



SABER

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



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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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1CDA President 2023-2025



Central Texas and, as the weather warms, 1st Cavalry Division units are busy redeploying from their OCONUS rotations to places like Poland in Eastern Europe (in support of our NATO commitment) and the Republic of Korea. You might recall that it was a bit bleak around Fort Cavazos last Fall, including a greatly scaled down CAV104. CAV105 this September should have nearly a full house. It will be great to see our Division reassembled at Fort Cavazos again.

With the Division's return to home base, modernization is again underway. The Division is in the process of receiving the M1A3 Abrams, M2A4 Bradley, and M109A7 Paladin. If you have followed the news over the past several years, you know that the Army terminated the M1A2SEPV4 in lieu of the M1A3 which has a modular design that will allow new technology to be incorporated quickly and cleanly into operational vehicles. The upgraded Bradley is the Army's first since 2002. The M2A4 features enhancements to improve speed performance and increase power in the turret. The M109A7 Paladin includes upgrades to hull, turret, engine, and suspension systems to offer increased reliability, survivability, and performance over the M109A6 artillery system. The upgraded system can provide consistent fire support in all weather conditions. The PIM cannon is mounted on the chassis structure common to the Bradley tracked fighting vehicle.

Your Association held its annual February Board of Governors meeting several weeks ago, a significant part of which is to review the Finance & Budget Committee Report and to approve the Association's operating budget for the coming year. As always, my thanks go to Pete Tattersall and Dave Lutgen for the great job they do shepherding our money. Because of this, your Foundation is in very good financial shape. Their report, however, did highlight some issues that I would like your feedback on.

First, the *Saber*. As a fraternal organization, the *Saber* fills a vital role of keeping our members informed. As you might suspect, however, the cost of producing and distributing the *Saber* continues to rise. Shortly, we will be spending more money each year on doing this than we are bringing in with subscriptions. We have several options:

1. We can continue as is (one edition every two months) and absorb the loss;
2. We can continue as is (one edition every two months), but increase the annual subscription rate so we break even; or
3. We can reduce the number of editions from one every two months to one every 3 months.

Please let either me or Dara Wydler know what you think.

Second, the Annual Calendar. The calendar is currently provided by the Association to all our members without charge. Recipients are asked to make a voluntary contribution to help offset the cost. For the 2025 edition, this equated to producing and distributing 26,000 calendars – for which we received approximately 1,000 contributions for a loss of about \$35,000. These losses are not sustainable long term. The Association's executive committee will meet before the Reunion in Reno to develop alternatives. Again, please let either me or Dara know what you think.

Well, that's all for this edition. Remember, your Association cordially invites you to attend the 77th Annual Reunion in Reno, Nevada from 11-15 June 2025. All Life and Associate Members are welcome to attend this special event. Gold Star Families and Widows of our members are always welcome to attend. Trip Advisor ranks our hotel, the Grand Sierra Resort & Casino, as one of the Top 10 casinos in Reno. See you at the Reunion in Reno, "The Biggest Little City in the World."

The 1st Cavalry Division – Courageous, Audacious, Victorious! Until we meet again, God bless you all. First Team! Gambler 6, out.



To the Troopers of America's First Team,
It is starting to look like Spring here in



HORSE DETACHMENT by CPT Daysha N. Wells, DVM, MPH-VPH Commander

The Horse Cavalry Detachment (HCD) has been busy this spring with back-to-back community engagements and 1st Cavalry Division ceremonies. HCD enjoyed engaging with our local community while presenting our Nation's Colors at the Bell County PRCA Rodeo in Belton, TX for Veteran's Appreciation Night. Hopefully you were able to catch the HCD Troopers and our Mounts at the Western Heritage Parade in San Antonio or the Houston Rodeo Parade; our horses and Troopers love to hear your cheers of support, and we will give our loudest "YeeHaws" to show our appreciation.



The Horse Cavalry Detachment has been supporting the US Army's recruiting efforts with performances at the San Antonio and Houston Livestock Shows and Rodeos. HCD was able to partner with the Houston Recruiting Battalion during the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo performing a historic Cavalry Demonstration for nine local high schools and engaging with over 300 high school students over. In a

show of appreciation to the HCD Mayor Jeff Wagner of the city of Pasadena, TX declared March 4, 2025, as United States Army Day in Pasadena, TX.

Upon our return, we look forward to welcoming home the 1st Cavalry Division units from overseas deployments. Look for the Horse Cavalry Detachment at Cooper Field for a Cavalry Charge or delivering flowers for Changes of Command/Responsibilities ceremonies. HCD will also be focusing on training the next generation of Mounts during our horsemanship intensive training clinic. This

Continued to pg. 20

THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

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302 N. Main St.
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This year the National Women's History Alliance proudly presents their new theme, "Moving Forward Together! Women Educating & Inspiring Generations." The theme celebrates the collective strength

and influence of women who dedicate their lives to education, mentorship, and leadership.

Women have been serving in the military, in one form or another, for over 200 years. Here are a few notables worth mentioning:

- The first Silver Star awarded to a woman since WWII: Army SGT Leigh Ann Hester for her actions during an enemy ambush in 2005 (Iraq).
- More than 40,000 women served in the Gulf War.
- More than 100 women have graduated from the Army's Ranger School, while others have successfully completed the Navy SEALs officer assessment and selection.

As the history of women in the military clearly shows, female service members will remain a force to be reckoned with.

Murphy's law is an **adage** or epigram that is typically stated as: "Anything that can go wrong will go wrong," and it has.... I received word from one of our members that the Grand Sierra Resort is closing their RV Park starting May 1st, 2025. Please do not let this closure discourage you from attending the reunion. I have taken the time to provide you with additional options for members traveling in an RV:

- River West Resort - (775) 322-2281
1300 W Second St, Reno NV (approximately 4.7 miles from the GSR)
- Shamrock RV Park - (800) 322-8248
260 Parr Blvd, Reno NV (approximately 5.5 miles from the GSR)
- Keystone RV Park - (775) 324-5000
1455 W 4th St, Reno, NV (approximately 4.6 miles from the GSR)
- Victorian RV Park - (775) 356-6400
205 Nichols Blvd, Sparks NV (approximately 3.3 miles from the GSR)

I am excited and ready for this upcoming reunion. We have so many new attendees joining us in Reno, and I have faith in Mother Nature that she will provide us with beautiful weather. If you have not registered for the reunion or secured a room at the hotel, please do so sooner rather than later. Hoping to see and visit with everyone in June 2025.

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ADDRESS
CHANGE

Don't Keep it a SECRET, Let us Know About It.
To submit by e-mail, send to memberships@1CDA.org
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

June 11-15, 202577th Annual 1CDA Reunion, Reno, NV

Nov 9-12, 202516th Annual Veterans Day, Washington D.C.

July 7-12, 202678th Annual 1CDA Reunion, New Orleans

SABER RENEWAL / DONATION FORM

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

☐ Saber: 5 years for \$75

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

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

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

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

Consider making a donation
to the Foundation to help a student
achieve their educational goals.
CONSIDER DONATING TODAY

SABER

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ARTICLE SUBMISSION

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

Articles should be received at National Headquarters no later than the 1st of every odd month. Any article received after the 1st of the month will be put in on a space available basis.

Opinions expressed are the writers and not necessarily those of the *Saber* or the 1st Cavalry Division Association.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To be considered for publication, letters should not exceed 300 words and should be of general interest and in good taste. Letters express the writer's opinion, not that of the *Saber* or the 1st Cavalry Division Association.


Political endorsement and poetry cannot be used. Form letters or third-party letters are not acceptable. Letters which contain libelous or obviously untrue statements will be automatically rejected.

All letters must be signed with addresses and telephone numbers included. Names will be used with the letters but addresses and phone numbers may be omitted. Letters also may be edited for length or clarification.

We reserve the right to reject for publication any letter received. Unused letters will not be acknowledged.


LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

To the 1st Cavalry,
My brother, SGT Staret J. Ingleston, was in A Co, 2nd Bn 7th Cavalry. From what I know about you guys, you all were truly kick ass Troopers. Special shout out to Nueman Coleman and Mark Moberg!
It all ended for my brother Star and 13 other Soldiers on 3/29/70 during the assault on FSB Jay. Star realized he couldn't do much from his defensive position, so he moved to the perimeter and began placing suppressive fire on the aggressors resulting in his death from burns. (quoted from the Silver Star citation) However, the base defenders surely taught the aggressors a lesson from their resistance.
I'm very proud of Stars' actions and the 1st Cav Air Mobile, truly the First Team.
Tracy Ingleston, Associate Member of 1CDA, 315-776-3051




THEN AND NOW CALENDAR UPDATE


Dear 1st Cav Foundation,
It is my honor and pleasure to present you with this check for \$440.50. This represents 100% of the proceeds from the sale of the 2025 commemorative calendar, "Then and Now." I'm pleased that we were able to sell 72 calendars in total! I believe the families cherished them the most. Knowing the humility of a Cav Soldier. Team First. First Team! God bless our Troops! Thank you for all that you!
Tracy Smith <www.TracySmithMathis.com>
Author of *Pennies from Vietnam: A Sister at Home, a Brother at War*
Contact Tracy to order yours or go to this website:
<<https://penniesfromvietnam.printful.me>>



SCHOLARSHIP APPRECIATION:

Dear 1st Cavalry Division Association,
I am honored to accept the Ia Drang scholarship and sincerely appreciate the support of your organization. This funding will make a significant impact on helping me complete my bachelor's degree in advertising management. Your investment in helping students complete higher education is a noble cause. Educating the young people of today helps a brighter future of tomorrow come to fruition. Paying for 4 years of college is no small feat, but your grant empowers me to confidently approach my last couple years of education. The stress that comes with tuition fees is greatly reduced by your contribution, and I can't thank this organization enough. I look forward to finishing my second to last spring semester with your support. Once again, thank you for your confidence in youth seeking higher education—I am truly grateful for your support.
Sincerely, Madeleine Knopf





To all Veterans and the 1st Cavalry Division Association,
Thank you for this scholarship. I am very thankful to have a scholarship like this. This scholarship is because of my grandfather, Walter Niemeyer, who served as well. This scholarship has helped with school and achieving my dream to become a future teacher. To know there are Veterans for this cause and my dream to come true means the world. Thank you for all thank you all for serving this country and allowing me to pursue my degree and dream.
Jordan Smith



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

Send your stories to Programs@1CDA.org

VFW Posts Honor Hometown Heroes by Ismael Rodriguez Jr. (VFW.org, May 2024 edition)



Photo Left: POST VFW Post 3482 Commander Greg Schlieve, who spearheaded the project for the Jerry Taylor Veterans Plaza and has overseen the development since the first walls were installed in 2014, stands along one of its 22 current granite walls on Aug 3, 2023, in Sunnyside, Wash.

for their country. As the oldest combat Veterans organization in the nation, VFW's efforts to commemorate the sacrifices of these Veterans have led to war memorials sprouting across the country, from small towns to large metropolitan cities.

Commemorated through an array of permanent markers that include monoliths, cemeteries, streets and memorial parks bearing their names, honoring Veterans has always been a tenet of VFW's existence.

Here are a few examples of memorials created in 2023 through the help of local VFW Posts, whose memorials honor those who fought to protect and preserve the existence of the nation's values.

'I HOPE WE CAN SERVE AS AN EXAMPLE'

What began as an idea in June 2022 culminated in the first Vietnam War Veterans Monument in Oakland, IL. Donated by VFW Post 3637 members to honor all local Vietnam War Veterans, the large granite monument was unveiled at Oakland's town square on May 27 to a large crowd that attracted local and state dignitaries to the town of 900 people.

Engraved on it are the names of 147 Vietnam War Veterans, which include three local women and PFC Donnie Joe Clough, who was killed in action on Sept 9, 1969. A rifleman with F Co, 2nd Bn, 5th Marine Regt, 1st Marine Div, Clough is also the namesake of Memorial Highway 133, which runs 52 miles from east to west in Illinois.

"I hope we can serve as an example for other small towns to honor their Veterans" Post 3637 Service Officer Jim Taber said. "As we all know, the Vietnam Veterans did not come home to flag-waving parades, etc. This is our way of honoring them forever."

JERRY TAYLOR VETERANS PLAZA

The Jerry Taylor Veterans Plaza in Sunnyside, Wash, has blossomed into one of the largest memorials for Veterans in the Northwest since its first two walls were installed in 2014.

Spearheaded by past VFW Post 3482 Commander Greg Schlieve, the Jerry Taylor Veterans Plaza is now halfway complete, with 22 of its projected 42 granite walls installed, each engraved with plaques of Veterans from the northwest part of the country.

"It is very important to us that individual Soldiers be recognized for their service to our country," said Schlieve, a Vietnam War Veteran who deployed in 1969 with C Co, 5th Bn, 7th Cav, 1st Cavalry Division

Schlieve, who overlooks the project, added that the goal is to install two walls every year to honor more and more Veterans. Each year, he collects orders from local Veterans and families who want to order plaques for themselves or their loved ones.

Each year, the new walls are unveiled in a special ceremony that Schlieve, along with Post 3482 and his Legion Post 73, coordinate and run alongside the town of Sunnyside for those in attendance. "Our Post's Honor Guard is there, and we ring the bell as names are read off at the end of the ceremony, along with the wife of one of our members' wives who played "Taps" for us," Schlieve said. "It's a special ceremony."

VIETNAM WAR MEMORIAL WALL

During its Veterans Day parade last November, the city of Murrieta, Calif, unveiled the latest installment to its growing Veterans Memorial at Town Square Park. "It joins our World War II and Korean War monuments, which are all done in black granite with photographic imagery specifically chosen by teams of Veterans who served in each of these wars," said Bob DeCubellis, a member of VFW Post 4089 in nearby Temecula, Calif.

THE GOLD STAR FAMILY MEMORIAL MONUMENT

Many local and Georgia Gold Star families served as honorary guests at the Veterans Park in Bremen, Ga, for the unveiling of the Gold Star Family Memorial Monument. In conjunction with Vietnam War Veterans Day on March 29, 2023, the unveiling ceremony welcomed VFW Post 7402 members from Bremen and other state and local dignitaries for the unveiling of the first monument of its kind in the state.

"This was a Woody Williams Foundation Gold Star Family Monument, which our Post helped fund," said Kenneth Koch, a VFW Post 7402 member. "At the ceremony, retired COL Wayne Waddell, a POW in North Vietnam for five years and eight months was a keynote speaker for the ceremony."

OIF / OEF VETERAN
1st Brigade Special Troops
Battalion News

SSG Brandy Harvest HHC 1BSTB, 2007-2009
SSG Kenneth Pannell HHC 1BSTB, 2005-2009
Luckybme04@yahoo.com KaPannell@gmail.com



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

In February 2007, the IRONHORSE Brigade kicked off training with the start of ALCATRAZ. ALCATRAZ was an exercise that would have been conducted if Camp Taji were to ever have its walls breached and what the Soldiers were to do in case of this emergency. The Soldiers stood out and guarded the sector for four hours during the training in the cold and wet February weather. The Soldiers were dedicated in keeping their home away from home safe.

As of March 2007, Thunder Company had cleared more than 15,000 km of roads. They had found 235 IED'S on their missions. Overall, IRONHORSE find rate for IED'S was 65%, one of the highest find rates in Iraq.

On April 12th, 2007, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates announced that all active-duty Army Soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan will serve for fifteen months, instead of the twelve month tours they expected. "Without this action, we would have had to deploy five Army active-duty Brigades sooner than the 12 month at home goal." On January 10, 2007, President Bush made a televised address to the American public in which proposed an increase in the number of Troops in Iraq. In his speech, he made references to the changes, including a surge of 21,500 more Troops.

"This is not a battle between the United States of America and terrorism, but between the democratic world and terrorism." -Former British Prime Minister, Tony Blair

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

NEW MEMBERS:

- SGT ANDERSON, TYRONE TX HHC 2-7C
- SGT BATOULIM, ABASSE TX C 1-115CS
- SGT BLOOD, LEE G. CA A 229AVN
- SPC BOBINEY, JAMES MT HHC 2-8C
- MSG BOWEN, BRADLEY ID B 1-15BSB
- MR. BREW, KEVIN AZ B 1-12C
- CPT BUDD, COLBY K TX HHC 3-215BSB
- 1LT BULLOCK, STEPHEN T. TX 2-8C
- SPC BUNKER, MATTHEW WA 2-12C
- 2LT CANDIA, CHRISTOPHER TX 1-8C
- PFC CARLOS, BARBA TX HHC 1-9C
- SSG COOPER, ISAIAH TX C 1-12C
- E-4 CORNELISON, BOYD ID D 2-12C
- MSG CURRY, LAKISHA M. TX 1-215BSB
- CPT DONAHUE, ALLISON R. TX HHT 2ABCT
- SGT DOOLEY, MICHAEL OH E 1-7C
- 2LT FRASER, ROBERT TX 6-9C
- SGT FRICKE, ALEXANDER D. TX B 2-7C
- MAJ GEIST, JOHANNES TX HHC 1-15FIN
- 1LT GIBSON, JAMIR TX 2ABCT
- E-4 GONZALES, CARLOS TX A 2-5C
- CPT GOULA, STEPHEN AZ HHT 6-9C
- 1LT HAMADA, MATTHEW TX D 6-9C
- SGT HAMILTON, SELINA TX HHB DIVARTY
- MAJ(RET) HATCH, LARRY WA 1-15MED
- LTC HINES, NATHAN E. TX HHT 1-7C
- LTC HUBBARD, MICHAEL TX B 3-8C
- PFC LAWSON, DAVID TX E 1-91BEB
- 1LT MC DANIEL, PAIGE MARIE TX 6-9C
- SFC MC FARLANE, KHARIM TX A 1-7C
- SSG MEDELLIN, MIKE ID B 485ENG
- SGM MOORE, JOHN TX 2-82FA
- 2LT MOORE, LANCE TX HHC 1-9C
- 1SG PARKER ERIC TX 1-5C
- E-6 PELTIER, EDWARD F. CT A 5-7C
- SPC POWERS, TIMOTHY AZ D 1-8C
- E-4 PRESNELL, DAVID MD HHB 1-21FA
- SPC PRICE, SAMUEL TX C 1-215BSV
- PV2 RAMIREZ, DANIEL TX F 3-16
- MSG ROBINSON, SELINA TX 1CD
- PFC RODRIGUTZ, MENDEZ EREYRY P. TX A 1-15SBS
- E-5 SHAW, DENNIS WI HQ 1-1CD
- CPT SIMPSON, BRIAN VA 1CD
- MSG SMITH, PATRIENA C TX HHC 4BSB
- MSG SMITH, WILLIAM L. TX 2-7C
- CW4 SOUTH, BRENT FL C 1 25ATK AVN
- LTC STEBBINS, E GRADY TX HHC 1-82FA
- SPC STUDER, DONALD TX C 1-553CS
- 1LT STUMPFF, KARL R. TX B 21FA
- SSG TAYLOR, KELVIN TX B 2-8C
- 1LT TERRON, ESAIA TX HHC 1-5C
- 2LT THOMPSON, MICHAEL TX 1-12C
- SGT TIATIA, MEAALOFA TX C 1-553DSSB
- E-4 TOCZEK, LARRY CA D 1-12C
- SGT TUNGET, PAUL L. IN C 1-5C
- SPC VAUGHN, MICHAEL CA 96TC
- 2LT WENDORF, CODY TX E 1-227AHB
- 1LT WESCOTT, JARED TX C 115BSB
- SGT WILSON, EDWARD J. TX D 2-227ACB
- 1SG WRIGHT, STEPHEN TX A 2-8C



LRRP/Ranger News



Pete Dencker

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This entry will be pretty short – Most of you have heard about Mike Echterling’s situation – here’s a note from our current Chapter President:

TRIBUTE TO MIKE ECHTERLING

We have just learned that Mike’s cancer has advanced to the stage that no further treatment will be administered. Mike is a co-founder of our group and served as our first president after organizing as a chapter. He and his wife, Bonnie, spent many hours locating and attempting to locate those who served in our units in Vietnam. They were very successful as the extent of our roster exemplifies. They also originated our newsletter to include typing and mailing. Bonnie deserves credit for much of the “legwork” involved. We pray that Mike is spared from as much suffering as possible and know that our thoughts and prayers are with Bonnie as well. Thank you, Mike and Bonnie.

