



SABER

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



VOLUME 71 NUMBER 4 Website: www.1CDA.org JULY / AUGUST 2022

THE PRESIDENT’S CORNER

Scott Sjule
1CDA President 2021-2023
1CDAPresident21@gmail.com



Greetings Troopers, I hope all are staying cool and having an enjoyable summer. By the time this prints

I expect that we will have had a successful 1CDA Reunion in Dayton and will be looking forward to the 2023 Reunion in Louisville, Kentucky. Due to the COVID cancellation of the Louisville Reunion in 2020 and unresolved contractual obligations of said reunion, an agreement was reached to release the 1CDA of financial obligation in return the 1CDA would agree to conduct their 2023 and 2024 Reunions in Louisville. So yes, we will hold the next two Reunions in Louisville.

We don’t always get dealt the best hand, but First Team Troopers always make the best of the hand they are dealt! I am asking all Association members to look at the next two reunions as an opportunity to get the most out of Louisville and help them get the most out of the 1CDA. We bring a lot when we come to town. We bring a spirit and camaraderie that many folks have never seen. The experience of our Reunion attendees contains some of the most critical values needed in our Country today. Louisville x 2 should be a pep rally and leave a lasting circle of confidence of our Association, The 1st Cavalry Division and our military. The future will be what we make of it!

I had the privilege having my parents, three of my sisters, and their husband’s attend the Dayton Reunion. They experienced firsthand the camaraderie of current and former 1st Cav Troopers. Bring your extended families to Reunion, it may help them better understand and appreciate their Cav Trooper. Thank you for being kind to my family!

Lastly, 2022 is the 40th anniversary of the dedication of the Vietnam Wall in Washington DC. The entire year has seen many special ceremonies that will culminate at the Wall on Veterans Day. The 1st Cavalry Division has more names on the Wall than any other unit. Please join the 1CDA at the 2022 First Team Veterans Day DC Reunion 9-11 November. Hope to see you in Washington DC!

May God Bless You All...First Team, Let’s Ride!

Respectfully,
Scott Sjule

THE DIRECTOR’S CHAIR

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



This year the ladies and I celebrated Independence Day in Dayton, OH. Celebrations of America’s independence are the same regardless of the state: parades, food, and fireworks. By definition “independence” is the freedom from being governed

or ruled by another country. As you celebrate America’s 246th Independence Day, remember those countries currently fighting for their own special day in history.

The 74th Annual Reunion has come and gone. I do hope that everyone who was able to attend enjoyed themselves and the “Birthplace of Aviation”, Dayton, OH. Dayton was the birthplace of numerous inventions that greatly influenced our daily lives: square cut pizza (who knew?), the pop top, step ladders, ice cube tray, the cash register, baking yeast, and so many more. While it was great to see your smiling faces, we also missed those who were unable to attend.

Now we have our sights set on Louisville, KY and the 75th Annual Reunion. I can assure you I will make this reunion one to remember. This is a June reunion and many of the same events we had planned in 2020 will be in the itinerary. The Ladies Tea will have lunch on the Ohio River, we will plan for the mixer to be held at Churchill Downs, and a day set aside to spend time in the downtown area of Louisville. There you can visit Museum Row where the Louisville Slugger Museum and Factory among many others are located. On Fourth Street you will find a variety of restaurants, retail stores, and entertainment. Louisville is the only city in the world with 10 distillery experiences, a bourbon cocktail & culinary trail, bourbon-themed accommodations, and bourbon-centric shopping. You can start your Urban Bourbon experience on Whiskey Row.

INDEX	PAGE	INDEX	PAGE	INDEX	PAGE
1CDA OFFICE NEWS	16	CHAPTER NEWS	14	NEW MEMBERS	4
1BSTB	3	CHANGE ADDRESS	2	OTHER REUNIONS	20
545th MP CO	21	DIVISION DOINGS	22	2022 REUNION	12-13
7th CAV	7	DOCTOR’S REPORT	17	SABER RENEWAL	2
8th CAV	8	ENGINEERS	20	GIFT SHOP	15
9th CAV	9	HICCUP	17	TAPS	2
12th CAV	6	HISTORIAN	10	TROOPER’S TALE	3
15th MED	18	HONOR ROLL	23	VETERANS DAY	11
AIR ASSAULT COIN/PIN	19	LETTER TO EDITOR	2	VIETNAM BOOK	19
CALENDAR	2	LRRP	4	WANTED	4
CHAPTER INDEX	15				

HORSE DETACHMENT by CPT Abby Edwards, Commander

Howdy all, first, a big thanks to the Killeen Rodeo committee for having us perform at the Military Appreciation Night and we hope y’all were able to come out and see us. It was an amazing and fun demonstration, and the Troopers had a lot of fun performing for the local community.

It’s been heating up here at the detachment and it’s not just the summer weather. Troopers underwent the quarterly B Group Test and it’s my pleasure to announce our newest B Grouper’s: PFC Gonzalez, SPC Allen, SSG Nyswonger, SGT Jammer, and SPC McCord. They have distinguished themselves and their riding skills to have earned their spurs.



SPC Gonzalez, SSG Nyswonger, PFC Booth, SGT Jammer, SPC McCord, and SPC Allen show off their hard-earned spurs.

In addition, we’ve been busy supporting the change of command and responsibility ceremonies with flower deliveries and cavalry charges to truly welcome and farewell battalion and brigade leadership cavalry style. It’s been a busy time as we’ve traveled all over Texas to perform for communities. We celebrated Independence Day with Belton, TX on their 4th of July Parade and then rode down to Lampasas, TX to participate in the Spring Ho Parade. Gatesville, TX hosted its 85th Annual Rodeo where we performed our mounted drill and weapon demonstration. In August we welcome our newest group of trainees as they begin their journey to become the newest members of the detachment.

The Horse Cavalry Detachment is fully open to the public! Please come visit



CPT Edwards & Maverick at the Killeen Rodeo

us at our barn for a barn tour or our Thursday 1000 demonstration at 69007 Trooper Loop, Fort Hood, TX. We love and appreciate the support that this amazing community bestows on us and look forward to our continued engagements and exchanges long into the future. Please check out the link on the Association website to make it easier to request the HCD to support an event in your area. We do ask that you have the request turned in for consideration 120 days before the event so that we have enough time to prepare. Please call (254) 287-2229 or (254) 404-5193 with any questions. Check us out on Facebook (1st Cavalry Division Horse Cavalry Detachment) where we post pictures from the barn and strive to keep everyone informed of upcoming events and ceremonies. We have an Instagram ([horsecavalrydetachment](https://www.instagram.com/horsecavalrydetachment)) as well where we post pictures of the great things our Troopers are doing.
HOT TO TROT!

ADDRESS
CHANGE

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

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

SNOWBIRDS

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

1CDA EVENT CALENDAR	
Nov 9-11, 2022	13 th Annual Veterans Day in Washington, D.C.
Feb 25, 2023	Board of Governor's Hybrid Meeting
June 14-18, 2023	75 th Annual 1CDA Reunion, Louisville, KY
Nov 9-11, 2023	14 th Annual Veterans Day in Washington, D.C.

SABER RENEWAL / DONATION FORM

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

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

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

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

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

LAST 4 NUMBERS OF SSN _____ DOB _____
Rank _____ Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____ Phone (____) _____
E-mail _____
CREDIT CARD # _____
EXP DATE: _____ CVV: _____
TOTAL AMOUNT \$ _____
SIGNATURE _____

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

SABER

The newspaper of the 1st Cavalry Division Association
published during each even numbered month at
302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703
Phone: (254) 547-6537
Website: <http://www.1CDA.org>
www.facebook.com/AlumniOfTheFirstTeam
Dara C. Wydler: Executive Director, firstcav@1CDA.org
Tina Wilgeroth: Program Director / Editor / Graphics
Programs@1CDA.org
Karleen Maloney: Memberships / Scholarships / Chapter Director
Memberships@1CDA.org

ARTICLE SUBMISSION

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:



ANNOUNCEMENT

Dallas A. McNeal
is a 2022 Liberty University class graduate. He has graduated Summa Cum Laude in the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary studies with a minor in Information Systems.
He has been accepted to the Missouri University of Science and Technology into the graduate certificate in Energy Conversion and Transport (Aerospace Engineering).

TAPS

We were notified of the following deaths:
BOHANEK, Trooper Ronald, A Co, 2-12 CAV, 1965-66. 8 December 2021.
BURNETT, COL (RET) Clark A., HHT, 1-9CAV, 1969. 17 May 2022.
COREY, SP-4 Thomas H., C Co, 1-12 CAV, 1967-68. 6 June 2022.
DELANEY, Trooper Patrick J., 1-9 CAV, 1967-68. 26 January 2022.
DeSARIO, SGT Patrick W., A Co, 1-5 CAV, 1969-70. 20 June 2022.
FUJITANI, MAJ Donald, HHB, 1-77 FA, 1965-66. 13 February 2022.
LITTLE, SGT Wayne E., A Co, 2-12 CAV, 1966-67. 10 May 2022.
OAKLEY, CW2 Donald H., D Co, 1-12 CAV, 1967-68 & B Co, 228 AVN, 1970-71. 26 November 2021.
RICHARDSON, COL (RET) William J., L Trp, 3-8 CAV, 1950. 21 May 2021. (Association President 2006-2008)
SCALATO, SP-4 Salvatore M., C Co, 2-7 CAV, 1965-66. 19 April 2022.
SIMMONS, COL Milton E., 1-7 CAV, 1968. 31 May 2022.
SINGLETERY, SGT Claude R., C Co, 1-9 CAV, 1968-69. 30 March 2022.
YORK, SGT Ricky, A Co 1-9 CAV, 1967-68. 4 May 2022.

ACTIVE-DUTY TAPS

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

TROOPER'S TALE COLUMN

was created for our members to
share your photos or long lost 1CD war stories.
Please consider sharing yours!
Send to Programs@1CDA.org
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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.
Consider donating today.



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

Short Rope, Chris Burgess, LRRP/Ranger Legacy Page

Wow! Today was a pretty busy day. We first off got a recon team in contact. We were scrambled to extract them, but after I got there, someone had been injured, so the Med-evac bird took the people out. A few minutes later, another recon team called and said they were in trouble! Again, we scrambled for this, and I was the first there.

The area was very thick jungle with no places to land. So, the decision was made for them to come out on ropes. One of our low Scout birds picked the best area for pick-up. The people popped a smoke and I hovered into the treetops. Out my right lower chin bubble, I could see a dead VC and blood everywhere. This was the first VC I had actually seen dead out in the AO (area of operation). The recon team had killed three at that spot. My crew chief and gunner lowered the ropes, but they were only 25 feet long. I was at the tops of the trees at 40 feet. They said I would have to come lower, so that is what I did.

My rotor started hitting the bamboo and chopping away on my right, then on my left. All the way around! I chopped my way down to about 30 feet. The rotor still seemed okay. I wasn't too concerned about it; I was worried about the guys getting shot at just below me. My gunners said I would have to come down another 3 feet at least. I said, "OK.....!" I started to lower deeper into the trees. My gunner said to move the tail right a foot. I did and hit the tail rotor against a hard piece of bamboo. That was the bad one. My ship began to shake a little now. I wasn't sure we were still in flyable shape, but we were still flying!! I decided I would have to pull out and go for longer ropes. I was able to get one man. He came out okay and no problems. He later said he was never so glad to be pulled out in his life. There were two other birds already in route with 120-foot ropes. So, they had no problem. They did hurt the guys getting them out because they were drug through some trees. Oh well.

Later this evening, I overheard the commander. He said, and I quote, "Mr. Burgess today did not fxxx-up! He did his damndest to get as low as he could with the short ropes he had. I watched him put the man down and he did it like a mother putting her baby to bed and it was an outstanding job." How do you like that! I thought he would be mad because of my hitting the trees, but he said it was justified because of the men on the ground getting shot at. That was a day to remember.

Addendum 38 years later it was just about as I wrote home. I seem to remember that the one guy that was able to tie on was a "surprise." I did not think anyone was able to get the ropes. When we started to pull out, my crew chief yelled, "We got one on." As soon as I realized we had one guy, I did a straight up pull up because I was afraid that I was dragging him through the trees. I remember he said he lost his rifle on the way up through, but he did tell me after I got him back to Saber Pad (Quan Loi) that it was the "best ride he ever had."

Still today I worried that the guys still on the ground were now one man short. That is not exactly the way to get the team out. You want to get everybody at once, I'm sure you know that. If you find the guy that was on the end of my rope, tell him for me that I wished I got everyone. I was thankful to get HIM but have always wondered if the rest got out okay. There were other ships inbound with longer ropes. I am pretty sure it all worked out in the end, at least I sure hope so. I was with B Troop 1/9 Air Cav from 14 Dec 68 to 26 Nov 69. I inserted and "hot" extracted many teams. I pulled a team out on Christmas Eve 1968 near Quan Loi. They were in contact, and it was after dark. I remember approaching the LZ that was marked with a flare. I seem to remember the bad part was the flare gave out when we were on final approach. Of course, that just about makes us "blind." I think this was my first "hot" extraction and when the gunners opened up, they did their little "trick" of letting the expended hot shells from the left gunner's M-60 bounce over my "neck." I was in the left seat. I learned that night to put my collar up next time. I think Christmas Eve was supposed to be a cease fire. By Chris Burgess

My Fun Ride in Vietnam, Chuck Awe, LRRP/Ranger Legacy Page

I cannot remember why, but for some reason I was in headquarters base camp (Evans?). I was hitching a ride back to LZ Pony(?) (our field camp near Khe Sanh) and had been asked to bring the company mail along. The ride was an interesting one from the start. The only occupants were the pilot, co-pilot, door gunner and me. The door gunner suggested that I should probably buckle-up. (A LRRP in a helicopter with a seat belt on?) I had never been asked to do that before, but since he seemed insistent, I complied, and we were off.

The flight was low level with the co-pilots (I found out later neither was actually a pilot) buzzing water buffalos and farmers. They seemed to be having a rather good time of it. When we got to the LZ, they successfully landed and refueled. They then went to land in the helicopter landing area. Since the LZ was still being established there was high grass all over the place. They attempted to land three times, and on the third time their tail prop hit something and broke off. We all know that the purpose of that tail prop is to counteract the torque generated by the main prop. With the tail prop gone the body of the chopper began rotating clockwise. Since we were essentially spinning and bouncing on the ground, I felt relatively safe and had decided to just enjoy the ride. It reminded me of the old Tilt-a-Whirl at the Minnesota state fair. However, the chopper was moving around. It had approached a tree which the main prop struck, throwing the chopper onto its left side.

Frag, weapons, the mail and anything else on the floor of the chopper fell on the door gunner. I was happily hanging there with my seat belt on. That is when the door gunner said, "She's gonna blow." Needless to say, I needed no additional encouragement and was up and out of that chopper, looking back on

it from about 75 feet away, before anyone else was out. The co-pilots seemed to have the most difficulty getting out. I do not think those double across the chest seat belts are designed to be released with the occupants hanging sideways. Well, everyone got out ok, but it did burn.

Our LRRP camp was just over the hill from where the chopper crashed and when I got there, Top asked me, "Awe, where's the mail?" I merely pointed to the black smoke rolling into the air from the other side of the hill and said, "That's the chopper I came in on." When I went back the next day, all that was left was the engine and weapon barrels. I picked up the barrel of my M-16 and turned it in. Though it was, for the most part, a fun ride, I do not think the guys ever forgave me for not saving the mail. Priorities, you know!

1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion OIF / OEF VETERANS

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

SPC Jennifer Pannell
HHC 1BSTB, 2005-2009
JLPannell10@gmail.com

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

This story was submitted, and the names are changed due to respect of the Soldiers involved.



The Gambler 2 element of Route Clearance was conducting a routine mission on 22 April 2007. The team, led by a female SSG, began their mission at 0936 and it consisted of 5 vehicles and 18 Soldiers plus 1 interpreter. The mission was to clear a route just to the north of our base in Iraq. That route was known to be the worst route due to so many IED's and small arms fire on U.S. Troops.

While conducting this mission, command wire was seen, and it was heading to the North. The female SSG deployed the arm on the Buffalo (wheeled mine resistant ambush protected armored military vehicle) so that she could interrogate and dismantle this IED, which was in a prior blast hole. Before she was able to dismantle the IED, a triggerman was sitting and watching the entire time. The triggerman initiated the IED at 1120 which detonated on the team. The blast knocked the SSG clear out of her seat, and she was jostled around the vehicle like a rag doll hitting her head on the roof, windows, and the latch several times. The ignition of the blast disabled the Buffalo arm, used for interrogating and dismantling IED's.



Buffalo: wheeled mine resistant ambush protected armored military vehicle

Afterwards, the SSG noticed the triggerman running away. At that time, the entire team of Security Escort Vehicles and the Gambler 2 element engaged in small arms fire. The Security Element (it was their Area of Operations) that was escorting the team helped detain the triggerman and 2 other Iraqi Insurgent detainees around 1230.

The route had to be cleared for the general safety of others that may travel the route. The head SSG and her team left the area after it was secure and safe. Due to the SSG being hit by the blast so hard, she went to her room and ended up sleeping for 18 plus hours. She was then sent to International Zone (IZ) Baghdad for a CT scan of her brain. She returned to duty a few short days later and back out there conducting missions she loved to do.

This was not the female SSG's first or last concussion during this tour, but this one was the one that affects her daily. Not only does she have PTSD and a TBI, but it has also affected her cognitive and behavior skills and that is who she is today. She is a remarkable NCO that has no visible injuries, but it is the unseen injuries that affect her and a lot of Veterans the most. Some days are good days, and some are not so good. Either way, she says all the time "I wish I could go back there and do the exact same job again today if they would let me."

She was awarded the Purple Heart in 2007.



LRRP/Ranger News



Ken White
3834 Inverness Road
Fairfax, VA 22033
(703) 352-1468
KenWhite68@yahoo.com



Had several calls regarding the last *Saber* column, an expanded version of which will be in the next issue of *Patrolling*. The release of that issue coinciding with Memorial Day was more than appropriate and although my name was on the article – the credit and the story belong to Scott Hancock – thanks again Scott!

Checking to see if there is anyone living near West Point. Lynne Moore’s funeral will be held at the West Point cemetery on 1 August. I am doing my best to be there, but it would be great to have some additional H Company presence. Also trying to get the 75th organization to be represented as well, will keep you posted.

Would very much appreciate more input from H Company sources from which I can put together future articles for both the *Saber* and for *Patrolling* magazine.

For any H Company Brothers that do not currently get *Patrolling* Magazine, it is free to all members of the 75th Ranger Regiment Assn, which all of you are eligible to join. If you are not currently a member, and would like to be, please visit <www.75thra.org> and scroll down the page and look for the “new members FREE” offer. Once a member you will get *Patrolling* automatically. In this issue you will also find information on the “off year” Ranger Rendezvous which was held at Benning from 18-21 July.

Found an interesting bit in the *Historical Occurrences* book, thanks John and Bill for letting me use this information. Although it indicates that this memo came from Department of the Army, I remember writing this as part of a regular “Operations Report/Lessons Learned” submission I was required to provide the G-2/S-2 every quarter. The bulk of the report provided a synopsis of the missions that were completed during that period and what those missions accomplished. The last part was always a summary of “lessons learned.” Thought it would be interesting to look back at the lessons learned part (numbered bullets below) – sort of a blast from the past.

1. “It has been found while using command detonated ambushes, after engaging the enemy with claymore mines, small arms fire should not be utilized at the same time. With the number of automatic ambushes used in the A/O it has been found the enemy will enter the kill zone after the claymores go off if friendly troops are not thought to be close by. When the enemy enters the kill zone to retrieve their dead or wounded, small arms fire should be place on them immediately by friendly troops.”

Note - Having spent 6 months as a grunt PL prior to my time with H Company, it was standard to set up automatic ambushes a few hundred meters from your NDP especially if that NDP was near a trail. These would function as early warning that there was enemy activity close by and in some cases result in body count. They were far enough away however that it would not normally result in a platoon size contact because by the time we could react to the ambush site the enemy was gone along with all their casualties. To my knowledge all grunt platoons with the Cav employed this type of tactic (although not exactly sure when this tactic was first employed) and the VC/NVA were aware of what they were and responded accordingly. To be clear, with our teams - we never at least

to my knowledge, used automatic ambushes but benefited from the resulting situation set up by the grunts.

2. “When operating in lightly vegetated areas it has been noticed that the smaller the unit, the more likely of success. In some extremely light areas of vegetation, a 2–3-man command detonated ambushed during the daylight hours are successful.”

Note – I realize that the memory is not what it used to be – but I do not remember writing this, and frankly never remember having a 2–3-man team?

3. “It has been found the emplacement of claymore mines within one foot of the trail or road enhances the chances of a larger more successful kill zone.”
4. “It is more feasible to run four-day missions rather than the normal five-day missions during the rainy season. That is due to the extensive exposure of patrol members and commo equipment to the rain.”

Note – 3 and 4 kinds of “no brainers”

5. FM communications were the major drawback to expand the Ranger operations. We feel by employing the AN/PRC 74 and the AN/GRT 106 rather than the 77 and the 524 it would be possible to increase many fold the present area of operations (AO) and maintain operations in areas currently considered no communication (commo) areas.

