



# SABER

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JULY / AUGUST 2020

## THE PRESIDENT’S CORNER

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This has been a year different from any other for most of us. By the time you read this Cathy and I will have moved into temporary housing. Sometime ago Cathy and I talked about the need to downsize. Until this year it was always something to consider later. In January we decided that it was time. We did not want to be in a retirement community. We would like more diversity. Also, in those communities you have to pay for amenities that we would not use such as tennis and pickle ball (whatever that is). Besides I’m only 75.

We started getting this house ready for sale and signed a contract to purchase a lot to build on (our son-in-law is a home builder). Then came the lockdown. Almost everything was put on hold except our obligation to purchase the lot. Plans to place our house on the market had to be postponed because most of the real estate agents in this market were not considered essential in the beginning and were not allowed to show houses. When some of the restrictions were lifted, we proceeded to list our house and it sold rather quickly. Now we are packing, donating things that we won’t need or have room for in our next house, and taking stuff to the dump. That means going through 23 + years of stuff. For many years I kept a lot (and I mean boxes) of old papers, tax returns, and etc. and a lot of that stuff got put away and forgotten.

One thing of interest that I found was my W-2, wage and tax statement, from 1970, the year I was in Vietnam. Total F.I.C A. wages paid to me in 1970 was \$6,558.50. I’m not complaining since I didn’t have anywhere to spend it or anything to spend it on. Nor did I need to send any home to support a family. Besides all my expenses were provided including food (one meal a day from a can or fire base food), clothing (jungle fatigues & boots), shelter (steel pot, poncho or sandbag covered culvert), transportation (usually via “slick”), and body armor (steel pot & jungle fatigues). When I returned to the states and left active duty in January 1971 about half of that amount had not been spent and was given to me in a wad of cash, no check or direct deposit.

Think about it. That was the pay for a lieutenant. The pay for junior enlisted men and junior NCO’s - those doing most of the fighting and dying - was considerably lower. Of course, that was 50 years ago. Today’s Soldiers are certainly receiving more dollars now, but their financial situation is very likely no better or maybe even worse. I think they deserve our support more than ever. Of course, for those reading this column, I’m probably preaching to the choir.

Don’t forget to make your hotel reservations for our 73<sup>rd</sup> reunion, now scheduled for Sunday, Oct 4 through Thursday Oct 8.

In the meantime: Stay well, stay safe, and thank you for your service.  
Allen (TrailSpike 47)

## THE DIRECTOR’S CHAIR

**Dara C. Wydler**  
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Once a *Saber* article has been through its initial review and edit, it is my turn to read the article, sometimes edit, but mostly I fact check locations, spellings, etc. This edition was no different than any other and I had to check the name

of a location. In doing so, I came across an article about a Brigadier General (BG) becoming the 31<sup>st</sup> Chief of Transportation <[https://www.fortleetraveller.com/news/bg-smith-takes-helm-of-trans-corps-with-be-bold-leadership-philosophy/article\\_f150c84c-b17e-11ea-a942-139aefe37f0b.html](https://www.fortleetraveller.com/news/bg-smith-takes-helm-of-trans-corps-with-be-bold-leadership-philosophy/article_f150c84c-b17e-11ea-a942-139aefe37f0b.html)>

Then MAJ James M. Smith was the Battalion XO for the 615<sup>th</sup> Aviation Support Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Brigade (Fort Hood, TX). He joined our team about halfway through an 18-month tour in Iraq (06-08). This would be the first time our paths would cross; I was his First Sergeant (1SG). He would eventually move on to another duty station, managing to find his way back to the First Team as a Battalion Commander for 215<sup>th</sup> Brigade Support Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Combat Team. I just happen to be attending the Change of Command ceremony being held

## HORSE DETACHMENT by CPT Siddiq Hasan, Commander

We thundered into the summer change of command season with a cavalry charge for 3<sup>rd</sup> ABCT’s change of command at the end of June. Our new First Sergeant was welcomed into the ranks at the beginning of July at a key time in our history with few public events taking place due to COVID-19 but a lot of foundational training taking place. We have taken this opportunity to conduct intensive horsemanship training for junior riders, green horses and to continue with facility improvements. The Troopers are working hard every day while taking the necessary precautions in this distanced work environment to keep themselves and the mounts we care for healthy. Their professionalism and dedication to the mission continues to set the standard across the Army for the cavalry Soldier.

We welcomed a new group of Troopers to our ranks after completing Cavalry School at the end of July. A day will not go by that we will not look to your guide-on’s on the wall and think of all the amazing rides. Rest well Thunder may you find rest and cool water on Fiddler’s Green. Buddy, may you find a good shade tree, a place to steal peoples lunches, cool water, and rest as well. Each of them demonstrated their willingness to learn and desire to not only improve themselves but the unit. We are eager to watch the great things they will accomplish.

July has seen the HCD participate in multiple changes of command and changes of responsibility on Cooper Field. On the 4<sup>th</sup> of July we participated in the city of Belton’s virtual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. Unfortunately, our usual participation in the Lampasas Spring Ho Parade was cancelled this year due to concerns of safety for the community in relation to COVID-19.

August will be a busy month of preparations, working toward improving our team for the National Cavalry Competition that is on the horizon. We will also support a Brigade CoC and a few Retreat Ceremonies on Cooper Field during the month of August. The Troopers are looking forward to demonstrating the progress they have made and the confidence their mounts have gained with focused training they have been able to do with them.



First Cooper Field charge for CPT Hasan

We hope to see you out at one or several of these events and please let us know if you read about it in the *Saber*, saw it on our official HCD Facebook page or just happened to be in the right place at the right time! As always, we conduct public demonstrations at the detachment on

Thursdays at 1000hrs streamed on Facebook <[www.facebook.com/1stCavalryDivisionHorseCavalryDetachment](https://www.facebook.com/1stCavalryDivisionHorseCavalryDetachment)> until we can reopen to the public in person. This is the time we use to train new mounts and Troopers and invite the public to sign in and enjoy the show. Feel free to call (254) 287-2229 to confirm performance streaming and whether we are open for tours. You can also find us on Facebook (1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division Horse Cavalry Detachment) where we post pictures from the barn and let you know about upcoming events and ceremonies.

## THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR continued

on Cooper Field that morning; his change of command ceremony (among others).

As a service member it is not often that we find ourselves working with great leaders. After 29 years I had my share of bad leaders however, I will never forget the great ones. Congratulations to BG Smith on his new posting I know he will make us all proud.

I received word from Acclaim Press on the Vietnam history book that the Association had reprinted. They finally finished the digital scan of the original book and have sent it to print. With the ongoing COVID-19 concerns it has slowed this part of the process down considerably.

In the current situation of COVID-19, as of now we are still moving forward with the plans for our 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Reunion in Louisville, KY. However, we will make our final decision by mid-August. If we have your registration form, we will call you IF WE MAKE THE DECISION TO CANCEL.

As we are making preparations for the reunion in Louisville, we will have face masks on-hand for our members for an addition safety measure against COVID-19. There will be a requirement for face masks during all meetings, on the buses during transportation, and while walking freely around the Kentucky Derby Museum during the mixer. Essentially, if you are not eating or drinking, you should be wearing a face mask. Louisville, like any other city across the country, is slowly re-opening its doors to the public. They are required to meet federal guidelines for reopening and Louisville is leading the way in a phased reopening that includes expert-driven safety guidelines for lodging, attractions, and venues.

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ADDRESS CHANGE

**Don't Keep it a SECRET, Let us Know About It.**  
To submit by e-mail, send to [memberships@1CDA.org](mailto:memberships@1CDA.org)  
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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

Oct 4-8, 2020	73rd Annual 1CDA Reunion, Louisville, KY
Nov 9-12, 2020	12th Annual Veterans Day in Washington D.C.
Feb 26-28, 2021	Board of Governors Meeting, Killeen, TX
Sept 22-26, 2021	74th Annual 1CDA Reunion, Killeen TX

(In Sept to honor Division's 100th Birthday!)

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.

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**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.

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SABER

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ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Original, clear copies, typed or printed are accepted via e-mail at [Programs@1CDA.org](mailto: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.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

I am a Bachelor of Science student at Keuka College. I am thankful to the 1st Cavalry Division for the grant that is allowing me to begin my career as an occupational therapist.

Avery Hill

TAPS:

We were notified of the death of the following:

**BEALS**, COL (RET) Bruce, S., 1-5 CAV, 1965; 2-8 CAV, 1968; 1-5 CAV, 1981; HHC, 2BDE, 1982. 17 June 2020.

**BROWN**, LTC (RET) James L., L Trp 3-8 CAV, 1950. 28 May 2020.

**CHATTERTON**, MSG Charles W., 15th AVN, 1960. 4 April 2020.

**FRISCHE**, 1LT James M., 1CD, 1965. 3 May 2020.

**JONES**, 1SG (RET) John A., A Co, 19 FA, 1970. 3 Jan 2020.

**JUNOT**, BG Arthur J., HHC, DISCOM, 1974. 21 May 2020. (Association Executive Director 1992-2002)

**MASON**, SFC W. Lowell, 27 MNT, 1951. 10 February 2020.

**MORAND**, COL (RET) Leon F, III., C & D Co, 1-12 CAV, 1970. 19 May 2020.

**RICHARDSON**, MAJ Charles E., 11th AVN GP, 1967. 20 April 2020.

**SHIFLET**, SGT James W., A Btry, 2-19 FA & C Btry, 1-77 FA, 1973. 22 June 2020.

ACTIVE DUTY TAPS:

We have been notified of the following non-combat Active Duty death.

**MORALES**, PV2 Gregory S., 1st SUST BDE, 1CD, 2019. 19 June 2020.

WANTED:


15th TRANS BN, B & C COMPANY

Do you have contact information for personnel from Companies B&C, 15th Trans Bn. I am trying to track down a warrant officer who did test flights for Cobras out of Phuoc Vinh in late 1969. He flew a British officer on a test flight and that officer would like to contact him. I estimate there were a total of about 12 WO slots in those two companies. Anyone who might have names, rosters, orders or memories that might present a clue, please give me a call. Is there a collection of Air Medal Orders from 1st Cav in 1969? Thanks. Steve Sherman 281-879-5688 <[sherman1@flash.net](mailto:sherman1@flash.net)>

B CO 1-5 CAV, 1969-1970

I'm LTC (Ret) Hank Hale. During the period July 69 - Jan 70 I was the Artillery Forward Observer for Bravo 1-5 Cav. I remember my Recon Sergeant/RTO's first name was Donnie (Donald) but I've forgotten his last name. I'd like to get in touch with him if possible. If you are Donnie or anyone knows who I am referring to, please feel free to email me at <[hankmary.hale@gmail.com](mailto:hankmary.hale@gmail.com)>

LOOKING FOR A LONG LOST BATTLE BUDDY?



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



Culmination of treasured long lost stories or photos from our members.  
**E CO 2-7 CAV, JAPAN 1956-57 & A CO 2-4 CAV, KOREA 1957-58** *The Platoon Army Training Test Tales of Camp Otsu, Japan* by COL (R) Nevin R. Williams <phanrang3@gmail.com>

In August of 1955 I was commissioned a second lieutenant, infantry, U.S. Army Reserve at Ohio University. In September of that year, I entered active duty at Fort Benning Georgia, as a student in the Basic Infantry Officers Course, conducted by the U.S. Army Infantry School. BIOC taught us everything (hopefully) that a second lieutenant needed to know to lead an infantry platoon. We received training in weapons, tactics, leadership principles, administration, supply, etc. Much of the training was “hands on” training in the field.

In the Platoon Tactics phase, we first learned that the mission of the rifle platoon in offensive action is to close with and kill or capture the enemy by means of fire, maneuver, and shock action. We were then instructed on the requirements of the Platoon Army Training Test, an annual field exercise that was required of all infantry rifle platoons. The test consisted primarily of a live fire exercise of the rifle platoon in the attack with evaluations made on the issuance of the attack order by the platoon leader, movement to contact, attack of the objective, and reorganization once the objective was seized.

Apparently, the Infantry School had made a recent change to platoon tactics by deciding that at the platoon level, there was no requirement to maintain a reserve force in the attack. Prior to this decision, the policy was that an objective would be attacked with two rifle squads, and the third rifle squad would be designated the reserve squad and would be held in reserve during the attack. The platoon leader would only commit this reserve squad if it were needed to take the objective.

The new doctrine stated that what used to be called a reserve squad would now be called the support squad. The support squad would follow the two leading squads until the platoon reached the attack position. At that time, the platoon leader would commit the support squad to the front, to join the other two squads in the actual attack. The purpose of this was to place maximum firepower on the objective. The theory was that if overwhelming resistance were encountered, it would be overcome by committing the reserve *platoon* held at company level, hence no need for a reserve squad at the platoon level. I had no reason to question the tactics being taught at the Infantry School! I also assumed that what was being taught at the Infantry School was official U.S. Army doctrine (it was) and that it was being followed by all tactical units in the Army (it was not).

In the Spring of 1956, I reported to the 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division at Camp Otsu, Japan. I was assigned to Co C, commanded by 1LT Claude Benjamin Sutton. LT Sutton assigned me to the second platoon which was currently being led by the platoon sergeant, SFC Rankin. The rifle platoons were training for the platoon ATT which was to be administered in a few weeks. LT Sutton told me to observe the platoon in training for a couple of days and then to take over and run the practice exercises, which I did. The platoon was well trained by SFC Rankin. I was able to contribute in that I could prepare and issue a 5-paragraph field order (attack order) that was clear, concise, complete, and understood by all my squad leaders.

I immediately noticed that during the exercise, SFC Rankin was employing a reserve squad, not a support squad. He was not committing this squad in the attack during the training exercises. I told LT Sutton that this was contrary to the doctrine being taught at the Infantry School. He then told me to change the exercise so that it was in accordance with what I had learned. He also had the other platoons change the way they were conducting the exercise. My platoon was damn good! It was good for two reasons: First, the training that it had received by SFC Rankin before my arrival, and second because of the way I issued the 5-paragraph field order. For some reason, other platoon leaders (both NCO and officers) had a problem with this requirement. I did not.

It was generally believed (at least within the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn) that my platoon would score first in the regimental competition which consisted of 18 rifle platoons (the regiment had only two battalions). Both myself and my platoon arrived at the training site with high morale and high hopes.

On the day of the exercise, everything went like clockwork. I received my attack order from the umpire (acting as company commander), and then scouted the objective and terrain, prepared, and issued the attack order. We crossed the line of departure on time and moved to the attack position. Upon arrival at the attack position, I called up my support squad and deployed it with the other two squads, three squads online so that maximum firepower could be placed on the objective. I should emphasize that this was a live fire exercise. No sooner had I deployed my squads when several whistles blew and one of the umpires yelled: “Stop the exercise and clear all weapons.” This we did immediately. I had no idea what had happened, but I obviously was extremely upset that my ATT had been stopped right at the critical moment, the beginning of the actual attack of the objective.

I looked up and there was the regimental commander, COL Roy L. Inman, looking directly at me, obviously in a high state of agitation. It soon became apparent that he was angry at me. “Lieutenant, why did you commit your reserve squad to the attack?” I replied, “Sir, there is no reserve squad at the platoon level, I committed my support squad to achieve maximum firepower on the objective.” COL Inman directed that the exercise was over. We packed up and returned to Camp Otsu that afternoon. Obviously, my morale and that of my platoon was shot. That night in my BOQ room I went through all my instruction sheets that I had brought with me from Fort Benning. (I am the kind of guy who saves stuff.) I located the instruction sheets regarding the Rifle Platoon in the Attack and these sheets confirmed that I was deploying my platoon properly.

The next morning, I took the material to LT Sutton. He read them, and said “Well, this confirms that you were right (which I already knew), what do you want to do with this?” I replied that I wanted the sheets forwarded through channels,

from me to the Regimental Commander. He asked: “Are you sure?” and I replied, “Yes, sir, I am sure.” (At that point, I was ready to take on the entire U.S. Army.) He said OK and sent them forward.

We soon learned that of the 18 platoons taking the ATT, my platoon was rated next to last. I assume that soon after the exercise I must have talked to my Troops about what had happened, although I am sure that I was too inexperienced at that stage of my career to handle such a leadership problem properly. I do not recall that any of the members blamed me for the debacle but that was a long time ago and possibly they did. Several weeks later the regimental commander had an Officers Call. COL Inman addressed all the regimental officers and the gist of his address was this:

“It has been brought to my attention that the Infantry School has decided that there is no need to maintain a reserve squad within a rifle platoon when it is attacking an objective. I am a combat Veteran of WWII and I know from experience that a reserve force is essential at the platoon level. I do not give one hoot what the Infantry School says, as long as I command this regiment, we will maintain a reserve squad at the platoon level in all tactical exercises.”

Well, that was that! Soon after, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn was inactivated, and it became apparent that we were not to receive any replacements and the regiment (and 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division) was soon to be inactivated. I moved to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn, but we did not conduct any more platoon ATT’s.

Many months later, COL Inman received his orders to return to the U.S. One day just prior to his departure, I was sitting at the bar in the Officers Club and COL Inman walked in. He sat down at the bar and started a conversation. Although I was by then a 1LT, I certainly was not comfortable conversing with field grade officers, and especially with a full colonel that was my commander. My part of the conversation was limited to mostly “Yes, sir” and “No, sir.” There was no mention of the Platoon ATT debacle. After several minutes, he got up to leave. As he departed, he said to me: “Lieutenant Williams, as long as you *continue* to stand up for what you believe is right, you will have no problem in the Army.” There was no doubt in my mind that he was referring to the Platoon ATT debacle and my actions soon thereafter. Almost fifty years later, considering the ups and downs of my military career, I can only conclude that COL Inman’s advice to me that day was the worst advice that he could have given to any young lieutenant.

.....  
**A CO 2-12 CAV, 1969**  
*My Last Charlie Alpha* by PFC Bob Kapalo <bobkapalo@yahoo.com>

On 18 May 1969, Ace High was ordered to conduct a combat assault into an area that had just been B-52’d about a day or so ago. Ace High had been pulling perimeter guard for a couple of days on LZ Barbara, which was situated a few miles to the west of LZ Grant. LZ Barbara was larger than Grant and had the space to allow a flight of about a half dozen or so Hueys to line up in a row and take off simultaneously for operations.

We got the news early in the morning and that 1<sup>st</sup> platoon would be the lead element. As I was in the 1<sup>st</sup> squad of the 1<sup>st</sup> platoon and to get max fire power on the ground quickly the M-60 crew of John Douglas and I were going to hit the ground first. This meant that I was going to be the point man for the assault! We were waiting for the Hueys for about an hour or so, which gave me a lot of time to think how bad it might turn out for me. I envisioned myself jumping out of the helicopter into a hail of enemy fire which would cause the combat assault (CA) to be aborted leaving me there on the ground by myself. I got a sick feeling in my stomach and my heart felt like it was in my throat. I thought if I coughed, I would cough up my heart.

Finally, I thought this is how a guy on death row must feel like when he knows he’s going to be executed within the next hour. All of this stuff left my mind as we finally boarded the Hueys and became airborne. I was sitting on the floor with my legs out the door on the right side of the helicopter. I gave the peace sigh to a grunt in the second Huey who was sitting in the left doorway of his helicopter.

After flying at altitude for several minutes we went into a steep dive. I hoped the main rotor wouldn’t break off! Now we were at tree top level for a few seconds, then over the LZ. I looked straight out and saw a Cobra gun ship go by on our right flank with his minigun firing continuously along the tree line. I really liked that! Then I looked out the windshield and saw an orange flash in the tree line just beyond the far end of the LZ which I knew was an artillery HE round. This was immediately followed by a billowy white explosion with white streamers coming off of it. That was a white phosphorus round. I started to wonder how coordinated the artillery and the helicopter assault were, as I didn’t want an artillery round to wind up in my lap. Turned out to be very well, as we reached the middle of the LZ the artillery prep stopped. A couple of seconds later, the helicopter put on the brakes and was in a hover near the far end of the LZ. I was concentrating on one thing only which was get out of the helicopter as quickly as possible and I immediately jumped out of the helicopter not realizing it was about 8 feet off the ground! I hit the ground and immediately rotated backwards and wound up on my back with my arms and legs reaching for the sky. Three thoughts entered my mind: The first thought was “turtle on its back” immediately followed by “this is what a turtle on its back feels like” immediately followed by “I must look like a turtle on its back” feeling a bit embarrassed so I rolled to my right onto my hands and knees. Just then I saw John Douglass’s left boot land about a foot from my head. The gun crew was down! No hostile fire! We ran out about 50 feet from the helicopter towards the tree line and took up a position behind a termite mound.

After about a minute on the ground as I was removing my backpack, a new replacement M-79 grenadier yelled out “Gooks!” I looked towards his position on our right and saw three guys in green jungle fatigues with thick black hair running from right to left in front of us. I ruled out them being GIs and I knew we didn’t have South Vietnamese scouts with us. Therefore, they were NVA soldiers (aka gooks) but were unarmed and were “di di mauing” it stage left. Douglass fired his M-60 but the gun stopped firing after a couple of rounds. I don’t know if it was because I was not feeding the belt since I was taking my pack off or if the gun had a problem. I then put my 16 on auto (or Boogaloo) and emptied a magazine at them, shooting from the hip. They kept running so I guessed I missed them all, but I do remember the last one grabbed onto the trunk of a small tree to pull him into the tree line. I saw the tree

**Continued to pg. 5**

## LRRP/Ranger News



**Ken White**  
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Hello from the nation's capital. The Covid-19 virus has affected nearly every area of our lives, from how we shop at the grocery stores to how we socialize. Here in the nation's capital, it forced

major changes to the events that are ordinarily held to commemorate Memorial Day. Many of them were cancelled, postponed to Veterans Day, or hosted virtually online. The Rolling to Remember motorcycle procession, sponsored by the American Veterans (AMVETS), the national organization dedicated to improving the lives of Veterans, cancelled its planned ride through the nation's capital and instead challenged its biker members to stay local and ride through their own communities to commemorate the event. And the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) hosted its annual Memorial Day observance at The Wall virtually.

After the organizers of the annual Rolling Thunder motorcycle procession announced last year that after 32 years they would no longer host an annual ride through the nation's capital on Memorial Day weekend as a way of calling attention to the POW/MIA issue from the Vietnam War, the AMVETS announced that it would continue the tradition under the name Rolling to Remember, starting Memorial Day weekend 2020. However, in May the D.C. region was still under a stay-at-home order that limited the size of gatherings in public areas to less than 10, forcing AMVETS to cancel the event in the nation's capital.