I would also like to thank all E/H Company brothers who sent notes and greetings – I will try to get all of those in the Newsletter which should be out in the next few weeks. Without Mike and Bonnie this organization would never have become what it is today – and may never have even started. Thanks to the both of them for having the drive – the vision - for investing the time, energy and effort to keep us together as a group that’s played an important part of our lives post-Vietnam.

THE PRAYER OF A RANGER

Great God as a Ranger I am called upon in combat to complete difficult and demanding tasks requiring the full commitment of mind and strength. May my performance of these important duties be a reflection of my devotion to you and my dependence on you.

As I and my fellow Rangers continually condition our bodies, sharpen our reactions and quicken our reflexes, and as we train to fulfill our assigned missions let us train in our religious lives as well that we continue our growth to being men of full dimension.

Oh Lord! May I know you as my comrade whether I’m in the AO, at the base camp, (and throughout my life) be the unseen member of my Ranger Team when we are inserted in hazardous and hostile areas and when we live with danger. Speak to me through the stillness ending any loneliness or fear I may have. Be there beside me, my Master, and when I know the relief of being extracted from the AO and flown away to safety, or when my last mission on this earth is complete, may my heart fill with gratitude and thankfulness in knowing again your mercy and care

Give me an awareness of my Ranger buddies around me that I might not live just for myself but that each Rangers need and concern may become a challenge for me to meet and supply.

O Lord! Watch over the men of E/52nd/H75th Rangers here in Vietnam and throughout life as we “Lead the Way” in fulfillment of our motto, and may we also follow the one who said, “I am the way.”

Great God! Hear this prayer of a Ranger who knows that of all my challenges, being your son is the greatest challenge, responsibility and privilege of all. Hear this my prayer, I a Ranger

In my Master’s name - Amen

Also wanted to remind everyone about our upcoming H Company reunion which will be held in conjunction with the 1st Cavalry reunion in Reno.

The 1st Cavalry Division Association invites you to join the rest of the First Team Family in Reno, Nevada for the 77th Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association from 11-15 June 2025. All Life and Associate Members are welcome to attend this special event. Gold Star Families and Widows of our members are always welcome to attend.

Please register early to assist in coordinating the best reunion possible. Some events have limited seating available due to the size of available rooms. All members of the Association must register and pay the \$40 Registration Fee except for our Active-Duty Troopers who pay \$20 to register. Family members attending with an Association member, Widows of 1st Cavalry Division Troopers, and Gold Star Family members that attend do not have to pay a registration fee.

The registration fee will no longer be refundable regardless of when a member cancels.

Online registration is still open. The Reunion registration form has been and is included in the *Saber* from November ‘24 through April ‘25. Those sending in registrations post-marked after 1 May 2025 must pay a late registration fee of \$50.

The Association will be providing our guests with transportation to the Truckee River Walk on Thursday 12 June 2025 (0900-1800) at a cost of \$10 per person. Bus tickets can be purchased when you initially register, either by mail-in or online, or at the Walk-in Registration area.

Usually the 1st Cav Division Association (1CDA) relies on the chapter in the state where the reunion is being held for volunteers to assist with the activities related to the successful functions of the reunion. There is no Cav Chapter in Nevada.

As a result, 1CDA is asking for volunteers from within all 1CDA members. I encourage everyone to participate in some way. Our chapter members as well as our family members can volunteer.

I have summarized the areas and times when personnel are needed. Be careful to consider activities you may be attending:

REGISTRATION DESK: Hand out packets and tickets.
Wed-Sat: 0900-1200 & 1300-1500, Wed & Fri: 1500-1800, Thurs: 1500-1700.

SILENT AUCTION MONITOR: Set up tables each morning and secure items at the end of the day.
Times: 15 minutes before registration desk opens and closes.

BANQUET SEATING: Assign seating. Collect tickets.

1CDA HOSPITALITY ROOM: Police trash from tables, check name badges, ensure things run smoothly.
Wed-Sat: 0900-1400, 1400-1900, 1900-2400.

BUS MONITOR DETAILS: For trip to Truckee Riverwalk District. Keep accountability-count numbers of people getting on/off buses.
Thurs: 0900-1800 (Buses will run continuously).

VETERANS BRIEFING: Need Master of Ceremonies/Point of Contact.
Thurs: 1430-1530

LEGACY BREAKFAST DETAILS: Read long roll muster script for each war at the memorial service. WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Gulf War, OIF/OEF.
Fri: 0730-0900

PURPLE HEART BREAKFAST: Need Master of Ceremonies.
Sat: 0730-0845

UNIT LUNCHEON DETAILS: Ensure lunch runs smoothly. Collect tickets & ensure attendees are at the correct luncheon.
Sat: 1200-1400

GIFT SHOP DETAILS: Ensure customers do not enter with drinks or bags; assist customers as needed.
Wed-Fri: 0900-1200, 1300-1500, 1500-1800 (3 volunteers needed for each time slot):
Sat: 0900-1200, 1300-1600 (2 volunteers needed for each time slot)

To sign up for your time slot, contact:
1SG (Ret) Dara Wydler, Executive Director, 1st Cavalry Division Association,
Office: 254-547-6537, <firstcav@1cda.org>
or
Howard Shute 412-215-1556, <howard.shute@hotmail.com>

(FYI: Chapter Board of Governors meeting: Saturday, June 14 1000-1030; Chapter membership meeting June 14 1030-1130.)

I’ve included a sign-up sheet and any updates regarding the reunion with the Spring Newsletter.

The 1st Cavalry Division Association will be utilizing the Grand Sierra Resort (GSR) and Casino for all of the events. The GSR room fees will vary because this is a resort. Reservations made Sunday-Thursday are \$79 and Friday-Saturday are \$189. Resort fees and guestroom taxes will apply. Make sure that you identify yourself as attending the 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion. The hotel does provide a free shuttle service from the Reno-Tahoe International Airport and rental cars are available at the airport.

Grand Sierra Resort
1-800-648-5080 reference code: FCD25
2500 E 2nd St, Reno, NV 89595
Sign-up sheets will be sent along with the Newsletter
RLTW

WANTED / LOOKING FOR:

BATTLE of QUANG TRI PARTICIPANTS
My name is Mark Carlson. I am a freelance writer and contributor to many military history publications. I have been given an assignment by *Military Heritage Magazine* to write an article about the 31 January – 1 February 1968 Battle of Quang Tri, part of the Hue defense in the Tet Offensive.

I am looking to talk with any 1CD Veterans who served in that engagement in any capacity, whether in combat or support. I am looking for men from any of the Army Infantry and Air Cavalry regiments that were involved in that battle. I hope to speak with the Veterans to interview them by phone for their comments, opinions, impressions and personal accounts. Everything I write will be provided to the Veteran for their approval.

If any Veteran knows of others who might be willing to talk about their Vietnam service, I would be glad to talk with them. I have been writing for several national magazines for twenty years with more than 250 published articles, in addition to four published books on military history.

It is my hope to educate my readers to the real story where the Vietnam War is concern. To this day most Americans have little concept of how badly the war was conducted from Washington, and even less of how brutal the war was for our Troops. Contrary to how the Tet Offensive was portrayed in the media as being a defeat for U. S. Forces, it was in fact the worst mistake Vo Nyugen Giap ever made. I want to tell the truth.

Most of my friends are Veterans and I take my work very seriously. Thank you and best regards,
Mark R. Carlson, CL, ACS, Military Historian & Author
1401 El Norte Parkway, Space 122 San Marcos, CA 92069
858-472-5419, <markcarlson2222@outlook.com>

HAVE YOU BEEN SEARCHING FOR YOUR LONG LOST BATTLE BUDDY?



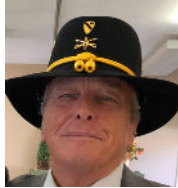
If you have been searching for someone that you served with within 1st Cav, try posting it here.

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



5th CAV News

Harold P. "Doc" Truitt
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A great deal of thought goes into the things I write for this column. A good writer, or journalist could certainly produce better stories in far less time, but today I want to tell you one of the stories of the many people I would never have met if not for my involvement in the U.S. 5th Cavalry Regimental Association. A sort of "sunburn of the soul" often slows a person involved in the violence of war from seeking to know about the people who served and bled with them, and about how the lives of these folks progressed after they returned. It appears to me to be modified just a little for Soldiers who deploy and return following combat with the same people they were deployed with, minus, of course those who did not return. But even Troops who serve, and return with their battle buddies, usually don't reach out much beyond that circle. If not for my involvement with the Association, my circle of acquaintances would have stopped there. Friends met through that group introduced me to War Fighter Advance, and I attended a cycle of training by them. While I met several people there, I am still in touch with one who may be the greatest hero I have ever met. I am sure many things he did were not open to discussion, either in time of location, or some may have been unofficial in some respect. For that reason, we will not discuss his name, the location involved, or the timeline. We are often more open to discussion of things we see or do when feeling down, reflective, or vulnerable, and some part of that, I am sure, played into my getting to hear the story.

My friend was deployed in an area nearly overrun with terrorists. There was a significant civilian population, and the situation was beyond complex. News returned of a terror group kidnapping a whole group of disabled children, for the purpose of using them as human bomb carriers. I did not use the term "suicide bomber" because that would, infer these kids could even understand what was going on, I don't believe they could. In official terms, the situation did not allow the limited forces our country provided there to intervene, but this Soldier could not let it drop there, and it is unclear what those close to the situation could do to support a rescue. What I was able to gather was that a limited, unofficial rescue happened, possibly (or probably) including only the one man. In an area controlled by hostiles, and without official orders, the children were first located, then rescued, then returned to safety. A lot of reading between the lines, and understanding what might be involved is needed, but whatever the case may be, it inspires a state of awe in me.

I am quite sure our ranks include more than a few folks who would and have put it on the line that way. This person, and more than a few other heroic people who are now my friends, I would never have met, had I insisted on limiting my exposure to my battle buddies. Understanding why Troops often wish to limit warrior to warrior contact with people they served with is not hard for me. I have been there. But continued involvement with this Division and with my regiment have healed wounds I never knew I had. My contact with active-duty Troops started with an invitation to join 2/5 for a Christmas celebration. I was in the hands of a well-meaning psychiatrist and heavily medicated. It was not possible for me to refuse the meds which, along with my practice and ongoing life, had me much overweight and out of shape. The meds also made me overly sensitive to alcohol intake, and I was being personally hosted by the first sergeant of B 2/5.

DIVISION DOINGS

80 Years Later: 1st Cavalry Division Returns to the Philippines to Commemorate the Battle of Manila

by MAJ Valerie Bryant

MANILA, Philippines — 80 years ago, on Feb 3, 1945, the battle for the capital of the Philippines began between Allied Forces and Imperial Japan. The 1st Cavalry Division was one of three divisions under the control of GEN Douglas MacArthur. It was here that the 1st Cavalry Division earned its nickname, "America's First Team," by being the first U.S. Forces to re-enter Manila after its capture in 1942.

The battle and subsequent liberation of Manila and the Philippines, in the spring of 1945, fulfilled a promise made by GEN MacArthur in the spring of 1942: When President Theodore D. Roosevelt ordered him to Australia, he said, "I shall return."

On a hot Feb morning at Adamson University in the heart of the capital, the city government of Manila held a ceremony and wreath-laying in honor of this historic event. The ceremony honored our shared history, ongoing commitment, and continued partnership with the Philippines and the Filipino people. The Mayor of Manila City, Honey Lacuna Pangan, presided over the ceremony. Commemorating this historical event, several other countries, including the United Kingdom, Australia, Japan, China and Canada, were represented on-site.

The U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines, MaryKay L. Carlson, participated in the ceremony and placed a wreath in honor of those Americans and Filipinos who laid down their lives for the freedom of the Filipino people and the two countries.

LTC John Dolan, Commander of the 1st Cavalry Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment "Garryowen," was on hand to represent the 1st Cavalry Division at the ceremony along with representatives from 5th Security Forces Assistance Brigade and I Corps, both based out of Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington. "We're here to honor the courage and sacrifice of so many Soldiers and civilians in the liberation of Manila," said LTC Dolan, "and recognize the bond between both Americans and Filipinos share in our history and the pursuit of freedom."

As the number of the Greatest Generation dwindles and will soon be gone, continuing to commemorate these events ensures their efforts and history is not lost. The Liberation of Manila's 80th anniversary honors the past generations' sacrifices to safeguard freedom while inspiring future generations to carry the torch.



U.S. Army photo by
SGT Elizabeth DeGroot

I did not get loud or wobble down on the floor, but my tux did not fit well, and I felt embarrassed. Thank Almighty God for the fact that Troopers usually take care of their own, even when they get old. If you've met me recently you know I have been able to correct some of that, but the point that needs to be made and shouted from the rooftop is that we need each other.

No one ever gets wealthy on a military salary, but the richness of my life is due to my friends and acquaintances. Getting to know folks who would otherwise be outside of my circle. Having opportunities to see and be well acquainted with real heroes. Giants of the soul. And in some cases, having been there to see them in action! If you've never been under a real artillery barrage while a large formation of infantry tries to overrun you and get to interact with folks who can be there, do their job, and shrug it off, the idea of what a hero is might be more limited than mine. There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that the Troops in our formations can do exactly that! In the after math of such an occasion, I once walked by a long row of poncho wrapped heroes. Thousands of miles from home, they had been part of an effort to give another country a chance at freedom. We here in this country cannot always know how to help others, whose societies we do not always understand. And the folks at home frequently understand neither the recipients of our efforts nor the motive that places us there. But you folks are now and will always be among my heroes.

Speaking of heroes and artillery barrages, I would point out that both can be easily misunderstood and underestimated. Each one of either is quite different. The fight at Ft. Sumpter at the beginning of the Civil War presents a fine example of both. While the incoming rounds were indeed terrible, no one died on either side during the exchange. That does not diminish the courage displayed. If one of our battalions, as currently equipped, were to launch an all-out artillery barrage on an area as small as LZ Ike, where my experience took place, and it went on for two- and one-half hours with the defenders having the same preparations we had, I am pretty sure no one would have survived. The 1500 rounds reported to have fallen ranged from 122mm and 107mm, down to 82mm mortars. That would be about 600 per hour, or 10 per minute. Of course, much of that came during the first hour in terms of highest intensity and heaviest rounds. I am still quite proud of the way our guys did their jobs.

The real point I am hoping to make is about both the folks I knew way back when, and those who I have met since then, largely as a result of choosing to be involved here in the 5th Cav Association and in our Division Association, both of which are very important to me, and many of whom I would never have met without my involvement here.

One of the many ways you can expand the circle of knowledge and friends you possess is to become more active with this association and with that of our division. Some of us are old enough that our time of active involvement is limited. We try to tell folks about the importance of being involved here and of carrying the guidon into the future but life never gets simpler nor does the need to support a family go away, which can easily keep our outreach limited. It is indeed an honor to be involved here, and I fervently hope MORE of you can begin to be involved here so these organizations can continue to reach out to all our "alumni."

HAVE YOUR 5TH CAV STORIES APPEAR HERE! CONTACT THE SCRIBE ABOVE

MG Thomas M. Feltey

by Charles Porter

MG Feltey enlisted in the New Jersey Army National Guard in 1988. He was commissioned as an ROTC distinguished military graduate from Rutgers University as a Lieutenant of Armor in 1993. MG assumed command of the 1st Cavalry Division in August of 2024 while the Division was deployed to Eastern Europe in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve.

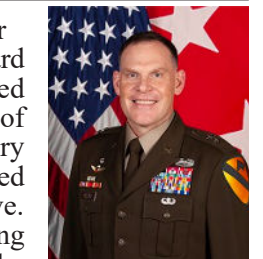
His most recent assignments include; Deputy Commanding General of the III Armored Corps, Fort Cavazos, Texas; the 53rd Chief of Armor and Armor School Commandant, Fort Moore, Georgia; Director G3/5/7, Future and Concepts Center, Fort Eustis, Virginia; Chief of Staff 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, Colorado; Commander, 316th Cavalry Brigade, Maneuver Center of Excellence, Fort Benning, Georgia; and commander 2nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry, 4-2 Stryker Brigade Combat Team, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington. Other assignments include tours of duty with the Office of Security Cooperation, Iraq; Armored and Cavalry formations at Fort Hood, Texas and Europe; and with the NATO Allied Rapid Reaction Corps in the United Kingdom. MG Feltey has six deployments in support of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

MG Feltey's education includes the Armor basic and advanced courses, the Scout Platoon Leaders' course, the Cavalry Leaders' course, the Naval College of Command and Staff, the Maritime School of Advanced Military Studies, and the Joint Advanced Warfighting School. He earned a Bachelor of Science from Rutgers University, a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Navy War College, and a Master of Science in Campaign Planning and Strategic Studies from the Joint Forces Staff College of the National Defense University.

His awards and decorations include the Valorous Unit Award, the Meritorious Unit Award, Legion of Merit (7th Award), Bronze Star Medal (2nd Award), the combat action badge, and the parachutist badge. MG Feltey is a recipient of the Order of Saint George (Silver) and the Order of Saint Maurice (Legionnaire). Additionally, MG Feltey is a distinguished member of the 23rd Infantry Regiment.

