceremony, before an audience that included uniformed members of the American Huey 369 organization, (AH369) their families and guests, and other attendees.

At that point, AH369 Founder and President Johnny Walker invited Charles to sit in the Gunner's seat on a flight of Gunship 049, an aircraft identical to the one he was in when shot down on January 31, 1968.

SINCE THE LAST ISSUE. Ted Currier emailed that he had learned of the passing of fellow A Trooper Robert Solomon in September 2019. Rob was a Scout Torque and the original crew chief of the loach known as "Queer John." Ted remembers him as a creative guy who played guitar and made-up humorous songs. Alan Syndergaard reports that as "the self-appointed Senior Shit Burner and Senior KP," Rob Solomon's briefings to new Scouts on those duties usually included presentation of the official shovel with the adage, "We don't bake shit, we burn shit."

Continued to pg. 23



Simmons and Babcock met face to face, so to speak.



Charles on Board UH-1B 64-14049

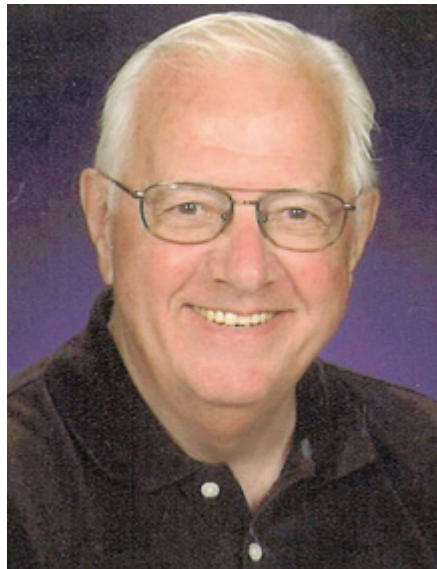


Phil Marshall, Charles Simmons, and Kathryn Cox



1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN

Terry A. McCarl
1122 Main St, Plattsmouth, NE 68048
402-296-3150
TerryAMcCarl@gmail.com



Frank Goedken

SAD NEWS! Francis P. "Frank" Goedken, the only American survivor of the Toya Maru Ferry disaster on September 26, 1954 passed away in Zwingle, IA (Dubuque area) on 16 July 2020. Frank was a member of the 99th Field Artillery Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division.

Of the total number of people on board the Toya Maru Ferry of 1309, 1159 perished and only 150 survived. Of the 1159, 35 were from the 99th FA BN, 1 from the 7th Cav, 3 from the 8th Cav, 2 from the 27th Ordnance BN, and 1 from the 15th Medical BN for a total of 42 from the 1st Cavalry Division. There were 6 from other U.S. Army units and 6 American civilians; a total of 54 Americans.

This column is a sequel to my July-August 2020 column about the experiences of LTC (Ret) Steve Bosma and others who served in the 8th Cav in Japan 1954-1955.

After that column was published, Steve introduced me by email to Peter O'Brien of Foxboro, MA whose tour with the 1st Cav in Japan was concurrent with Steve's tour from May 1954 to November 1955. Steve and Peter were both on the voyage of the troop ship USNS Frederick Funston from Fort Lewis, WA to Japan. Steve was with B Co., 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry at Camp Whittington near Kumagaya and Peter was with the HQ Battery, 61st FA at Camp Younghans near Sendai.

Steve advised me that Peter had written an article for the May-June 2010 issue of *Saber* (page 12) about the Sept 1955 sinking of the Toya Maru ferry. Peter then wrote a part 2 article for the May-June 2017 issue of *Saber* (pages 12 & 13). If you do not have a copy of that issue of *Saber*, the part 2 article can be found in the *Saber* Archives on 1cda.org. NOTE: To access the *Saber* Archives, you must log on and enter the username and password assigned to you. If you do not have or do not remember your username and/or password, contact the 1CDA Office at <firstcav@1cda.org> and you will be advised of your username and password or you will be assigned them if you do not have them.

Currently, the *Saber* Archives start at the Nov-Dec 2011 issue. If you do not have the May-June 2010 issue in your collection of *Saber* issues, the following is a reproduction of it.

TOYA MARU SURVIVOR'S STORY By Peter O'Brien, 61st FA Bn, HQ, 1954-1955

On March 29th, 2010, through the amazing earth-shrinking miracle of the internet, I found and spoke with the lone 1st Cavalry Division Artillery survivor of the Toya Maru ferry disaster of September 26, 1954. The ferry had sailed from Hakodate, Hokkaido, with about 1309 passengers including 36 members of the 1st Cav Division Artillery's advance party being sent south to set up a new duty station at Camp Younghans, near Sendai on Honshu. The four-and-a-half-hour ferry ride to Aomori, Honshu, was to be the first leg of the trip for the advance party. The battalions were to move to Honshu with their equipment on LSTs (Landing Ships, Tank) and disembark further south at Sendai for the 40-mile drive to Younghans.

PFC Francis P. Goedken, 99th Field Artillery, HQ Battery 1953-1955, was on an upper glassed-in deck of Toya Maru with several other 99th Troopers when, at about 2100 hrs, he and those gathered there were told by an unknown 99th officer to don their life jackets and remove their shoes. Winds were howling and enormous waves loomed ahead, but they were unaware that they were weathering a typhoon. The Soldiers earlier had supper aboard the ship when seas were relatively calm. Japanese train travelers were still sitting in their trains on the train deck of the ship. One of the GI's, sensing the growing danger, said, "let's pray."

It was soon apparent that the ship was losing headway and taking on water. The rising water in the ship compressed the air in the upper decks, causing the large glass window ports to pop out. The anchor was put out, but it failed, and the ship grounded which negated all efforts to stabilize her. Buffeted by the huge waves and typhoon winds she capsized at 2243 hrs, just several hundred meters off the coast of Hakodate, Hokkaido.

The last thing Frank remembered before being washed out of one of the ports was the sound of two GI's praying. Once in the water, not knowing how he got there and despite the pitch-black night, he spotted a life raft that had been washed off the deck. An elderly Japanese man was sitting on it and Frank swam to it. Frank climbed aboard but soon one of the enormous waves washed them off. They remounted the raft, only to be washed off again. In the second displacement, Goedken broke his elbow when his arm became entangled in the raft's rope lines. Drifting now in the inky darkness he saw the lights of a ship nearby, but it was not in a life-saving mode. The waves battered him against the steel hull of the silent ship several times as he was being washed toward the stern.

Fearing the suction of the propeller he managed to pull away and a wave hurled him further astern. Soon, without any real effort on his part, he felt the ground beneath his feet as he was being miraculously washed up on the storm lashed Nanae Beach, near Hakodate, Hokkaido.

Walking along the beach he came to an Army Piper Cub that was tied down on the hard packed sand. Apparently, the survivor of an emergency landing, the plane was intact, and Frank considered riding-out the storm in it. He soon changed his mind, however, and headed inland where he found a large warehouse and hunkered down there until he was found and taken to a local hospital where his arm was treated. The next morning his Japanese nurse told him he was incredibly lucky to have survived, and that's when Frank learned what had happened to the 1159 people who did not make it. Only 150 survived.

Frank recuperated in an Army hospital on Hokkaido. When released, he was debriefed by a group of 1st Cav Generals. Frank told them what he had experienced and about the unknown 99th officer who had coolly issued orders as they were gathered on the upper deck in that ferocious storm. Frank suggested that whoever he was, he deserved a medal. That officer was 2LT George A. Vaillancourt, 99th Field Artillery, Battery C, who was posthumously awarded the Soldier's Medal. The football field at Younghans was dedicated a year later to 2LT Vaillancourt and the others who lost their lives that night.

Soon after the sinking, the ship owners offered Frank 100,000 yen but he declined. He was informed by a friend that to decline this face-saving gesture by the genuinely sorry ship owners was not good Japanese manners and might offend, so he relented and took the money; about \$280 at that time.

After his discharge in April 1955, Frank Goedken returned to his hometown of Dubuque, Iowa and found a job as a pattern maker at John Deere's Dubuque Works where he stayed 55 years. Now retired, the 77-year-old, and his wife Esther enjoy the quiet peace of small-town America in nearby Zwingle, Iowa, population 120. Frank is very much interested in any efforts for a Memorial to those comrades he lost that long ago night of September 26, 1954. He remembers the typhoon and near drowning vividly to this day. Frank may be reached at 10226 Arensdorf Road, Zwingle, IA 52079, tel 563-773-2618.

While the photo of the Memorial to 2Lt Vaillancourt at Camp Younghans shows an Honor Roll of those lost that night, it is too small to read. So, if anyone has a list of those men, please share it with Jim Miller where it can be available to all interested 1st Cav Veterans. I also spoke with Lloyd Pitman recently. He sent in the photo of the Toya Maru and as a 1949-50 member of the 99th, he too is interested in any Toya Maru Memorial efforts.

Historian's Note: Frank Goedken's obituary can be seen at <www.leonardfuneralhome.com/obituary/Francis-Goedken>. His obituary states "Francis was the only American survivor on the Toya Maru Japanese Train Ferry, which sunk during a typhoon off the coast of Japan in 1954." Frank's wife Esther preceded him in death November 14, 2018.

Frank never wrote about his terrifying time on 26 September 1954, but fortunately, Peter O'Brien recorded the experiences of Frank, so we have a thorough account of them!

In the May-June 2017 issue of *Saber*, there is a complete list of the 54 Americans who perished in the Tara Maru Disaster. Thanks to Peter O'Brien for compiling this list plus other historical information in the two *Saber* articles that he wrote. We honor those 54 Americans today.

Turning to a more pleasant subject, football was a big deal for the 1st Cavalry Division at U.S. Army camps in Japan after the Korean War. The "Northern Command League" consisted of the DIVARTY (Division Artillery) Red Raiders, the IX Corps Padres, Division Special Troops Bears, 7th Cav Garryowens, 8th Cav Mustangs, and the 5th Cav Black Knights.

Peter O'Brien from Boston, MA was an SP3 with HQ Battery, 61st FA Bn (105 mm Howitzers). He was 6' 2", 195 lb and played End for the DIVARTY Red Raiders. The DIVARTY Red Raiders had defeated the 8th Cav Mustangs at Camp Younghans (Red Raider's home field) 27-13 on 15 Oct 1955. On 29 October 1955, the 8th Cav Mustangs again played the DIVARTY Red Raiders at Camp Whittington (Mustang's home field) and defeated the Red Raiders 7 to 6, spoiling their undefeated season.

Steve Bosma saw the game about one month before his unit left for home in November of 1955. He describes the game as "pretty violent!" and recalls that 5-6 ambulances were required to evacuate the injured from the field during the game. Peter O'Brien has the following comment: "The two 8th Cav games were the roughest, but clean games we played that year. Whittington was especially rough, and I remember being hit so hard I found myself upside down against the raised stands."

A team was formed from all 1st Cav teams called the "1st Cav All Stars," who defeated the 24th Infantry Division Taromen at Camp Schimmelpennig at Sendai on 10 December 1955, 26-0. GO BIG CAV!

I have copies of several documents of interest from Peter relating to the 1955 football season, however, space does not permit including them. These documents include copies of the team rosters for the 8th Cav Mustangs and the DIVARTY Red Raiders, and the Red Raider's Football Game Schedule and scores for the 1955 season. If anyone would like to see them, they will be posted on the "1st Cavalry Division Association - Alumni of the First Team" Facebook Page. If you do not have access to Facebook and want to see them, please send me an email <terryamccarl@gmail.com> and I will send these documents to you by email.

If anyone was on the 1955 Red Raiders Team or knows someone who was and wants to talk to Peter O'Brien may contact him at <book.man@verizon.net>.

BUY THE COFFEE THAT BENEFITS 1CDA STUDENTS



CROSSED SABERS PATRIOT KNIFE COFFEE

Patriot Knife Coffee Co will donate \$4 of every bag sold of Crossed Sabers Coffee to the 1st Cavalry Division Association Scholarship Fund.

They offer a medium dark roast that is richly aromatic, earthy, and distinctly lush. Veteran owned coffee with that cutting-edge flavor in every cup. To order, call them or refer to their website! 832-742-9724 or <www.patriotknifecoffee.com>

Patriot Knife Coffee Co.

5200 Mitchelldale Street, Ste F23, Houston, Texas 77092
Always serving those that serve us!

OIF/OEF VETERAN

82nd FA News

Joseph Himpelmann
P.O. Box 341884
Bethesda, MD 20827
240-380-7419
joe@assaultfwd.com



The following article is from B Battery, 2-82 FA, 1CD's deployment to Iraq in 2009 BA'SHIQUA, IRAQ -

The walls are lined with pictures of legendary bodybuilders Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jay Cutler, and Ronnie Coleman. The equipment is somewhat dated, and the facility is in obvious need of a fresh coat of paint. Despite its limitations, it is remarkable for what it is - a gym in Iraq dedicated to bodybuilding and physical fitness. Rising out of the tumultuous recent history of the area, the "Club for Bodybuilding and Fitness" stands as a shining example of what is possible in Iraq.

Owner and trainer Wahed Khalel competed in bodybuilding contests at the national level and he has the physique to prove it. With his thick

neck and powerful arms, he circulates through the gym giving advice and proper lifting techniques to the clients working out. Memberships to the gym cost 10,000 Iraqi dinar a month or about \$8.50. "It is important to focus their energy on," said Khalel.