Note – I remember experimenting with AM rather than FM signals, but for the duration we were stuck with line-of-sight commo. This required radio relay stations on the top local mountains where signal guys had huge antennas and other equipment that would allow us to maintain commo with teams in their A/O. In some cases, I remember relying on Air Force forward air controllers (call sign, RASH, and a number) that were airborne constantly allowing us work in AO’s that typically had bad or no commo capabilities.

6. During a McGuire Rig extraction, it should be mandatory for at least one member of the Ranger Company to accompany each aircraft. We believe that this is necessary as Ranger personnel were trained in rigging the aircraft and the use of the McGuire rigs, whereas the Aviation personnel were not. The Ranger on each aircraft should have a radio and flight helmet so he could maintain constant communications with both pilot and team.

Note – when I was in the rear (which was more time than not, although I was adamant that all officers went to the field regularly as Team members) I was always on one of the birds during a McGuire rig extraction and another officer or Ranger on the 2nd if available. I do not ever remember NOT having Ranger company personnel on board to oversee extractions at least from the end of ’70 until I left in the summer of ’72. I also remember ensuring that our ropes were properly daisy chained and packed with the appropriate weighted object to ensure proper deployment when needed. McGuire rig extractions were typically used when a situation was critical. I remember always being thankful for pilots who in some circumstances would sit and hover while green tracers were flying everywhere until our guys were hooked up. Thank you 1/9th and others.


That is it for this issue – please get with me for input into future columns!

Pete
RLTW
“For those who’ve fought for it – life has a flavor the protected will never know”

NEW MEMBERS

E-4 BARBOSA, ANDRE MD A 1-4C
LTC BUTLER, TIMOTHY PA HHC 1-3BEB
SP-4 FEIGHT, WILLIAM T. MI B 2-5C
SSG FREDRICK, PATRICK MI C 1-227AVN
MAJ GRIFFITH, AARON TX HSC 2ABCT
E-4 HERNANDEZ, MARK CA A 2- 8C
SGT HOLLIS, DON TX 1-7C
MR. HUMPHREYS, LARRY IL E 1-7C
SGT HUOT, HENRY JR. MN 1-7C
CPT JONES, RAYMOND TX HQ 1-2BDE
2LT LAVIN, THOMAS F. TX HHBN 1-82FA
SP-4 MARQUEZ, MARIA CA 1CDH
MR. MEDLOCK, RALPH GA DISCOM
PFC MEJIA RODRIGUEZ, STEVEN TX A 115BSB
SFC MITCHELL, MARQUAVIS TXA1-8C
SFC MUNOZ, JOSE TX HHBN 1CD
E-4 NENICHKA, WILLIAM MD B 13SIG
SFC PALMER, MARIE TN 1-312MI
SPC PEOPLES, JACOB TX D 1- 91BEB
MRS. PEOPLES, TIFFANI TX 1442 ASSOC
1LT PERINON, DION D. TX 1ACB
2LT PITTS, DARREN PA HHT 1-5C
SSG ROBBS, JOSHUA VA HQ 3-8C
SGT SMITH, ISAAC NM A 1-77FA
SFC SOLIZ, ERIK TX 1-215BSB
SFC TAIJERON, EDWARD I TX HHC 2-8C
PFC TRAORE, LAMOUSA NY HHBN 1-DIVARTY
SP-4 VALDEZ, JAVIER TX HCD 1-1CD
LTC WELLOCK, MICHAEL M. TN CDR 2-7C
MR. WHITESIDE, ROBERT OH D 2-12C

WELCOME to the 1CDA TEAM!



Anyone who served within the
1st Cavalry Division
YOU earned the right to be a part of the elite
1ST CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION!
Are your battle buddies members?

WANTED:

REQUEST INFO FROM MEDICS

I’m a historian with the Army Medical Department, at Fort Sam Houston. I’m interested in writing about medical support at LZ X-Ray and wanted to get in touch with some of the medics because the documentation is very skimpy. My email is <william.s.marble.civ@army.mil> and my desk phone is 210-221-9098.

Many thanks,
Sanders Marble

8-11 MARCH 1969 ATTACKS AT LZ GRANT

Dan Gustafson and I (Jim West) were the Pathfinders (Blackhats) on LZ Grant during the attacks of 8 Mar 69 and 11 Mar 69. We are searching for anyone who was there during the attacks and has recollections to share. We were primarily charged with communicating with air support and medevacs, positioning landing lights and guiding in the medevacs. If you have any information to share, particularly about Pathfinder actions during those attacks, please contact Dan Gustafson at <gustafson49@hotmail.com> or me, Jim West at <cavman19@comcast.net>. Thank you.


MELVIN LEE, KIA APRIL 6, 1969

I am David Marthers. I’m trying to locate anyone that served with Melvin Lee in Vietnam. Melvin was KIA April 6, 1969, in Tay Ninh province. The Pacolet Lions Club is working on having an intersection named in Melvin’s honor. Please contact me if anyone knew Melvin. Thank you, David Marthers, 864-431-3798, C 4/9 25th Inf Div, 1969-70.

LOOKING FOR A LONG LOST BATTLE BUDDY?

If you have been searching for someone that you served with within 1st Cav, try posting it here.

Submit requests to
<Programs@1CDA.org> for the next
Saber!



1st Cavalry Division to Lead Army in Restructuring Division-Level Combat, David A. Bryant, Killeen Daily Herald

After two decades of small-unit combat during the War on Terror, the threats from peer or near-peer adversaries such as Russia and China have necessitated the Army return to the days of large-scale combat operations. And the 1st Cavalry Division is leading the way for the Army in what those large-scale operations will look like. By 2028, when the restructure is complete, the division is expected to grow from its current 19,500 Troopers to roughly 22,000.

"During the Global War on Terror, the brigade combat team was our primary unit of action," said MAJ Tim Watts, a 1st Cavalry Division spokesman, in response to a Herald query. "As a response to emerging threats, the Army is refocusing on the division as the unit of action. By 2028, the Army plans to consolidate some assets previously allocated to brigade combat teams. This includes division artillery, the reorganization of the division sustainment brigade and the creation of the division cavalry to serve as the eyes and ears of our units of action."

"The division will increase in size with the addition of the extended-range cannon - artillery and the short-range air defense battalion - the growth of the division artillery staff and the addition of the protection brigade."

According to a presentation given to the Copperas Cove City Council on June 21 by Keith Sledd, the executive director of the Killeen-based Heart of Texas Defense Alliance, the new protection brigade will consist of units such as engineers, military police, air defense artillery and a chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear unit, along with support.

"The 1st Cavalry Division will be an armored division designed to breach enemy lines," Sledd, a retired Army colonel, said. "They will prepare the battlefield and allow other divisions to advance. There will be a lot more engineers, giving the ability to prepare that breach."

The armored division had originally been called a penetration division, but the Army decided to change the name, Watts said. The division will gain a full engineer brigade, and each of the armored combat brigades and the protection brigade will have an engineer battalion, he said. An additional capability that will be added to the division is a bridging company, an engineer unit designed to move the division across rivers.

"The division also added an air defense battalion, which was activated this year. The bridging unit is scheduled to be activated in fiscal year 2023 and a long-range cannon (field artillery) battalion is scheduled for fiscal year 2024," Sledd said. "That will add about an additional 1,200 Troops and potentially up to 1,800 family members."

The division's current structure has three armored brigade combat teams, an air cavalry brigade, a sustainment brigade and support battalions for the division headquarters and the artillery battalions, he said. The combat brigades each have an artillery battalion and a cavalry scout squadron.

Once restructured, the artillery battalions will consolidate into their own brigade, he explained. The scout squadrons will be reduced to a Troop for each brigade and form a division-level squadron - which will add a surveillance company with long-range reconnaissance capabilities - while the combat brigades gain an engineer battalion and a projected robot combat vehicle company.

Other than the new units already expected - called new builds because they are freshly stood up for the first time - it is not yet known where the units to fill the additional protection and engineer brigades will come from, he added.

"They could be new builds, or they could be pulled from other units on Fort Hood or from around the Army, but we don't know," Sledd said. "Until (the Army) figures out what it's doing, we won't know. It's still a work in progress. Some units could come from the National Guard."

One of the reasons the vision to form what will become the largest division in the Army is not yet set in stone is a lack of experience in large-scale combat operations at the division level due to 20 years of brigade-level insurgency operations, he said. Another reason is fewer Troops in the Army, due to difficulties in recruiting new Soldiers. The Army is currently authorized 485,000 active-duty Soldiers for fiscal year 2022 - that number will drop to 473,000 in fiscal year 2023.

It will be the smallest active-duty Army the United States has had since 1940, he said. While the 1st Cavalry Division will be the largest division in the Army due to its status as an armored division, it will not be the only new concept for divisional organization, Sledd said.

There are four other models that will be stood up for large scale combat operations against near-peer adversaries.

HEAVY DIVISIONS

Primarily infantry driven, heavy divisions will likely constitute the bulk of the U.S. Army's armored forces, according to a presentation of the likely makeup of division organization put together by Sledd. It will consist of a maneuver element with two armored brigade combat teams and a Stryker brigade combat team. Each of the brigades will have a full armored cavalry squadron.

A fires element will consist of an artillery brigade with two field artillery battalions equipped with M109A7 155mm self-propelled howitzers and a field artillery battalion equipped with the truck-mounted Next Generation Howitzer 155mm self-propelled howitzer. The combat support element includes an engineer battalion and a protection brigade.

The division will also include a sustainment brigade and a heavy aviation brigade of attack, assault, reconnaissance and unmanned aerial vehicle aircraft.

LIGHT DIVISIONS

The light divisions will also be infantry, accounting for the majority of the non-airborne/air assault infantry brigade combat teams. The maneuver element will consist of three infantry combat brigades and one tank battalion.

The fire element will consist of an artillery brigade, combat support will have an engineer battalion and protection brigade, and the division will have a sustainment brigade and a light aviation brigade of attack, assault, reconnaissance and unmanned aerial vehicle aircraft.

JOINT FORCIBLE ENTRY DIVISION-AIRBORNE

Similar to a light division, the joint forcible entry division-airborne will primarily focus on airborne operations. Other than airborne qualification, the main difference from the light division is the inclusion of a divisional cavalry squadron.

JOINT FORCIBLE ENTRY DIVISION-AIR ASSAULT

The joint forcible entry division-air assault is the heliborne counterpart to the

Continued to pg. 17

Kaneshiro Becomes 44th Medal of Honor Recipient of the 1st Cavalry Division by MSG Miriam Espinoza

FORT HOOD, Texas — President Joe Biden awarded the Medal of Honor to SSG Edward N. Kaneshiro on July 5, 2022, during a ceremony at the White House in Washington D.C. Kaneshiro, now the 1st Cavalry Division's 44th Medal of Honor recipient, was assigned to C. Troop, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment during the Vietnam War.



Kaneshiro's medal was presented to his son John Kaneshiro, who followed his dad's footsteps joining the Army as a non-commissioned officer and reaching the rank of MSG before retiring.

John, who was only four months old when his father deployed to Vietnam, said it was the shared experience of wearing the uniform of the United States that helped bring him closer to his father, who he did not get an opportunity to know while growing up.

1st Cavalry Division's command team — MG John B. Richardson IV, commanding general, and CSM Shade Munday, division command sergeant major — attended the ceremony to support Kaneshiro's family and honor his service and sacrifice.

"It's an honor to be here in support of the Kaneshiro family and to represent the 19,000 Troopers from the 1st Cavalry Division during this historic moment," said Munday. "His heroic actions will inspire the division's young Troopers, past and present, to be better than they were yesterday and to lead by example as SSG Kaneshiro did when he was called upon to defend his country."

During a mission in the Kim Son Valley, Vietnam, in December 1966, Kaneshiro's unit came under fire from North Vietnamese troops. Kaneshiro crawled forward to attack, using six grenades and an M16 rifle. His brave actions saved the lives of U.S. Soldiers and resulted in success for the next mission of Army forces.

"Our vision in the division is to have a fit, disciplined, well trained, cohesive team trained to fight and win our wars," said Richardson. "And what SSG Kaneshiro did for us is role model that, he put those words into actions."

Kaneshiro's daughter, Naomi Vioria, who was 10 years old when he deployed to Vietnam, said growing up without a father and seeing the effect on their mother was difficult. However, she is proud of their father's display of courage and determination during combat in Vietnam.

Following the White House ceremony, Kaneshiro was inducted into the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes during a ceremony on July 6. Naomi was presented with a portrait of her father along with the Medal of Honor flag. Several key



defense department leaders attended the including Secretary of the Army Christine Wormuth, Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin, Vice Chief of Staff of the Army GEN Joseph M. Martin and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff GEN Mark A. Milley.

During her speech Wormuth said "In the moments that mattered most, these men made the choice time and time again to step forward, they

reached deep into their personal reserves of faith, values, and training and in the most dangerous situations they mustered the strength to prevail."

Kaneshiro served as a squad leader as part of the Blues unit, a unit that took the flight to the enemy. When the enemy was drawn out of their hiding spot, his unit was called to go in and look for the fight.

After months of intense fighting and countless acts of heroism, Kaneshiro was ultimately killed by the enemy in March 1967.

Kaneshiro left behind his wife Mitsuko, and their five children. Mitsuko passed away on April 10, 2022, less than three months from the Medal of Honor presentation, she was 90 years old.

"SSG Kaneshiro showed courage and strength in an incredibly dangerous situation, said LTC James Ray, commander, 1-9 CAV. "His acts of heroism and gallantry serve as an incredible example. We are grateful for his sacrifice and bravery."

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE MEDAL OF HONOR:

The Medal of Honor is awarded to members of the armed forces who distinguish themselves conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of their own lives above and beyond the call of duty while:

- engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States;
- engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; or
- serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party.

The meritorious conduct must involve great personal bravery or self-sacrifice so conspicuous as to clearly distinguish the individual above his or her comrades and must have involved risk of life. There must be incontestable proof of the performance of the meritorious conduct, and each recommendation for the award must be considered on the standard of extraordinary merit.

12th CAV News



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



Salute-Semper Paratus! When this issue hits your mailbox, the 74th Annual Reunion will have come and gone. Many will be making reservations for the 75th Reunion to be held in Louisville, KY, 14-18 July 2023.

If we missed you in Dayton we will see you in Branson, MO, 7-11 September 2022 for the 17th Annual 12th Cavalry Reunion, to be held at Branson Hillside Hotel-Timber Ridge Lodges, formerly (The Welk Resort) at 1984 State Highway 165, Branson, MO. Room rates, \$119.00 plus tax, two/room, includes daily breakfast buffet. Wednesday 9/7-Welcome Patio Cook Out at 6 pm-\$23/person; Thursday 9/8-#1 Hits of the 60s 2 pm-\$28 each, 12th Cav has VIP seats, first three rows in all sections (all new show- don't miss it)! After all, they are extended family, celebrating their 20th year and a good time will be had by all! Saturday 9/10 6 pm- Saturday Night Live Banquet- \$45 each-choice of prime rib or salmon with trimmings.

There are 70 rooms available in our block, reservations should be made ASAP-NLT 10 August-call 1-800-808-9355-refer to 12th Cavalry Group. You can download the registration form for the reunion from our web site <www.12thCav.us>. If you cannot download from there call Fred Wilson 740-331-1814, Tom Paoli 630-802-1950, or Thomas Crabtree 432-853-4851. Same management team is in place at the hotel, and we will receive the same great service they have given us the past 12 years-see ya'll there! We will determine future direction for the reunion in our usual Saturday morning meeting 9/11.

Recently, I received a notification from **MAJ (R) Raymond Welch**, C 2-12 1965-66 about an award available to those interested, to wit: In accordance with Section 1084 fiscal year 1998 Defense Authorization Act, the Secretary of Defense approved awarding of the Cold War Recognition Certificate (CWRC) to all members of the Armed Forces and qualified Federal Government Civilian Personnel who faithfully and honorably served the United States anytime during the Cold War Era defined as September 2, 1945 to December 26, 1991.

To receive this certificate, one must submit supporting documentation for proof of service and can be acquired from this site <https://www.hrc.army.mil/content/905>, the only official site for this certificate operated by the United States Army, the executive agency for CWRC Program. Acceptable documentation is any official government or military document with recipient's name, social security number, military service number of foreign service number and date of service to include DD 214. Application can be downloaded from <https://www.hrc.army.mil/asset/13546>. Print the application, complete applicable fields and fax or mail supporting documentation to:

Commander, USAHRC
Cold War Recognition program
ATTN: AHRC-PDP-A, Department 480
1600 Spearhead Division Avenue
Fort Knox, KY 40122-5408

You can also email your application to <usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.tagd-awards@army.mil>. If you cannot download the application from the site indicated in previous paragraph, you may submit a personal letter with supporting documentation to the above address. Be sure to include this phrase, "I confirm my faithful and honorable service to the nation during the cold war era." Due to interest by former service personnel, allow two months for agency response or certificate to be sent. Thank You MAJ Ray for this information!

Received this communication from Trooper **James F. Breen**, D 2-12, 1966-1967: "Enjoyed your column in the May/June issue of the *Saber*. I was happy you did an obit on our mutual Skytrooper brother Ken Houser, Jr., your predecessor of the 12th Cavalry column. I emailed him several times when he announced his serious illness. ALS is a killer, no doubt. I only met Ken once at the Minneapolis Reunion in 2010. But I always kept contact with him. Your column was very involved and researched. Good Job!" Trooper Breen. He further said, "But you and I fought for our right to disagree."



Me? I hate the entire commie country of Vietnam. Bitter? I HAVE my right to be. The part of your article about the commies digging up mass graves to send them to their families, as a lifelong Catholic (I am 74) I should be touched. But the way those Central Highlands people, mostly so-called civilians set scores of booby traps, land mines and God-awful tiger pits and pungies? They were not the V.C. or the NVAs. They were trained to do these barbaric things."

"Oh, and about that huge battle at LZ Bird? Total lack of commo on that one. Not yours, the Army's. I fought with Delta Company, 2/12th Cav. I was still up in that area. We never heard of that nasty battle. I guess we were too busy fighting the hard cores ourselves in different areas. I took three 7.62mm rounds to my left thigh as I tried to revive one of my friends after he took one in the head. This was during the 1967 commie violation of the TET truce. Not the 1968 incursion that made the news. I was in various military hospitals. Air Force, Navy, and many Army ones for 15 nonstop months. Long, boring story. But you do a great job. I always go first to your column."

"I will be taken to the hospital tomorrow to get jump started since I am in A-fib. Again, long story. I emailed Karen Houser again last night but no answer. Ken will be missed. Your fan, Jim Breen, Machine Gunner, D 2/12th Cav, RVN 1966-67."

Trooper Jim: Thank you for your compliments and interesting, insightful input, told from your vantage point as a Trooper in the real mix of the war. To all our Troopers, this kind of feedback and input is what our columns are about. I think that I speak for all of us who write these columns-this is how the truth, facts, and real history is told for succeeding generations of Soldiers, families, and the public. Not by third and fourth echelon remote observers or hearsay. If you want to provide your story or input, DO NOT hold back, thinking that it is not worthy or may be boring. It is your story. You lived, survived, and earned the right to it! If we do not tell the story, it is lost in the dung heap to be distorted by

self-anointed pop culture gurus or ivory tower deluded intellectuals. And, of course, we appreciate the occasional compliments. Not to pat ourselves on the shoulder, it inspires us to reach higher to provide something factual, accurate, and worthy of your time to read. Send us your stories, we welcome stories from Troopers of all eras-Semper Paratus!

STANDDOWN: 1-12 Cavalry cased colors and closed out its RVN in-country experience 17 June 1972 with a Stand Down Ceremony at Bien Hoa. That was the 197th anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill, and that was the name of the final FSB, built on the Dong Nai River, and the final SFB built in-country. Fifty years have passed since our contribution to the effort ceased. CSM Samuel Hayes and I returned the colors to Fort Hood. COL (R) Stan Tyson, then Battalion Commanding Officer commemorates this event with his memories. "My first tour in Vietnam 1966, was with 3d Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, in the Central Highlands west of Pleiku. I was a MAJ and Executive Officer of 2d Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment. My second tour began August 1971. I served with 3d Brigade, 1st Air Cavalry Division (Separate). As a LTC, commanded the 1-12 Cavalry Regiment, one of four combat battalions in the Brigade. 1-12 operated in war zone D, a heavily forested area in a "free fire zone" (no civilian villages or activity within my AO) about 500 square miles of jungle in the south and mountains in the north. Under my command the first FSB built, was FSB Gibraltar, on a rise of ground north of the Song Dong Nai and about 10,000 meters (six miles) east of the Song Be.

Strength of an FSB was significant with one full infantry company and three supporting 105mm artillery pieces manned by the battery attached to each infantry battalion. 105s could provide supporting fire to the infantry companies on search and destroy missions anywhere within a diameter of about 12 miles. Late March '72, two 155mm pieces were added to FSB Bunker Hill which increased the width of the circle covered another twenty miles. FSB Bunker Hill was the last US FSB built in South Vietnam occupied by 1-12 Cavalry, before remaining combat Troops were returned to the United States.

As one Soldier informed a visiting VIP, our mission was "To kill, capture, or run the B*****D* out of our AO." My Soldiers took their job very seriously!