MG Thomas M. Feltey Assumed Command of the 1st Cavalry Division

Caption: From right, LTG Charles D. Costanza, Commanding General of V Corps, passed the division colors to MG Thomas M. Feltey, incoming Commanding General of the 1st Cavalry Division, signifying the acceptance of command during a change of command ceremony on August 2, 2024, in Boleslawiec, Poland. Feltey was previously the Deputy Commanding General Operations of III Armored Corps in Fort Cavazos, Texas.



Continued to pg. 9

12th CAV News



Thomas Lon Crabtree
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www.12thCav.US



Salute-Semper Paratus! Imagine this, when this issue hits our mailboxes one-fourth of the year will have passed. Hope all our Troopers and families have had a good beginning to the year and are well and finally settling down after the major holiday events November through the Super Bowl. We can now focus on the events important to members of group Association gatherings Division and Regiment. Up kick for Maggie and me is, we both received positive reports from the doctors who treated our ailments. We look forward to moving on this year in the 1-12th Spirit of "Chargin' Chargers." We thank our brothers and sisters for their prayers, well wishes and encouragement when checking in on us over the past year. The Cav Spirit of "got your back" lives on.

DEPARTURES

Two respected 12th Cavalry Troopers crossed over in the month of January. Richard Byron "Rick" Wiens and Donald Lee "Doc" Jennings. Our condolences and prayers go out to the Families of these outstanding men and a Slow Hand Salute to our two brothers!

Wiens: aka "Sundance" passed on 6 January 2025. He served with 'Stacked Deck,' D Company, 2d Battalion, 12th Cavalry, 1970-1971. "Sundance" was Airborne and Ranger qualified and achieved SSG rank. He was awarded two Bronze Stars, two Army Commendation Medals, Air Assault Wings, Jump Wings, Combat Infantry Badge. His civilian craft was carpentry and as a spiritual man, felt he was doing God's work. He often helped other less advantaged people in his community, constructing suitable living quarters and teaching youngsters some of the tricks of the trade. He and his loving wife Terre were energizers at the reunions bringing with them a positive outlook about all circumstances regardless of demands that would intimidate others. Memorial services were held 25 January at Fairview Mennonite Church in Fairview, OK. Brother Rick we will see you down the road. You and Terre will be missed at our gatherings, salute!



Richard Byron Wiens

Jennings: aka known as "Doc" passed on 20 Jan 2025. Served in Bravo Company, 1-12th, May 1967-1968. "Doc" was awarded the Silver Star and two Purple Hearts for his outstanding soldiering. After the military he worked for Mobil Chemical Company. He served his community in Waverly, IL as a little league baseball coach helping the kids build character and life skills. He was a life member of VFW and served as Post Commander, Waverly American Legion and Disabled America Veterans. In 2018, Doc was designated as one of the top 100 Veterans of the State of IL. He and his wife Janet brought much joy, encouragement, and camaraderie to the 12th Cavalry Reunions. They will be missed at our events. Salute to you Doc, will see you down the road!



Donald Lee Jennings

UPCOMING EVENTS

Delta Company, 1-12th Las Vegas, 1-4 April 2025 at the Luxor Hotel and Casino. Rates \$276.00 per night includes taxes and fees for three nights. Rooms are not blocked and those registering are encouraged to make reservations through Expedia. Email Chuck Rose at <chuckrose24@gmail.com> if you plan to attend. Bring your nametags from previous reunions. Luxor Hotel phone number is 800-434-1659.

Next Delta gathering will coincide with the 1st Cavalry Division Association reunion in Reno, NV 11-15 June 2025 at the Grand Sierra Resort, 2500 East 2nd Street, Reno, NV 89596. Room reservations 800-648-5080, REF Code FCD25. Mail reunion reservation forms from *Saber* to 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion, 302 North Main, Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703.

12th Cavalry Association, 2d week of September 2025. Hotel location is not yet confirmed. As soon as details have been confirmed by Fred Wilson or Ron Rowden, a flyer will be sent out to all Troopers with registration forms and lodging/event details. This gathering will be the 20th year milestone and likely the last as we have done it over the past years. As soon as you receive the flyer make your plans for the last bash of a Legacy that no one thought would go beyond three years. Troopers who served in a 12th Cavalry unit in any era are welcome to this reunion. We encourage you join us and become involved in the Association with the focus of sustaining the Tradition, History and Legacy of the 12th Cavalry Regiment. Contact Thomas Crabtree, Secretary/Treasurer at 432-853-4851, <mmctlc3@aol.com>.

Sometimes there is not enough fodder to load the cannon, this is one of those times. Send us your stories. You are a part of the tradition of the 12th Cavalry and 1st Cavalry. Your service was valuable to the unit you served with. This is how we record the accurate history of our service to be preserved for future Troopers and families.

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

CRABTREE OUT!

Contact the scribe to share your 12th Cav stories!
If you were ever a part of 12th CAV, join their
Association <www.12thCav.com>
SUPPORT YOUR UNIT LEGACY!

Firebase Illingworth Illuminated in a Titanic Horror

by Tim Dyhouse, publisher and editor-in-chief, VFW magazine
This is an excerpt from *Brutal Battles of Vietnam: America's Deadliest Days 1965-1972*, VFW's official account of the most lethal battles of the eight-year war and was featured in the April 2020 issue of VFW magazine.

April was the deadliest month of 1970 for U.S. Troops in Vietnam with 730 deaths. On the first day alone, North Vietnamese Army (NVA) units shelled some 115 targets throughout the country and launched 13 ground assaults. April 1 turned out to be the single deadliest day of the year when 70 GIs perished.

At the center of that day's carnage stood Fire Support Base (FSB) Illingworth, where 36 percent of the Americans killed died in a matter of two hours. FSB Illingworth was a hastily constructed firebase built in a dry pond bed only five miles from the Cambodian border in Tay Ninh province. Its 219-yardwide perimeter was protected by Claymore mines dug into a low earthen berm surrounding the base and a few bunkers. No concertina or barbed wire was in place.

One GI described it as a "hot, miserable little place." Another said it was "trouble waiting to happen." It was named for CPL John James Illingworth of A Co, 2nd Bn, 8th Cav, 1st Cav Div, who was killed March 14, 1970, near Tay Ninh City. Defending the base were 215 men from the 1st Cavalry Division and attached units. They included C and E companies of the 2nd Bn, 8th Cav; elements of four field artillery batteries (I of the 29th, A-1-30th, A-2-32nd and B-1-77th) and two Air Defense Artillery batteries (B-5-2nd and D of the 71st). The 2nd Artillery provided dual 40mm anti-aircraft guns ("Dusters") augmented by D Battery's .50-caliber quad machine guns.

FSB Illingworth sat astride heavily trafficked NVA infiltration routes in the middle of an area GIs called the Dog's Head. Patrols disrupted Communist movement, and U.S. commanders were certain the NVA would attack. This would reveal their positions, allowing them to be bombed. Several Veterans of the battle have used the word "bait" to describe the reason for the location. "In the afternoon before the attack, we could hear the enemy about a half mile away in the tree line getting worked up for a fight," said SP4 Ron Curry of A Btry, 1st Bn, 30th FA. "I wondered why we didn't shoot and wipe them out then. We were in enemy territory after all."

Anticipating an assault, Illingworth was reinforced on March 21 with two self-propelled 8-inch howitzers from A Btry, 2nd Bn, 32nd FA, and tons of ammunition for the big guns. "From the first day on, we wanted to dig our ammo pits using our 8-inch howitzers as spades," said Ralph Jones of A Battery. "We were ordered not to, thereby allowing the enemy to view our ammo from the jungle line." The decision to leave the ammo stacked above ground would have devastating consequences for the men at the base in Illingworth.

'Almost Imaginary, Like a Movie'

At 2:18 a.m. on April 1, the first of 300 NVA mortar, rocket and recoilless rifle rounds began exploding in a 20-minute barrage inside Illingworth's perimeter. The 32nd's Fire Direction Center (FDC) took a direct hit, killing three off shift radiomen sleeping nearby. Likewise, the 77th's FDC was hit several times; that unit lost seven KIA.

"I directed over 1,000 rounds of artillery fire plus several air strikes and dozens of gunships," recalled then-CPT John Ahearn, artillery liaison officer of the 1st Bn, 77th Arty, and fire coordinator for the 2nd Bn, 8th Cav. "Two things in particular stand out in my mind: that everyone was on 100 percent alert thus preventing us from being overrun, and the courage of Cobra helicopter pilot CPT Joe Hogg, who made possible communication from Illingworth during the desperate times of the battle."

Immediately thereafter, some 400 Soldiers from the 272nd Main Force Regiment of the 9th VC/NVA Division charged the wire in a full-frontal assault. They emerged like "ghosts through a mist," as a GI who was among only 77 infantrymen on the perimeter recalled. "The dust was so dense you couldn't see 55 yards in front of you," said SGT Keith McKissick of Gun Sec. 241, 3rd Plt, I Btry, 29th FA, who earned a Silver Star. Still, combat was so close that the enemy was clearly visible. "Very rarely do you see the man who is trying to kill you," McKissick explained.

As the first wave of communists rushed the earthen wall, SP4 Peter Lemon of Recon Plt, E Co, 2nd Bn, 8th Cav, moved to assist M-60 machine gunner Lou Vaca at the berm. The thick dust, Lemon says, caused Vaca's gun to jam and also obscured the onrushing NVA troops until they were only 50 feet from the Americans.

"They were 40 or 50 across, wave after wave of them," said Lemon. "It was almost imaginary, like a movie, with all the dust and the flares." Lemon was able to kill five NVA with his M-16 until it, too, malfunctioned. He then began throwing grenades at the attackers. Meanwhile, he says Vaca, who was trying to repair the machine gun, was shot three times in the stomach. Lemon describes the 18-20 men of Recon Platoon as "professional Soldiers" who kept their nerve during the chaos.

"We knew we were going to get hit, and as they were coming at us, we were blowing off a lot of the Claymores," said the Medal of Honor recipient. "We were pretty calm. But I equate it to a prizefight. By the time the 10th round comes around and your opponent is still swinging, you say to yourself, 'This guy is pretty tough.'" Lemon killed four more NVA advancing on the machine-gun position and then carried Vaca to the battalion aid station. Lemon was wounded a second time returning to Vaca's machine gun, where he found a group of NVA attempting to turn the gun on the Americans.

He drove them off with more grenades and killed an NVA soldier at the gun. Lemon repaired it and "placed effective fire upon the enemy," according to his Medal of Honor citation. Wounded a third time, he eventually collapsed from his wounds and exhaustion.

Two of Lemon's fellow E Company Soldiers earned posthumous Distinguished Service Crosses during the firefight. SP4 Casey O. Waller and SP4 Brent Anthony Street tossed hand grenades at the enemy after their weapons jammed because of the overwhelming dust. Both Street and Waller refused to withdraw when their grenade supply ran out and they resorted to hand-to-hand combat. Waller was killed by exploding ammunition and Street was eventually killed by a mortar round.

George Hobson, CO of Charlie Company, recalled the role of Silver Star recipient
Continued to pg. 10

7th CAV News



Jack (Boz) Parente
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Greetings, Garryowen Troopers! Welcome to the Mar/Apr2025 issue of 7th Cav News. There has been a lot of interest in this one important component of our association, so in response to the numerous questions I have received regarding the puzzling disappearance and current status of our highly regarded and frequently visited association website, I reached out to Bob Anderson for answers. Here is what Bob has to say:

A Message from Bob Anderson: GarryOwen to my 7th Cavalry Association brothers and sisters. As you may know, I am Bob Anderson, the President Emeritus of our Association. Our current Scribe, Boz Parente, has asked for my input as to the “state” of our Association website. The current slate of our elected officers are as follows: Mike Campbell (President), Tim Hodge (Vice-President) John Guillory (Secretary) and me as Treasurer. For Mike and Tim this is their second round. Our contact information is in the latest roster and on the minimal website. <<https://www.us7thcavalry.org/association-information/#ADDRESSES>>. Several years ago, Jim Savage, after designing, maintaining, updating and monitoring his creation, decided to retire. There were many attempts through the *Saber* to identify someone, anyone to take over from Jim with ZERO results. About the same time, John stepped down as President but remained as Secretary. I too, after 17 years stepped down as the Scribe and the 7th Cav News lay fallow for about a year until Karl Swenson picked up the pen.

After their 1st election some 4 years ago, Mike and Tim identified a fellow 7th Cav Veteran and Association member to completely redesign and update the website. John, Karl, and my only requirement was that everything Jim Savage had developed, had to remain with the “new” design (membership rosters and historical information and photographs, just to name a few items). We were assured by Tim, Mike and the ‘new’ designer that it wasn’t going to be an issue. We were also assured that the ‘new and improved’ site would be up and running within about 5 months – several years ago. This was the designer’s timeline, not John’s, mine or Karl’s. Mike and Tim wanted an on-line registration link so that new Troopers who don’t like filling out forms could do everything online. This is contained in the current website version, but no rosters or historical items, just links to zero data. In conversations with both Jim Savage and Ron ‘Shortround’ Migut, I found out that Jim has kept his work product safely backed up. Likewise, this issue has never been about funding. It’s simply a lack of communication from someone. So, if you care about the website, as many have expressed, you need to contact the President, Mike Campbell <michaelcampbell1313@yahoo.com> or Vice-President, Tim Hodge <tim@allaboutinsurancetexas.com>. In late breaking news, Tim has requested the current roster in Excel format for the designer to at least include those names in the new design. John has provided that information to him. Please stay tuned for the updated website, hopefully by the time you are reading this issue. Additionally, I plan to run and/or stay on as your Treasurer, to maintain the fiduciary relationship of the Association funds. In a nutshell, this is where we sit on the eve of March 2025. Bob Anderson, President Emeritus, 7th Cavalry Association. GarryOwen

A Life of Inspiration by Frank Kling Have you ever wondered what became of the Soldiers you served with in Vietnam? In one way or another, we all have. There were familiar faces with whom you had little interaction, while others, particularly those in your platoon—became integral members of a close-knit team, depending on one another for daily survival.

Upon leaving the military, individuals embark on a unique path shaped by the duration of their service, the skills they acquired, and their personal aspirations. Servicemen have an opportunity to take advantage of educational benefits or transition into civilian careers that align with their military training, while others establish their own businesses or return to the lives they left behind before leaving. Regardless of the direction they choose the time in the service leaves a lasting impact, both consciously and subconsciously.

Military service fosters a profound sense of self, instilling resilience, maturity, and enhanced coping abilities. It reinforces values such as integrity, personal responsibility, and accountability. For a considerable number of Veterans, it nurtures empathy, allowing them to better understand and appreciate diverse perspectives.

This narrative highlights the journey of such a man: In the May-June 2024 issue of *Saber*, there was a story about a Soldier from Bravo 1-7 who honored Colonel (Retired) Ed Fisher, for his transformational leadership, with a generous donation to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. CPT Fisher was Company Commander of Bravo Co, 1-7 in 1968. This story recounts the experiences of another B/1-7 Veteran.

Dave Domzalski (right) served in Vietnam from February 1968 to February 1969. In September 1969, after seven months at Ft. Benning, he returned home to Cleveland, Ohio, where he secured employment at a local manufacturing company and married Janice Liguzinski. Though he had left the battlefield behind, the lessons he learned in Vietnam of perseverance, sacrifice, and standing up for those who could not fight for themselves would shape the next chapter of his life in an unexpected way.

In 1979, Janice and Dave embarked on a genealogical trip to their ancestral homelands of Poland and Romania. While in Poland, Dave reconnected with distant relatives and made a promise to return someday. That “someday” arrived sooner than anticipated, the very next year. However, this visit was undeniably different. The Solidarity movement had emerged, organized by union workers at the Lenin Shipyards under the leadership of Lech Wałęsa. As Dave watched the Polish people stand against oppression, he recognized echoes of the very struggle he had witnessed in Vietnam: ordinary people risking everything in the fight for self-determination and freedom.

Deeply moved by the courage of the Solidarity movement, Dave and Janice



became ardent supporters of the cause. In 1981, they formally joined Solidarity and committed to serving as its voice in the West. Dave resigned from his position at his company, and in late 1982, Dave and Janice established the office for The Committee in Support of Solidarity, in southeast Cleveland.

Just as he had stood alongside his fellow Soldiers in Vietnam, Dave now stood with the Polish people in their struggle for democracy. His decade-long efforts to advance personal freedoms for Poland were recognized through letters of official recognition and expressions of gratitude from local, state, and national leaders, including President Ronald Reagan. However, Dave’s greatest source of pride came when he was awarded the Polish Medal of Freedom, an honor bestowed upon him for his unwavering commitment to the Solidarity movement. His direct involvement played a pivotal role in supporting the struggle for democracy, contributing to the eventual collapse of communist regimes across Eastern Europe and the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

Through his tireless efforts, Dave continued to fight for the same ideals that had shaped him as a young Soldier in Vietnam, proving that the call to serve does not end when the uniform comes off. Instead, it takes new forms, leaving a lasting impact on the world.

The Kid by Boz

Early one morning, a week or two after we finished bulldozing the graveyard on the NNE side of LZ Buttons, a group of local peasants dressed in traditional ceremonial garb, some carrying large paper banners and colorful prayer offerings, walked two miles from the old village of Song Be and showed up in front of the LZ Buttons main gate asking for access to their families’ gravesites. Rumors about us destroying the cemetery had been circulating among the local townspeople for several days and the noisy group of pilgrims that gathered at the gate quickly grew into an angry mob, one that continued to grow larger, louder, and angrier as word spread and the sun climbed higher in the cloudless sky.

Around noon, as the temperature passed one hundred degrees, the mob hit its flashpoint. People began shouting as the crowd turned hostile and pressed upon the gate. Naturally, the inevitable came to pass. Someone in the angry crowd fired a couple of pistol shots into the air and the LZ Buttons war machine switched to full combat alert. We manned our fighting positions, waiting for the command to erase the annoying crowd of noisy peasants from the face of the Earth, even though we knew we were about to do something truly terrible, something that would change everything forever, something that would destroy us all.

People cannot stand firm if CS is used against them, and the determined mob stoking its anger all morning broke up instantly when the MPs threw the gas grenades into the crowd. The enraged villagers immediately transformed into a panicked mob. Some of them ran into the maze of tanglefoot and razorwire concertina barriers that surrounded the main gate, and several of the ensnared appeared to be bleeding to death.

Seeing this misery a group of Soldiers decided to attempt to render assistance. Wearing gasmasks, they used barbed-wire cable-cutters to free the trapped people. Two of the Soldiers worked for ten minutes freeing one little girl, about seven or eight years old, who had become badly entangled in the wire. It was a pathetic scene. Bone-thin arms outstretched she hung whimpering, bleeding badly, suspended from the barbs like the image of a tiny Christ on the Cross, unable to fall to the ground as her grandmother screamed and wailed like a madwoman, reaching through the razorwire to grasp the child’s hand.