During a visit to the area by American Soldiers, Khalel approached the men and invited them to visit his gym.

Once inside the Soldiers felt right at home. A television set mounted on the wall loudly pumped out high energy music while showing highlights of bodybuilding competitions. Several of the Soldiers were surprised by what they saw. "In three tours in Iraq this is the first local gym I've seen. Some of the equipment is kind of old, but he maintains what he has and does a good job with what is here," said SSG Shawn Moriarity as he checked out the various weightlifting benches and racks of weights.

"I appreciate the visits and assistance from the American Soldiers. They are always welcome to come and workout with me," commented Khalel.

While they were at the gym Khalel challenged the Soldiers to a bench press and pull-ups contest. Adding plates of weights on to the bar until they topped 135 kilograms (300 pounds) Moriarity and Khalel took turns lowering the bar to their chests and raising it back up. Eventually, SSG Moriarity came out ahead, but just barely. Up next was 20-year-old SPC Jeremy Scheler's turn to represent the Americans at pull-ups. Using a wide arm overhand grip, he was able to pass Khalel's impressive efforts only after completing 26 repetitions. "He's the most built Iraqi I've ever met. He had good muscle definition and tone and knew how to flex all his muscles together," said Moriarity after the two posed together for pictures.



On subsequent visits to the gym to check on Khalel and follow up on how things are going, the Soldiers have brought him copies of Muscle and Fitness and Flex magazines. They also drop off unused protein powders and other fitness supplements that Khalel has requested since he has a hard time getting some of those items in Iraq.

Moriarity said, "It is different from a typical patrol to be able to meet a cool Iraqi that shares a common interest, hang out, and lift weights together. It really shows how our cultures are not all that different."

ARE YOU TIED INTO ONE OF OUR CHAPTERS?

We encourage you to link into your nearest chapter!

Reach out to the president and meet
new Cav brothers/sisters!

Refer to the Chapter Index found on page 15.

THE DOCTOR'S REPORT

COL (Ret) James Noel
HHC 1-5 Cav, 1990
JNoel2@live.com

SSG (Ret) Jonathan Shockley
HHC 1-5 Cav, 1988-1992 (Doc Shock)
Jsho941055@aol.com

Homelessness has increased during this pandemic. How this affects the military is that between 9 and 15% of the nation's homeless are Veterans. This accounts for approximately 40,000 Veterans of which 24,00 are in homeless shelters and 16,000 are unsheltered and living in automobiles, camps, or on the street. 90% of our homeless Veterans are men and 10% are women, 60% are over 50 years of age, and 47% are from the Vietnam era. 85% of our homeless Veterans have a high school or greater degree, 89% were honorably discharged, and 67% had served over 3 years on active duty. While the impression is that most homeless Veterans have post-traumatic stress or combat induced reasons for poor adaptation to civilian life only 33% of homeless Veterans were stationed in a war zone and fewer experienced combat. Often the impression is that homeless Veterans were poor Soldiers who are suffering from post-traumatic stress however, this does not appear to be the case. Of homeless female Veterans 1/3 have experienced trauma at home or in the workplace. Non-Caucasian Veterans are 3 times more likely to be homeless than Caucasian Veterans, 50% have physical disabilities, 70% have substance abuse problems, and 50% have been diagnosed with a psychiatric illness. Poverty due to being jobless or having low-income jobs is a unifying factor in being homeless. These stats are eye opening and come from the Veteran's Administration.

What can be done? The Veterans Administration has several programs designed to help end homelessness in our Veterans. In addition, many communities, church organizations, and civic organizations are attempting to aid in reversing this problem. What is clear is that programs to reverse homelessness in Veterans must be multi-factorial and address, job training/skills, mental health, and education in home/personal financial management. The Veterans Administration has an HUD-VA supportive housing program that supplies housing vouchers for Veterans. The VA Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program (HCHV) offers medical care and treatment for medical conditions and provides help for mental health issues, and the Homeless Veteran Supported Employment Program (HVSEP) provides job training, placement and support. In addition, Congress has passed The VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011 which is essentially a GI bill for Unemployed Veterans. While these programs have helped and have made dents in the homeless Veterans' population, they have fallen far short of the goal of ending homelessness in Veterans by 2015. Why? These programs can be difficult to navigate. The service officers from The American Legion, The Disabled American Veterans, And the Veterans of Foreign Wars can help individuals navigate the path toward help. There is a National Call Center for Homeless Veterans 877-424-3838 provided by the Veterans Administration which can help in initiating the process. Operation Reveille and Community Stand Downs are VA programs which were effective in bringing together community programs, integrated with VA programs. While these programs were highly successful and the integrations with community resources were demonstrating improved outcome and less return to a homeless condition these programs have been cancelled due to COVID 19 according the VA website. Community based programs appear to have a higher success rate especially when integrated with government programs than either government programs, or community programs by themselves.

COVID 19 has made the situation for our homeless Veterans more dire, and I would encourage each Veteran who can afford the time to become involved with community organizations that are endeavoring to help the homeless and when encountering a Veteran who is homeless, direct them to the VA or the service officers in Veteran organizations to begin their rehabilitation. With the heart of winter confronting us this is truly a valuable community service each of us can help provide. Hopefully, Operation Reveille and the Community Stand Downs can resume and together the government and community programs working together can improve life for our homeless Vets.

Again, if there are topics I can address, or if you would like to volunteer to explore a topic of interest to our Troopers (active and retired) please contact me through the *Saber*, and I will try to research the issue. Doc out! James M. Noel M.D.

James R. Rollins
1566 FM 3258
Lufkin, TX 75904-0440
RollinsJ@consolidated.net

THE HICCUP - Health Care Information Committee Report

THE REGISTRY OF THE AMERICAN SOLDIER

One of the things that The Army Historical Foundation and the National Museum of the United States Army is The Registry of the American Soldier which captures the stories of the many men and women who have served our country as a Soldier throughout the Army history. Once a profile is entered it is available online and to museum visitors.

Any American Soldier who has ever worn the Army uniform throughout our nation's history is eligible to have a registry page. (Soldier must have received an honorable discharge or a general discharge under honorable conditions). Search or add the name of yourself, your family, or friends that have earned their place in the National Museum of the U.S. Army for their distinguished and selfless service to this country.

Information that is included is the service member's name, picture, rank, unit patch, and the space to describe the service activity. It is a great place to honor you, family, and friends at no cost. Additionally, you can either print the entry off or you can order a personalized plaque that replicates the information displayed on the registry along with a National Museum of the United States Army medallion.

The website for entering the information is <<https://armyhistory.org/the-registry-of-the-american-soldier/>>

I did this for my Dad and printed off the entry and framed it and gave it to him. He was thrilled to have his service honored this way and hung it up on the wall for everyone to see.

UPDATE: On the last HICCUP. Remember it is never too late to file and when I mentioned the insurance, there are limitations on it - age and filing for it within a timely manner. So, again when you do file a claim and receive a response, make sure you read the whole packet and not just rejoice that you got something.

Overview of 73rd Annual Reunion September 22-26, 2021

Please register early to assist us in coordinating the best reunion possible. Some events will have limited seating available due to the size of available rooms. All members of the Association must register and pay the Registration Fee to attend the reunion. Early registration, November 1, 2020 through July 30, 2021 is \$20 for all members, except those on active duty. Active Duty Troopers pay \$10 to register. Those sending in Registrations post-marked after 30 July 2021 must pay late registration fee of \$40. Family members attending with an Association member, widows of 1st Cavalry Division Troopers and Gold Star Family members that attend do not have to pay a registration fee.

We expect to have rooms blocked at the Courtyard by Marriott, located at 1721 E. Central Texas Expressway. Many of you may recognize this as the address of the hotel which we used to use (Plaza) but this is a much-improved hotel. The Courtyard Marriott has been completely renovated and remodeled and looks brand new with new plumbing and air conditioning and a fresh new look.

Premium Inn and Suites (254) 432-0100
2603 E. Elms Rd, Killeen, Texas

Seating for all events is open except for 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 when picking up your registration

The Division will have units deployed but will have Troopers from all our units at Fort Hood during the reunion. The Division leadership is coordinating a special event on the evening of Friday, 24 September entitled "Spirit of the Cav" and other events on post during that day as well. This year we have offered an opportunity for our members to pre-purchase a box lunch for Friday's events. Busses will transport reunion attendees from the Shilo to Fort Hood on Friday for a vehicle displays, visits to the 1st Cavalry Division Museum, and a Demonstration by the Horse Cavalry Detachment. Visits to some of the unit areas will also be available and you can get a first-hand look at today's Army. If you have not been to Fort Hood for a reunion, make sure you attend and see the great Troopers of today's First Team.

Trailways bus service is also available to Killeen.

As always, the best part of any reunion is the people that attend. The 1st Cavalry Division Association reunion brings in Troopers from almost every era of the First Team's history. Troopers that rode horses, fought in the Pacific with MacArthur, occupied Japan, fought in Korea, or stood watch on the DMZ will spend time with the Sky Troopers of Vietnam and the Troopers from Operation Desert Storm, Fort Hood, Bosnia, and the latest combat veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan. The equipment and terrain might be different, but the common bond of serving with America's First Team binds us together. Saddle up and join us in Killeen in 2021!

Cut off date to pre-order your shirt is 1 July 2021

73rd Annual 1st Cav Assn Reunion T-shirts

**Pre-order
YOURS today!!**

Adult Sizes Only

S

Please
indicate
quantities
in boxes.

M

L

XL

**\$21.95 each
+S/H= Total**

2XL

3XL

Front

Back

**1ST CAVALRY DIVISION
ASSOCIATION**

73rd ANNUAL REUNION

Description: Shirt will be 50/50 black
Logo on the left chest as well as
full-color imprint on the back.

Shipping Chart:

1 Shirt @ \$9.00

2-8 Shirts @ \$15.00

9+ @ \$21.00

*To have the merchandise shipped, please use the
chart to determine rates. *No shipping for merchandise
picked up at the reunion.*

☐

Please check box if you plan to pick up shirt @ Reunion

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

☐ Check enclosed ☐ Visa ☐ M/C ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Card Number _____

CVD# _____ Exp Date MO/YR _____

Signature _____

**Reunion T-shirts will NOT ship
prior to 01 Sept 2021.**

**Please mail order form to:
Crossed Sabers Souvenir Shop
302 N. Main St.
Copperas Cove, TX 76522**

Please visit our website at @ shop.1CDA.org to order online or view clearer artwork.



**This reunion will be in conjunction
with the Division's Centennial Birthday.
Come celebrate with the Division!**

WEDNESDAY SEPT 22
0900-UTC Association Golf Tournament
0900-1800 Registration Desk Open
0900-1800 Souvenir Shop Open
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
1300-1400 Foundation Trustee Mtg

THURSDAY SEPT 23
0900-1800 Registration Desk Open
0900-1800 Souvenir Shop Open
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
0900-1000 Chapter President’s Mtg
1100-1300 War Era Luncheons
1330-1530 Board of Gov Mtg

THURSDAY cont'd
1200-1400 Ladies Tea
1930-2130 Welcome Mixer (Cash Bar)

FRIDAY SEPT 24
0900-1600 Registration Desk Open
0900-1800 Souvenir Shop Open
0900-1500 Events on Fort Hood
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
1500-1700 Spirit of the Cav
1800-2000 Texas BBQ

SATURDAY SEPT 25
0730-0845 Purple Heart Breakfast

SATURDAY cont'd
0900-1100 General Membership Mtg
0900-1600 Registration Desk Open
0900-1600 Souvenir Shop Open
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
1200-1400 Unit Lunches
1500-1600 Veterans Benefits Briefing
1745-1845 Cocktails (Cash Bar)
1900-2230 Association Banquet

SUNDAY SEPT 26
0700-0830 Group Breakfast
0700-0830 LRRP/Ranger Breakfast
0900-1000 Memorial Service (Long Roll Muster)

1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 73rd REUNION (2021) REGISTRATION FORM
Mail to: 1st Cavalry Division Assn. Reunion, 302 N. Main, Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703

I will attend the 1st Cavalry Division Association 73rd Annual Reunion at **the Killeen Shilo Inn, Killeen, TX (254-699-0999)**, September 22-26, 2021. Cancellations must be received by 5:00pm Friday, August 20, 2021 in our office (254-547-6537) for a refund. ****Cancellations are non-refundable after August 20, 2021 deadline.** Registration fee required for Association Member only (Widows and Gold Star Family members pay no fee). Registration fee includes: Name Tags, Reunion Booklet, Reunion Pin, and an information packet.