After the 2019 Rolling Thunder ride, the leaders of Rolling Thunder stated that the annual event cost nearly \$200,000 to stage, and that the Pentagon's security force had mandated additional security measures for the parking areas that were used to stage the ride. These measures would add additional costs to the event that the organization simply could not afford.

Rolling Thunder began in 1987 in the nation's capital as a way to call attention by way of a demonstration to the POW/MIA issue from the Vietnam War. The first procession was held on Memorial Day weekend 1988. Approximately 2,500 motorcyclists from across the country converged on Washington, D.C. to demand from our government leaders a full accounting of all POWs/MIAs from the Vietnam War and from all of our nation's previous wars. Each year since then, the number of riders and spectators participating in the event had grown significantly and the event had developed into a world-class spectacle that attracted riders and spectators from all over the world. It was still a demonstration, but it was also a show of patriotism, and it was uniquely American. The 2019 ride was estimated to have attracted more than 1,000,000 riders and spectators combined, making it the largest motorcycle event in the world.

Although the National Park Service did not close The National Mall or The Wall, the D.C. stay-at-home order was still in effect on Memorial Day forcing the VVMF to decide on an alternate method of hosting the observance at The Wall. It decided to host it online with recognition of the 1st Cav's accomplishments in Vietnam. The observance typically attracts between 3,000 and 4,000 spectators. (Note, Memorial Day 2020 marked the 55th anniversary of the 1st Cav's battles in the Ia Drang Valley in the Pleiku Campaign.) Joe Galloway, reporter and co-author of the book: *We Were Soldiers Once...and Young*, kicked things off from his home in North Carolina by leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Excerpts from two past speeches from Memorial Day were used in place of the planned keynote speakers due to travel restrictions that were in place. The planned two speakers were Karl Marlantes, the bestselling author of *Matterhorn*, *What It Is Like to Go to War*, and *Deep River*, and Diane Carlson Evans, a former captain in the Army Nurse Corps who served in Vietnam in 1968 and 1969, and author of the book *Healing Wounds: A Vietnam War Combat Nurse's 10-Year Fight to Win Women a Place of Honor in Washington, D.C.*

The first excerpt was from the speech that COL Hal Kushner, M.D., USAR (Ret) delivered at The Wall on May 28, 2018 which marked 45 years since the 591 American POWs held by the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong were released from captivity and returned to American control in March 1973. COL Kushner had spent five and a half years as a POW, first in the jungle camps of South Vietnam and Laos, and later at the Hanoi Hilton in North Vietnam.

COL Kushner was a military flight surgeon with HQ Troop, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry, when on November 30, 1967, the helicopter he was riding in crashed into the side of a mountain west of Tam Ky and north of Chu Lai in southern I Corps in the monsoon rain. He was on his way back to LZ Two Bits in the Bong Son area after visiting with a 1/9th Troop at Chu Lai.

The pilot of the helicopter, MAJ Stephan Porcella from Worcester, Massachusetts, and co-pilot, WO Griffith Bedworth from Woodbridge, Connecticut, died in the crash or shortly afterwards. The crew chief, SGT Kenneth D. McKee from Detroit, Michigan, was unhurt although he was thrown clear from the aircraft and knocked unconscious. COL Kushner suffered a broken wrist and collarbone and was shot through the shoulder with an M-60 round from the ammunition on board that caught on fire and exploded. Thinking that they were close to Duc Pho and Highway 1 at the southern end of I Corps, SGT McKee set out at first light on December 1st to get help. He never made it. He was found shot dead and submerged in a flooded rice paddy several days later about 10 miles from the crash site. COL Kushner was captured on December 2nd by local Viet Cong soldiers and taken to a jungle POW camp west of the crash site in South Vietnam or Laos after marching for 30 days mostly at night with no boots and tied-up in commo wire.

COL Kushner spent the next three and a half years in a series of jungle POW camps where conditions were very bad and hunger edema, skin disease, dysentery, and physical beatings were a daily part of life. He was eventually moved on foot to Hanoi in February 1971. There he was held in an old French prison called the Citadel and then in the Hanoi Hilton where he remained until his release in March 1973. Kushner said: "it was hard duty in North Vietnam but not the grim struggle for survival which characterized daily life in the camps in the South."

After Vietnam, COL Kushner returned to active duty and restarted his medical career. He stayed on active duty until 1977 when he entered the Army reserves from which he retired in 1986 at the rank of colonel. He also started

a private medical practice as an ophthalmologist and had a long and successful career. Kushner said: "I prided myself on not allowing my war experiences to overshadow my life." He wrapped up his speech with the following: "I am thankful for my life and I have no bitterness. I feel so fortunate to have survived and flourished when so many braver, stronger, and better men did not."



WO1 David R. Kink

The second excerpt was from the speech that Julie Kink, Gold Star Sister of WO1 David R. Kink from Middleton, Wisconsin, a pilot with Charlie Troop, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry, delivered at The Wall some years earlier. WO1 Kink died on August 3, 1969, as the result of injuries received in a light observation helicopter explosion 12 days earlier on July 21, 1969. He had only been in Vietnam since June, at the time of his death. He was 19 years old. His sister, Julie, had just turned eight.

Portions of her speech follow: "In his last letter home, my brother wrote, 'I've only seen one aviator killed since I've been here. You see, you're never alone on a mission. There's always somebody to protect you and get you out even before you hit the ground. . . ' A week later, David's scout helicopter crashed. The other pilot, WO1 John E. Anderson from Columbus, Georgia, and door gunner, SP4 Edward M. Denuhl from Lewisburg, Ohio, were killed. My brother died 12 days later at the 106th General Hospital, Japan, from his wounds."

"In those days, there were no memorials, no mention of Vietnam in any of my classes from grade school through college. For years, I wondered what it would be like to be 19 and fly a helicopter, be 19 and fight a war, and be 19 and die. No one talked about David, and most of my best friends never knew I lost a brother in Vietnam. Like so many Veterans, family members of the fallen just didn't talk about it. I still don't remember my brother's voice, how long his fingers were, how his flight jacket felt. But I've learned about my brother and his service in Vietnam by finding his fellow aviators, his commanders, the pilots who shared his last mission, and the families of those who also died. Today, I know not only how David died, but more importantly, how he lived."

"One of the most incredible things I've learned is that there are people I never knew existed, who loved David as a brother, and who still miss him, as I do. Nowhere is that more evident to me than when I am standing in front of Panel 20 West of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., next to someone who lost a little piece of their soul at the same time as I did, on August 3, 1969. Never is it more evident than when I can say, 'Welcome Home,' to someone who has been waiting 40 years to hear it, as I have been waiting 40 years to have somebody to say it to. What is shared here, with each other and with family members of our fallen brothers, will not be forgotten. By your presence here, you bring a part of our brothers, uncles, sons, husbands, dads back to us. Perhaps the greatest gift we families can give you, in return, is to say, 'Welcome Home.' The fact that each of you is here today is a miracle, and an indication of the larger pattern that we can only glimpse. I see reflections of that 'larger pattern' in the scribbles of a 19-year-old kid who already knew, after just 3 weeks in The Cav, 'You're never alone on a mission.' David, I love you, I miss you, and I will never forget you." Your sister, Julie Kink, sister of Warrant Officer David Kink, C Troop, 1st Squadron, 9th Cav, June to July 1969."



WO1 John E. Anderson 1-9th Cav  
KIA Jul 21, 1969.



SP4 Edward E. Denuhl, 1-9th  
Cav KIA July 21, 1969.

Julie had been adopted by the men of Charlie Troop, 1/9th Cav as our "Lil Sis." Her dedication to keeping her brother's memory alive is unequalled. Her desire to help the families of those who have lost someone in combat from Vietnam until the present is not only amazing, but it is also a testament to the greatness of the entire Kink family.

WO1 Kink died while performing the duty of pilot passenger in an OH-6A observation helicopter performing a recon-by-fire mission in Phuoc Long Province, III Corps. During the mission, a camouflaged target turned out to be a 250-pound unexploded U.S. bomb that detonated when hit with a round from the helicopter disintegrating it in mid-air.

If you would like to view the VVMF Memorial Day Virtual Commemoration online, please go to the following link with your browser: <<https://www.vvmf.org/alwaysremember>>.

On a different note, I received a call from **Dean Contovek** from Chelmsford, Massachusetts. Dean served in Bravo Company, 70th Combat Engineer Battalion, later re-designated 84th Combat Engineer Battalion, in 1966-1967. The 70th Combat Engineer Bn was an independent engineering unit that arrived in Vietnam in the summer of 1965 with the three combat brigades that President Lyndon Johnson had authorized to deploy to Vietnam at the start of the ground war. The 70th Combat Engineer Bn participated in the construction of the port and supply facilities at the port of Qui Nhon on the coast where the 1st Cav arrived in August 1965. It also helped to construct Camp Radcliff in the Central Highlands, specifically the golf course, along with an advanced party from the 1st Cav, and it modernized the airstrip at the U.S. Special Forces Camp at An Tuc/An Khe, by extending the length of it, and installing PSP planking. The airstrip was actually located outside the perimeter of Camp Radcliff adjacent to the Special Forces camp, next to the village of An Khe.

Finally, remember to wear a mask when in public, practice social distancing, and wash your hands frequently. And, if you find yourself in hell, keep going (Source: Winston Churchill). RANGERS LEAD THE WAY.



### 5th CAV News

**Harold P. "Doc" Truitt**  
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Previously we have talked about why we need each other, why we should take pride in our unit, and we profiled a young officer that many had never heard of. Now I would like to touch on the quality of enlisted personnel of times past (which I happen to believe continues to be well above average) and should also be a point of pride. The historical record as found in books is full of the correspondence of Soldiers of the various volunteer units, but so far, I have found none from regulars like our 5<sup>th</sup> Cav. My personal guess as to why this seems to be is that much of what we have was collected by historical societies interested in local units, (volunteer units) and published as such. Much has been said about Union Cavalry not being what it should have been early in the Civil War. Inferring from early actions such as Gaines Mill, and from the fact that the 5<sup>th</sup> Cav was used for high level security early in the war, it would seem to me that regular units did not suffer much from this except for the fact that cavalry in general was misused by the various commands of the day.

Cavalry was then, and is today associated with speed of action, and bringing as much lethality as possible to the scene as quickly as possible. This requires a high level of training and discipline. That level of readiness in turn means that units of that nature need to be able to count on their rank and file. This is still true. You need to be able to know that the person next to you has your back and vice versa. It would appear to me that our unit historically fits that description. I'm sure that there are always people in every unit that may disappoint, but I'm also sure that keeping that to a minimum is an imperative that all senior NCO's work on. Our history seems to reflect that a high level of readiness has always been part of our makeup. I personally take great pride in having been part of that history and hope that it is always as much a point of pride for members right down to squad level as it has been for me.

During the Civil War there were many examples of actions where regular Troops put duty and honor first on the line. To a great extent this is because of the nature of warfare at the time, coupled with the huge numbers of casualties. More than 600,000 men, all Americans on both sides lost their lives. Each generation of Troops will find conditions in which they have to fight will vary greatly. It is a fact that our current Troops are better supplied and cared for than at that time. Nevertheless, each generation can find things far less than comfortable. Some of those who went before us not only had rations that we could not subsist on, (or at least would not want to) but frequently had to forage to have anything at all to eat. When I think of the weather conditions faced by Cav Troopers in Korea, I shiver. We in Viet Nam seldom, if ever went hungry, but often went a month or more without a bath or change of clothes. Similar things are likely to come up any time the rubber really meets the road. To be ready to meet whatever comes up, we need a very healthy attitude. I know every member of today's units wants to be ready. All of the above mean that you are very important! Important to your country. Important to the Army in general, and to your unit in particular. If it's even possible, you are more important still to the individual next to you. Certainly, that is who you will form the most memories with. You are most likely to find those are the people you will wish you could be in contact with in the future, and who may turn out to be lifelong friends. I've found that the people of my unit learned things about me that meant that they would be more likely to accept me, even with some "flaws" of character than people on the street. It's hard to describe how important that is to me. These things make you as important to me as people I read about in books. Actually, more so because my hope is, that I can do something that matters to you. Even though in most cases I don't know you any better than I knew the Trooper of 160 years ago. We all reflect on each other as it turns out. We all hope that when folks look back on whatever we do, they can be as inspired by our record as we are by the things done by our predecessors. Certainly, when I think of "The Left Hook" of Desert Storm, of which some of you were a part, I am inspired.

While it would be inappropriate for anyone to relate current goings on of the unit, I hope that generations yet to come, will be able to find documentation of the things we do. To that end I would encourage any of you of any rank, to call or email me about our unit. Things to encourage, to inspire, or to amuse. It would also be great to hear from any of you that you would like to see, in print, material of one kind or another of interest to this publication. If you feel so inclined, I think I can arrange for you to write something for this column. I would like to know, for instance, whether you feel what I am trying to do is useful. We all want this publication to be more than a bird cage liner. You can help with that. I would particularly like to hear from anyone who has interesting information about the deeds of 5<sup>th</sup> Cav enlisted persons in any situation that reflects well on our unit. It does not necessarily have to be combat related. And by all means, please talk to me about whether you thought this issues 5<sup>th</sup> Cav column has been worth reading. I can't change up if I think I'm doing what I should. At the moment I plan next time to have another profile of a little-known individual that led the 5<sup>th</sup> Cav. That of course could change but is what I currently have in mind.

### TROOPER'S TALE

Continued from pg. 3

continue to oscillate back and forth for a few seconds. The day went by mostly uneventful, but we took three wounded in the evening.

The next morning, 19 May, as the company was moving out from our NOP the lead element became pinned down while the 1<sup>st</sup> platoon hunkered down at our foxholes as an air strike had begun. I saw an F-4 Phantom go by and heard the whoosh whoosh sound of a napalm canister that he had dropped. I also saw the jungle light up as it hit its mark. Suddenly I heard two chi corns land about 5 or 10 feet from me.

As I was exiting stage rear, the first one went off and I caught shrapnel in my right elbow, went deaf in my right ear, and saw the explosion go by me. A second later the second chi com went off spraying both my legs with shrapnel. I was medivacked out (my second ride on Dust Off) and eventually wound up stateside. No more Charlie Alphas, no more Vietnam. I served out my remaining 14 months of active duty in my home state of New Jersey as the S-1 message center clerk at Brigade Headquarters of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Artillery Brigade, Army Air Defense Command (ARADCOM) in Highlands, NJ.

One thing I regretted was that I did not obtain any 1<sup>st</sup> squad members mailing addresses, particularly John Douglass's. I was unable to contact any of my fellow Troopers after I left the company.

### OFFICIAL NOTICE

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS – REUNION 2020

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 7 October 2020:

**1st Vice President**

**2nd Vice President**

**3rd Vice President**

**One Foundation Trustee**

**One Museum 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 2020 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 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Reunion of the Association on Wednesday, 7 October 2020 in Louisville, KY. 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!

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

**Active Duty**

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**Foundation**

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**Ia Drang**

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**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.

## 12th CAV News



**Thomas Lon Crabtree**  
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## HEAR...HEAR SEMPER PARATUS

In the May-June 2020 column, it was reported that room reservations for the Division Reunion rescheduled for 4 -8 Oct, would be automatically transferred with the room blocks. Due to a glitch in the Crowne Plaza computer system, room bookings must be made again by each Trooper. Unfortunately, as of this date 30 June 2020, the original room block at the reunion price \$124.00 per night, has been filled. Not to fret ...if you call ASAP there are still rooms available at the Crowne Plaza and only a slight price difference will be charged for these rooms...call Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport at 502-367-2251 to reserve your room before they are filled and to avoid having to book at one of the optional hotels in the vicinity.

By now, ALL should have received the Spring edition Crossed Sabers Newsletter with information and registration form for 12<sup>th</sup> Cavalry gathering, 12-17 October 2020 at The Welk Resort. On the form, I mistakenly gave the fax number to call for reservations...correct #s to make reservations at The Welk are...800-808-9355 and 417-337-9200, Ref # 604821 12<sup>th</sup> Cavalry. Make reservations soon...of the original 80 rooms, 10 are booked and calls coming in from Troopers for arrangements. I was just informed today (30 June) that numerous calls are being made to the registration desk and there is a backlog of calls to return to those wanting to book. If you call and do not get immediate response be patient and your call will be returned within 24 hours. Preference return calls will be given to 12<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Troopers so be specific with the reference # and 12<sup>th</sup> Cavalry specific.

On 10 June 2020, a cellular link up business meeting was conducted in lieu of our usual procedure that occurs at the annual meeting during regiment luncheon. Every other even numbered year new officers are elected and installed. This link up confirmed James R. 'Jim' Stokely (B Co, 1-12, 1969-1970) as president to serve through June 2022. Gary W. Pezzuti (D Co, 1-12, 1967-1968) was affirmed as treasurer. Thomas R. Murray 1SG (RET) (C Co, 1-12, 1966-1967) took on the responsibility of webmaster and is in process of updating the website. There is an ongoing search for a Trooper to assume the vice president position, to be announced during or before our regiment luncheon in Louisville 7 October 2020.

With the passing of honorary SGM of the regiment John H. Berger there was a "...huge" pair of boots to fill. Two Troopers were considered for this Honor... Martell Swain (MSG RET) (C Co, 1-12, 1965-1966) and Doug Warden (SSG RET) (C Co, 1-12, 1967-1968). Through the review process by 1-12<sup>th</sup> and 2-12<sup>th</sup> current commanders and SGMs to the final decision level at Ft Benning, GA, the decision was a tough one. In early June the final decision made by Kevin J. Muhlenbeck, CSM U.S. Army/Armor School Command Sergeant Major and Kevin D. Admiral, BGU.S. Army/Chief of Armor went to Doug Warden.

Doug will serve the regiment as honorary SGM until such time that he heads to Fiddlers' Green. A salute to both Troopers for all they have done and are still doing for the 12<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Association and C Company Troopers BOOT to BOOT "and SEMPER PARATUS!

Received this upbeat note from **Harold D. Chaney** of Hurricane, WV, served in A Co 1-12<sup>th</sup>, Dec 1968-Dec 1969:

Just a short note to tell you about an experience I had on Oct 5, 2019. I don't know if you have heard of Honor Flight of Huntington, WV. I joined Honor Flight a couple of years ago at the urging of my son-in-law's sister. I helped with a couple of the fundraisers and donated the money to 'adopt a Vet' program. Last Oct 5, 2019 Honor Flight went to Washington, D.C., toured all the memorials and went to Arlington Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. From beginning to end, it was overwhelming.

There were 101 Veterans on the flight, 2 WW II Vets, 1 Korea and the rest Viet Nam, plus their helpers and escorts. Honor Flight of Huntington laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. It was my great honor to represent the U.S. Army and the 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Division and help two WWII Vets lay the wreath. Helping the WWII guys took my nerves away. What an honor helping guys from THE GREATEST GENERATION! You can watch the video on Facebook 'Honor Flight of Huntington.' Again, if you get the chance to go on an Honor Flight, do it! It's overwhelming!! Sorry for my penmanship! Grunts Rule!!

Harold, Thank you for this short and uplifting story. It's always good to receive positive news from our fellow Troopers, no need to apologize for your penmanship. It was easy to decipher and enjoyed the enthusiasm of your experience. I write a lot of notes on scrap paper, napkins, and envelopes of paid bills to use for the *Saber* and Crossed Sabers. When I look at them, can't decipher my penmanship, ha! We all appreciate the work you are doing in and for your community. Keep up the good work in 'Always Ready' 12<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment tradition. Noticed that you are not in the 12<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Association Directory as an active member. We invite you to join us...and perhaps use your writing skill in some of our projects, if interested give me a call at 432-853-4851. Hope to see you in Louisville and possibly Branson the following week...Last column May/June 2020 closed out with a poem written by MAJ (RET) Donald E. Stump,. Written around Veterans Day 2018, with a short piece honoring our Fallen Brothers at 'The Wall' and the importance of reunion-ing with our living Brothers, it is as significant now as any other time, in view of the current turmoil we are experiencing today. As written by **MAJ Stump, LT w/1<sup>st</sup> Plt, B Co 2d-12<sup>th</sup>, 1965-1967**, it follows:

"Veterans Day and V-J Day are officially over but for many of us Veterans who survived sounds of the guns and ugliness of the battlefield it exists everyday of our lives. I've written this article to find some closure and resolve, opening up some about my first and second visits to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall of Remembrance, but, this letter is really for all of us who have earned the right to be recognized as Veterans.

This was my experience the two times at The Wall. It was a beautiful fall Veterans Day and inside this person was a deep emotional swelling due to the anticipation of finding the names of my fallen warriors I could see the reflections of my fallen comrades, Soldiers, and friends on The Wall. After 45 plus years I was finally able to visit 'The Wall' with support of my Veteran friends and the memory of fallen Soldiers of B Co, 2-12<sup>th</sup> Cav Div, Airmobile, who I led and served with in

combat '65-'67. It was very difficult going up to 'The Wall' to find the names of those who paid the ultimate price...who bravely and with courage sacrificed their all for flag, country and the American way of life...just as Veterans before and after them put honor and loyalty above all! At this Veterans Memorial Service I was enveloped with such an emotional inner stirring that brought tears to my eyes...my heart ached...I was weeping as my memory reflected their faces and I remembered the valor and courage of these Soldiers and...to this day...I still see their faces in life's shadows!

Thanks to my fellow Veterans standing shoulder to shoulder with me at 'The Wall.' There's a little question that we shall never forget those who fell with honor, bravery, and courage on the battlefields and in the killing zones of war. My experience was...as I found my way to 'The Wall,' to find closure and gather resolve...a person cannot do it by themselves but need others to assist... this is seen by all when you go to 'The Wall'...by the bonding of Brothers in Arms! Yes...going to the 'Wall of Remembrance' a person will witness Veteran buddies honoring one another. We who survived combat and the ugliness of war to become Veterans...have earned the right to receive or present the salute to Veterans and carry the American flag as defenders and protectors to all who desire freedom, liberty, and democracy! Once again...here's to all the leaders and followers who stand tall, shoulder to shoulder in honor, bravery and courage as warriors and peacemakers... We Veterans who were willing and are still able will carry the banner of excelsior as Soldier ambassadors and make if required the ultimate sacrifice for flag and country! We have been tested and tried and shall always hold high the stars and stripes to fly free in the breeze. Veterans will never quit and our loyalty to the red...white...and...blue and what you are trying to accomplish...will be accomplished...you can count on we who will stand shoulder to shoulder with you!