This is my tribute to the final stand down, before departing to return home, titled, *Misty Jungle Rivers, Vietnam 1971-72* by Stan Tyson-August 2019

I stepped off the plane at Tan Son Nhut, in August, 71,

My second tour in Vietnam officially had begun.

My wife and kids were safely at home, in Franklin, Tennessee,

And I was half a world away, with the U.S. Cavalry.

The country hadn't changed that much, while I had been away,

And jungle green and monsoon rains were there to make each day.

A little more demanding, while I served command,

Of a Cavalry Battalion in the wilds of Vietnam.

The jungle was primeval, where maps marked war zone D,

And sunlight had to force its way, through triple canopy,

Night sounds came from unknown things, not seen in the light of day,

North of the Song Dong Nai, and east of the Song Be.

Monsoon rains would swell the blues, then quickly turn to steam,

And soldiering in the jungle was worse than any dream.

Where bamboo groves and jungle growth grew thick as tangled hair,

And somewhere in the midst of that, "Charlie" had his lair.

My home was on Gibraltar, a Fire Base in the green,

With earthen berms and tanglefoot and Claymore mines between

Bunkers manned by Soldiers, with rifles standing tall,

Should "Charlie" leave his hiding place, to make a social call.

Our mission was to search him out, wherever he might be,

And if he chose to stand and fight the U.S. Cavalry,

To make him curse the fateful day he ever raised his hand,

Against the peaceful people who survived in Vietnam.

But if he chose to cut and run, as usually was the case,

To make his life a living hell, and not give up the chase.

But follow him with shot and shell to speed him on his way,

Across the Song Dong Nai, or west of the Song Be.

The days were long as months rolled by, with many much the same,

A blend of mud, of sweat and blood, and things that had no name,

The Soldiers shared a single prayer, to survive until they heard,

They leave from Tan Son Nhut, aboard a Freedom Bird.

Most Soldiers home from combat seek lives they left behind,

With folks and friends and ones they love, and chances to unwind.

Still memories will linger on of a world so far away,

And misty jungle rivers-the Song Dong Nai and the Song Be.

FIDDLERS GREEN: No reports of Troopers crossing over since last column.

I thought I was on my way there last week of April through end of May. Was hit with intense abdominal pain, blood pressure readings 215-230 over 105-115, couldn't eat, needed to throw up and pass off accumulated gunk in my system but couldn't do either. Had fever and body was cold throughout all of this, when on 23 May pain was unbearable and went to ER. Was there 11 hours, they took blood/urine specimens and several scans. Their diagnosis was chronic mesenteric ischemia. They made an appointment for me at the Springfield Wheeler Vain, Vascular, Heart Center but it was a ten day wait to see the surgeon who placed stents in my femoral and iliac arteries two years ago. 1 June made the appointment and as soon as the doctor saw me-he said, "I am getting you a bed in critical observation unit, and you go to top of the list for surgery tomorrow." 2 June he and staff went into the heart/abdomen area, cleaned out three primary arteries that pump blood to the stomach. They placed a stent in one collapsed artery, cleaned out one, and partially cleaned out the third one. The procedure was successful and after I felt much better and on 3 June, they released me to home. Follow up 16th of this month, all appeared to be in good order. Blood Pressure is back in manageable range and stomach and intestinal systems are working well. All is well that ends well! Should be back to a 100 percent by September. Pain during this was worse than being shot and worse than malaria. Lost 18 pounds during the month but have gained back 10 of it. Guess the "Chief Chopper Pilot" is not ready for me yet.

If I missed any of you in Dayton, will catch you in Branson, September 7-11-Semper Paratus! Until next column- "May the Chief Chopper Pilot Hover over us, the Original Paratrooper correct our T10 Malfunctions, the Head Point Man keep us in the assigned AO!" 'Boot to Boot' - 'Hoof to Hoof' - 'Saber to Saber'

7th CAV News



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



Greetings brothers and sisters! And welcome to summer! This year has really been flying by for me, in a way I have never experienced before. As I have told you in the past, I had several significant medical events occur at the end of 2021. And I am still recovering from them. One of the offshoot benefits of that whole mess was a completely different outlook on life than I had before. Now I have cheated death twice – in Vietnam 50 years ago and in the hospital emergency department at the end of November of 2021. As I live these “extra moments,” they are so special. I have new interests in things I used to think were tedious or passé. I am reading more. I am making attempts to reach out to people I have not spoken with for some time. I see my family in a different light these days. Life is truly good!

For the past few years, I have had an increasingly more active case of tremors in my hands, arms, and legs. As they have progressed, I have encountered other signs and symptoms that have caused me concern, such as loss of sense of taste and smell, balance issues, and memory concerns. These signs and symptoms have all been categorized as something referred to as parkinsonism, or like Parkinson's Disease. Parkinsonism is a general term that refers to a group of neurological disorders that cause movement problems like those seen in Parkinson's disease such as tremors, slow movement, and stiffness. When the VA announced in 2021 that it was adding Parkinsonism to the list of conditions presumed to be associated with exposure to Agent Orange, I began to do my homework and made application to the VA for a disability rating based on parkinsonism.

On 29 April of this year, I received notification that I had been rated as 100% permanently disabled due to PTSD and Parkinson's Disease associated with herbicide exposure (Agent Orange). For those of you who share some of my symptoms, I recommend you speak with a professional about them. Had I not had deep brain stimulation surgery three years ago, I would have never been aware of the link between what I was experiencing, and Parkinson's related to Agent Orange. Also, I want to publicly thank the DAV for their assistance in the filing and follow-up of my disability claims, they made the difference for me.

And if you have Parkinson's, or know someone who does, this may be of interest to you.

New Era for Treatment of Parkinson's?

A new FDA-approved treatment, called focused ultrasound (FUS) may well mark a new era for Parkinson's disease treatment. FUS is a non-invasive, incisionless procedure, performed without the need for anesthesia, or an in-patient stay in the hospital. In 2018, the FDA approved FUS to treat Parkinson's tremor that cannot be controlled with medication. Recently, the treatment gained an expansion of FDA approval to include other Parkinson's symptoms, such as stiffness and slowness, as well as dyskinesia, which is involuntary, uncontrolled movement.

In FUS, doctors use MRI imaging to visualize the brain while guiding ultrasound beams to destroy tiny areas of cells that cause Parkinson's motor symptoms. During this procedure, a person is awake and there is no general anesthesia, incision or hardware placed in the brain. The treatment typically takes effect immediately and it is irreversible. Side effects may include headache, numbness and tingling, imbalance or gait changes, and others.

Change of Command for 2nd Battalion 7th Cavalry. On 3 June 2022, LTC Christian Cook passed the battalion colors to LTC Michael Wellock. Mike was commissioned as an Infantry officer in 2004 from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. Following completion of training at Fort Benning, he was assigned to 1-505 Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3/82 ABN at Fort Bragg, NC as a Rifle Platoon Leader, a Delta Company (heavy weapons) Platoon Leader, and a Company Executive Officer from 2005-2008; including a 15-month deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom V to FOB Summerall in Baji, Iraq.



After completing the Maneuver Captain's Career Course at Fort Benning, GA, he served as a Ranger Instructor and the Battalion S4 at the 5th Ranger Training Battalion from 2008-2010 in Dahlgren, GA. LTC Wellock then served in 2-69 AR (CAB) as an AS3 and a Company Commander in A/2-69 AR from 2010-2013; including a deployment to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom VII and Operation New Dawn at COS Kalsu.

Following his PCS from Fort Benning to Fort Irwin, CA, LTC Wellock served as an Observer Controller / Trainer (OC/T) on the Tarantula Team (Light Infantry Training Team) as a company trainer and the TF S3 trainer from 2013-2014. Following completion of Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell, Air Force Base, Montgomery, AL, the Wellock Family PCS'd to Fort Riley, KS. During his tenure with 1st Infantry Division, he served as a Future Operations officer in the 1st ID G3 section, as an S3 in 1-16 IN (CAB) including a rotation to S. Korea, and finally as the S3 for 1st ABCT, 1 ID. The Wellock Family PCS'd to Fort Knox, KY where LTC Wellock served in the G3 Operations section at the Human Resources Command as the Chief of Current Operations and the Chief of Operations from 2018-2022. Most recently, LTC Wellock assumed command of the Ghost Battalion, 2-7 CAV, 3ABCT, 1CD on 03 June 2022 at Fort Hood, TX.

LTC Wellock's awards and decorations include: Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Army Meritorious Service Medal (2 OLC), Army Commendation Medal (3 OLC), Army Achievement Medal (4 OLC), National Defense Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal (4 OLC), Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Meritorious Unit Citation (2), the Combat In-

fantryman's Badge, the Expert Infantryman's Badge, and the Senior Parachutist's Badge. He is a graduate of the Ranger Course, Basic Airborne, and Jumpmaster Courses.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, a Master of Military Art and Science in Operational Art and Science from the Air Command and Staff College (Maxwell, Air Force Base), and a Master of Science in Human Resources and Organizational Development from the University of Louisville. Mike is a proud husband to the former Kristen Rosgaard of Smithtown, New York and father of two children, Gary and Elizabeth.

This issue's **book recommendation** is from Marc Levy. I'm pleased to recommend a short VN arty memoir which I edited, *“Nothing Left to Drag Home: The Siege of Lao Bao During Operation Dewey Canyon II, Written by an Artilleryman Who Survived It,”* by Gary Rafferty. The introduction is by the noted historian Seth Jacobs, History Department, Boston College. Eighty-nine fast-paced, down and dirty pages. The book can be purchased at Amazon.

Obituary -- COL Milton Elmo Simmons

Milton Elmo Simmons, age 78, of Altamonte Springs, Florida, passed away peacefully on May 31, 2022. Born on August 29, 1943, in Myrtle, Mississippi, he was the son of Olga (Foshee) and St. Elmo Simmons.

COL Simmons graduated from Myrtle High School, Myrtle, Mississippi, and Delta University. He went through basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia after joining the Army in 1966. Upon completing Army Officer Candidate School, he was stationed at Fort Lewis in Washington State. COL Simmons was then sent to Vietnam in January 1968. Due to his distinguished service as a platoon leader with C Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division in 1968, COL Simmons received the Silver Star, the Bronze Star with oak leaf cluster, the Air Medal, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with palm, and several others for valorous action and gallantry in 1968.



1LT Milt Simmons, Vietnam

Upon discharge, he moved to Ketchikan, Alaska where he lived for many years. He served with the Alaska National Guard and owned the Alaska Bar and Lighthouse Grocery. Later, COL Simmons worked full time with the National Guard and moved to Juneau and then Anchorage where he eventually retired from military service after achieving the rank of Colonel. In 1994 Simmons moved to Altamonte Springs, Florida where he was a business owner. In place of flowers, the family of Milton Simmons requests donations be made to one of Milton's favorite charities, the Disabled American Veterans, <<https://www.dav.org>>, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, <<https://www.vfw.org>> or America's Vet Dogs, <<https://www.vetdogs.org>>.

From the Commander of 1st Squadron 7th Cavalry Regiment, LTC Brennan Speakes: Garryowen Troopers, Families, and Veterans: It is a fast-paced month of June! As you read this, the SQDN is conducting gunnery at Ft Hood, Texas with our M1A2 SEPV3s and our M2A3 Bradley Fighting Vehicles. After we conclude gunnery, our attention shifts to preparing for the Army Futures Command's Manned/Unmanned Teaming Experiment in Ft Hood in July. During the experiment, GO will employ the Army's latest robotic vehicles to evaluate their capabilities and develop/refine the Army's tactics for employment. We will conclude July with the GO Veteran's Reunion in Killeen on 29-30 July. For more info about the reunion, please check out GMFO.org.

On the next horizon, the SQDN is preparing for a rotation to Fort Irwin, CA's National Training Center in Oct/Nov as part of Project Convergence 22. During that event, we will continue the Army's robotics testing across some of the toughest terrain in the Army's footprint.

A tank crew with Diablo Troop, 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, fires a round while training at a Fort Hood range.

And that is a wrap for this issue of the *Saber*. I am still looking for your stories to put into the next issues, but I do not yet see them. Please reach out if you have something you would like to see in the column; it does not have to be in final form – I am happy to help you with that. We just need to begin talking and then the story will come.

Until I see you again, may you and yours be blessed with the riches of life and the value of friendship and comradeship be yours as well.



8th CAV News



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



I hope all is well with everyone. By the time you get this the reunion will have already happened. I hope everyone came away from it with some good times and good memories.

To the right is a picture of myself as I was placing flags on graves for Memorial Day.

FIRST LEGS IN WILDCAT PLATOON JULY 1966

When I first got drafted on Feb 2, 1966 in Philadelphia, we took the train to Ft. Jackson SC for basic training. Enroute, the train stopped in Washington, DC to pick up NYC draftees whose train stopped in DC. So, most on the train were Soldiers to be, hundreds of big city guys who answered the call from their country.

When we arrived in Ft. Jackson, SC, I never again saw my four buddies from my old neighborhood with whom I attended grade school and high school, but I did wind up with a bunch of New York City guys in my company.

In fact, we did basic and AIT at Ft. Polk, La (known then as Tiger Land). I remember shooting expert because it was the first time this kid from a big city ever fired a weapon. Everybody told me I was dumb because I was going to be shipped to Vietnam! Well, the whole company I trained with was all given orders to that beautiful, sunny paradise in Southeast Asia.

My two buddies from both basic and AIT and I arrive in An Khe Central Highlands base camp of the 1st Cav Airmobile on July 15, 1966. My buddies were Peter Micali (Bronx, NY) and Michael Dougherty (Brooklyn, NY). Unfortunately, Peter passed away last August from Agent Orange related illness. Mike is retired and living in Staten Island, NY.

As most CAV Soldiers know, your first two weeks in country were training with M16 and getting used to the hot humid climate. I remember the final test of training was running up Hong Kong Mountain (the huge 1st Cav decal) with gear and I remember running past guys who were puffing and gasping, some even sitting.

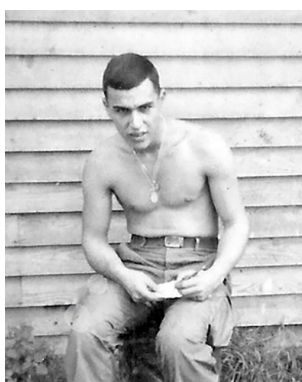


Blue Scarves Recon

low. No one was around so we sat on the cots waiting for our platoon to come in from the bush.

Well, quite honestly, the Wildcat Platoon was Airborne and when they came in from the bush, they looked big, strong, proud, dirty, and tough looking! Really looked bad ass! All had their wings on their fatigues. They see me 5 ft 7 inches and 155 lbs and the first thing one of them said, "You are in the wrong platoon, this is an Airborne Platoon. Legs are not welcome" I stood up and said that this is what battalion said we were to be! He said, I do not care you are not welcome here. Well, I felt bullied, but I thought that a little humor would cut the air. I replied that "If you were looking for Audie Murphy or John Wayne, if we see them, we will let you know. In the meantime, I am sorry you are stuck with me." A few guys cracked up! You see the Cav started replacing the Soldiers who came over on the boat in October 65. In May of 66, all those Soldiers were Airborne. On July 15th specifically, the first non-airborne Soldiers started replacing Airborne in large numbers.

A little history of the term leg. Most people know it is a Soldier that does not jump out of planes. The term originated in World War II when the Army started replacing Airborne Soldiers with non-airborne. Funny how that works! The Paratroopers in Europe coined the term leg (level entry grunt). So, take it from me, I was called LEG and NAP (non-airborne personnel) many, many times.



An Khe Nov 66

Fortunately, a great, decorated Soldier who was from suburban Philly came to my aid as I was staring up at the bully and intervened and saw our orders and said we were in the right place. No question, Wildcat was all Airborne and enlisted Soldiers. But in July of 1966 waves and waves of drafted legs came pouring in country.

Another bit of history regarding Wildcat Platoon, D Co 2nd of the 8th Cav: in July of 1966 D company did most of the RECON for the brigade and some for the Division. All of Wildcat wore blue scarfs around their necks, an unofficial sign of RECON. We did Pony Teams and LRRP recon every time in the bush.

Well, in all due respect and hindsight, the best



mentors a draftee can get is a bunch of gung-ho Airborne enlisted guys who had in some cases more balls than brains. They taught us how to read maps, how to bring in Artillery, how-to call-in smoke for location verification, and how to act and live in the bush. Truly a blessing for a drafted guy from Philly!

By May 15, 1967, all the Airborne guys rotated back to the states. The July 1966 legs were now the seasoned Soldiers after 10 months in country mentoring the new in country cherries.



Going Home July 67

In summary, I made SGT E-5 on May 31, 1967, and was a squad leader in Wildcat until I left. Few draftees left the Nam E-5 and the only regret I had was that there were no Airborne personnel to harass as I was harassed. You know, it would have been fun to tell guys with wings to dig a latrine, pick up cigarette butts, burn shit, tie your boots, etc., etc. Never Happened!

God bless all Viet Nam Vets who answered the call of their country! Welcome home and thank you for your service.

SGT Frank LaBletta, Wildcat Platoon, 2-8 Cavalry 1st Cav Division, First leg in Wildcat July 15, 1966, to July 15, 1967

NEVER FORGOTTEN 34 MEMORIAL CEREMONY

Rich O'Brien attended the ceremony for the 34 Troopers who lost their lives 50 years ago in a chinook helicopter crash. Most of the casualties were members of D 2/8. This was a very emotional ceremony which took place at the Wall exactly 50 years to the moment. The families of the fallen read the names of their loved ones as a bell was rung as each name was read. The former members of D 2/8 embraced the families of their fallen brothers. A member of each family was given a quilt, flower, and a candle during a BBQ. Wolf Cutter, John Dulhan, Jim Garvin, Stan Dillion, and others did a wonderful job coordinating this wonderful event.

RICH FLYING HIGH

The city of Wood Dale, Illinois has put up banners honoring current and former Wood Dale residents who served in the U.S. Military. Veteran banners will be displayed prior to Memorial Day and Veterans Day. All Veterans appreciate this honor so if your travels take to Wood Dale, west of Chicago, drive by Wood Dale Rd or Irving Park Rd to see our very own Richard M. O'Brien D 2/8 1st Cav 1967.

THEN AND NOW PROJECT

Note from Top Gun: I got an email from **Trooper Garvin** about this project, it is a great one so let us throw our support behind it

I am a new member to the Angry Skipper Association. I attended my first reunion in San Antonio in 2015 and in 2019 my wife Susan and I helped to host the reunion in Dallas.

In 2021 several Vets at the nudging of Stan Dillon (Range 6 1970-71) planned and executed four grave side memorials. At the last memorial in NY at the request of COL Wolf Kutter (Skipper 6 1971-72) we started planning the "Never Forgotten 34" memorial held 10 May 2022. (See article in 2022 Walking Point) and (Facebook group Never Forgotten 34).

I have become interested in learning more about our guys and have taken on a personal project of collecting a pair of pictures of each guy that served in Delta Company in Vietnam. I know this is impossible, but I want to collect as many as possible to share with our Angry Skipper brothers and families both for our own enjoyment and as a historical record. None of our guys should ever be forgotten either individually or collectively.

I enjoy hearing the names and may or may not remember the stories, but it is great to put faces with those names. I am currently at 60 pairs and 350 photos of one or the other.

If you would be willing to help me with this project, please send identified photos to <james.garvin47@yahoo.com> or text at 817-688-0731 my cell number. I would be glad to talk with you if you have any questions or comments.

I still work part time and will be traveling more now that my wife is retired so if I do not answer please leave a voice mail. I plan to make available a work in progress at the 2023 reunion in Phoenix and will try to make either copies or a post on my web page at that point.

Thank you in advance for any pictures that you would be willing to share with me and in turn with your brothers. I also can digitize slides and will return the originals along with a copy on a thumb drive if you send it along with your slides.

I would like to include photos of our honor roll members if I get them, and I am including members that have gone before us. We are losing members fast and those of us that are still standing have an obligation to those that have already fallen, to their families and future generations, to be sure they are "Never Forgotten"

Thank you in advance, Jim Garvin D 2/8 Range Platoon 01 Aug 1970 - 31 Jul 1971022 <James.garvin47@yahoo.com> 817-688-0731



Rich O'Brien banner

9th CAV News

Jim Kurtz
91 Professional Drive
Hardy, Virginia 24101-1400
202-316-6916
kurtzjh@gmail.com

**FATHER OF THE COBRA.**

The May-June 2022 newsletter of the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association contains a wonderful tribute to the man responsible for the Cobra helicopter. What follows is a partial reprint, reproduced with the permission of the VHPA Aviator:

Mike Folsie, the Father of the AH-1G Cobra Attack Helicopter, passed away from natural causes in December of 2021. There are tens of thousands of Soldiers who never knew Mike but are eternally grateful for his conceptualization, design, and testing of the world's first "Attack" helicopter. You see, it was Mike who personally conceived and put to paper over a long weekend the design and dimensions for the Army's first attack helicopter.