Are you a member of the 1CDA: Y / N
NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____
NICKNAME: _____
Contact #: _____

Unit#1: _____
Unit#2: _____
Unit#3: _____

Gold Star FM: _____

Is this your first 1CDA Reunion: Y / N
I will be accompanied by:
(As name will appear on Name Tag)
Spouse/Partner: _____
Guest#1: _____
Guest#2: _____
Guest#3: _____
Guest#4: _____
Guest#5: _____
Guest#6: _____

HOTEL: _____

FUNCTION	#	AMOUNT	TOTAL
Registration Fee (Members Only)	1	\$20.00	\$20.00
After August 20, 2021	1	\$40.00	_____
Active Duty (w/ID Card)	1	\$10.00	_____
<u>THURSDAY SEPT 23</u>			
Ladies Tea	_____	\$40.00	_____
War Era Luncheon (circle one)	_____	\$25.00	_____
Korean War Vietnam War GWOT			
Welcome Mixer	_____	\$30.00	_____
<u>FRIDAY SEPT 24</u>			
Fort Hood Box Lunch	_____	\$20.00	_____
Texas BBQ Dinner	_____	\$35.00	_____

FUNCTION	#	AMOUNT	TOTAL
<u>SATURDAY SEPT 25</u>			
Purple Heart Breakfast	_____	\$25.00	_____
Unit Luncheons (circle one)	_____	\$25.00	_____
5C 7C 8C 9C 12C			
ARTY HQ LRRP ENG Wings			
Association Banquet	_____	\$45.00	_____
5C 7C 8C 9C 12C Wings			
ARTY HQ LRRP/Ranger ENG			

<u>SUNDAY SEPT 26</u>			
Group Breakfast	_____	\$25.00	_____
LRRP Breakfast	_____	\$25.00	_____

Credit Card Check Cash (circle one)

CC# _____

Exp Date ____/____ CCV# _____

Add a little extra
(Donation) _____
Saber Renewal \$10.00 _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

(Signature) _____

CHAPTER NEWS UPDATES

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

Submission deadline to appear in the next Saber is **Monday, March 1, 2021.** Please send to Memberships@1CDA.org or mail to 302 N. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522.

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER



This is a photo of the Connecticut Chapter's display of Viet Nam era combat gear and memorabilia at the Bradley International Airport's Military Exposition.

We meet quarterly so our next meeting will be in **April**. That is when we vote on officers. No date for that meeting has been set yet. All members and prospective members are welcome. For more information contact President Keith Moyer: 860-537-1716.

CROSSED SABERS CHAPTER

Well, 2021 has arrived and not much has changed with the pandemic, but we hope that the vaccines will work to make things better for everyone.

The year 2021, is a special year. The 1st Cavalry Division turns 100 this September and we also mark the 30th Anniversary of Operation Desert Storm (Gulf War). This year will also be the year that one of our Chapter members, Scott Sjule, takes the reins as the President of the 1st Cavalry Division Association. Since Scott was the First Sergeant of the Horse Cavalry Detachment, he knows what to do with reins. We will begin planning to assist the National Headquarters in coordinating the Reunion that will be held from 22-26 September in Killeen/Fort Hood. The Chapter will conduct its March meeting on **25 March at 1800** hours. The location of the meeting is not confirmed at this time but will be announced on our Facebook page and sent out via email.

I had hoped to have a schedule of the upcoming Stable Calls with locations and dates for this issue but that has been impossible to confirm due to the pandemic. Please check the Crossed Sabers Chapter Facebook page for updates or contact me via email for information. First Team! Dennis Webster, President

FLORIDA CHAPTER

We had a Christmas get together first time this year. See ya on the **2nd Tuesday** of each month at **1pm** at the **VFW Post 2093**, on Edgewater in Orlando. Till then, Gil

FLORIDA'S FIRST COAST CHAPTER

We are having such a good time here in Florida's First Coast Chapter that we met twice in December, one time with the Commanders invited as you can see.

Our mailing list stretches from Waldo to Hilliard and points in between. If those towns are not familiar to you, come on down to Florida this winter for a tour on highway 301. Not familiar with 301? It is like that old black and white TV series, Route 66. It gets you off the boring interstate highways.

And if you want to get technical, we can cover Infantry, Artillery, Engineers, Medics, Pilots, Armor topics with you at the lunch table. Call in advance as we like to sample a variety of steak houses in the area. No burger and fries for us. We are prime rib types.

FORT KNOX CHAPTER

We placed wreaths on all the grave sites at Fort Knox Cemetery Central (7,500) and at the replica Vietnam Memorial Wall in Elizabethtown, KY in December. COVID 19 has pretty much shut down our meetings, however we are still working on projects such as the Kentucky Veterans Hall of Fame monument and we are in the process of purchasing a UH1 Huey to mount near our replica Vietnam Wall. I am heading up both projects because they are important in our community. We hope to be back to normal by January 2021. It is with sadness that I must inform our Chapter of the passing of Robert (Bob) Coombs of New Albany, who passed on Dec 31, 2020. Robert W. Griffin, Vice President

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

The NY-NJ Chapter has always supported and sometimes partnered with the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation. The Chapter was there when the Memorial was dedicated in 1998. GEN Norman Schwarzkopf was the guest speaker. Also in attendance was 1st Cavalry Division Commander, GEN John Tillelli.



1988 Dedication of NJ Veterans' Memorial with GEN John Tillelli & NY-NJ Chapter

The Museum provides political, cultural, and historical context for the Memorial. Covering the Museum's walls is a chronology of the Era that presents a historical recollection of the events, shown in two concurrent timelines, one reflecting the activity in Vietnam and the other reflecting political, cultural, and historical events in the United States. This allows visitors to gain a full perspective of the political, military, social, and cultural elements in play during this time.

The Vietnam War Memorial invites us to learn more about the 1,563 New Jerseyans, 1,562 men and one woman, who made the ultimate sacrifice during the Vietnam War. The Virtual Wall of Faces is more than just names; it shares insight into the lives of those lost. There is now a photograph in the Wall of Faces for each of the 1,563 New Jersey Vietnam Veterans who died while deployed overseas serving their country in the Vietnam War.

The Chapter has used the Memorial and Museum to hold some of our "Get-

ting to Know Us" meetings. The Memorial is centrally located, and it is easily reached from almost any place in the state. On September 12, 2016, the Chapter met there to dedicate a paver that was placed at the base of the Huey display. Our speaker that day was a Veteran Combat helicopter pilot and former Chapter President, Mick McCann.

At 8:46 am on September 11, 2001, American Airlines Flight 11 struck the North Tower of the World Trade Center. When a Port Authority announcement came over the P.A. system urging people to stay at their desks, Rescorla ignored the announcement, grabbed his bullhorn, walkie-talkie, and cell phone, and began systematically ordering Morgan Stanley employees to evacuate, including the 1,000 employees in WTC 5. He directed people down a stairwell from the 44th floor; Rick was successfully evacuating most of Morgan Stanley's 2,687 employees. The very next year on May 7th, 2002, the NY-NJ Chapter, The New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation, and the State of New Jersey held a special day to commemorate Rick Rescorla's life. On hand, a crowd of 3,000-4,000 including members of his platoon and other Veterans Rick had served with. In attendance were members of the U.S. Army War College from Carlisle, Pa, local ROTC groups, Veterans organizations, and Cadets from West Point. Speaking at the ceremony were members of Morgan Stanley and NJ State Adj General. In between speakers, Joseph Mirabella read some of Rick Rescorla's favorite poems. Also speaking were Sam Fantino, Dan Hill, Susan Rescorla, and GEN Hal Moore. The state of New Jersey issued the New Jersey Viet Nam Service Medal; the first was given to Rick posthumously.

Keep up to date with New York-New Jersey Chapter News and events on our Facebook page: "New York New Jersey Cavalry"

NORTHWEST CHAPTER

Keepin' on Keepin' On! One advantage virtual meetings have had for our chapter is that those living in nursing homes, Veteran homes, or just prefer to STAY AT home can participate. Paul Evans is one such member. Living at the Washington Veterans Home in Port Orchard, Washington, his movement has been restricted. However, he has been excited to join in on virtual meetings. Paul wanted me to let everyone know he has his own "horse" there, a power chair provided by the VA! He has made friends with other Cav Veterans there and wants to get as many of them involved with the association as possible. Our next virtual meeting is in **April**. Call President Gail Porter (360-265-6216) or secretary/treasurer William Jackson (360-539-8110) for details on how to join in either over the phone or through the computer. William will also be sending out information to those members he has an active email address for.

WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION CHAPTER

The Chapter met on May 20th via Zoom. The Chapter President, Gene Russell, gave a slide presentation the 1st CAV incursion into Cambodia, 50 years ago. The slide presentation was made following the Division returning to Vietnam at the end of June. It was used by the senior officers to tell the story of the Division's mission and success. Gene will be happy to share the slide presentation with any Trooper wanting a pdf copy. Only cost is to make a donation to 1st CAV Division Association if you can.

Our June Zoom meeting was a presentation given by Mr. Al Broadbent, retired from the Washington D.C. MPD where one of his responsibilities as an Assistant Chief was for planning, coordinating, and on-scene Commander for all major protests, demonstrations, and Inaugurations during his time as an Assistant Chief at MPD. Al is a Subject Matter Expert in this area and has delivered presentations to Major City Police Departments here in the USA and abroad.



July, August, and September, we took a well-deserved R&R from the Virus fatigue. October, we held a Zoom meeting discussing Chapter business and made plans for the rest of the year.

On November 11th, we laid the 1st CAV wreaths at the WWII Memorial, Korean War Memorial, Vietnam Memorial and at the Alexandria, VA CPT "Rocky" Versace

Plaza Vietnam Veterans Memorial. He served in the 1st CAV in Korea and on his second tour in Vietnam, he earned the Medal of Honor serving with 5th Special Forces Group. Additionally, 1/LT Lawrence Lilly, A Troop 1/9 CAV, MIA 1971 is honored also.

On November 13th, we visited the brand-new National Museum of the U.S. Army. A must-see museum for all to include in your trip to Washington D.C. for the Veterans Day events. Many thanks to COL Linda Jantzen USA ret, our senior commo officer for setting this up for us.

In December, we were back on the Zoom Ranch and had a great presentation on the Grenada Operation – Operation Urgent Fury. Led by COL Bob Hensler USA retired and the XO of the 2/75 Rangers, CPT John Sandoz USN Ret, CDR of SEAL TEAM 6, and me. I was responsible at the Army level to prepare the After-Action Report, which for many reasons was never written - mainly because of the many errors at the Strategic and Operational levels. Fortunately, at the tactical level, things went better. An excellent presentation and discussion. Operation Urgent Fury led to adding a Ranger Battalion and forming the 75th Ranger Regiment.



Our Chapter at the Army Museum

From the
Director's Desk Office of 1CDA



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

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

Why is this important to the Association?

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

The next *Saber* newspaper is the March/April 2021 edition.
Deadline for submissions of your stories or photos is
Monday, March 1, 2021
Please email to Programs@1CDA.org



February 28, 1991
OPERATION DESERT STORM
cease fire

THANK YOU
for those who donated to the General Fund,
Scholarship Fund & Calendar Program, we
couldn't do it without our
dedicated membership!
We appreciate YOU!

2021 CALENDAR DONATIONS

Hope everyone is enjoying YOUR 2021 Calendar!

Thank you to our following members who have donated \$100 or more towards our 2021 calendar:

SP-4 BENSON, Richard J.	\$100.00
SP-4 BLACKBURN, James E.	\$100.00
E-5 CRUSAFULLI, Patrick S.	\$100.00
MAJ DANZEISER, David A.	\$100.00
CW3 ELLIS, Charles L. Jr.	\$100.00
CPT HUEBNER, Robert E.	\$100.00
SPC OTTINGER, Wayne	\$125.00
SGT PHILLIPS, James A.	\$100.00
COL(RET) ROSENBERGER, John	\$100.00
SP-4 SMITH, Stephen	\$100.00
LTC SPEEDMAN, Richard L.	\$100.00

Calendar donations keep this program operational.
Without your donations we are unable to continue this program.

Thank you to all our members that support this program!

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT & GENEROSITY!**

Today's 1st Cavalry Division breakdown is not what it once was. Below is the breakdown of the current units of the Division. Also for anyone on social media, please feel free to look up the units on Facebook and see what your old unit is doing.