If you haven't been to 'The Wall' try to go, but know it will take all your inner strength, especially if you are a Veteran who has lived this experience and see faces reflected in the shadows. Believe me, it will require standing in the reflection of 'The Wall' to find closure and it will take your fellow Veterans support and their strength to bring about resolve. This is why reunions are so important to brothers in arms!"

Most certainly, moving words for today's chaotic times! MAJ Stump crossed to Fiddlers' Green around Dec 2018. Have not located an obituary for him. If anyone knows where this might be found please contact me at 432-853-4851, thank you.

Last column I mentioned the book sent to me by John F. Kinzinger, HHC 2/7, Oct 66-Oct 67, "*Sacrifices Not Forgotten...Brothers, Rest in Peace.*" Result of many years of hard work to build a memorial to 76 fallen brothers of Washtenaw county, Michigan. I was honored to receive this book, telling the story of commitment to this worthy cause by the members of VVA Chapter 310, Washtenaw county, MI, now known as Charles S. Kettles VVA Chapter 310. Copies of the book can be ordered from: John Kinzinger, 1717 W. Huron River Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. I encourage our Michigan 12<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Troopers to contact John and order a copy of the book. All proceeds go to the perpetual care fund for this memorial.

To stay updated visit the web sites:

1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division Association page: <www.1CDA.org>

1CDA Facebook page: <www.facebook.com/AlumnioftheFirstTeam>

3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Combat Team search facebook.com for @3bct.1cd

12<sup>th</sup> Cavalry <www.12thCav.US.gov>

Delta Company 1-12<sup>th</sup> <https://www.cattrack6india.com/>

Until next time "Soar with the chief chopper pilot, Roll with the lead tanker, Step lightly with the point man's pace"

SEMPER PARATUS and "BOOT to BOOT" CRABTREE OUT!

## NEW OFFICERS



**Jim Stokely, President**



**Gary Pezzuti, Treasurer**

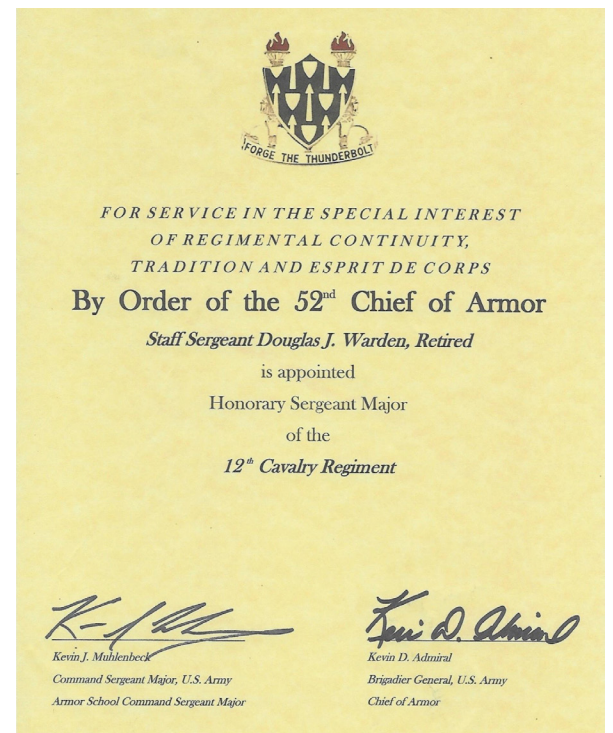


**Thomas Murray, Webmaster**



**Doug Warden, HSGMOR**

Photo right is the Certificate appointing Doug Warden as Honorary Sergeant Major of the Regiment.



## 7th CAV News



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Greetings to all 7<sup>th</sup> U.S. Cavalry Veterans and current Troopers! As I write this missive, one half of the year 2020 has passed and we are celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cav's incursion into Cambodia. **To those of you who served during that time, welcome home and well done!** The operation was one made for the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry. On 26 April 1970 MG E.B. Roberts, Division Commander, received the order to prepare plans for a coordinated attack to neutralize the Central Office South Vietnam (COSVN) base area in the "Fishhook" of Cambodia. He was also told that the 1st Cavalry should be prepared to implement this operation within 72 hours of notification. In the early hours of 01 May 1970, the day for symbolic parades of military might of communist countries, six serials of B-52's dropped their heavy ordnance on hard targets within the primary objective area. The last bomb was dropped at 0545 hours. Fifteen minutes later an intense artillery preparation began with the priority to the objective areas of proposed landing zones in the 3rd Army, Republic of Vietnam Airborne Brigade. D-day had arrived.

During the afternoon of D-day, two companies of 2-7 Cavalry made a combat assault into Objective X-RAY in the northern portion of the 3rd Brigade area of operation. This movement had been tentatively planned by the assistant division commander BG Robert Shoemaker and due to the relatively light resistance throughout the area, he ordered its execution as the final combat assault of D-day.

By the end of the operation, the 1st Cavalry had deprived the enemy of over 305 vehicles in its Cambodian operations. While a few of these were primarily for passengers, such as a captured Porsche, Mercedes-Benz and jeeps, the vast majority were cargo carriers. These trucks had a total capacity of 442 tons. Other materiel captured included

- 1,282 individual weapons,
- 202 crew-served weapons,
- 319,000 rounds of .51-caliber/12.7-mm ammunition,
- 25,200 rounds of 14.5-mm antiaircraft machinegun ammunition,
- 1,559,000 rounds of AK-47 ammunition,
- 2,110 grenades,
- 58,000 pounds of plastic explosives,
- 400,000 rounds of .30-caliber ammunition, 16,920 propelling charges for 120-mm mortar,
- 22 cases of anti-personnel mines,
- 30 tons of rice 8 tons of corn,
- 1,100 pounds of salt.



## A Trooper Laid to Rest

Norman Ray Childs of Junction City, Kansas, passed away at a hospital in Kansas City, Kansas on May 29, 2020. He was 79 years old but had been suffering from congestive heart and lung failure for about three months. Norm was born on August 25, 1940, in Price, Utah. Norm grew up and attended schools in Lehi, Utah, graduating from Lehi High School in 1958. Norm's great love during these years was sports, and he played both football and baseball on the high school and community teams. His second love was the army,

and he joined the Utah National Guard when he was 17 and a senior in high school. What followed after a couple years of college was a 20-year career in the United States Army that saw three separate tours in Viet Nam, where as a Green Beret and later a company commander of D Co 27 Cavalry Regiment of the First Cavalry Division. During his three years in Vietnam, he was the recipient of the Silver Star, two Bronze Stars with "V" devices, a Purple Heart, and other decorations. Between these tours he attended OCS at Fort Benning and was commissioned in June of 1966. He served as military advisor to the 19<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group in Montana, the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division in Kansas, and the 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in Germany. He retired in November of 1982. In Vietnam, the 2<sup>nd</sup> of the 7<sup>th</sup> published a monthly newsletter called *The Liberator*, which highlighted battalion personnel. In October of 1969, Norm was one of those whose story was told. It reads, "CPT Norman Childs, of Delta Company, is into his third tour of Vietnam. CPT Childs, from Cedar City, Utah, spent six months TDY with the Special Forces in I Corps. "The combat lessons one learns are basically the same everywhere" he says. The experience in the field is beneficial. CPT Childs explains, "I think I'm better because of being over here. One matures and learns to face responsibility. There is nothing like getting shot at to tighten yourself up," he says.

Norm will be missed by all, and especially by the personnel he served with. He was CO of Delta Company from July 1969 – January 1970. We will all meet up again at Fiddler's Green. Until then, rest in peace, Heavy Bones 6.

## The U.S. Army's New Marksman Rifle Is One Tough Gun.

Last month Soldiers from the U.S. Army's 3rd Infantry Division became the first combat Soldiers to receive the new M110A1 Squad Designated Marksman Rifle (SDMR). The semi-automatic 7.62x51mm weapon was fielded to Soldiers in the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team at Fort Stewart, Georgia. The SDMR is a lightweight version of German-based Heckler & Koch's G28/HK417 sniper rifle, the company was awarded a contract in 2016 to develop a special version with a baffle-less OSS suppressor. It has a 16-inch long barrel and weighs 8.7 pounds with an empty magazine, meeting the U.S. Army's Compact Semi-Au-

tomatic Sniper System (CSASS) program size and weight requirements.

"This weapon is an upgrade to the whole squad layout, and you can even work it in to combined arms warfare," said SGT Patrick Nissen, a scout from the 5<sup>th</sup> Sqn, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1ABCT, 3ID. "I shoot long range, both in the Army and recreationally, and I really like getting down behind this weapon, it is very comfortable, it is a great rifle, and I really do enjoy it."

The Army adopted the M110AI as part of an effort to extend the reach of infantry units that are still largely equipped with short-barreled carbines, so this shouldn't be seen as a true sniper rifle, but rather a marksman weapon. According to the Army, the SDMR is designed to fill the 300-600-meter capability gap between the standard issue rifle and a sniper rifle.

The SDMR will give one in nine infantrymen the ability to not only penetrate existing body armor but also to engage point targets at ranges of up to 600 meters. It



will thus enable a squad to be more lethal at longer ranges ahead of the service's fielding of the new 6.8mm Next-Generation Squad Weapon (NGSW). The Army is currently in the final phase of evaluating the three options for the NGSW. The H&K M110A1 will replace the Enhanced Battle Rifle 14, a modernized M14 that has been used by infantry squads in Afghanistan and Iraq.

## 1st Cav Leaders Win Best Cavalry Awards

MG Jeffery Broadwater, 1st Cavalry Division Commanding General, presented the Armor and Cavalry Leadership Award to the commander and first sergeant of two units within his command, Friday, at the Fallen Stallions Memorial.

The top units honored during the presentation include Troop B, 1<sup>st</sup> Sqn, 7th Cavalry Regiment; and Company A, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn, 8<sup>th</sup> Cav Regt. The commander and first sergeant from both units accepted the awards from Broadwater.

Awardees from Blackhawk Troop included CPT Steve Bowman and 1SG Dean Pfirman. Awardees from

Animal Company included CPT William Cox and 1SG Vicente Nicola. Nicola said the award is something he has strived for his entire military career and is not something he takes lightly, because very few people receive the honor.

"It is something many cavalrymen strive to attain," he said, adding that the award is less about himself and more about his unit. Concurring with Nicola, Bowman said as daunting a task as it is to be a commander or first sergeant, the junior leaders and Soldiers make their jobs easy. "It's a good moment for the Troops," he said. "They're the reason we're here, it was their success and there was nothing we could have done without them."

Formerly known as the Draper Award, the award is presented to the best of the best among Armor and Cavalry units, with the first sergeant and commander receiving the coveted Goodrich Riding Trophy, named in honor of former MAJ L.E. Goodrich, in 1926. The award is presented from the Office of the Chief of Armor at Fort Benning, Georgia.

The original objective of the Goodrich Riding Trophy was to stimulate interest in cavalry training. The award has evolved over time to encompass what it means to be a well-rounded Armor or Cavalry unit. The minimum criteria for the award included Army Physical Fitness Test average, weapons qualifications average, maintenance readiness rate, gunnery scores, safety incidents and notable events, but units can submit anything they feel would showcase their overall strength and ability.

"It really just captures everything that company or Troop is and allows them to compete against the entire Army in an armored formation. It's a testament, not only to the larger organization, but to the company and Troop individually," COL Steven Jackowski, commander of 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn, 8<sup>th</sup> Cav Regt, said. "Even though it's the commander and first sergeant that will receive an award, it's the company and Troops that are being recognized for everything they've done."

Units compete against like-sized units for the top award. 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div competed against units within 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Div, 1st Armor Div, 3rd Inf Div, and 4th Inf Div.

Before presenting the awards, Broadwater took a moment to share with the Troops the importance of the award and how it would not have been possible without them.

"While we're going to present something to a commander and a first sergeant, here, it takes the entire organization to win this," Broadwater said. "From the very youngest Soldier in each one of the organizations that's going to be presented this, this trophy and this award represents your hard work and your dedication to be lethal." Thanks to The Fort Hood Sentinel and Editor Brandy Cruz for this story.

So, there you have it. Another edition of the 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry news. I again ask that if you have stories, please contact me and we can get them in the column. So many of you have experiences that the rest of us would love to hear about. Don't worry if you don't think you're a writer because we all are! We just need to get it on paper. I'll be glad to help with that – I just need something to start with.

Don't forget the reunion in Louisville! Elsewhere in this edition you will find more information about it. It is now scheduled for October 4-8 at the Crown Plaza Louisville Airport. There are also several hotels within walking distance. Come join your brothers, rekindle past friendships, and enjoy one another's company. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Until the next issue, I remain your friend and brother. Garryowen!!

## 8th CAV News



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Hello Troopers! I hope and pray everyone has made it through these terrible times. I haven't heard anything from my readers of any cases for us. I can't add anything to the news about Covid-19 that hasn't been on every media source on earth. Stay safe and do what it takes to get past this remember, we have done harder things.

I would like to pass on some info pertaining to Veterans. If you need to go to a VA facility for anything, please call first. This includes clinics, urgent care, and emergency rooms. If you have an appointment, call your primary care clinic to check the status of your appointment before going. One helpful tool is that you can receive care by phone or video. Testing for Covid-19 is free for retirees covered under TriCare and Vets using VA care. At this time there are conditions: (1) If you live in an area that has community spread of Covid-19 (2) If you have symptoms such as fever, cough or shortness of breath (3) If you have travelled to Italy, China or South Korea (4) you have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19. Other good tools are to download the VA's Telehealth App, VA Video Connect or call the VA's Nurse Advise Line. You can call this line 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 202-745-8000. I have used this number and service before, and they are quite helpful. These benefits and services will be available for the duration.

Lastly, one thing that myself and other Veterans have a big concern about is burials and services at this time. Committal services and military honors are discontinued for now at all Veteran cemeteries. Families can still attend burials, but groups will be limited to no more than 10 people. Funeral homes will be up to date on the latest information as it changes.

**Charlie Took a Beating:**

Does anyone remember the day the U.S. set out to get as much of the MPC off the black market as they could? Here are the facts as I remember them.

We were on a firebase; I don't remember which one. We had enough guys where each one had to do 1-hour perimeter guard. I got mine early so I would be done in time to knock back a couple slightly cool Coca-colas. Joined in an Old Maid game in progress also yeah, right! It was a quiet night; I don't remember any outgoing or incoming. About 2300 hours, I lost the last of my Old Maid money and headed for my air mattress. I know, I know, we're in the rear so no air mattress in the field. Anyway, sleep arrives right at dawn. I wake up and hear this awful screaming, yelling and crying and the folks outside the wire were waving fistfuls of MPC. They would trade the MPC 10 for 1 American dollars. The MPs would not let us near the wire (the ones they could manage to stop). I had a few bucks, and you all know the old Top Gun, I made a little bit. The way I understand it, the U.S. government put a lockdown of all military installations all over the Nam. The Vietnamese people lost a lot of money that day. When we received our monthly pay, it was in new MPC. Anyone who remembers that day, please get in touch with me. I would like to know how close I am to the actual facts.

**A New Buddy:**

I recently had the honor of making a new acquaintance. He is the editor of the Jumping Mustang Bugle. He is very knowledgeable of the history of the 8th Cavalry and quite a writer. Jerry Prater hails from Texas and is retired. He has given me permission to print one of his stories, a great one, I might add, and we hope to collaborate on some things in the future. Jerry went to Vietnam in May of 1967 and served with A Co 1/8 1st Cavalry. If you have any questions or want to reach out to Jerry his email is: <jerryprater1018@yahoo.com>. I am printing a list of Veteran's names that Jerry is asking for help finding. If you know them or know someone who may know something about them, please contact me or Jerry. All of the following were in 1st Platoon A Company 1/8 Cav during the summer of 1967:

Dale Heath	Marciso Alcala	Joe Washington
Phil Gibson	LT John M. Rooney	Daryl Stamper
Terry Johnson	Robert Cerney	Doug West

**Bad Moon Rising:**

On the afternoon of May 5, 1969 D 2/8 was getting ready to set up for an ambush. D Co had quite a great history for having surprises waiting for Charlie when he came bopping down the trail, the Ho Chi Minh trail, that is. The company set up waiting for dark. When the platoon was in place, the ambush leader advised the company commander that there was a lot of movement to the left and front of their position. And when they said a lot, they meant a whole lot. To the Trooper who witnessed this, in their amazement, the gooks were crossing a break between the trees. If looked to D Company like the enemy was headed straight toward LZ Carolyn. The men thought the enemy line would never stop crossing. The company commander got on the horn to COL Wood. Within seconds a shit storm opened up on Charlie. Round after round of artillery cut into them. It made Charlie wish he hadn't messed with the Cav. Next stop Carolyn.

In the middle of nowhere between Tay Ninh and Cambodia, in no man's land, the 1st Cav put in an LZ they named Carolyn. I heard one time that LZs were often named for commander's wives or girlfriends. At one time there was an abandoned Special Forces camp close to this location. LZ Carolyn was built in part from salvaged material from that camp. Due to enemy activity in the area, the work had to be done ASAP, so heavy equipment was brought in and work began in earnest. Hats off to the 8th engineers, they were hard workers and got 'er done. Bulldozers cleared the trees away from the perimeter. The bunkers were dug deep into the ground, metal roofs making good for overhead coverage. All and all it was a pretty good LZ. At the time of this battle, Carolyn was occupied by C Co 2/8 Cav, HHC, and an element of B Co 2/8 with approximately 450 Troops against 1,000 gooks.

I was not there so I can't write about what action took place in or outside of the wire. Please forgive me if the events I have related are not 100% accurate with what you experienced. What I know of that night I have learned from friends who were there or from reading about it. Reunions have been my best source of into. The Kentucky Kampout, by far, has been one of the places Vets from that

night can talk about it and let their feelings out. We had an artillery man with us at a reunion and he quoted the most memorable think I have heard about the battle. He said when the sun came up the next day two things stuck with him all his life: that the power of God is so awesome and that every day he lived from them on would be a freebie.

I have been told about the sacrifice of those Troops and the absolute bravery they displayed. May God bless each and every one of them and their families.

**Tommy Harris:**

I have a very good friend that I served with in Vietnam in D Co 2/8. We shared fox holes, tree logs, c-rations and the "Killer," the M-60 peace maker. I came in country January '68, and my buddy, April.

We were the original odd couple, me a city boy and him a country boy. Our friendship started at our first meeting. He is a hero who climbed the ranks in the military and was in two wars. In 'Nam he started out a grunt and ended up a door gunner of the brigade commander's bird. This is his story of the night of the battle for LZ Carolyn.



**Some LZ Carolyn Troopers,  
3 days prior to attack**

On the night of May 5, 1969 and morning of May 6th, Tommy Harris was in his bunker resting away. At approximately midnight the call came: get to the helicopter pad and get the bird ready to go. As door gunner, Tommy stayed ready and was waiting to leave. The brigade commander, COL Kingston, said they were flying into a hot LZ about a ten-minute flight away. Ordered not to land but to observe the battle on the ground, they circled at 2000 feet. Only a few things were recognizable on the ground. Tommy said the sky was full of C-130 gunships, helicopters and jets dropping napalm. He said it was something to behold, the sight of the Phantom jets dropping napalm in the tree line. The night sky was lit up with flares coming from mortar tubes. There were three 51 caliber guns firing at everything in the sky and he started the rounds coming at them, using their green tracers to aim at. They looked like softballs coming at them. He could make out that artillery was pointed straight out. Someone made the comment "That's not Hell out there, but you can see it from there." After about two hours or so, the fighting wasn't over but had slowed down. The crew flew back to base. The same crew flew back to Carolyn about 8:30 am. He stated the carnage on the ground was horrible. I won't go into what he saw, but I think it's obvious he saw a lot.

**LZ Carolyn Battle Memorial:**

A few years ago, Doug Magruder, Rocky Colivita and Rich Wood were having lunch. The conversation turned to the need for a memorial dedicated to the Troops who died defending LZ Carolyn on May 6, 1969, honoring them for their sacrifice during the battle. When Skip Taylor and Tommy Harris heard, they picked up the ball and ran with it. The National Infantry Museum in Columbus, GA agreed that the monument should be placed there. There are so many people that



helped make this memorial possible, but there are two I would like to thank here: Skip Taylor and Tommy Harris. The setting for memorial is in a quiet, serene place and is quite beautiful. The dedication was on May 20, 2017 and LTC Richard Wood, who was the battalion commander during the battle, was there for it. Thanks to **Doug Magruder** for the pictures included with this article. If you get a chance to go see it brothers and sisters, please go. Lost during the battle were:

SP4 Foster L. Sonnier, HHC  
CPT Joseph Woodard, HHC  
CPL William L Negrini, A Co  
1LT Oliver A. Best, Jr., C Co  
PFC Richard J. Daley, C Co

CPL Jackie R. McKenzie, C Co  
SGT Fruto J. Oquendo, C Co  
PFC Paul J. Kronthaler, E Co  
SGT Gilbert G. Palacio, E Co  
SP4 Jose Soto-Concepcion, E Co



**Troopers from LZ Carolyn battle (LTC Richard Wood, no hat)**

President Tommy "Smiley" Harris for his support and his faith in me to do this job. Also, a special thanks to my saint, Larry Hempfling, stay safe and remember what we said years and years ago, "This too shall pass."

Honor and Courage, James "Top Gun" Dotson

**One Last Thing:**

I want to thank each and every one of you for reading my column. Thank you for your encouragement, your well wishes and kind words. Thanks to our 8th Cav Association

## 9th CAV News

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**Faded photograph  
Covered now with lines and creases  
Tickets torn in half  
Memories in bits and pieces**

Recognize those lyrics? They're the opening to the song "Traces" by the Classics IV. Wikipedia says

the song was recorded in 1968 and released as a single in January 1969, a time from which many of us hold on to bits and pieces of memories. "Tickets torn in half" may not have much meaning for Vietnam Vets (unless they were tickets home), but most of us do have faded photographs from our time in the 1st Cav.

15 FEB 69

One such photo has too many "lines and creases" to show up well in black and white, in the space available on this page, so it is not reproduced here.