The Soldiers worked as fast as they could, carefully cutting the spring-steel coils, trying their best not to further injure the badly wounded child, but her thrashing had caused grave damage, and it was obvious that she was dying. She lost so much blood that an Army Medic joined the two Soldiers and started an emergency transfusion. Seconds later the child slumped to the ground as cable cutters sliced through the last barbed strand, but before the medic was able to lift the child the grandmother of the little girl viciously lashed out, ripping the IV out of the child’s arm, tearing off the medic’s gas mask, violently clawing at his eyes with her jagged fingernails. She grabbed the injured child by one limp arm and roughly dragged her away, spitting and howling like a banshee, flashing her ebony teeth, and screaming into the faces of the grunts and the medic, shrieking at them to stay away from the half-conscious whimpering girl, to leave her alone. “Kill you!” she screeched. “Kill you! Kill you!”

Completely shocked by this burst of violence, the Soldiers immediately backed off, sure that this ancient fury with black teeth and milky eye spoke the absolute truth. The grandmother pulled the little girl through the dirt as fast as she could, bouncing her over the rutted ground, dragging her by one arm, leaving a trail of the child’s blood in the powder-fine dust, getting as far away from the Americans as fast as possible, screaming “Kill you!”

Our brand-new interpreters warned the villagers to stay away from the base. “You go way. You no come bak! You come you numbah ten VeeCee” they blared in both Pidgin English for us, and a completely different version in the regional dialect for their families, friends, and neighbors, quietly condemning our souls to a hell on earth that would soon unfold before us.

Because of what happened that morning on LZ Buttons I remained mostly sympathetic to civilians, though I began to erode emotionally, morally, not caring about anything except my buddies. Still, at that early point in my tour with E/1-7, I hadn’t given up on making it home. Far from it. For a short time, I believed that everything was going to be okay, that I’d survive Vietnam intact, and my life would return to normal, back to the way it was before the war. But I was wrong. Nothing would ever be the same.

Continued to pg. 20



**Contact the scribe to share your
7th Cav stories here!**
**If you were ever a part of 7th CAV, join their
Association <www.us7thCavalry.com>
SUPPORT YOUR UNIT LEGACY!**

8th CAV News



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I thought and thought about writing the following story. It's been on my mind for the last 50 years. It haunts me every day and night. It got in my brain the first time I saw it and has never left. The story is about a little girl of 9 years old. I imagine a very beautiful child. Have you ever noticed, let's say an accident, a scary movie, something that will startle you, but you turn and look again? That's exactly what I and many people experienced: shock, pity, and after the onset of the shock were prayers for his child. I couldn't turn away. This child I write about is Phan Thi Kim Phuc, now a grown woman. The thing that haunts me is a photo of her. It was years after my service in Vietnam. I still don't know where I first saw the photo. All I know for sure was that it took my breath away and I knew I would never forget this photo. Just the image of her makes my heart and soul ache so much.



This horrific story started a few days before the photo was taken. Violent military action was all around the village of Trang Bang, Vietnam on June 8, 1972, about twenty-five miles northwest of Saigon. The village had been occupied by Viet Cong soldiers. The ARVN troops had struggled for days trying to drive them out. Our little girl's family along with people from the village and ARVN troops were hiding in a Buddhist temple. Scared when they heard planes, Phan's family and ARVN troops ran into the village. The crew on the aircraft mistook the group for the enemy and sadly, dropped napalm in the middle of the group. The photo became known as "Napalm Girl." I will not attempt to write about the agony she suffered that day. (The aircraft that dropped the napalm were ARVN troops working in the area with US troops, but Americans did not drop the napalm.)

Over the years (pre-internet) I wondered what happened to her. I knew she survived but wanted to know more about her. When I learned to use the internet, I looked up anything I could find on her. Her recovery was long and painful. She was a young and fragile girl who toughed it up, fought the good fight and became a beautiful young woman. In 1992 Phuc was granted political asylum by Canada and in 1997 she was named a United Nations Goodwill Ambassador. She gives speeches around the world about her life story and the power of forgiveness. Phuc now has two children and credits her Christian faith with helping her "to move on."

About 15 years ago, I traveled to Elmhurst, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago, to see my buddy, Rich. I was leafing through their local paper when what should I see but a picture I had longed to see for 50 years. My hands were shaking and my heart felt like it was gonna jump out of my chest. "Rich, it's her!" I said, to which he replied, "Who's her?" He had heard me talk about this photo too many times. Phan had given a speech a few days before at a church about 6 blocks away. I tried calling the church with no answer, so Rich drove me to the church. I asked if they had any contact information or schedule for her, but they didn't. I was so close but won't give up. I know that one day I'll get to hug my little angel whether on earth or in heaven.

ATTENTION

Please read this with your utmost attention. Troopers that have served with the 8th Cavalry in any capacity, their spouses, children, or anyone associated with the 8th Cavalry. Folks, we are quickly going to lose our identity. This historic, brave, and glorious unit of the United States Army will lose its place in the history books or Wikimedia. Today I picked up my mail in my mailbox. Always happy to get my *Saber*. I was shocked. I thought the material was a mistake. It felt like grocery store flyers. Our beloved *Saber* has been reduced to the size of grocery store ads. I know Tina Wilgeroth and the staff of the *Saber* are still doing their best work and can only do with the information we send her. We in turn can only send Tina the material you send us. But my brothers and sisters, it's really getting slim to none. I hate to be the person who told you so, but I feel that is the case. Don't shoot the messenger. So, with a prayer in my heart, and stubborn as a mule I will not give up the good fight to let our words go away. Honor and Courage.

Recovery. I wish all of us, or one of us had the answer to the question, what can we do to help restore, or keep our 8th Cavalry alive. We're going to need everyone's help. I challenge everyone who reads this paper to get in on this. If you know any person that is now or ever has been associated with our 8th Cav, write his or her name on a pad of paper, a big one. Write down a name, nickname, spouse's name, widow's name or anything that may be affiliated with that name. Try to remember things like when you last saw that individual, what and where you served together, and a friend of a friend. Bottom line. Anything you can come up with. I'll guarantee we can get something going. All my contact information is at the top of the *Saber*. Call, text, phone. I will pick it up in person if you cook me supper. We will get results. Thanks, from the bottom of my heart.

REUNIONS

A group of six Eager Arms Veterans came together at my home here in Florida, February 9-12 for a small reunion. We spent the four days dining on my smoked pulled pork, BBQ ribs, Texas chili all from scratch, potato and macaroni salads and coleslaw, chips and snacks, beer and soda, and finally a Florida favorite – key lime pie



Eager Arms mini-Reunion

that I made for our feast. Best of all was the camaraderie of being together again. Photos shows John Casey totally enthralled by the stimulating conversations, Art Jacobs takes a break from the stories, while John and Steve "Doc" Bird took a break later in the spa never missing a beat in their ongoing conversation. Missing from the group photo as he was the photographer is Tim Beck, Jim's son. He's seen in the right forefront of the dining picture. For the seven of us, a good time was had by all.



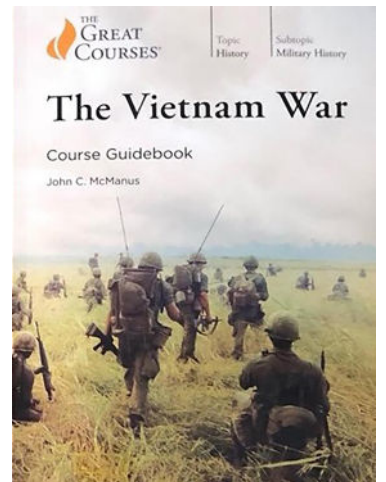
It's time to think about our next gathering. 8th Cavalry Regiment Association will conjoin the 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion in Reno, June 11-15. Information and the registration form is available at their website: <www.1cda.org>.

As time moves forward, fewer of us are able to attend which makes it even more important to do so if we can. So I will send reminders now and then to encourage a large attendance this year. I hope to see you there.

"Honor and Courage" Tom De Young

FELLOW VN BUDDIES

(Re-printed as received) Several of you have already received a note from me about my recent purchase of The Great Courses lecture, "The Vietnam War" by John McManus (2022), so please excuse this duplication. Having overlooked some of you in my initial note and having just finished watching all 24 lectures, I thought I might write again to ask you to consider ordering the DVD or online presentation (800-832-2412). If you might have the slightest interest in watching a very good summary of what most of you personally experienced. I hope you are all well and that you will find the lectures interesting and as informative as I did. Please do NOT reply to this email to avoid having everyone get toooooo many replies. However, please write to me individually if you wish. Thank you. Doug <dhelms0448@carolina.rr.com> Honor and Courage

**EMAIL FROM PETER GENECKI**

Don't know if I will be able to attend, having bad back problems. I was with B/2-8-from May 5 until June 23. Wounded 3 times in the neck, 5 times in the leg, after 3 surgeries, got back to the states. Also, Thomas Grani that was hit in the side with a short Artillery round the first of June passed away last year with cancer. Has anyone found the black medic with Blackfoot yet? He is the one that saved my life that day, June 23, 1968. I think Kelly Fagan will remember me.

Peter

The Blackfoot medic from May until July 24 was Steve Bird. At that time I remember a black medic named Lewis, kind of tall. I think he was Cheyenne, but they all helped when the stuff hit the fan. If July 23 & 24 was when we were hit bad and lost a lot of guys, that was off of LZ Carol, but we had several firefights in between.-TopGun

RENO REUNION NOTE

At the upcoming reunion in Reno in June, the 8th Cav will be part of the 1st Cav Division reunion. We will not have an 8th Cav hospitality room as a group. We will figure out seating arrangements in the main hospitality room. Other units have been doing something like this. It will work out, always does. Just being together is what's important.

REMAINS IDENTIFIED

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting agency's forensic lab in Hawaii has been analyzing dozens of human remains retrieved from Laos and the Philippines. During a remembrance ceremony in Vientiane Laos, the agency received remains that could be U.S. personnel lost during the Vietnam War. The agency conducted an honorable carry ceremony in Hawaii with 18 U.S. flag-draped cases containing the potential remains of another thirty-six service members killed during WWII. The Laos remains came from multiple locations in that country which shares a border with Vietnam. There are 1,513 service members still unaccounted for from the Vietnam War, with the remains of more than 280 of them believed to be in Laos. Remembrance ceremonies are held in the country in which remains are found. The transfer cases are wrapped in U.S. Flags by the DPAA team members who record them. They conduct these ceremonies to provide the respect and recognition they deserve. Many thanks to these brave men and women, who unselfishly do this very honorable job.

IN CLOSING

Spring is finally here, I hope we all made it through the long winter healthy. Let's get together more, try to host a mini reunion if you can. Hope to see you all in Reno. Honor and Courage

Contact the scribe to share your 8th Cav stories!

**If you were ever a part of 8th CAV, join their Association <www.8Cavalry.com>
SUPPORT YOUR UNIT LEGACY!**

1st Cav Div Assn Pin
1.5"
\$6.00



1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN

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It's time for more history of the 1st Cavalry Division Association and on the history of its publication, *Saber*. My second article published in the January/February issue of *Saber* discussed the Association beginning and provided information from the World War II history book. This report on the beginning comes from the July 1954 issue of the *Saber News* when the Association was ten years old. It provides details from the man who first envisioned the Association. Here is the article from 1954 as it was printed.

First Cavalry Division Association Ten Years Old

Organized in July 1944 to "promote good fellowship; to preserve and strengthen the fine friendships that have found root in military service with the 1st Cavalry Division; to be mutually helpful to one another during our military service and in our civilian affairs in the post-war days to come," the Association was launched on an auspicious career.

The leading figure in the formation of the Association was Lt Col Charles (Judge) C. Young, Division Judge Advocate. "My first resolve to for the Association," he says, "came following a memorial service at Momote airstrip in June of 1944. Our first taste of war's blood bath was completed and the customary speeches and sounding of Taps left me saturated with the feeling of the finality of death. An intense desire to defeat the envelopment of that feeling led to the conception and organization of the Association."

"Competition between organizations was encourage, the idea and purposes of the Association were readily and warmly received by the personnel of the 1st Cavalry Division, and within a few months our enthusiastic membership numbered in the thousands. In all cases particular care was exercised to assure that each membership was completely voluntary, and in this regard, it is my belief that our desires were 100 percent accepted and accomplished."

"Concerning individuals, our outstanding keystone, all will agree, is Colonel Edmund P. Stone, Registrar, without whose indomitable industry and integrity we may well have lost sight of the original ideals and goal of the Association. Generals Swift, Mudge, Chase, Hoffman and other officers in the chain of command were extremely cooperative and helpful."

"To me," Colonel Young continues, "the main purpose of the Association lies unchanged from that proclaimed in 1944 – to provide a means to carry on the gallant traditions of the 1st Cavalry Division, to honor its heroes and to encourage continuance of friendships bestowed upon us during our privileged period of service."

Colonel Edmund P. Stone, P.O. Box 201, Pomona, California, still serves as registrar for the Association.

The personnel on the first Executive Committee is as follows: Maj. Gen. Verne D. Mudge; Lt. Col. Charles C. Young; Lt. Col. Ralph D. McKinney; Major Harrison W. Sheldon; Capt. Richard E. Sparks; WOJG Floyd S. Brown; M Sgt Houston A. Daniel; M Sgt Frank W. Giddings; M Sgt J. C. McClung; M Sgt John F. O'Connor; 1st Sgt Thomas P. Brown; 1st Sgt Johnnie B. Leamon; T Sgt Pasquale J. DePalma; Sgt Willard J. Zech; Tec 4 Thomas F. Nagle; and Cpl. Charles W. Imlay.

The proposed monument as a memorial in stone and bronze was erected and dedicated at Fort Bliss, Texas, in 1952. At each of the annual reunions a brief memorial service is held in memory of these who gave the "last full measure of devotion."

Maj. Gen. Innis P. Swift, zealous promoter of the Association said, "I feel that the proposed Association provides one means of bridging the coming transition from war to peace; that the objectives of the Association are worthy of willing and enthusiastic support; and that the personnel of the Division will be glad to extend their comradeship into the future." End of 1954 article.

COL Charles C. "Judge" Young died at Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, D.C. on 23 October 1957. He was first assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division Judge Advocate Section at Fort Bliss, Texas in 1940 and went with the Division to the Pacific Theater serving as the Division SJA. He retired from the Army in 1953.

I am privileged to be able to brief incoming Soldiers on the 1st Cavalry Division Association, and I always tell them that the Association was formed by a group of 1st Cav Troopers that had just completed their first combat action in World War II. I also tell the new Troopers that those forming the Association wanted to renew the friendships that they had made in the Division, remember those Troopers that didn't get to come home, and spread the history of the 1st Cavalry Division throughout the country.

I brief them on what they receive when joining the Association and point out that \$10 for a lifetime membership was a much higher price for a private in 1944 than it is today. Just in case you didn't know, the base pay for a private in 1944 was \$600 a year. That works out to be \$50 per month, so \$10 was a chunk of change for those that joined the Association in 1944.

One of the things that new Association members receive is a one-year subscription to *Saber* which is included in their \$10 lifetime membership. The Troopers joining in 1944 did not receive that benefit because *Saber* wasn't published until



COL Charles Cooper Young

October of 1951.

Chaplain Charles V. Trent who had been publishing a newsletter for the 5th Cavalry Regiment for five years, was appointed the Editor and Publisher for the *Saber News* by the Association Executive Committee. Trent served for over three years with the 1st Cavalry Division as a Chaplain in the 7th Cavalry and the 8th Engineer Squadron, but mainly with the 5th Cavalry Regiment. He went overseas with the Division and went all through the Pacific campaigns with the 5th Cavalry, where he was known as a "Front Line Chaplain." He was a graduate of Drury College, Colgate-Rochester Divinity School, and took short courses at the University of Chicago and Green Lake.

When Chaplain Trent took over and started editing and publishing the *Saber News* subscriptions were \$1.25 per year for four papers, and a discount for two years at the cost of \$2. In addition to editing and publishing, he wrote a column for the 5th Cavalry that was published in every issue. The paper was originally printed in Augusta, Kansas.

He resigned from the position as editor and publisher in 1959 and in his resignation, he listed the following reasons: "(1) The job simply requires too much time, (2) It is increasingly difficult to pay the extreme high cost of publication. It will be remembered that Mrs. Trent and I have donated our time as a service to the old Troopers, so it is not labor costs, but other publication costs which run some issues as high as \$650 in costs! We are not getting many new subscriptions, despite continued efforts, and the renewals are falling off. (3) We feel that we have made a reasonable contribution to the Association, and in fact have gone "above and beyond the call of duty" during these 7½ years. (4) We feel that perhaps *Saber News* needs a new format, a new approach, new life blood. This is for another Editor."

Chaplain Trent continued as a columnist for the 5th Cavalry until 1970.

The next editor of *Saber News* was William J. Hennig with assistance from the Registrar of the Association, first Edmund P. Stone and later Alfred E. Stevens. Bill Hennig would continue until 1973 until the Association offices were collocated with the Division in Texas and Ralph A. Baer took over as the Executive Director of the Association.

Since that time, the Executive Director and the staff of the Association have been responsible for editing and publishing *Saber* although it is printed and mailed by West News out of the small town of West, Texas. Before computers, the office staff typed the articles on a typewriter for *Saber* and the article and photos were pasted onto sheets of paper at the printer. The Editor and the Executive Director then went and proofed the paper for printing and brought the printed paper back to Copperas Cove to apply addresses using a 'Wing Mailer' and mailed the paper to the members.

In the future I will provide some history of the Association's leadership and the evolution of the position of Registrar to what is now the Executive Director. **Live the Legend!**

Sources: *Saber News*, Volume 1, Number 1, October 1951; *Saber News*, Volume 3, Number 3, July 1954.



Charles V. Trent

Do you have a 1st Cav subject you'd like to read about? Contact our Historian!

FIRE BASE ILLINGWORTH

Continued from pg. 6

1LT Gregory Peters. "We were quite alone behind one of the 8-inch howitzers while directing our combined efforts," he said. "When he lost his rifle, I gave him mine and started throwing grenades while he used the rifle."

"The Earth Seemed to Fail Us"

The 8-inch howitzer crewmen, armed with M-16s, joined the infantrymen at the perimeter to fend off the waves of attackers. As COL Morris J. Brady said, artillerymen "ignored the full fury of the NVA's fire to answer it with their own." Behind them, the stacks of howitzer ammo loomed ominously.

"I had never seen so many enemy in the open," said SP4 Richard Whittier, a platoon radioman.

Below photo caption: Survivors of an April 1, 1970, attack on a strategically located firebase in Vietnam's Tay Ninh province gather after the intense combat that claimed 25 Americans and wounded 54. Photo courtesy of John Ahearn.



