



SABER

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



VOLUME 68 NUMBER 6

Website: www.1CDA.org

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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It's November already and the beginning of the most hectic time of the year for most of us. First was the Veterans Day ceremonies in Washington. Cathy and I attended. Our Association participates in wreath laying ceremonies at the WWII, Vietnam War, and Korean War Memorials. The largest crowd is for the Vietnam War ceremonies. The WWII and Korean War events have a lower public attendance but are also important as they remind us of the sacrifices that those Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines made.

In previous years Cathy and I were able to stay a few extra days and to see additional Washington area sights. So far these have included Mount Vernon, Arlington National Cemetery and The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and the National Cathedral. Last year we had a personal tour of the U.S. Capital (just us with a congressional intern); we visited the National Archives, the National Gallery of Art, and the Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History. This year we went to tour the White House. We applied last year (via email) through our Congressman but weren't successful. This year we contacted our U.S. Senator's office via telephone in late August. We received our "Boarding Pass" on October 31. Another thing to check off my non-bucket list. There are so many things to see in the D. C. area, it would take many more 2 & 3-day visits to see them all.

After we return home it's only two weeks until Thanksgiving. This holiday has always been a big event for my immediate family. When I was a kid, we all went to my father's parent's home in Hartwell, GA where all my aunts, uncles, and cousins from that side of the family gathered. Later my crew and I, my brothers and sisters and their families met at our parents' house in Walterboro, SC. After a few years at my brother's house in Beaufort, SC the gathering moved north to our house. We always have a great time with too much food. This is truly a time for giving thanks for all the blessings we have.

Christmas is always a smaller affair, usually only immediate family – sons, daughters and grand kids. Seeing the kids' joy as they open their presents is worth all the time and effort. This is a time to celebrate and to give thanks.

Cathy and I wish all of you the best holiday season. May your blessings be great and may they continue into next year and far beyond.

It's time to start making plans for next year's reunion. A lot of planning has been done in advance. I expect this one to be well attended. All the usual luncheons and meetings are on the agenda. Also, a Cambodia Remembered luncheon has been added to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the invasion of Cambodia by U.S. and South Vietnamese forces and the Cav's participation in it. It was certainly a significant event in my life.

Again, the best to you and yours. And, as always, thank you for your service.
Allen (TrailSpike 47)

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By the time you receive this edition of the *Saber*, Veterans Day and all its ceremonies and parades will be complete, the holidays will be upon us with food to make (and eat), Black Friday shenanigans begin, and Christmas decorations get pulled out for the tree and house. Most importantly, is the time and fellowship spent with our Family and friends.

A message for our Veterans:

Veterans contribute to American society in many ways, not just during their time on active duty. Throughout our history, military service members have put on their uniforms to protect the values and liberties that this nation was built on. But that doesn't stop once the uniform comes off and their active duty has ended. Veterans take the lessons they have learned and the experiences they've gained and continue their service to our nation by strengthening our communities. They become our

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HORSE DETACHMENT by CPT Jenny Nocella

October was another busy month here at the Horse Cavalry Detachment; we conducted several performances and traveled to some new locations representing the First Team!

A small contingent of Troopers represented the HCD at the National Cavalry Competition which was held at historic Fort Reno, Oklahoma from 24 September-28 September. CPT Nocella, SGT Rodriguez, SPC Conatser, SPC Cuchens, SPC Person and Mr. Davis made the trek to the Sooner State and brought home six different ribbons at three levels across different disciplines at the competition to include Combat Horsemanship, Field Jumping, and Military Horsemanship. Congrats to all these Troopers, they did a great job of representing the 1st Cavalry Division!

On the 5th of October the HCD participated in the 17th Annual Skyball hosted by the Air Power Foundation in support of military families across the globe. On the 12th of October our detachments demonstration team headed down to Buffalo, Texas for the Leon County Veterans Appreciation Day that we participate in every year, as always, the hosting community welcomed us with open arms and the Troopers put on a phenomenal show.

The HCD closed out the month of October with Retiree Appreciation Day on the 26th! There was a great turnout for the event, and we hope everyone enjoyed coming out to the barn, taking a tour and seeing the demonstration team perform. The Division Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion (HHBN) also conducted their Halloween Trunk or Treat for the Division Staff and the companies, we hosted a haunted farrier shop, hayrides and a who had the best trunk contest to round out the evening events!

November was full of events celebrating Veterans Day; to include Veterans Appreciation Day Parade, Ride on Center for Kids Veterans, The Wall That Heals Traveling Exhibit, Centennial Veterans Day Celebration.

December is now upon us and here are some of the events you'll be able to find the Detachment:

Temple Christmas Parade on 2 Dec; Cameron Christmas Parade & III Corps Tree Lighting Ceremony on 5 Dec; Krist Kindl Parade in Copperas Cove, TX on 7 Dec; Nolanville First Responder Parade 14 Dec. We will also be preparing for our appearance in the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, California on the 2nd of January.

We would like to thank everyone who is reading this for your continued support of the First Team and all it represents; feel free to stop by anytime for a barn tour or on Thursdays at 10am to watch a demonstration.

Follow us on Facebook at 1st Cavalry Division Horse Cavalry Detachment.



Picture Caption: Demonstration Team saying thank you to our Veterans for Retiree Appreciation Day Demonstration. From Left to Right: CPT Nocella, SPC Conatser, ISG Donaldson, SSG Minor, SPC Randau, SGT McDade, SPC Futrelle, SPC Christensen, SPC Cuchens and SGT Caro.

DIVISION DOINGS

First Team Begins New Chapter in Leadership Article and photos by: PFC Tiffany Banks, 1st Cav Div Public Affairs

FORT HOOD, Texas -- First Team Troopers from across the 1st Cavalry Division gathered Oct. 3 at Cooper Field for a division change of command ceremony. The division said farewell to MG Paul T. Calvert, Commanding General of 1st Cavalry Division, and welcomed MG Jeffery Broadwater, former Commander of the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Cal.

GEN Michael X. Garrett, commander of U.S. Army Forces Command, presided over the ceremony and spoke about the leadership of both Calvert and Broadwater. "Over the past two years, MG Calvert inculcated a readiness culture within the 1st

Continued to pg. 6

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CHANGE

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Dates: _____ Tel: (____) _____
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City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
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1CDA EVENT CALENDAR

Feb 21-23, 2020 Board of Governors Meeting, Killeen, TX
June 10-14, 2020 73rd Annual 1CDA Reunion, Louisville, KY
Nov 9-12, 2020 12th Annual Veterans Day in Washington D.C.
Sept 22-26, 2021 74th Annual 1CDA Reunion, Killeen TX
(In Sept to honor Division's 100th Birthday!)

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SABER

The newspaper of the 1st Cavalry Division Association
published during each even numbered month at
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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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Dear First Team,
I am writing to express my utmost gratitude to the Foundation of the 1st Cavalry Division Association for approving my scholarship grant. I was delighted to receive the news of being one of the beneficiaries of the scholarship and I really appreciate this generous support.
I am presently an E4 in the U.S. Army. I have a major in science laboratory technology (bio-chemistry option) with a special interest in public health. My flare to pursue a career in public health inspired me to apply for this scholarship. I have the zeal to help my community and others around me deliver good health service and have a healthy living environment. Thank you for bringing me closer to this goal, and I promise to use the funds effectively on the cost of tuition, fees, books and materials needed in the course of my study in the University of Maryland. This fund has relieved my financial responsibilities thereby giving me less worries but more reason to focus on learning.
Your generosity has increased the zeal to help my community. I promise to work hard and continue to uphold the law of the United States of America. I also promise to give back to others and the Foundation of the 1st Cavalry Division for a possible scholarship to future students.
Sincerely, SPC Toheeb Dauda

My name is Anthony Martin. First, I would like to thank each and every one of you for serving this great country. I attend the University of Wisconsin-Parkside and I am studying criminal justice and political science. With the scholarship you have provided me, I could not be more grateful. Both of my grandfathers served in the Vietnam War and I am so thankful for everything they have done for not only my family but for this country. I am honored to receive this scholarship and will use it to continue to work hard in my academics and to pursue my dreams that are possible only because of the men and women that fought for me and our freedoms.
Thank you, Anthony Martin II, Grandson of Roger Martin (Kenosha, WI)

My name is Gabrielle Martin and I am the granddaughter of Roger Martin. I just wanted to reach out and say thank you for the Ia Drang scholarship to use towards my college education. Currently, I am a senior enrolled at UW Whitewater, pursuing a Cell Biology degree with hopes to become a Dietitian. I plan to graduate in the Winter of 2020, and eventually continue to graduate school. I am very thankful to have received this scholarship because it has helped me tremendously to be able to attend school. It also means a lot to me because both my grandfathers sacrificed a lot to serve in Vietnam.
Thank you again, Gabrielle Martin

WANTED:

Looking for the article, "*Jim Dempsey the Fighting Medic*" that was published in the Cavalier in late 1966 or early 1967. Please contact Harvey Rothman 407-396-8333.



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

15th S&S BN

This past reunion at the banquet, I was fortunate enough to be seated next to LTC Moore and noticed the familiar crest on her Stetson, Muleskinner. This started our conversation and I told her I served with the battalion in Vietnam. Come to find out, I was sitting next to the commanding officer of the 115th BSB (formerly 15th S&S BN). Conversations and stories were being exchanged in the festive atmosphere. During dinner LTC Moore had asked me if I would like to address the Troopers at next year's reunion. While we would be in Louisville KY that would present a problem as they would be deployed when we returned in 2021. I mentioned I would be in San Antonio in August and asked if we can we make that work?

I had the pleasure of meeting the current Troopers of my past unit. August 20, 2019 is a day that this Trooper will never forget. I never would have realized how the unit has changed over the last 50 years. The Troopers were wonderful to be around. I learned a lot from them.

I want to thank LTC Moore and CSM Gabriel for educating me about today's Troopers and their ongoing mission. I cannot forget SFC Medina, PFC Horng, SPC Acevedo and SPC Reichel. To each Trooper let me say WELCOME HOME in advance.

The photo below was taken in the chapel with the promotables.