A Frenchman named Olivier is a member of a Vietnam War history organization. He developed a particular interest in the 1-9 Cav after finding online a set of slides taken by the late Art Dockter. Olivier shared the slides with Joe Bowen, who further shared them with others, sparking many trans-Atlantic emails. Olivier recently found another picture on Facebook and sent it to Glen Senkowski, asking if he knew anything about the events depicted. Glen remembered them all too well.

The faded photograph shows a patch of ground in Vietnam and appears to have been taken looking almost straight down. There's a Huey in flight very low to the ground, as if it just took off, and you can see the shadow it cast on the ground. There are two burned patches on the ground, and next to each is the tail boom of a UH-1. Between them is what appears to be a Huey transmission, with the rotor shaft and head intact, but only one blade attached. Also in the frame are what look like bunkers and foxholes.

A caption attributed the photo to "Smiling Tiger 38" of D/229, so Glen went to D/229's website and tracked down Tiger 38, Rich Magner. Glen and Rich exchanged many emails about that day, and Rich approved Glen's sharing the photo with others who might have memories as well. Glen sent the picture to me, saying he thought some might be interested in the photo, and he included his personal recollections of what was his first mission in Vietnam. I forwarded Glen's message to a long list of Apache Troopers, and it did stir up memories. Here's the email from **Glen Senkowski** that accompanied the photograph:

This is the aftermath of my first mission in Vietnam: 5 killed in action, 18 wounded (including me), and two Hueys lost. I never saw this photo until a couple days ago. On either side of the hovering Huey you can see the tails of the Hueys that were shot down. I was the observer on the scout helicopter covering the extraction of our Blues, who had been inserted to recover another scout aircraft shot down earlier in the day. What we didn't know was that the NVA, instead of directly engaging the Blues during the recovery process, had set up an ambush to get not only the Blues, but also the three Hueys that were coming to extract them. They got two of them.

I was looking the other way when the Hueys went down but felt the explosions when they hit. According to CPT Andy Anderson, "Apache Red," who was flying over us, a rocket-propelled grenade came out of the tree line, hitting the third Huey and driving it into the second. By the time I turned around, both had exploded and were burning like nothing I'd ever seen before. I would later learn that there was a predictable sequence for what happens when a Huey is shot down: first comes a huge black ball of smoke, then intense flames, then intense white light when the magnesium parts hit their flash point, followed by a light show from the frag/smoke/white phosphorus grenades and ammunition cooking off. Then there would be gray smoke until everything burned out.

The scout pilot I was riding with landed between and to the left of where the tails are laying. All three of us (including the gunner) went to look for survivors. Both aircraft were burning furiously, the air was insanely hot, and the ground was shaking. Keep in mind that I was a 100% FNG and had no idea what I should be doing, or even what was going on: this was not covered in training. I was standing in chest-high elephant grass, looking around, when a group of survivors yelled, "GET DOWN, THEY'RE SHOOTING AT US!" That was when I discovered that real bullets don't sound anything like Hollywood bullets when they're coming your way.

My pilot, whom I believe was LT Whitesides, told me to grab a survivor and load him into our LOH. I took one that had a bad head wound but could walk, led him to the aircraft, and got him inside. LT Whitesides came back with another, and we took off for 45th Surgical Hospital at Tay Ninh.

Six months later, I would have put a third wounded survivor in my seat and stayed with the others on the ground, since I appeared to be the only person with a weapon. Being new, however, I did exactly what the pilot told me to do. By then the magnesium in the Hueys had ignited, the ammunition was cooking off, and our own aircraft was in danger of catching fire, so I was more than happy to leave.

After dropping off the survivors, we came back to do a body count and search for additional survivors. We did several low, high-speed passes through the area and 51 years later, I still vividly recall the five bodies I counted. The only thing I am thankful for from that day is that being new, I did not know any of them personally. That level of horror would start less than a month later.

The AC's in the two Hueys were Benny Benoit and Dave Pastor. Kit Beaton was leading the lift and got away. According to Andy, who was Red at the time and high bird, one of the Hueys was hit by a B40 and got driven into the other one.

Glen's personal recollections of that day triggered many others. Here's a sampling (edited for length):

**Alan Syndergaard:** I remember everyone scrambling to go out. I, however, was on KP and wasn't allowed to go. One of the Blues who lost his life that day had arrived at A Troop the same day I did and we were always kidding each other about who was the shortest short-timer. I've always felt bad about the losses that day, but his loss especially.

**John Clark:** I served in Alpha Troop from April '68 to April '69. My call sign for the first 9 months was Apache 19 (scouts) and then I became 3A (operations).

On 15 Feb 69, I was in my quarters when I heard the scramble horn, grabbed my gear, and headed to the flight line. I saw a Huey warming up and jumped into the right seat alongside Kit Beaton. We led a formation of three out to the site. Our Intel at the time was that the scout bird had had an engine failure with no enemy contact.

We inserted the Blues to secure the scene, and a maintenance Huey sling-loaded the OH-6A out of the area, without incident. Kit and I led the flight of three back to the site to pick up the Blues. As we were lifting off, all Hell broke loose. I remember one of our door gunners yelling that the two Hueys behind us had been shot down. Red took over, hitting the tree lines while we flew to a nearby safe area and unloaded our Troops. We went back twice more to pick up everyone left on the ground. That day became permanently etched in my mind. I received the DFC for that day and it is proudly displayed on my current license plate, but I would gladly give it up if the day had never happened.

**Peter Bie:** Among the five we lost that day was SP4 Franklin B. Gilbert. He had taken my place as door gunner in a lift Huey while I was on R&R in Hong Kong. When I returned, I was told they had taken an RPG "up the tailpipe," crashed into another bird, and we had five dead. I've always lived with the searing memory that it would have been me aboard that chopper on that day. Glen, as hard as it was to read your story, thank you for helping me understand what happened that day. The memories of 51 years ago come back in an instant and while some the details are a bit fuzzy, the bigger picture is clear.

**Jim Farner:** I was crewing a B model in Weapons platoon at the time. My first one crashed on Dec 23; Jody Robertson and Warren Danner were front seat, and I do not remember who the gunner was (maybe Hawkins). That bird got replaced after the first of the year, but we didn't have any armament and were just flying ash-and-trash missions until we could get rockets, etc., hooked up. We were out getting mail when the call came in about the downed birds. I'm not sure who was flying, but I think it was Apache 6 (Harry McCloud?) and someone else from Red platoon. We headed for the crash site. Since we were not configured for combat, I had decided to go without a gunner that day, we didn't need one to get the mail. We got to the site and found it pretty burned out, and bodies and wounded were seemingly all over the place. I remember seeing Frank Gilbert's body along with the others. Got as many of the wounded (6 or 7) as I could on the bird and flew them back to Tay Ninh. We were going to make another run, but were told the place had been secured and we weren't needed. There was a lot to be said for flying weapons, no landing to drop people off or pick people up. I'll take 1500' altitude any time.

*Sadly, the above was the last most of us would hear from Jim Farner, for a heart attack claimed him five days after he'd sent it. More information at the end of this column.*

**Cliff Birdsey:** I was flying with Benny. We were Chalk 2, extracting Blues that had recovered a Scout shot down earlier that day. I flew Cobras, so never got to see a lift from that perspective, and since it looked to be a ho-hum mission, Benny figured he could take me along. The insertion went smoothly and not a shot was fired while the Troops were on the ground. They had landed to the east in the morning and we set up to land west for the extraction. No action on approach, landing, or loading. As soon as we pulled pitch, all hell broke loose. I assume the bad guys set up to take out the lead aircraft and collect all three. We were doing OK until there was a big boom and our aircraft went out of control. Benny had no control response so handed off to me. Same from the right seat! I've always assumed that Chalk 3 hit our tail rotor and/or vertical fin when the B 40 gave him a lift. Benny couldn't release his seat belt, but I had no trouble and could help. We were both able to kick our way out of the aircraft and help a couple others get clear of the flaming wreckage.

*On that day, 15 Feb 69, Apache Troop lost five Soldiers. SP4 Franklin Bradley Gilbert was the crew chief of one of the downed Hueys, and the rest were Blues. They were SP4 James Thomas Fields, PFC Francis Kenneth Kulbatski, SGT Dennis Cole North, and SGT Harold Ray Tyson. Rest in Peace, Brothers.*

### HEADHUNTERS 39

Next photo to come along was the subject of an inquiry forwarded to me by Dara Wydler, Executive Director of the 1st Cavalry Division Association. CSM (Ret) James Denton, Vice President of the Fort Tuthill Military Museum in Flagstaff, Arizona, had emailed the Association asking about the photograph, which the museum was planning to make the backdrop for an updated Vietnam War exhibit.

CSM Denton hoped to find out who took the picture, which Troop was onboard, and what the mission was, if known. Which Troop was aboard was easy to answer, as the "Headhunters" name originated with A Troop, so the inquiry went to A Troopers of all vintages. What follows are some of the replies, edited for length:

**Steve Featherston:** I saw the picture in an ad for Textron Corp quite a few years ago. Since it shows A 1/9 Blues during my tour as Apache Blue, I wrote asking for a hard copy and received two. My left elbow is shown in the right portion of the picture, as I was ground guiding the insertion into a single-ship LZ while operating near Bong Son in 66-67. Jim Haslitt was the aircraft commander. Maybe he can provide more info. If I remember correctly, I gave Jim a copy and I still have one.

**Ron Christopher:** This is A Troop. The Blues exiting the bird are the 5th Squad. All squads had their assigned bird, 1st Squad, 35; 2nd Squad 36, etc. The mission was probably like all the missions: recon, walk and walk until you found the enemy. Steve Featherston was leading the pack at that time. (506 Valley when the Blues were sent in to support the 8th Cav. As far as I know this took place in Nov 66.) Hope Jim Haslitt can provide more and better information.

**Lino Garcia:** That is me standing on the skid getting ready to jump. 66-67 Blue India

**Jim Haslitt:** The picture was taken in early January 1967 by an AP photographer. I was the AC and Bill Arneson was the pilot. LZ Bird had been overrun on 27 Dec 66 and the 1st Brigade under COL Jim Smith (former 1/9 CO and future 1CD CG) was moving Troops all over to block the NVA escape. MAJ Tom Mendenhall had just taken over A Troop and our job that day was to insert the Blues on a hilltop just northwest of Bird. He had to fire 8-inch artillery to blow a hole big enough for a Huey. We had four lift birds and the photographer was on the first bird with LT Steve Featherston (Blue).

Bill and I were flying Chalk 4 and it was a one-ship LZ. By the time we were coming in, the photographer had gotten set up and took this picture. The men jumping were the fourth squad. It's a great picture and showed up a few days later on the front page of most papers in the country. My wife sent me a copy

**Continued to pg. 11**





## 1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN

**Terry A. McCarl**  
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### IN CASE YOU WERE WONDERING

Here are some interesting statistics compiled from 1CDA's membership database.

WW II	371
Korean War	1,070
Vietnam War	9,820
Gulf War	246
Iraq/Afghanistan	3,604
Total in Wartime	15,111
Other	13,986
GRAND TOTAL	29,097

Listed are the numbers of current active members. A total of about 15,100 served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Cav during wartime, and a total of about 14,000 listed as "Other," either served with other units during wartime or did not serve during wartime.

### LTC STEPHEN F. BOSMA STORY: 4-MAN BUDDY TEAMS

About a week after the first Historian column in the March-April 2020 issue of *Saber* came out, I received a call from LTC (Ret) Steve Bosma in San Jose, CA, Life Member of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division Association. Steve has an interesting story about his time in the 8<sup>th</sup> Cavalry between 1953 and 1955 that I want to share with you. Steve was involved in an experimental program entitled "4- Man Buddy Teams" which was implemented in April of 1954 at Fort Riley, KS.

This fits into the "small world category!" When Steve started to tell me his story, he mentioned that his original home was in South Dakota. I immediately interrupted him to ask, "Where in South Dakota?" We discovered that he and I both grew up on farms in central South Dakota about 50 miles apart.

Steve was born in 1932 and received his elementary education in a one-room rural school. It was not possible for him to attend high school, and after graduation from elementary school, he became a successful farmer/dairyman.

Wanting to fulfill his military obligation in as short a time as possible so he could return to his farming operation, in November of 1953, he volunteered for the Draft (2-year commitment), and a week later, he was on a bus to the Sioux Falls, SD Induction Center and subsequently to Fort Riley, KS for Army Basic Training.

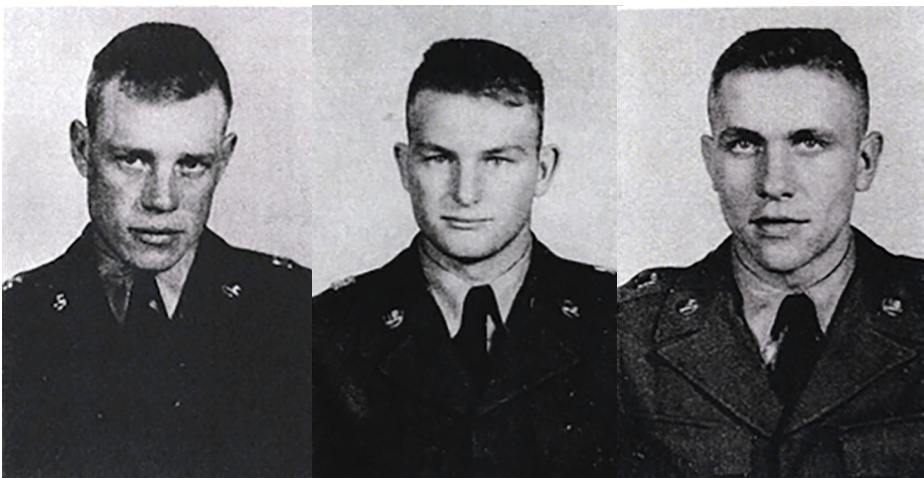
The Korean War officially ended on July 27, 1953, but as one Veteran who was stationed in Korea with the 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry in 1957-58, mentioned to me recently, "Nobody told the North Korean Army the war was over!" So, U.S. Troops were being sent to Korea (and Japan) for what was termed "The United Nations Peace Keeping and WW II Peace Treaty Occupancy of Japan Duty" in the Korean War Theater of Operations.

There were about 200 Soldiers in Steve's Basic Training Class at Fort Riley. Most of these Soldiers were from North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, Oklahoma, and Missouri, with a few from Indiana, Colorado, and Arkansas. Steve was one of about 90 who were selected to be organized into 4- man buddy teams as part of an experimental program. The intent was to keep these teams together all the way through from the beginning of their training through their entire 24-month term in service.

The original reason stated for the program was that morale was low in combat Troops in the Korean War Theater of Operations, and being with the buddies that a Soldier had already known for 6 months of training was expected to improve morale. Another unofficial rationale was that a 4-man buddy team, if captured, might be better able to survive in captivity and resist "brain-washing" by Communist propagandists.

Steve's group of about 90 was to undergo Advanced Individual Training (AIT) at Fort Riley immediately after Basic Training. They were then to be transported to Japan where they would be kept in a state of readiness to deploy to Korea if the need arose.

Steve's 4-man team became a 3-man team at the end of AIT because one member decided to get married and extended his term in the Army in exchange for a stateside assignment. Below are photos of Steve and his two team members David Buening and Lloyd "Gus" Gast.



PVT Stephen Bosma

PVT David Buening

PVT Lloyd Gast

Upon completion of AIT, the Troops traveled by Troop train from Fort Riley to Fort Lewis, WA. There, they boarded the USNS Frederick Funston for the journey to Yokohama Harbor on Honshu Harbor Island of Japan.

After a brief stay at Camp Drake, the group boarded a Japanese troop train north to Camp Chitose on Hokkaido Island in May 1954.

Most of the Troops were assigned to 1-8<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment, with some assigned to the 2-8<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment. They became the gunners on mortars and recoilless rifles, squad leaders and assistant squad leaders, military instructors, and vital key members of the 8<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment.

The Troops remained at Camp Whittington and Camp Crawford for the full 18 months, as deployment to Korea was never needed. Those Troopers with 2-year commitments (about 50) came home via Troopship and were discharged at Fort Ord, CA in November 1955. Those with 3-year commitments (about 40) remained in Japan until November 1956.

Steve was never able to ascertain whether the 4-man buddy team experimental program was considered successful by the Army or not, since the Troops were never in combat. In any case, as the result of spending time together and forming relationships for 2 years, considerable camaraderie had developed, and many of the Troopers became enthusiastic reunion attendees over 60+ years!

Due to geography, two reunion groups formed: the "Dakota" and the "Kansas City" groups. The Dakota Group held its reunions annually at the Native American Casinos at Flandreau, SD and Lake Andes, SD from 1965 to 2016.

The Kansas City Group held its reunions annually beginning in 1985 and ending in 2018. All were held in Merriam, KS in the Kansas City area except for two which were held in Branson, MO. An estimated 53 Veterans attended at least one reunion between 1965 and 2018, and five attended the final reunion. I would call that a quite remarkable turnout for a group of 90 Veterans that served together for two years nearly 65 years ago!

Below is a photo including Steve (left) and his team member David Buening (right) at the 2007 Reunion in Merriam, KS.



Here is a photo of all attendees at the final (2018) reunion. From left: Jack Hackley, Norman Larson, Evelyn Richardson, John Richardson, Dick Stephenson, Steve Bosma, Gloria Bosma (behind Dick Stephenson is Barbara Rinehart)



Continuing with Steve Bosma's personal story, he obtained his GED while serving in Japan. After his discharge, he returned to SD and obtained a college degree in education under the GI Bill. He enjoyed 33 years in public education as a teacher and guidance counselor and was the recipient of numerous honors in education throughout his career.

Also, after his discharge, he served in the Army Reserve and National Guard until 1979, attaining the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

After the final reunion in 2018, Steve put together a 50-page (double-sided) binder with the history of the 4-man teams and distributed about 100 copies to military museums and libraries throughout the United States. If you have such a library and/or museum in your city, a copy may be on file there.

Thanks to Steve for sharing this story with us! If anyone were involved in a similar experiment or would like to contact Steve for more information, please contact me at the email or phone number above.

### 55 years ago....

The Battle of Ia Drang was the first major engagement of the Vietnam War. Fought between November 14th and 18th of 1965, around the hills surrounding the Valley of Ia Drang, on the Central Highlands of South Vietnam.

The Americans divided their forces to launch an attack against the NVA's positions. LTC Harold Moore commanded the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion that would assault LZ X-Ray, while LTC Robert McDade took LZ Albany with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. Both battalions were a part of the 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry regiment and were pioneers in this new style of helicopter warfare.



**OIF/OEF VETERAN**  
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**Soccer Ball Diplomacy, Part II**  
**NINEVAH PROVINCE, IRAQ** – Across the vast stretches of land in the area north of Mosul a diverse population consisting of Muslims, Yezidis, Christians and both Kurdish and Arab peoples reside. Following the implementation of the post June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010 “out of the cities” phase of the U.S./Iraqi security agreement this area has seen an increase in United States Army patrols for the first time since the 101st Airborne Division, led by then MG David Petraeus, visited this expanse following the initial invasion of U.S. forces in 2003. The local leaders have been more than a little surprised to see Americans operating in this territory again after so much time focused exclusively on Mosul at the expense of effectively ignoring the rest of the province.

In an attempt to make inroads into the cities, villages, and locales of this new battle space and reestablish dormant relationships the Soldiers of B Battery, Task Force 2-82 from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Heavy Brigade Combat Team of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division have brought out soccer balls with them on nearly every patrol. The goodwill efforts have been well received by these diverse communities. Similar to the experiences the unit had in Mosul with its soccer ball diplomacy efforts previously, large groups of children gather whenever a patrol rolls to a stop inside a town. The Soldiers generally enjoy the enthusiasm of the crowds but admit that it can get a little chaotic with everyone clamoring for a soccer ball at once. Recently the Soldiers have been given Iraqi soccer jerseys to distribute to the children by the unit’s psychological operations team. These have proven to be a particularly hot commodity among the youths. Since the unit began its soccer ball diplomacy outreach efforts back in March during the early months of their deployment the word has continued to spread through Facebook and e-mail chains.

Donations continue to pour in from churches, girl scout troops, and non-profit organizations as well as individual friends and family members with well over 300 soccer balls taken in so far. The unit does its best to capture the distribution of the soccer balls in photos to post online and share with the people that have so generously supported their mission in Iraq throughout this deployment.

An added dimension of the soccer ball diplomacy effort has been the construction of several soccer fields for the benefit of these communities. In an effort to increase local employment opportunities for young men in the communities and making a lasting impact on the area, civil affairs projects have been initiated to build quality soccer fields complete with fences around the field, benches for the players and spectators, and proper goals with nets. These projects average less than \$50,000 each but make an invaluable impact on the villages in terms of improved relations with United States Forces operating in the area.

Given the cultural significance of the most beloved sport in all of Iraq, following through on a promise, and completing a project in a community has built rapport with local leaders which has led to the gaining of trust and confidence in the Americans. These good relations can then lead to the sharing of information and intelligence that can be used to pursue terrorist activity in the region increasing security for all the citizens of the area.



The Soldiers of B Battery still have dozens of soccer balls on hand to distribute with assurances of more on the way to get them through the end of their deployment. When the time comes to pass their mission on to the next unit, the Bulls of B Battery will be sure to share with them the successful story of their soccer ball diplomacy and the friends they’ve made throughout northern Iraq during their time in the country.

## 9 CAV NEWS

### Continued from pg. 9

and said, “Aren’t you flying in Headhunters?” Well yes. It was called the “Choreography of Combat” and was featured in recruiting posters and other things.

LZ Bird was located on a horseshoe bend in the Kim Son river about 8 miles SW of Bong Son and just a few miles west of LZ Pony, the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade HQ. We went in on a hillside about 3 miles NW of Bird.

I talked about this with GEN Smith several years ago, at Chuck Wingate’s funeral. He was very proud of the brigade and its actions at that time. C/1-12 was the infantry company on the ground with a 105 unit in support. SSG Delbert Jennings won the Medal of Honor for his actions that night. They were attacked by an NVA Regiment. A Troop took a platoon from D Troop and landed in the middle of that fight and secured an LZ. A lift company from the 227<sup>th</sup> brought in an infantry company to reinforce, and eventually the NVA withdrew. That was the first time the artillery fired the Beehive round (a 105mm projectile containing darts called a flechette) at human targets. GEN Smith immediately used his helicopters and moved the entire brigade into blocking positions to prevent the NVA from escaping. Within 3 months that NVA force ceased to exist and was never reconstituted.