Mike was with Bell 19 years, working through many of the early Bell UH-1 models and was on the Bell Project team that designed the prototype for the Army Attack Helicopter competition in the early sixties. As corporations competed for an "Attack Helicopter" to meet the needs of the burgeoning war in Vietnam, Bell's entry lost out to the Cheyenne. Though Bell lost the competitive contract, Mike envisioned an attack aircraft based on Bell's operational UH-1 fleet that could be considered a product improvement or modification rather than an entirely new design, thereby eliminating the need for a competitive bid. Over that first weekend, he drew up the silhouette using the components as fitted on existing aircraft. The UH-1C had an engine that could be modified to supply the lift needed for the new Attack platform; the airframe of the UH-1C could be modified and streamlined to fit the Army requirements for airspeed and load carrying; and the rotor blades, already wider than the regular Huey blades, could be further modified to add the speed needed.

Mike's Dad loved the P51 Mustang developed during WWII. It was 36 inches wide at its widest point, so the fuselage of the UH-1C airframe would be modified to 36 inches; stub wings would be added to support the required armament; and a nose-mounted armament system would be developed to replace the two door gunners. A Bell VP heard about Mike's idea and came by for a look-see. He was so impressed he asked for the conceptual drawings and analysis and took it to the Textron President.

Impressed, the president called Mike into a meeting with himself and several other VPs. When Mike was through explaining the concept, the president asked how long it would take to have a prototype flying and at what cost. Mike said nine months to a year and 1.2-1.5 million. Several days later the project was approved. The prototype flew in less than 7 months and was under budget. The Army ordered two test platforms but before the two aircraft were ready for testing and trials, the Army placed an order for 100 aircraft to be used in Vietnam. The AH-1G was born and fielded in September of 1966. The rest is history. . . .

Mike was one of those men that changed the future of aerial warfare. He was humble, dedicated, and generous to us all. His concept saved many, many American and allied lives on the battlefield in numerous ways and places, and, to this day, the AH-1 continues to support military actions around the world. Thanks, Mike! And for those of us lucky enough to fly the aircraft – Thanks for the ride, it was a blast!

Signed: Mike Sheuerman Panther 15 361 ACE/AWC

BELL 209 PROTOTYPE: THE NON-SKID SNAKE.

According to the "This Day in Aviation" website, the initial flight of what would become the AH-1G Cobra took place on 7 September 1965. The prototype, dubbed the Bell 209, was equipped with retractable landing gear, which increased its speed, but the expense and complexity were enough that the production aircraft, the AH-G Cobra, had fixed skids.



Bell 209 with Skids Retracted



Bell 209 with Skids Extended

A LATER VERSION OF THE NON-SKID COBRA

Soon after the January/February 2022 *Saber* hit people's mailboxes, an email from Jack West, a Vietnam Veteran of B Troop, expressed thanks for the "How the Cobra got its name" item in that issue, and he provided a story of his own, which I am now happy to share with everyone:

My father was a drill instructor in the Army, having served in WWII and Korea. I grew up in the world of competitive shooting, and while in high school I was offered a part-time job with a Class III Firearms Company in New Orleans. I got to travel and demonstrate weapons systems to police departments.

After entering the Army, I completed basic training at Fort Polk and received orders for Cobra Hall. Presuming I would receive advanced training at Hunter Army Airfield, away I went. I arrived at Cobra Hall in November 1967. The Cobra NETT (New Equipment Training Team) had just completed its training and was leaving for Viet Nam. The First Sergeant informed me I would be assisting instructors teaching Gunnery Academics – as it relates to the AH-1G Helicopter. There was no advanced training; I had to go to the gunnery shop and figure everything out myself, which I did.

Trivia note: In the beginning, there were no made-up Cobra patches. Everyone used the Shelby Cobra patch, a yellow and black rectangle worn on flight suits just like the made-up round patches that came later. One of the hottest items at

the Cobra School was a Bell Helicopter tie bar. The Bell Reps had a neat way of getting them to the pilots. When asked for one, they would say there were no more. Then they would remove the one they were wearing and give it to the pilot, who was suitably impressed.

I spent a year at Cobra Hall and loved every minute of it. I loved being able to fly with the officers I was teaching, especially on nighttime range support missions. One weekend I crashed a dirt bike and ended up in the base hospital, and while there, I learned the Army was sending me to Viet Nam.

I arrived in country in November 1968, and ended up in B Troop, in the Armament Shop. There I was able to fly Scout missions and serve as a gunner on B- and C-model Hueys retained for use as command-and-control birds (and typically piloted by the Troop Commander). On rare occasions, I got to fly front seat in Cobras. One Warrant Officer, Morgan Bleak, was due to go back to the states as an Instructor Pilot. He practiced on me, teaching me to fly an OH-6A – with no qualifications other than being able to read and write. I spent a few days with ARVN Rangers as a FAC [forward air controller] for our gunships. During my time with B Troop, we had 283 casualties and were overrun twice. I left Viet Nam in September 1969 and separated from the Army.

One of my best friends in B Troop was WO John Burt. I knew him from Cobra Hall, and he looked out for me when I got to Viet Nam. John and I built a bore-sight pad at the end of the flight line. We used the interlocking panels [pierced steel planking, or PSP] that were used to build revetments. One day a Cobra flown by WO Russell M. Ivie was dragging its skids down the flight line, trying to get to translational lift, when it hit my bore-sight pad and ripped the skids off. I was scared to death the Troop Commander (Major Frank Stewart) was going to kill me, but I was not held accountable.

To prepare for a skidless landing, Mr. Ivie fired as many rockets as he could and burned off fuel while B Troop members ran around grabbing sandbags. We



323 on its improvised landing pad

made a cross, and when the aircraft set down, we held onto it to keep it from flipping on its side. The whole incident rated an article in the Cavalier newspaper, July 16, 1969. After the event, I took pictures of 323 sitting on the sandbag cross. The worst part of the whole thing was that 323 was one of only two camouflaged Cobras in all of Viet Nam at the time. The 2-20 ARA had the other one.

POSTSCRIPT FROM THE SCRIBE. I can sympathize with Mr. Ivie and Jack West. After leaving Viet Nam, I went to Germany where I was a "Category B Aviator" flying just enough hours to qualify for flight pay. One day, another Cat B and I were in an OH-58 practicing "minimum performance takeoffs." As we got light on the skids and started moving from the helipad to the concrete runway, the skid-shoes on either side contacted the exposed edge of a piece of PSP, which stopped our forward movement but not our momentum. The tail came up and the nose pitched down, so much that the pitot tube bent straight up. We then rocked backward, splaying the rear skid cross-tube. Miraculously, the rotor blade did not make any contact fore or aft.

IN MEMORIAM.

Patrick J. Delaney, identified in the May-June 2022 issue of *The VHPA Aviator* as having passed away January 26, 2022. The VHPA directory lists him as having served in the 1-9 Cav in 1967-68, and his on-line obituary says he was a helicopter gunship pilot, but efforts to learn which Troop he was in have not been successful.

Claude R. Singletary. Patrick Bieneman reports that Claude Singletary, a Sergeant in the Charlie Troop Blues in 1968-69, died March 30 in Florence, SC.

Charles M. "Mike" Cassidy of Mount Hermon, LA passed away April 24. After graduating from the Riverside Military Academy in Gainesville, GA in 1959, and from Ole Miss in 1963, he joined the 1st Cavalry Division in Korea in 1963-64 as a platoon leader in 1st Squadron (Reconnaissance), 9th Cavalry. He rejoined the Division in 1967-68 as an Air Movement Control Specialist, in charge of a Forward Service & Supply Element that moved equipment and bulk supplies for the 3rd Brigade. For more about Mike Cassidy and what the squadron was like in Korea, before Vietnam, see the "9th CAV News" column in the September / October 2021 issue of the *Saber*.

Ricky A. "Rick" York of Dayton, Ohio, passed away on May 4. Rick served in A Troop as a member of the Blues and later wrote about his experiences in *Will I Die Today: Vietnam 1967*.

Clark A. Burnett, a former commander of the 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry, passed away after a prolonged illness on May 17. As *Longknife 6*, then-LTC Burnett commanded the squadron from December 1969 to August 1970, during which time the squadron led the 1st Cavalry Division into Cambodia in May 1970. He later served as Director of Combat Developments at Fort Rucker, where he was instrumental in the successful development of the UH-60 Blackhawk and AH-64 Apache.

Diana Rosapepe, the wife of Apache 27, Carl Rosapepe, passed away on Memorial Day, May 30, after a prolonged battle against cancer.

May They Rest in Peace

Jim Kurtz
Apache 03, 1970-71



1st CAVALRY DIVISION
ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN

Terry A. McCarl

1122 Main St, Plattsmouth, NE 68048

402-296-3150

TerryAMcCarl@gmail.com



LOOKING FOR A 1ST CAV BUDDY?
TRY THE 1CDA MEMBER DIRECTORY!

In my Jan-Feb 2022 column, I theorized that around 57% of Vietnam Veterans are still living, so there is a better- than- even chance that someone with whom you served might still be around. As presented in my May-June 2022 column, around 26% of Korean War Veterans are still living.

If you would like to find and hopefully connect with someone with whom you served, a suitable place to start is the Member Directory on www.1cda.org. You can search for individuals by name, or you can search by unit for a list of members in that unit. This July-Aug 2022 column is devoted entirely to the subject of how to use the 1CDA Member Directory. It can be the most impressive tool in your toolbox for searching! I hope that this column will be helpful to you!

This column is a short tutorial. Follow along with me if you will:

Go to <www.1cda.org>. If, at the top of the homepage, you do not see Member Directory, that means you must log in to the website with your assigned username and password.

When 1CDA established its present website in 2017, emails were sent to as many members as possible advising them of their assigned username and password for logging into the website. I received my email in December of 2017. The password was a 12-character mixture of random letters, numbers, and punctuation marks.

When the present 1CDA website was created in 2017, the decision was made to include a Member Directory in it which could be accessed by 1CDA members only. The directory was not to include phone numbers or email addresses. Only street address, city, state, and zip code were included for each member. This is because 1CDA did not want to make it feasible for telemarketers, vendors etc., who might still be able to somehow get into the Member Directory, to “harvest” phone numbers and email addresses from this directory which would result in unwanted calls and emails to members. (Most of us get enough of those as it is, right?)

Most areas of the website are public. Anyone can access them, as no log-in is required. Areas requiring log-in include the Member Directory and the *Saber* Archives. Accessing the *Saber* Archives was discussed in my Mar-Apr 2022 Historians Column, if you are a member of 1CDA and do not have an assigned username and password, you never received the email, it went into your spam folder, or it just got lost. Whatever the case, if you do not have a username and password, contact 1CDA at 254-547-6537 or <FirstCav@1CDA.org> and request them.

When you have your username and password, log in to the website in the little black “Login” box at the top of the homepage, then click on “Member Directory” and you are ready to roll!

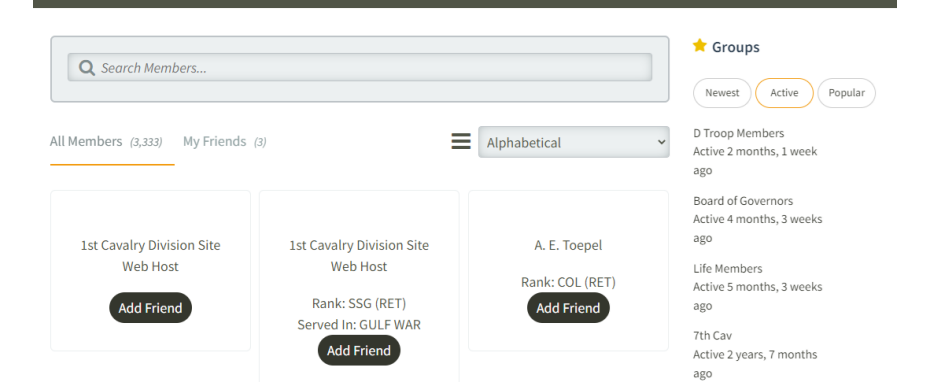
INDIVIDUAL SEARCHES

I will first talk about looking up contact information for individuals. When you click on “Member Directory” you will get a search box like shown below. The first step is to select “Alphabetical” in the dropdown menu. Your other choices which are “Last Active” and “Newest Registered” will be discussed in

a later column.

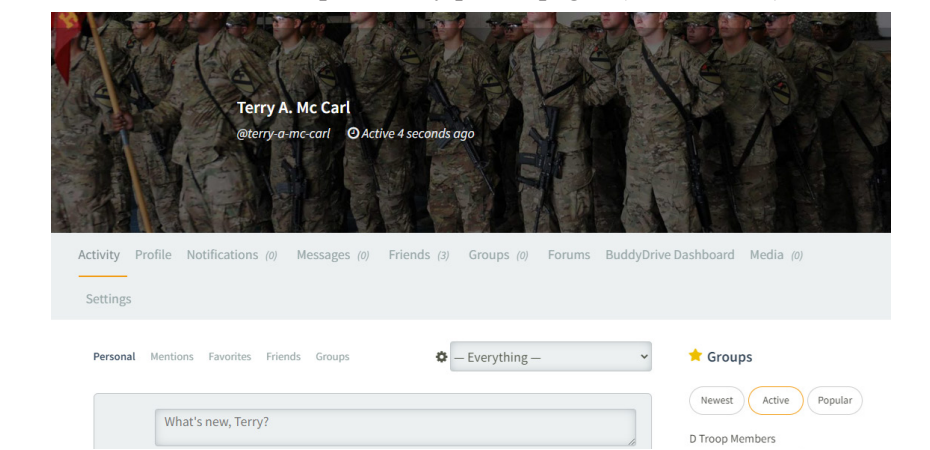
Now you are ready to enter the name of the individual that you are looking for. The first time I looked myself up, I entered my name, “Terry McCarl.” The Directory said “Sorry, no members were found.” I then looked at my assigned username and realized that I needed to include a space between the c and the C (Mc Carl not McCarl). I made that correction and entered “Terry Mc Carl” but got the same error message again.

So, I tried including my middle initial “Terry A. Mc Carl.” Then I hit Enter. That worked! Up came my name and rank. (See left-hand bottom of Photo 1), then I clicked on that and up came my profile page. (See Photo 2.)



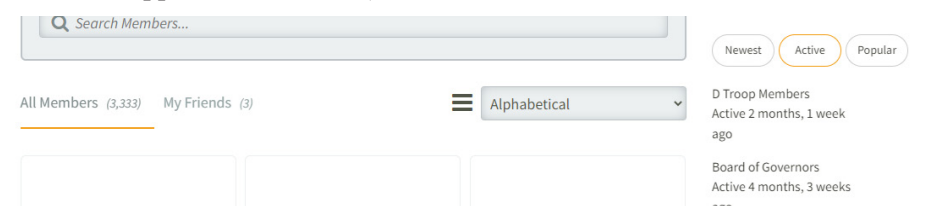
Now you are ready to enter the name of the individual that you are looking for. The first time I looked myself up, I entered my name, “Terry McCarl.” The Directory said “Sorry, no members were found.” I then looked at my assigned username and realized that I needed to include a space between the c and the C (Mc Carl not McCarl). I made that correction and entered “Terry Mc Carl” but got the same error message again.

So, I tried including my middle initial “Terry A. Mc Carl.” Then I hit Enter. That worked! Up came my name and rank. (See left-hand bottom of Photo 1), then I clicked on that and up came my profile page. (See Photo 2.)



Directly under the photo of Troops in formation, I clicked on “Profile” and up came my profile. Space does not permit showing my profile here, but it includes my name, street address, my rank (1LT), unit (15MED) (15th Medical Battalion) company (HSC) (HQ and Support Company) and date assigned (6811) (November 1968). This is all information taken from my membership application.

Sometimes when you are looking for someone’s profile and you get to their profile page, the message “Sorry, there is no activity found. Please try a different filter” will appear. See Photo 3).



This may lead you to believe that the individual’s profile is not available. Ignore the message and go ahead and click on the word “Profile” below the group photo on the individual’s profile page. Scroll down the page and the profile will be there.

If you did not know my middle initial (which you most likely would not), there is another avenue you can try. Just enter my last name (Mc Carl) and hit “Enter,” and up will come a list of people with the surname “Mc Carl.” Since I am the only individual with that name in the database, there will only be one, but let us say you put in the name “Smith” and hit “Enter..” Then you get a list of 180 individuals with the surname “Smith.” You can look through them until you find the Smith that you are looking for. Sometimes, the name of someone not named “Smith” will show up in that list that does not appear to make any sense. If you go to their profile, you will find that the individual lives in Ft. Smith, AR; Smithfield, VA; on Smith Street somewhere, or something of that nature. Also, if the name includes the word “Smith” like “Goldsmith,” it will show up on the list. You can easily sort these out.

So, my recommendation for searching is, if you have the middle initial of the individual sought, enter first name, middle initial, and last name. If you do not know the middle initial, or if you are not sure of the first name, enter the last name.

UNIT SEARCHES

You can also search for who is in a particular unit. For example: I wanted a list of members who were assigned to my unit, the 15th Medical Battalion. I entered the unit code “15MED” in the search box (again, with “Alphabetical” selected on the dropdown menu.) Then I hit “Enter” and up came a list of the 190 members who were assigned to 15th Med BN in alphabetical order by first name. Clicking on any of these names will bring up an individual’s profile page. There is no published list of unit codes, but they will be the numerical designation followed by a short abbreviation for the name. Below are some examples:

- 5th Cavalry: 5CAV; 12th Cavalry: 12CAV
- 82nd Field Artillery: 82FA
- 1st Brigade: 1BDE
- 227th Aviation: 227AVN
- 15th Med: 15MED
- 15th Supply and Service BN: 15SS
- 15th Transportation BN: 15TRANS
- 15th Administration BN: 15ADMIN
- 27th Maintenance BN: 27MNT
- 20th Aerial Rocket Artillery BN: 20ARA
- 13th Signal BN: 13SIG
- 191st Military Intelligence: 191MI
- 8th Engineer BN: 8ENG
- 32nd Armor: 32ARMOR
- 115th Forward Support BN: 115FSB
- 68th Air Defense Artillery: 68ADA
- 91st Brigade Engineer BN: 91BEB
- 215th Composite Service BN: 215CSB

You may need to try a few times before you enter a code that works. If you cannot come up with a unit code that accesses the unit you want, please email or phone 1CDA for assistance.

If you are looking for members who served in your unit at a certain time, you can look at their profiles and observe the dates they were assigned. Thus, even if you do not remember the names of anyone in your unit at the time you served, it is possible to find members who did.

SENDING A MESSAGE

Normally, on an individual’s profile page, to the right of his/her name, it says “Private Message” (Since it is my profile page on Photo 2, this message option does not show up), but if you search for my profile page yourself by searching for “Terry A. Mc Carl, you will see the Private Message box. Click on that box and a message page will come up. You can send a message to the individual that you are trying to contact. Introduce yourself and ask for a reply to your private message or a reply by email or phone number.

The recipient of your message may not see it until or unless he/she logs onto the Member Directory and sees that you sent a message. He/she may never go to the Member Directory or may visit it frequently. If you do not get a reply to your message after a week, try sending another message. If still no response, call or email 1CDA and ask if they have any contact info like email address or phone number on this member. Also, you can ask if they have any contact information on members who are not in the Member Directory. They often have some. Just give them as much information about the individual sought as you can think of.

If the email addresses and the phone numbers that you get are not currently valid, you can send a letter or postcard to the mailing address on an individual’s profile. If all that effort fails, the situation may still not be hopeless, as there are several other sources of information to help track someone down that I will discuss in a future column.

If I can be of assistance, call or email me. Happy hunting!

Send your 1st Cav History Questions to
Terry A. McCarl
TerryAMcCarl@gmail.com or 402-296-3150

1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
13TH 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 13th Annual First Team Veterans Day Dinner at 1900 hours on Friday evening, 11 November 2022 at the **Crowne Plaza Washington National Airport Hotel**, 1480 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia. The guest speaker is Bill Corsair, the voice of G.I. Joe! 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 \$65 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 **31 October 2022**.
- 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
photos from
Veterans Day
2018

A CENTURY OF TRAILBLAZING

One hundred years ago, a group of soldiers couldn't get auto insurance, so they insured each other, creating USAA.

Thousands of patents, inventions and solutions later, that spirit of innovation still drives us to find new ways to support the military community.

As long as there are those who serve, USAA will be there to serve them.



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

usaa.com/100 | #usaa100

USAA means United Services Automobile Association and its affiliates. ©2022 USAA. 284850-0322

USAA.COM/100

13th ANNUAL VETERANS DAY DINNER
\$65 per TICKET

Friday, 11 November 2022

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



DONATION BREAKDOWN

Each one of your donations to the Association has a significant importance and is beneficial to a specific area or program within this non-profit organization. Here is a breakdown:

ASSOCIATION

Supports ongoing annual programs such as the yearly historical calendar, Veterans Day, Reunions, Saber newspaper production (printing, paper, postage, labeling), as well as everyday operating costs. To help keep the cost of your yearly Saber subscription down to \$10, we rely on your donations.

IA DRANG SCHOLARSHIP

Financial support offered to the children & grandchildren of Troopers who served in the 1965 Battle of the Ia Drang Valley.

FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

(Supports three separate scholarships grants)

ACTIVE DUTY: Members actively serving in 1CD. Scholarship can be used by the Trooper or their spouse.

KIA: Troopers killed in action while assigned to 1CD. Scholarship can be used by children of the Trooper.