15th MED/15th FSB/15th BSB

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From the 15th Med Assn website, the following information:

A Nice History of the Huey:

Stemmed from a Korean War era requirement for a medical evacuation (MEDEVAC) helicopter,

the 'Huey' family of helicopters saw action widely during the Vietnam War. In fact, the Huey is often referred to as a synonymous icon with the war in the southeast Asian country. The story of the UH-1 (and the AH-1 'Huey Cobra') is an interesting one that finds itself centered on the Vietnam War.

U.S. Army T901 Improved Turbine Engines:



Black Hawk UH-60M improved

Our newbie Medevac crews are getting a more powerful engine, which will make life a bit easier flying the heavy Medevac UH-60M. Sikorsky started its first-ever ground runs on a UH-60M Black Hawk helicopter equipped with two GE Aerospace T901 Improved Turbine Engines (ITE). During this test, the T901 engine demonstrated its capabilities through a series of rigorous procedures. The initial light off and ground runs were executed by a combined U.S. Army and industry test team and operated by Army and Sikorsky pilots. "Soldiers will rely on Black Hawk helicopters well into the future, and upgrades to the aircraft today will pay dividends for decades, enabling new missions such as deploying and managing launched effects," said Hamid Salim, vice president of Army and Air Force Systems at Sikorsky.

A modernized Black Hawk fleet will create new operational opportunities for the Army by extending the capabilities of a proven, fielded fleet to travel farther on less fuel and with more Troops and cargo. The T901 engine will increase the Black Hawk's power by 50 percent, while also improving fuel efficiency and is a critical component of the roadmap to a modernized Black Hawk, a key part of Lockheed Martin's 21st century security vision. Sikorsky H-60M modernization efforts continue to be primarily focused on ITE, as well as Modular Open Systems Approach (MOSA)/digital backbone and launched effects. Digital innovations, such as a new sustainment digital twin, improve safety and mission readiness while reducing costly downtime and unscheduled maintenance. Since 2022, Sikorsky has demonstrated the ability to reduce pilot workload and increase safety by incorporating proven autonomy capability into Black Hawk.

Helijet Donates Medically Equipped Helicopter To Ukraine



Sikorsky Aircraft S-76A helicopter air ambulance donation from Helijet

Designed by Ukrainian-born Igor Sikorsky's renowned helicopter company, the Sikorsky Aircraft S-76A helicopter is the first private donation of an aircraft of this magnitude from Canada to Ukraine, organized by the joint efforts of Canadian business and the Ukrainian diaspora.

Helijet International is donating a fully operational, medically equipped helicopter from its fleet to be used for missions of mercy in Ukraine. Helijet has signed an agreement with a consortium of Canadian and Ukrainian non-governmental organizations Maple Hope Foundation, the Ukrainian World Congress, and Initiative E+ to accept the delivery and title of a Sikorsky S-76A air ambulance helicopter.

Together, the three organizations have been working with Helijet over the span of eight months to arrange the shipment of the aircraft to Ukraine. The Sikorsky S-76A is a fully equipped air medical helicopter that Helijet had previously provided under contract to the Ministry of Health for patient transport in B.C. The aircraft has now been recently removed from that service but still has years of flight capability remaining. The gift is made on condition that the helicopter is used solely for non-commercial, humanitarian, and medical evacuation missions to airlift individuals in need of urgent medical care to hospitals in Ukraine.

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

Contact the scribe to share your 15th MED stories!
If you were ever a part of 15th MED, join their Association <<https://15thMEDBnAssociation.org>>
SUPPORT YOUR UNIT LEGACY!



UH-1 MEDEVAC Veteran

First generation helicopters were large, lumbering, cumbersome airframes that were described as 'maintenance nightmares' full of complexities. The U.S. Army began to search for a design that was easier to maintain as a utility and multipurpose helicopter, specifically for the role of MEDEVAC and instrument training. The Army selected a design submitted by Bell Helicopter from a pool of 20 designs in February 1955. The following year, the prototype XH-40 made its first flight, but by this time the Army had already requested six more XH-40s to be built. Finally in 1960, the Army ordered 100 of the helicopters using the designation HU-1.

Valérie André, the First Woman to Fly Helicopter Rescue Missions in Combat, Dies at 102

This is a condensed version of an article written by Phil Davison of the Washington Post. French army neurosurgeon and pilot known as 'Mademoiselle Helicopter' flew more than 160 wounded men from battlefields in Indochina to hospitals in Hanoi.

Valérie André, a French military officer, brain surgeon, and licensed pilot who was believed to be the first woman to fly helicopter rescue missions in combat zones, during the French-Indochina war of the early 1950s, and who two decades later became the first woman to reach the rank of General in the French Armed Forces, died Jan 21 in Paris. She was 102.

Helicopters were still relatively new contraptions for widespread military use when France sent some in 1950 as air ambulances to support its Troops in Indochina, the French colonial protectorate in Southeast Asia that included Vietnam. The French military was in a pitched battle against Vietnamese anti-colonial communists, including Ho Chi Minh.

She returned to France in 1950 to get a military pilot license to fly two- and three-seater helicopters and was back in Southeast Asia later that year. She flew a Hiller 360 that bore Red Cross markings. Because of the weight limit, she flew alone so she could strap a stretcher onto each skid. (It was to her advantage that she was petite and weighed less than 100 pounds.)

She flew over 120 chopper missions in Indochina, often landing on jungle airstrips or near rice paddies amid enemy fire. One French war correspondent in Hanoi who met her at an airport before she took off on a rescue mission described her as 'small, very thin, with a magnificent mass of chestnut hair,' adding that she chain-smoked Camel cigarettes. Local Vietnamese civilians, who had never seen a helicopter before, nicknamed her 'The woman who comes down from the sky' or 'Quekat'—Vietnamese for 'Madame Ventilator' or cooler fan—because that's what the chopper looked like to them.

Military records show she flew 168 wounded men from the battlefields to hospitals in Hanoi. Most were French soldiers, but there were also many enemy communist fighters, the Viet Minh, whom she insisted on taking if she had space. Ultimately, the French withdrew in 1954 after losing a 55-day battle at the French garrison at Dien Bien Phu.

'She was a one-woman MASH unit,' Jean Ross Howard Phelan, one of the earliest American women to receive helicopter accreditation, in 1954. After Indochina, where she earned the French Croix de Guerre, the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor, and the U.S. Legion of Merit, GEN André served as a Sikorsky helicopter pilot in Algeria in the late 1950s.



CPT Valerie Andre stands in front of her helicopter in Tonkin, in northern Indochina, on July 30, 1952. (AJE/AP)

77th Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association Reno, NV June 11-15, 2025

The 1st Cavalry Division Association invites you to join the rest of the First Team Family in Reno, Nevada for the 77th Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association from 11-15 June 2025. All Life and Associate Members are welcome to attend this special event. Gold Star Families and Widows of our members are always welcome to attend.

Please register early to assist us in coordinating the best reunion possible. Some events have limited seating available due to the size of available rooms. All members of the Association must register and pay the \$40 Registration Fee except for our Active-Duty Troopers who pay \$20 to register. Family members attending with an Association member, Widows of 1st Cavalry Division Troopers, and Gold Star Family members that attend do not have to pay a registration fee. *The registration fee will no longer be refundable regardless of when a member cancels.*

Online registration opens 1 October 2024; the Reunion registration form will be included in the Saber from November '24 through April '25. Those sending in registrations post-marked after 1 May 2025 must pay a late registration fee of \$50.

The Association will be providing our guests with transportation to the Truckee River Walk on Thursday 12 June 2025 (0900-1800) at a cost of \$10 per person. Bus tickets can be purchased when you initially register, either by mail-in or on-line, or at the Walk-in Registration area.

NOTE: Cancellations are non-refundable after the 1 May 2025 deadline.

LODGING

We will be utilizing the Grand Sierra Resort (GSR) and Casino for all our events. The GSR room fees will vary because this is a resort. Reservations made Sunday-Thursday are \$79 and Friday-Saturday are \$189. Resort fees and guestroom taxes will apply. Make sure that you identify yourself as attending the 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion. The hotel does provide a free shuttle service from the Reno-Tahoe Intl. Airport and rental cars are available at the airport.

Grand Sierra Resort 800-648-5080 reference code: **FCD25**
2500 E 2nd St
Reno, NV 89595

Or use the reservation link on the right-side menu of the Association website.

RV PARKING

Unfortunately, the GSR is closing their RV park in May 2025. However, I have done the homework for you, in locating additional options for RV parking during the reunion.

River West Resort - (775) 322-2281, 1300 W Second St, Reno, NV
(approximately 4.7 miles from the GSR)

Shamrock RV Park - (800) 322-8248, 260 Parr Blvd, Reno, NV
(approximately 5.5 miles from the GSR)

Keystone RV Park - (775) 324-5000, 1455 W 4th St, Reno, NV
(approximately 4.6 miles from the GSR)

Victorian RV Park - (775) 356-6400, 205 Nichols Blvd, Sparks, NV
(approximately 3.3 miles for the GSR)

For our members traveling in an RV, the GSR has an on-site RV Park. The park amenities include access to the GSR pool, fitness center, fire pits, on-site laundry, picnic tables, restroom/shower facilities, and wi-fi access. To make reservations at the RV park call 1-800-258-7366 or you can go online to <rvpark@grandsierraresort.com>.

REUNION EVENT OVERVIEW

You will notice several changes to the reunion schedule. The Veterans Briefing has been moved to Thursday afternoon. The Memorial (Long Roll Muster) will be held in conjunction with the Legacy Breakfast. Our Trustee and Board meetings will be held in the evening accommodating those members who are unable to attend the reunion. This year, members will have an opportunity to visit the Truckee River Trail and Riverwalk District. The Riverwalk District has shopping, restaurants, bars and taverns, entertainment, lodging, even a whitewater park – all in a safe, fun, friendly area that celebrates Reno’s arts, culture, and history 365 days a year.

The Lady’s Luncheon will be held on-site at the hotel. Studio 775 Reno will bring the party to us along with all the supplies needed to create your very own masterpiece.

The Grand Sierra Resort is chocked full of things to do for adults and kids alike...or both. The Resort has a bowling center, movie theater, there is a driving range, axe throwing (at targets not each other), team building in the escape room, the pool area (open year-round), and spa. For the child in all of us there is an arcade, laser tag, bumper cars, and a carnival midway. There are also concerts, comedy shows, and other events. For your dining pleasure, the resort offers eight restaurants, food trucks, and several grab and go spots.

As usual, we will have all other planned events at the resort: Legacy Breakfast (Long Roll Muster), Unit Lunches, Purple Heart Breakfast, Association Banquet, Group Breakfasts. We will have meetings of the Chapter Presidents, Foundation Trustees, the Board of Governors, and our General Membership meeting. During our General Membership meeting on Saturday morning, we will hold elections for the Association and Foundation.

Seating for all events is open except for the Reunion Banquet on Saturday night. If you are attending the banquet, you must get your tickets **marked with a table number** at the Banquet Seating table when picking up your registration packet. If you want to sit with specific people, we recommend that you all go to the Banquet Seating table together with your tickets available. Do not wait until the last minute or we may not be able to accommodate your needs.

Cavalry casual attire is appropriate for all reunion events. Wear what you feel comfortable wearing; a coat and tie, your uniform (if it still fits), casual clothing with open collar, jeans, or shorts. We want you to attend and are not overly concerned with what you wear, so long as it is not indecent! The Association will provide a Reunion Room in the resort for you to gather and enjoy yourself. Drinks (beer and wine) in the Reunion Room are free but we ask that you generously donate to help us pay for this room. The Reunion Room will open daily at 0900 with the bar opening at 1200 hours. The Crossed Sabers Chapter Gift Shop will set up a store in the hotel to sell all kinds of Cav-tastic First Team merchandise including shirts, hats, Stetsons, pins, decals, and other items too numerous to mention.

THE BEST PART OF THE REUNION

The best part of any reunion is the people that attend. The 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion brings in Troopers from every era of the First Team’s history. Troopers that rode horses, fought in the Pacific with MacArthur, occupied Japan, fought in Korea, or stood watch on the DMZ will spend time with the Sky Troopers of Vietnam and the Troopers from Operation Desert Storm, Fort Hood, Bosnia, and the latest combat Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan. The equipment and terrain might be different, but the common bond of serving with America’s First Team binds us together. Saddle up and ride in to Reno in 2025!

OFFICIAL NOTICE

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – REUNION 2025

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

The President has appointed a nominating committee to recommend Life members of the Association for election or re-election to fill the terms of office for the following positions that become vacant as of 14 June 2025:

- 3rd Vice President
- Foundation Executive Trustee
- Foundation Trustee
- 10 Board Members

Any Life member of the Association, including an incumbent, who wishes to be considered by the nominating committee for one of these positions, should forward a letter to the **Chairman, 2025 Nominating Committee, 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703**, requesting consideration for nomination to the specific office.

The Nominating Committee must receive all requests no later than 15 April 2025 to assure sufficient time for processing and full consideration.

Requests must be accompanied by appropriate documentation that includes proof of service with the 1st Cavalry Division (e.g., a DD214 or equivalent) and a biographical sketch. The biographical sketch needs to outline the applicant’s full name and provide ranks, dates of service and units assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division.

Additionally, it needs to provide the dates and positions for any offices held at National or Chapter level in the Association and similar information for any other Veteran’s organizations the applicant belongs to. Any instances of special support for Association programs should also be included if applicable.

The election will be held during the General Membership meeting at the 77th Annual Reunion of the Association on Saturday, 14 June 2025 in Reno, NV.

Nominations from the floor will be accepted. A Life member making such nomination will be expected to provide the information outlined above on the nominee and in addition provide assurance that the nominee is either present at the General Membership meeting or has agreed to accept nomination to the specified office.





2024 Reunion Photos, Louisville, KY

REUNION SILENT AUCTION BASKET COMPETITION

Starting at our upcoming 2025 Reunion in Reno, we are asking for ALL Regiments, Unit Associations, and Chapters to donate an item or basket, minimum value of \$50, to the silent auction to raise funds for our Active-Duty Scholarship Fund. Donations from individuals are welcome as well!

There will be a prize awarded to the entity/person who received the highest bid!



WEDNESDAY JUNE 11

0900-1800 Registration Desk Open
0900-1800 Gift Shop Open
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open

THURSDAY JUNE 12

0900-1700 Registration Open
0900-1700 Gift Shop Open
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
0900-1800 Truckee Riverwalk District*
1430-1530 Veterans Briefing
1900-2200 President's Reception*
(Cash Bar)

FRIDAY JUNE 13

0730-0900 Legacy Breakfast* along with
Long Roll Muster
0900-1800 Registration Desk Open
0900-1800 Gift Shop Open
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
1200-1400 Ladies' Luncheon*
1500-1600 Chapter President's Meeting
1600-1700 Foundation Meeting
1700-1900 Board of Governors Meeting

SATURDAY JUNE 14

0730-0845 Purple Heart Breakfast*
0900-1100 General Membership Meeting
0900-1500 Registration Desk Open
0900-1600 Gift Shop Open
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
1200-1400 Unit Luncheons*
1745-1845 Cocktails (Cash Bar)
1900-2230 Association Banquet*

SUNDAY JUNE 15

0700-0830 Group Breakfast
0700-0900 LRRP/Ranger Breakfast

MAIL TO:

1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSN REUNION, 302 N. MAIN, COPPERAS COVE, TX 76522-1703

The 77th Annual ICDA Reunion is at the **Grand Sierra Resort & Casino, 2500 E. 2nd St, Reno, NV (800) 648-5080, June 11-15, 2025.**

Registration fee is required for Lifetime and Associate Members, not guests. Fee includes information packet with name tag(s), booklet and pin.

****REFUNDS: Cancellations must be received by 5:00pm May 1, 2025, in our office (254-547-6537) for a refund. Registration fee is non-refundable.**

****Cancellations are non-refundable after the May 1, 2025 deadline.**

Are you a member of ICDA? Yes No
Is this your first reunion? Yes No

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone #: _____
Email: _____
Nickname: _____

Unit (s) #1: _____
Year (s) #1: _____
Unit (s) #2: _____
Year (s) #2: _____

Guests/Spouse/Other: (For nametag purposes)
#1: _____
#2: _____
#3: _____
#4: _____
#5: _____
#6: _____

***Next of Kin Name & Phone Number:**

Method of Payment: (circle one)
Credit Card Check: # _____

CC #: _____
Exp Date: _____
CVV#: _____

THURSDAY JUNE 12

- Bus Pass: Truckee Riverwalk District
- President's Reception/Mixer
Cash Bar, Buffet

FRIDAY JUNE 13

- Legacy Breakfast
- Ladies' Luncheon

SATURDAY JUNE 14

- Purple Heart Breakfast
- Unit Lunch (Circle your unit)
5C 7C 8C 9C 12C ENG
AVN ARTY HQ LRRP
- Association Banquet (Circle your unit)
5C 7C 8C 9C 12C ENG
AVN ARTY HQ LRRP

SUNDAY JUNE 15

- Group Breakfast
- LRRP Breakfast

REGISTRATION FEE (before May 1, 2025):
(For member only, not guests)

Active Duty w/ID
Reunion Donation

Saber Newspaper Renewal (\$20 per year or \$75 for 5 years)

REGISTRATION FEE AFTER MAY 1, 2025:

Quantity			
_____	\$ 10.00	\$ _____	
_____	\$ 45.00	\$ _____	
_____	\$ 45.00	\$ _____	
_____	\$ 40.00	\$ _____	
_____	\$ 36.00	\$ _____	
_____	\$ 53.00	\$ _____	
_____	\$ 60.00	\$ _____	
_____	\$ 36.00	\$ _____	
_____	\$ 36.00	\$ _____	
1	\$ 40.00	\$ _____	
_____	\$ 20.00	\$ _____	
_____	Donation	\$ _____	
_____		\$ _____	
_____	\$ 50.00	\$ _____	
GRAND TOTAL		\$ _____	

CHAPTER NEWS
UPDATES

We invite all of our Chapter Presidents, VPs or POC's to contribute any photos, news, or updates about your Chapter, to be **posted here in the Saber!** We would love to hear updates from all of our Chapters spread across the United States. **WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO USE THIS PLATFORM TO SHARE YOUR BULLETINS.**
Submission deadline to appear in the next Saber is **Thursday, May 1, 2025.**
Please send to Memberships@1CDA.org

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER

Next meeting is **Saturday, April 12**, thirteen hundred hours, at 69 Hidden Lake Road, Higganum, CT 06441. All members, prospective members and guests are invited no matter what branch of service. Call president Keith Moyer for details, 860-885-4330 or email at [<kpmoyerco@hotmail.com>](mailto:kpmoyerco@hotmail.com).
Members l-r: Tom Uznznski, A/1-9; Bob Dagata HHC 3rd BDE Snoopy Flt; Tom McBriarty A/228 AVN chinooks; Keith Moyer B/1-5; Rich Magner D/229; Jack Kranyak D/229.