**Bill Arneson:** I have the original picture that was in the Army Times; I’ve saved it all these years. James Haslitt and I were the pilots. The newspaper article shows the location and the mission, and as best I can remember, it was a French war correspondent that took the picture.

**Glen Senkowski:** My original color print of Headhunters 35 says “Copyright Pat Christian” on the back. I googled him and he was indeed a photographer in Vietnam.

**Rick Rowe:** The photo of Headhunters 39 is on the cover of Matthew Brennan’s book *Headhunters*. The 1st Cav Book *Vietnam August 65 to December 69* has a similar photo of Headhunters 36, but it is identified as a C Troop aircraft. I also have Clinton Batcheller’s booklet recounting his two tours in VN, the second with A Troop, June 68-69. He has photos of “Headhunters” 37 and 38 that are credited to *Vietnam: A Complete Photographic History*, Tess Press, New York, 2003.

### B TROOP’S ICONIC INSERTION PHOTO

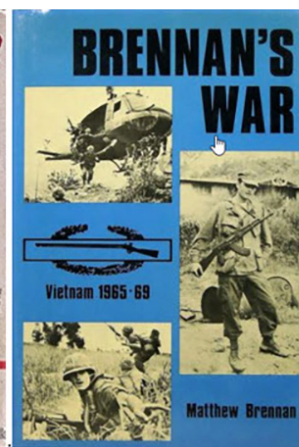
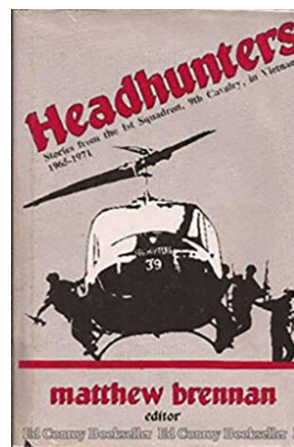
In the email discussion about the Headhunters 39 photo, some of us mixed it up with another of the 1-9 Cav in action, this one of a B Troop Huey discharging its load of Blues. That’s the photo that famously appeared on this US postage stamp commemorating the Vietnam War:



This same photo graced the hardcover edition of Matthew Brennan’s first book, *Brennan’s War*. In the past two or three weeks, I received a funding appeal that contained the photo, from the National Vietnam War Museum, which is being built in Mineral Wells, Texas (home of the former Fort Wolters, site of Army Primary Helicopter School). Even more recently, I found it on the cover of a Center of Military History publication, *Taking the Offensive, October 1966–September 1967*, part of a series on Vietnam War campaigns. (See photo in next column.)

More than once I heard **Bert Chole** (former Saber White) talk about that picture and joked that 75 different Bravo Troopers claimed to have been inside the Huey, just ready to jump out. Nobody kept a roster, but Bert sent this note in 2015 when Sergeant Bob Lackey passed away:

The Platoon Sergeant for the Blues (the one just on the ground) was SGT Wilkerson. Bob Lackey was behind him and the RTO (behind Lackey) was SPC James P. Cryster, who was killed in my aircraft on 13 November 1967. The platoon



leader (already on the ground with his back to the camera) was Ted Chilcote, who went on to become a brigade commander (since deceased).

### (RE)SCHEDULED EVENTS

Two Troop Reunions announced in the March/April column are postponed due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

**A Troop**, Albuquerque, NM, originally scheduled Sept 2-6 2020, NOW rescheduled for Sept 1-5, 2021. Rates at the Hotel Albuquerque will remain the same and all events planned at the hotel will remain the same. If you made a reservation and want to cancel it or change it in some way, please let the hotel know or contact Ron Livingston, <rflivingston@msn.com>.

**C Troop**, Columbus, GA, originally scheduled Sept 26-28, 2020, NOW rescheduled for Sept 25-27, 2021. If you made a reservation and want to cancel it or change it in some way, please let the hotel know or contact Carol Bieneman at (859) 771-4180 or Patrick at (859) 771-6342 or <pcbnamin@verizon.net>

### LOSSES REPORTED SINCE THE LAST ISSUE



Just five days after Jim Farner shared his recollections of 15 Feb 69, this sad word was received from his daughter Julie:

It is with a heavy heart that I type this. My dad, Jim Farner (Apache Troop ‘67-68), passed away this morning. This group meant so much to him, and he looked forward to attending the reunions as often as he could. My sister Katie and I went with him to the first reunion he attended in Whitefish, MT. Reconnecting with everyone and having a safe space to share his experiences opened him up in ways that I doubt he realized were possible. I feel so blessed to have been able to attend some of the reunions with him. This group was so

warm and welcoming to my sister and me. In seeing the camaraderie and hearing some of the stories of his past, I learned so much about this man who was an enigma to me for much of my life. Attending the reunions and the communication between he and I that followed after them brought us so much closer together. I am forever grateful to the Apache Troop for their warm welcome and glimpse into my father’s past, but I am most thankful for the support he felt from them. He was really looking forward to the reunion this year, and I know he will be there in spirit. **Rest in Peace, Brother**

Jim Kurtz

Apache 03, 1970-71, Email kurtzjh@gmail.com

73<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL REUNION OF THE 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 4-8 OCTOBER 2020, LOUISVILLE, KY

73<sup>d</sup> Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association has been  
RESCHEDULED for 4 – 8 October 2020

In the current situation of COVID-19, as of now we are still moving forward with the plans for our 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Reunion in Louisville, KY. However, we will make our final decision by mid-August (by then the *Saber* would have already gone to the printers and mailed out to everyone). If we have your registration form, we will call you IF WE MAKE THE DECISION TO CANCEL.

As we are making preparations for the reunion in Louisville, we will have face masks on-hand for our members for an addition safety measure against COVID-19. There will be a requirement for face masks during all meetings, on the buses during transportation, and while walking freely around the Kentucky Derby Museum during the mixer. Essentially, if you are not eating or drinking, you should be wearing a face mask. Louisville, like any other city across the country, is slowly re-opening its doors to the public. They are required to meet federal guidelines for reopening and Louisville is leading the way in a phased reopening that includes expert-driven safety guidelines for lodging, attractions, and venues.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*If you had a room reservation at the Crowne Plaza for the reunion in June, they were all canceled by the hotel. Please call and make your reservations again, 502-367-2251. If you made a reservation at an alternate hotel you will have to change those dates yourself. Please call your hotel to confirm and ensure your stay is for the correct dates.

The Fort Knox Area Chapter invites you to join the rest of the First Team Family in Louisville, KY for the 73d Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association from 4 – 8 October 2020. All Life and Associate Members are welcome to attend this special event. Gold Star Families and Widows of our members are always welcome to attend.

Please register early to assist us in coordinating the best reunion possible. Some events have limited seating available due to the size of available rooms. All members of the Association must register and pay the \$20 Registration Fee except for our Active Duty Troopers who pay \$10 to register. 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. **NOTE: Cancellations are non-refundable after the September 02, 2020 deadline. Cancellations must be received by 5pm Friday September 01 in our office (254-547-6537) for a refund.**

This year the Association is offering an opportunity for members and their guests to purchase a souvenir (\$6.50) to remember their time spent in Louisville.

HOTEL INFORMATION

We will be utilizing the Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport Expo Center for all our events. The Crowne Plaza has guaranteed a room rate of \$124 per night plus tax for up to rooms on peak nights and there is no charge for parking. Make sure that you identify yourself as attending the 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion. The hotel does provide a free shuttle service from the Louisville Airport and rental cars are available at the airport.

**Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport** 1-800-626-2708 for phone reservations  
-OR- Online Reservations: [www.cplouisville.com](http://www.cplouisville.com) Use Group Code: ZC1

I have provided additional hotels for our members to consider and in walking distance to the Crowne Plaza.

<b>Hampton Inn</b>	(502) 366-8100
<b>Spring Hill Suites</b>	(502) 361-9009
<b>Tru by Hilton</b>	(502) 792-8800
<b>Howard Johnson Express</b>	(502) 363-9952

RV PARK INFORMATION

For our members traveling with an RV, the closest park is Brooks Mobile and RV Park and it is approximately a 12 mile drive to the Crowne Plaza.

<b>Brooks Mobile and RV Park</b>	(502) 276-6090
205 Sarver Ln	
Brooks, KY 40109	

REUNION EVENT OVERVIEW

This year’s Ladies Tea will be a trip on the Belle of Louisville (lunch included). Steamboat travel and transportation revolutionized the river, Louisville, and our nation. To board the Belle of Louisville is to do more than to see Louisville and the Ohio River from a unique perspective – it’s also a step onto a piece of American history.

Transportation arrangements for our members to visit Downtown Louisville. Louisville is a city full of culture and compassion. For the “Foodie,” Louisville is ranked among the top 10 best new food cities; if Bourbon gets your engine running try the world’s only Urban Bourbon ‘city-wide’ experience; and for the kid in all of us, visit the Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory or the Muhammad Ali Center. These are just a few things to do. Hop on the ‘LouLift’, free downtown transportation, and you can see everything else the downtown area has to offer.

The Welcome Mixer has changed, it will no longer be at Churchill Downs since they do not have races in October. The Welcome Mixer will now be at the **Kentucky Derby Museum**. The Kentucky Derby Museum has two floors of interactive, family friendly exhibits and will take you through every stage of a Thoroughbred’s life, from birth to the Kentucky Derby, first Saturday in May. Learn about all the great history of the race dating back to the inaugural running in 1875 to our most recent Kentucky Derby champion and experience all the traditions that transformed the race into what it is today. A showing of the Museum’s epic 18-minute film that will put you at the center of the Kentucky Derby experience. The movie will send your heart racing and emotions soaring.

Dinner will be a spring mix salad, cayenne honey chicken breast, garlic whipped potatoes, asparagus & tomato, pecan cheddar biscuits; be sure to come hungry. There will also be time for our guests to walk through the museum, spend money at the gift shop, and take pictures in the photo booth. This will be a Welcome Mixer you will surely want to attend.

A permanent replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall is in the Elizabethtown

Nature Park. The project is an 80 percent scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington. Our Fort Knox Chapter played an integral role in making this project happen and we are making it possible for our members to visit this memorial.

As usual, we will have all our planned events in the Crowne Plaza: War Era Lunches, Unit Lunches, Purple Heart Breakfast, Association Banquet, Group Breakfasts, and Memorial Service. We will have meetings of the Chapter Presidents, Foundation and Museum Foundation Trustees, the Board of Governors and our General Membership meeting. During our General Membership meeting on Saturday morning, we will hold elections for the Association and both Foundations.

Seating for all events is open except for 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 packet. If you want to sit with specific people, we recommend that you all go to the Banquet Seating table together with your tickets available. Don’t wait until the last minute or we may not be able to accommodate your needs.

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

The Association will provide a Reunion Room in the Crowne Plaza for you to gather together and enjoy yourself. Drinks (beer and wine) in the Reunion Room are free but we ask that you generously donate to help us pay for this room. The Reunion Room will open daily at 0900 with the bar opening at 1200 hours.

The Crossed Sabers Chapter Souvenir Shop will set up a store in the hotel to sell all kinds of Cav-tastic First Team merchandise including shirts, hats, Stetsons, pins, decals and other items too numerous to mention.

THE BEST PART OF THE REUNION

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 ride on down to Louisville in 2020!



2019 REUNION at FORT HOOD





below. You can order your 18" slugger replica on your order form for \$6.50 each.

However they will not be available until the **2020 reunion**. If you place an order, you will pick up your bat along with your tickets at registration. We're sorry, but unfortunately we will not be able to ship out any bats for any reason, to include unforeseen cancellations.

**The Welcome Mixer** will now be at the Kentucky Derby Museum, read more on page 12 Reunion Event Overview. Get YOUR tickets NOW!

This is the **Louisville Slugger Souvenir** that you see on your 2020 Reunion form

The **Downtown Louisville Trip (#1 & #3)** can be whatever you want it to be. There is a lot to see and do. There are museums, restaurants, distilleries, and shopping. It's a great opportunity to see the sites and what the area has to offer.

The **Elizabethtown Trip (#2)** is a trip the Fort Knox Chapter has organized. It's to visit the permanent 80% scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. It's about a 40-minute drive.

<<https://www.touretown.com/listing/vietnam-veterans-memorial-wall/261/>>

For more information on Louisville, KY, visit the city's Convention and Visitors Bureau website. *See ya'll in Louisville!*

<<https://www.gotolouisville.com/visitor-center/>>

**1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 73rd REUNION, 4-8 October 2020**  
**Louisville Kentucky**

**SUNDAY OCT 04**

**0900-1800** Registration Desk Open  
**0900-1800** Souvenir Shop Open  
**0900-2400** Reunion Room Open  
**1200-UTC** Downtown Louisville

**MONDAY OCT 05**

**0800-0900** Museum Fnd Mtg  
**0910-1010** Foundation Mtg  
**0900-1800** Registration Desk Open  
**0900-1800** Souvenir Shop Open  
**0900-2400** Reunion Room Open  
**1100-1500** Trip to Elizabethtown, KY  
**1900-2200 Kentucky Derby Museum**

**TUESDAY OCT 06**

**0900-1800** Registration Desk Open  
**0900-1800** Souvenir Shop Open  
**0900-2400** Reunion Room Open  
**0900-1100** Board of Governor's Mtg  
**1100-1400** War Era Luncheons  
**1500-UTC** Downtown Louisville

**WEDNESDAY OCT 07**

**0730-0845** Purple Heart Breakfast  
**0900-1100** General Membership Mtg  
**0900-2400** Reunion Room Open  
**0900-1600** Registration Desk Open  
**0900-1600** Souvenir Shop Open

**WEDNESDAY cont'd**

**1100-1130** Chapter Presidents Mtg  
**1100-1400 Ladies Tea Belle of Louisville**  
**1200-1400** Unit Luncheons  
**1500-1600** Veterans Benefits Briefing  
**1745-1845** Cocktails (Cash Bar)  
**1900-2230** Association Banquet

**THURSDAY OCT 08**

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

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

Cancellations must be received by 5:00pm Friday, September 01 in our office (254-547-6537) for a refund. **No Refunds after September 02, 2020.** Seating at some functions is limited.

<b>Are you a member of 1CDA</b>	Yes	No
<b>First Reunion?</b>	Yes	No
Name:		
Address:		
City/State/Zip:		
Phone #:		
Email:		

Unit(s): #1 \_\_\_\_\_  
Year(s): #1 \_\_\_\_\_  
Unit(s): #2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Year(s): #2 \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Gold Star Fam Mem: \_\_\_\_\_  
Guest/Spouse/Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
#1: \_\_\_\_\_  
#2: \_\_\_\_\_  
#3: \_\_\_\_\_  
#4: \_\_\_\_\_  
#5: \_\_\_\_\_  
#6: \_\_\_\_\_

**Method of Payment:** (circle one)

Credit Card      Check: # \_\_\_\_\_

CC#: \_\_\_\_\_  
Exp Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
CVV#: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee (Members):	1	\$20.00	\$ _____
Louisville Slugger Souvenir:	_____	\$6.50	\$ _____
Active Duty w/ID:	1	\$10.00	\$ _____

**SUNDAY OCT 04**

Trip #1 Downtown Louisville	_____	\$10.00	\$ _____
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**MONDAY OCT 05**

Trip #2 Elizabethtown, KY	_____	\$20.00	\$ _____
Welcome Mixer ( <b>Cash Bar</b> )	_____	\$35.00	\$ _____

**TUESDAY OCT 06**

War Lunch ( <b>Circle one</b> )	_____	\$27.00	\$ _____
Kor   V   Cambodia   GWOT			
Trip #3 Downtown Louisville	_____	\$10.00	\$ _____

**WEDNESDAY OCT 07**

Purple Heart Breakfast	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
Ladies Tea	_____	\$40.00	\$ _____
Unit Lunch ( <b>Circle one</b> )	_____	\$27.00	\$ _____
5C   7C   8C   9C   12C			
W   ARTY   HQ   LRRP   ENG			
Assoc Banquet			
5C   7C   8C   9C   12C			
W   ARTY   HQ   LRRP   ENG	_____	\$48.00	\$ _____

**THURSDAY OCT 08**

Group Breakfast	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
LRRP Breakfast	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
Saber Renewal (\$10 per year)	_____		\$ _____
Donation			\$ _____

**TOTAL      \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

# 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 **Tuesday, September 1, 2020.** Please send to [Memberships@1CDA.org](mailto:Memberships@1CDA.org) or mail to 302 N. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522.

## ATTENTION CHAPTER PRESIDENTS:

If you are attending the 73rd Reunion in Louisville, KY, please plan to attend the Chapter Presidents Meeting **Wed, October 7, 11:00-11:30am.** We highly encourage all Presidents & VP's to attend. We recommend you start collecting your ideas to present them to the other Chapters. See you there!

## CONNECTICUT CHAPTER

The virus has really put a damper on our general meetings and luncheons. This is a picture of some of our members getting ready to attend a past meeting. Our next scheduled meeting is **July 18** for a barbecue. All members and prospective members are encouraged to attend.

Next general membership meeting will be in Oct, stay tuned for details. For more information contact **Keith Moyer** <[kp-moyerco@hotmail.com](mailto:kp-moyerco@hotmail.com)>, 860-537-1716.



## CROSSED SABERS CHAPTER

Hopefully, everyone is healthy and doing well! We resumed Stable Calls June 25<sup>th</sup> at the Harker Heights VFW 3892 (see photo below). **August** Stable Call will be on the **27<sup>th</sup> at Temple VFW 1820.** As far as elections go, we are moving the elections and business meeting to **September 24<sup>th</sup> at Killeen VFW 9191** located at 3307 Zephyr Road in Killeen, TX.

Election positions are as follows:

President: Open

1st Vice President: Devester Carthan

2nd Vice President: Mike Campbell

3rd Vice President: Dennis Webster

Secretary: Open

Treasurer: Open

If you have questions about position duties call or email me. Please consider running for a position.

Watch our Chapter Facebook page, 1st Cavalry Division Association Crossed Sabers Chapter for updates. I appreciate everyone for being diligent and strong and continuing to support our chapter and our Association! First Team! Tim Hodge, President 254-718-4533 <[tim@allaboutinsurance.com](mailto:tim@allaboutinsurance.com)>.



## FT. KNOX AREA CHAPTER

We had a chapter meeting last weekend and very few attended due to COVID-19. As for the Reunion, Louisville is slowly reopening. You can find information on the Convention and Visitors Bureau page <<https://www.gotolouisville.com/covid19/>> on their current plans for the health and welfare of its visitors.

We are still working on improvements to our replica Vietnam Memorial Wall. We upgraded our kiosk computer so visitors can locate their loved ones on the Wall faster. We are all looking forward to this year's reunion.

**Robert 'Grif' Griffin**, Vice President

## NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY CHAPTER



Photo caption: Former Chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Marine General Peter Pace, and Bob Arbasetti meet at Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C.

GEN Pace attended Saint Joseph Catholic School and Church in my hometown, Bogota NJ. I told him, that priest there frightened me more than the Viet Cong.

The New York-New Jersey has put the fall meeting

on hold pending the containment of the virus. At the moment, the chapter is setting benchmarks as to when it will be safe to return for our get gatherings. Together with the Local and State health officials, The Elks and own virus (W.A.A.G.) committee, together we will determine when it safe to return.

In these tough times, call and reach out to family, friends, and chapter members. What makes our chapter great, like in the past, now, today will all stand together.

## WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

The chapter met on May 20<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. The chapter president, Gene Russell, gave a slide presentation of the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. Al is a Subject Matter Expert in this area and has delivered presentations to major city police departments here in the USA and abroad.

We are planning a Staff Ride to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battle at Bull Run if it is open and we can study the battle. August we will take a well-deserved R&R and hit the trail in September as the virus permits. Meanwhile, we encourage all to wear masks and maintain your separation.

## CHAPTER PRESIDENTS/POC'S,

Gentle reminder, it is important that we receive your **COMPLETED TAX PACKETS** in the office at 302 N. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522, **NLT MONDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER 2020.** These packets were mailed to you in June. If you need another let me know ASAP!

Thank you for your cooperation!

Karleen Maloney

## ARE YOU IN THESE AREAS?

### ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

Anyone in the Albuquerque, New Mexico area looking to start up a Chapter? Please contact Jim Jordan at 505-508-5454.

### AMARILLO, TEXAS

Anyone in the Amarillo, Texas area looking to start up a Chapter? Please contact Ryan Hodge at 806-433-4467 or <[Ryan@Hodgemgmt.com](mailto:Ryan@Hodgemgmt.com)>.

## DO YOU WANT TO SEE YOUR CHAPTER PHOTO POSTED HERE?

Feel free to email or send us one so it can appear in the next issue! Thank you to our Chapters who send in a submission each *Saber!* We appreciate you!

Send to [Memberships@1CDA.org](mailto:Memberships@1CDA.org)

## 77th FA News

**John Moran**  
1013 Willowdale Ave  
Kettering, OH 45429  
[johnjanmoran@who.rr.com](mailto:johnjanmoran@who.rr.com)

The 77<sup>th</sup> FA Regiment Association Board met June 16<sup>th</sup>, via Zoom, and voted to cancel the 2020 Reunion. This was done with great reluctance, but in view of the virus, we felt we had no choice. The spike in Florida cases, the RNC being in Jacksonville at the same time, and the health issues of many of our members were dominant in that decision. We had earlier explored the possibility of sliding the reunion to September or October, but the hotel couldn't give us attractive rates or guarantee a number of rooms. Also, who knows what the status of the virus will be even then.

The next decision we considered was the 2021 Reunion location. The choices are: do Fernandina Beach/Amelia Island again (in essence, slip one year); or go to Ft Carson/Colorado Springs, where the 2/77 FA is stationed, and who will roll out the Red Carpet for us. Paige Lanier, our LNO with the 2/77, has done a lot of prep work with both the battalion and 4<sup>th</sup> ID DivArty, and the hotel to procure good rates for us. For those who haven't been to Colorado Springs, there is a lot to do there. We intend to have a decision by the end of July.

One last thing concerning the reunion cancellation; according to the Association Constitution and Bylaws, Article III, Section 5: "If a duly scheduled reunion does not occur in any given year, then all elected and appointed officers shall continue in their respective positions until the next duly scheduled reunion."

We would like to offer congratulations to COL Neil N. Snyder, a member of the 77<sup>th</sup> FA Association, who assumed command of the First Cavalry Division Artillery from COL Brett C Forbes on July 8. COL Snyder previously commanded the 2/77 FA and has attended our reunions.