Mike Vuolo HHC 1968 <gpointmike@gmail.com>



15th MED BN HSC



John Pacanowski, Bill Couser and John Caronna

Bill Couser MD (with Adrienne Cox) of Woodinville, WA, CPT John Pacanowski MD (with Sue) of West End, NC, MAJ John Caronna MD (with Ellen) of Needham, MA. CPT John Porter DDS and Glenda of Dennison, TX, who initiated these reunions in 2017, were unable to attend. As always, much time was consumed reliving both HSC experiences during the Tet offensive, battle for Hue, the Ashau valley and the DMZ as well as more positive experiences such as staffing the An Tuc Dispensary near Cav base camp at An Khe. Bill and Adrienne recounted their experience



part of this reunion was the time spent at the Vietnam War Memorial to find and honor the names of colleagues associated with 15th Med who were killed in the war. Even though we chose the hottest October day in Washington history (96 degrees!) to hold the reunion, all agreed it was a very enjoyable and meaningful event. It reminded us again of the many learning experiences we had during our service and the strong bonds that still bind us 52 years later. Anyone who served in 15th Med in VN during 1967-68 and is interested in joining the group for future reunions should contact John Caronna MD at <johncaronna13@gmail.com>.

Three Veterans of the 15th Medical Battalion, Headquarters and Support Company (HSC), 1st Air Cavalry Division who served together in Vietnam in 1967-68, held their 3rd Annual Reunion in Washington, D.C. October 1-4, 2019. This was the second reunion of this group since their inaugural 50th Reunion in New Orleans in 2017 (see Sept/Oct 2017 issue of the *Saber*).

The following Veterans (with wives) attended (& pictured below in order): CPT



Bill Corsair (left) in Tay Ninh, 1969

The Stars Came Out for the 1st Cavalry in Vietnam by Bill Corsair

Vaudevillians, crooners, comics, and a classical violinist — all pulled together to put on a show for the heroes at forward-fire bases. I produced, engineered, and gave voice to the original talking G.I. Joe, for Hasbro. So, there was a little irony when, shortly after that, I was called to active duty, in 1968. Stationed at West Point, for special training I was assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division, Forward Headquarters, just outside the Cambodian border.

Compared with other wars, there weren't as many Hollywood stars and personalities signing up with the USO to entertain the Troops in Vietnam. But the sincerity and commitment to the men and women who answered the call more than made up for their fewer numbers.

Bob Hope, of course, was always there for the Sky Troopers of the Cav, and although there was a standing contract out on his life from the North, he tried his best to get his star-studded cast to as many of the Troops as possible. Just the sheer size of his show made it logistically impossible to get to the smaller forward areas. But some, of a lesser stripe, did.

George Jessel, a star from another era, didn't forget those who served in Vietnam, but we almost forgot him. "Georgie" had a WWII Army uniform that he proudly wore (having entertained the men of that conflict) when he was on tour. On one occasion, it caused him a bit of a problem. One of the generals lent him a jeep, which he picked up at the airport when he landed, and along with two of the chorus girls from his show, he headed for Saigon. A couple of very young military police officers spotted this, shall we say, older gentleman, in a WWII uniform driving an Army general's jeep, with two costumed young ladies, sightseeing through the streets of the South Vietnamese capital. Not having the slightest idea who this vintage entertainer was, he and his companions were promptly locked up. It was several hours before the forgotten icon was missed, sought after, and released, along with his female compatriots.

When I was alerted that he was on his way to our forward headquarters, in Phuoc Vinh, to entertain, I was worried. I was almost 30 and knew of Mr. Jessel's fame, but the young heroes with whom I was stationed were at least a decade younger. I was afraid they'd never heard of him and his repertoire of George M. Cohan-type tunes, which were far removed from those of Janis Joplin and the Stones. We set him up on a makeshift stage with his two-piece band, and I held my breath, as this 71-year-old man opened with "Give My Regards to Broadway," strutting with a mic in one hand and a cane in the other. The ol' vaudevillian finished his song, and there was a long silence that seemed to last forever, and then one young Horse Soldier started to slowly clap and then another until the whole audience joined in adding whistles and foot stomping: A STANDING OVATION! Maybe it was for Mr. Jessel's talent, or it was a genuine show of gratitude from these young warriors who had been forgotten by so many, thankful that this vision, from another time, in an ancient uniform, cared enough about them that he came to belt out some tunes and share some chatter, with an energy far beyond his years. Whatever it was, for a brief period of time in a hot dusty patch of war-torn Vietnam, the old and the young became one and shared a little bit of love that neither would forget.

When I could steal some down time, I'd get a grunt with a great voice and guitar, Bill Ellis, and a classical violinist, Phil Blackmar, and with the help of a few of my questionable jokes, we became a low budget USO Group. We'd beg a helicopter ride to one of the many forward fire bases and entertain (sometimes just a few dozen of) the 1st Team's finest. The trick was to get on and off the Huey in seconds before the surrounding enemy mortar teams had time to rain down a barrage that they hoped would take out a chopper.

Ellis was the star of our little group, and my jokes wouldn't play all that well in the world, which I later proved. But the showstopper was watching the expressions on the Troopers' faces when Phil took out his vintage violin and opened with Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto. No worries, the "Jessel Syndrome" was in place in spades, when these hardened Soldiers, without fail, always broke into applause. Again, shared moments in time never to be forgotten.

A couple of other patriots who never forgot, and whom I was privileged to see again, years later in the states, were Connie Stevens and Sammy Davis Jr. Ms. Stevens was a regular on the Bob Hope visits. She was shooting a scene on the TV movie *The Wedding Album*. My wife and I were cast in a different scene, and during a break, my wife thanked Connie for the time she spent entertaining the Troops, the Cavalry in particular and me. "Thank him, for me, for his service," she said, and my wife Janis responded, "Why not thank him yourself? He's right over there." Kisses, hugs, and an exchange of some memories followed. When the director called Ms. Stevens to the set, she said, "You'll have to wait, I'm talking to one of my boys." For another ten minutes, or so, a coterie of technicians, actors, and a chastened director stood by in silence while a TV star proved that she still remembered.

Sammy Davis Jr., who always had time for the men of the 1st Team and was a guest on the syndicated TV show my wife and I co-hosted in the mid '70s, Corsair & Co showed he hadn't forgotten by saying: "I remember the faces of those young patriots and how grateful they all were that we took the time to be with them. I could never forget them, and I hope they remember me." George, Connie, Sammy, and maybe even Bill, Phil, and the staff sergeant who told corny jokes, I'm sure they never forgot, and I promise we'll never forget them. God bless us all.



Sammy Davis Jr.

LRRP/Ranger News



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rally in Washington, D.C. on Memorial Day Weekend 2020 to replace the annual Rolling Thunder Motorcycle Procession. It will be named The Rolling to Remember Demonstration Run and will run from May 22 to 24. It will focus on public awareness of Troops still missing in action from overseas conflicts and emphasize public discussion of the national Veterans' suicide crisis, which claims 20 lives a day, according to AMVET officials. "The goal of the demonstration rally is to remember those who have yet to come home, to remember those who came home but are still struggling, and to remember those who are currently in harm's way. We as a country are still a long way from fulfilling our promises to those who served," said AMVETS National Commander Jan Brown, during a recent press conference in Washington, D.C.

AMVETS Executive Director Joe Chenelly said "the event won't use the Rolling Thunder name, but we will work closely with past organizers to coordinate logistics for what we hope will be a massive demonstration. It will not be a parade. It will not be a party. It will not be a free-for-all to block the roads and cruise Constitution Avenue without traffic. It will be a demonstration, something of a protest, of our failings as a country over the years. We must own those failings."

Chenelly said the group has already applied for new permits with military officials to use the Pentagon parking lots, and with National Parks Service officials to set up a stage at the Lincoln Memorial for three days of speakers and presentations. He said the group is working with potential sponsors to defray some of the costs and is asking for volunteers both inside and outside the Veterans community to help make the event a success. He also said that the group is working with White House officials to coordinate the new event's logistics. The planned route for the ride includes motorcycles traveling in front of the White House and Capitol Building, passing The National Mall and other landmarks along the way. Information and event registration are available on the AMVETS website, <https://www.amvets.org>.

The primary mission of AMVETS is to provide services to Veterans, such as helping to find employment, obtain medical records, apply for scholarships for Veterans' children, etc., and to help define legislation to improve the overall lives of Veterans and their families. AMVETS National Headquarters is located in Lanham, Maryland, a suburb of Washington, D.C. AMVETS has 250,000 members worldwide.

For the last 32 years, the Rolling Thunder Motorcycle organization has sponsored an annual motorcycle procession in Washington, D.C. on Memorial Day Weekend for the purpose of demanding by way of a demonstration a full accounting from our government leaders of all POW/MIAs from the Vietnam War. The first procession was held in 1988. It drew 2,500 motorcycles from across the country. Each year since, the number of riders and spectators participating in the event had grown significantly and the event developed into a world-class spectacle that attracted as many as one million riders and spectators from all over the world. It was still a demonstration, but it was also a show of patriotism, and it was uniquely American. After the 2019 event, the leaders of Rolling Thunder said that the event simply cost too much to stage due to the cost of security and clean-up at the Pentagon where the procession was organized for the actual ride across the Memorial Bridge into the nation's capital. The Rolling Thunder leaders said

that they lacked the sources of revenue to continue staging the event, and that the security forces at the Pentagon were unwilling to permit concession stands to be used there to sell food and merchandise to generate the necessary revenue to continue.

Just hours before the final Rolling Thunder ride on Memorial Day Weekend 2019, President Trump posted praise for the riders on social media and promised "The Great Patriots of Rolling Thunder WILL be coming back to Washington, D.C. next year, and hopefully for many years to come."



Rolling Thunder 2019 – Pre-Ride to Pentagon from Patriot Harley Fairfax

On a different note, I received an email from **LTC Jim Wright** (1967), Yorktown, VA, that mentioned After Action Reports (AARs) for 1st Cav LRRP operations in Pleiku Province in August 1967. Unfortunately, I was unable to access the website containing the AARs using the link that Jim provided in his email. Access was blocked because of security issues. However, I've been planning a trip to the National Archives in College Park, Maryland where the military records for the 1st Cav in the Vietnam War are kept so I should be able to locate the AARs there. I'll let you know what I find.

What I have found at the National Archives in the past is that the AARs for LRRP operations from January 1970 through April 1971, and from April 1971 through August 1972, are very well done and contain a great deal of information about the missions, often times including the names of the team leaders and team members. Some of them include debriefing reports as well. They make interesting reading. The AARs for the times before January 1970 are generally limited to a sentence or two at the end of the controlling brigade's Quarterly Operational Report - Lessons Learned, and simply mention the insertion and extraction dates for the teams but provide little or no additional information beyond that about the missions or team members.

If you are looking for AARs for our unit, or for any unit in the 1st Cav for that matter, remember that the 1st Cav furled its guidons in April 1971 when it returned to the U.S., and from April 1971 through August 1972, it operated as the separate 3rd Brigade, "Garry Owen" Task Force. The AARs are most likely catalogued according to the different unit designations so you will need to do

Hello from the nation's capital. The national Veterans service organization, AMVETS (American Veterans), has announced that it will sponsor a three-day motorcycle-themed demonstration

separate searches for them based upon the unit designations.