Raymond Lockey



ent-day asymmetric drone warfare and showed examples of UAVs (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles) and drones developed to attack Russian forces in the Ukraine.
He was accompanied by Polina Buryakov-Alexiou, co-founder with Raymond Lockey of "O.U.R." – Organizing Ukraine Relief Foundation. Polonia discussed her foundation's mission to provide custom prosthetics, physical rehabilitation, emotional and psychological support to Ukrainian war amputees - helping them to regain independence and self-confidence.

FLORIDA FIRST COAST CHAPTER

For some time our chapter has actively participated with the American Legion Auxiliary in their charity projects. Some of us are even married to them and thus the interest is more than just in passing. Hope you other Chapters will consider likewise. Below is a certificate our Chapter received for our support to their causes.



ATTENTION
CHAPTER
OFFICERS/POCs:

Plan to attend the
Chapter Presidents Meeting
Friday, June 13, 3-4 pm at the
77th Reunion in Reno, NV.

If you hold a position in your chapter, it is highly recommended you attend.
Come gather new ideas for your Chapter!

ALSO don't forget to bring your
Chapter Silent Auction Donation
benefitting the Active Duty Scholarship
(prize awarded to the entity/person
who receives the highest bid!)

FORT KNOX AREA CHAPTER

The weather here has hampered many of our activities due to snow/ice storms and temperatures way below normal for Kentucky. However we still stay busy upgrading the replica Vietnam Wall here in Elizabethtown. We spend a lot of time out recruiting new members, but not many of the younger 1st Cavalry Veterans still are not joining. I hope when the weather improves the Vets in this area come out of hibernation.
Robert W. Griffin, Vice President

NY/NJ CHAPTER

The NY/NJ Chapter will hold its next meeting on **April 19**, starting at **10:00 am** at the **Elks Lodge** in Ridgefield Park, NJ. Our meetings are open to all service members regardless of branch, division or unit assignment. We welcome spouses, relatives, friends and interested parties. There are no dues or charges to attend. Coffee and a buffet lunch will be served. To be added to our email list, send an email to [<rbbartlett01@gmail.com>](mailto:rbbartlett01@gmail.com) or call Robin Bartlett, Chapter President at 201-856-7530. Please join us to greet old friends and make new ones.
At our next meeting we will welcome Colonel Matt Dawson who is the 2024-25 US Army War College Fellow at the Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies at Columbia University. COL Dawson is an Army Infantry officer with more than 20 years of experience. He has served in leadership and staff positions in the US, Korea, Europe, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Afghanistan. His most recent assignment was in the Office of Security Cooperation at the Embassy in Iraq.
COL Dawson will provide reflections on his service in the post-9/11 Global War on Terror. He will discuss how the Army has evolved in structure and doctrine to remain the preeminent fighting force in the world. A highlight of his discussion will be how the Army values and cares for Veterans in 2025.
Our February 22d meeting (please see the photos from this meeting) was well attended as we listened to an insightful presentation by Raymond Lockey who discussed his experience advising Ukrainian forces in the development of pres-

HAVE YOUR CHAPTER NEWS
UPDATES POSTED HERE!

SEND US YOUR CHAPTER PHOTO!

Feel free to send us your Chapter Updates and a photo so it can appear in the next issue!
Tell us a little bit of what your Chapter is doing.

Send your submissions to:
Karleen at Memberships@1CDA.org or
Tina at Programs@1CDA.org

IF YOU DO NOT BELONG TO A
LOCAL CHAPTER

We encourage you to link into your nearest chapter!
Reach out to the president & meet new
Cav brothers/sisters!
Refer to the Chapter Index found on next page.

CHAPTER INDEX

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

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

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

CROSSED SABERS
Pres: Tony Cole
(254) 394-2891
Email: Olesarge19d@outlook.com
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division Association Crossed Saber Chapter
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.

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.

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

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

**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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CROSSED SABERS GIFT SHOP located at 1CDA HQ



Scan the QR code to view the Online Catalog or type shop.1CDA.org into your web browser.

302 N. Main St Copperas Cove, TX 76544

254-532-2075

1stCavGiftShop@gmail.com

WE OFFER STETSON RE-SHAPING!
(FOR DONATIONS)

Get all your Cav-Tastic souvenirs here!

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

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.

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.

Crossed Sabers Gift Shop
20% OFF COUPON
Telephone Orders Only

Mention coupon code 053125 to receive your discount.
1 per person

Expires: May 31, 2025

Excludes Stetsons, Consignment & Reunion items

GOT CAVALRY HISTORICAL QUESTIONS?

Did you know we have a 1CDA Historian?


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

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

From the
Director's Desk

Office of 1CDA

WE SUPPORT



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

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

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

IF YOU'RE VISITING FT CAV
(FT CAVAZOS/FT HOOD)

If you're visiting Fort Cavazos, be sure to visit the 1st Cavalry Division Headquarters (Bldg. 28000). They have a free 1st Cavalry Division Walking History Tour. The tour is outdoors. It starts at the south entrance of Heritage Hall (1st Cav HQ) and walks around Cooper Field. Open to the public. If you want to watch from the comforts of your home, check out this link:
<<https://youtu.be/zE5npJiKpUo>>
You can also visit the Horse Cavalry Detachment for a barn tour, they do their weekly Cav Demonstration on Thursdays, 10am at the stables, but call to verify 254-287-2229. They are located behind the National Mounted Warfare Museum, which is now open!
National Mounted Warfare Museum hours are Tuesday thru Saturday from 10am-5pm, 254-286-5684. No visitor pass is required for The Detachment nor the Museum, as they are not on post.

COMMEMORATE A
FALLEN COMRADE

with our **Brick & Paver Campaign**

Buy a brick to be engraved & placed by
Heritage Hall at Division Headquarters

BULLETINS:

As of 1 January 2025

Every member received 1 calendar in the mail. There will now be a \$10 charge for each additional calendar requested.

1 July 2023

Saber price increased to
\$20/year or \$75 for 5 years.

1 January 2022

ALL Bounced Checks will incur a \$25 fee.

The next *Saber* newspaper is the
May / June 2025 edition.

Deadline for submissions of your stories or photos is
Thursday, May 1, 2025.

Please email to Programs@1CDA.org

2025 CALENDAR DONATIONS

Hope everyone is enjoying YOUR new calendar!

Thank you to our following member who has donated
\$100 or more towards our 2025 calendar:

E-4 HESTER, Robert

\$100

SGT HORNE, James R

\$100

Consider Donating Today!

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

Thank you to all our members that support this program!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR
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Share your treasured thoughts with your 1st Cavalry Division Association Family.

Items for submission are due the 1st of every odd month; Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov

Email to Programs@1CDA.org

We THANK YOU for your service!

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When sending in multiple donations to either Association, Foundation and IaDrang, we ask if you could please do it by writing out separate checks to each entity.

It will make the banking process smoother since they are all separate bank accounts.

Many Thanks!

USEFUL VETERAN ASSISTANCE INFO:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SPECIFICALLY FOR TEXAS VETERANS

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

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

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3"x 2"
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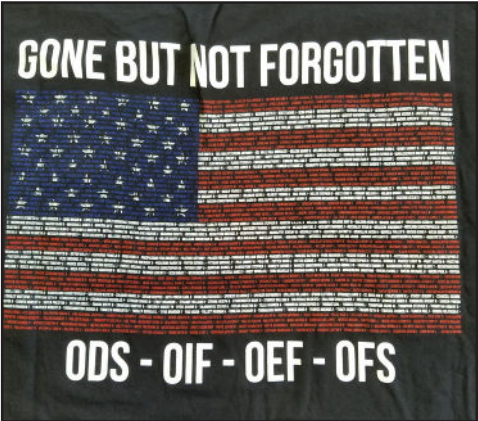
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We are restocked with Tribute & Vietnam Shirts
Both are available in short sleeve & long sleeve!

TRIBUTE SHIRTS

Description: 100% cotton black shirt
Front: white Cav patch on upper left breast
Back: says "GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN" and lists the
names of our fallen Troopers from ODS, OIF, OEF, OFS in
red, white and blue.



Front



Back Design

1st Cavalry Division Shirts Order Form

Short Sleeve Shirts \$23 each
Long Sleeve Shirts \$26 each

FREE SHIPPING

TRIBUTE SHIRTS (fallen Troopers from ODS, OIF, OEF, OFS)

Description: Black shirt w/white Cav patch

Short Sleeve	L	XL	2XL	3XL	
Long Sleeve	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL

CIRCLE YOUR PREFERRED SIZE

VIETNAM SHIRTS ("Remembering 5,618" Cav Troopers)

Description: Gray shirt w/black Cav patch

Short Sleeve	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL
Long Sleeve	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL

CIRCLE YOUR PREFERRED SIZE

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VIETNAM SHIRTS

Description: 100% cotton grey shirt
Front: Cav Patch with years 1965-1972 written above, Vietnam
written across the Baldric
Back: "Remembering 5,618" with Color image of Memorial
Wall & Flag

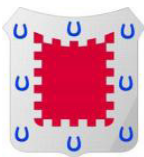


Front



Back Design

ENGINEER News



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

This year 2025 is the 60th anniversary of the start of the 1st Cavalry Division's deployment to Vietnam 1965-1972. We decided to publish a series of articles in each 2025 edition of the *Saber* from extracted and selectively edited from the

book, *I Remember Skybeavers*, 2nd edition.

The book is available on Amazon (just do an Internet search for the foregoing title). As part of the Preface to that book Steve Richey wrote a yearly summary developed from the 1,900 pages of the official 1st Cavalry Division Operational Reports. The last *Saber* edition was all about 1965, this column is all about 1966-67.

1966

The year's activity started with Happy Valley and ended with Cherokee Brave, with 26 major operations in between. That is over two operations a month. The VC in the night would yell, "Friendly Forces, Friendly Forces" to either invade or evade. The Germans used to use this tactic. The VC would usually fire mortars then follow up with a ground attack. After every mortar attack, always at night, US forces would fortify their perimeters to defend any following ground attack. See figure Preface Figure 4.

Preface Figure 4 Extract Operational Report on Lessons Learned
Quarterly period Ending 30 Apr 66

SECTION I COMMANDER'S NARRATIVE

1. (C) General

a. General Situation. During the period 1 January - 30 April 1966, the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) operated over an area of about 170 kms by 170 kms in the bin din, Pleiku, Kontum, Darlac and Phu Yen Provinces. From the China Sea to the Cambodian border along the axis of Highway 19, from north of Bong Son to Qui Nhon along the China Sea coast and from near Ban Me Thout to Dak To along the Cambodian border. Operations were characterized throughout by heavy reliance on air mobility. The Division base remained at Camp Radcliff near An Khe throughout the period. During most of the period, two brigades operated away from the division base, while the other brigade conducted offensive operations in the Tactical Area of Responsibility (TAOR) and improved the security of the base. (For example, during the Bong Son campaign four to six of the divisions infantry battalions conducted sustained operations and maintained contact with the enemy for 41 days at an average distance of approximately 65 km from the base in An Khe). The Division clearly demonstrated its capability to conduct operations for an extended period against insurgent forces in some terrain which previously had been considered totally inaccessible to heliborne operations leading to the pacification of areas previously controlled by the Viet Cong. Security of the TAOR and Division base, construction of barriers around the base and a vigorous base development program continued simultaneously with tactical operations.

I have spent many nights on the perimeter, after an incoming attack, waiting for the ground attack, and there were times, it came. When the Cav moved on, men were left behind to ambush the VC that always came to pick through what was left behind. The perimeters of the LZ's and camps were often marked at night with ammo canisters filled with sand and diesel fuel, then lit after dark, to let the aerial defense, know what not to fire on. When 2.75 aerial rockets produced little results on concrete structures, SS-11 anti-tank missiles were used, and the entire structure was demolished. It all boiled down to get a bigger hammer mind set.

Every day, every operation taught valuable lessons. If you loaded a 4x4 pallet, it took an hour. If you had it already packed, it only took 10 minutes to get it on the chopper and on its way to where the supplies were needed. Whatever you were doing, you needed to do it faster and better. The 8th Engineers often managed to build an LZ in one day. It was learned to place howitzer ammo in cargo nets for a helicopter to lift and carry. Wooden weapons stock swell in the rain and humidity. This happened on the M-14 and M-79 stocks. Slamming a magazine home in an M-16 could bend a part on the magazine and the weapon would not fire. Install the magazine gently. Keep your M-16 clean or the selector switch might freeze.

In October and November of 1966 22 battalion moves were made and 66 artillery battalions were moved, all by air. Beginning October 16, the 1st Brigade conducted security on Highway 16. This resulted in over 900 VC being killed, 800 being wounded, 150 weapons, 1,000 pounds of medical supplies, 200,000 rounds of 7.62 ammo, mortars, rocket launchers, and rice being captured. That is an excellent job of security. Operations continued in the Ia Drang Valley killing another 1,500 enemy. An Khe is about 50 miles northwest of Qui Nhon, where supplies continued to arrive and be sent to An Khe.

A pig farm was started to feed the natives. Medical buildings were staffed to provide treatment for the friendly locals, but we all know there was no way to know who was friendly and who was not. At An Khe, I got a haircut. The next morning my barber was in the line of dead bodies that had come through the wire and attacked us during the night. Schools were established and provided with school supplies.

1967

Reducing the activities of 14,000 men, for an entire year, to a page or two, is the barest of summaries. When one paragraph, like the paragraph on LZ Xray, can be made into a movie, 35 pages of such paragraphs, you can imagine has a lot of information in them. I laugh at myself, selecting bits and pieces to write about when all of it can be enlarged, and I am trying to reduce the information to a page or two. I want to write volumes, but not for this purpose.

The job of the 1st Cav continued to search for and destroy the enemy, build more and better LZ's, base camps, roads, and port facilities, and whatever your job was, do it better and quicker. We now had 16,000 Troops of the 1st Cav in Vietnam. 7,354 medals were awarded, of those, 6,064 were air medals. Any

air medal awarded for being in a helicopter was well earned. Often, they were no more than giant clay pigeons. There was a daily average of mail of 3,000 pounds. \$2,200,000 in money orders were issued in 1967. Over 1,000,000 pounds of incoming mail was delivered to the men of the 1st Cav in 1967. Seven live USO shows entertained 29,000 Troops. The total of men attended church was 60,626 times. Counseling interviews by pastors were 5,600 at their place of business and 1,300 in the barracks. War is disturbing. There were 157 court martials.

In the first three months of 1967 several operations occurred and resulted in 2,557 enemy being killed. The area was in and around Pleiku. Intelligence screened over 600 VC prisoners and viewed 1,250 pounds of captured documents. On page 106 of the report, it mentions the LZ on Hon Cong Mountain, which the 8th Engineers built. Flame Fugasse, Fugas, was installed on the perimeter of An Khe as well as anti-intrusion devices, trip flares, riot control agents, as well as tangle foot and concertina wire barriers. The operations at this time were in the An Loa Valley, where over 3,000 people were relocated from the valley. Enemy resistance was light. By now, they had learned not to engage the 1st Cav. Next was Song Lon Valley where the enemy there, stayed too long, when the Cav showed up, a lot of them died. In the Song Lon Valley, the Cav captured most of the heavy guns and all the recoilless rifles the enemy had.

I remember the enemy shooting at us with recoilless rifles at Bu Dop in 1970. They did not do it long. The operation ended with the Cav returning to the Bong Song Valley, 41 days later. The operation rendered 3,000 enemy dead and another 1,300 wounded and out of the war.

On Feb 20, the VC attacked Camp Ratcliff and Hon Cong Mountain. Three VC came through the wire on Han Cong Mountain to blow up the communications vans and facilities. All three were killed. No vans or facilities were damaged. It was staffed by 1st Cav Soldiers. They should have known better. On the 13th of March Operation Jim Bowie was initiated in the Binh Dinh province. A double sling system was devised to load the artillery crew, then hook up the 105 howitzer, sling the 105 ammo under the gun, then fly to the destination taking the crew, the gun, and the ammo in one move.

In March, the division began Operation Lincoln killing 75 enemy. This was in the western Pleiku province, the Chu Pong Massif. 680 enemy were killed before they were done. The operation was terminated on April 8. A lot of enemy ammunition, supplies, rice, salt, weapons, and documents were captured. Between January and early March, psychological operations dropped 37,600,000 leaflets. I had a cousin in this department. Talk about litter bugs! Between March 13-27, they dropped another 1,160,000 leaflets. In the next three months they dropped another 6,000,000 leaflets. They dropped so many leaflets it had to look like it was snowing. From January to March, 236,117 flight sorties occurred, moving 54, 417 tons of material and equipment, and flying 323,339 Troops.

Page 35 of this report speaks of LZ Hammond, of which Marty Suydam, one of the authors of this book, was responsible for the construction in horrible conditions. The Troops were eating A, B, and C rations. I do not know what the A and B were, but the C rations I was aware of. I stole the LRRP freeze dried rations every time I got a chance. I figured we were in the same Army. They were much better. The fresh produce delivered to An Khe increased from 4,000 pounds a day to 9,000 pounds a day by the Air Force. More would have been delivered, but there was no cold storage available to keep the food from spoiling and until there was adequate storage and generators, to provide electricity, to keep the food cold, a large amount could not be delivered due to it spoiling. From January until the end of March, the Cav used 939,000 gallons of AVgas, 5,848,000 gallons of JP-4 helicopter fuel, 1, 585,000 gallons of Mogas, and 681,000 gallons of diesel. That is a lot of fuel.

On April 19th, engineers began working at night to replace the PSP on the An Khe airstrip. Forty-six helicopters were dropped from the accountability list of aircraft from being too damaged to continue to fly safely. On the medical report, 1,135 men were wounded in action, 206 were killed in action. There were 2,842 men with diseases, 587 malaria cases, 33 typhus, 30 hook worm, 322 psychiatric cases, and 1,900 other medical cases. There were 2,252 men returned to duty during this four-month period. Chloroquine-primaquine and the other pill, I think it was Dapsone, was reported to not be effective in preventing malaria. About 40,000 refugees during this period were moved to a new location with helicopters. During this time, 500 Chieu Hoi VC, surrendered by showing up with leaflets in their hands. The report also stated, "Candy was distributed to children." In the Than An district the following items were distributed: 23 blankets, 49 fabric kits, 50 pounds of powdered milk, 665 pounds of clothing, 74 pounds of cooking oil, 1,760 bars of soap, 645 pounds of rice, and 175 pounds of salt. The entire time I was in Vietnam, I do not think I ever saw a bar of soap other than what I bought at the PX, when I could get there. Refugee centers were being supported by the division with their needs, food, clothing, shelter, and items like what I have listed above. The 8th Engineers built a 5-room school in the resettlement area that would house 50 students.