100% DISABLED: Members that were assigned to 1CD. Scholarship can be used by children of the Trooper.

**YOUR DONATIONS FOR OUR SCHOLARSHIPS
ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.**

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

- 2022 1CDA REUNION MEMBER ATTENDEES:
- 1st Cav Honor Guard
- Bob Ahern, Michael Aldi, Wendell Allen, Paul Amrhein, Robert Anderson, Herman Anthony, Robert Arbasetti, Raymond Armer, Aaron Augustus
- Eddie Bailey, Cynthia Ballinger, Frederick Barhorst, Richard Battleday, Carl Becker, Fred Bell, Steve Benner, Bruce Bernath, William Bilo, Diane Bishop, William Bott, Edmund Boucher, Robert Bowles, Dale Bowman, Jessica Bowsher, James Bracewell, Bruce Brattain, Michael Brennan, James Burn
- Thomas Campbell, BG Steve Carpenter, William Carpenter, David Carrillo, Rosey Carter, Stanley Carter, James Chin, Alan Christy, Richard Clark, Kenneth Clark, Gerald Clement, Howard Coble, Ken Cook, John Cooper, James Copeland, Terry Cordle, Harold Costello, James Coulter, Thomas Crabtree, Lee Craig, Fred Crowell, Lawrence Curtis, Leonard DeClue
- Michael DeHart, Thomas DeYoung, Forrest Decker, Gary Decoteau, Peter Dencker, George Dhane, Harry Diamond, Dennis Dickman, Samuel Dixon, Charles Donahoo, James Dotson, Fred Duncan, C. Joseph Duschane
- R. Bearwallow Eastman, Michael Echterling, Bill Elliott, Harry Elston, Robert Etzwiler
- Gerald Farrow, James Faulkner, David Fawcett, William Feight, Juan Fernandez, John David Floyd, Allan Foster, Stanley Freeborn, Albert Freeland
- Dale Gatehouse, Bennie Gentry, Thomas Ginop, Cass Gittins, Harold Givens, Anthony Grasso, William Grogan, Albert Guarnieri, Carl Guerinoni, John Guillory, Andy Guzman
- Thomas Hager, Avery Hall, Mcarthur Hall, Fred Haller, Roland Hammon, Steven Hammond, William Hand, Tommy Harris, Gary Hauser, Robert Heintz, Felix Helms, Tom Hemmelgarn, Lawrence Hempfling, John Hershberger, Clarence Hill, James Hilts, Jay Hockenbury, Timothy Hodge, Charles Holtz, Michael Hoopaugh, Brad Hopkins, William Hornbuckle, Edward Huckabee, Larry Humphreys, Johnny Huszczo
- Arthur Jacobs, James James, Bennie Jennings, Bert Johnson, Donald Jones
- Tony Kalbli, Rich Kaye, Bill Kearns, James Ketrow, Ronnie Killingsworth, Marcia Kilma, John Kinzinger, David Kirk, David Klimek, James Kurtz
- Klaus Lachmann, John LeBrun, Carl Lee, Michael Lewellen, Bernard Lieving, George Lokey, Norman Lorsung, Brian Lowe, Gary Lundin, Dave Lutgen, Roger Lutz, Patrick Lyons
- William Maddox, Rory Malloy, Douglas Matze, Roger May, Thomas McBriarty, Kirk McCullough, Jimmy McGaha, George McKee, John McLean, John McMilian, Claude McMillen, Danny McMillen, Robby McPhail, Cliff Mead, Richard Medlock, Ralph Medlock, Thomas Mendez, David Michalak, John Moran, Kim Morelock, James Mummaw, Galen Munday
- Patrick Nardi, James Neeley, Ronald Nichols, Allen Norris
- Karl Oestreich, Michael O’Grady, A. Wayne Okken, John Parente, Elden Parish, Terry Park, Robert Patterson, Jack Pellington, J. Shawn Perry, Gary Pezzuti, Mark Piasecki, William Pickle, John Pike, Frank Polivka
- Robert Raab, Gilbert Ramirez, James Regan, Jerry Richards, Thomas Richards, Francis Richardson, Ed Robinson, Steven Rosenow, Raymond Russell, Eugene Russell, Stephania Ryan
- Ronald Saizon, Stephen Saunders, Nathan Shaffer, Richard Sherwood, David Shows, Howard Shute, Adam Simon, John Simones, Raymond Simonetti, Scott Sjule, Terrance Skipper, Don Somlinski, Thomas Spampinato, Jeffrey Spenzer, Jeffery Spratt, Danny Springborn, Gary Stine, Gary Stites, James Stokely, Dennis Stormer, Duane Swan, Karl Swenson
- Peter Tattersall, Raymond Temple, John Trumbull
- Gary Ullom
- Eddie Vanderpool, Glen Vela, G. Keith Victor, Joe Viggiano, John Vincent, Michael Vuolo
- Joseph Wagel, Douglas Warden, Butch Watkins, Thomas Weber, Dennis Webster, Wayne Wehrheim, Raymond Welch, Robert Whiteside, James Wiginton, Richard Wilkos, Terry Williams, Frederick Wilson, Harry Wilson, 1LT Taylor Wilson, Charles Windham, Virgil Winner, Phil Worsley, James Wright, Dara Wydler
- George York, Michael Yoshida
- Jerome Zdancewicz
- STAFF
- 1CDA: Dara Wydler, Karleen Maloney, Tina Wilgeroth
- GIFT SHOP: Michelle Napolitano, Hope Adams

- MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
- Dayton, OH 9 July 2022
- The meeting of the membership of the 1st Cavalry Division Association was called to order by the President of the Association, Scott Sjule, at 0909 hours with a quorum present.
- The President welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for a moment of silence for those who have passed over the last couple of years. He then led the members present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.
- The President asked the Secretary to present the Nominating Committee Report to the membership. Dara Wydler read the names nominated for office as recommended by the Nominating Committee to the membership. They are:
- Executive Committee:

1st Vice President/President Elect

2nd Vice President:

3rd Vice President:

Richard Kaye

Donald Smolinski

Rosey Carter
- Executive Trustee-Foundation:

Pete Tattersall
- Board of Governors:

Robert Anderson

Eric Billman

Starr Corbin

Samuel Dixon

Phillip Johndrow

Rory Malloy

Jeff Pitzen

Sean Riley

Jim Bob Rollins

Glen Vela
- In the absence of nominations from the floor, nominations were closed, a motion was made to accept the report as written. The motion was approved by the membership.
- The President addresses the general membership on the election of officers and encouraged others to take their turn. He praised Bob Heintz on a job well done as a member of the Board.
- The Chairman of the Finance and Budget Committee, Pete Tattersall, provided a financial report on the Association. His report covered the 1st Quarter ending 31 March 2022. He reported that the current assets of the Association were \$2,641,122, up by \$94,455. The liabilities for the Association are \$56,197, a decrease of \$1,530. The fund balance, which is the net worth of the Association, is \$2,584,926, an increase of \$97,986. The Market Value of our investments is \$5,501,325, down \$308,518. The unrealized earnings from investments are \$2,999,020, a decrease of \$417,338. The Association currently owns \$1,607,304 in high-grade bonds, which produced an annual income of \$69,458. The Association contributes \$12,000 to the Foundation each year. The Chairman of the Committee reported that the Association was in good financial shape. The Board of Governors accepted the 1st Quarter financials unanimously.
- Pete further explained the turn in the market. He quickly briefed the members on the changes that occurred during the first six months of the year and compared our investments to the Dow Jones and S&P. Pete explained when the market drops considerably, our investments only drop a small percentage.
- The Executive Trustee of the Foundation of the 1st Cavalry Division Association, Peter Tattersall, provided a financial report on the Foundation for the 1st Quarter. The Foundation is made up of two segments the Foundation (Base) and the Ia Drang Scholarship Fund. The total assets of the Foundation are \$3,220,976, an increase of \$63,366. The Foundation (Base) assets are \$1,518,399, an increase of \$153,733 or 11.3 percent. The Ia Drang portion of the assets is \$1,702,577, a decrease of \$90,367 or -5.0 percent. Liabilities, which are payments due to administer our accounts, are \$7,500. The fund balance, or net worth of the Foundation, is \$3,213,476, which is up \$63,366. The Foundation portion of the fund balance is \$1,510,899, an increase of \$153,733. The Ia Drang portion of the fund balance is \$1,702,577, down \$90,367. The Market Value of the Foundation’s investments as of 31 March 2022 was \$2,609,017, down \$136,565 from last year, or 5.0 percent. The Ia Drang share of their securities is \$1,943,016, \$99,848 or 4.9 percent. The Foundation Base had unrealized earnings of \$1,368,635. The Ia Drang Fund has unrealized earnings of \$196,202. The Foundation Base has high-grade commercial bonds in the portfolio, which are valued at \$694,268. The Foundation bonds produce an annual income of \$28,365 providing an annual yield of 4.1 percent. The Ia Drang bonds are valued at \$784,173, producing an annual income of \$38,478, a yield of 4.0 percent. The Foundation provides scholarships to the children of those killed in action and the children of those that are 100% permanently disabled, and active-duty Troopers and their spouses. The Ia Drang fund provides scholarships to grandchildren of Troopers in specified units that were active participants in the battles.
- Pete briefed the members on the importance of including the Association and/or the Foundation in their Will for a monetary donation upon their death.
- The Executive Director, Dara Wydler provided the membership with a briefing on Association Programs:
- 2022 Reunion: Prior to departure, we had 406, members and guests, pre-registered.

2023 Reunion: My current plan of action is to use the same itinerary/schedule that would have been the 2020 Reunion in Louisville, KY. This will be the 75th Annual Reunion. I plan to make a trip in September to meet with the hotel/caterers/Belle of Louisville/Churchill Downs.

Veterans Day 2022: 40th Anniversary of Vietnam War Memorial and the reading of the names; Renovations complete on Korean War Memorial; Guest Speaker is Bill Corsair (Cav Trooper, Actor, Writer, and the original voice of the 1967 talking GI Joe).

Elections 2022: Nominating Committee approved the slate of officers.

Finally found a business lawyer in Harker Heights who can answer the questions I have about the Association and Gift Shop’s joint venture.

THANK YOU, TO ALL OF OUR
VALUABLE VOLUNTEERS!

- Gift Shop had losses throughout the time they have been open for sales at the Reunion. Intentional or not, it has been happening for quite some time. Courses of action were mentioned (i.e., not having a gift shop at reunions, shopping baskets, cameras). Members made it clear they want to continue having a Gift Shop for future reunions.

President Scott Sjule reminded members about the McKiddy Ceremony at 1400 hours.
A request from the floor from Tony Kalbi, to include a sign in roster for all medics.

Bob Anderson started a collection to help cover the losses for the Gift Shop.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1006 hours.

Dara C. Wydler
Secretary

74TH ANNUAL 1CDA REUNION RAFFLE WINNERS
Dayton, OH 2022

Not Pictured: David Fuchs, Handmade Quilted 1st Cav Wall Hanging



BOB HEINTZ
Framed Watercolor Print



THOMAS CRABTREE
1st Cav Medevac Print



JIM STIEGEMEIR
1st Cav Blanket



MICHAEL YOSHIDA
Puddle Light

All raffle proceeds benefit the Active-Duty Scholarship Program.
Thank you for your support!



2022 Hq and Spec Troops Luncheon



Current president Scott Sjule, gifting past president Allen Norris, a gavel

There are still some 2022 Reunion T-Shirts available to purchase from the Gift Shop!
\$23.95 + S/H
Med, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL
254-532-2075

2023 Reunion Information:
75th ANNUAL 2023 REUNION
JUNE 14-18, 2023
Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport
(502) 367-2251
Tell them you're with the 1st Cav Div Assn Reunion!

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 **Thursday, September 1, 2022.** Please send to Memberships@1CDA.org

CHAPTER REMINDER: Tax packets are due to 1CDA HQ by September 1st.

COLUMBIA-WILLAMETTE CHAPTER

Our members joined other Veterans and community supporters to remember and honor a Navy Veteran's military internment ceremony at the Willamette National Cemetery. Garnie Craig Hylton, age 70, of Portland, passed away on February 21, 2022. A call goes out for unclaimed Veterans, so no one is left to be forgotten and without honor. There are several events each year and our chapter consider it a measure of brotherhood to show up and be there for our brother Veteran without family to claim them at internment.



Graveside service for Garnie was held 4/20/22 at Willamette National Cemetery

The Oregon Vietnam Memorial in Portland, Oregon, is the most fitting place to be on Memorial Day, 2022. The 11-acre site is a winding trail with 6 alcoves covering phases of the Vietnam War listing the 808 Oregonians lost by period. Each alcove highlights political and military connections to the period as well as local events and happenings across Oregon.

Our Chapter joined the 25th Infantry Division chapter at this year's event to witness the reading of all names engraved on the alcoves. Speakers stressed how the memorial was not a shrine but a living garden of solace, free and open 24 hours every day. About 20 persons shared the reading of the names, punctuated by occasional comments about brothers, classmates, ranks, MOS, time in country, dates lost, and how they were and are valued. We share in the honor and respect for our fallen war dead.



CONNECTICUT CHAPTER

Our chapter attended the Traveling Wall in Cheshire Ct. on June 3. Our next general meeting will be Friday, **October 15, 1:00pm** at the **Waterbury, CT VFW**. All members and prospective members are invited. For more information contact Keith Moyer 860-885-4330 or [<kpmoyerco@hotmail.com>](mailto:kpmoyerco@hotmail.com).



FLORIDA'S FIRST COAST CHAPTER

We continue as brothers alternating our monthly meetings between Westside and Southside of Jacksonville because of the geographic size of Duval County. In June, our speaker, Joe Adcox, presented his personal story of his march to physical fitness after retiring as a Marine SGM. Joe gave us two reminders. 1. With regard to VA claims, never give up, persist. The VA is a vast bureaucracy and each voice when called or spoken to seems to pass to another voice. Use the computer if possible. You will eventually prevail. 2. Any activity is better than no activity with regard to your health. Even rotating your arms is good. Swimming works. But again, your persistence towards health is best. Anything works more than nothing. In July we will dedicate a 1st Cav Memorial brick on the walkway at the National POW/MIA Museum at Cecil Field in Jacksonville. For those of you interested or on a trip to Florida, the Museum should be on your bucket list. Take the Hwy 23 south exit off of I-10 to POW/MIA Parkway. To add to your trip enjoyment, the Museum is next to the golf course. Here is a picture of our last meeting. Nice uniforms wouldn't you say?



NEW YORK / NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

All service members regardless of branch or unit assignment, relatives and interested parties are invited to the next meeting of the New York/New Jersey Chapter of the 1st Cav Division on **Saturday, October 15**. The meeting will be held from **10 am to 2 pm** at the **Elks Club** in Ridgefield Park (**30 Spruce Avenue**). There is no charge to attend, and a buffet lunch will be served. Please join us to meet old friends and meet new ones. Our guest speaker at the October meeting will be Takeshi "Tak" Furumoto. After graduating from UCLA in 1967, Tak enlisted in the Army completing Basic and AIT at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO. This was followed by Engineering OCS at Ft. Belvoir, MD, the Monterey Language School in CA, and Combat Intelligence School at Halibut, MD. As a 1st Lieutenant, Tak served a tour in Vietnam from February 1970-71 as an Intelligence Officer at the Due Hue District, Hau Nghia Province near the Cambodian Border (Parrot's Beak) in III Corps. He was assigned as an advisor to the Vietnam National Police Chief, during the CIA's Operation PHOENIX. He worked to neutralize VC infrastructures in the district. He was awarded the Bronze Star for actions during the Cambodian invasion by US and ARVN forces in 1970. Returning to the US, Tak suffered from both PTSD and AO poisoning. He has been active in real estate development in Fort Lee, NJ, the town's Chamber of Commerce, VFW Troop 2342, and in human rights activities. Tak will discuss some specific engagements in Vietnam and thoughts on the war. For more information about this meeting please contact **Robin Bartlett**, President, NY/NJ Chapter 1 CDA, [<rbbartlett01@gmail.com>](mailto:rbbartlett01@gmail.com).



Tak Furumoto

CHAPTER INDEX

<p>ALMOST HEAVEN WEST VIRGINIA POC: Jim Hays 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 Meets 2pm 1st Sat Feb thru Sept at Shoney's Restaurant, Flatwoods, WV.</p>	<p>FLORIDA'S FIRST COAST Pres: Jesse Crimm 4445 Silverwood Ln Jacksonville, FL 32207-6241 904-534-8899 Email: thecrimms@gmail.com Meets at noon on 3rd Tues of every mos. Locations alternate between westside & southside Jacksonville. Call 904-534-8899 to be notified & placed on mailing list.</p>	<p>JAMES J. MASON WEST MICHIGAN POC: Bob Anderson 9030 Conservancy Dr. NE Ada, MI 49301-8822 (616) 682-5446 Email: rj.anderson2243@comcast.net Website: jjmwmc1cd.com Meets on 3rd Thurs of Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, and Dec, at 7pm, at the Grand Valley Armory in Wyoming, MI.</p>	<p>LRRP/RANGER of the 1st Cav Division during the Vietnam War 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 Reunions.</p>	<p>SHERIDAN'S CAVALRY (Greater Chicago Area) 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 2022 Meeting dates: Mar 12 /May 14/ Picnic Aug 6 / Oct 8 / Christmas Party Dec 3. Meetings and events held at Roselle American Legion Post #1084, 322 East Maple Ave., Roselle, IL 60172.</p>
<p>CALIFORNIA CENTRAL COAST Pres: Barney B. Jones P.O. Box 444 Pebble Beach, CA 93953 (831) 917-5952 Email: firstcav-cc-chapter@outlook.com</p>	<p>FLORIDA TROOP E "BLACK HAT" Pres: Juan Kellogg 607 SE 47th St., Apt. 7 Cape Coral, FL 33904-5506 Email: juankellogg@embarqmail.com POC: Johnny Robertson 1109 Highland Ave Lehigh Acres, FL 33972 (239) 265-1509 Email: Robertson.johnny06@gmail.com Website: www.seahog.org/cav/index.html Meets 4th Sat ea mos from Sept.-May 1:00 pm at Mission BBQ, 12984 S. Cleveland Ave, Fort Myers, FL 33907</p>	<p>JUMPING MUSTANGS 1-8 Cav Pres: Wayne Volk 3106 Nebraska Drive, Unit 2 Bismarck, ND 58503 (701) 226-9929 or (701) 527-1262 E-mail: lois.reinhardt@midco.net POC: James C. Knafel 5510E - 500 South Columbia City, IN 46725-7621 (260) 244-3864 Email: jjknafel@gmail.com Website: www.JumpingMustangs.com</p>	<p>NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY Pres: Robin B. Bartlett 63 Burlington St. Norwood, NJ 07648-1515 (201) 856-7530 Email: RBBartlett01@gmail.com Facebook: New York New Jersey Cavalry Instagram: NYNJCavalry Meets at Elk Lodge at Cedar and Spruce, Ridgefield Park, NJ.</p>	<p>WALTER H. WESTMAN NORTHLAND 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 Westman-Northland Chapter 1st Cavalry Division Association Meets quarterly at different locations. Call for updated information.</p>
<p>COLUMBIA-WILLAMETTE Pres: Terry Low 16560 S Harding Rd. Oregon City, OR 97045-9679 (503) 210-5558 Email: tangolima2505@comcast.net Website: www.Hood2Hood1stCav.webs.com Meets 1200 2nd Thurs of ea mos at the Kings Omelets Restaurant, 10711 NE Halsey St, Portland, OR. No meeting in Dec.</p>	<p>FORT KNOX AREA Pres: Thomas Ken O'Barr 12210 Valley Dr. Louisville, 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 Masonic Lodge, 1158 N. Dixie Hwy, Radcliff, KY.</p>	<p>KETTLE MORaine Pres: Gordon Weidner 1219 Cleveland Ave. Racine, WI 53405-2929 (262) 637-3835 POC: A. Michael Lorber 4819 Longwood Dr., Mt. Pleasant, WI 53403-9769 (262) 554-8310 We meet quarterly on 2nd Sat of Mar, Jun, Sept at 12pm at the Bunker in Waterford, WI. Election of officers are the 2nd Sat of Dec at 12pm at Meyers Restaurant in Greenfield, WI.</p>	<p>NORTH CAROLINA TARHEEL Pres: Johnny Parker 10915 Tradition View Dr. Charlotte, NC 28269-1411 (704) 517-5445 Email: shagon19@gmail.com Contact for Membership: Don Gibson 803 McDonald Church Road Rockingham, NC 28379-8529 (910) 417-9104 Email: dtbjgibson@gmail.com Meets 2nd Sat of Mar, Jun, Sept & Dec.</p>	<p>WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON NATIONAL CAPITOL REGION Pres: Gene Russell 9056 Belvoir Pkwy Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-2702 (703) 220-5322 Email: enrussell@msn.com Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division Nat'l Capitol Region Meets 3rd Sat in Jan-May off Jun-Aug. Meets again Sept-Dec. Nov meeting held in conjunction with 1CDA Veterans Day gathering.</p>
<p>CONNECTICUT Pres: Keith Moyer 48 Boretz Rd. Colchester, CT 06415-1009 (860) 885-4330 Email: kpmoyerco@hotmail.com Facebook: CTCav We meet quarterly. Email me for info. All new & prospective members welcome.</p>	<p>JAMES H. UNRUH CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA Pres: Michael T. Mazzaro 2600 Willow St. Pike North PMB 231 Willow Street, PA 17584 (717) 389-1000 Email: cenpenn1cda@gmail.com Meets 1800 2nd Tues of ea mos, except Nov, Dec, and Jan, Lititz VFW Post 1463, 14 N. Spruce St., Lititz, PA 17543</p>	<p>LOS ANGELES/ ORANGE COUNTY Pres: John Guillory 780 Mandevilla Way Corona, CA 92879-8251 (951) 278-3740 Email: fisheyel@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 mos at American Legion Post 132, 143 S Lemon St., Orange CA 92866</p>	<p>NORTHWEST 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 We currently meet online due to Covid-19. We will resume after the pandemic on the 1st Sat of even months, 12pm at Carr's Restaurant, 11006 Bridgeport Way SW, Lakewood, WA, except Christmas dinner, TBA</p>	
<p>CROSSED SABERS Pres: Dennis Webster (254) 220-2164 Email: Dennis.webster7@gmail.com Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division Association Crossed Saber Chapter Gen membership mtgs Mar & Oct. Stable Calls: 4th Thurs of ea mos, 6pm, except Nov, Dec and the month of the Assn Reunion. Stable Calls at various locations in Cen TX area.</p>				
<p>FLORIDA VP: Gil Harris (407) 296-2413 Facebook: Florida Chapter 1st Cavalry Division Association Meets 1300 2nd Tues of ea mos at VFW Post 2093, 4444 Edgewater Dr, Orlando</p>				



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

1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION - ALUMNI OF THE FIRST TEAM

CROSSED SABERS GIFT SHOP located at 1CDA HQ

302 N. Main St Copperas Cove, TX 76544

E-mail: 1stcavgiftshop@gmail.com

Online Catalog Visit: shop.1CDA.org

254-532-2075

Gift Shop Hours:
Mon - Fri 0900 - 1600

Buy all your Cav-Tastic souvenirs here!