CHAPTER INDEX

<p><b>ALMOST HEAVEN WEST VIRGINIA</b></p> <p>POC: Jim Hays 713 Diamond St. P.O. Box 97 French Creek, WV 26218-0097 (304) 924-6380 Email: purplehays_05@yahoo.com Facebook: Almost Heaven Chapter 1st Cavalry Division Association- West Virginia</p>	<p><b>FLORIDA'S FIRST COAST</b></p> <p>Pres: Jesse Crimm 4445 Silverwood Ln Jacksonville, FL 32207-6241 904-737-6172 Email: thecrimms@gmail.com Meets 7pm on last Tues of ea mos at the American Legion Post 137, 5443 San Juan Ave, Jacksonville, FL. 32210</p>	<p><b>JAMES J. MASON WEST MICHIGAN</b></p> <p>POC: Bob Anderson 9030 Conservancy Dr. NE Ada, MI 49301-8822 (616) 682-5446 Email: rj.anderson2243@comcast. net Website: jjmwmc1cd.com Meets on 3rd Thurs of Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, and Dec, at 7pm, at the Grand Valley Armory in Wyoming, MI .</p>	<p><b>LRRP/RANGER of the 1st Cav Division during the Vietnam War</b></p> <p>Pres: Robert J. Raab Sr. 725 Tuttle Mason, MI 48854 (517) 525-0747 Email: RJBarsr@yahoo.com Website: www.lrrprangers.com Full chapter meeting during Re- unions.</p>	<p><b>ROCKY MOUNTAIN</b></p> <p>Pres: Brian Michaud 6798 Sandyford Land Colorado Springs, CO 80923-7660 (270) 392-9987 POC: Paul Lemieux PO Box 6548 Woodland Park, CO 80866-6548 (719) 687-1169 Email: lemieuxpe@live.com Meets 9am 2nd Sat of mos at Valley Hi Country Club, 610 South Chel- ton Road, Colorado Springs, CO.</p>
<p><b>CALIFORNIA CENTRAL COAST</b></p> <p>Pres: Barney B. Jones P.O. Box 444 Pebble Beach, CA 93953 (831) 917-5952 Email: firstcav-cc-chapter@outlook. com</p>	<p><b>FLORIDA TROOP E “BLACK HAT”</b></p> <p>Pres: Juan Kellog 607 SE 47th St., Apt. 7 Cape Coral, FL 33904-5506 Email: juankellog@embarqmail. com POC: Johnnie Robertson 2641 Ashwood St. Fort Myers, FL 33901-0910 (239) 265-1509 Website: www.seahog.org/cav/ index.html Meets 4th Sat ea mos from Sept.- May 1:00 pm at Biggys Place, 3701 Fowler St., Fort Myers, FL 33901</p>	<p><b>JUMPING MUSTANGS 1-8 Cav</b></p> <p>Pres: Harvey Auger 4825 King Arthur Dr Charlotte, NC 28277-0052 (704) 321-2011 E-mail: ltauger@aol.com POC: James C. Knafel 5510E - 500 South Columbia City, IN 46725-7621 (260) 244-3864 Email: jjknafel@gmail.com Website: www.JumpingMustangs. com</p>	<p><b>NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY</b></p> <p>Pres: Bob Arbasetti 973A Thornbury Ln. Manchester, NJ 08759-5296 (732) 657-4284 Email: b.arbasetti@gmail.com Facebook: New York New Jersey Cavalry Instagram: NYNJCavalry Meets at Elk Lodge at Cedar and Spruce, Ridgefield Park, NJ.</p>	<p><b>SHERIDAN’S CAVALRY (Greater Chicago Area)</b></p> <p>Pres: Don Smolinski 630-841-1452 POC: Terry Hodous 3718 W 114th Place Chicago, IL 60655-3414 (773) 445-1213 Email: us67-hodo@outlook.com Website: www.sheridansfirstcav.com Facebook: Sheridan’s Chapter 1st Cavalry Division Meets at the American Legion Post #1084, 322 E. Maple Ave, Roselle, IL 61072. 2019 Meeting Dates: Feb 9, April 13, June 15, Aug 8 Picnic, Oct 17, Dec 5 Xmas party</p>
<p><b>COLUMBIA-WILLAMETTE</b></p> <p>Pres: Terry Low 16560 S Harding Rd. Oregon City, OR 97045-9679 (503) 210-5558 Email: tangolima2505@comcast.net Website: www.Hood2Hood1stCav. webs.com Meets 1200 2nd Thurs of ea mos at the Bomber Restaurant, 13515 SE McLoughlin Blvd, Portland, OR. No meeting in Dec.</p>	<p><b>FOLLOW ME</b></p> <p>Pres: Robert Dodson Meets 1900 4th Tues ea mos Veterans Ctr., 1000 Victory Dr., Columbus, GA. No meeting in December.</p>	<p><b>KETTLE MORaine</b></p> <p>Pres: Gordon Weidner 1219 Cleveland Ave. Racine, WI 53405-2929 (262) 637-3835 POC: Robert Richter W204 N11945 Goldendale Rd. Germantown, WI 53022-2321 (262) 628-8056 Meetings held at 3-month intervals with a banquet dinner in Dec when elections are held.</p>	<p><b>NORTH CAROLINA TARHEEL</b></p> <p>Pres: Johnny Parker 10915 Tradition View Dr. Charlotte, NC 28269-1411 (704) 517-5445 Email: shagon19@gmail.com Contact for Membership: Don Gibson 803 McDonald Church Road Rockingham, NC 28379-8529 (910) 417-9104 Email: dtbjgibson@gmail.com Meets 2nd Sat of Mar, Jun, Sept &amp; Dec.</p>	<p><b>WALTER H. WESTMAN NORTHLAND</b></p> <p>Pres: Donald A. Delsing 3697 Gresham Ave. N. Oakdale, MN 55128-3212 (651) 770-5422 Email: dandmdelsing@aol.com POC: James D. Wright 12781 Able St. NE Blaine, MN 55434-3261 (763) 757-7140 Email: 1stCav-MN@comcast.net Facebook: Walter H West- man-Northland Chapter 1st Cavalry Division Association Meets quarterly at different loca- tions. Call or write for information.</p>
<p><b>CONNECTICUT</b></p> <p>Pres: Keith Moyer 48 Boretz Rd. Colchester, CT 06415-1009 (860) 537-1716 Email: kpmoyerco@hotmail.com Website: www.ConnCav.com Facebook: CTCav Meeting info in newsletter and on webpage.</p>	<p><b>FORT KNOX AREA</b></p> <p>Pres: Thomas Ken O’Barr 12210 Valley Dr. Goshen, KY 40026-9501 (502) 228-8032 Email: ko42@bellsouth.net POC: Larry A. Whelan 2103 Winston Ave. Louisville, KY 40205-2535 (502) 439-6454 Email: whelan1@outlook.com Facebook: 1st Cavalry Div Fort Knox Area Chapter Meets 3rd Sat of mos at 1100 at the Barker Masonic Lodge, 705 Main St., West Point, KY.</p>	<p><b>LOS ANGELES/ ORANGE COUNTY</b></p> <p>Pres: John Guillory 780 Mandevilla Way Corona, CA 92879-8251 (951) 278-3740 Email: fisheye1@sbcglobal.net Vice Pres: John Burgner 228 South Hacienda St. Anaheim, CA 92804-2569 (714) 535-0737 Email: jburgner@sbcglobal.net Meets 0900 on 3rd Sat. of mo. at American Legion Post 132, 143 S Lemon St., Orange CA 92866</p>	<p><b>NORTHWEST</b></p> <p>Pres: Gail Porter 6791 Jasper PL SE Port Orchard, WA 98367-9038 (360) 265-6216 Email: Blueplate545@gmail.com POC: William Al Jackson 9703 Vantage Terrace CT SE Olympia, WA 98513 (360) 539-8110 Email: williamaljackson@comcast. net Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division Association-Northwest Chapter Meets 1st Sat of even months, 12pm at Carr’s Restaurant, 11006 Bridge- port Way SW, Lakewood, WA</p>	<p><b>WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON NATIONAL CAPITOL REGION</b></p> <p>Pres: Gene Russell 7923 Jansen Dr. Springfield, VA 22152-2413 (703) 220-5322 Email: enrussell@msn.com Facebook: 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division Nat’l Capitol Region Meets 3rd Sat of the mos Jan-Apr and Sep-Oct 9am at the American Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst Ave, Springfield, VA. Breakfast available prior to start of mtg. Jun meeting is at WRAMC and Nov meeting at the Assn Vets Day gathering.</p>
<p><b>CROSSED SABERS</b></p> <p>Pres: Tim Hodge (254) 718-4533 Email: allabout_insurance@sbcglob- al.com Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division Association Crossed Saber Chapter Stable Calls: 4th Thurs of ea mos, 6pm, various local VFW's. General Membership meeting is 3rd Thurs of Mar &amp; Sept at 6pm, place TBD.</p>	<p><b>JAMES H. UNRUH CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA</b></p> <p>Pres: Michael T. Mazzaro 2600 Willow St. Pike North PMB 231 Willow Street, PA 17584 (717) 389-1000 Email: cenpenn1cda@gmail.com Meets on 1st Tuesday of odd number months at 6pm, at the Lititz VFW Post 1463, 14 N. Spruce St., Lititz, PA 17543</p>			
<p><b>FLORIDA</b></p> <p>Pres: Ferd Gardiner Jr. 2290 W Tall Oaks Dr. Beverly Hills, FL 34465 (407)-473-8407 Email: fgardiner@cfl.rr.com VP: Gill Harris (585) 704-2758 Facebook: Florida Chapter 1st Cavalry Division Association Meets 1300 2nd Tues of ea mos at VFW Post 2093, 4444 Edgewater Dr, Orlando</p>				



1<sup>st</sup> CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION - ALUMNI OF THE FIRST TEAM

CROSSED SABERS CHAPTER SOUVENIR GIFT SHOP

P.O. Box 5774 Fort Hood, TX 76544-0774  
Phone: 254-532-2075    FAX: 254-532-6490

Shop Hours:  
Mon - Fri    0900 - 1600  
Sat            1000 - 1600

E-mail: 1stcavgiftshop@gmail.com

NEW HOURS!

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*The Crossed Sabers Chapter Souvenir Gift Shop is a Non-Profit Organization. Net income is distributed to the Association for the Scholarship Program, to the Soldier Travel Fund, which allows active duty Soldiers of the Division to attend away Reunions as guests of the Association, and to the 1st Cavalry Division Museum.*

*The shop accepts telephone orders with payment by MASTERCARD, VISA, DISCOVER or AMERICAN EXPRESS credit cards or you can order online using your credit cards.*

**Printed Catalogs Are Available For Purchase!**

Send \$3.00 to the ASSOCIATION located at: 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703.  
Make your check out to 1st Cavalry Division Association.

**THE ASSOCIATION IS A SEPARATE ENTITY FROM THE CROSSED SABERS CHAPTER SOUVENIR GIFT SHOP.**

Crossed Sabers Chapter Souvenir Gift Shop

20% OFF COUPON

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Mention coupon code 100120 to receive your discount.

1 per person

Expires: October 1, 2020

Excludes Stetsons & Consignment items

GOT CAVALRY HISTORICAL QUESTIONS

Did you know we have a 1CDA Historian?

Reach out to Terry A. McCarl with any questions, or information regarding 1st Cavalry Division history!

TerryAMcCarl@gmail.com or 402-296-3150

From the  
Director's Desk

Office of 1CDA

WE SUPPORT

UNITED STATES ARMY

SOLDIER FOR LIFE

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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division. "Once Cav, Always Cav.... First Team."

The next *Saber* newspaper is the September/October 2020 edition.

Deadline for submissions of your stories or photos is **Tuesday, September 1, 2020**

Please email to [Programs@1CDA.org](mailto:Programs@1CDA.org)

**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 IaDrang or the Foundation.

**Please Consider!**

**USEFUL VETERAN ASSISTANCE INFO:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**SPECIFICALLY FOR TEXAS VETERANS**

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

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

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

**2020 CALENDAR DONATIONS**

Thank you to our following member who have donated \$100 or more towards our 2020 calendar:

<b>SP-4 VALLEY, William M.</b>	<b>\$100</b>
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Hope you are enjoying your 2020 calendar!

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!**

**2020 REUNION UPDATE:**

As everyone is aware, our original reunion dates were in June 2020 and we postponed the date to October 4-8, 2020. In the current situation of COVID-19, as of now we are still moving forward with the plans for our 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Reunion in Louisville, KY. However, we will make our final decision by mid-August (by then the *Saber* would have already gone to the printers and mailed out to everyone). If we have your registration form, we will call you IF WE MAKE THE DECISION TO CANCEL.

As we are making preparations for the reunion in Louisville, we will have face masks on-hand for our members for an addition safety measure against COVID-19. There will be a requirement for face masks during all meetings, on the buses during transportation, and while walking freely around the Kentucky Derby Museum during the mixer. Essentially, if you are not eating or drinking, you should be wearing a face mask. Louisville, like any other city across the country, is slowly re-opening its doors to the public. They are required to meet federal guidelines for reopening and Louisville is leading the way in a phased reopening that includes expert-driven safety guidelines for lodging, attractions, and venues.


Since 1CDA is a non-profit organization, we rely on the generosity of our members like **YOU**, we ask you to consider a donation to our scholarships.

The Association can only achieve its goals with the assistance of generous donations. Without these donations, serving our Soldiers, their Families and Veterans would not be possible.

**Thank you to our committed & steadfast membership!**

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

A donation to the FOUNDATION of the 1st Cavalry Division Association helps a student achieve their educational goals and is an investment in the future of America.



Attention U.S. Army Infantry or Special Forces Veterans!!  
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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](http://www.cibassoc.com);  
E-mail: [ciamemberapps@gmail.com](mailto:ciamemberapps@gmail.com)

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

## 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



"This We'll Defend." Everyone who was in the United States Army knows this phrase. It's staring at them on their Drill Sergeant's medallion when they first enter. In light

of current events anyone who is trying to alter this country outside of the constitutional process will find there are millions of Veterans who have this phrase ingrained in their conscience and will never let it happen.

I received a telephone call from 1969 MEDEVAC door gunner **Richard Hampsher** who called to correct me on some things in the last *Saber*. I first mentioned Richard back in 2017 Mar/Apr when he called to say that he knew MEDEVAC door gunner Bill Pickle and that they had both made SGT/E-5 at the same time.



1-5 Cav MC CPT Jon Walker

First off, Richard said that James Megehee was not an SSG, but a SP6. Richard said that James was a door gunner and not a crew chief and that he was used to train new door gunners like he was doing with Dave Parks. Richard said James was not sitting next to Dave in the gunner's hell hole, but in the middle of the aircraft and was thrown out with the Medic, SP5 Gary Lee Bowdler, whom Richard said was also new. James may have been training the Medic as well. Richard said

that James was older in age. He was due to go to flight school back in the states.

Richard said that the crew chief called "Lurch" was first name Jim, from North Carolina, and his last name began with an "M." I found a James Minish on a 15th MED Roster. Email to his address returned NG. I looked online and found a valid obituary for James. James "Jimmy" Lee Minish, 70, of Greensboro died Tuesday, October 31, 2017.

Richard said that he ran into Jim at the "Wall" in D.C., and that Jim was as surprised as him to coincidentally meet. Jim wanted to get a MEDEVAC patch. There is a recent photo of Jim on that obit website which is on a slideshow with other photos and I couldn't download. The hat he is wearing says, "15th MED/ EVAC 1st CAV CREW CHIEF/DOOR GUNNER."

<<https://www.georgebrothersfuneral.com/obituary/James-Minish>>

I asked Richard about an individual who suddenly showed up when I was on the ground at the Huey being trained when I first joined MEDEVAC. To my memory he was rather short, had whitish hair, and on his Nomex he had a CIB pinned, so I knew he was a grunt. He also had the demeanor of an infantryman and seemed to be concerned that I get it right. He may have known that I was a Medic just from 2-7 Cav.

It was strange the way he acted. I didn't know what to think of him as I was being trained for MEDEVAC and no one introduced him, he suddenly was there for no reason, acting strange. I emailed Dave Parks years ago about him, but Dave never replied.

I asked Richard if it was Dick Gamester whom I never met but worked the radios in OPs. Richard said that Dick was short like that and had a CIB, so we determined it was him. I never saw him again.

Richard said that Dick was close to the pilots. He was probably a grunt looking out for his own by working the radios in OPs, where I never went to because they were so busy and instilled in the pilots the urgency of the grunts being picked up; that it wasn't just some unimportant job. I'm sure they probably knew that just by being in MEDEVAC, but an infantryman there with a CIB pinned on would impress that.

Richard said that he had numerous Air Medals because Dick took care of that for the door gunners. Richard said something about receiving an Air Medal for every twenty-five missions.

I mentioned I had never received any Air Medal in MEDEVAC. Although, a couple of them in 2-7 Cav for Charlie Alphas, i.e. Aerial Combat Assaults. Even though, I had flown quite a lot on MEDEVAC January to May before Cambodia; and then every day in May and June 1970 when we were all assigned to an aircraft. Everyone in MEDEVAC was assigned and flying during the Cambodian Incursion; not just one crew for each 15th MED company covering each brigade; backups; standbys; and admin flights.

Someone must not have been doing their job, keeping track, or I'm mistaken about the requirements for the Air Medal. I looked it up online and it says, "Per 25 operational flights during which exposure to enemy fire is expected or per 100 operational flights during which exposure to enemy fire is not expected."

I wasn't there for medals, but it would have been helpful to show what was accomplished. I was flying on MEDEVAC to keep grunts alive. I think I, as well as the others in MEDEVAC can say that happened, even if I can hardly remember most of it.

MEDEVAC pilot and 15th MED Assn webmaster Ron Huether always writes: "I'd give back all the medals to have saved just one more life." That's a good reminder.

Richard said that he doesn't use a computer but would get together with his daughter who does and send some photos. That hasn't happened yet. It has to be a lot to ask for someone's time to do all of that.

Richard says he was fortunate and was never shot down. He mentioned an inci-



15th MED MSC LT Tom Garnella

dent when he and probably the crew chief had to go down on the hoist to get to a downed helicopter. I didn't get the details from him. I thought he could more accurately write about that to me.

I found a book on my Kindle Reader from Amazon which is a remaster of Matthew Brennan's memoir all of which I had read many years ago in the original form. The remastering is called, *Flashing Sabers: Three Years in Vietnam*.



D 1-5 Cav LT Joel Chase

Matthew mentions being in III Corps on his third tour and a couple of incidents involving MEDEVAC. But it was he and the Blues that went down to the downed crews, and used MEDEVAC because of their hoist, to extract, if survivors were found.

1st Cav Assn and 15th MED Assn Historian Terry McCarl and D 1-5 Cav platoon leader, Joel Chase posted photos on the 15th MED Assn website of those on FSB David in June 1970 I had written about, included here.

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

FIRST TEAM! Garryowen,  
Mike Bodnar C 2/7 Cav 1969  
MEDEVAC 1-7/1970  
SO THAT OTHERS MAY LIVE

### 39th BCT, AR NATIONAL GUARD UNIT (attached to 1CD during OIF II)

The 39th enhanced Separate Brigade (Light) of the Arkansas Army National Guard was attached to the 1CD during Operation Iraqi Freedom-II. Ron Chastain was the commander of the 39th and also the commander of the AR National Guard.

The 39th mobilized 12 Oct 2003 and moved to Ft Hood on 28 Oct 2003 for mobilization training under 5th Army. At Ft Hood, the 39th transitioned to a motorized, digital force. In addition, the 39th was augmented by the 2-162 Infantry from Oregon, an artillery battery from Rhode Island, a transportation company and a maintenance company from New Mexico, a signal company from Pennsylvania, two infantry platoons from New York, an infantry platoon from Connecticut, and individual military intelligence Soldiers from California and Maryland.

1CD detached 2/7 Cav to the 39th to provide armor. The 39th's 1-153 Infantry was detached to 3/1CD. Also, the 39th's F/202 ADA was detached to DIVARTY.

Before deploying, the 39th conducted its Mission Rehearsal Exercise at Ft Polk's Joint Readiness Training Center.

The 39th arrived in Iraq in late March of 2004, right after the Abu Ghurayb prison abuse was revealed. The 39th Area of Operation included northeast Baghdad and the rural area to the north. Located at Camp Taji were the 39th HQ, 2/7 Cav, 1-206 FA, 39th Support Bn, E-151 Cav, 239th Engineers, 239th MI, and A/28 Signal. 2-162 Inf was in Rusafa, while the 3-153 Inf was in Adhamiyah.

The 39th conducted a transfer of authority with 1/1AD on 24 Apr 2004. After conducting full spectrum operations, the 39th redeployed in Mar 05 and demobilized at Ft Sill.

Below is information about 39th Brigade Combat Team (attached to 1CD) Soldiers that received the Silver Star during Operation Iraqi Freedom II:

#### 1LT Michael McCarty

On 20 Nov 2004, McCarty's platoon was responding to an attack on the Adhamiya, Baghdad police station. The platoon was engaged with small arms, IEDs, and RPGs. A suicide car bomber then attempted to hit the convoy, detonating 20 feet from a gunship, damaging the vehicle and severely wounding two Soldiers. McCarty maintained control, evacuated the wounded, and returned to the battle against approximately 75 insurgents. During the engagement, his vehicle was hit by an RPG, wounding him and two of his Soldiers. Observing a machine gun crew aiming at his vehicle, McCarty leaped from his moving vehicle and charged the machine gun, taking out the 3-man crew. While dismounted, he successfully coordinated ammunition resupply and casualty evacuation. His actions saved Soldiers' lives, destroyed enemy forces, and prevented the capture of the Iraqi police station.

#### CPT John Vanlandingham

On 14 Nov 2004, while leading a convoy of the 307th Iraqi National Guard (ING) between Mashada and Taji, an IED detonated near one of four unarmored ING vehicles. A second IED then detonated in front of the convoy before the convoy was engaged by heavy enemy fire. Vanlandingham's lead vehicle pushed through the kill zone. He then ordered his gunners to provide suppressive fire. He then ran into the kill zone where over twenty ING Soldiers lay wounded in a ditch. While under direct fire, he carried several wounded to safety and directed recovery of the other wounded. His actions saved about a dozen ING Soldiers.