Troop ladders were often used to load and unload men to and from helicopters in heavily wooded areas. The ladders were 36" wide and 100' long on 4,000-pound tensile strength cables. It was recommended to use lightweight dozers, to clear new LZ's, which we did on most of our new LZ's in 1969 and 1970. It is noted the VC used extremely small spider holes to hide in during artillery prep in establishing a new LZ. They leave their packs near the holes and these packs often give their locations away. This report mentions a good ambush site can be used several times as the VC have poor communications to warn others, a path they are using is not safe. It recommends having a small unit for security for downed aircraft, to protect the aircraft until the aircraft can be lifted out and returned to where it can be repaired.

The CAT 2,300-foot runway was built in an area not accessible by anything other than aircraft. With this ability, an airstrip can be built anywhere, using airmobile engineering equipment. In August, 8,800 Troops were scheduled to DEROS. The division had planned to manage the Troop rotation without reducing the division's combat capability.

Preface Figure 5 describes enemy tunnels in the Bong Son Plain. See page 21.

I am trying to keep this to two pages per year, and failing badly, because there is so much data and so many, many events to note. It is like trying to put a size 10 foot into a size 4 shoe.

Extract from Operation Reports/Lessons Learned 1st Cavalry Division Vietnam 1965-1972 (ORLL1stCavVietnamMaster), page 89.

Extract from Operation Reports/Lessons Learned 1st Cavalry Division Vietnam 1965-1972 (ORLL1stCavVietnamMaster), page 477.

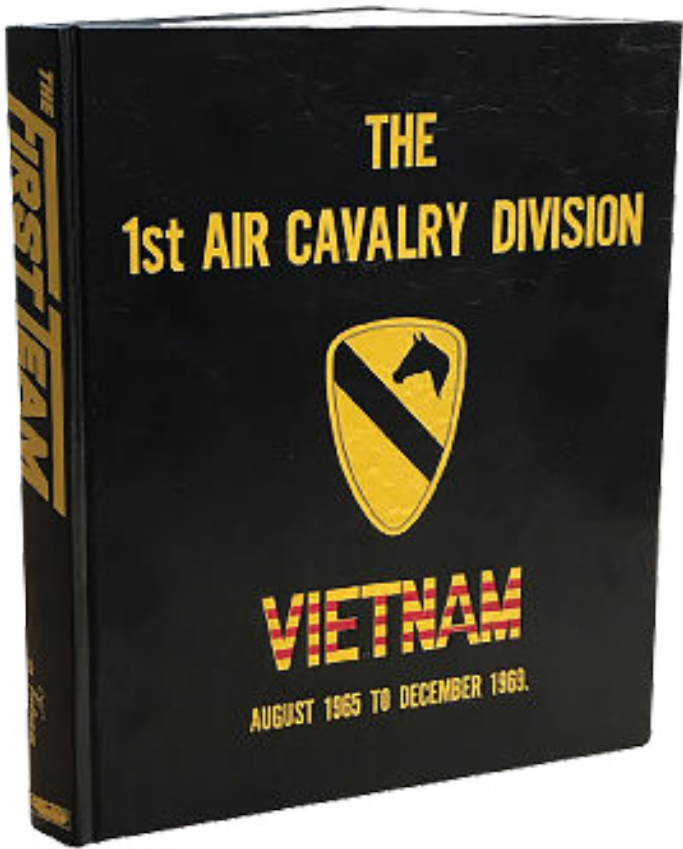
Continued to pg. 21

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

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!

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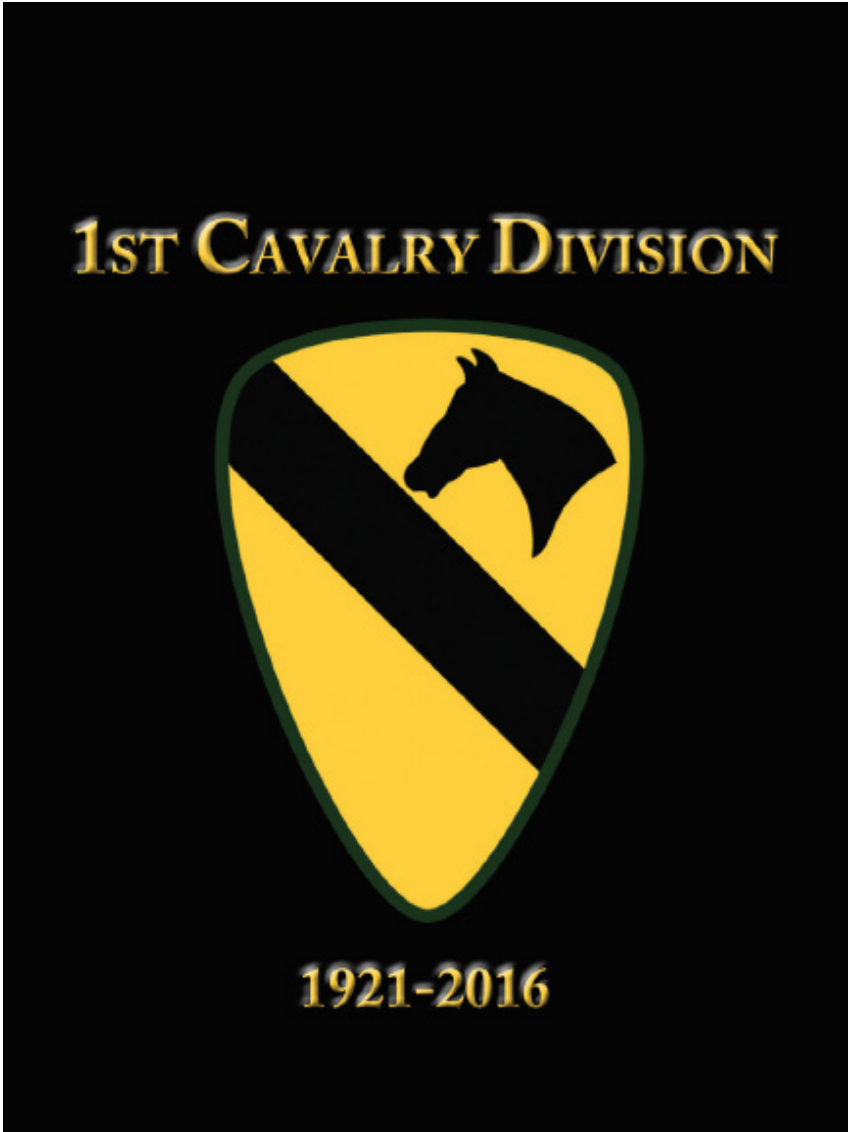
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FIRST TEAM HISTORY BOOK

- Our final shipment has arrived. Limited-edition, commemorative 1st Cavalry Division history book. This is the same history book we offered in 2019.
- Includes a detailed history of the 1st Cav Division from WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Bosnia, the Gulf War, and the War of Terror, including its founders, training, engagements, responsibilities today, and more.
 - Historical overview of the 1st Cavalry Division Association.
 - Richly illustrated with historic and modern photographs, charts and diagrams
 - Personal biographies from 1st Cav Division Veterans, with “then and now” photos
 - After Action Reports & Stories from 1st Cav Div Veterans, and more!

This quality publication is printed on number one grade, acid-free, double-coated glossy paper to ensure the highest caliber photo reproduction, and smyth-sewn for longevity, meaning the pages are stitched together and bound to last. This Deluxe Hardbound Edition is bound in a classy, black leatherette cover for only \$55.00.



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NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR
VETERANS DAY
MARCH 29



National Vietnam War Veterans Day on March 29 honors the men and women who served and sacrificed during the longest conflict in United States history. It was on March 29, 1973, when combat and combat support units withdrew from South Vietnam. Generations later, Veterans of this time period are gaining the respect that was not so freely given upon their return. Involving five U.S. presidents, crossing nearly two decades and 500,000 U.S. military personnel, it left an indelible mark on the American psyche.

Returning Veterans did not always receive respectful welcomes upon their arrive on American soil. There were 58,000 killed, never to return. National Vietnam War Veterans Day recognize the military service of these men and women who answered the call to service their country when she needed them. They didn't make the decisions to go to war. On National Vietnam War Veterans Day, we recognize the service and duty rendered by all servicemen and women of this era.

HISTORY

U.S. Sens. Pat Toomey, R-Pa., and Joe Donnelly, D-Ind., introduced legislation in 2017 to honor Vietnam Veterans with a day on the anniversary of the withdrawal of military units from South Vietnam. President Donald Trump signed the Vietnam War Veterans Day Act on March 28, 2017, calling for U.S. flags to be flown on March 29 for those who served.

We Thank Our Vietnam Veterans

HORSE DETACHMENT
Continued from pg. 1

is cherished and protected time at the Horse Cavalry Detachment to allow our Mounts and Troopers a brief respite to reset for the upcoming events of the summer. Come see us at some of our local central Texas events this summer such as the Diamondback Jubilee in Lometa and our very own Killeen Rodeo. The Horse Cavalry Detachment is always open to the public! Please come visit us at 69007 Trooper Lp Fort Cavazos for a barn tour or come by at 1000 hours on Thursday for our regularly scheduled mounted cavalry demonstration. We appreciate the support that this amazing community shows us, and we look forward to our many continued partnerships supporting local civic events. Please check out the link on the 1st Cavalry Division Association's 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 with any questions. Check us out on Facebook (1st Cavalry Division Horse Cavalry Detachment) where we post our current engagements, upcoming events, and ceremonies. HOT TO TROT!

7th CAV NEWS
Continued from pg. 7

A Note from your Association Secretary, John Guillory:
This is to let you know there will be an election of Association Officers at the June 2025 1CDA Reunion in Reno, NV. The open officer positions are as follows: Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Each of the officer position terms is three years and conclude at the 2028 1CDA Reunion. If you are a member of the 7th Cavalry Association, and would like to fill an officer position, please contact me ASAP. Email John Guillory at <manhunter6869@yahoo.com>, or call (951-283-7459) include your name, email address, phone number, the position you are seeking, and please let me know if you have any questions or comments. One last comment in closing. I will not be seeking reelection as Secretary, or any other officer position. I have enjoyed the years in various Association officer positions, and have enjoyed meeting, working with and celebrating with many of you wonderful Association members. Thank you all for the fond and lasting memories.
>Send in your 7th Cav Stories! We need material. Please email me your war stories, buddy searches, current events in the active-duty world, requests for info, plugs for books, obits, reunions, birthdays, anything 7th Cav that you would like to see in this column. I hope you enjoyed the stories in this issue. Boz, out.



NATIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR DAY
MARCH 25

National Medal of Honor Day on **March 25** is dedicated to all Medal of Honor recipients. It was on March 25, 1863, when the first Medals of Honor were presented. Secretary of War, Edwin Stanton presented Medals of Honor (Army) to six members of the "Great Locomotive Chase" or "Andrews Raiders" for their volunteering and participation during an American Civil War raid on April 12, 1862. Created in 1861, the Medal of Honor is the United States of America's highest military honor. It is awarded only to U.S. military personnel, by the President of the United States in the name of Congress, for personal acts of valor above and beyond the call of duty. There are three versions of the Medal of Honor: one for the Army, one for the Navy and one for the Air Force, with personnel of the Marine Corps and the Coast Guard receiving the Navy version. Since its creation, there have been 3,468 Medals of Honor awarded to the country's Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen.

HOMES FOR OUR TROOPS

MAJ (Ret) Monte Miller, <montebmiller@outlook.com> former Soldier in 13th Signal Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division represented the First Team by Running for the Cav, in the Houston Half-Marathon on 19 January in support of Homes For Our Troops (HFOT), raising close to \$4,000 for homes for wounded Soldiers .



Mission:

Homes For Our Troops (HFOT) is a publicly funded 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization that builds and donates specially adapted custom homes nationwide for severely injured post-9/11 Veterans, to enable them to rebuild their lives.



HFOT is based out of Taunton, MA, but executes its work all over the country. With nearly ninety cents of every dollar spent going directly towards their Veteran Program Services, HFOT has built and donated over 400 specially adapted homes in 45 states, with another 68 projects currently underway nationwide.

"Monte's choice to run with Team HFOT has helped us raise awareness of our organization. All funds raised through Monte's efforts have gone directly towards HFOT's mission of *Building Homes and Rebuilding Lives*. We truly couldn't do what we

do every day without our amazing supporters like Monte." – Brianna Perry, Sr. Fundraising and Events Coordinator

If you would like to learn more about Homes For Our Troops or get involved, visit <www.hfotusa.org> or reach out to Brianna Perry at: <bperry@hfotusa.org> 774-265-4203.



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545th MP Co News

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LGKetron@earthlink.net



The 545th MP Company of the 1st Cavalry Division (AIRMObILE) To the reader community: I have been asked to author a series of articles about the experiences of the men of the 545th MP

Company of the 1st Cavalry Division (AIRMObILE). I joined the company in July of 1964, shortly after its inception at Ft. Benning, GA, as the 11th MP Company of the 11th Air Assault Division (TEST). The men still alive in the original company of 1964-1966 are now in their late 70's and early 80's and wanted their stories documented while they could still remember them. This I will attempt.

TOLD BY THEN SGT (E-5) DALLAS MILLS

I was sitting in my tent one afternoon devouring a meal of C Rats (probably ham & lima beans) when the Unit Clerk came in and informed me that 1LT Schieb (my PLT LDR) wanted me in the orderly room. When I came in, he was accompanied by the CO and 1SG and I was asked to take a seat. Then the next morning at 10:00, I was informed to be at the air strip with three other Soldiers to hook up with a group of ARVN soldiers and be transported to an area TBD just north of Mang Yang Pass, to set up and conduct a check point for 7-10 days. At that CP I was to stop all South bound traffic and check for NVA soldiers that may be infiltrating to the South, I was also to check the cargo on all trucks looking for the same plus marijuana.

Upon returning to the tent I "volunteered" Garretson, Dalton, and one other and gave them their equipment requirements for the mission (I am sure they all named at least one of their children after me).

The next morning, we humped to the airfield and made our way to a waiting line of Hueys. Also waiting were 20 ARVN soldiers with their equipment (if you stretched your imagination far enough).

Soon, a MAJ came over and briefed us on the mission with a warning that this was considered enemy occupied territory (at that statement I wondered if they would be as well-equipped as we were). The MAJ was soon followed by the flight commander (CPT) who reminded us this could well be a hot LZ and to get our butts out of the birds as soon as they set down. A little later, you will see this did not go as planned.

We split the ARVN soldiers in two squads, one squad each on the last two birds. Dalton and I on the last one and Garretson and someone on the other. We left An Khe flying fairly high and dropped down to almost tree top level about fifteen minutes prior to arriving at the LZ.

Surprise, the LZ was elephant grass 5-7 feet tall that ran along side of a very thick forest. Upon arrival, the Crew Chief (CC) informed me they would not touch down in this tall grass, so we would have to jump out. The ARVN soldiers opined that would not work for them and refused to jump. The CC informed me if they did not jump the pilot was going to turn the bird on its side and roll us out. They still hedged on jumping, so I instructed the CC to pass on to Garretson he was to physically toss them out. At that point Dalton and I started shoving our squad out.

I was the last one out of the last bird and in all the confusion and the birds whipping the tall grass around I lost my bearings for a minute and the last thing I saw was a helmet disappearing through the tall grass and I followed it. After about seventy-five yards I discovered I was following an Infantry Soldier on a Search and Destroy mission. I reversed my direction and now to catch up with my Soldiers who were going then other way somewhere (I didn't mention that we only had one radio and Garretson had it).

Fortunately, my Troops had left a very visible trail and that was a relief until I remembered this was also enemy territory. I stepped in several holes and each time all I could think was punji! I soon caught up with the squads and we made it safely to the highway and found a place that looked like we could defend it if we got hit.

Right away, the first night we started getting sniper rounds and it was evident they weren't actually trying to take us out because they were just firing in our general direction and only every two hours or so. About the third night we had had enough of the sniping and just before dark set up aiming stakes in their general direction and put everyone on alert, no sleeping. Near midnight, we heard some brush breaking not too far from us and we opened fire (M-16, M-79, .45). Dalton came over to me and stated that he heard an awful groan up there, for sure we had hit something. Within an hour after daylight the next morning civilians were in there carrying out a baby elephant piece by piece. Community barbecue, I am sure!

The next night a heavy rain set in just after midnight and I figured I better check on the guards (ARVN)...couldn't find the first two and got that eerie feeling that we may be by ourselves now. But I soon found them, and they had snapped two ponchos together and were all under them headfirst with their feet sticking out like a covey of quail. I got a "little" agitated at that and did a Mexican hat dance on them.

ADDENDUM TO THE ABOVE STORY BY DALLAS

One day during their time at the Mang Yang checkpoint, your author was back in the company area at the location of our Lister bag. Our ammo dump, which was nothing more than a pile of ammo cans of M16 and .45 pistol rounds were also there. The late Paul Dalton was pawing through the selection looking for a can of .45 ammo, of which there did not appear to be any. Dalton inquired of your author if he had any .45 rounds to spare. Your author replied that he had only what was in the clips in his pack harness. In response to the question of what happened to yours, he stated that one of the ARVN soldiers at the pass had a 'grease gun' and had gotten into Dalton's can of .45 rounds and had shot it all up. He also said that the ARVN soldiers were about to kill him. Dalton was up all day working the checkpoint and had to stay up all night guarding because the ARVN's would go to sleep.

ANOTHER MEMORY FROM DALLAS

My "I remember" is getting shorter and shorter all the time but remember it has been nearly sixty years since I was in Viet Nam. This one mission in particular was at or near LZ Columbus, which is located near Pleiku and that is about the best I can do on locations. My squad was located near the actual battle so that the POWs could be transferred to us in a timely manner for interrogation

in hopes we would be able to discover the location and strength of the enemy. Our plot of ground was located at the bottom of an incline near a small river. Several other support elements were located upriver from us, some of whom did not like roughing it and had somehow managed to have air mattresses, which they inflated immediately.

Right at nightfall a Huey came in and landed near our neighbors and blew all their air mattresses into the river and very shortly after that we received word from our neighbors that the VC or NVA had retrieved some of the mattresses and was floating them down the river and attempting to attack by coming up the riverbank right in our faces.

I immediately posted gun positions right at the top of the riverbank and set up a CP for myself and the RTO a few yards back. About an hour later I heard one shot fired directly in front of me and started to do a modified low crawl toward that position, as yet I did not know if this was a friendly or foe shot. About half-way to the position, I met PFC D walking toward me and I stated, "Get down, what are you doing?" and his reply was, "It's ok I got him." And the "him" was a NVA soldier that was climbing up the bank to attack us but was stopped short by a well-placed shot from D's M-16.