On a different note, I received several emails in response to my request in the September-October 2019 issue of the *Saber* to help verify a photo of (William) Glenn Lambert on the VVMF Wall of Faces. Glenn served in the LRRP unit in 1967-68 and was KIA on Signal Hill in the A Shau Valley, April 20, 1968. The request was to logon to the VVMF website, click on Wall of Faces, type in Glenn's name (i.e., William Glenn Lambert), and view photo 1-of-4 of Glenn and see if you recognize him in that photo. Photo 2-of-4 is the only photo of him that I recognized on the website. I had sent that photo into the VVMF in response to their Wall of Faces Campaign a number of years ago. The photo was taken in February 1968, at LZ Betty, Quang Tri Province, I Corps.

I had also contacted the coordinator of the Wall of Faces Campaign at the

VVMF and asked him if he was able to determine where photo 1-of-4 came from since it didn't appear to be of Glenn. Well, according to the VVMF's records, the photo was sent in by Glenn's stepson. It was a picture of Glenn in his junior year of high school when Glenn was about 17 years old. Glenn was twenty years old when he died in Vietnam, roughly three years after that photo was taken.

Glenn had taught an RTO class on LRRP Hill at An Khe in September 1967, so you may know him from that class. He was also with us when we moved north from LZ English in Binh Dinh Province to LZ Betty in Quang Tri Province in January 1968, and from LZ Betty to LZ Stud in March 1968.



(Left) Glenn Lambert (KIA), Montagnard Scouts-Phong, Ket

I mistakenly said in the September-October issue that Glenn died while on a mission in Base Area 101 in the Hai Lang National Forest, a North Vietnamese sanctuary southwest of LZ Betty and east of the Marine Combat Base at Khe Sanh. That was not correct. Glenn died on Signal Hill in the A Shau Valley, along with Dick Turbitt, (Waukegan, IL); Bob Noto, (St. Louis, MO); and James F. MacManus, (Anaheim, CA, 8th ENG). LT Joe Dilger, (Louisville, KY), received a near-fatal gunshot wound to the chest from a North Vietnamese sniper on Signal Hill but survived. A number of other LRRPs were wounded there as well.

As part of trying to verify photo 1-of-4, I also contacted COL George B. Utter (1967-68), Wellesley, MA, who was our platoon leader in the 1967-1968 timeframe. COL Utter certainly remembered Glenn, but like the rest of us, was unsure if photo 1-of-4 was Glenn. At any rate, I had a photo of COL Utter when he was our platoon leader. See below (from left-to-right: David Williams, OH; Felix Leon (KIA); Rick Tedder, Farmington,



(Rightmost) LT George Utter, Cookout on LRRP Hill, 1967

KY; and LT Utter).

On a different note, the following story from **Jim Bracewell**, the pilot from B Co, 229th Aviation BN (Assault Helicopter), who extracted LRRP Team #1, at first light on April 23, 1967, under enemy fire is printed below from the January 2019 LRRP/Ranger newsletter. (LRRP Team #1 consisted of John Simones, Doug Fletcher, Art Guerrero; Bill Carpenter, Geoff Kope, and David Ives (KIA)).

"I've been looking over some anecdotes I jotted down over a span of fifty-plus years. Here is a short one showing that there was some humor in Vietnam."

"The following was reported to me as factual. Of course, being the strait-laced officer and gentleman that I was, I have no first-hand knowledge of the incident. I do know, however, that we occasionally flew out helicopter to a conveniently located sand bar in the Bong Son River where the two pilots would assist the crew chief and gunner in giving the aircraft a much-needed bath. While there we usually took the opportunity to enjoy a few minutes of skinny-dipping."

"One afternoon as we frolicked in the cool water, some inconsiderate person, or persons, of the enemy persuasion decided it would be a good idea to blow up our helicopter. Fortunately for us, their marksmanship was somewhat lacking, and they missed hitting the helicopter with their shoots. They did, however, succeed in getting the immediate and undivided attention of the swimmers. We made extraordinary haste to the aircraft, got it cranked up, and flew back to camp. In out haste, we did not take time to dress. We only wore our flight helmets, so we could communicate with each other and with the operations people back at camp."

"One version of the story has it that the crew chief and gunner put on their fatigue pants once we were airborne. The pilots did not. Once we landed at camp and shut down the engine, the crew emerged from the helicopter and quickly got dressed, but not before being seen by several hysterical on-lookers."

Finally, I would like to wish you and your families a very Happy and Joyous Holiday Season. May you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and may you be blessed with happiness and good health in 2020 and beyond.

RANGERS LEAD THE WAY.

THANK YOU!

to our members who graciously donated to YOUR Assn!
We appreciate your generosity,
we could not do it without our members!

5th CAV News



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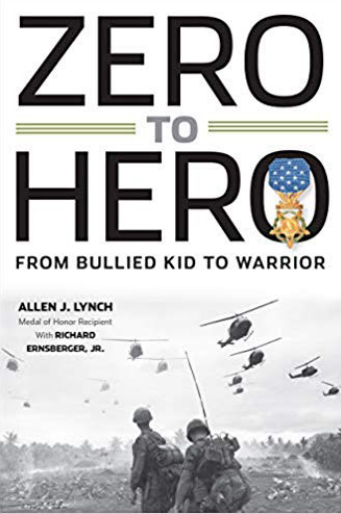


Hello 5th Cav Association members. It's time for another addition for the *Saber*, so here I am. During the reunion we attended the dedication of the refurbished Division Headquarters Building and then the 1st Cav put on a real nice demonstration and gave a special welcome to the Veterans. We had a good turnout for the reunion in Killeen. We had a nice luncheon and then a meeting with elections. I want to thank those that voted for me as your Association President. All positions for this election were filled. We are needing to find a way to attract younger 5th Cav Troopers to join our association. We need to work on it and any suggestions would be appreciated. I want to take a minute to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, or whatever your beliefs are. I have stayed away from winter holidays because it is the time of year my wife passed away in 2013. So, I hope all your holidays are blessed.

I received a letter from **David L. Mathias M.D.**, former Battalion Surgeon for 2/5 CAV in **Iraq 2004-2005**: As I write today, sitting in my office, I have the luxury of perspective. Time has been kind and has provided a buffer from the trauma of my time as a Battalion Surgeon. From where I sit, taking in the collage of northern Wisconsin fall colors, my reflections of OIF II are centered upon the profoundly positive impact the experience had on my life, and on my personal and professional development. As I now regularly train young physicians and physician assistants in a very rewarding clinical environment, I have uttered these words more times than I can count: I have never experienced greater job satisfaction than I had as the Battalion Surgeon of 2/5 CAV in 2004-05.

Shortly after returning from Iraq in 2005, I wrote an article, *Medical Care at the Battalion Aid Station (BAS) Warrior Medicine at its Best*, for the Center for Army Lessons Learned to assist future deploying healthcare providers. My conclusions then (with which I still agree) were as follows:

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safe position. But Lynch refused to retreat in order to stay with his Troopers despite having every reason to believe he would die that afternoon. Because of these actions, he is a hero.

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- Know and invest in your medics. Go above and beyond to train them medically. Counsel them and invest in their futures.
- Prepare for the possibility of a mass casualty; and while you can never fully prepare for this contingency, be aware that through the fog of war you will witness young men and women in their finest hour, doing what you trained them to do and beyond.

What I could not have known then, and what I am in the process of discovering, is the profound transformative effect of serving at the battalion level as a physician. When I left active duty in 2006, I thought that chapter of my life was closing as I boxed up uniforms and gear. Now 13 years later I can see threads of that experience running through the fabric of my life. Some of these are:

- Quoting my battalion commander on an almost daily basis. I have yet to work under a better leader than he was to me.
- Approaching life with an intensity and decisiveness that can only be born under such adversity.
- Understanding what sacrificial leadership looks like; which challenges me to lead my current colleagues and employees in the similar ways.
- Recognizing the frailty of life and that we are all called to care deeply for those in our spheres of influence.

As I sat on the green of Arlington National Cemetery in 2018 and wept on the loss of one of my Soldiers, one thought became crystal clear. The job of battalion surgeon is not one that we transition through and leave behind. If we allow it, the experience can set a new course for the rest of our careers and lives for the better, in spite of the scars.

David L. Mathias, M.D., Pediatrician, "Lancer 27", 2/5 CAV, OIF II

That's about all for this addition. Remember that we still need stories and I would like to find someone to take over this article. Hope your days are blessed. Until next addition, this is Bill Shepard, Control 27 Mike Out

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Buy a brick to be engraved & placed around the
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12th CAV News



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432-853-4851
MMCTLC3@aol.com
www.12thCav.US



HEAR... HEAR! 12th Cavalry is still here. Some may have thought we left the AO with no column in September-October 2019 issue. NOT TRUE and not from laziness or lack of diligence. Maggie and I were overrun by medical demands in the summer with her full knee replacement 31 July and no home health after care available, I was saddled with nursemaid and full house boy responsibilities for six weeks and some medical evaluations of my own. Then, while trying to create an additional segment of our *Boot to Boot* documentary, spotted a few booby traps and got into some serious headbutting with the film producer. Had to call in an attorney to resolve the conflict, thus, did not meet the deadline for the past issue.

Not to worry, Maggie has come through like a Trooper, working out three times a week at the local Rec Plex, doing her assigned home exercises, and soon, I will not be able to run and hide from her. Legal issue is resolved, we are recovering all our material and recordings on external hard drives and have been fortunate to talk with a professional producer/professor at Missouri State University, Iraq/Afghanistan Veteran, who will help us complete the project. UPSIDE: it will not cost us thousands and thousands of dollars. He has direct contacts with PBS, G.I. film forum, and other sources interested in military history stories. We may still have to raise some money but nowhere near previous amounts indicated. We would like to have 10-15 more stories, which can be done in one of two ways, Skype link up interview or personal interview at Missouri State University Department of Film Production/Journalism/Public Relations Theatre. To those interested in walking the trail toward this objective, give a call 432-853-4851 or email <mmctlc3@aol.com>. To meet projected completion September 2020, we will have to cut off interviews NLT 31 January 2020.

12th Cavalry has lost one of our finest, John Henry Berger, Honorary Sergeant



MSG (Ret) John Henry Berger, Honorary Sergeant Major 12th Cavalry Regiment, C CO, 2-12th, Vietnam June 1966-Dec 1966

Major of the Regiment, crossed over to Fiddlers Green, 29 September 2019, in Surprise, AZ. John, Retired Master Sergeant, highly decorated in Vietnam, served the group for many years, was an influential and motivating leader who helped guide and develop our group into what it is today. To those of us who knew him, his absence leaves a void that will be hard to fill. We are searching for a Strack Trooper to fill the gap, a huge pair of boots to wear. Requirements can be viewed on our web site at <www.12thcav.us>.