#### SGT Matthew Zedwick

On 13 Jun 2004, Zedwick was a driver in a 4-vehicle combat patrol north of Taji. His vehicle was destroyed by a vehicle borne IED, killing the gunner and severely wounding the vehicle commander. Zedwick was hit by 14 pieces of fragmentation. Despite his wounds, he pulled the vehicle commander from the burning vehicle and went back for the gunner. While targets of intense small arms fire, Zedwick returned to the vehicle commander and pulled him to cover as he returned fire. He was unable to extract the gunner, but he secured weapons and the radio before ammunition in the vehicle began to explode. Still under heavy fire, he returned again to the vehicle commander and provided aide, while continuing to defend against the ambush until they were medically evacuated.

#### SGT Russell L. Collier

On 3 Oct 2004, while on patrol near Taji, SGT Collier's unit was engaged by enemy fire, fatally wounding the patrol leader. SGT Collier, a medic, ran to give aide to the patrol leader and was killed was attempting to save his fellow Soldier.

Ron Chastain, MG (Ret) <[chastain.rs@conwaycorp.net](mailto:chastain.rs@conwaycorp.net)>  
39th BCT CDR during OIF-II



A fond farewell to the late  
Brigadier General (Ret) Arthur J. Junot

September 9, 1929 - May 21, 2020

Brigadier General (Ret) Arthur Joseph Junot died May 21, 2020 in Killeen, TX. He was the son of Arthur John Junot and Carrie Mae Roussel of Port Allen, Louisiana. Arthur joined the Army in 1947 and served for 31 years with combat tours in Korea and Vietnam. Other assignments included Virginia, Germany, Kansas, Washington D.C., Hawaii, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Missouri. He retired to Killeen, Texas in 1978. His many awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, and Combat Infantry Badge. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in General Education from the University of Omaha in Nebraska and a master's degree in Business Administration from Shippensburg State College in Pennsylvania.

Art had many interests and activities both during and after military service. He loved to fly and worked as a crop duster early in his life and in the military earned a master rating in both fixed and rotary wing aircraft. He was an ardent lover of the outdoors. Hunting and fishing took up much of his post retirement activities. He also scuba dived and sport parachuted.

After military retirement he had additional business ventures and he remained active in the greater Killeen and Fort Hood area. Art was employed as the design engineer for Belvest Corporation and Executive Director for the Analysis and Services Corporation. He and Nan formed Art's Cajun Enterprises and performed contract government consulting in military systems. Afterwards he served ten years as the Executive Director for the First Cavalry Division Association. Art was also a licensed real estate broker. Arthur continued to volunteer his time and services to the military and community by serving on the Bell County DWI Task Force, the Regional Airport Group, the Joint Killeen-Harker Heights- Bell County Airport Zoning Board, and two years as the District Chairman of the Longhorn Council of Boy Scouts. He spent many early and late hours seeing off and welcoming Soldiers during deployments to Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Arthur was always a loving husband and dedicated family man. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Clara Ann "Nan" Byram; Debra Fontenot (Chris); COL (Ret) James Junot (Robin), Stephen Junot (Kelly), COL (Ret) Michael Junot (Keely), 8 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. Preceding him in death were his father, mother, brother Francis, and oldest son Glenn Paul Junot. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or The First Cavalry Division Association Scholarship Fund. Special thanks to the staff at Luvida Memory Care, Visiting Angels, and Seaton Hospital for their special care and concern for Arthur and his family. He was laid to rest at the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery in Killeen, Texas on June 2, 2020.

"God bless General Junot and his family! First Team!"  
Dan Bolger, 1CDA Advisory Council

"Art Juno was a leader, coach and patriot who loved Cavalry Troopers and their Families. He served as an example for all of us who had the privilege of knowing him. A great mentor and friend, he will be sorely missed by all 1st Teamers past and present. God Bless Art and his Family. First Team!"  
Joe Peterson, 1CDA Advisory Council

"Art was one superb Cav Trooper. He helped all members of the Association. Proud to call him a friend. He left big boots to fill. The 12th Cav thanks him for all he did."  
Jim Dingeman, 1CDA Advisory Council, Honorary Colonel of the 12th Cavalry Regiment

"Art Junot did a superb job as Executive Director of the 1st Cav Div Association. It was Art who warmly welcomed me to my first Cav reunion. He had an open hand and an open heart. I am sorry to see him leave us for Fiddlers Green...."  
Joe Galloway, 1CDA Advisory Council

"Art was a mainstay of the 1st Cav, humble, unassuming, committed to the First Team. Art provided many of us with sound advice, solid guidance and steady friendship. He will be missed but is looking down from Cav Heaven!"  
David McKiernan, 1CDA Advisory Council

"When Art had something to say, we all listened — he was the voice of calm, measured advice — a steady hand no matter what was happening. It is hard to imagine Cooper Field without Art — for those of us who knew him he will always be there."  
Pete Chiarelli, 1CDA Advisory Council

"Art was a tremendous supporter and friend of the First Team. He could always be counted on to help in any way. A great loss."  
John Tilelli, 1CDA Advisory Council



WE HONOR THE PASSING OF OUR FIRST TEAM FRIENDS AND COMRADES IN ARMS.

VIETNAM T-shirts are AVAILABLE

All shirts are a 50/50 cotton/polyester blend GRAY short sleeve T-shirt with BLACK writing.  
Sizes are LIMITED, We only have 2XL, L and MEDIUM Available

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Front: Cav Patch with years 1965-1972 written above, with Vietnam written across the Cav Baldric  
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Sizes are LIMITED  
Short Sleeve Shirts \$23 ea

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Cash: \$ \_\_\_ Check: \$ \_\_\_ Credit Card: \$ \_\_\_

Credit Card # \_\_\_ Exp Date: \_\_\_

Please Print Clearly

CVV #: \_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

SHIPPING & HANDLING IS FREE

1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION  
12TH ANNUAL WASHINGTON D.C.  
VETERANS DAY DINNER

The William A. Richardson National Capitol Regional Chapter in conjunction with the 1st Cavalry Division Association will host the 12th Annual First Team Veterans Day Dinner at 1900 hours on Wednesday evening, 11 November 2020 at the **Crowne Plaza Washington National Airport Hotel**, 1480 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia. The guest speaker has yet to be identified. Call 703-416-1600 to get your reservations and tell them you are with the 1st Cavalry Division.

- A host bar will be open at 1800 and dinner will begin at 1900 hours.
- For dinner reservations please send \$60 per ticket to the 1st Cavalry Division Association, 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703.
- Full payment must be received no later than 25 October 2019.
- We can accept all credit cards – ensure that your card number and expiration dates are written correctly and legibly.
- Provide your name, address, unit you served with and the name(s) of your guests with your payment.

Tickets will be available for pickup in the 1st Cavalry Division Association Hospitality Suite or at the door to the banquet room.

Wreaths will be placed at the World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam Memorials as they are each year on Veterans Day, 11 November. The ceremony conducted at the World War II Memorial begins at 0900, the ceremony at the Vietnam Memorial begins at 1300 hours, and the Korean War Memorial ceremony is at 1600. Join us in D.C. for Veterans Day.



1CD Honor Guard  
Veterans Day  
2018

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

THE HICCUP - Health Care  
Information Committee Report

A NEW AGENT ORANGE CONDITIONS - Late 2020

The VA released its reasons for delaying presumption on four illnesses connected to Agent Orange. The four new presumptive -- bladder cancer, hypothyroidism, Parkinson-like symptoms, and hypertension -- affect at least an estimated 83,000 Veterans.

In its report, the VA announced plans to delay coverage to await the results of additional research. This decision is puzzling since the National Academy of Science, Engineering, and Medicine's (NASEM) level of scrutiny has been met for the VA to add these presumptive conditions to the list of Veterans' diseases associated with Agent Orange. NASEM's reports stated that bladder cancer, hypothyroidism, Parkinson's-like symptoms, and hypertension fall among the health problems linked to Agent Orange exposure.

What is known is that some Veterans will die waiting. While the 10-year survival rate for bladder cancer is high 77 percent — the mortality rate for in the U.S. bladder cancer is 4.2 deaths per 100,000 people, according to the National Cancer Institute.

This brings the question, can a claim be filed when the Veteran is deceased? The answer is no, but if a claim for those conditions is filed before the Veteran dies, it can be processed.

Bottom Line: If you are one of our 1CDA Vietnam Veterans and you have one of these conditions:

- Bladder cancer
- Hypothyroidism
- Parkinson's-like symptoms
- Hypertension

Then you need to go ahead and file a claim. I know of one case that a Veteran had applied for Ischemic Heart Disease in 1985 but was denied. Then in 2010, when it was added to the list, the claim was reprocessed, and the widow was paid over \$400K, tax free, because of the work of a Texas Veterans Commission Veterans Service Officer. The wife was able to quit her job at Wal-Mart and live a secured life.

12th ANNUAL VETERANS DAY DINNER  
\$60 per TICKET

Wednesday, 11 November 2020

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ UNIT: \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAMES: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ # Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Check: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME ON CARD: \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

EXP DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV # on back: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY & LEGIBLY

Mail to: 1st Cavalry Division Association  
302 N. Main St.  
Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703

You can fill out the above Veterans Day Dinner form and return in the mail or go to our website, <www.1CDA.org> Click on the button to download the form, print the form, fill out and mail with payment to the Association office in Copperas Cove, Texas.

FIRST TEAM



OTHER REUNIONS:

77th Field Artillery Association Reunion, August 18-23. CANCELLED Hampton Inn, Amelia Island, Florida. POC John Moran 937-361-1333 or <john-janmoran@woh.rr.com>.

1st Cavalry Division Association 73rd Reunion, 4-8 October 2020. Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport, KY; Reservations can be made by calling 888-233-9527 or 502-367-2251; Reunion registrations went out with the 2020 Calendar and you can register online via the website <1CDA.org>. Refer to pg. 12 & 13 for further information and for the revised Reunion Registration form.

15th Annual 12th Cavalry Reunion, 13-18 October 2020. Branson, MO Welk Resort, 1984 Hwy 165, Branson, MO 65616. \$89.00 per night includes breakfast for two. \$10.00/add'l guests/room. Make reservations 417-336-3165. Reference 12th Cavalry, GP # 604821.

20th & 79th ARA Reunion, 31 Aug-4 Sept 2020 NOW RESCHEDULED for Aug 30-Sept 3, 2021. Holiday Inn Express 199 East Bay Street Savannah, GA; Hosts are Jerry and Ann Hipp.

A Trp, 9 Cav Vietnam Era Reunion, Sept 2-6, 2020 NOW RESCHEDULED for Sept 1-5, 2021. Albuquerque, NM; POC: Ron Livingston, <rflivingston@msn.com>.

C Trp, 9 Cav Vietnam Era Reunion, Sept 26-28, 2020 NOW RESCHEDULED for Sept 25-27, 2021. Columbus, GA; POC: Pat Bieneman, (859) 771-6342 or <pcbnamin@verizon.net>.



Have your upcoming reunions  
posted here!  
Email to Programs@1CDA.org

## ENGINEER News



**Jesse Crimm**  
4445 Silverwood Ln.  
Jacksonville, FL 32207-6241  
(904) 737-6172  
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**I Don't Want To Hear Your Carping:** about how bad off you are, about how tough a time you had. That's right. You heard me. I am tone deaf to you especially after reading in the May 2020 issue of VFW that Mandy Horvath and Travis Strong, both double amputees and he an Iraqi Vet, made the climb up Pikes Peak to raise awareness of and motivate Veterans everywhere. Actually, climb is the wrong word. Hop on hands is more accurate as you can see from the picture. Ok some upper body strength is called for, but the true strength is mental. "I can do this. I will do this. I have a life to live outside of my denials and excuses."



Get it? Get on with life! Mandy and Travis hopped on behalf of Cars4Heroes, a nonprofit that fixes donated cars for Vets. Obviously, several calls to the editorial staff of VFW magazine to provide the picture were unreturned. That becomes another matter, but the picture is pretty dramatic. Try May 2020 VFW page 17 and call 816-756-3390 to see if you can get a copy.

**FSB Katum:** Ring any bells? **James (Jim) Townsend** of the 595th Eng Co of the 588th Eng Bn is interested in you. No phone given, after two requests, but he responds to emails at

<jtownsend7@hvc.rr.com>. Seems like Jim was pushing dirt around like a good engineer would do in Cambodia. Katum was occupied on/about May 1, 1970. At any rate, looks like somebody in the 595th had time to make some road signs.

**Your Air Medal:** If you didn't get one, you certainly deserved one. Figure how many times you draped your legs over the ledge, pointed your M16 towards the ground, and let the slipstream of the Huey give what cooling it could. Roy Mark of the 229th Assault Helicopter Bn has memorialized his experiences in two books, "Fixing To Die Rag" and "Live by Chance-Love by Choice-Kill by Profession." With some tech advice from LTC (RET) Gary Fowler added, these two books will stir every memory you ever had about flight time in the Nam. These days Roy is on self-assigned duty in Thailand and would tell you his job but then would have to shoot you. So, to save bullets, contact Gary if you have some memories to share about the 229th. Try

<livebychance@yahoo.com> or call 214-537-7493. The books are in print, shippable, and can even be picked up at the Cav store at Ft Hood or at a reunion.

**Speaking of Awards:** Over the years of preparing this column, several of you have asked my advice about getting awards due but missed at the time usually because of clerical oversight or neglect at HQ. You didn't think of it at the time or particularly care but now it sticks in the back of your mouth like an unchewed plug of tobacco. I've got only one word for you, PERSIST. Ya gotta round up witnesses or at least those who say they are and get their statement in writing. You can ask the VA in your area more as a courtesy expecting a slough off. But you never know, you might get a friendly ear. Best bet? Your Congressman. Get your facts. Make an appointment. They all have a local office. Go. Sit. Wait. Don't leave without a commitment from some staffer whose name and phone you get. The staffer becomes your D7 dozer to push things forward. All this is why you should read *Saber* and go to Reunions for the contacts and names you can get. It's up to you.

**In Response to WWII and the Burma Road article an issue back:** **Alan Kimball** replied as follows. "Other battalions building the Ledo Road were the 236th and the 209th Combat Engineer Battalions. My great-uncle was in B Company, 209th. During the fighting for Myitkyina and its airfield in June 1944, the two battalions received orders to deploy as infantry and support Merrill's Marauders. Companies A and B advanced and were cut off by Japanese forces, 85 were able to break out and return. My great-uncle was KIA along with several others on the first day (I have the company morning reports for the period). The fighting for Myitkyina ended on August 3. The remaining 15 of 26 officers and 182 of 522 enlisted were evacuated. There had been 71 KIA and 181 WIA. Information Sources: Company B, 209th Engineer Battalion Morning Reports and an article in the Ex-CBI Roundup from February 1955 entitled 209th Engineer Combat Battalion." Those of you who wish to contact Alan may do so by calling 478-396-1475. Alan went on to say "Thanks for serving as the Engineer lead. I served in the 1st Cav at Fort Hood in the 1/77 FA and after branch transferred me to Engineers, the 8th. I share the *Saber* with a friend at the VA hospital where I volunteer who was in B Co, 8th in Vietnam in 70-71."

**Saber Works:** That's why you should read every word. Take last issue for example where Lorenzo Chavez was admonished to wake up and call his old foxhole buddy. Here is the response from **Dan Shelley**: "Hi Jesse, I wanted to thank you for the follow-up in the *Saber*. Posting the photo of Lorenzo and I was great to see! Good news, Lorenzo took the bait and called me. We have had some great conversations and he is doing well. Living in California (as always), married 52 years, four children and some grandkids. Thanks again for making

this happen. Take Care, Dan"

**Active Duty:** Ft. Hood creeps back towards a "normal" status. Gyms have begun opening for active duty only. MWR activities at travel services, library, tax center and craft centers are open with some commonsense restrictions on occupancy, usage and spacing. On an even more serious note, two Soldiers are missing. If, by any chance you know of Vanessa Guillen or Gregory Wedel Morales contact CID at 254-287-2722 or 254-288-1170. The search continues as this article reached submission time. On a lighter note, the youngest Soldier in III Corps, PVT Megan Jaramilla slashed her saber into the celebratory 245th Army Birthday cake at III Corps HQ.



**2015 Honor Roll:** These persons contributed to this column in 2015 and are thanked as you should thank them because you don't have to read me all the time. Better yet join the 2020 honor roll by contributing even a hello. Robert Drenth, Steve Richey, Scott Smith, Ron Killingsworth, Phillip Blevins, Leo Miller, John Guillory, David Williams, Dennis Webster, Andrew Short, Jack Garmon, Phantom #624, Jason Floyd, Michael Bond, Dara Wydler, Terry McCarl, D9Dozer (never have figured out who he is but he has a computer)

**Just Like a Submarine:** Paul Chumbley resurfaced after a six-year deep dive. Not only that, Paul promised to send us an 8th Eng story. My fingers are crossed which makes it a bit difficult to type this paragraph.

## 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

*Have a question or concern? Please feel free to send either of us questions and we will gladly address them in upcoming issues of Saber!*

I apologize for not getting an article in last issue but with Covid19 our world has been a little busy. I have heard a frequent complaint among active duty and retired Soldiers of "feeling tired all the time, not sleeping well, and nodding off during the day." While these complaints are more frequent in individuals with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, and Traumatic Brain injuries, there are numerous other causes for these symptoms related to our exercise and sleep habits. In fact, lack of sleep can make PTSD worse, obesity, and depression. The frequency and severity of sleep disorders is higher in Veterans than in the non-Veteran civilian population. Traumatic brain injury and PTSD are causes of sleep disorders, but each of those problems deserves a discussion by themselves.

Stress and anxiety in the current work place, or home environment can adversely affect sleep. If one was having anxiety from daily stress, the key to more energy and better sleep may be to develop better coping skills for daily stress. This can be done by visiting a counselor or therapist who specializes in stress management. Exercise programs, yoga programs, relaxation therapy, and meditation can be useful tools in managing stress and result in better sleep and more energy. Cognitive behavioral therapy has shown great efficacy in aiding stress management, anxiety, and treating insomnia resulting from traumatic brain injuries and PTSD.

Developing sleep habits are very helpful. Establishing a bedtime, which one adheres to except for special occasions helps to establish ones circadian rhythm and by establishing that same time routine, better sleep often follows. This also means that one should avoid excessive daytime napping to catch up on sleep.

Obstructive sleep apnea is a frequent cause of not only poor sleep but also poor quality sleep. As we enter the deepest stages of sleep, the patient with sleep apnea stops breathing and awakens. Thus, the patient never completely enters that deep stage of sleep, which is most important for charging life's batteries.

In order to achieve sleep many individuals will self-medicate with alcohol, antihistamines such as Benadryl and other substances. While these substances may allow one to go to sleep, they interfere with the brain/body cycling through all the stages of sleep and so true rest and recovery are not obtained leaving one tired the next morning. Avoid caffeinated beverages in the 2-3 hours prior to bedtime.

The media bombards us daily with ads for pillows and beds to fix our poor quality sleep. So, do we need to spend 2-5,000 dollars on a mattress to sleep well? Those prices are from my perusal of online mattress ads this week. The answer is no. Each person is different, and one should try multiple options and the key is comfort. Find a comfortable mattress at a reasonable price, and do not spend a year's college tuition on a mattress.

This is just a brief overview of some of the issues affecting our sleep. If one does not find a solution in these suggestions, consult a sleep specialist. A good night's sleep fixes a world of problems.

Again, any topics of interest that y'all would like us to explore, please contact us and Shock and I will try to address them. Doc out.

## THANK YOU!

To everyone who has shared their personal war stories. I know your fellow 1CD Association members enjoy reading them. Keep 'em coming! Email to Programs@1CDA.org



## 545<sup>th</sup> MP Co News

**Victor Manuel Alvarez**  
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New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168-8554  
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### The Military Police Corps, Regimental History from May 1778 to Present Part 1

In order to understand the role of the Military Policeman (MP) and woman of today, we must first look back at our beginning. From the first Provost Guards to the present MPs, the history is varied and quite fulfilling in the telling. Join me in this look back into our history.

The Regimental History is added to each day, especially with all the military activity currently on-going around the world. New units have been stood up and famous old units reactivated, the MP School having been relocated three times from Ft Gordon, Georgia to Ft McClellan, Alabama and finally to Ft Leonard Wood, Missouri and new positions added to the Corps such as the Provost Command Sergeant Major of the Army. Since Vietnam where desk sergeants, patrol supervisors and MP patrolmen played a major role in retaking the U.S. Embassy in Saigon, the Military Police Corps has been given a greater combat support role within the U.S. Army and as in days gone by, we are proud to assume whatever responsibilities that are assigned to us. The following historical information was taken in part from The U.S. Army Military Police School Publication "Military Police Corps Regimental History," Fort McClellan, Alabama.

#### The American Revolution Through the Mexican War

Although Soldiers have been delegated to perform police type duties in the military since the beginning of armies, the seed that germinated into the birth of the modern Military Police Corps in 1941 can be traced back to the American Revolutionary War. At the beginning of the Revolution, the Continental Army adopted with little change the forms, titles, and administrative procedures of the British Army including those pertaining to military police. A resolution of Congress on 27 May 1778 established a "Provost" in the Continental Army to consist of the following: a captain, four lieutenants, one clerk, a quartermaster sergeant, two trumpeters, two sergeants, five corporals, forty-three provosts, and four executioners. This force was to be mounted and accoutered as light dragoons; its mission was to apprehend deserters, rioters, and stragglers. In battle, it would be posted in the rear to secure fugitives. The unit soon styled the "Troops of Merechaussee" after the French term for their provost Troops, was organized on 1 June 1778 at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. Of the original fifty-five men in the Merechaussee Corps, one was a captain and two were lieutenants. Forty-three of these men had been recruited in Pennsylvania and they were mostly of German heritage.

During the Revolutionary War, the Merechaussee Corps was utilized in a variety of missions. In 1779, Captain Bartholomew Von Heer, Provost Marshal of the Merechaussee Corps, was instructed to organize a patrol to obtain intelligence of the enemy's movement on the south side of the Raritan toward Amboy, New Jersey. In November 1780 Washington directed the Corps to join Colonel Stephen Moylan and proceed to the Hackensack. They were to secure all its crossings to prevent persons from carrying intelligence to the enemy. During the Battle of the Springfield, a shortage of cavalry led Washington to employ the Merechaussee Corps in a combat role in the vicinity of Springfield, New Jersey. At the Battle of Yorktown in 1781, the Merechaussee Corps provided security for Washington's headquarters which was near Dobbs Ferry, Virginia. In September 1782, the Provost Corps was temporarily attached to General Washington's Life Guard. The Corps was disbanded on 4 November 1783 at Rock Hill, New Jersey. A small detachment was retained as part of Washington's Life Guard to provide security at Army headquarters. It escorted the Commander back to his home at Mount Vernon.