1st CAVALRY DIVISION UNIT BREAKDOWN

1st Armored Brigade Combat Team "*IRONHORSE*"

- 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment “GarryOwen”
- 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment “Lancers”
- 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment “Stallions”
- 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment “ThunderHorse”
- 1st Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment “Dragons”
- 91st Engineer Battalion “Sabers”
- 115th Brigade Support Battalion “Muleskinners”

FACEBOOK: 1st ARMORED BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team "*BLACKJACK*"

- 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment “BlackKnights”
- 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment “Mustangs”
- 1st Battalion, 9th Cavalry Regiment “HeadHunters”
- 4th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment “DarkHorse”
- 3rd Battalion, 16th Field Artillery Regiment “RollingThunder”
- 8th Engineer Battalion “TrojanHorse”
- 15th Brigade Support Battalion “Gamblers”

FACEBOOK: 2nd ARMORED BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team "*GREYWOLF*"

- 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment “Chargers”
- 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment “Ghost”
- 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment “WarHorse”
- 6th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment “Saber”
- 2nd Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment “SteelDragons”
- 3rd Engineer Battalion “Beavers”
- 215th Brigade Support Battalion “Blacksmiths”

FACEBOOK: 3rd BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

1st AIR CAVALRY BRIGADE "*AIRCAV*"

- 1st Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment “Attack”
- 2nd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment “Lobos”
- 3rd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment “SpearHead”
- 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry regiment “PaleHorse”
- 615th Aviation Support Battalion “ColdSteel”

FACEBOOK: 1st AIR CAVALRY BRIGADE AIRCAV

1st Cavalry Division Sustainment Brigade "*WAGONMASTERS*"

- 1st Special Troops Battalion
- 553rd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion

FACEBOOK: 1st CAVALRY DIVISION SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE

1st Cavalry Division Artillery Brigade "*REDTEAM*"

FACEBOOK: 1st CAVALRY DIVISION ARTILLERY

Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion "*MAVERICK*"

FACEBOOK: 1st CAV HHBN

NEW MEMBERS

SPC AMOS, JUSTIN AL
MS. BAILEY, LOIS TX 1425 ASSOC
SP-5 BRANHAM, ROBERT WA B 228AHB 6804
LTC (RET) BROOKS, JOHNNY T. NC A 2-7C 7209
1LT DICKERSON, ALEX MO A 1-3ENG 1802
SP-4 FITZGERALD, DANIEL WA B 2-8C 5704
MAJ GREINKE, WILLIAM WI A 1-12C 7505
SGT JOHNSON, MICK FL HQ 2-7C 6902
MAJ KIRBY, JOE WA E 52INF 6810
E-5 LEDET, LEWIS LA E 2-5C 7109
SGT MANN, ROBERT TX E 2-5C 7106
SPC MCBRIDE, JOHN TN B 1-15FSB 8903
MAJ MCCULLOUGH, JOSHUA AR B 2-5C
MR. MCLEAN, CHRISTOPHER TX 1426 ASSOC
SFC (RET) MERRILL, HOWARD R. GA C 2-7C 7101
E-5 MOSS, DOUGLAS G. GA B 1-9C 6112
E-4 PADILLA, GEORGE JR CA C 1ACB 6602
SP-5 STEIDINGER, DENNIS RAY IL 15MED 6712
SFC (RET) TIPTON, CHARLES NC B 1-12C 6507
SGT WALKER, SHAMIKA FL B 4BSB 0809
CPL WITHAM, RANDALL MI HHC 2-5C 8511
SGM (RET) ZORNES, ROBERT WA 1-501ENG 7112



WELCOME TO THE 1CDA TEAM!

Help us Recruit!
Are your 1st Cavalry Division battle buddies
also a member of the elite
1st Cavalry Division Association?



LOUISVILLE SLUGGER
18" SLUGGER REPLICA
Commemorative 1CDA custom wooden bat

Quantity: _____ Total Amount: \$ _____

Form of Payment:
☐ Cash ☐ Check Enclosed ☐ Credit Card

Credit Card # _____

Exp Date: _____ CVV on back: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

Phone #: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

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

SHIPPING IS FREE

THE 1ST AIR CAVALRY DIVISION: MEMOIRS OF THE FIRST TEAM IN VIETNAM-
SPECIAL REPRINT EDITION

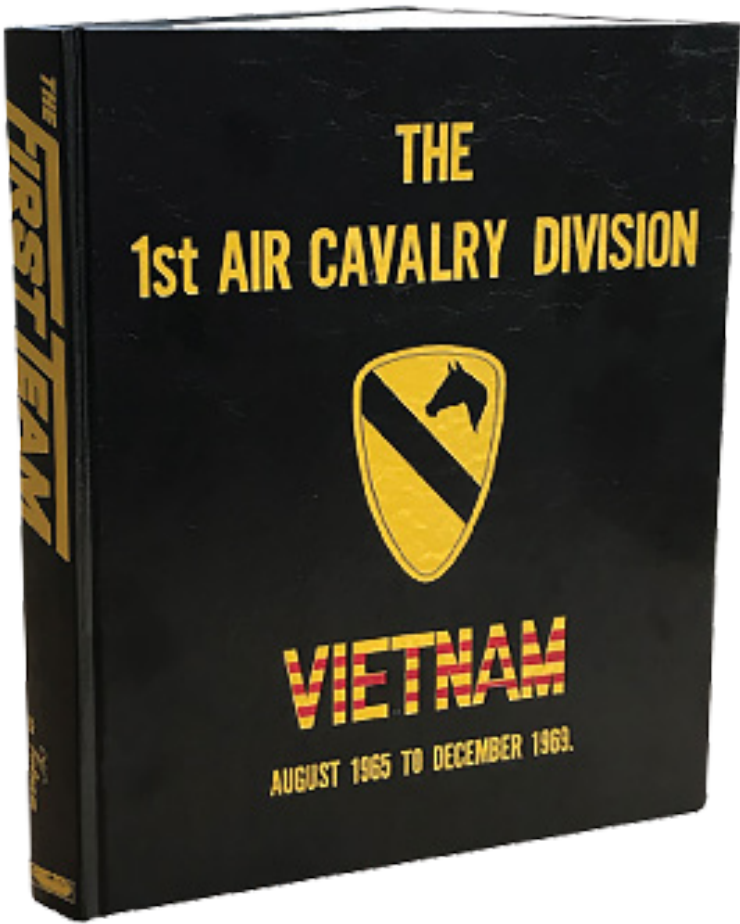
Yes! This is the same book Acclaim Press offered in the *Saber* last year (where you purchased directly from the publisher). If you missed that opportunity to pre-order, we were able to order a limited amount of copies to have available to our members. Please mail us your completed order form located below.

ABOUT THE BOOK

In 1970, the Division published a full-color hardbound commemorative book to document the time spent by 1st Cavalry Skytroopers in Vietnam, from 1965-69. Many of our members received a copy of this special book nearly 50 years ago, but over time the books were lost, damaged or worn down from frequent use. This reprint is identical to the original printing that rolled off the presses in 1970, but brand new and in pristine condition!

The 1st Air Cavalry Division in Vietnam-Special Reprint is a 10x12-inch, oversized hardbound volume with 296 pages with hundreds of full-color photos, printed on heavy-weight glossy paper for superior photo reproduction, with sturdy smyth-sewn binding for longevity, and bound in a classy black leatherette cover with full-color silk screening. Only \$85 with **FREE SHIPPING!** Due to limited quantities, we are limiting 1 book per member.

LIMITED QUANTITIES
AVAILABLE



MEMOIRS OF THE FIRST TEAM IN
VIETNAM-SPECIAL REPRINT EDITION

Limit 1 book per member

Amount Due: **\$ 85.00**

Form of Payment:
☐ Cash ☐ Check Enclosed ☐ Credit Card

Credit Card # _____

Exp Date: _____ CVV on back: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

Phone #: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

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

SHIPPING IS FREE

20th and 79th Artillery Regiment News



Bruce Wilder
1308 Blue Sky Lane
Kingsport TN 37664
423-276-6626
wbwilder@yahoo.com
www.araassociation.com



Greetings to all! We celebrated a white Christmas in East Tennessee. Our parking lot Christmas Eve services were cancelled. Patti and I never left the house. The snow was beautiful!

Well, I guess I could start this article much as I did the last. However, that would be a repeat of the warnings that our situation is going to get worse, but this time it is bad, and we need to heed the warnings of the knowledgeable people about the status of the COVID-19 pandemic! I feel as if I am preaching to the choir with this sermon! Enough said! Practice sound measures and stay safe!

This is to thank Gary Adams for accepting my apologies in the last two issues! Oh, by the way, I found the place where I stored your contributed material. Gary, the witness of your faith journey has been a blessing to me, and I appreciate the strength in the power of your prayer life. We pray that God's true healing presence and his grace and love be with you and your family through these coming years.

FINAL FLIGHT

I received this in the last quarterly Straphanger Gazette and wanted to share with the membership of ARA. May this be a celebration of the lives of Captain Henry M. Spengler III and Chief Warrant Officer Charles C. Windeler, Jr. who were killed-in-action on April 5, 1972 while serving with F/79th ARA, 1st CAV.

Their AH-1G Cobra (67-15594) was hit by anti-aircraft fire while pulling up from a second gun run on an enemy target near Loc Ninh. During the emergency descent to land, flames were billowing from the exhaust area. At about one hundred feet the aircraft exploded, losing its tail boom, did a 360-degree left spin, recovered to a landing position, crashed, burst into flames, and exploded. No one escaped from the aircraft.

The airborne helicopters attempted to recover the bodies but were turned away by enemy anti-aircraft fire. The two pilots were listed as MIA until remains were identified in 1989. Of the 21 bodies of U.S. servicemen expatriated by Vietnam on April 29, 1989, CPT Spengler's and CW2 Windeler's were among only six positively identified by the Military Central Identification Laboratory in Honolulu.

The flag-draped coffins of CPT Spengler and CW2 Windeler arrived on August 24, 1989, under military escort at Travis Air Force Base. The caskets were carried past an honor guard. The short ceremony was made more poignant because CPT Spengler and CW2 Windeler died side by side on April 5, 1972, and on this day, they were returning home together.

CPT Spengler was buried in Section 3 of Arlington National Cemetery beside the gravesite of his father, BG Henry Mershon Spengler II, who had been killed in the crash of a military aircraft in Germany on October 10, 1961. CW2 Windeler was buried in the Woodlawn Cemetery, New Windsor, NY. Eternally rest in God's peace, our brothers!

WE CELEBRATE THE LIVES OF ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

I just received word from Russ Warriner that another member of the Association died. CPT Charles Cline died on November 19, 2020 in Security, CO. Charles graduated from flight school in Class 68-2, and flew Cobras with A Btry, 2/20th ARA 1968-1969, arriving in country as a 1LT and leaving as a CPT. His brother, Timothy, who cared for him in his declining years, said that even though he had trouble sometimes remembering things, he could always tell you how to turn and bank an aircraft. He constantly fretted about the men he left behind and prayed for all. A final irony was that his palliative team was led by a doctor from Vietnam. His brother was exposed to Covid-19 the day before his death and not allowed to enter the nursing home. Upon hearing this, Dr. Phan came on her day off and sat with Charles throughout the afternoon, holding his hand until he passed. Charles had found God in his life, and now God has found Charles. Timothy emailed regarding Charlie's passing and wanting to get his call sign so it could be inscribed on his tombstone. Jesse Hobby researched and found that he had a Blue Max call sign but does not know what the complete call sign was. At Jesse's suggestion, in case we cannot provide a complete call sign a copy of the pocket patch that he worn during his tour was emailed to Timothy. May God's eternal light shine upon you, Charles!

I read in the VHPA of the death of the following members from the 4/77 ARA, 101 ABN DIV):

Jeffery L. Brown, Flight Class 69-39, Vietnam 1970-71, B/4/77 ARA 101ABN; Call sign: Toto 92D. No Obituary available.

CW5 Dean R. Coder, A/4/77, 1970-71, Call sign: Dragon 91, died on November 1, 2019 due to multiple Agent Orange related cancers.

CW4 James P. Oatfield, Vietnam 1969, A/4/77 101 ABN, Call sign: Dragon 21, died on August 1, 2017 following emergency surgery. Jim had been fighting the effects of type 2 diabetes for several years. Jim is survived by his wife Hilary, three children, six grandchildren, and a brother.

POTENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM NOMINEE

Joe L. Galloway, our keynote speaker at our 2019 Reunion in San Diego and world-renowned author, has had some major health challenges of late and is continuing to recover. Marvin Wolf has begun a letter writing campaign to President-Elect Joe Biden for the purpose of honoring Joe with the Medal of Freedom. Joe is not only a friend; several of our first wave members are also Ia Drang Valley Veterans.

I highly encourage each of you to write a letter to the President-Elect asking for this honor to be bestowed upon Joe while he is still with us. Please reach out to your Veteran friends and ask them to do the same. The address to send your letters for Joe is:

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr. 401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20230.

Portions of Marvin's Letter: "Mr. Galloway, then a wire-service reporter, was the only civilian to be awarded the Bronze Star for Valor during the Vietnam War. This highly unusual event recognized his actions at LZ X-Ray in November 1965. You may read about that enormously consequential battle during which he served as a reporter-turned-infantryman in Galloway's best-selling book *We*

Were Soldiers Once, and Young, or by viewing the Hollywood film based on it. Nor was this the first time that Galloway, an untrained civilian, put aside his pen and notebook and took up arms for his country. During the siege of Plei Me Special Forces Camp in October 1965, Galloway received a two-minute tutorial on loading and firing a .30 caliber machine gun.

For the next three days, he remained in a corner tower of the camp firing at the thousands of North Vietnamese Army forces surrounding it. Galloway served four tours in Vietnam for United Press International, from the very beginning of the war to the fall of Saigon in 1975.

Later, as a correspondent for U.S. News & World Report, he accompanied MG Barry McCaffrey, commanding the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) at the head of VII Corps on the now-famous Left-Hook, a 300-mile dash through the Iraqi desert to get behind Saddam Hussein's armies and end the war in days.

Galloway was allowed this reporting access because GEN Norman Schwarzkopf knew him and his honest reporting from Vietnam and entrusted him with the greatest secret of the Gulf War. Then and now, there is no civilian or journalist so honored and revered by America's Veterans as Joe Galloway. Galloway's credo is that "The truth is not an option."

The National Vietnam War Museum, Weatherford, Texas is looking for Vietnam memorabilia. The first ARA contribution to this museum was one of our ARA plaques presented by Jim Mitschke. Those of you having items to contribute, please send them to the museum's shipping address:

National Vietnam War Museum C/O Jim Messinger 2350 Old Agnes Road Weatherford, TX 76088. You may call the museum at 940-325-4003 or visit their website: <www.nationalvnwarmuseum.org>.

Aerial Rocket Artillery History: Remember to send copies of your books, notes, journals, mission briefings, personal accounts of missions; and audio recordings to the Morris Swett Library to be archived to document ARA's history. Send to: Morris Swett Library, 730 Schimmelpfennig Road, Fort Sill, OK 73503.