12th Cavalry Treasurer Klaus Lachmann is setting up a memorial fund on behalf of John and his family, to contribute Contact Klaus at 931-539-0405 SALUTE and SEMPER PARATUS

FLASHBACK to 16 February 1969, a story from **Kenny Cellilo**: as a twice wounded grunt while serving with Wild Card, C Company, 2d-12th, I was a squad leader with 3d Platoon, wounded outside LZ Grant late January but back in action mid-February, I want to share my two cents about Stacked Deck, D Company Rescue of Wild Card, known as the Midnight March: 16 February 1969 was the scariest day of my life and the second time I was wounded. Patrolling during the day out from LZ Grant, Ronnie Trumps was walking point with a dog handler and his dog. Thanks to the dog's alert, we spotted an NVA soldier walking the same trail we were on. Ronnie and the handler fired on the lone soldier then all hell broke loose. Wild Card 6 called for a Loach that had spotted a horseshoe shaped NVA bunker complex. We tried to set up a perimeter to receive log and when the bird tried to land, enemy fire intensified from the bunker complex and surrounding tree lines. When the bird tried to land, it was shot up bad too.

We were pinned down through the rest of the day. While thinking the fire would not cease, we were taking many WIA and two KIA, SGT Pinney and PFC Jerry Moore. Wild Card 6 CO was blinded by the fire and MEDEVACS shot up while trying to land to get our wounded. As dark crept in, we got some help from Puff illuminating the canopy of the trees line area and our position. We got ammo, c-rats, and water dropped in. Finally, some supporting fire came that helped defray enemy fire. About midnight, Stacked Deck made it to our position. Led by Gary Vickers, Leonard Bertulli, Duane Smythe, we were able to get our wounded loaded out. Duane was wounded while helping us.

I still hear the choppers flying around as we retreated. That day Gary, Len, Duane, and Ronnie became my heroes. Ronnie who had patched me up in January, also patched me up that night as the MEDICS were attending to others. I am no hero, but I did serve with these men who were *all heroes* that night. An *Honor Remembered!*

Leonard Bertulli gives this response to Ken's story: When they called us to volunteer to walk in to help you guys not, one person objected. We all knew you were in trouble. All these years later I never really thought about how desperate you were feeling and what our arrival meant to everyone, that is, until I read your comments.

I must Thank You for that. With how that war ended we were all had the feeling that we accomplished nothing. Your comments about that night made me and the others feel like we did something special. None of us wanted to be there, but, DAMN, we sure proved out mettle, didn't we?!

To all the foregoing, this can be said about that, YES! Mettle was proved

as it was throughout the war daily by ALL 12th Cavalry Troopers in both battalions! That is why we started the documentary to preserve a worthy legacy. Ken, several Troopers told their stories on video recording this past September in Branson and talked of this incident. Your part is much more than two cents worth and should be in the recorded story. I noticed that you are not in our 12th Association Directory. We need to get you signed in. Give me a call 432-853-4851 and let's talk about it.

I would like to call attention to an article in September/October issue written by Steve Banko, D/2-7 1968 and D/2-12, 1968-69. Titled *What's Worth Remembering About a War* under Trooper's Tale section. Moving story and can't find a better statement to the many questions we ask ourselves still, after all these years. Steve, congratulations on your achievement and award. Also noted that, we do not have you listed as a member of the 12th Cavalry Association. Will be trying to contact you soon to get you listed. Sure, would like to have your story in our documentary, would give a good dimension to it with your assignments in both 2d-7th and 2d-12th. Give it some thought and call me if you want to consider this, 432-853-4851.

A reminder to ALL Troopers, Veterans and Active Duty, this column is for YOU ALL. It depends on stories and information from our association members and active duty personnel who believe they have a story to tell or information of importance to those of us who have served and currently serving. Whenever you have a story you want to relate please contact us. We will make every effort possible to get it in an issue of the *Saber* or *The Crossed Sabers*. Keep in mind, that due to formatting and space considerations, the article will have to be edited but will be done so it will not undermine the significant points of the story you submit. With your stories, please try to submit photos of the time, place, and event you wish to relate.

A note to our ACTIVE DUTY TROOPERS: Every time our group of people visit at Headquarters during the Ft Hood Reunions, we all come away with the distinct impression that, ALL is well, in capable hands with good leadership and committed Soldiers! We thank and salute you all for your service, willingness and readiness to protect the Freedoms we Americans' value. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families during the upcoming holiday season. Wish all a Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year! May the 1-12th CHARGING CHARGERS Charge Harder and Faster while the 2-12th THUNDER HORSES Gallop Farther and Swifter!

Ken Cellilo, your scariest day was scary to me. I did your part on Halloween night around 10:30 pm, found myself looking for khaki dressed apparitions tapping on my window, HA! Marian Jeter will get you three tons of rice in the January 2020 column. If you have some photos of this, please email them to me. CRABTREE OUT!

SEMPER PARATUS (TLC)

DIVISION DOINGS

Continued from pg. 1

Cavalry Division that enabled successful planning, preparation and execution of a variety of missions," said Garrett. "MG Calvert set clear priorities and established an operational framework that allowed leaders at echelon to effectively manage Army systems and processes." Garrett went on to explain Calvert's leadership resulted in the 1st Cavalry Division's achievement of the highest fleet operational readiness rates in the Army for more than 12 consecutive months. While the division had to bid farewell to the Calvert family, they welcomed a great replacement, the Broadwater family.

"There is no one better suited who understands the requirements of training and readiness to lead the 1st Cavalry Division than MG Jeff Broadwater" said Garrett. Garrett stated, Broadwater is one of the Army's premier trainers and leader developers with extensive operational experience. "I know he is the exact right leader to lead this division through the next chapter in its history" said Garrett.

Calvert listed the many things he was most proud of as he leaves command, such as the great communities in central Texas, the selfless teammates on the installation, the leaders he has served with and the Troopers that always get the job done. Lastly, he mentioned how proud he was Broadwater would be taking over command.

"I am proud that I get the opportunity to turn over command of our division to a leader I know and trust," said Calvert. This will be the third time in a row Calvert and Broadwater have exchanged command. "I have no doubt that he will be able to move the division to new heights," said Calvert. Calvert ended his remarks by stating the highlight of his time in service was servings as the commander of the 1st Cavalry Division. "I will always be a proud member of the 1st Cavalry Division," said Calvert.

Broadwater came into command with open arms from Calvert and is excited to take command. "We are incredibly thankful for the absolutely professional transition and for the immense difference you have made in the lives of the Troopers and families of the 1st Cavalry Division," said Broadwater. "I am excited, humbled and honored to join your ranks."

VP Stresses Support For Troops During Hood Visit

By Brandy Cruz, Sentinel News Editor

The applause was deafening as more than 1,500 Soldiers gave a big, Texas-sized welcome to Vice President Mike Pence, who toured the installation, watched a demonstration of the new Abrams tank and conducted a roundtable session on Soldier transition assistance programs on October 29, 2019.

"I want to assure you that the president and the vice president – we don't see Veteran benefits as entitlements, we see them as earned benefits that are reflection and gratitude of the American people," Pence said during the session with Fort Hood, congressional and with Soldier for Life Transition Assistance Program leaders. "From early on this administration, we have been working to expand opportunities for Veterans."

Pence said he is hoping to learn more about Fort Hood's successful transition

Continued to pg. 10



GEN Garrett passes the guidon to MG Broadwater

7th CAV News



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Greetings, Gentlemen - and others, welcome to the last column of 2019! You should receive this issue somewhere mid-December with the end of the year staring directly at us. First, let me wish you the happiest of holidays, however you wish to celebrate them! Be careful of the resolutions that you make for 2020, if you're like me, it's easy to adhere to them for the first couple of weeks....

Secondly, we have some housekeeping to take care of in this issue. Below you will find a **call to duty**: the 7th U.S. Cavalry Association officers' terms of service expire in June 2020, so we will be electing an entirely new slate at the annual reunion in Louisville. John Guillory and Bob Anderson have put together the duties of each position so that you can make an educated decision as to whether you will throw your Stetson into the ring. Give it some thought.

Hello, 7th Cav Troopers, your Association President **John Guillory** here to remind you that we will be holding elections for a full slate of officers during our annual meeting at the 2020 reunion. All those interested in holding one of the Association's Officer positions - don't wait to commit! Below you will find job descriptions for the Association's Officer positions. Hopefully, these descriptions will be helpful to those of you who are interested in being a candidate for any of the four positions. If you're interested, please email me at <manhunter6869@yahoo.com>, with all of your contact information as soon as possible, and **no later than April 30, 2020**. I look forward to hearing from you.

President

The President must be a member in good standing of the 7th United States Cavalry Association. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Association, to act for the board of officers by causing to be issued all notices which may be required, to appoint all committees, to execute all agreements, contracts, or other documents approved by the Association or Board of officers in the name of the Association, and to see that the same are properly carried into execution; to discharge all executive functions of the Association, and to perform such other acts as required by the Board of Officers. The President should always conduct himself in a manner that reflects a positive image of the 7th United States Cavalry Association and the 1st Cavalry Division. The President must provide for the inclusivity of all Troopers from all eras to enhance the growth and comradery of the Association. The term of office for Association President is three years.

Vice-President

The Vice-President must be a member in good standing of the 7th United States Cavalry Association. It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to aid the President, to carry out the President's duties during his absence or disability, and to perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President. The Vice-President will always conduct himself in a manner that reflects a positive image of the 7th United States Cavalry Association and the 1st Cavalry Division. The President must provide for the inclusivity of all Troopers from all eras to enhance the growth and comradery of the Association. The term for Association Vice-President is two years.

Treasurer

The Treasurer must be a member in good standing of the 7th United States Cavalry Association. The Treasurer shall have verifiable financial experience with organizations, but not necessarily military or fraternal. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep proper books and record all financial transactions of the Association. He shall prepare all required correspondence relating to Association financial matters and act in concert with the President, Vice-President and Secretary as a fiduciary for Association funds. He shall have the care and custody of, and be responsible for, all monies paid into the Association; and deposit the same in an insured financial institution; in the name of and on behalf of the Association. He shall submit an annual financial report during the annual meeting in person whenever possible. Otherwise it shall be delivered electronically to the President, Vice-President and Secretary in time for their review prior to the annual meeting. He shall make any other reports as required by the President, Vice-President or the Secretary. The Treasurer must be familiar with and be able to generate reports and correspondence in Microsoft Word and Excel and maintain an email address and phone number so that any elected officer may contact him when necessary. Any financial discrepancies, such as uncollectable checks should be communicated to the other elected officers as soon as possible. The Treasurer should always conduct himself in a manner that reflects a positive image of the 7th United States Cavalry Association and the 1st Cavalry Division. The President must provide for the inclusivity of all Troopers from all eras to enhance the growth and comradery of the Association. The term for Association Treasurer is two years.