We reported the event to our higher and the next morning the Medics retrieved the soldier. To this day, no one from company level or higher ever mentioned one word about this and that is something you don't boast about, so it just faded away.

AS TOLD BY HARRY SKALLA

I was a specialist 4th class and served with the 1st Platoon ABN of the 545th MP company, 1st Air Cavalry Division in the Republic of Vietnam August 1965 to August 1966. In the early summer of 1966 1st BDE had an operation near the Special Forces camp at Ple Mi. A couple squads from my platoon were sent up to the Special Forces camp to assist in any POW captives. While there, one morning a Colonel came over to our tents and asked for volunteers for an ambush patrol that evening. He needed 6 men; I was one of the 6. He told me to follow him, and we went back to his chopper got in and flew off the base about 1/2 mile to where two trails merged. He said that is where he wanted the ambush site. He had intel that the VC was going to probe that night. He instructed me on where to place the claymores and where to place the men. I asked him do we challenge anyone coming down the trail? He said, "NO! You shoot them, no friendlies will be out." We made one more pass and he said, "You got it," I said, "Yes, sir." We went back to talk to the rest of the men, told and showed them the plan. We were to call in every 30 mins and our call sign was Copper1. He then left and we just sat around thinking about going out on an ambush. I told the men to wear their MP brassards, so that when we come back in thru the wire the 11Bravos would see that MPs were out there. It was raining slightly so we put on our ponchos. We left at dusk went down the backside of the base and went out thru the wire. I told them lock and load. We got to the site, set up and decided to have 2hrs on, 2 hrs off. No one slept, we didn't hear anything or see anything. We called in every 30 mins until it got light, picked up the claymores and headed back to camp. Just before we got to the wire I told them to take off their ponchos. When we came back thru the wire they would see a patrol of MPs coming in. I will say the look of surprise on the guys at the wire, was priceless. We stowed our gear and went to sleep. Few minutes later someone was at my tent, "Colonel wants to see you." I got up, ran over to his tent and went in. He chewed me out, "Where's my report, how about your debriefing?" All I could say was sorry. He then thanked me and said dismissed. I don't know how many MPs went out on ambush patrols, but the 6 of us can say we did.

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


ENGINEER NEWS
Continued from pg. 20

Preface Figure 5 Extract from Operational Report on
Lessons Learned on Tunnels


ITEM: Tunnel Systems on the Bong Son Plain.

DISCUSSION: the tunnel systems encountered by the Engineer Battalion on the Bong Son Plain may be categorized as three types which are typical in the three different physiographic areas present; the lowland rice-patty, the terraced highlands, and the foothills and mountains. The lowland tunnels usually have a single entrance located under a house or animal pen. The tunnel itself usually is 10 feet long and runs under rice paddy dikes or hedgerows to a small single room. The overburden is seldom over 3 feet thick. These tunnels can usually be destroyed by cratering from the surface. The tunnel systems of the terraced highlands usually have several entrances in a radial pattern with narrow tunnels 20 to 50 meters long converging on a common room normally 6 ft long to 6 ft wide by 4 ft high. It is common for several systems to interconnect. Overburden ranges from 4 to 10 feet thick preventing destruction from the surface. Charges placed in the sides of the rooms, passageways, and all the entrances will affect complete destruction. The tunnel can be denied by filling with CS crystals and sealing the entrances. The latter method is effective, can be rapidly accomplished, and is therefore more compatible with the air cavalry tactics. The foothill and mountain tunnel systems are deeper than the types previously mentioned. Entrance is gained through vertical shafts, sometimes more than 60 feet deep. The shafts go down to horizontal passageways. Those passageways in turn lead to a common room. Those rooms are interconnected with horizontal tunnels to other rooms which in turn have the vertical shaft entrance system. A complete hillside may be pockmarked with such shafts, although the entrances are usually obscured by vegetation to the degree that they look like shell craters. Destruction is accomplished by placing charges in the walls of the rooms and shafts, thereby collapsing the entire system.

AIR CAV NEWS



LTC (RET) J. Shawn Perry
191 Scenic Bluff Drive
Guntersville, Alabama 35976
(254) 458-0428
Stetsonlife1cda@gmail.com



Greetings, Brothers and Sisters! Our annual Reunion will be here before we know it and I am looking forward to visiting with you in Reno! I am coordinating an agenda for our Silver Wings luncheon, so if you have any thoughts about that, please shoot me an email or text message.

In this issue, I wanted to share some exciting news from the Air Cavalry Brigade, as they continue to train themselves and others abroad.

Air Cav in Europe: 1st Air Cavalry Brigade Training in Germany 2025

The 1st Air Cavalry Brigade (ACB) has once again proven its global reach and combat effectiveness with its latest deployment to Germany in 2025. As part of a broader effort to enhance NATO interoperability and readiness, the Air Cav has spent the past several months conducting high-intensity training exercises alongside U.S. and allied forces across the region.

Operation Saber Talon: Strengthening Allied Readiness

The brigade's primary focus during its time in Germany has been Operation Saber Talon, a multinational training exercise designed to simulate large-scale combat operations in the European theater. Conducted at the Hohenfels Training Area and Grafenwöhr, the exercise incorporated advanced air-ground integration, rapid air assault missions, and coordinated deep-strike operations.

Pilots and aircrews of the AH-64 Apaches, UH-60 Black Hawks, and CH-47 Chinooks engaged in complex scenarios designed to test their ability to operate in contested environments. The exercise emphasized joint operations, with ACB elements working seamlessly with German, Polish, and British forces to execute precision strikes, battlefield mobility operations, and casualty evacuation drills.

The challenging terrain and unpredictable European weather provided an added layer of realism, ensuring that every mission tested the brigade's adaptability and resilience. The ability to train in unfamiliar terrain strengthens the Air Cav's ability to deploy anywhere in the world at a moment's notice.

Live-Fire Training: Lethality in Action

One of the highlights of the deployment has been extensive live-fire exercises, where ACB aircrews engaged simulated enemy positions with Hellfire missiles, Hydra rockets, and 30mm cannon fire. Working in tandem with U.S. and NATO artillery units, Apache helicopters provided close air support for maneuvering ground forces, reinforcing the critical role of Army aviation in modern warfare.

Additionally, the brigade's air assault teams conducted fast-rope insertions and extraction drills, ensuring rapid deployment of Troops into contested environments. The ability to execute these missions with speed and precision enhances battlefield effectiveness and allows the brigade to dominate the fight from above and on the ground.

Strengthening NATO Partnerships

Beyond tactical training, the deployment has been instrumental in deepening relationships with European allies. The Air Cavalry Brigade participated in joint planning and execution alongside NATO counterparts, reinforcing shared tactics, techniques, and procedures.

Interoperability is critical in today's operational environment, and exercises like Saber Talon and Combined Resolve 25-1 provide the opportunity to refine communications, logistics, and airspace coordination. This ensures that in the event of a real-world contingency, ACB forces can integrate seamlessly into a multinational response.

Looking Ahead: Future Training and Operations



As the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade wraps up its mission in Germany, the lessons learned will be invaluable for future operations. The experience gained in navigating European airspace, working alongside NATO partners, and executing complex aviation missions will enhance the brigade's combat effectiveness for years to come.

With additional training rotations

planned throughout 2025, the Air Cav remains at the forefront of Army aviation, prepared to respond to any challenge, anywhere in the world.



I believe our future is in good hands with today's Cavalry Troopers on the controls. I wish you safe travels to the Reunion and offer up this humble prayer: Heavenly Father, I lift up our former pilots, crew chiefs, maintainers, door gunners, medics, controllers, refuellers and armament Troopers, and all their families as they journey to our reunion in June. Grant them safe travels, clear paths, and your divine protection. May this gathering be filled with fellowship, joy, and the remembrance of cherished memories. In your grace, bring us together in safety and peace. Amen.

Air Cav! First Team! Clear Right!
Shawn

Please contact the scribe to share your Aviation stories here!

TAPS:

We were notified of the following deaths:

ARMSTRONG, SGT Gerald, C Co, 2-7 CAV, 1968-69. 5 February 2025.
BLAND, 1SG (RET) Ronald K., A Co, 13th SIG, 1983. 26 June 2024.
BROCKNEY, SGT Lloyd J., A Co, 1-9 CAV, 1968-69. 6 January 2025.
DELSING, SGT Donald A. Jr., C Co, 2-8 CAV, 1968-69. 27 January 2025.
GARRITY, COL (Ret) John F. III, HHC, 2-8 CAV, 1996-98. 17 September 2024.
JENNINGS, SGT Donald L. (Doc), B Co, 1-12 CAV, 1967-68. 20 January 2025.
PARKHILL, SGT Michael G., D Co, 1-9 CAV, 1968-69. 21 November 2024.
RICH, SGT James A., 545th MP, 1965-66. 14 June 2024.
SUTHERLAND, SSG Henry, HHC, 13th SIG, 1987-91. 7 January 2025.
WEICKERT, PVT Gary, C Co & A Co, 2-7 CAV, 1965-66. 1 February 2025.
WIENS, SGT Richard B., D Co, 2-12 CAV, 1970-71. 6 January 2025.

ACTIVE-DUTY TAPS:

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

OTHER REUNIONS:

15th Medical Battalion Association, 23-27 April 2025. Orlando, FL. Holiday Inn Orlando International Airport, 5750 T. G. Lee Blvd, Orlando, FL 32822. Reservations 800-465-4329, Group code CM4. POC: Leo Williams, <airbandit68@gmail.com>, call or text 407-765-6935. Info at <15thmedbnassociation.org>.

1st Cavalry Division Association 77th Annual Reunion, 11-15 June 2025. Grand Sierra Resort, 2500 E 2nd St, Reno, NV, 89595. Reservations Dept: 1-800-648-5080, use code FCD25 or use the provided link to make reservations on-line: <<https://book.passkey.com/go/fcd25>>. Do NOT reserve more than one room.

77th Field Artillery Regiment Association, 17-21 September 2025. Colorado Springs, CO / Ft Carson, Radisson Hotel. Hosted by 2/77th FA. POC: John Moran, 937-361-1333. <johnjanmoran@woh.rr.com>.

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

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you or your spouse may qualify for a
1st Cav Division Association

SCHOLARSHIP

REQUIREMENTS:

- Become a member of 1st Cav Div Assn @ 1CDA.org to become a LIFE MEMBER
- Must be currently assigned to the Division for the length of scholarship
CANNOT be on orders or ETS
- Letter of recommendation from Command Team for Active Duty / employer for spouses

Accepting applications only 1 April - 1 Aug 2025
NOT accepting early packets

This Scholarship encompasses FALL 2025,
SPRING & SUMMER 2026 sessions

Email for further details
Memberships@1CDA.org



HONOR ROLL



SP-4 ACKERMAN, Richard	\$50
SP-5 ADAMS, W. Howard	\$50
SSG ANDERSON, Ronald	\$50
SP-4 BERNATH, Bruce	\$60
COL (RET) BERTAGNOLLI, Frank	\$80
IMO of My Beloved Wife, Frances (Fran) Bernard Bertagnolli	
SP-4 BLACKBURN, James	\$75
LTG (RET) BYRNES, Kevin	\$1,000
SSG CORBUTT, Tom	\$500
BG (RET) DePUE, John F.	\$100
IMO MAJ Lawrence Maloney, HHC 2-12C	
SGT EDEN, Raymond A.	\$50
LTC (RET) FISHER, Charles	\$100
IMO SGT Ronald Rondazzo	
E-5 GIBSON, Charles	\$61
CPT HALL, Sanci	\$75

E-5 HAVRAN, Martin	\$70.63
MAJ (RET) HOBIN, Gary	\$100
SGT JACOBSEN, Alan T.	\$100
LTC JENNINGS, Thomas J.	\$75
SGT JOHNSON, Gary L.	\$50
IMO of Those Who Gave All	
SFC (RET) KRIER, John N.	\$180

Thank you for the
generous donations from our
dedicated Troopers!



As of March 1, 2025

IHO HQ Btry 1/21 st FA 65-66	
SGT LEIGER, David A.	\$100
SP-5 LUND, Robert M.	\$50
CPT McKEE, George	\$60
PFC MEYER, Charles	\$50
E-6 MURPHY, Ronald E.	\$50
PSG PALMER, Leslie L.	\$100
IMO SP-4 Roger E. Denny, A 1-30FA, KIA 3-11-69 RVN	
SP-4 REED, Richard	\$100
SP-4 SAENZ, Abel Martinez	\$100
IMO Ace High 2 nd of the 12th	
MS. SMITH, Tracy	\$440.50
CW4 SOMMERS, Jerry	\$100
IMO LTC Don Horton, 1 st Cav ARA 2/67-2/68	
MSG (RET) TORRES, Teodoro	\$50
USAA	\$20,000

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

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

WANT TO SEE YOUR NAME UNDER HONOR ROLL SECTION?

Honor Roll privileges are given to members who make a donation of \$50 or more to the Association, or scholarship donations to the IaDrang or the Foundation.

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for the

77th Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association Reno, NV June 11-15, 2025

Normally we have volunteers from the host Chapter in the state where the reunion is being held, to assist with our activities. Unfortunately there is not a Chapter in Nevada. Therefore, we are asking for volunteers from within our reunion attendees to help make it another successful reunion. Family members are welcome to volunteer as well! Below are the events and times:

REGISTRATION DESK: Hand out packets and tickets.

Wed-Sat: 0900-1200 & 1300-1500, Wed & Fri: 1500-1800, Thurs: 1500-1700.

SILENT AUCTION MONITOR: Set up tables each morning and secure items at the end of the day.
Times: 15 minutes before registration desk opens and closes.

1CDA HOSPITALITY ROOM: Police trash from tables, check name badges, ensure things run smoothly.
Wed-Sat: 0900-1400, 1400-1900, 1900-2400.

BUS MONITOR DETAILS: For trip to Truckee Riverwalk District. Keep accountability-count numbers of people getting on/off buses. Thurs: 0900-1800 (Buses will run continuously).

VETERANS BRIEFING: Need Master of Ceremonies/Point of Contact.
Thurs: 1430-1530

LEGACY BREAKFAST DETAILS: Read long roll muster script for each war at the memorial service.
WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Gulf War, OIF/OEF. Fri: 0730-0900

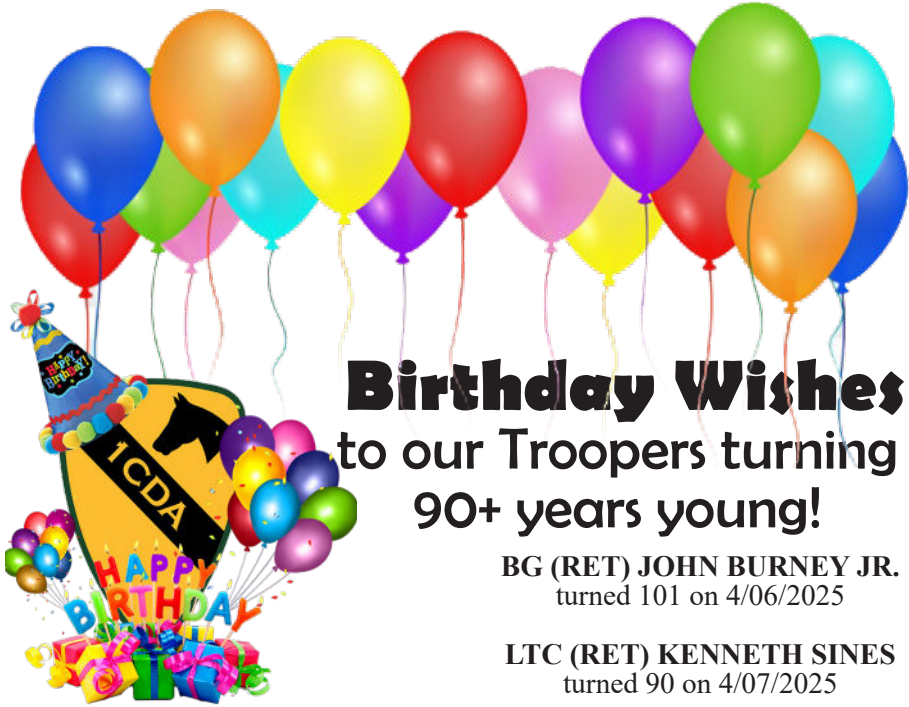
PURPLE HEART BREAKFAST: Need Master of Ceremonies. Sat: 0730-0845

UNIT LUNCHEON DETAILS: Ensure lunch runs smoothly. Collect tickets & ensure attendees are at the correct luncheon. Sat: 1200-1400

GIFT SHOP DETAILS: Ensure customers do not enter with drinks or bags; assist customers as needed.
Wed-Fri: 0900-1200, 1300-1500, 1500-1800 (3 volunteers needed for each time slot):
Sat: 0900-1200, 1300-1600 (2 volunteers needed for each time slot)

To sign up for your time slot, contact:
1SG (Ret) Dara Wydler, Executive Director, 1st Cavalry Division Association,
Office: 254-547-6537, <firstcav@1cda.org>

Thank you!



**Birthday Wishes
to our Troopers turning
90+ years young!**

- SSG JAMES SHARP**
turned 93 on 3/01/2025

CPT (RET) GORDON SEVERSON
turned 95 on 3/05/2025

CPL WALTER BALLARD
turned 94 on 3/10/2025

LTC WILLIAM HAMILTON
turned 90 on 3/22/2025

SGM (RET) JOE MARQUEZ
turned 95 on 3/24/2025

E-5 GEORGE ROBINSON JR.
turned 90 on 4/03/2025

PFC FRANK DEUTSCH JR.
turned 91 on 4/04/2025
- BG (RET) JOHN BURNEY JR.**
turned 101 on 4/06/2025

LTC (RET) KENNETH SINES
turned 90 on 4/07/2025

PFC HOWARD O. DEAN
turned 97 on 4/10/25

CW2 (RET) ROBERT JONES
turned 95 on 4/14/2025

MSG (RET) JAMES LEVINSON
turned 92 on 4/15/2025


SSG GILBERT HARRIS
turned 94 on 4/16/2025

MSG (RET) JOHN GRADY JR.
turned 96 on 4/18/2025

CPL MARVIN HALSTEAD
turned 92 on 4/27/2025

CPL RICHARD DeFAZIO
turned 93 on 4/29/2025

Replacement Membership Cards



This card is presented to

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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.

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PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

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Signature: _____

Phone #: _____

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**AWARD WINNING DOCUMENTARY:
THE LONGEST MONTH**

Four hard-hitting stories from the deadliest period in U.S. Army Aviation since Vietnam. Actual footage from the events and interviews of the Soldiers who were there, bring these intense and touching stories of courage and sacrifice to life.



“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.

Some of these interviews took place at the 1CDA Headquarters in 2019.

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/>>

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