23rd ARA REUNION

COVID-19 continues to overshadow our plans for the Savannah Reunion, but the mission recommences!! Considering the seemingly ever-changing situation, our plans have again been set in motion and it might be well to repeat some of the information previously shared and keep tabs on the upcoming events.

The 23rd ARA Reunion will be held in Savannah, GA, **August 30 through September 3, 2021** - with availability for those who wish it from August 28-September 5, 2021. You can do that while you make your later reservation for 2021(912-231-9000 or 888-978-6498). So far, it appears we will enjoy all the same venues as originally planned.

The earlier information is reprinted here: Savannah is one of the most beautiful and enjoyable cities in lower 48 and consequently a huge tourist attraction. Jerry and Ann Hipp, our hosts, have wisely adjusted the usual dates to avoid the high hotel rates inherent in the weekend. We will set up station at the Holiday Inn Express, Savannah Historic District, 199 East Bay Street (intersection of Bay and Abercorn) which is virtually the center north of old Savannah.

Final details on reservations are still being worked out, but rooms will be \$119 Monday 8/30 through Friday 9/3 (as opposed to \$155 on Sunday 8/29 and \$195 on the following weekend 9/4 & 9/5). Savannah is worth a few extra dollars to see at leisure. The rates DO NOT include 13% taxes and a \$6 city occupancy fee.

Parking is available at two nearby city garages at about \$10/night and valet parking only at the hotel for a reduced rate of \$25. Breakfast is included and a hospitality room on the lower level have already been contracted by Herb Hirst, as well as the site of the farewell banquet 9/3 (Vic's on the River, across the street from the hotel).

The welcome banquet will be at world renowned Mrs. Wilkes Boarding House. Mrs. Wilkes is normally open for lunch only, 5 days a week, and serves old fashioned Southern food for a fixed price and in a family style, that means large dishes of food for self-service with refills coming as needed. This reporter has eaten there and can vouch for its quality and quantity as well as its ambiance. We have a special booking there Monday evening at 6 pm.

The menu includes a dozen southern veggies, plus beef stew, pulled pork and fried chicken - ALL YOU WANT! Arrangements will be made for bus/trolley transportation to/from Mrs. Wilkes. NOTE: Only 82 can be accommodated so it is first come/first served on the signup.

Hotel amenities include a rooftop pool overlooking the city and the Savannah River (which is right across the street from the hotel), a full-service bar open every evening, use of the Hospitality Room for our annual meeting, and the bar area for the ladies meeting. Some free transportation about the city is available and the hotel is a scheduled stop for all tour companies. Dozens of restaurants are within walking distance. Reservation phone numbers, attendee codes and other information will be forthcoming expeditiously when it becomes available.

Recreation: We are arranging for a guided trolley tour of the entire old Historic District for those interested on Tuesday, mid-morning 9-1. The goal is to maximize the time and opportunities for sightseeing as you desire. Tuesday and Wednesday dinners are the attendee's choice, and the final official meal is right across the street.

Savannah is a great place to visit and wander about. River cruises are available (lunch and/or dinner buffets included) with the dock within easy walking distance. Also, there is the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum with tours and food available (near Savannah Airport), several historic forts of earlier wars, and Tybee Island National Seashore with their famous light house and beaches. There is a big nightlife, many great restaurants, and ghost tours are a part of the scene.

Plans for a visit to Hunter Army Airfield (in Savannah) with tour and dining hall lunch are being developed. It is home to the Combat Aviation Brigade of the U.S. Army Third Infantry Division (currently deployed to the Middle East but with a rear detachment in place). They have an Apache Attack Helicopter Battalion (as close as anything in the modern Army to what we were in Vietnam), the 160th Special Operation Aviation Regiment (SOAR), and a battalion of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

We will have more information in future issues. See you all in Savannah! Here is hoping that 2021 is a Good and Meaningful New Year! If that materializes, then it could be a Happy New Year!

Until next time, this is Armed Falcon 28Delta, breaking left!

15th MED/15th FSB/15th BSB

Mike Bodnar
13010 N. Lakeforest Dr.
Sun City, AZ 85351-3250
(623) 972-4395
MBodnar27@Gmail.Com
www.15thMedBnAssociation.org



U.S. Army Aeromedical Evacuation in Vietnam KIA list by unit

KIA by UNIT	TOTAL KIA	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
15 MED BN Medevac Plt	36	0	2	6	6	6	11	5	0	0
215 CS BN Medevac Plt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45 MED CO	16	0	0	0	5	4	4	3	0	0
50 MED DET	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
54 MED DET	15	0	0	0	0	6	4	3	2	0
57 MED DET	16	1	1	0	8	0	1	0	5	0
68 MED DET	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0
82 MED DET	6	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	0
83 MED DET	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
159 MED DET	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
236 MED DET	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
237 MED DET	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	3	0
247 MED DET	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
254 MED DET	17	0	0	2	5	0	5	5	0	0
283 MED DET	11	0	0	0	5	2	4	0	0	0
326 MED CO Eagle Dustoff	37	0	0	0	0	0	9	17	11	0
498 MED CO	30	0	3	0	9	6	2	6	4	0
571 MED DET	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
TOTAL	213	1	6	8	40	34	40	54	29	1



Recent Reunion-S0 THAT OTHERS MAY LIVE

Attention U.S. Army Infantry or Special Forces Veterans!!
Join the only organization exclusively for

Combat Infantrymen
You earned the badge, proudly wear it and be part of the elite

Combat Infantrymen's Association
All applicants must have earned the Combat Infantry Badge and provide documentation by submitting Form DD-214, Official U.S. Army orders, or other official documents.
For more information visit our website @ www.cibassoc.com;
E-mail: ciamemberapps@gmail.com

Call or write:
Membership Officer
Combat Infantrymen's Association
825C Merrimon Ave Suite 354, Asheville, NC 28804
828-490-9303

VIETNAM T-shirts are LIMITED

All shirts are a 50/50 cotton/polyester blend GRAY short sleeve T-shirt with BLACK writing.
We ONLY have the Sizes 2XL & MED Left

\$23

Front: Cav Patch with years 1965-1972 written above, with Vietnam written across the Cav Baldric
Back: Color image of Memorial Wall & Flag "Remembering 5,618"



1CDA Vietnam T-shirt Order Form

Short Sleeve Shirts \$23 ea

Vietnam T-shirt ____2XL, ____MED

of Shirts:____ Total Due: ____
Cash: \$____ Check: \$____ Credit Card:\$____
Credit Card # _____ Exp Date: _____

Please Print Clearly

Name on Card: _____
Signature: _____
Phone #: _____
Name: _____
Address: _____

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

SHIPPING & HANDLING IS FREE

77th FA News

John Moran
1013 Willowdale Ave
Kettering, OH 45429
johnjanmoran@woh.rr.com

As part of the 41st Field Artillery Brigade, the 1-77 FA is the only U.S. long range, precision-strike capable, Multiple Launcher Rocket System (MLRS) unit in Europe. The unit is not only unique but also has greater depth because they have the dual capability of firing the High Mobility Artillery Rocket System, or HIMARS.

"Historically, this is a huge day for the battalion," said LTC Anthony Brunner, the 1-77th Battalion Commander. "This is the first time the unit has conducted a live-fire exercise, as well as being a MLRS battalion and certifying on HIMARS. This is a big deal. We have the capability to deliver long range precision fires to assure our allies and deter and defend against adversaries in the European theater. The unit is more than ready and capable of deploying and supporting NATO allies and partners. We have a lot of great leadership in this battalion, and a lot of great Soldiers. This is a huge day for the battalion, and I'm proud to be a part of it."

"With the HIMARS capability, this gives greater flexibility during engagements," said CPT Justin Bland, Alpha Battery CO. "The HIMARS vehicles have wheels, which increases our capability. This alone gives greater mobility, which is an asset for our European allies."

"Fortunately," LTC Brunner added, "this live fire for us has not been affected by COVID-19. We take those protective measures such as wearing masks, social distancing, and washing of hands to make sure we keep the health and safety of our force priority even in our sealed environment."

I have noticed in recent issues of the *Saber* that some members of other units have put in interesting histories of their battalions and/or regiments. When the 1st Battalion, 77th Field Artillery, was being reactivated this summer as part of the 41st FA Brigade in Grafenwoehr, Germany, the Battalion CSM, Rufus Davis, asked me to provide a history of the battalion in order that he might be able to inform the incoming Soldiers of the battalion's lineage. I sent him the following:

The history of the 1st Battalion in particular, and the 77th FA Regiment in general, is reflected in that of the U.S. Army. As the Army expanded and contracted over the past 100 years, so did the Regiment. Sometimes expanded to 2 regiments and at others not even active.

Originally constituted as Troops A & B, 19th Cavalry in 1916, it was later converted and redesignated as Battery A, 77th Field Artillery.

From WWI through WWII, it is difficult to follow the 77th FA Reg they were expanded, contracted, broken up to form other artillery units, inactivated and reactivated numerous times. At any rate, they do have credit for participating in several WWI and WWII campaigns in Europe. The 5 fleurs-de-lis on the unit crest represent the 5 campaigns the Regiment participated in during WWI.

In 1949, they were assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division in Japan and went with the Cav when they went to Korea in 1950. In the chaotic war that was Korea, many times the artillery positions were specifically targeted by the enemy, and the artillerymen had to fight off the attackers and still fire support. The 1-77th returned to Japan with 1st Cav in December 1951 and stayed there until they were deactivated in 1957. They were again activated in 1960 and were again assigned to the 1st Cav Div which was on the DMZ in Korea.

In 1965, the 11th Air Assault Div (Test) was re-flagged as the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) and was ordered to Vietnam. The battalion was equipped with M102, 105mm howitzers. B/1-77 FA was in action by September 1965 and the other batteries soon after. Notable battles and engagements involving the 1/77 include:

LZ Peanuts: A/1-77, supporting the relief of the Marines at Khe Sanh, in May 1968. SGT Eddie Chervony was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and the Silver Star for extraordinary heroism and gallantry in action in repelling an NVA attack at the cost of his life. In addition to leading the defense, he also saved the lives of 6 men. Buildings at both Ft Sill and Ft Knox are named in his honor.

TET '68: all batteries were involved.

LZ Grant: C/1-77, helped repel 4 major attacks by the NVA over a 2-week period, February and March 1969, using COFRAM to break up large scale attacks. Suffered 10 KIA and many wounded.

FSB Illingworth: B/1-77, April 1, 1970 helped repel major NVA attack

Cambodian Incursion: all batteries, May & June 1970

For these actions, and others, the battalion was awarded a Presidential Unit Citation and 2 Valorous Unit Citations. Currently assigned Soldiers to the 1st Battalion, 77th Field Artillery Regiment are authorized to wear these decorations while with the unit.

During Vietnam, three additional 77th FA battalions were there, and all represented themselves well. The 2-77 was with the 4th Inf Div and they earned the Presidential Unit Citation for their actions at the battle of Suối Tre, an especially bloody battle. The 4-77th was an ARA battalion with the 101st ABN Div and the 6-77th was with the 25th Inf Div. The 5-77th was a Sergeant Missile unit stationed in Babenhausen, Germany as part of the V Corps. At that time, the 3-77th was an Army Reserve unit in California.

In March 1971, the 1st Cavalry Division stood down from Vietnam, and returned to the US, and was stationed at Ft Hood, TX. In 1975, the 1st Cavalry Division became an armored division and the 1-77FA exchanged their towed howitzers for the 155mm M109 SP howitzer. Also, an interesting fact: the 2-77 was assigned to the 1st Cav from 1975-77, the only time that I am aware of that two battalions of the regiment were together.

In 1986, the battalion was relieved from assignment to the 1st Cav and reassigned to the 194th Armored Brigade at Ft Knox. In 1996, they were back to Ft Sill, and somewhere along the line they became a MLRS battalion. I know that in 2006, several of their batteries were in Iraq, where they primarily performed convoy escort duties. In 2007, they were again inactivated; but in 2008 they were reactivated and assigned to the 172nd Infantry Brigade in Germany.

I could not find anything concerning the 1-77th after them being assigned to the 172nd Inf BDE. Somewhere they were deactivated. And they are again activated.

The following is extracted from a story by SGT John Todd, 7th Army Training Command, dated 10/28/2020:

"The 1st Battalion, 77th Field Artillery Regiment conducted its first live-fire exercise October 28, 2020 since the unit was reactivated on August 27, 2020.

BOOKS of INTEREST

Air Assault 'Slicks' At War by Paul Winkel, Jr.

In November 1965, at Vietnam Ia Drang's Landing Zone X-Ray, Battlefield Commander LTC Harold G. Moore, USA (Ret, now a LTG, and Pulitzer Prize Winner War Correspondent Joseph Galloway, the 4th only Bronze Star Civilian Awardee during the entire Vietnam War, published their 1992 Random House book *"We Were Soldiers Once...And Young."*

This, however, because of a lack of aircrew information at the time, the book is primarily about Infantry. During the past 2 decades of finding air crew members, researching memories, then verifying data at the National Archives and Department of the Army's Military History Agency, Paul Winkel, Jr., a battle participant, has written a 650-page book about the helicopter crews known in 1965 as only parts of machines. It is entitled, *"Air Assault 'Slicks' At War"* suggested by Winkel's 1st Cavalry Division's Commander, LTG Harry W.O. Kinnard, the Trooper whose 101st Division during WWII, surrounded by German forces demanding surrender, replied "nuts."