Secretary

The Secretary must be a member in good standing in the 7th Cavalry Association. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to prepare the minutes of all meetings held with the President, Vice-President and Treasurer, and which may include members of the Association. He shall also prepare the minutes of the annual and any special meetings. Generally, all meetings are held in conjunction with the 1st Cavalry Division Association annual reunion, although on occasion meetings with Association Officers may be held via phone conference. He shall conduct membership processing and validate all applications for membership. In extenuating circumstances, a current regular member may provide validation of service for a prospective member. He will provide to a new member a membership packet consisting of: a membership card, a certificate, a welcome letter, an update to the latest roster and the latest printed roster. If a member elects to become Sustaining, he will also provide a letter and a certificate. He shall provide a list of new members to the Association Webmaster, including: name, unit, dates of service, rank and nickname if any, and class of membership. He shall also provide a mechanism for Association Officer elections and any Honorary position appointments and ensure those voting are members in good standing. He shall manage membership rosters and present a membership report at the annual meeting and shall make such other reports as required by the President. He shall prepare correspondence when required and maintain those records electronically. The Secretary will prepare a synopsis of the Annual meeting and send that to the 7th

Cavalry Scribe for his inclusion in the Division Association Newspaper - *Saber*. The Secretary will announce through the *Saber*, the intent of the Association to hold elections when required during the next annual meeting. The Secretary must be familiar with and be able to generate reports and correspondence in Microsoft Word and Excel and maintain an email address and phone number so that any elected officer may contact him if necessary. Funds that are collected must be sent to the Treasurer in a timely manner. The Secretary should always conduct himself in a manner that reflects a positive image of the 7th United States Cavalry Association and the 1st Cavalry Division. The President must provide for the inclusivity of all Troopers from all eras to enhance the growth and comradery of the Association. The term for Association Secretary is two years.

And I would remind you that we also need a webmaster, in the worst way. Our current webmaster will be leaving his position soon. When he does, we will no longer have support for our website, <www.us7thcavalry.com>. Please consider helping out the 7th Cavalry in this way.

A short time ago, I received an email from **LTC Edward Kennedy** (Ghost 6). LTC Kennedy is the Commander of 2/7 and is currently deployed in Korea. He sent this missive:

GARRYOWEN! I wanted to provide you all a quick update on what Ghost Battalion has been up to in the ROK. I also wanted to ask for your assistance as CSM Whittingham and I are putting together the previous CDR/CSM board and would like to make sure we recognize everyone. We will be going through the official channels to acquire any official records and command photos if available, but I figure I would also reach out to you all to let you know and see if you had any thoughts on the list so far. Regardless, hope you all are doing well.

v/r, Ed - Ghost 6

2-7 CAV recently finished a very successful first training density during our 9-month Korea rotation. GHOST has made good progress on moving towards what we have defined as "Winning in Korea." Individual Soldiers and small teams have absolutely become more lethal through weapons qualification as 132 qualified experts on their individual weapon on the peninsula, that is 1/4 of the battalion. PT at Camp Humphreys, Camp Casey and Warrior Base, and executing the training in this weather is absolutely making them more physically fit. Ghost has demonstrated they are a learning organization on several levels as individuals, but also as a collective group, incorporating some of the lessons learned from Training Density 1 into planning for Training Density 2 that kicks off this weekend. In two weeks, we also certified 97% of the battalion as Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) qualified. Two of our Soldiers already utilized their TCCC training when a Soldier from another battalion crashed his motorized vehicle and they applied a tourniquet and packed the wound until medics could arrive. The team has established the foundation for partnered operations with three ROK battalions and the relationship with 23rd CBRN and both 2-2 AHB and 3-2 GSAB is progressing well. The weather and terrain are providing excellent opportunities to demonstrate and improve the resiliency of individuals and programs such as the Chaplain's Faith & Fitness, Bible Study, and White-Water Rafting trips are aiding in that effort. The leadership has also emphasized the need to continue to expand Soldiers culture awareness over the weekends and get out to experience Korea; including a tour of the JSA yesterday for a group of Soldiers. Still a long way to go, but a great start - Very proud of Ghost battalion!

I received the following from **Richard Churchill**, who served with HHC and E Co, 2-7 Cavalry in 1968-1969: I am Richard Churchill HHC/E Co. 2/7 2/68-69. Last weekend my wife took a long weekend in our nation's capital. I was



LTC Robinson (L) and Richard Churchill (R)

particularly interested in visiting Arlington again, which I haven't done in some time. Before we left, I purchased *Sacred Duty*, Tom Cotton's narrative of his time serving with the 3rd Infantry Regiment at Arlington. I recommend it highly. While at Arlington I paid my respects to General Roscoe Robinson, 2/7 Bn CO during my tour. I was his RTO at Khe Sanh and the A Shau Valley. I am attaching a photo of us at Khe Sanh. I am always overwhelmed with feelings when I tour Arlington and this time it was no different. General Robinson was one of the best officers I had the honor to serve under, a true professional.

And from **Bob McConnell**: I was in the 1/7th 1971-72 as we went from 3rd Bde (Separate), to Task Force Garry Owen and then home (S-3Air, CO B and later D Companies). I recently obtained a copy of the After-Action Report LTC Hal Moore wrote about the Ia Drang Operation on 9 December 1965. It is an amazing read and I am surprised (shocked?) it was not required reading for every Cav Commander. Little did I know in 1971 how much we had already learned in 1965. Unfortunately, the copy I have ends on page 23 in mid paragraph. I am wondering if anyone has a complete copy. If any of you has a copy of this after-action report, please contact the scribe and I will make arrangements to get it to Bob.

This from **President Emeritus Bob Anderson**, word of the celebration of life of a fine Soldier and a good man, Sal Mione. Sal served in Delta Company, 2-7 Cavalry and rose to the rank of Sergeant. Sal was a member of the mortar platoon arriving in-country in 1966 and returning to the states in mid-1967. After his return to the United States, he settled in Rahway, NJ where he spent decades in public service as a member of the Rahway City Council and the City Planning Committee. He was employed by Morgan Stanley, Jersey City, NJ for many years and later by the Union County Office of Veteran Affairs before retiring in 2004.



Sal Mione in 2017

Continued to pg. 18

8th CAV News



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www.8Cavalry.org



Hello again everyone. Another summer has come and gone, along with record setting temperatures. The southeast U.S. had a lot of 90 plus degree days & I, for one, will not miss them. I really enjoy the fall. I hope all is well with everyone, and your summer went well. I got a lot of positive feedback about my last column & I appreciate all the texts, emails & stories. I hope I can keep it up.

We just finished with the Kentucky Kampout. We had about 25 attend this year. A special thank you to Tennessee AMVETS Post 45 and the Ladies Auxiliary for their wonderful hospitality. The AMVETS Post is right next door to our lodging and we used their pavilion and picnic area for our gatherings. They fed us 2 great suppers and we ate breakfast there every morning cooked by Shirley, a long time Auxiliary member. They always make us feel welcome and really support their Veterans. If any of you are interested in coming next year just let me know.

The holiday season is already upon us. I hope everyone has a safe and wonderful Christmas and a happy New Year. No matter how you celebrate, have a great one. Please remember our brothers and sisters who are sick. If you are able and know someone who is sick or homebound, try to go visit them. The way I like to help is to make donations to the food and clothing bank at VA hospitals and clinics. They can let you know what is most needed in your area.

Korea

I've heard from a couple of Korean War Veterans and would like to hear from more. I've been reading and studying about that war and I agree wholeheartedly when I hear it is the forgotten war. We Veterans will never forget the service that our fellow Vets gave this country and the sacrifices they made, so I use this stage to say thank you for what you did. Following is a letter/story from **Alan S. Doctor** that I recently received:

Alan S. Doctor Story, Korean War

My name is Alan S. Doctor, 1SG RET, USA. Don't get excited I made E8 in the Calif Army National Guard. I do have a total of 34 years of service; 3 years RA from 1949 to 1952, 1 year involuntary for the Berlin Crisis. That was Oct 61 - Oct 62 at Ft. Devons, MA with the 325th USASA, Hazard Park Reserve Center in L.A. The rest of my time was with various USAR and CAARNG units, mostly in Fresno, CA. I was 1SG HQ & HQ Co, 2/160 Inf.

Okay enough of that. I was ordered to Korea in July 1950 as an individual filler with the 1st Cav Division (Infantry) (Note that Infantry was in lower case and parenthesis. MG Gay was not happy without his horses. I arrived in Pusan on 15 Sep 50, my 20th birthday. Witnessed my 1st fatality hours later on the train to Taegu. The Trooper in front of me took a sniper round through his head. I think that I grew up at that point. I can still see it.

I started out with 27th Ord as a truck driver. I drove a supply run between Seoul and Taegu. Those were long days. The drive took from 15 to 17 hours due to bad roads, traffic, refugees and snipers. Poor shots, Thank God. Had a lot of holes in the canvas, but none in me.

As you may know the 8th Cav ran into serious trouble on 2 Nov. 50 at the battle of Unsan. The 3/8 really took it in the shorts. My hero, Fr. Kaupan was one of the POWs from that. He died in May 1951 somewhere up North. I was transferred to Bravo Troop, 1st Bn on Thanksgiving Day and spent a miserable month in N. Korea. My duffel bag was blown to bits by Artillery which left me with no change of clothes, sleeping bag or blanket for the next 5 days. The temperature dropped to 30-40 below zero at night and never got up to zero during the day. We were cut off from the battalion and were totally lost. We walked South and eventually caught up with the battalion. The medics saved my toes and I wound up being sent to Rgt HQs Co, Security Platoon. Promoted to CPL and assigned as a Squad Leader.

I spent the rest of my war chasing the I&R Platoon on their excursions into enemy territory. We formed a perimeter that they could pass through on the way back with whatever they could find. Photos, documents, estimates of enemy location, an occasional prisoner, etc. We also set up a perimeter around the HQs area. We had the responsibility for all the HQs tents, (I could have been canvas boss for a circus) really learned how to set up tents! There was a lot of contact on patrols, but nothing significant for me. Sep. '51 rolled around and I spent 15 days on board the USNS Aiken Victory to San Francisco. The Coast Guard took 3 spinal meningitis cases off the boat at the Farrillone Islands off the Golden Gate and we dropped the hook at Ft. Mason for 3 days while I could see the roof of the house in which I was born. I eventually received my pay, orders and personnel records to hand carry to Ft. Ord, with a 2-week delay in route and was sent to Ft. Huachuca, AZ. I spent my last year there. I was discharged and re-enlisted in the Reserve.