The apprehension, detention, security, and movement of prisoners of war was another minor mission of the Provost Corps during the American Revolution. Prisoners were exchanged for Continental Army Soldiers who had been captured by the British. The Commissary General of the Army was responsible for all prisoners and all prisoner exchanges. Due to the minimal resources of the Continental Army, many prisoners were returned to the British after promising never to resume fighting in the current conflict. Other prisoners, primarily the Hessians, German mercenaries employed by the British, were loaned to farmers, blacksmiths, and other businessman in return for providing them with room and board. After the war, the Commissary General of the Army posted advertisements in local newspaper requesting the return of all prisoners of war so they could be transported to England. Still, many remained as the indentured servants of merchants in Pennsylvania and Virginia.

While the Merechaussee Corps was the major military police-type unit during the American Revolution, other enforcement units also were organized. In 1777, the Continental Army created the Corps of Invalids; and in 1779 another police-type unit was organized by the state of Virginia for prisoner of war duties.

During the War of 1812, and the Mexican War, 1845 - 1848, the lack of an organized Military Police Corps reflected the general ill-preparedness of the total Armed Forces of the United States to conduct military operations. Many politicians in Congress were wary of a strong military and did little to provide for an adequate peacetime Army or Navy. In war, commanders had to marshal citizen militia to maintain a sufficient force. Once a battle ended and the Army relocated, few of the military Troops remained with it. Facing serious shortages of Troops and equipment, commanders focused their resources on infantry and artillery tactics instead of police matters. Article 58 of the Army's General Regulations issued in 1820 did outline the duties of military police and recommended that commanding officers select personnel of superior physical ability and intelligence to fulfill them. However, the article did not require that the men assigned to be military police receive any specific training, and in practice those commanders who established such a force normally assigned the duty on a temporary basis.

Nevertheless, in the Mexican War, the duties performed by modern military

police were not totally ignored. When General Winfield Scott took his army into Central Mexico, he proclaimed a code of martial law in the occupied areas and appointed military governors to enforce it. In Mexico City he also organized four hundred picket Soldiers as a police force to supplement the native establishment. Throughout the Mexican War, units were detailed to perform provost-type duties. For example, after American forces captured Santa Fe, New Mexico, the Second Missouri Mounted was detailed to keep the peace in that city. Likewise, in April 1846, General Zachary Taylor assigned the Second Dragoons to provide small patrols in the around Fort Brown, Texas, to prevent the infiltration of Mexican soldiers in the area. After Mexico City was captured, the central valley of Mexico was in complete discord. Dragoons were used to patrol the area, break up fighting, and impose military law. The Army also utilized a small section of its various units to collect stragglers on long marches, to patrol camps and towns, to enforce regulations, and to ensure that orders for discipline were enforced.

#### The Civil War through the Spanish/American War

During the Civil War national necessity paved the way for the organization of provost units and provost marshals within the Federal Army. The initial influx of northern Soldiers into the city of Washington following the bombardment of Fort Sumter produced pandemonium. With local authorities lacking any effective means of maintaining discipline. Chaos became the order of the day. As the northern Troops moved out of Washington and into the South, so did the lawlessness. Northern Soldiers considered southern property fair game for the taking. Concerned about this problem of disorderly plundering, General Irvin McDowell, the Union Army's first field commander, directed the commander of each regiment to select a commissioned officer as the regimental provost marshal. Each provost marshal in turn was assigned ten enlisted men who would serve as a permanent police force with the sole duty of protecting civilian property from the marching Soldiers. Thus, began the gradual extension of the jurisdiction of the provost marshal system from responsibility for maintaining law and order within the military to also include protection for and control of the civilian population.

The Battle of Bull Run and the resulting retreat to Washington followed on the heels of the creation of this newly appointed police force. While the disorderly Troops from the defeated Union army once again created pandemonium in the city, Major General George B. McClellan arrived to take command of the Army of the Potomac. Appointed to this post on 26 July 1861, McClellan was charged with the immediate safety of the capital and the government. To ensure that law and order were maintained within Washington he assigned a squad of regular cavalry and a battery of regular artillery to serve as the provost guard for the city. On 30 July 1861, Colonel Andrew Porter, 16<sup>th</sup> United States Infantry, was appointed as temporary Provost Marshal of Washington with all regular Troops in the area being delegated as provost guards. Using approximately 1,000 infantry, a battery of artillery, and a squadron of cavalry, Colonel Porter implemented a system of traffic control which required all officers and men to carry passes. Mounted and



Office of the Provost Marshal, Aqua Creek, Va

foot patrols were also used to enforce a 9 pm curfew on all Soldiers. Witnessing the subsiding chaos, a British journalist noted, "The change which had taken place in the streets .... no drunken rabblement of armed men, no begging Soldiers; instead of these were patrols in the streets, guards at the corners, and a rigid system of passes." As the riotous atmosphere of the city subsided, another problem surfaced. A

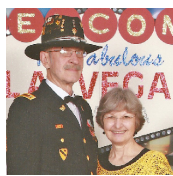
burden-some flow of military personnel and civilians began moving into and out of the city, thereby rendering it difficult to control subversive elements within the area. To alleviate this problem, McClellan issued a new order which placed greater restrictions on the issuance of passes and extended restrictions to the civilian as well as the military population. Having restored order to the city of Washington, Colonel Porter was appointed Provost Marshal General of the Army of the Potomac. The Second United States Cavalry and a battalion of the 8<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> United States Infantry became the provost guard under his command. After announcing Porter's appointment, General McClellan instructed his division commanders to organize a provost guard and to appoint an officer as the provost marshal for each division. Although Porter coordinated the operations of the divisional provost marshals, the authority delegated to them was determined by their division commander. The duties performed by the provost guards included the suppression of marauding and looting of private property, the preservation of order, the prevention of straggling, the suppression of gambling houses and other establishments disruptive to Troop discipline, and the supervision of hotels, saloons, and places of amusement. The provost marshals were also responsible for the following: making searches, seizures, and arrests; assuming charge of enemy deserters and prisoners of war; issuing passes to citizens; and hearing civilian complaints against the military. In the field, McClellan expanded his order for divisional provost marshals and guards to include corps and Army units as well. Although other Union armies also had provosts, they were organized on a more informal basis than those of the Army of the Potomac.

While serving in the field, General McClellan employed the provost marshals and guards to restore order among a mutinous regiment. With Special/ Order #27, McClellan directed that the 79<sup>th</sup> Regiment of New York volunteers return to duty. Furthermore, he directed that the mutiny's ring leaders be punished and that the regimental colors be removed. Instructed to fire on the Troops if necessary, Colonel Porter employed a battery of artillery, two companies of cavalry, and several infantry companies to squelch this uprising. He placed its ring leaders in irons and had the remainder of the unit marched to the front in Virginia.

— 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.

## HQ and Special Troops News



**Ron Killingsworth**  
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Greetings Troopers and families from NW Louisiana. Sue and I wish all of you the best and hope you have “stayed safe” and avoided the virus. Louisiana was hard hit because of Marti Gras but is slowly recovering. It is interesting to watch how the various states and the federal government react to the virus and the conflicting advice we have received from the medical field.

By now everyone should be aware of the changes for the 2020 reunion in KY. I am still holding out hope that we will be able to gather and renew old friendships while building new friendships. If you have never attended a reunion, I suggest you try one. It is one of the high points for Sue and me each year. Hope to see you there.

**Martin Greenbaum** from Lusby, MD, contacted me by email. My column on the Quartermaster field also generated quite a bit of feed-back, which is much appreciated. Martin wrote: “I served with the Cav in Vietnam from **Sep 69 to Sep 70**, in the **2nd Bn, 20th Artillery**, as a 45S20 (Aircraft Armament Repairman). I received my advanced individual training (AIT) at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland. For six months I was enrolled in the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School. We learned what ordnance was used on the Huey Cobra Attack Helicopter. We all wore the ordnance insignia on our uniforms. This Ordnance School is no longer in Aberdeen. The school was transferred or moved to Fort Lee, VA. The museum was also moved there. I believe testing of ordnance is still conducted at Aberdeen. I kept some souvenirs I bought at Aberdeen, including a ceramic stein, a pen shaped like a rifle round, and a match book with a full sheet of matches. Upon arriving in Vietnam in 1969, I was transported to B Battery located at Tay Ninh. For the first three months our unit performed maintenance of the mini guns. Each day we took apart the weapons, cleaned them, and put them back together. At no time did we perform any repair of a malfunctioning weapon system. If we found the part that triggered the mini gun or the 2.75-inch rockets were defective, we didn’t have a replacement part, ever! We had a multimeter and I think we had a soldering iron, but no spare parts! They were never shipped to Vietnam. There always seemed to be two cobra aircraft sitting on the tarmac for want of repair parts. Does anyone out there know why this happened? I have always wondered why parts were so hard to obtain. We had too many of us in that unit and the 1SG found out I could type. He brought me into the orderly room as a clerk-typist for the rest of my tour of duty. I can honestly say that this MOS is one of the best jobs in the Army, except for the guard duty. I still had to perform guard duty every 12-14 days. I also suspect that the supply clerk was one of the best jobs, especially if performed at the PX. Think of all the items you could purchase before the rush of Troopers hit the BX. I did meet the supply officer, a 1LT, in Tay Ninh, a few times. He complained about getting only five or less hours of sleep each night. He was always a ‘walking zombie.’ I thought I had it rough ‘working’ 10 hours a day.”

Thank you, Martin, for sharing your memories. Martin also sent me a newspaper clipping about the secret mission to rescue 65 prisoners of war near Hanoi in November 1970. Some say the mission was a failure (they did not find any POWs there) while others say the intelligence gained from the operation made it a success. Some blame the failure on the weather while others claim it was “faulty” intelligence. Yeah, blame it on the intelligence people! We were always the first to receive the blame when things went wrong and last to get the credit when things went right! (Ron’s comments, not Martin’s.) Martin needs retina surgery if this virus thing ever ends, so remember him in your prayers. He also sent me some remarkably interesting history of an area near him, Solomons, MD. In addition to being part of the largest estuaries in the U.S., it played an important part in the War of 1812 and was a training center during WWII. For more information about the history of this area, visit <<https://solomonsmaryland.com/history/>>.

Martin also wrote about a group of GIs, in 67-70, who were ripping off the AAFES system, including a SGM, but I never heard that story before. If you know anything about this alleged illegal activity, Martin and I would like to hear from you. Martin uses a computer at the local library, so he is without electronic communication during this “stay home” period. I have his USPS mailing address.

I also heard from **Gary Decoteau** who responded to my column about the Chaplains’ Corps. Gary wrote: “My name is Gary Decoteau and I served with the **15th TC 67/68**. My MOS was 71M20 Chaplains Assistant so I was happy to see the information given in the column about the Chaplains Corps. While going through basic training we had a Character Guidance class by a chaplain. When the class was concluding an NCO gave us a brief description of what a chaplain’s assistant duties were and if anyone was interested in volunteering to be trained. It sounded interesting and a couple of us raised our hands. We were contacted later in the day and given an interview where we were asked if we could drive, type and had any problems about using a weapon. One thing we were not told until AIT was that by volunteering we were almost guaranteed to be sent to Vietnam. Chaplains assistants were assigned to work with a chaplain but could also be assigned to other duties based on the mission of the company, battalion and division to which they were assigned. Upon joining the First Cavalry I was assigned the HHC 15th TC and Chaplain Daniels, a Catholic Chaplain. Father Daniels was always willing to visit 1st Cav Troopers wherever they were needed. So, it wasn’t unusual for us to be at LZ’s, Fire Bases as well as An Khe holding services. 1st Cav Chaplains also spent quite a bit of time visiting those who were in hospitals especially Qui Nhon. Traveling down to Qui Nhon from An Khe was always an adventure. On one of my first trips to Qui Nhon Father Daniels had me stop the jeep and said, ‘we have this wrong’, I was the one who had the weapon and should be riding shotgun. Whenever we were out of camp, he usually drove but while at An Khe I drove. I believe the MOS has changed since from the 60s to today. In November of 1967 Father Charles Watters from the 173rd Airborne stopped at An Khe on his way to Dak To. He knew Father Daniels and some of the other Catholic Chaplains and wanted to visit with them. I was thankful I had a chance to meet him and to know he always put those under his care as his top priority. Several weeks later I found out he was KIA on hill 875 and was given the CMOH. I wanted to present a little more information about the Chaplains

Corp and those of us who supported them in Vietnam.”

Thank you, Gary, for that walk down memory lane. As I wrote before, chaplains are a lot more than just religious leaders. I forgot to mention, in my previous column about the Chaplains Corps, that Chaplain (CPT) Emil J. Kapaun was assigned to HQ Company, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cav Div, in Korea, when he performed his heroic acts. Chaplain Kapaun also served in WWII in India and Burma. He was released from active duty in Jul 1946 and returned to active duty at Fort Bliss, TX, in Sep 48. On 15 July 1950, Chaplain Kapaun shipped over to Korea from Japan with the entire 1st Cav Div. You can read the citation for his Medal of Honor at <<https://www.army.mil/medalofhonor/kapaun/>>.

**CPT (Ret) Tom Martin** also emailed me about his tour with the Cav in Vietnam. Tom wrote: “I was pleasantly surprised when I first read, in the *Saber*, an article about the 2nd Forward Support Platoon, Supply Company, 15th S&S Battalion, complete with a sign. Since then I contemplated writing an article. Then I saw Neal Whetsel’s article in the last issue, and I just had to write. Our respective tours with the 15th S&S overlapped for approximately 8 months.

I graduated Quartermaster OCS in November 1967. After jump school and 6 months as a platoon leader in the 582nd Supply Co, Spt Cmd 82nd Airborne Division, I was assigned to the **15th S&S Battalion**, Spt Cmd 1st Cav Div, arriving in country in August 1968. LTC Jorgensen was the battalion commander. I was initially assigned to replace the battalion XO (MAJ Ragan) as OIC of stock control forward at Camp Evans (CPT Singleton was the company commander). When the Division re-deployed to I Corps, I was sent to Phouc Vinh on advance party, as bn liaison to Division G-4 for the transition. I bunked-in with the Div Asst G-4 (MAJ Traficanti (sic) until 2d Fwd Spt Platoon deployed to Phouc Vinh, at which time I became the platoon leader and we initiated the operational mission. After division rear closed on Bien Hoa and Div HQ and 2nd Bde closed on Phouc Vinh, I was assigned to design and build the division Class II and IV supply yard at Bien Hoa. I received some really great advice and “guidance” from MAJ Ragan (Bn XO). I also had two outstanding E7s, SFC Thronburg and SFC Clark, and a great ‘yard crew’ of supply co personnel to concurrently build and operate the project on a 24/7 schedule. By the time I was reassigned, we had 80k tons of material on the ground, 4 each 6,000 lb RT forklifts and 2 ea 10,000 lb RT forklifts with which to move it, and were supplying the division by convoy, USAF aircraft and Army helicopter sling-loads. (At this time the company commander was CPT Manley). We arranged for pallets to be manufactured and provided by the occupants of the “LBJ” (Long Binh Jail).

My next assignment was as acting Bn S2/3. The current S2/3 (MAJ Blundel) had been reassigned to 2nd Bn 7th Cav and a 04 replacement was nowhere in sight! Sometime prior to this, we received a new Bn CO (LTC Perry Broadus). My assignment as acting Bn S2/3 lasted about a month. A new 04 walked in, I introduced him to LTC Broadus and immediately asked to go back to Phouc Vinh and take over the 2nd Fwd Spt Platoon. LTC Broadus agreed, and I got my wish. As far as I was concerned, this was the best job I had for the whole year. I had previously had the platoon during the transition from I Corps. At that time, we had taken our understrength platoon and replaced an entire non-Division QM Support Company. The only part of the QM Company that stayed was the laundry and bath section, which was under control of the 2nd FSE. Our mission was to provide all classes of logistical support (except Class VI) to the 2nd Brigade (Black Horse) and 1st Cavalry Division HQ. We had a really good, hard-working platoon, consisting of dedicated Troops and outstanding NCO’s that were well aware of their critical role in providing the material (Class II & IV, Class III and Class V --- e.g. general equipment, POL and munitions needed for successful division operations). We had 60,000 gallons of JP4, AVGAS, MOGAS and diesel on the ground, which was re-supplied by C-130 and C-123 ‘Bladder Birds’ and some by convoy. LT Whetsel did an outstanding job of maintaining a constant and timely re-supply and flow of POL at Phouc Vinh, Tay Ninh and Quon Loi. An OCS classmate (LT Schroeder) had the 1st Fwd Spt Platoon at Tay Ninh and a LT Stotski had the 3rd Fwd Spt Platoon at Quon Loi. LT Schroeder was a rigger officer and LT Stotski was a POL Officer. At this time the company CO was CPT DiMantova. I had first met him at Natick Labs in Massachusetts when I was a SSG and he was OIC of the Parachute Rigger detachment---small world!

I went back to Ft. Lee for my command time in an Airborne company as a captain and subsequent assignment to the Parachute Rigger School as OIC of the Officer Instruction Branch. I was ‘RIF’d’ as a captain in 1972 and obtained



**Tom Martin at 15th S&S Forward CP**

an appointment as a CW2 and served the next 6 years as an area club officer and NAF administrative officer in Thailand, Germany and Texas. I made CW3 in 1975 in Germany and retired in 1978 at Ft. Bliss, Texas. In 1988 I was advanced on the retired list to highest rank held and retired as a captain. Serving in the 1st Cav was one of the highlights of my career. The officers and men of the 15th S&S Bn were among the most dedicated and mission-oriented people with which I had the pleasure to serve. I know I met Neal Whetsel sometime during my tour. I don’t know if his

‘desk’ was at Bn HQ or at Spt Comd, but just by virtue of our respective jobs and the time frame, it is a logical conclusion.

Thank you, Tom. Tom also sent a couple of “anecdotes” about crazy things than happened during his tour, but I am saving them for another time.

Neal Whetsel sent me some information about the Medal of Honor Heritage Center in Chattanooga, TN, which opened on Feb 22, 2020. For more information about this great center, go to <<https://www.mohhc.org/>>.

Thanks to all for the feedback and write-ups. Stay safe and hope to see you in KY. May God bless you and your families, the U.S. Army, the great 1st Cav Division, and the USofA.



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SP-4 FOX, James  
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CH (COL RET) DONALD D. CLARK  
turned 94 on 7/27/2020

SFC SIDNEY L. PAFFORD  
turned 93 on 7/29/2020

CSM (RET) DOUGLAS B. HAYES  
turned 92 on 8/03/2020

COL (RET) GEORGE G. TUCKER JR.  
turned 93 on 8/11/2020

T-5 FRANK M. KRAUSE  
turned 92 on 8/12/2020

T-5 MICHAS M. OHNSTAD  
turned 94 on 8/14/2020

PFC CHARLES J. MEYER  
turned 92 on 8/14/2020

SGT ROY E. STONE  
turned 93 on 8/15/2020

T-5 ROBERT SKOLE  
turned 92 on 8/23/2020

SFC (RET) BILLIE P. NORRIS  
turned 93 on 8/26/2020

MSG (RET) ORVAL W. KOLDEN  
turned 92 on 8/26/2020

COL JAMES L. HOLMER  
turned 94 on 8/31/2020

Happy Birthday to these young Troopers!



PURPLE HEART FACTS:

On Aug. 7, 1782, George Washington created the award (originally called the Badge of Military Merit) to give to Soldiers for any commendable action. It was only awarded to a few Soldiers during that time and forgotten about until it was reinstated on Washington's 200th birthday, Feb. 22, 1932.

Purple Heart Day was established in 2014 to honor and recognize those who have been awarded the decoration.

The Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration still presented to service members.

Purple Heart Day: August 7

**NATIONAL PURPLE HEART HALL OF HONOR**  
<https://www.thepurpleheart.com>  
374 Temple Hill Rd.  
New Windsor, NY 12553  
845-561-1765

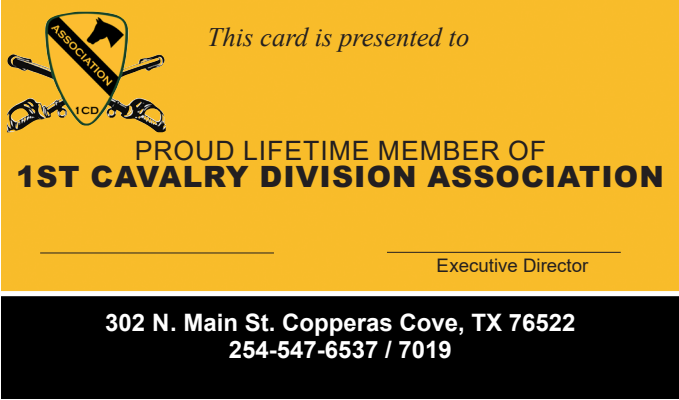


SP4 Richard Maloney, 1<sup>st</sup> Plt 545<sup>th</sup> MP Co July 1967, while on patrol on the old French built railroad bridge over the Lai Gang River in Bong Son, Binh Dinh Province. We were at Landing Zone Two Bits.

Thank you Richard Maloney for sharing your photo with us. You can also read his Trooper's Tale in the May/June 2020 edition of the Saber on page 3.



Replacement Membership Cards



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: \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Print Clearly CVV #: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

If you enjoyed reading the stories in this issue of Saber, consider sending in your battle story to share with your fellow members. Email to [Programs@1CDA.org](mailto:Programs@1CDA.org)

**FIRST TEAM!**



After much anticipation our 1st Cavalry Division Veterans Highway signs were finally erected. Both signs are placed along Interstate Highway 14 (Highway 190), one in Belton and one in Killeen, TX. Unfortunately, due to heavy rainfall, the dedication ceremony had to be cancelled. Please refer to the July/Aug 2019 *Saber* for the original write up on highway sign.

**1st Cavalry Division Association was formed  
in the Admiralty Islands**

**July 17, 1944**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY 1CDA!**

**FIRST TEAM!**