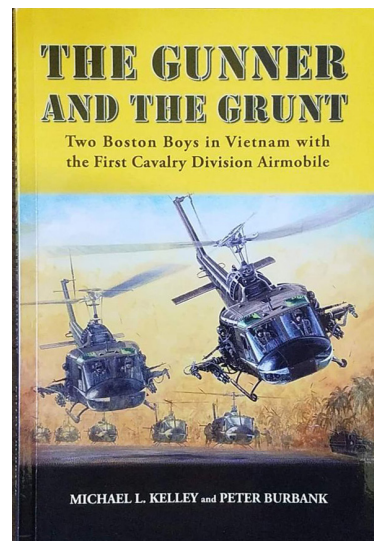
In "Slicks" more than 30 crew member impressions of combat in helicopters occur. Winkel writes about a new way to fight. It was baptized in on 14 November 1965 at Vietnam Ia Drang's Landing Zone X-Ray when Moore's understrength 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry, pitted against a 7-times-larger enemy force, inflicted a 12:1 kill ratio. This achievement, however, might be considered a Pyrrhic Victory that caused "politicians" to extend the War.

Division Commander Harry W.O. Kinnard, cited in his *"1966 Ia Drang After Action Report,"* "Air Assault results are believed to be of international importance." LZ X-Ray's Moore in his second book, *"Soldiers Once...And Young"* wrote "brave aviators prevented annihilation of his 7th Cavalry" vice 1876 Custer's 7th Cavalry's disaster when ammunition came up only at a trot. "Slicks" aircrews, however, came up faster than at a trot, protected only by their ships' Plexiglas windscreens and did not stop to water the horses. They flew in urgently needed ammunition, seemingly to hand to Troopers their next bullets to fire, then evacuated their wounded.

In 1968, Kinnard's Division received the 5th Presidential Unit Citation ever awarded to a division in the U.S. Army's history. Three Medals of Honor were won within 2 ½ hours. Institute of Aeronautics Professor Ball's *"Probability of Survivability"* suggests Air Assault survivability might be enhanced by decreasing specific vulnerabilities and increasing essential air assault crew pre-training before going to war. Abodeely's *"Air Cav: Adapting Age-Old Principles"* suggests that Air Assault concept be revisited. "Slicks" publisher, Archway of Simon & Schuster may publish the book in mid-2021. Amazon may list the book.

The Gunner and the Grunt: Two Boston Boys in Vietnam

with the First Cavalry Division Airmobile by Michael L. Kelley & Peter Burbank



The Gunner and the Grunt is the story of two teenage boys from the Boston area who enlisted in the U.S. Army in late 1964 and were sent down south to attend training schools during the Civil Rights era and were witness to segregated life in the Land of Dixie. It was a cultural shock for both of them.

By 1965, they were assigned to their first PCS unit. Kelley was with the 3rd Transportation Company (Lt. Helicopter) Davison Army Airfield, Fort Belvoir and Burbank was assigned to the 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment, Fort Campbell.

In the summer of 1965, President Johnson deployed the experimental 1st Cavalry Division Airmobile to the war zone. A few months later, Kelley and Burbank were assigned to the new unit at An Khe, South Vietnam. They both were members of Troop C, 1st Squadron, 9th

Cavalry (Recon). Kelley was a door gunner on a UH-1B Huey Gunship and Burbank was a rifleman in the Aero Rifle Platoon "Blues." They did not know each other when they first arrived in Vietnam, however, they soon discovered that they were both Boston Boys and made fast friends.

They participated in "Search and Destroy" missions across the Central Highlands from the Cambodian border to the sands of the South China Sea, where they were in the thick of the fighting against Viet Cong and NVA troops in the jungles, rice paddies and mountains.

This story covers their wartime experiences as well as their readjustment to civilian life back home trying to put their lives together despite their struggles with PTSD. Kelley and Burbank remained lifelong friends.

For a copy of the book, contact <michaelkelley67@yahoo.com>

77 FA NEWS continued

The Army's finally realizing they cannot get along without us!

At any rate, at this time there are 2 active duty 77th FA Regiment battalions: the 1st, and the 2nd, which is at Ft Carson, assigned to the 4th Inf Division.

It is with deep sadness that the 77th FA Association announces the passing of COL Steven A. Glick on Dec 10, 2020. COL (then MAJ) Glick was the 1-77th Battalion XO and S3 in 1969-70. Those of us who served under him remember him with the deepest respect and admiration. Since his passing was announced, tributes and memories have poured in. His primary concern was to provide the best supporting fires possible to the troops in the field. He will be missed. The Association extends its condolences to his family.

**CHECK YOUR SABER LABEL FOR YOUR
SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRATION DATE.**



545th MP Co News

Victor Manuel Alvarez
504 Old Mission Rd
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168-8554
(210) 240-5527
V.Alvarez48@yahoo.com



The Military Police Corps, Regimental History Part Four, World War I continued

The 1st Division Military Police operated in the Argonne Woods controlling access to the front. During the German advance in that area in 1918 many cross-roads and towns were heavily bombarded by their artillery, but the military police swiftly directed three divisions into the battle area with no casualties. Often the enemy artillery was fired at regular intervals, allowing military police to move most of the truck traffic through towns during periods of calm and to halt traffic before heavy shelling resumed.

Prior to the Aisne-Marne offensive in July 1918, units speeding to the front created a huge traffic snarl. The situation worsened as heavy rains halted trucks in mud and mire. The traffic problem was intensified.

WORLD WAR II

The rapid buildup of the United States Army during World War II highlighted the need for an organized Military Police Corps. Major General Allen W. Gullion, the Adjutant General of the Army, was appointed acting Provost Marshal of the Army on 31 July 1941. He collected data concerning members of the Army currently to serve as military police. Corps and divisions had assigned personnel from existing branches serving as military police, and the Department of the Army did not know the exact number of men habitually used in law enforcement duties. Aside from the initial manpower

organizational efforts, General Gullion also planned for the primary mission of military police: control of enemy aliens and internment of foreigners residing in the United States. A central operating authority higher than Corps level was necessary to meet that mission.



Military Policeman in Hawaii, 1935

The Secretary of War responded with the establishment of a permanent Military Police Corps on 26 September 1941. This date is the official birthday of the Military Police Corps. It marked the turning point in the corps' history from a transitory branch of the Army to a permanent combat service support element operating during war and peace. The initial members of the Corps were chosen because of their current assignment as military police at Army installations.

Three battalions and four separate companies of military police were formed immediately from existing assets. These units consisted of approximately 2,000 persons. During the conflict, the Military Police Corps grew to a strength of over 200,000 enlisted and 9,250 officers. Five different tables of organization, developed by the Infantry, were initially used by military police battalions. After the addition of the Military Police Board in January 1942, nine new organizational tables were created along with major revisions to the other five. By February 1942, seventeen battalions had been activated under these tables. The types of companies available for service by the end of the year were grouped according to major functions: Zone of Interior Guards, Escort Guard, Post-Camp and Station, Prisoner of War and Processing, Aviation Military Police Organizations, and Criminal Investigation Detachments.

As a result of the massive influx of personnel, a Military Police Service School was established at the Arlington Cantonment in Virginia. The school relocated several times prior to the end of the decade. It was the beginning of the creation of a highly professional Military Police Corps. Many of the failure to provide the 2d Division Military Police Company with an early warning of the advance, a lack of reconnaissance, and the absence of a specific order of march. Upon the arrival of the 2d Division Military Police, alternate routes were explored. Military vehicles and artillery pieces which could not be moved were overturned to allow continuous traffic flow to the front. Empty trucks returning were halted and parked in safe areas away from the main road. Infantry Troops were commandeered by the military police to aid in road repairs. It took several hours of strenuous work just to clear the main road. At crossroad traffic points military police went several days without sleep while keeping traffic moving swiftly along proper routes.

During the German offensive in July 1918, the 3d Division Military Police were busy controlling stragglers from the rapidly moving division. The subsequent counter-offensive of the 3d Division encountered heavy enemy artillery fire and gas attacks, causing many Soldiers to stop advancing or to bolt towards the rear. The military police held the line despite their own losses, twelve killed and thirteen wounded. Other duties included processing and guarding prisoners of war, controlling traffic to speed supplies to the front and wounded to the rear, and assisting aid stations by escorting stragglers to the front.

After action testimonials from twelve divisional commanders complimented the military police for their professionalism in controlling traffic, controlling stragglers (an increasingly difficult task during chemical attacks), handling prisoners, speeding wounded from front aid stations to the rear, and enforcing laws and regulations which prohibited American Troops from looting and plundering captured cities. The 4th Division Commander was amazed that his military police company did not have any absentees even though its men went without sleep and proper food for days, due to personnel shortages and transportation problems. Thus, the military police had successfully solved a myriad of unusual problems which had demanded quick thinking, stern control, and positive action.

As open conflict ended, the military police were utilized in dispersing prisoners of war and maintaining martial law in conquered Germany. At the beginning of World War I, the provost marshal had been assigned eleven men for research and development. As the duties of the Provost Marshal General expanded, manpower allocations were increased. One thousand, one hundred and sixty-one officers and 30,466 enlisted men were serving as military policemen at the height of the

war. These men were assigned throughout Europe in 146 different military police companies (8 criminal investigation, 50 Divisional, and 88 general support sections in cities and towns) lines.

In April 1919, Brigadier General Bandholtz submitted a report to the War Department which enumerated the short comings of the Military Police Corps and the Provost Marshal General's Department. The remedy for the existing situation was, in his words, "The maintenance of a specially organized Military Police Corps, in our peacetime military establishment, with units that may be actively engaged in military police duties, particularly during maneuvers and field training, whose personnel shall be carefully selected and highly trained, having such Esprit de Corps and intelligent appreciation of their functions as will enable the individual military police to perform his often delicate duties with assurance and certainty, yet without offense or embarrassment. Then in case of war we will have the nucleus to supply instructors for the needed expansion, and trained units to be the first Troops to report at any training area."

Although General Bandholtz proposed permanent Military Police Corps was rejected by Congress, progress was achieved through the National Defense Act of 1920. This act provided for the organization of Army Reserve Military Police units and resulted in the first reserve military police officers being commissioned in 1921. A directive outlining the organization and function of the Military Police Corps in the event of mobilization was issued in July 1924. Each division was ordered to appoint an acting provost marshal in case of activation. However, these positions were either figureheads or additional duties for an officer already on the division's staff. The next significant event in the evolution of a permanent Military Police Corps occurred in 1937. At that time, the War Department published *Basic Field Manual IX, Military Police*, providing for the organization of a Provost Marshal General Department. The outbreak of war in Europe in 1939 brought about change in existing regulations, and a Military Police Corps was again projected in the event of a future national emergency. The subjects taught at the school were like those which had been taught at the World War I service school in Autun, France. However, the initial emphasis of the World War II Corps was on internal security and intelligence functions, altering the focus of the school. As in the previous war, the Military Police Corps expanded rapidly. By the end of 1945, about 150 battalions and 900 other military police units had been activated.

The United States fought the war on two widely separated fronts. One product of the divergence between them was that the operation of the military police in the two Theater Armies differed dramatically. In the Pacific, each military police unit was assigned a specific function, resulting in an overlapping geographic area

of operation among several units. This created confusion among the military police, as well as the Troops they served. For example, when a Soldier approached a military policeman about a traffic incident, the military policeman might respond that he only handled stragglers.

As a result, many Soldiers thought the military police were attempting to shirk their responsibilities by diverting complaints to other units. Another problem in the Pacific Theater was the use of military police assets as individual reinforcements for infantry units. This practice resulted in band members, transportation personnel, and communication personnel being utilized for the security of ports, depots, railroads, and other vital rear area installations. Since General Douglas A. MacArthur and his staff approved of this practice, there was little that local provost marshals could accomplish against it. Often huge supply losses resulted from a lack of security at ports, but no attempt was made to correct the situation. Conversely, military police units in the European Theater of Operations had an excellent rapport with the Troops they served, were tightly controlled, and well-organized. Units were assigned total military police responsibilities within a specific geographic area. Although military policemen had to obtain a wide variety of knowledge to perform their mission, this system reinforced the Soldier's concept of each military policeman being capable of performing all law enforcement functions.

The primary missions of the Provost Marshal General's Department during the first years of the war were as follows: protection of war production in the United States, internment of prisoners of war, and establishment of an active civil defense plan. Industrialists demanded that the Federal government provide security against theft, sabotage, and destruction of military equipment that they were producing. To remedy the situation, an "Auxiliary Military Police" was created, combining active duty military police with civilian guard services at all key industrial complexes. The active duty units involved were commonly known as Zone of Interior Guard Companies. In addition to guarding factories, the military police serving in the United States had to process and secure prisoners of war. Following the North African campaign, numerous German soldiers were captured and shipped to the United States for confinement. Persons later captured in Europe were also sent to the United States. By 1945 approximately 750,000 German prisoners were detained in the United States in over six hundred compounds located throughout the country. The prisoners were employed in meatpacking plants, lumber mills, mines, on southern farms, in public works projects, and in transportation services. The Provost Marshal General was responsible for their care, security, and safety. After the war ended, this responsibility expanded to include reorientation and repatriation programs.