I went through several jobs, got married and became a father of a son, Michael David Doctor, deceased at age 30. We wound up in Fresno in 1961 and now I live on the Central Coast of California in the beautiful, small town of Cambria. We adopted 2 lovely girls along the way, and I am a great grandfather. My 1st wife passed after 45 years with me. I am remarried and doing okay in retirement. I have a service-connected disability which slows me down, but, what the hell I'm 89 and still getting around.

I read your article in the *Saber* and decided to get my story out before I die. Kind of hard to do after I die. If cancers, heart attacks and other physical difficulties haven't taken me out I'm liable to be around for a while.

Back to Vietnam

My name is **Rich O'Brien** and I live in a Chicago suburb Elmhurst, IL. I was in Vietnam during 1967 with Co D 2/8 Cavalry 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). I returned to Vietnam with my squad leader Jim Taylor and John Abbey, a Vietnam Vet, both representatives from the D.O.V.E. Fund, as well as my cousin Tom O'Brien in March of 2011.

We flew to San Francisco from various cities and started our journey to Vietnam. We arrived in Saigon and toured the city which was very crowded with mopeds. We met up with Do Nguyen who showed us around. I had never been in Saigon; it is quite a nice modern city. We toured the war museum in Saigon which had a



display of many types of weapons and aircraft that our military left behind. Two days later we flew to Hue. We toured Hue and the Citadel before going to the DMZ. While there we visited the DMZ Museum which had artifacts from the war and pictures of the tunnels. Since we were with the D.O.V.E. Foundation members, we visited some of the schools they built along with a water project they financed and a hospital they built in memory of Jim Taylor's mother. We also toured the city of Da Nang. We stopped at the place where the Marines landed in 1965 which is now a resort.

We visited the ancient city of Hio An which was very interesting place. We then flew to Pleiku and were given a tour of the city and visited some markets. We were fortunate to meet some Vietnam Veterans who had a Gold Star mother back to visit the location of her son's death which seemed therapeutic for her.

Our driver drove us from Pleiku to An Khe where our guide found Hong Cong Mountain. Our guide Tomm was skilled at finding locations where Jim Taylor and I had stayed back in 1967. He was very knowledgeable on the U.S. military units and places that served in Vietnam.

Jim Taylor and I had a wonderful time visiting some of the places we guarded such as bridges on Highway 19, Camp Radcliff in An Khe, Bong Son and LZ English. We were very surprised and pleased that the air strip at LZ English was still there.

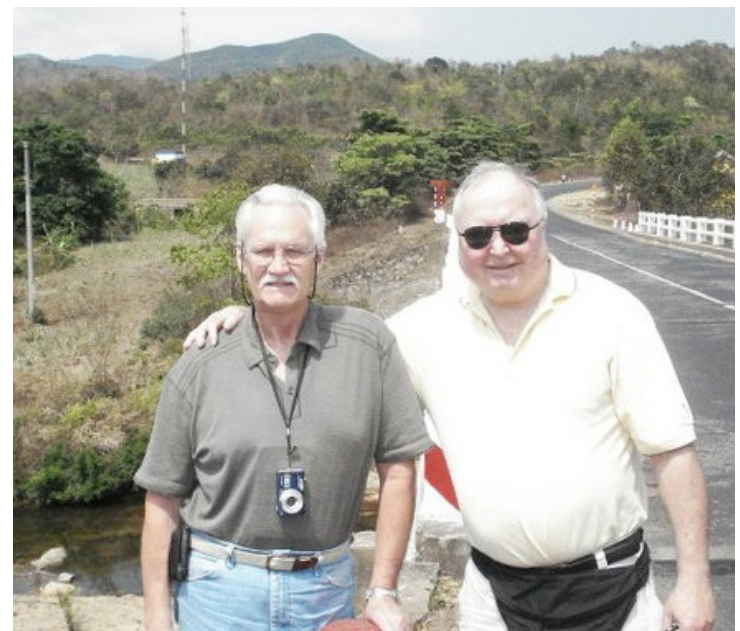
I was very appreciative of how well we were treated by the Vietnamese people. We did not experience any animosity from anyone while visiting Vietnam. On our last night in Vietnam Jim Taylor and John Abbey found the O'Brien Bar which made Tom and I very happy.

(The D.O.V.E. Fund is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable foundation that provides humanitarian and development assistance to needy regions in Vietnam, including building schools, medical clinics & freshwater resources. For more information go to <www.dovefund.org>)

The following was submitted by **Robert Skole** <bobscole@aol.com>

Service Numbers and MPs Not Amused

I joined the Army right out of Pittsfield, MA, high school in June 1946, along with Bob Snow, my oldest pal (from first grade on). We were inducted along with Joe Szweczyk, from the nearby town of Housatonic. After basic at Ft. Knox, we shipped to Japan. I joined the 8th Cavalry in Tokyo. Bob, who could type, joined GHQ and got a job managing a hotel in Omori, outside Tokyo, which put up civilian pilots of the Flying Tiger Airline. Joe was assigned to a medical lab in Tokyo. We would often meet at Bob's Hotel, a huge western style mansion, the Meisner House, which had been liberated from a German businessman. One day, at the Omori train station we were stopped by MPs. Omori was a famous old geisha district. The MPs took our passes and asked our service numbers. I said, 11110035; Bob said, 11110036; and Joe said, 11110037. Naturally, the MPs came up with the expected: "Whataya? Wise guys?" They were not amused at our Three Stooges routine. They scrutinized our passes and figured they were fake. No service numbers could be so close. We explained, at great length, how we were from the same western Mass. county, joined up together and got numbers assigned in alphabetical order. It took quite a while, including showing our dog tags, but we finally convinced them. Scroll ahead some 35 years, and our Pittsfield high school reunion committee was searching for Bob Snow. I had lost contact because of all my travels and working abroad, and Bob had no local relatives. I knew Bob made the military his career and we figured the VA could help. But since there must be thousands of Vets named Robert Snow, I suddenly remembered Bob's service number. With that, the VA could find his records. They forwarded the committee's reunion invitation to him. Bob did show up for the reunion (surprising the hell out of me), coming up from his home in Montgomery, AL. Bob had become a chief warrant officer and retired after service in the Korean War and two tours in Vietnam. (It was easier to locate Joseph Szweczyk, an uncommon name, in the very early internet search engine, switchboard.com, which lists all U.S. phone numbers. Joe, who had been recalled for the Korean War and served as an officer in an armored unit, became a paper industry executive, paper mill trader and owner. Since the Army replaced service numbers with social security numbers in 1969, these kinds of stories would be hard to be duplicated for those who joined the Army after that year.



9th CAV News

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Germany, the article announced that “More than 500 U.S. Soldiers and dozens of tanks and heavy fighting vehicles will deploy to Lithuania in the coming days on an extended mission to bulk up NATO’s eastern flank. . . . The unit – the 1st Battalion, 9th Cavalry Regiment out of Fort Hood, Texas – is expected to be in the country through spring 2020.”



Lithuania was one of the countries that made up the old Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, along with Poland and Latvia (and Estonia, to the north of Latvia in the map below).

All four countries are now members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization,

and their eastern borders represent what might be called NATO’s “forward line of own Troops” except there aren’t a lot of Troops there. That is why the arrival of U.S. forces was welcomed by Lithuanian officials, who, according to the article, had lobbied for more frequent and longer American Troop rotations ever since U.S. Army Europe’s Atlantic Resolve campaign began in 2014, following Russia’s annexation of Ukraine’s Crimean Peninsula.

Between Poland and Lithuania is Kaliningrad, part of Russia and home to the headquarters and many of the ships of the Russian Navy’s Baltic Sea Fleet. To Lithuania’s southeast is Belarus, which although not a part of Russia is judged to be fully integrated into Russia’s armed forces. Connecting Russia’s base at Kaliningrad to the territory of its ally Belarus is a 65-kilometer stretch of land along the Polish-Lithuanian border known as the Suwalki Corridor. Obviously, if Russian forces were to seize that corridor, they would connect Belarus to Kaliningrad, but at the same time, they would sever the connection between Lithuania and Poland. Maintaining that link is therefore crucial to the land reinforcement of Lithuania.

This was not a “REFORGER-like” deployment for the 1-9 Cav. The battalion did not fall in on prepositioned equipment; rather, it brought 29 Abrams tanks and 21 Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicles from Fort Hood, plus 70-some wheeled vehicles and ancillary equipment. The tanks and Bradleys are a reminder that today, the 1st of the 9th is configured as a Combined Arms Battalion, with two tank companies and one mechanized company.

The battalion’s base for this nine-month rotation is a Lithuanian Army training area in Pabrade, a small town near the border with Belarus. The battalion is not making the trip alone; it is being joined in Europe by the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, its parent unit from Fort Hood. The BCT headquarters is in Poland, and its other battalions are spread throughout Europe.

For additional information about this deployment and the Cav’s activities in Lithuania, try googling “9th Cavalry Lithuania.” You’ll be able to take your pick from several news articles, including some from the Lithuanian press. I especially recommend two videos your search should turn up, one by the battalion commander, LTC Stephen M. Johnson, and one by a tank crewman from the battalion, SPC Nathan Eubanks. Enjoy what they have to tell us and be proud of these men.

Home for the Holidays?

A nine-month rotation is a long time to be away from home, and as all of us have probably experienced, it’s especially hard to be away from friends and family over the holidays. To ease the effects of a long separation, readers of this column are invited to send holiday greetings to those deployed in Lithuania. Address cards and letters to:

Any Soldier
1st Battalion, 9th Cavalry
Unit 93160
APO AE 09755

Use the same address if you feel moved to send a “Care Package” of goodies to the Troops overseas. Items likely to be appreciated include European plug adapters, candy, snacks, games for the MWR, and toiletries. Remember: We Can! We Will!

A New Home for Air Cavalry?

An earlier (5 September 2019) article in Defense News asked, “*What squadron will the future attack recon helo call home?*” It described how the Army Aviation branch is weighing where to place new rotary-wing aircraft to be fielded in 2030.