Challenge Coins, Clothing, Flags, Hats, Jewelry, License Plates, Medals, Military Brass, Patches, Pins, Stetson & Accessories, Ties, Unit Stickers & Much More!

Printed Catalogs Are Available for \$5.00!

Make your check payable to 1st Cavalry Division Association and mail to: 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703.

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

We accept telephone orders with payment by MASTERCARD, VISA, DISCOVER or AMERICAN EXPRESS or you can order online at shop.1CDA.org using your credit card.

Crossed Sabers Chapter Souvenir Gift Shop

20% OFF COUPON

Telephone Orders Only

Mention coupon code 123022 to receive your discount.

1 per person

Expires: December 30, 2022

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

Why is this important to the Association?

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

As of 1 January 2022
ALL BOUNCED CHECKS WILL INCUR A \$25 FEE.

CREDIT CARD SERVICE CHARGES NOW APPLY
We have upgraded our credit card machine. A service charge of 4% will now be applied to all credit card transactions managed through the Association Office (calls & mail ins). This does not affect website transactions.
In the past, 1CDA has absorbed all customer service charges.

USEFUL VETERAN ASSISTANCE INFO:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SPECIFICALLY FOR TEXAS VETERANS

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

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

HELP US RECRUIT,
make sure those that you served with in the Division
are also members of the
1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION!

The next *Saber* newspaper is the
September / October 2022 edition.
Deadline for submissions of your stories or photos is
Thursday, September 1, 2022.
Please email to Programs@1CDA.org

1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
was formed in the Admiralty Islands
July 17, 1944
HAPPY BIRTHDAY 1CDA!
FIRST TEAM!

Do you have 1CD war stories you would like to share with other 1st Cav Veterans?
Send them to us and they will appear in the Trooper's Tale section in an upcoming Saber!
302 N. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522 or
email to Programs@1CDA.org

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

- 1st CAVALRY DIVISION UNIT BREAKDOWN**
1st Armored Brigade Combat Team "IRONHORSE"
- 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment "GarryOwen"
 - 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment "Lancers"
 - 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment "Stallions"
 - 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment "ThunderHorse"
 - 1st Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment "Dragons"
 - 91st Engineer Battalion "Sabers"
 - 115th Brigade Support Battalion "Muleskinners"
- FACEBOOK: 1st ARMORED BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM**
- 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team "BLACKJACK"**
- 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment "BlackKnights"
 - 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment "Mustangs"
 - 1st Battalion, 9th Cavalry Regiment "HeadHunters"
 - 4th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment "DarkHorse"
 - 3rd Battalion, 16th Field Artillery Regiment "RollingThunder"
 - 8th Engineer Battalion "TrojanHorse"
 - 15th Brigade Support Battalion "Gamblers"
- FACEBOOK: 2nd ARMORED BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM**
- 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team "GREYWOLF"**
- 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment "Chargers"
 - 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment "Ghost"
 - 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment "WarHorse"
 - 6th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment "Saber"
 - 2nd Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment "SteelDragons"
 - 3rd Engineer Battalion "Beavers"
 - 215th Brigade Support Battalion "Blacksmiths"
- FACEBOOK: 3rd BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM**
- 1st AIR CAVALRY BRIGADE "AIRCAV"**
- 1st Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment "Attack"
 - 2nd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment "Lobos"
 - 3rd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment "SpearHead"
 - 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry regiment "PaleHorse"
 - 615th Aviation Support Battalion "ColdSteel"
- FACEBOOK: 1st AIR CAVALRY BRIGADE AIRCAV**
- 1st Cavalry Division Sustainment Brigade "WAGONMASTERS"**
- 1st Special Troops Battalion
 - 553rd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion
- FACEBOOK: 1st CAVALRY DIVISION SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE**
- 1st Cavalry Division Artillery Brigade "REDTEAM"**
FACEBOOK: 1st CAVALRY DIVISION ARTILLERY
- Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion "MAVERICK"**
FACEBOOK: 1st CAV HHBN

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

THE HICCUP - Health Care
Information Committee Report

Department of Veterans Affairs Service-Disabled Veterans
Life Insurance (S-DVI)

As I talk to other Veterans who have submitted for and receiving a disability rating, I am always surprised that they did not read their decision paperwork and especially the last parts in reference to Service-Disabled Veterans Life Insurance (S-DVI) that is offered.

The S-DVI provides a \$10,000.00 life insurance policy at an exceptionally low cost and is usually taken from your VA Disability pay if you are receiving 10% or higher. To be eligible for the policy, you must meet all these requirements:

- You were released from active duty on or after April 25, 1951, and did not receive a dishonorable discharge, and
- You were rated for a service-connected disability (even if only 0%), and
- You are in good health except for any service-connected conditions, and
- You apply by December 31, 2022, or within 2 years of receiving your disability rating (whichever comes first)

Cost for the \$10,000.00 insurance ranges from \$180.06 annually at age 30 to \$781.60 annually at age 65. Again, this gets deducted from your disability payment that you were not receiving before, so it is not like you are losing anything.

Now, if you have a rating of 100%, then it becomes free if due to a disability rating and not unemployability. Plus, there is an option to increase to \$30,000.00 as a supplemental insurance.

For information look go to <<https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/options-eligibility/s-dvi/>>

BOTTOM LINE: This is a benefit that you are entitled to if you receive a disability rating, but rarely do Veterans take advantage of it.

Getting Your Military Records

Today’s newer Veterans receive a link or USB drive with all their records when they discharge. Additionally, they are able to login and access their records through eBenefits.va.gov.

Now for us older Veterans that might not have registered for eBenefits, you might have to go through the more personal approach. If you have filed for disability or pension benefits before, the VA may have pulled your DD-214. If so, Veteran’s Service Officer (VSO) who have access to the Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS) can look into their file and retrieve it. Be aware this is dependent on each individual VSO and the counties they work in as to whether this is possible. Even if requesting records from the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC), you can still request assistance from your local VSO.

Another place you can request a copy of your DD-214 is through the State Veterans Department from whichever state was your home of record at discharge. As mentioned, you can always contact a local Veteran Service Officer (VSO) to request assistance in getting a copy of your records. You can locate a VSO closest to you using the following website: <<https://nvf.org/veteran-service-officers/>>

You can also request a copy of your records (DD-214, Official Military Personnel File, Replacement Medals, Medical and Health Records) from the National Archives in a number of ways.

- You can make your request online at the National Archives website - <<https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>>
- You can fill out and submit a form SF-180 and mail/Fax it, or
- You can write a letter to the National Archives.

You can find additional information on getting copies of your records from the National Archives web site at <https://www.archives.gov/personnel-records-center/military-personnel> or calling 314-801-0800.

BOTTOM LINE: This is a benefit that you are entitled to, but rarely do Veterans take advantage of it.

PERSONAL NOTES:

- I request mine every few years to make sure I have certified copies for filing for non-VA benefits or when I die.
- If you got out before 1973 – YOU MUST request yours to ensure they have a copy of it after the massive fire. My dad has a big burn hole in his and we had to send a copy he had through correction of military records to have a complete DD-214.
- See if there are any awards that might have been added, since you ETSed or PCSed.

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
505-889-8582

“Doc Shock” has asked Erin Stockton DMD an Albuquerque, New Mexico dentist to help us in a series of article to improve our dental care. The following article is submitted by Erin Stockton DMD.

I have met a lot of patients over the years, and most come with some good stories. When I see a patient with a broken tooth, I always ask for the back story; not just because some of the stories are entertaining (yes – people still open beer bottles with their teeth), but also because it helps me to form my diagnosis and helps me to figure out which treatment options are going to be most appropriate for the patient. And I get to know my patients a little bit better.

Through listening to my patients speak, I have heard a lot of ideas and explanations that are common but are not correct. So, this is the fourth and fifth of five articles debunking most common myths in dental care. Hopefully, these articles will provide information to help us make smarter choices for our teeth and health.

Today we are going to talk about periodontal disease which is also known as gum disease or bone loss. This is a bacterially driven process that causes patients to lose the bone that surrounds the teeth. This is screened for at each cleaning appointment at your dental office because many times, this process occurs slowly and can be detected early. Loss of bone is a serious condition as the bone cannot be grown back. Treatments are aimed at halting the progression of the disease so you can maintain the bone that you do have. Looks like at a common myth surrounding this disease:

Myth #4: Periodontal disease is a normal part of the aging process. This is completely a myth! There are many factors that contribute to the cause of a patient having periodontal disease, but age is not one of them. Poor oral hygiene, poorly fitting restorations, hard to reach or clean areas of the mouth, decreased dexterity, certain medical conditions, and genetics are all key factors – and some of these become more prevalent as we age. But age alone does not cause periodontal disease.

Like many other medical conditions, doing your part in taking care of your health and having regular check-ups can help prevent periodontal disease – or – detect it early while the treatments are more minimal. Keeping your teeth clean and free of buildup plays a huge role in prevention of this disease. This means maintaining a regiment of brushing and flossing daily. There are many other tools that can be used to help you clean your teeth at home, and your dentist and dental hygienist can help make recommendations on what might work best for your hard-to-reach areas. Once the buildup hardens, it does need to be professionally removed, and therefore it is important for you to have your teeth cleaned regularly. If you find dental cleanings to be uncomfortable, let your dental healthcare team know.

Let us talk about root canals. I know you have seen dental scenes in movies or comedy sketches. They look terrible. They have a terrible reputation. And you know someone with a terrible story about a root canal. Few people even know what a root canal is!

In the very center of every tooth, there is a space that houses the nerve of a tooth. This space extends down into each root of the tooth. If that tooth becomes inflamed (either because of deep decay, cracks, breaks, trauma, or other sources) it can produce a toothache. Sometimes that nerve within the tooth will die and an infection can ensue. Root canal therapy is a treatment aimed at removing painful nerve tissue from within the tooth or disinfecting an infected nerve space within the tooth to treat the infection.

The final myth we are debunking is **myth #5: Getting a root canal hurts!** Dentistry has come a long way through the years, and there is an increased focus on patient comfort. More than ever before, dentists are trying to create a relaxing atmosphere that caters to the patient and offers patients the opportunity to have their mouths taken care of in a pain-free manner. Before a root canal procedure is performed, the tooth is anesthetized (numbed). Once effective anesthesia is obtained, then the procedure can be started. If you are experiencing pain, you are not completely anesthetized, and it is important that you let your dentist know so he or she can get you comfortable. And I will tell you whether you are having a root canal completed, a tooth extracted, or a simple filling done; it is as important to me as it is to you that you are not feeling pain while I am working.

So, if you are having a toothache, lingering sensitivity with cold stimuli, pain to chewing, or swelling, this may mean your tooth needs attention. You should call your dentist to schedule an evaluation to determine if something is wrong and if treatment is needed. If you find that you do need a root canal, relax. Let your dentist explain the procedure to you. Ask questions if you need to, including how long the procedure might take, and ideas on how to help you feel comfortable during your appointment. Most providers do not mind if you bring headphones and music to your appointment, if you wear comfy clothes or even bring a blanket; we really do want you to be as comfortable as possible.

This ends our series on improving our dental health. One important fact is our dental health as we age correlates with our physical health. Those with the best dental health also tend to have the best physical health. We appreciate any suggestions for future articles and questions of interest for improving active duty and Veteran’s health.

RESTRUCTURING DIVISION
Continued from pg. 5

airborne division. Other than the air assault qualification as opposed to airborne qualification, this division will also have an additional general support aviation battalion in its medium aviation brigade, which includes cargo helicopters. This gives the air assault division the largest aviation brigade of any of the division types.

“Following Army realignment of divisions, the Army will have two armored divisions and two heavy divisions,” Watts said, with one armored division active duty and the other National Guard. “The division will look similar to what it does today. We will still have three brigade combat teams, a division artillery brigade, a sustainment brigade and a combat aviation brigade.

“The additional units are scheduled to be up and be fully operational by 2028. As the primary unit of action, the division will control all of these units during large-scale combat operations.”

Want to see your name under Honor Roll section?

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

Please Consider!

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



I received a telephone call from **James A. Becker** <jab507621@gmail.com> in New Bern, NC. James says he was a quartermaster officer in the 11th Air Assault Division

(Test) and was involved in the war games conducted to test the Howze Board's recommendation of the formation of an Air Assault Division.

James mentioned meeting a flight surgeon in the 15th Medical Battalion, CPT Sherman. They both went to Vietnam on the same boat and struck somewhat of a camaraderie. James does not yet know CPT Sherman's first name. James says CPT Sherman said he was the grandson of GEN William Tecumseh Sherman.

"There was an effort to produce a type of book for the members of the 11th Air Assault Division in the spring of 1965. President Johnson's announcement that we were going to become the 1st Cavalry Division and would be sent to Vietnam in the spring of 1965 followed the sale of this album that was yet to be produced.

"I purchased one and was then involved in the changeover of the 11th Air Assault Division which meant that its flag was to be wrapped up. The 1st Cavalry Division was then sending their division materials to us at Fort Benning, GA. I shared a house with another 1LT, and he became involved with the general officers who had been in WWII with the 1st Cavalry.

"The flag was brought from Korea to Fort Benning, GA. The production of this book was for the purpose of showing the achievements of the 11th Air Assault Division and the progress we had made in operationally testing the limits of the helicopter and cargo air mobility that could be accomplished.

"The first 1st Cavalry Division reunion I attended was sometime after 1975 in Harrisburg, PA. The officer who organized it had been in the 1-5 Cavalry Bn. He had received his copy. "I had moved addresses several times after my ETS as I became employed as a production trainee for Jones & Laughlin Steel, at the Pittsburgh Works. I was not disappointed by the fact that I had not received my copy.

"This album had a picture of the medical helicopter that was shot down during the Ia Drang battle. It was noted that it had been in Life Magazine. It related that Doctor Sherman had jumped into the helicopter to help a private who was spurring blood from his wound just as a rocket grenade hit the helicopter. It stated that Doctor Sherman had lost his life.

"I went to Vietnam on the Naval Transport - the Upshur, which took 30 days to cross the ocean. CPT Sherman was a Flight Surgeon for the 1st Cavalry Division, he played a banjo and spent time playing it in the evenings on deck. He was interested in the purpose of the war we were to face in Vietnam.

"As officers we had both attended the special session at the Fort Benning main post movie theater, when Bernard D. Fall had spoken of the challenges we faced in going to Vietnam. He had written a book called 'Street without Joy.' Doctor Sherman had purchased a copy of this book after we had listened to Bernard D. Fall. He offered it to me to read, based upon the fact that I had to read it all in 24 hours so that it could be passed around to as many officers as possible.

"This version of 'Street without Joy' was critical of the French approach to how they handled Ho Chi Minh. Ho Chi Minh had served in the American Merchant Marine for America during a large portion of WWII. Ho Chi Minh was a French Communist and not part of the Russian Revolution. Doctor Sherman at some point mentioned that he was GEN Sherman's grandson.

"Since that time, I have become a past president of the North Carolina Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. My retirement has provided me with opportunities to research the activity of my ancestors. I suspect that it was my great, great grandfather who met with GEN Sherman and GEN Grant in Cincinnati. There has never, and will probably never be, a memorial to it.

"I regret that I will not be able to attend the reunion in Dayton, Ohio, the city of my birth. The 11th Airborne Division flag will be rolled out in Alaska, the Angle Division has always had a mind of its own! Thank You." I think what James at the end here is alluding to is that in May 2022 it was decided to reactivate the 11th Airborne Division which just happened at the beginning of June 2022. It has assumed the U.S. Army Alaska to focus on Arctic warfare.

So, if anyone can help James with locating a copy of the 11th Air Assault Division commemoration book, please contact him. That was the purpose of mentioning all of this, and to find out more about CPT Sherman. If anyone can help with any of this, please contact James and let me know as well.

I got a telephone call from **Earl Kinard** who is in D.C. I thought about Earl when I read the article in the last column myself. Earl was one of the Army Medics who had become a physician assistant after serving in Vietnam. He had been a SP5 Medic in HHC 15th MED in An Khe 1966-'67. I had written about Earl in the Jan/Feb 2019 *Saber* because he had been arrested and tried to be prosecuted by the D.C. government for misrepresenting himself as a medical practitioner. At the time Earl was licensed in Maryland and had graduated from a Howard University program, as well as having his experience as a U.S. Army Medical Corpsman which included a lot about medical practice and on the job training.

The Federal Judge in the case had questioned Earl and ruled he could continue practicing as he had. The judge said the government was foot dragging with legislation about physician assistants which were greatly needed. Earl says that he is planning to write a book about his experiences which would be informative related to the subject of the article in the last *Saber*. Earl said he has worked with legislators about the subject for which he is a vanguard.

I also received a telephone call from 1970-'71 MEDEVAC 19 **Greg Simpson**. Greg said he had gone to the recent 15th MED Assn Reunion. He said there were fewer attendees than previously, for all the apparent reasons. Greg recalled me flying with him and AC MEDEVAC 1 Henry Tuell in Cambodia.

Greg said he had graduated near the top of his Army flight class, and like many other new pilots chose to go the Medical Evacuation training at Ft. Sam Houston before going to Vietnam. When he got to Vietnam, he expected to be assigned to an air ambulance unit and was, but it was the 1st Cavalry Division's Air Ambulance Platoon.

Greg said he was surprised-if not shocked- to see mounted machine guns on the medical helicopters. He said he never knew that existed like that. Greg said that ultimately, he was glad they had the M60s which were good to suppress enemy fire.

Although he said he is not a member of the 1st Cav Assn, -why not? He would

like to see a 15th MED Assn Reunion at Ft. Hood, if not with the other 1st Cav Reunion sites. I mentioned to him how from their beginning I kept encouraging them to have their reunions with the 1st Cav. One year they did, said they had fun, but felt they could get a better turnout for themselves on their own. So many Cav groups unfortunately feel that way.

Time is taking its toll on aged reunion attendees. When I first went to 1st Cav Reunions many years ago it was usually the smaller units had their mini reunions at the 1st Cav Assn Reunions. Everyone was together like the Division.

From the 15th MED Assn website, a final DEROS is noted for:

Quinn H. Becker

LTG Quinn H. Becker, (Retired.), 91, passed away on Sunday, March 13th, 2022, at his home in San Antonio, Texas. Quinn graduated from LSU Medical School in 1956 and then completed his internship at Tripler Army Hospital in Hawaii, followed by an Army sponsored orthopedic residency at Confederate Memorial Hospital, Shreveport, Louisiana.

LTG Becker deployed to Vietnam. LTG Becker was the division surgeon and commander of the 15th Medical Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division. Besides leading the medical battalion in Vietnam, he managed a fleet of medical evacuation helicopters and crews. This assignment began a close association with the air ambulance mission and battlefield medicine, resulting in lifelong friendships.

On a side note, in reference to the Combat Medical Badge is the Army Regulation:

Reference: AR 600-8-22, Military Awards, Chapter 8

Background: Originally established as the Medical Badge, the Combat Medical Badge (CMB) was created by the War Department on 1 March 1945. It could be awarded to officers, warrant officers, and enlisted Soldiers of the Medical Department assigned or attached to the medical detachment of infantry regiments, infantry battalions, and elements thereof designated as infantry in tables of organization or tables of organization and equipment. Its evolution stemmed from a requirement to recognize medical aid-men who shared the same hazards and hardships of ground combat on a daily basis with the infantry Soldier. Though established almost a year and a half after the Combat Infantry Badge (CIB), it could be awarded retroactively to 7 December 1941 to fully qualified personnel.