The primary missions of the Provost Marshal General's Department during the first years of the war were as follows: protection of war production in the United States, internment of prisoners of war, and establishment of an active civil defense plan. Industrialists demanded that the Federal government provide security against theft, sabotage, and destruction of military equipment that they were producing. To remedy the situation, an "Auxiliary Military Police" was created, combining active duty military police with civilian guard services at all key industrial complexes. The active duty units involved were commonly known as Zone of Interior Guard Companies. In addition to guarding factories, the military police serving in the United States had to process and secure prisoners of war. Following the North African campaign, numerous German soldiers were captured and shipped to the United States for confinement. Persons later captured in Europe were also sent to the United States. By 1945 approximately 750,000 German prisoners were detained in the United States in over six hundred compounds located throughout the country. The prisoners were employed in meatpacking plants, lumber mills, mines, on southern farms, in public works projects, and in transportation services. The Provost Marshal General was responsible for their care, security, and safety. After the war ended, this responsibility expanded to include reorientation and repatriation programs.

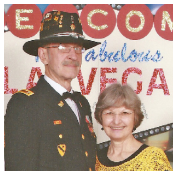
- TO BE CONTINUED -

Contents and images in this photo history provided by the Branch and Command Historian, US Army Military Police Corps, and the 545th MP Company Association Archives.



Guard tower at Prisoner of War enclosure near the front-lines, World War II

HQ and Special Troops News



Ron Killingsworth
10329 Caddo Lake Rd
Mooringsport, LA 71060-9057
(318) 426-3654
retmiagt@gmail.com

Greetings Troopers and families from NW Louisiana. Sue and I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and that only good things come your way in the New Year. We pray that this will be the year that the horrible virus will finally be conquered, and we can return to a somewhat normal life. We have been fortunate and managed to avoid the virus while friends around us have become infected. Most had mild cases and recovered with a week or so. One of my few remaining aunts lives in a nursing home and tested positive but never had any symptoms. It has been a horrible year for all of us. Words cannot describe how much I missed being able to go to the annual reunion and see old friends and make new ones. We are praying that things will get back to normal by September so that we can all meet at Fort Hood and celebrate 100 years with our active-duty Troopers. Be sure to get your hotel reservations in early or you will have to stay at some hotel other than the Shilo.

I am writing this without receipt of my Nov-Dec *Saber*. The USPS has been a real mess and I guess my copy got lost somewhere. I did, however, receive some feed back to that issue.

I received an email from **Richard Rooker**. Rick has written several times before and paints fantastic watercolor paintings. Check out his work at <<https://richard-rooker.pixels.com/>>. Rick wrote "Just finished your article in the *Saber* and wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed it. Any time I see the words "Phouc Vinh" in print, memories flash by at warp speed. It also reminds me of our camp stripped bare of any foliage from agent orange and why did I come down with epilepsy 23 years ago at the young age of 50. The neurologists all said that is not a common age for such a diagnosis. Meds keep it under control. I am extremely fortunate as I am directly between VA facilities in Green Bay and Milwaukee and my local VA clinic is literally a walk through a corn field in my back yard. They have all been particularly good to me and I am amazed at all they do every time I go to one of their facilities. I certainly can appreciate your "old friends" segment. Linda and I are losing so many of our old friends, many of whom are younger than us. Maybe by the time the pandemic clears the air I will get to a Cav reunion and we can meet face to face. I suspect we have a lot in common to share and talk about. I pray the recent hurricane has left you safe and whole and hope you and your family are all well and we pray for the nation and our government!"

Lee Livingston, former 1LT with Military Intelligence, wrote "That was an interesting write-up in the *Saber* about the civil affairs branch. The 41st Civil Affairs Company, a II Corps unit, had at least two civil affairs team with the 1st Cav in 1965-67. There were lots of displaced refugees to sort through, deal with, and resettle. In 1967, the lessons learned were that the projects done in the 1st Cav's AO needed to be tended to when the Cav moved on. Therefore, the Civil Affairs teams were transferred to the local MACV units. Today's Civil Affairs are in close with the Special Forces. SOF trains the host country Troops and the CA teams help the families and villages of those Troops. The 1st Cav did a lot of good things for the locals in An Khe and in the operating field areas. No flash and bang, except when we used 40 pounds of shaped charges to start a well project, but some hearts and minds were opened."

Lee sent me a pdf that is a good write-up of his service in Vietnam. You can read it at <https://www.angryskipperassociation.org/pdf_documents/ASA%20Newsletter%202008_January.pdf>

The small village of Gia Ray, outside of Fire Support MACE where I was stationed, was a Montagnard (means mountain dweller) village that had been relocated to that area. They were great people and terribly busy in the lumber industry. The Montagnard tribes were predominantly Christian and there was a Christian church in Gia Ray. They suffered greatly at the end of the war, from the north Vietnamese as well as the local south Vietnamese. There is an interesting article here about their fate: <<https://www.pri.org/stories/2015-11-16/america-has-forgotten-about-us-former-us-allies-vietnam-flee-persecution>>.

I also heard from **Mark Bennett**. Mark wrote by email "I read your article in the Nov/Dec *Saber*. I retired last year as a Civil Affairs officer. In 2004, I served with the 1st Cav in Baghdad. Specifically, I worked on what was known as the Governorate Support Team (GST), which conducted civil affairs operations within Baghdad. Our director was (then) COL Kendall Cox, who was also the Engineer Bde Commander."

Mark then sent me a great write-up of his experiences with the Cav as a civil affairs officer. Mark wrote,

"During Operation Iraqi Freedom, I was a member of the 478th Civil Affairs Battalion (SO), from Perrine, FL (suburb of Miami). The Battalion mobilized in December 2003 and deployed to Baghdad from February to October 2004. The 478th was one of two Army Reserve Civil Affairs Battalions deployed to Baghdad during that time. When we arrived, the 1st Armored Division was responsible for Baghdad, until the 1st CAV arrived in April 2004 and assumed responsibility. During my tour, I served as a member of the Baghdad Governorate Support Team (GST). As a Civil Affairs Officer with civilian experience as an urban planner working in local government, it was the perfect job for me. The GST was charged with conducting numerous projects, programs, and activities to promote the reconstruction of Baghdad. Our emphasis was on city-wide, division level operations.

We also worked with the Coalition Provisional Authority-Baghdad, which was a subordinate organization under the Coalition Provisional Authority. We worked out of an office at the Presidential Palace and stayed in trailers on the compound. There was a DFAC in the Palace, with numerous civilian contractors everywhere. It was amazing to me that some of the civilians there were able to fit the war into their social schedules. The palace even had a pool, which I was lucky enough to use a couple of times. I was never able to emulate GEN Patton (who pissed in the Rhine River) by going in the Tigris River, that would have been politically incorrect. However, I can say that I did piss in Saddam's pool! As part of the GST, I was assigned as the Public Works Officer and served as the Essential Services Team Leader. As the Public Works Officer, I worked with the Director-General

of the Amanat Baghdad Roads and Construction Authority (the equivalent of a City Public Works Department). An example of a project that I worked on in this role was to obtain funds from CPA-Baghdad (which had acquired funds from the previous regime) to obtain spare parts for the City's road milling and asphalt paving machines. Because the normal banking and credit systems (such as wire transfer) were not functional, I had to deliver \$340,000 in cash in my laundry bag from the office to a bank next to Baghdad City Hall to transfer the funds for the spare parts. The great Soldiers of 1-82 FA (Steel Dragons) provided convoys from the Green Zone to City Hall. One of the Soldiers asked if I wanted to put my laundry bag in the back of the Humvee. Once I showed him what was in the bag, he then understood why I wanted to hold on to it!

Besides Public Works, the Essential Services Team worked on other functions including solid waste, water and sewer, and electric power. Civil Affairs Soldiers of various backgrounds, including an assistant city manager and a building contractor, were on the Team. We were all able to bring our unique civilian skills to support the CAV's civil-military operations. In addition to my primary duties, I also participated in some special projects. For a couple of months, I served as a liaison officer between the CAV and the Mayoralty of Baghdad. In that position, I periodically met with the Mayor of Baghdad, Dr. Alla Mahmoud Al-Tamimi, and his staff. I also was able to observe several meetings between Dr. Al-Tamimi and MG Chiarelli, the division commander. One of their projects that I eventually worked on in this role was the revitalization of Abu Nuwas Park. This park was along the Tigris River, across from the Green Zone. Prior to the war, it had been a popular park in a vibrant neighborhood, with several art galleries, bookstores, and restaurants that would serve grilled fish from the river. The Mayor's intent was to get the park restored to provide a sense of normalcy and stability. During my time, units from the DIV ENG BDE (including Air Force Engineers) were able to clear the grounds and install a walking trail.

I also worked with a Dutch reserve officer who was an archivist in civilian life. This project involved preserving historic documents known as the "Ottoman Archives," because they were created when Baghdad was part of the Ottoman Empire. He was the expert in document preservation, and I assisted with obtaining funding through the Commander's Emergency Relief Program (CERP) program that units had available for special civil-affairs type projects. As an urban planner, I was not going to travel 6,000 miles without visiting the urban planners that worked for the City of Baghdad. We had the opportunity to share experiences – when they talk about historic preservation, they refer to buildings from the 9th century! I was also able to provide them with materials to assist them with their efforts. As a gift, they gave me a book about the history of Baghdad. Although written in Arabic, with a picture of Saddam on the front page (which they apologized for), it was still a great gift which I will always treasure.

During my time with the 1st CAV, I worked with some great Soldiers and outstanding leaders. I tried to take the lessons learned from them and apply them during my career. MAJ Mark Shankle was an active-duty civil affairs officer, served as the Operations Officer for the GST, and had been the Division G-5 prior to arrival in-country. He understood better than most active-duty types what special skills that the CA reservists could bring to the fight. He also kept us out of trouble with the active-duty types! (Then) COL Ken Cox was the ENG BDE Commander and served as the Director of the GST. Perpetual motion is the best way I know to describe him. COL Cox retired as a MG and the Deputy Commander of III Corps. (Then) BG Jeff Hammond was the Assistant Division Commander – Support (The "S") and was the lead for civil-military operations. We had to brief him on our functions every other Friday. You always had to be prepared to brief him! BG Hammond also retired as a MG.

Later in my career, I commanded a Logistics Support Battalion at Camp Shelby, MS, outside of Hattiesburg, MS, where MG Hammond had retired. We were able to reestablish contact. He spoke to my Soldiers and provided several leadership lessons, plus attended my change of command ceremony when I relinquished command. As previously mentioned, (then) MG Peter Chiarelli was the Division Commander. He had an incredible presence, outstanding military bearing, and understood the importance of non-kinetic operations (such as civil affairs) better than most senior leaders in my opinion. He always had on tanker's boots, which I (as a former Armor officer) thought was cool. MG Chiarelli retired as a GEN, serving as the 32nd Vice Chief of Staff for the U.S. Army. I was immensely proud of my time in Baghdad, and to have been part of the 1st CAV. It was my best assignment as a civil affairs officer and wish I could have completed more during my time there. For the remainder of my career, I was authorized to wear three combat patches. I always wore the 1st CAV patch! First Team - Mark J. Bennett, COL (Ret), CA, USAR

I am so happy to finally hear from some Troopers from the Gulf War and hope to hear more from our Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan. I know you are out there! Thank you, Mark, for that great and interesting summary of your tour with the Cav. First Team indeed!

I was recently reading an email from military.com and found an article on the VA that described the many religious symbols the VA will place on the tombstone of Veterans. I was amazed at the 20 or so symbols available to represent the deceased's religious preference. Every VA cemetery I have ever visited consisted of mainly crosses and stars, Christian and Judaism. I had no idea, first, that there are so many different religious faiths out there and second, that the VA is willing to provide symbols for so many. If you are interested in more information, visit this website: <https://www.military.com/off-duty/2020/12/14/66-religious-symbols-va-will-put-tombstones.html?ESRC=army-a_201216.nl> or simply Google VA tombstone symbols.

Military chaplains will always hold a special place in my heart. So many of them were (are) ready and willing to help any Soldier, regardless of which religion they practiced. My last active-duty assignment at Fort Hood in the 312th Military Intelligence Battalion, allowed me to have quite a bit of contact with our assigned chaplain. Although he was a Catholic priest, he was ready and willing to help any Soldier, religious or atheist. Maybe some of our chaplains out there will write about their service in the First Team or in the other parts of the U.S. Army.

In the Army you are a Soldier (or Trooper), in the Marine Corps a Marine, in the Navy a Sailor, and so forth for Air Force and Coast Guard. Members of the new Space Force are called wait for it.... Guardians! Someone has been reading too much Sci-Fi!