In Vietnam and for a long time afterward, reconnaissance and surveillance functions resided in the divisional armored cavalry squadron, which included an air cavalry Troop. When the brigade combat team (BCT) replaced the division as the primary fighting echelon, each BCT received its own organic cavalry squadron. As emphasis shifts back toward echelons above brigade, and with both a future attack reconnaissance aircraft and a future long-range assault aircraft under development, the Army is considering which formations, at which echelons, those aircraft should call home.

Following a “reconnaissance and security summit” at Fort Hood in August, the commander of the Aviation Center of Excellence said every option considered includes a component of aviation, and “We don’t think there will be a cavalry squadron that is not an air-ground element or organization as we move into the future.”

Perhaps the 9th Cavalry will one day again be able to call itself “The Cav of the Cav.”

Happy Gatherings

All three Vietnam-era Air Cav Troops had reunions recently, and from all accounts, a good time was had by all, at all three. A Troop met 5-8 September

Once More unto the Breach

The “Defense News Early Bird Brief” of 26 September carried a link to a Stars & Stripes article with the headline “*US Tanks and Troops Headed to Lithuania for Lengthy Deployment.*” Dated Stuttgart, Germany, the article announced that “More than 500 U.S. Soldiers and dozens of tanks and heavy fighting vehicles will deploy to Lithuania in the coming days on an extended mission to bulk up NATO’s eastern flank. . . . The unit – the 1st Battalion, 9th Cavalry Regiment out of Fort Hood, Texas – is expected to be in the country through spring 2020.”

in Kansas City, Missouri; B Troop 10-13 October in Branson, Missouri; and C Troop, 28-30 September in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The C Troop reunion included a side-trip to Washington, D.C., where I was able to link up with them at Arlington National Cemetery and catch this scene:

Charlie Troopers march off after laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. L-R: Jay Hockenbury, 65-66; Artie Sanders, 68-69; Ed Gruetzemacher, 69-70; Don Coshey, 65-66; unidentified Sergeant from the Third Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard).



Also Resting in Honored Glory

Late word has been received of the passing of



Carl Reeves, Jr.,

an A Troop lift pilot, callsign Apache 31.

Former Apache 30 Guy Hoke remembers that when he arrived in Apache Troop in April 1970, “Carl took me under his wing and showed me the ropes. He was a great guy and we spent many hours flying together over the old



AO out from Tay Ninh, along the Cambodian border, around the “Dog Face” and, later, into Cambodia.”

LTG (R) Paul Funk, who signed his email “Apache 6 Ancient,” said this about Carl Reeves:

Great Soldier, terrific pilot, total professional! Quiet but very strong in his convictions and performance, he was totally dedicated to the Troop, the mission and each of us! As we were attempting to rescue the great Scout Ordean Iverson and crew, I can still see Apache 31 doing a high overhead approach and flaring into the small LZ beside the downed LOH. His speed and skill saved lives that day, and he took no credit—but deserved a bunch!

Rest in Peace, Carl.

Jim Kurtz

Apache 03, 1970-71

TAPS:

We were notified of the death of the following:

BANAITIS, SGT Don, A Co, 1-12 CAV, 1968. 13 September 2019.
BERGER, MSG John H. Sr., C Co, 2-12 CAV, 1966 & HHC, 227 AVN, 1967. 28 September 2019. (Honorary SGM 12th Cavalry Regiment)
FOX, COL (RET) Eugene A., A Co, 2-12 CAV, 1965-66. 22 May 2019.
GREEN, SSG Kenneth S. Sr., E Co, 52 INF, 1968. 13 October 2019.
LESLIE, Trooper Earnest A., 1CD, 1941-45. 19 September 2019. (WWII Veteran)
MOREY, SGT James G., D Co, 2-12 CAV, 1966. 30 January 2019.
PEREZ, SGT Ernest R., H Co, 75th INF, 1969-70. 15 October 2019.
PROTAS, SGT Donald J., 215 CSB, 1971. March 2019.
ROUSSEAU, SGT Richard J., C Co, 1-12 CAV, 1964. 21 August 2019.
ROWEKAMP, 2LT William, 61st FA, 1955. 12 September 2019. (DIVARTY Football Coach)
RUE, SGT Martin J., D Co, 2-8 CAV, 1966. 10 October 2019.
SWEESY, CW2 (RET) Ryan C., FSC, 1-8 CAV, 2005; HHC, DSTB, 2006; HSC, 1CD, 2008. 26 October 2019

ACTIVE DUTY TAPS:

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

SCALZO, SSG Nicholas M., 3rd ABCT, 2019. 21 October 2019.

OTHER REUNIONS:

15th Medical BN Association Reunion, 1-5 April 2020. Oxford Suites, Boise, ID, Reservations 208-322-8000 use Group Code 15th Med. POC: Mike Smith <mvandco@msn.com> or 208-459-9592. Info at <www.15thmedbnassociation.org>.

3rd Annual Past & Present Reunion of Veterans of the 1-7 Cavalry, 29-30 May 2020. Copperas Cove, TX VFW, Post 8577; POC David Clemons 254-630-3909 or <dwclemons57@yahoo.com>. Visit our website: GMFO.org

1st Cavalry Division Association 73rd Reunion, 10-14 June 2020. Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport, KY; Reservations can be made by calling 888-233-9527 or https://book.passkey.com/e/4991844; Reunion registrations went out with the 2020 Calendar and you can register online via the website <1CDA.org>.

20th & 79th ARA Reunion, 31 Aug – 4 Sept 2020. Holiday Inn Express 199 East Bay Street Savannah, GA; Hosts are Jerry and Ann Hipp.

Have your upcoming reunions posted here!

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THE HICCUP - Health Care Information Committee Report

"John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019"

Benefits for Service-Connected Disabled Veterans

Several new benefits are available to Service-Disabled Veterans and Dependents in House Bill 5515-7.

Access to Military Shopping

Title VI - Compensation and Other Personnel Benefits, Subtitle C - Other Matters, Sec. 621., Para. 1065. Use of commissary stores and MWR facilities: certain Veterans and caregivers for Veterans:

(d) **ELIGIBILITY OF VETERANS WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES** - A Veteran with a service-connected disability shall be permitted to use commissary stores and MWR facilities on the same basis as a member of the armed forces entitled to retired or retainer pay.

(e) **ELIGIBILITY OF CAREGIVERS FOR VETERANS** - A caregiver or family caregiver shall be permitted to use commissary stores and MWR facilities on the same basis as a member of the armed forces entitled to retired or retainer pay.

BOTTOM LINE - This will go into effect on 1 Jan 2020; however, the Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs, and Department of Homeland Security have not provided guidance on how access to installations will occur. So, look for additional requirements if just showing your VA ID Card, with "VA Healthcare Enrollee Service Connected" under your picture will work or not.

Atomic Veterans Service Certificate

Subtitle I—Decorations and Awards SEC. 581. **ATOMIC VETERANS SERVICE CERTIFICATE:** The Secretary of Defense shall design and produce a military service certificate, to be known as the "Atomic Veterans Service Certificate," to honor retired and former members of the Armed Forces who are radiation-exposed Veterans (as such term is defined in section 1112(c)(3) of title 38, United States Code).

BOTTOM LINE: Nuclear Test Personnel Review (NTPR) Program has identified approximately 550,000 DOD personnel as participants in four missions: 1) post-World War II occupation forces of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, 2) prisoners of war in Japan at the conclusion of World War II, 3) participants of U.S. atmospheric nuclear tests (1945 - 1962), conducted primarily in Nevada and the Pacific Ocean, and 4) participants of U.S. underground nuclear testing between (1951 - 1992), conducted primarily in Nevada. Then the DTRA Form 150 (OMB No. 0704-0447), Atomic Veteran Service Certificate Application and Nuclear Test Personnel Review Information Request and Release, must be submitted to:

Defense Threat Reduction Agency
Attn: RD-NTS (NTPR)
8725 John J. Kingman Road, Stop 6201
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-6201

Awards for Working Dog Handlers

SEC. 582. **AWARD OF MEDALS OR OTHER COMMENDATIONS TO HANDLERS OF MILITARY WORKING DOGS.** "Guardians of America's Freedom Medal Act"

(a) **Program of Award Required.** Each Secretary of a military department shall carry out a program to provide for the award of one or more medals or other commendations to handlers of military working dogs, and to military working dogs, under the jurisdiction of such Secretary to recognize valor or meritorious achievement by such handlers and dogs.

(b) **Medal and Commendations.** Any medal or commendation awarded pursuant to a program under subsection shall be of such design, and include such elements, as the Secretary of the military department concerned shall specify.

(c) **Regulations.**—Medals and commendations shall be awarded under programs under subsection (a) in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense for purposes of this section.

BOTTOM LINE: This allows the Department of Defense to issue medals or other commendations to handlers of military working dogs and military working dogs. At this time, it has not been determined how corrections to records will occur or what the issuing and documentation requirements are.

For more information on these programs, visit <<https://www.congress.gov/115/bills/hr5515/BILLS-115hr5515enr.pdf>>

DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

Continued from pg. 1

nation's leaders, scientists, entrepreneurs. Veterans are the most active volunteers working to improve communities across our country. Their service goes beyond the uniform. Aim to inspire and your life is filled with meaning and the legacy you leave behind will be greater than you can ever imagine.

My perspective on Veterans Day:

This day was conceived as a tribute to the Americans who sacrificed their lives in World War I and was later changed to Veterans Day to honor all Veterans of the military. We honor our Veterans today, because without them, there would be no "land of the free."

- Without the Veterans of the American Revolution, there would be no good ole' US of A.
- Without the Veterans of the Civil War, there would be no strong, united America that we know today.
- Without the Veterans of World War II, we could be living in a world where freedom of choice or the right to vote no longer exist.
- Without those who fought (or are still fighting) the War on Terrorism, we would be living in constant fear.

This Veteran's Day, we honor the men and women who have worn the uniform and continue to serve our country through their volunteer service. So, I say thank you for all you have done for this nation then and now.

May your holidays be filled with cheer, warm memories, and happiness.

DIVISION DOINGS

Continued from pg. 6

program to help keep their promises to Veterans and expand opportunities.

The vice president stressed to the Troops during his speech that President Donald Trump is their biggest advocate, one who values the commitment and sacrifice it takes to serve in the armed forces, which is one of the reasons they want to learn more about how to better serve America's Soldiers and Veterans.

"Thank you for your service. I say that on behalf of a grateful nation," Pence said. "We all know that with service comes sacrifice. Wherever you are called to serve, wherever you are deployed, I promise you, you will carry with you the strength and pride of this nation. You will carry with you the prayers of millions of American citizens."

Before taking the podium inside a hangar at Hood Army Airfield, Pence observed a live-fire training event involving Bradley fighting vehicles and M1 Abrams tanks (System Enhanced Package versions 2 and 3). Afterward, he spoke with the crews and their commanders, thanking them for their service. Pence noted that the Army will soon be fielding 300 new M-1 Abrams tanks, a majority of which will be headed to Fort Hood.