The CMB was created as a "companion" badge to the CIB with criteria for its award intended to parallel that of the CIB. It was designed to provide recognition to the field medic who accompanies the infantryman into battle and shares with the experiences unique to the infantry in combat. There was never any intention to award the CMB to all medical personnel who serve in a combat zone or imminent danger area, that is, a division-level medical company supporting a maneuver brigade.

As with the CIB, the infantry unit to which the medical personnel are assigned or attached must engage the enemy in active ground combat. Since inception, the intent of the Department of the Army regarding this requirement has been that medical personnel must be personally present and under fire in order to be eligible for the awarding of the badge. So stringent was this requirement during the Vietnam era that recommending officials were required to document the place (in six-digit coordinates), time, type, and intensity of fire to which the proposed recipient was exposed. This fact naturally precludes the awarding of the badge to those medical personnel who accompany infantry units into a potential engagement area but do not come under enemy fire. Over the years, there has been some confusion concerning the phrase "...in direct support of an infantry unit...". The CMB is intended for, and awarded to, those medical personnel who accompany the infantryman into combat. The Army has never approved of deviations from this purpose and its restrictive criteria.

Eligible Personnel:

- May be awarded to members of the Army Medical Department/ personnel (Colonels and below).
- Effective 19 December 1989-Special Forces personnel possessing military occupational specialty (MOS) 18D (Special Operations Medical Sergeant) who satisfactorily perform medical duties while assigned or attached to a Special Forces unit during any period the unit is engaged in active ground combat, provided they are personally present and under fire. Retroactive awards under these criteria are not authorized prior to 19 December 1989.
- Effective 16 January 1991-Medical personnel assigned or attached to armor and ground cavalry units of brigade or smaller size, who satisfactorily perform medical duties while the unit is engaged in actual ground combat, provided they are personally present and under fire. Retroactive awards under these criteria are not authorized prior to 16 January 1991.
- On or after 18 September 2001-Medical personnel assigned or attached to or under operational control of any ground Combat Arms units (to include members assigned or attached to combat Aviation units) of brigade or smaller size, who satisfactorily perform medical duties while the unit is engaged in active ground combat, provided they are personally present and under fire. Retroactive awards under these criteria are not authorized for service prior to 18 September 2001.
- Effective 3 June 2005, Soldiers possessing a MOS of 18D are no longer eligible for award of the CMB.

*Initial award of the CMB is authorized for Soldiers who meet all eligibility criteria for the qualifying wars, conflicts, and operations listed in AR 600-8-22, paragraph 8-7. Only one award of the CMB is authorized per Qualifying Period/Era (for example, a Soldier who served in both OEF and OIR is only authorized one award of the CMB since both operations are in the 4th Qualifying Era). Subsequent awards of the CMB may be awarded provided the Soldier has met eligibility criteria in separate Qualifying Periods/Eras. For example, a second award with superimposed star on the wreath could be awarded for a Soldier who served in Somalia (3d Qualifying Era) and OIF (4th Qualifying Era).

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

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

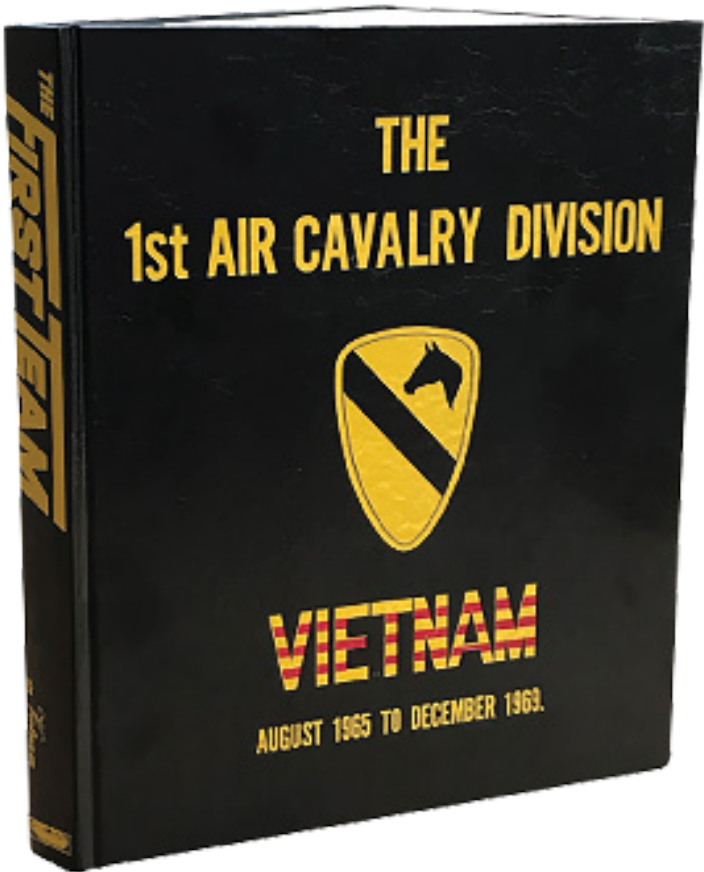
Yes! This is the same book Acclaim Press offered in the *Saber* last year (where you purchased directly from the publisher). If you missed that opportunity to pre-order, we were able to order a limited amount of copies to have available to our members. Please mail us your completed order form located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

ABOUT THE BOOK

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

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

LIMITED QUANTITIES
AVAILABLE



MEMOIRS OF THE FIRST TEAM IN
VIETNAM-SPECIAL REPRINT EDITION

Limit 1 book per member

Amount Due: \$ 85.00

Form of Payment:

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

Credit Card # _____

Exp Date: _____ CVV on back: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

Phone #: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

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

SHIPPING IS FREE

PURCHASE YOUR AIR ASSAULT BADGE PINS

through our Crossed Sabers Gift Shop

254-532-2075



Vietnam War Style

Air Assault Badge-
Vietnam War Style
Stock #1342

\$6.75

Color: Oxidized silver plated
Size: 1 7/8 " x 1 1/8"



Air Assault Badge
available in two sizes!

Small is 7/8" x 1/2"
Stock #1431

\$4.50

Large is 1.25" x 3/4"
Color: Bright nickel plated
Stock #2604

\$4.95

SHIPPING
CHARGES
APPLY

QTY	S/H
1-5	\$5.50
6-10	\$6.00
10+	\$9.45

ORDER YOUR AIR ASSAULT PIN TODAY!

CHECK OUT OTHER ITEMS
AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE:

<https://shop.1CDA.org/>



\$20

Call to Order
254-547-6537

Due to limited quantities, if you
purchased a coin at the reunion, you
may not purchase another one.



LIMITED QUANTITIES
Commemorative Air Assault Coin

LIMITED TO MEMBERS WHO
RECEIVED THEIR
1CDA AIR ASSAULT CERTIFICATE

(Your name will be checked against our master list)

Due to limited quantities, if you purchased a coin at the
reunion, you may not purchase another one.

We have been accepting Air Assault Applications since April
2021. Thank you for your patience. We have had an over-
whelming response. We mailed out over 1500 Honorary Air
Assault certificates.

Our deadline has passed on 1 August.
We are NO LONGER ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS.

Call to place your order!
254-547-6537

ENGINEER News



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

The Mongoose

I was extremely green. I was in An Khe, at charm school, in a foreign land, in the Army, in an area where a war was going on, I did not know anyone or really what to do. Being a new guy, I was put on guard duty the

first night I was there. The sun went down, and I did not know what to expect. There was no briefing other than stand here, here are your challenge words, you will be relieved in four hours, and then the guy walked off into the fading light.

An hour later it got so dark I could not see my hand in front of my face. I was listening hard when I heard, "F*** You." I pointed my M-16 in the direction I heard the words and waited. I heard it again, "F*** You" but there did not seem to be any menace in the words, no giggles or laughs from harassing the new guy, and then I remembered. I had heard about these lizards and now, I had one talking in the dark, not to me, probably looking for a girlfriend, but it sounded like someone harassing the new guy, me. I laughed at myself for taking the lizard so seriously then ignored it. Lesson learned, there really are "F*** You" lizards.

I was relieved at midnight and went to my barracks. I woke up at reveille the next morning and was walking down to the mess hall with a lot of other men. We had to cross a bridge over a small stream and in the stream was a guy slowly creeping along in the water. I stopped and another guy told me that the guy in the stream, was the chaplain's assistant. His pet mongoose had gotten out and he was trying to catch it. The guy got close and grabbed the mongoose in the water and then we heard some serious screaming. It turned out the mongoose was not his pet and when the guy picked him up, the mongoose fought hard to get away, scratching and biting the guy, ripping his shirt. The Chaplain's assistant let the little mongoose go quickly and climbed up out of the stream bed. When he got to us, his chest was soaked in blood from several long deep scratches. We saw he was going to need a medic and told him to get going. The guy I had been talking with told me in the night, they had shot a tiger near the mess hall. The guys on guard near the mess hall heard something in the garbage cans and when they investigated, a tiger was looking for something to eat, so the guards shot him. When everyone carries a gun, things get shot.

Months later I was at Phouc Vinh on guard duty. I was on a bunker with Wally Morken. It was about two in the morning, when I saw some movement out a hundred feet past the perimeter wire in the flood lights. I told Wally and we both watched the area. We saw the movement again and it was a mongoose. We watched it for a while and then we noticed, just past the mongoose, were two dark shadows. We watched them and soon they moved closer to the perimeter wire. There was no doubt about it, we had two of the enemy slowly crawling toward us. We both hunkered down behind the sandbags on top of our bunker and called the Sgt of the Guard. That is what the orders were. Do not fire unless you have permission. Right there in front of us were two guys trying to get on our side of the perimeter wire. They could have been sappers, for sure, they meant to do us harm, so like good Soldiers, we called to get permission to shoot them. That is why we are in Viet Nam, to shoot the enemy.

It was our luck that night to have a rear area as Sgt of the guard. "Don't shoot," he said. "What do you mean, do not shoot. We got two VC crawling up on us and you are telling us to not shoot?!" "Yes, don't shoot until I get there," he said.

So, we are sitting there, watching these two guys in black pajamas crawling closer to us and the Sgt of the Guard had not shown up. "Screw this," I said to Wally. "If we can't shoot them, let's chase them off." I took a hand flare, pointed it at the men in black, and fired it. The flare landed just in front of them. They turned around and they mowed back to the tree line. After they had disappeared, the Sgt showed up. "Where are they?" he asked. "Gone," I told him. "We weren't going to sit here and let them throw a satchel charge at us waiting for you to show up." "You were probably seeing things," he said and went back to the TOC.

Time passed and I was on guard duty on one of our towers. Around midnight the bunker in front of our tower called on the land line and said, "We hear something in the wire. We have requested permission to put a flare up and have been denied." We had been told there was a shortage on hand flares and to not use them. Just do not. I was about to tell the guys to put a flare up anyway when the top of their bunker exploded. Sappers had thrown a satchel charge on top of the bunker and the two guys on top of the bunker were killed. It is a crappy thing to have two guys die from following orders to not send up a hand flare.

Bangkok

I got to go on leave to Bangkok. They have two temples of the Golden Buddha in Bangkok and I have been to both. At one they have Buddhas that have been sent there from several countries all over the world. They have a nice display, under a red tiled roof, with a marble floor, and there must be 40 pedestals around the perimeter of this temple, with these 3' statues of Buddhas on the pedestals. The statues are setting on top of the pedestals on squares of marble about three feet square. People have been cremated; their ashes have been put into an openmouthed clay urn and placed around the statues of these Buddhas. Thousands of tourists walk by these statues every year and the problem is that a lot of them smoke cigarettes. I noticed in most of these urns, there were twenty or thirty cigarette butts stuck in the top of the ashes. People had been using these cremation urns for ash trays! Some were so full you could not get another cigarette butt in it. I laughed and shook my head. People had been cremated, put into an urn, shipped to this deeply religious temple, and now their ashes have become an ashtray. I decided right then if I was ever cremated to have my ashes tossed in the air on a windy day or in the ocean, rather than put into an urn to become a butt can.

Korean Beer

Someone made a fortune by buying and selling Korean beer in Viet Nam. The beer had to be made from fermented Kimchee. It is smelled about as bad as the four-hole toilets we had at base camp in Phouc Vinh. It was in the PX in nicely stacked cases, but the only time it was bought was when every other type of American beer had run out.

It was hot. A guy needed something cold to drink other than a sweet soda. It got down to where if you wanted something that would keep in the community

refrigerator in the barracks, you would reluctantly buy one of the two kinds of Korean beer, OB, or Crown. The community fridge was a small one, about 3' high, 2' wide, and 2' deep. They were hard to come by. We had one in the S-3 hooch. When a guy would serve out his sentence and get to go home, he usually sold his share in the fridge for \$5.00 to someone who had a while to go before leaving Viet Nam.

I had been out in the jungle for a while and came back to base camp. I did not have any duty, so I showered, put on some clean clothes, felt like a new man, and went to the PX to get a six pack of beer. When I got there, they were out of all the American beer and the only thing they had left was the Korean OB and Crown. I had tried one previously and even though it stank like a mud hole, I bought a six pack. It was all they had. I came back to the barracks and put it in the fridge. If you put anything in there cold and was not sitting right there to stand guard on it, you could count on five of the six cans being stolen. That is just the way it was.

I had to go to the TOC for a few minutes and when I came back all six of my Korean beers were there. I was amazed. Everyone steals beers out of the fridge and mine had not been touched, because they were stinky Korean beers. Well, this was OK. I found something I could put in there so I could have a cold drink the other guys would not steal. I sat down and opened one of the bad butt smelling beers and had a cold drink. It was cold but man, putting it up to your mouth brought the smell close to your nose and the smell was just awful. So, I thought, what if I pinched my nose so I could not smell it. I did just that. I pinched my nose and took a long drink, held onto my nose for a few seconds, then took my hand away, and shazam, it was tolerable. I had found a way to drink the stinky Korean beer. I felt pleased with myself. I did not have a can of that six-pack stolen and got to drink all six of them.

The next week I went back to the PX and bought more. I bought two six packs of OB and brought it back and put it in the fridge. I drank most of one six pack over a week and a guy finally asked, "How do you drink that crap smelling stuff?" He was a friend of mine and not thinking I told him, just hold your nose before you take a drink and for a few seconds after. Big mistake. Later I went to take a shower and when I got back in the barracks, I found one can of my second six pack of Korean beer left in the fridge. My secret was out. Now there was nothing in the entire country of Viet Nam I could put in that fridge and not have five out of six cans stolen before I could drink them.

OTHER REUNIONS:

C Troop 1-9 Cav, 19-21 Aug 2022. Branson, MO. POC: Pat Bieneman, <pcbnamin@verizon.net> or (859) 771-6342.

12 CAV Reunion, 7-11 Sept 2022. Branson, MO. POC: Thomas Paoli 630-802-1950 or <TomPaoli@yahoo.com>.

8 Cav Jumping Mustangs, 14-17 Sept 2022. Crowne Plaza Burr Ridge Chicago, IL. Reservations: 630-325-2900 \$125/night. Use code Jumping Mustangs. POC: James Knafel 260-244-3864 or <jjknafel@gmail.com>.

77FA Reunion, 14-18 Sept 2022. Colorado Springs, CO. Radisson Hotel Colorado Springs Airport, 1645 N. Newport Rd, 719-597-7000. POC: John Moran, <johnjanmoran@woh.rr.com> or 937-361-1333.

A Troop, 1-9 Cav, 29 Sep - 2 Oct 2022. Tempe, AZ. POC: Mike Lentino, <mikelentino@cox.net>.

E Battery (AVN) 82nd Arty, 9-12 Nov 2022. Galveston, TX. Moody Gardens, room rate \$172/night, free parking. All former members and their guests are invited. POC: Patrick McIntyre <pat@mcintyre.com>

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

NATIONAL PURPLE HEART HALL OF HONOR

<https://www.thepurpleheart.com>
374 Temple Hill Rd.
New Windsor, NY 12553
845-561-1765



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

545th MP Co News
Lawrence Gardner Ketron
232 New Beason Well Rd
Kingsport, TN 37660
(423) 967-8226
LGKetron@earthlink.net

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

HOW WE BECAME MP's
JOURNEY OF TOM WILEY, CSM (Ret)

I joined the army in 1961 as a regular, because jobs were scarce. Supposed to be aerial photo interpreter but was put in morse intercept school. Flunked out and sent to infantry school at Fort Dix. As a holdover, was sent to US Army MP Co as stockade tower guard, but assigned to work in AWOL apprehension. As I could type, changed MOS in Sept 1962. Pulled AWOL duty and post patrol at Fort Dix. Reenlisted in June 1964 because of pending GI Bill. Went to Korea to 512th MP PLT and pulled compound security and classified package escorts. Promoted to E-5, SGT in Sept 1965. The 572nd MP Co at Fort Ritchie, MD, was next assignment, all security. Volunteered for Viet Nam and wound up in the 545th. As a buck Sergeant, I was assigned many duties. Enjoyed my time as an MP and got discharged as a SSG in 1967.

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

Tom Wiley III was first provost marshal Sergeant Major of the 49th Armored Division, TXNG 1 April 1991, then Command Sergeant Major of 649th Military Intelligence Battalion in Nov of 1996. Became Command Sergeant Major of Division Support Command, 49th Armored Division in September 1999. Two weeks at Sergeants Major Academy, Ft Bliss in July 1991.

JOURNEY OF BOB CALL as told to the author:

After graduating from high school in 1960, I attended a junior college in Illinois, having a good time rather than attending to my studies. Subsequently, I shortly was invited not to return. My father suggested that I needed to do something to occupy my time. I went to the Army recruiter to inquire about what the Army had to offer. I was handed a book of about one inch thickness that contained a description and a picture of a Soldier for every MOS that was offered by the Army. After thoroughly looking at each page I noticed that the picture of two MP's in a jeep was the only one in which the Soldier was sitting rather than having a tool in his hand and working. When the recruiter asked about my choice, I told him that I wanted to be an MP. He replied that nobody asks to be an MP, but for the area there were only two slots allocated for MP recruits, and I would have to wait two months to get one. I went to basic at Ft. Knox, KY, and then to MP school at Ft. Gordon, and upon graduation was sent to Arlington Heights, Illinois, to the 45th Artillery Brigade (Air Defense) as a security MP. After that I was sent to Bordeaux, France, and then to Germany. In May, 1964, was sent to the 11th MP company of the 11th AAD at Ft. Benning.

JOURNEY OF BILLY YORK as told to the author:

I attended college at North Gorgia College, a college where being in ROTC was required. I opted to go for advanced ROTC and was commissioned a reserve officer as an MP. Attended the 9-week MP officer school at Ft. Gordon. I was sent to a unit which was going to France for a training exercise. That exercise was canceled due to the Dominican Republic problem. I was at Ft. Bragg when the 1st Cavalry was ordered to Viet Nam. After the 545th company commander moved up to assistant PM, one platoon leader moved up to take his place. The other platoon leaders had less than 90 days active duty left, so a new crop of platoon leaders were assigned to the 545th MP. Barry Schieb and I were transferred from Ft. Bragg to the 545th.

THE 11th BEGAN STAFFING TO BECOME A FULLY FUNCTIONAL MP COMPANY

With the arrival of the 66 privates from MP school in July of 1964, the 11th MP began to take shape as a fully functioning MP company. Like a lot of the 11th AAD, the company was housed in WWII type two-story wooden barracks in the Harmony Church area. This area was several miles from the main post and was split by the 4-lane US-27. The floors were covered with a brown linoleum type of floor covering, bunks were stacked two high, heat was supplied by a coal stove in a partial underground room below the living quarters, and hot water was supplied by a coal heater. One MP was assigned to maintain the heating systems. There were four barracks buildings, an orderly room building, and a supply, armory, and communications building, situated in a row, all of the same type of construction. All buildings were of wood, were not insulated, had water in the latrine, and had minimal electric service. Latrines were of the open type with cast iron urinal troughs and cast iron sinks. The orderly room building was the first in the row, followed by the barracks, the supply building being the last in the row. The motor pool was a ½ mile or so away on the other side of US-27. Access to the motor pool area was via a 2-lane concrete bridge over US-27. The offices of the Provost Marshall, the assistant PM, and the desk sergeant were in a like constructed building a few blocks away, closer to US-27.

Neither the 11th MP, nor the 545th MP at that time had its own mess facilities. At Benning meals were taken in the replacement mess hall unless, when on patrol duty, one could wrangle a meal from some other company. That was hard to do, since at the end of the work day, one of the four patrols was assigned to take down the flag at the division headquarters building, two were setting up cones on US-27 and/or directing traffic for those Soldiers trying to get home for the evening.