What changed in 2020? In 2019 we were told to stay away from negative

Continued to pg. 23



HONOR ROLL



Thank you for the generous donations from our following Troopers:

SGT ADAMS, Robert	\$25.00	CPT HALL, Sanci	\$50.00	SP-4 McKEE, Henry	\$25.00
E-5 AUE, Franklin H	\$25.00	SP-4 HAMILTON, Larry	\$50.00	E-2 McKIDDY, Ron	\$100.00
ANONYMOUS	\$100.00	SGT HARSHBERGER, Leroy	\$25.00	IMO SGT Gary Mc Kiddy KIA 5-6-70	
SGT BALDWIN, Charles	\$25.00	SGT HENRY, A.C.	\$200.00	E-5 McLAUGHLIN, Bob	\$15.00
IMO Bravo Co 1/8 th NAM 68-69		IMO SSG Wm. "SGT Pete" Peterson,		IMO Charles A. McLaughlin Jr.	
LTC (RET) BARKER, Robert	\$155.00	11/15/1967 C Co 1/7 th Cav		MAJ McDERMOTT, Vincent A.	\$100.00
E-4 BARRINTOS, Robert S.	\$25.00	IHO the 1 st Cavalry Division Association		CPT MELBARDIS, Alex	\$100.00
IMO Daniel Del Valle--Marine		E-5 HICKS, Dennis W.	\$25.00	IMO The Brave Horse Comanche	
SPC BEEBY, Julian	\$100.00	SGT HIDDEN, Carl L.	\$40.00	COL (RET) MIYAMASU, Myles	\$100.00
SP-4 BENSON, Richard J.	\$100.00	COL HOLLAND, F. Barry	\$350.00	SFC MOORE, James E.	\$100.00
SGT BERNARD, Michael	\$25.00	SP-4 HOOPAUGH, Michael D.	\$25.00	E-2 MORGAN, Gordon	\$75.00
PFC BROWN, Kenneth T. Jr.	\$100.00	IMO All Troopers Living or Dead		IMO Morgan & MacDonald Family	
SSG BRUNER, Don	\$100.00	SGT HORAS, Thomas	\$100.00	Former Combat Vets WW2, Korea, and Nam	
SP-4 BUGAMELLI, Ralph	\$120.00	IMO of Charlie Co 8 th ENG BN		E-5 MORTON, Burnis E., Jr.	\$25.00
PFC BURROWS, Jerry W.	\$80.00	who were killed at Usan, Korean War		SP-5 MUNIZ, Miguel E.	\$25.00
SGT CAHILL, John A.	\$25.00	SGT HORNE, James	\$100.00	SSG MUMMERT, Earl Jr.	\$25.00
IMO Syder Bembyr L. Z. Albany, KIA		CPT HOUSE, John C., M.D.	\$100.00	IMO A Co 2/7 Cav 3 rd Plt SGT and men	
E-7 CARLEY, Don, Jr.	\$25.00	IMO CSM Harold Rusk		LTC (RET) OGLE, Glenn A.	\$50.00
Cav Troopers		SP-4 HUTSON, Richard	\$200.00	SGT OWENS, Bart	\$10.00
SSG CORBUTT, Tom	\$200.00	1LT JAMES, Frank M	\$25.00	IMO Top Verner	
SFC CRAGG, Charles	\$30.00	SP-5 JONES, Charles G.	\$10.00	E-4 PEPIN, Steven	\$25.00
SGT CRAVELLO, Robert	\$100.00	IMO C. E. Moore		COL (RET) PETERS, Harry E.	\$125.00
LTC CRUSE, Joseph A.	\$25.00	COL (RET) JONES, Joel D.	\$100.00	IMO Michael Carter, KIA 2/16/1970,	
IMO Leonard Cruse		IMO General E. C. Meyer		E Btry 82 Arty	
CPL CUSTER, Jack L.	\$25.00	SSG JONES, Patrick E.	\$25.00	LTC (RET) POWELL, Raymond	\$50.00
CPT CYPRESS, Cornell J., Jr.	\$25.00	SGT KAUFFMAN, Lisle J.	\$25.00	SGT RABKIN, Ted	\$100.00
COL DAVID, Ronald C.	\$100.00	IMO Scout Section/Recon 9 th Cav Troop		DR. RICHARDSON, Francis H.	\$500.00
E-5 DAY, Randy C.	\$10.00	C DMZ Korea 1961		IMO of My Brothers of E Co 1/7 Cav	
SGT DeJULIO, Tiberio P.	\$100.00	LTC (RET) KEARNS, John A. Jr.	\$25.00	March 17, 1969	
CPT DEBRES, Stephen J.	\$25.00	E-4 KEITH, Robert E.	\$10.00	SSG ROCKWELL, Dennis	\$100.00
CSM (RET) DELIA, Robert M.	\$100.00	IMO Ruth M. Moore (Mother)		IMO Jack "Doc" Devane	
SP-4 DEVON, David	\$140.00	1LT KEPNER, Frederick	\$25.00	SP-5 ROGERS, Leslie E.	\$25.00
IMO PFC Victor Williams, KIA Oct 29, 1971		SP-5 KLUG, Robert C.	\$15.00	SP-4 ROOKER, Richard	\$50.00
Long Khanh Province Vietnam		CPT KOHLS, Walter J.	\$25.00	SGT SAWYER, Ronald	\$15.00
SP-5 DUNN, Arthur	\$25.00	IMO Arther Murray KIA 69		SGT SHAPIRO, Kirby	\$100.00
E-5 DURDA, John H.	\$100.00	CSM (RET) KOONTER, Daniel	\$20.00	SP-5 SHINK, William J.	\$50.00
SGT ECKEL, James C.	\$50.00	IMO GEN Hal Moore		E-5 SILLERY, William S.	\$25.00
IMO Jack Miller; B 2/7 passed in 2020		CW2 LaDue, John	\$25.00	SGT SILVER, Royal	\$75.00
CW3 ELLIS, Charles L. Jr.	\$100.00	IMO My Father MAJ Jack W. LaDue		MR. SLAGGY, James E. III	\$15.00
PFC ESTEPP, William	\$25.00	(US Army Ret) WWII, Korea & Vietnam Vet		IMO Paul Kostic, Vietnam	
MR. FAULK, William	\$1,200.00	E-3 LAMB, John	\$25.00	MAJ (RET) SWIFT, John B.	\$100.00
COL (RET) FINCHER, H. Thomas, Jr	\$35.00	SGT LASKA, Tom J.	\$25.00	SFC TEACHOUT, Robert H.	\$5.00
IMO GEN E. C. "Shy" Meyer		IMO A Co 1/5 Cav 68-69		IMO B 1/8 Cav	
SP-4 FIORE, John B.	\$25.00	SGT LOPEZ, Jesse C.	\$15.00	CSM TIMNEY, Terrence R.	\$15.00
IMO All of Our Fallen		E-4 LOUGHRAN, Leo Jr.	\$10.00	CSM TEMPLE, Raymond P.	\$65.00
E-5 FLATEN, Paul N., Jr.	\$50.00	IMO CPL Bill Bortolotti		SP-4 THOMPSON, Gary	\$200.00
IMO Everybody that had to go to Vietnam		1LT LUTGEN, David	\$75.00	CPT VATH, Frederick	\$100.00
SP-4 FRANCH, Robert P.	\$10.00	IMO Walt Seeba		SGT VITALE, Stephen	\$25.00
IMO Ia Drang KIA's		LTC (RET) MacMILLAN, Dougald	\$70.00	IMO Those Missing in the Korean War	
SP-4 FRANCH, Robert P.	\$10.00	COL MARM, Walter J.	\$100.00	SGT VROMAN, Russell C.	\$30.00
IMO D Co 1 st Bn 7 th Cav		MSG MARTINEZ, Albert O.	\$30.00	LTC WAGNER, Frank H., M.D.	\$25.00
SGT FREAD, Neil	\$25.00	IMO those killed in VN on 3/9/69		IMO COL Otto Wagner	
CPT FREYTAG, Gerald	\$25.00	CW3 (RET) MAW, Paul A.	\$90.00	SP-5 WOLFE, Dennis L.	\$40.00
CPT GABEL, Wilfried E.	\$140.00	McCARRON, William L.	\$160.00	IMO Craig Lee Seidel	
CSM (RET) GARCIA, Raul G.	\$30.00	SP-4 McGOVERN, Gerald	\$20.00	SP-4 WALL, Delbert	\$100.00
SGT GIBSON, Charles	\$50.00	SGT McGOWAN, James F.	\$650.00	PFC WALSH, James	\$25.00
IMO All		IMO All Deceased Members of the 1 st Cav,		LTC WALSH, Bob	\$200.00
SGT GILREATH, Gregory	\$25.00	Notably Tom Dougher & SGT William Thomas		CSM (RET) WEBSTER, Dennis	\$200.00
E-6 GODFREY, James G.	\$100.00	Both Deceased in 1967		IMO Eva Richardson	
PFC HACKBARTH, James E.	\$50.00	SP-5 McGRANE, William J.	\$50.00	IMO COL (RET) Gene Wentworth	

Editor Note:
Honor Roll privileges are given to members who make a \$25 or more D Trooper donation, donation to the Association, or scholarship donations to the IaDrang or the Foundation. Honor Roll privileges do not include calendar donations nor Saber renewals.

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

9 CAV NEWS
Continued from pg. 9



William Lee

TAPS.
Pictured are the two B Troopers taken prisoner and executed by the VC on 31 January 1968, WO1 William Lee and SP4 Richard Delgado.

Jim Kurtz
Apache 03,
1970-71



Richard Delgado

HQ & SPECIAL TROOPS NEWS
Continued from pg. 22

people. In 2020 it changed to stay away from positive people. Old folks began to sneak out of the house while their kids yelled at them to stay indoors! One day I saw my neighbor talking to her dog. I went into my house and told my cats. We had a good laugh. The virus did what no woman had ever been able to do – cancel sports, shut down bars and keep men at home! Ever imagine you could walk into the bank wearing a mask and demand money without being arrested? How did 2020 change for YOU?

That is a wrap for this time Troopers. Stay Safe. Hope to see you in Texas in September 2021. Get those reservations in and your registration sent off. I think this reunion is going to be very well attended. Meantime may God bless you and yours, the First Team active-duty Troopers, the great USofA, all those who stand on the front lines, and of course our great medical people and first responders who fight against this plague. Be Safe.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!
If you enjoyed reading the stories in this issue of Saber, consider sending in your long lost battle story to share with your fellow members. We'd love to hear from you!
Email to Programs@1CDA.org or to 302 N. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522.

Birthday Wishes
to our Troopers turning 90-100 years young!

CPL JOSEPH T. LANGEVIN turned 90 on 1/12/2021	CW4 (RET) ALBERT R. MEDEIROS turned 91 on 2/25/2021
SFC ROBERT M. SANDERS turned 93 on 2/08/2021	MSG EDWARD P. WILSON turned 93 on 1/15/2021
PFC ERNEST J. FOPPES turned 90 on 1/12/2021	MG (RET) MAURICE O. EDMONDS turned 90 on 1/28/2021
SSG RAYMOND J. DICAPRIO JR. turned 93 on 2/29/2021	COL (RET) ROBERT H. KIES turned 95 on 2/07/2021
CPL MERRILL C. SIMONS turned 91 on 2/27/2021	LTC (RET) DEWEY E. MCKEE turned 93 on 2/28/2021
SSG OLIVER H. PETERS turned 93 on 1/08/2021	CPL RICHARD J. CLARK turned 91 on 2/22/2021



CW2 (RET) THEODORE L. COGUT
turned 93 on 1/03/2021


LTC (RET) RICHARD L. SPEEDMAN
turned 91 on 1/01/2021

SGT ROBERT D. ANKENNEY
turned 90 on 1/11/2021

Happy Birthday to these young Troopers!



Replacement Membership Cards



This card is presented to

PROUD LIFETIME MEMBER OF
1ST CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Executive Director

302 N. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522
254-547-6537 / 7019

We have revamped the Lifetime Membership cards! If you would like to order one, please fill out the order form below. Due to spacing issues, we are going to type in your name as it appears in our database. There is no space for your rank.

The new cards are NOT available for Associate Members, the new cards are only available for our Life Time Members.
On the back of the card it says:
1st Cavalry Division Association is a non-political, non-profit 501(c)19 fraternity for Soldiers and Veterans currently serving or have served in 1st Cavalry Division.
The Association is a group of Soldiers and former Soldiers from Private to 4-star Generals who share a bond of service with the FIRST TEAM who are dedicated to supporting the Division and each other.

1CDA Membership Cards

Total Due: **\$5.00 each**

Cash: _____ Check: _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Phone #: _____

Address: _____

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

PHOTOS TO THE LEFT: Received by SSG Joseph E. Sayre of E Co 8 Cav, 1951.
1st photo is of Don Hufferd (Indiana), Howard Schuh (Columbus, OH), Andy Kastura (Cleveland, OH) .
2nd photo is of himself, Joseph Sayre of Dover, OH, (330) 343-4101.

\$45 ea **WE HAVE a few GARRY OWEN HOODIES left!**
ONLY EXTRA LARGE HOODIES REMAINING

SHIPPING IS FREE

GARRY OWEN ORDER FORM

HOODIES \$45 ea
____XL

LONG SLEEVE SHIRTS \$26 ea

____XL, ____M, ____S

of Shirts: _____ Total Due: _____

Cash: \$ _____ Check: \$ _____ Credit Card:\$ _____

Credit Card # _____ Exp Date: _____

Please Print Clearly CVV#: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

Phone #: _____

Address: _____

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



FRONT

TOP LEFT SHOULDER:
says
7th Cavalry Division
with the U.S. flag on right arm



BACK

ALL sizes available in Long Sleeve
2XL, XL, L, M or S

ALSO AVAILABLE
GARRYOWEN LONG SLEEVE SHIRTS
(same style as the hoodie pictured)
Sizes Available: XL, M, or S
\$26 each