Patrols were active 24 hours a day. Shifts were 07:00 to 15:00, 15:00 to 23:00, and 23:00 to 07:00. Each platoon supplied a four patrol shift, three days on each shift starting with the day shift and ending with night shift. At the end of the night shift, that platoon had three days off. Most of the unmarried Soldiers from the southeast tried to find transportation to their hometowns to get away from the post. Many times, we would invite platoon members to go with us or would be invited to go with somebody. We had no money to speak of, the pay for a private being \$78/month. If we could get to the home of the parents of someone, lodging and meals were free. Frequently a friend with whom you went had a girlfriend who had friends. Some marriages resulted from these travels. The author met some great families like this.

O.P. VETERAN

is a 501(c)3 organization that eases Veteran emotional transition by helping to provide a post-military passion and purpose.



O.P. VETFEST VI
October 22, 2022
Noon-5 PM (opening ceremony starts promptly at noon)
Old Settlers Park - Lakeview Pavillion
3300 East Palm Valley Blvd.
Round Rock, TX 78665



This year, honoring Vietnam Veterans of the
H Co, 75th Infantry Airborne Rangers of the Long Range Recon Patrol (LRRP).
An outdoor concert performed by Veteran musical acts

Come out for a day of fellowship and fun with the Veteran community and learn about where to find the services you need, the volunteer opportunities you're looking for, and the Veteran owned products that you want!

There will be food vendors, cold beverages in the "Green Zone," plus a raffle, and tons of door prizes!

This is a kid friendly event, located next to the Pavilion and park, Service Pets are welcome, must be on a leash per Round Rock Parks rules. Special parking for handicap will be at the entrance of the event.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

DIVISION DOINGS

First Team Remembers Legacy During Medal of Honor Transfer by SSG Ashley Dotson Photo by SGT Brayton Daniel

The 1st Cavalry Division hosted a special ceremony, June 23, 2022, on Cooper Field to transfer the Medal of Honor award presented to 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment Trooper, CPL Tibor Rubin for his selfless and valorous actions during the Korean War from 1950-1953.



“This Division earned its distinguished reputation as the world’s premier armored force because of legends like CPL Tibor Rubin who demonstrated courage and selflessness on the battlefield and while in captivity,” said MG John B. Richardson IV, 1st Cavalry Division commanding general, who presided

over the ceremony. “We are grateful for his service and sacrifice and will continue to honor him along with hundreds of other 1st Cavalry Division heroes who made this division what it is today-America’s First Team.”

Several members of CPL Rubin’s family, including his daughter, Rosalyn (Rosie) Rubin, nephew, Robert Huntley, and niece, Deborah Kessler, traveled to Fort Hood to donate the Medal of Honor originally presented to Rubin by President George W. Bush during a White House ceremony on Sept. 25, 2005, at the U.S. Army Center for Military History to be displayed in the 1st Cavalry Division Headquarters.

“Thank you to the Rubin family, Robert, Rosalyn and Deborah,” Richardson said. “Although it has been 72 years since Tibor demonstrated such courageous actions, his legacy lives on with us. We will continue to honor him and use his story to inspire our Troopers with his sacrifice and dedication to duty.”

The medal will become part of the First Team’s newly renovated Heritage Hall located inside the Division Headquarters, which will also include a variety of displays to honor the Division’s rich history and increase awareness and appreciation among newer members of the First Team for the Division’s heroes.

“When Rosie asked me about transferring his Medal of Honor to the 1st Cavalry Division, I could not think of a better home for his medal to be enshrined,” began Huntley. “He would be so proud that it is in a place where past, present and future Soldiers can come view his story and medal and hopefully inspire those Soldiers who may be called upon to go above and beyond the call of duty.”

Huntley, a retired Army lieutenant colonel, shared how his uncle ‘Teddy’ inspired him to follow in his footsteps and join the Army even though he had endured many challenges and struggles as a prisoner of war for two and a half years in horrific conditions.

“What I realized after some time in the service is that he embodied all of the great virtues that so many of our service members had throughout our entire history,” Huntley continued. “Personal courage, a great sense of loyalty and duty to his fellow service members, and a great sense of honor to America.”

During their visit, Rubin’s family members were invited to a tour of “CAV country” including the 1st Cavalry Division Horse Cavalry Detachment, the 3-8 CAV footprint and one of Fort Hood’s newest structures, the National Mounted Warrior Museum, which will hold some of the 1st Cavalry Division Museum displays that is now closed.

“It is really hard for me to speak about my dad,” said Rosie Rubin with a tearful smile as she motioned to the medal in the display case. “I know my dad would be so happy to know that it is here at Fort Hood. He loved the Veterans, he loved you and he always taught us to never give up. Thank you for this honor today.”

According to his biography, Rubin was born to Jewish parents in Hungary in 1929. During World War II, he was captured by Nazis and sent to the Mauthausen concentration camp for men in Austria.

“Uncle Ted’s life journey is fascinating,” started Kessler. “His choice to join the Army came from his liberation from a Nazi concentration camp, when American Troops rolled in and saved his life. At that moment he made a pledge if he ever made it to the U.S., he would join this military-the Army. And true to his word he did.”

Following his liberation by U.S. Army Soldiers, he immigrated to the United States and enlisted in the Army. In 1950, he was deployed to Korea to fight on the front lines with the 3-8 CAV. Huntley highlighted Rubin’s decision to remain with his comrades as a prisoner of war instead of being sent to his home country of Hungary. “He chose to stand behind the country that liberated him and his family,” said Huntley. “The country he whole heartedly believed offered him the freedom and the opportunity he would find nowhere else.”

“Corporal Rubin represents the best of the 8th Cav and First Team Troopers. We are so grateful that his family donated his MoH to be on display here at Fort



Hood for all Troopers to see. We honor him in our HQs, with our conference room being named after him. His story is on our walls and is briefed to all new WARHORSE Troopers during newcomer briefings and unit Spur Rides,” said LTC Sean M. Castilla, 3-8 CAV commander. “His story is an example of what is so great about America. An immigrant; liberated from a concentration camp in WWII by the American Army; comes to America and joins the Army out of gratitude.”

Fifty years after returning from the Korean War, Rubin was recognized by receiving the Medal of Honor for his extraordinary heroism during the period from July 23, 1950, to April 20, 1953. Huntley shared that although time passed before Rubin received this honor, he was very proud.

“CPL Rubin overcame so much adversity and his devotion to duty and love for our great nation are among the reasons we are so proud that he is part of the 8th Cavalry’s lineage. He will forever be a part of WARHORSE,” Castilla also said.

The 1st Cavalry Division proudly recognizes 43 Medal of Honor Recipients who served among the Division’s ranks from its inception through the Global War on Terrorism along Legend’s Way with Medal of Honor placards, CPL Rubin’s placard is located near the Howze Theater.

Rosie Rubin said she would love to come back when Heritage Hall is complete and see the new Troopers learning about the First Team’s story and her father’s piece of the legacy.

1st Cavalry Division in the History Books at Sullivan Cup by MSG Miriam Espinoza

FORT BENNING, Georgia — The Sullivan Cup Best Tank Crew Gunnery Competition has taken place biannually at Fort Benning, Georgia since 2012, but for the first time in its history, “First Team’s” crew had a female tank commander of an M1A2 Abrams tank at the competition which ran May 2 through 6.

“Since we finally opened up our branch in 2016, now we have crews with women and that’s a big first, that’s awesome for us and our branch and it’s long overdue,” said BG Thomas M. Felty, Armor School Commandant, U.S. Army Maneuver Center of Excellence.

The Sullivan Cup competition is typically two weeks, one week of familiarization and one week where the crews are graded. The competition is designed to test tank crews with physically and mentally demanding events. This world-class competition rigorously evaluates the platform operation, sustainment, and lethality skills of competing crews. Crews receive an opportunity to showcase their skills, not only of their weaponry, but also as a crew as this competition requires each crew member to communicate and work together effectively to succeed.

“We are excited to welcome in the best tank and Bradley crews in the United States Army,” said Felty. “We just want to showcase the awesome firepower and skill that our Bradley and Tankers have in the Army.”

1st Cavalry Division, known for its rich history and their famous brand “First Team,” made history yet again by having the first female tank commander to compete in this year’s competi-



Tank crew assembling a .50 Caliber Machine Gun

tion. This was also the first time in the competition’s history a 1CD Bradley Fighting Vehicle crew had the chance to compete.

“It’s truly the biggest honor as a tanker to come out here and showcase the skills that we practice on every single day,” said SGT Brandon Street, tanker, 2nd battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Combat Brigade Team. “It’s fun to come out here and compete against the best crews in the Army and show that we are the First Team, we’re the best.”

After the competition was cancelled in 2018 due to COVID-19, a total of 7 tank and 5 Bradley Fighting Vehicle crews from across the U.S. came out this year to compete for the coveted title of Best Tank and Bradley Fighting Vehicle crew in the U.S. Army. According to the Cavalry and Armor Association, the Sullivan Cup competition was named in honor of GEN (Ret.) Gordon R. Sullivan, who is credited with transitioning the Army from its Cold War posture. The competition is held biennially during the first week of May and is hosted by the Fort Benning, Ga., home to some of the toughest ranges on a military installation.

“It’s not an easy range, it’s a tough range. Crew coordination is very important when you’re coming to Ft. Benning to shoot. It’s a big range, use good crew talk to maximize your potential,” said Felty. The two crews representing 1CD spent around a month preparing for the competition. They understood how challenging the competition is and that they were competing against other top-tier armor vehicle crews carefully selected by their commands to represent them at the competition.

“I’m extremely proud of the crews and all the effort they put throughout the competition,” said CSM Shade Munday, 1st Cavalry Division CSM. “The competition was tough, the crews stayed motivated and worked as a team, that’s what it’s all about.”

The 1st Cavalry Division Tank Crew took 2nd place at this year’s competition by less than half a point. The Bradley Fighting crew took 5th place. “We came in with only a month’s training, we built ourselves from the ground up, this competition brought us closer together,” said 1LT Janel Tracy, tank commander, 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team. “It was a challenging experience, but we worked as a team and that’s when we did our best. We had fun and the competition made us a closer crew and we built bonds that will be there for the rest of our lives.”



HONOR ROLL



Thank you for the generous donations from our following Troopers:

SP-5 ADAMS, W. Howard	\$25	SGT JONES, Edward D.	\$25	SP-4 MONTECINO, Mario Z.	\$25
SP-4 BARBER, Alex J.	\$10	MR. LEVY, David	\$1002.10	E-4 O'GRADY, Michael	\$50
SP-5 BEISHLINE, Frank E.	\$20	IMO Roger Martin		PSG PALMER, Leslie L.	\$100
SGT BERNINGER, Samuel W.	\$25	SGT MAC LEOD, Richard A.	\$100	IMO SP-4 Roger E. Denny, 1-30FA,	
LTC (RET) BULLOCK, John H.	\$25	IMO Kevin Cregon KIA 02/23/69		KIA 3/11/69, RVN	
SGT CZAPLICKI, Matthew W.	\$25	MRS. MEADE, Donna	\$50	SGT RODGERS, Harry	\$25
IMO Elwin Jay Lamb D Co 2-5 KIA 6/59/67		IMO SGT Richard E. Meade		IMO All 1-50 th INF	
SP-4 DAMPMAN, Richard	\$200	PFC MEYER, Charles	\$25	SGT SILVER, Royal	\$100
LTC (RET) USAF FAIRLAM, R.	\$50	SGT MITCHELL, Victor R., Sr.	\$130	ISG George Boso, SP-4 Charlie Funk	
MAJ GAUTIER, Robert W., Jr.	\$25	IMO Merrill Maye		SP-4 Bobby Sells, SP-4 Larry Keeman	
IMO LTC Robert W. Gautier, Sr				SP-4 STUEBER, Richard W. Sr.	\$25
SVC Co 7 th Cav Regt				IMO Alfred Faragasso	
CPT HALL, Sanci	\$25			E-5 WINDHAM, Eddie L.	\$10
E-4 JOHNSON, Thomas R.	\$100				



As of June 22,2022

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

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

DIVISION DOINGS cont.

U.S. And Italian Army Units Make History During Exercise Swift Response

by CPT Taylor Criswell Photos by SGT Jason Greaves
SKOPJE, North Macedonia—The 1st Air Cavalry Brigade from Fort Hood, Texas joined the Italian Brigata Parachutisti “FOLGORE,” or “FOLGORE” Paratroopers Brigade in completing the largest air assault training mission in the parachute brigade’s history.



“This is the first time the ‘FOLGORE’ has conducted such a huge exercise abroad,” explained Italian Army CPT Matteo Gentile of Brigata Parachutisti ‘FOLGORE.’ “The air assault is the most important part of our exercise so we can coordinate and interoper-

ate with our allies and a very important part of the exercise to validate our capabilities in this operation.”

An air assault is a military technique utilized with vertical lift assets to maximize the surprise shock value to destroy or neutralize the enemy. It is typically employed in areas that are difficult to enter because of terrain or other limiting factors and maximizes the ability to seize and hold those key areas.

“This training event is an excellent opportunity to continue to increase interoperability, to understand each other’s systems and procedures, and to prepare us to fight side by side,” explained U.S. Army MAJ Dan Huff, foreign exchange officer assigned to Brigata Parachutisti ‘FOLGORE.’ “Task Force ‘FOLGORE’ is extremely excited to have the opportunity to practice deliberate air assault operations with a partner force on such unique terrain.”

Two U.S. Army CH-47 Chinooks and four UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters assigned to “Air Cav” transported approximately 400 Italian paratroopers from an isolated location near Krivolak Training Area, North Macedonia to a landing zone in proximity of notional opposing forces (OPFOR) near Skopje. Detailed joint mission planning for the event started approximately 96 hours prior to execution requiring pilots, crews, and operations planners to quickly build trust and flexibility between units.

The units conducted a deliberate and detailed rehearsal of concept (ROC) drill led by Task Force Lobos of 2-227 General Support Aviation Battalion (GSAB), 1st Air Cavalry Brigade. This gave all participants a chance to visualize the training event and work through any friction points discovered prior to execution.

As paratroopers rucked to the pickup zone (PZ) high up in the hills of North Macedonia, they liaised with pathfinders of the U.K. 16 Air Assault Brigade Combat Team and 1st Aviation Brigade Combat Team to efficiently stage for pickup by the U.S. Army helicopters.

Once the aircraft landed, pathfinders and helicopter crew chiefs used hand and arm signals to notify the Italian paratroopers to begin loading each aircraft. Speed is a key to a successful air assault mission, but safety of everyone involved is always the priority. Once the doors were shut, the 20-minute journey to the landing zone (LZ) began.

Troops on ground in each location used tactical field communications equipment to reach and coordinate with the pilots throughout the training event. Italian Troops on the ground secured the helicopter landing site and set the conditions for the air assault. “Timing, coordination, and swift actions on the objective are hallmarks of a successful air assault and moreover a well-trained team,” explained U.S. Army MAJ Victor Rodriguez of Task Force Lobos. “To witness and participate in the rapid development of this multinational team was an honor and pleasure. I believe all members of this exercise can say we have achieved a satisfactory level of shared understanding.”

After aircraft touched down the LZ, paratroopers rapidly exfiltrated and established perimeter security around the battlefield. Regardless of how hot it was outside or how tired they were, the Italian Soldiers exhibited utmost military bearing as they executed tactical movement around the LZ. Both units described the training event as an overwhelming success.

“Working with the Italian task force was a wonderful experience. Conducting an air assault is always complicated, but to do it at this scale in demanding terrain certainty brings out the best in planning for both the ground force and the aviation task force.” said LTC Brad Deloach, commander of Task Force Lobos, 2-227 GSAB. “This is an air assault we will never forget.”

Exercise Swift Response 2022 is an annual multinational training exercise, which takes place in Eastern Europe, the Arctic High North, Baltics, and Balkans from May 2-20, 2022. It aims to present combat credible Army forces in Europe and Africa and enhance readiness by building airborne interoperability with Allies and Partners and the integration of joint service partnerships.



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

Combat Infantrymen

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

Combat Infantrymen’s Association

All applicants must have earned the Combat Infantry
Badge and provide documentation by submitting Form
DD-214, Official U.S. Army orders, or other official documents.

For more information visit our website @ www.cibassoc.com;
E-mail: ciamemberapps@gmail.com

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



Birthday Wishes

to our Troopers turning 90+ years young!

SFC LADDIE F. DAVIS
turned 93 on 7/01/2022

SSG ROBERT A. YOUNG JR.
turned 98 on 7/02/2022

MSG RONALD G. RIDDLE
turned 90 on 7/05/2022

SFC (RET) ROBERT E. LANE
turned 91 on 7/08/2022

SMSGT GILBERT CURTIS
turned 91 on 7/10/2022

SFC JAY F. HIDANO
turned 95 on 7/11/2022

CPL JOHN WHITESCARVER
turned 92 on 7/16/2022

CPL JOHN P. KRITZER
turned 91 on 7/17/2022

CPL RICHARD A. WEAKLEY
turned 92 on 7/22/2022

CPL CLIFFORD E. HAMILTON
turned 92 on 7/23/2022

SGM (RET) JOHN H. FERGUSON
turned 91 on 7/23/2022

LTC (RET) WILLIAM L. POTTS
turned 92 on 7/26/2022

CPL SALVATORE ALTOMARE
turned 91 on 7/30/2022

SFC ROBERT C. DILLON
turned 91 on 7/30/2022

COL (RET) GEORGE TUCKER JR. turned 95 on 8/11/2022

1SG (RET) PETER J. DeGAETANO
turned 91 on 8/12/2022

T-5 MICHAS M. OHNSTAD
turned 96 on 8/14/2022

PFC CHARLES J. MEYER
turned 94 on 8/14/2022

CPL WILLIAM F. VORNTKAHL
turned 92 on 8/14/2022

1SG CHARLES E. EHREDT
turned 91 on 8/15/2022

SFC (RET) JOHN N. KRIER
turned 90 on 8/17/2022

PFC ROBERT R. COOK
turned 93 on 8/18/2022

LTC (RET) RICHARD W. ROGERS
turned 91 on 8/19/2022

CPL PAUL HONOR
turned 90 on 8/20/2022

MSG (RET) ISMAEL VELASQUEZ
turned 90 on 8/21/2022

T-5 ROBERT SKOLE
turned 94 on 8/23/2022

LTC (RET) LEONARD R. CASEY
turned 90 on 8/23/2022

SSG PETER MACFARLANE
turned 102 on 8/25/2022

1SG LELAND E. BUD KOLBERG
turned 92 on 8/25/2022

SFC (RET) DOUGLAS A. CHUBB
turned 91 on 8/25/2022


PFC CLAUDE E. EAKINS
turned 93 on 8/26/2022

COL (RET) JIMMY C. MARKS
turned 92 on 8/29/2022

MSG (RET) BILLY F. DOWERS
turned 92 on 8/30/2022

PFC RICHARD E. JAMES
turned 90 on 8/30/2022

COL JAMES L. HOLMER
turned 96 on 8/31/2022



This card is presented to

PROUD LIFETIME MEMBER OF
1ST CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Executive Director

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

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

The new cards are NOT available for Associate Members, the new cards are only available for our Life Time Members.

On the back of the card it says:

1st Cavalry Division Association is a non-political, non-profit 501(c)19 fraternity for Soldiers and Veterans currently serving or have served in 1st Cavalry Division.

The Association is a group of Soldiers and former Soldiers from Private to 4-star Generals who share a bond of service with the FIRST TEAM who are dedicated to supporting the Division and each other.

1CDA Membership Cards

Total Due: **\$5.00 each**

Cash: _____ Check: _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Phone #: _____

Address: _____

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



1ST AIR CAV BRIGADE

DOCUMENTARY: *THE LONGEST MONTH*

You may remember back to the May/ June 2019 *Saber*, a film crew was at the 1CDA Headquarters office recording interviews for an upcoming documentary of their days in and around Baghdad in early 2007. The time finally has arrived! *The Longest Month* premiered on Sunday, February 27, 2022, at the Isis Theater in Fort Worth, Texas.

“The Longest Month” is a documentary film dedicated to telling the story of the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade Soldiers that participated in the events during “The Surge” in OIF 06-08.

The Longest Month is an unscripted documentary, covering events that took place in Iraq during February of 2007 at the beginning of what is commonly known as “The Surge.”

This documentary examines the actions undertaken by members of the **1st and 4th Battalions, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division**, as described by the Soldiers involved in these events. More helicopters were shot down in Iraq during this time period than any time since the Vietnam War.

The Longest Month chronicles four events that exemplify the challenges faced by these individuals to not only complete their missions but survive the unprecedented 15-month deployment.

Produced by: Dan McClinton and Directed and Edited by: Kenn Christenson

If you wish to read the story behind this documentary:
<<https://www.hollywoodintoto.com/longest-month-movie-us-veterans/>>

The Longest Month has been awarded the **AWARD OF MERIT** winner in the Accolade Global Film Competition. It also won the **GOLD REMI AWARD** at the Worldfest-Houston International Film Festival. Documentary category: War Issues.

1ST AIR CAV BRIGADE DOCUMENTARY

THE LONGEST MONTH

\$26 NOW AVAILABLE ON
DVD & BLU RAY

131-minutes: includes promotional trailers & additional scenes

CIRCLE DVD or Blu Ray Quantity: _____ Amount Due: \$ _____

Form of Payment:

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

Credit Card # _____

Exp Date: _____ CVV on back: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

Phone #: _____

Address: _____

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

SHIPPING IS FREE