After an evening arrival Monday, the vice president said he took an opportunity to visit a memorial in Killeen honoring the 13 men and women who died at Fort Hood on Nov 5, 2009. Recalling some of the stories of the fallen, he said "... faith gives us hope," something needed as the fight against terror organizations continues.

"I thought it was very nice how much he emphasized the brotherhood we have in the military and how much it meant for the people we've lost and the people who are still here who have to carry on without them," SPC Christian Frazier, B Co, Military Intelligence Bn, 504th Military Intelligence BDE, said. "It was really heartwarming."

The vice president said the American people stand with the Troops and the president will always have their back, noting that the nation's security depends on military strength and that American Troops are that strength. "Be vigilant, mind your mission, respect the unified chain of command, keep taking care of each other and never doubt every decision you make," Pence said, encouraging the Troops. "It matters to the American people."

Revealing he is the son of a Korean War Veteran and proud father of a U.S. Marine Corps aviator, Pence told the Troops that they are the best America has to offer, saying he is more grateful for their service than they will ever know. He also took the opportunity to acknowledge the sacrifices made by the families of Troops, especially during deployments.

"I thought it was a very inspirational speech and to know he has a son in the Marine Corps. He's part of our military family," PVT Ian Faust, 96th Transportation Co, 553rd Sustainment Bn, 1st Cavalry Division Sustainment BDE, 1st Cav Div, said. "It hits me real close to home because I know how proud my family is because I'm in the military."

In closing, Pence said he has faith, as long as there are men and women with the courage to serve, step forward and stand for freedom, there will be peace in the United States. "As long as we have heroes willing to put their lives on the line for us and for our freedom," Pence said. "As long as we have patriots like all of you, who will protect this nation, who will defend our freedom ... (we) will forge a future of securing prosperity and peace for ourselves and for generations to come."

77th FA News

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The 77th Field Artillery Regiment Association held its 2019 Reunion in San Antonio, Texas, September 11-15. This was a new location for us, and many thanks are due to Juan and Linda Garcia, and Don Gross for their efforts in arranging everything. We stayed at the El Tropicano Hotel on the Riverwalk.

Dave Morehead, Dwayne Fowler, Lu Merritt, Juan Garcia, Don Gross, Fred Taylor, John Moran, Bill Capshaw, John Ahearn, John Avera, Bill Wallace, Lindsay Jones, Bill Bilo, Howard Fisher, Chris Malmquist, Doc Bosma, Hilario "Lalo" Pena, David Estrada, Mike Carter, Tony (Al) Hartley, Jack Paar, William Brown, Warren Owens, Ray Kreiner, Raul Diaz, Ben Scott, and David Carrizales attended. 11 wives, 1 son, and a grandson joined us! There was one touching occurrence when Howard Fisher met Bill Capshaw, who he had not seen since LZ Grant, 50 years ago, when Bill and a medic saved Howard's life during one of the attacks on LZ Grant!

The El Tropicano is right on the Riverwalk, and just a short walk to the Alamo, many restaurants and several museums. We took full advantage of San Antonio's many attractions. Much was in walking distance. We took a 2-hour river cruise which covered the most well-known stretches of the San Antonio river, the restaurants and hotels, and upriver where we went through the locks. Some of also visited the other 4 missions, which were built about the same time as the Alamo (the 1730s); those other missions are still all active churches. They have a unique arrangement with the National Park Service where the NPS takes care of the outside property, and the Archdiocese of San Antonio has the inside. They are still very beautiful.

We had our Friday night banquet at County Line BBQ in the most popular area of the river, and enjoyed real, authentic Texas BBQ. John Ahearn brought 3 guests from the 2/8th Cav, who he served with at FB Illingworth in 1970 when Illingworth was attacked. Everybody ate their fill, and a good time was had by all.

Continued to pg. 21



VP Pence listens to COL Schoenfeldt, CDR 1st BCT & MG Broadwater, CDR 1CD, during a live fire demonstration.

OIF/OEF VETERAN

82nd FA News

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Thank you to everyone for the positive response to my first article in the last edition of the *Saber* - I've appreciated the phone calls and e-mails, it is always a pleasure to connect with fellow Veterans - regardless of era of conflict, MOS,

rank, or other differences. We all served and that creates a unique bond that we should all treasure! This article is from 2009 during my deployment to Iraq - enjoy! P.S. For those who've asked for a discount code at <www.assaultfwd.com>, please use "SABER" to take 15% off any order!

Game/Rules Change; Soldiers Continue Mission

MOSUL, IRAQ - JOINT SECURITY STATION IMN - The loose gravel crunched under the weight of the Mine Resistant/Ambush Protected or MRAP vehicles as the massive trucks began to roll out of this small outpost located on



MRAP Conducts a Security Halt

from their base to the edge of the city, formally demarcated by a boundary known as the Riyadh Line, without an Iraqi Army escort.

The heavily armored vehicles slowly made their way along the road leading outside the city, creeping past the Iraqi Army soldiers and policemen sitting in cheap plastic chairs and either chain smoking or text messaging on their cell phones, sometimes both, to stay awake as they manned their various checkpoints, with an ubiquitous AK-47 rifle leaning against a nearby wall. Some offered a small wave, but most just ignored the trucks as they rumbled past and hopped over the old discarded tank tracks that served as speed bumps at the small checkpoints. The American vehicles had a familiar appearance to the few civilian vehicles on the road at this hour and most quickly pulled on to the soft dirt shoulder of the narrow roads. The few drivers that didn't yield the roadway saw the pavement in front of them dazzle for a moment with the green light of a laser carefully aimed by the gunner who stood perched high atop each MRAP. This action quickly gained the drivers' attention and they pulled over and slowed to a crawl as the trucks passed by.

As the patrol made its way outside of Mosul the security checkpoints along the road quickly changed from being manned by the Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) to the Kurdish Peshmerga militia with their colorful sun splashed flag representing the semi-autonomous region of Kurdistan proudly

flying. The area North of Mosul with its diverse mix of ethnic Kurds and Arabs had quietly surpassed the Sunni-Shia conflict to become Iraq's most pressing unresolved issue. Unlike most of their counterparts around the country who find themselves in the role of training, advising, and assisting the ISF in this post June 30th Iraq, the Soldiers from B Battery were squarely in the middle of the Kurd-Arab relations and monitoring and reporting from the area was the focus of their mission.



A Soldier from B Battery, 2-82 FA inspects a checkpoint near Mosul, Iraq

Still too early to enter any of the various towns or villages in their area of operations for meetings with local leaders, the patrol pulled off into an empty field for a security halt of several hours. The trucks formed a defensive perimeter and the gunners peered out into the vastness through night vision goggles that cast everything in an eerie green glow. The rest of the Soldiers occupied themselves with cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, and lengthy discussions of their plans for their R&R leave or alternately, tales from leaves already taken. Inevitably most centered around drinking, cars and motorcycles, and of course - women. When the sun had finally risen and the Soldiers had finished a breakfast of pop-tarts and cans of energy drinks they remounted their trucks and prepared to continue their mission for the day to meet with the Mayor of Tal Keyf, a small city about 15 kilometers North of Mosul of diverse ethnic and religious make up. The tops of centuries old Christian churches could be seen nearby the domes of Muslim mosques and Yazidi temples in town.

The mayor, Basim Bello an Assyrian Christian, greeted the Soldiers at his



CPT Himpelmann meets with Mayor of Tal Keyf, Basim Bello

office with a round of piping hot sugary tea and quickly delved into the issues at hand. A previous meeting a little over a week ago had not preceded much past simple pleasantries as the mayor was distrustful of the Kurdish interpreter that the American Soldiers had with them on that occasion. Mindful of that lesson learned the patrol had with them on this day an ethnically Arab translator and the conversation proceeded without a hitch. The first issue of discussion was the murder of a worker at the local Pepsi factory on the edge of town a few days prior. The mayor suspected that the insurgents had come from Mosul and were looking for the owner of the factory but when they were stopped at the gate of the compound by guards, they simply shot a nearby individual and sped away. That these thugs could pass through numerous checkpoints manned by either the Peshmerga or Kurdish intelligence service Asayish forces was disturbing to the mayor. Less than a kilometer from the mayor's office was a Peshmerga garrison of nearly 4,000 militia members. He stated that it was "uncomfortable" to have them in Tal Keyf and hoped that before the Americans departed Iraq in 2011 that the issue would be resolved and that they would depart the area. The mayor shared with the Soldiers from B Battery reports that the Asayish were harassing people at their checkpoints and arresting people without charge in a show of force and demonstration of control over the area. After over an hour of solid discussion with the mayor, the patrol prepared to depart when the mayor received a frantic phone call from a worker with a non-governmental organization (NGO) that was trying to distribute aid in the area. The woman and her Iraqi driver had been stopped at a Kurdish checkpoint and not allowed to pass. The mayor handed the phone over to the Americans and she explained her predicament. The patrol leader stated that they could come to the checkpoint to try to sort things out. Again, the patrol prepared to depart the mayor's office when suddenly the woman they had just spoken with on the phone arrived. Stopped at a checkpoint only a few hundred meters away from the office once she explained that the American patrol was on its way the forces at the checkpoint quickly relented and allowed her safe passage. Exasperated by the events that had just unfolded the woman excitedly described what she was trying to accomplish in the area and her disbelief that the security forces would prevent her from proceeding despite her various credentials and letters from both Baghdad and the Kurdish capital of Irbil.

With the situation apparently resolved for the time being, the patrol finally departed with many thanks and made its way the short distance to the Peshmerga compound to meet with the leadership there. Despite what many people in Iraq think of the Americans, nearly all respect them as being fair, honest, and in the case of the Kurd-Arab relations - a neutral actor that has avoided taking sides in the dispute. In this capacity the patrol discussed the checkpoint operations of the Peshmerga and their duties and responsibilities in the area. They stated without emotion that they were prepared to withdraw from the area if the government told them to - referencing the Kurdish Regional Government and not the central government in Baghdad. After a second round of tea and additional discussion of the security in the region the patrol departed. It had been a productive day for the group meeting with leaders from both sides of the Kurd-Arab dispute, getting a good feel for the atmospherics of the area, and unexpectedly intervening on behalf of an NGO trying to bring assistance to the local citizens. Despite having been out for nearly 12 hours the patrol would have to wait almost nine more hours before it could return to their small outpost inside of Mosul. Purchasing sandwiches, cigarettes, and even a couple of watermelons from vendors on the street the patrol moved outside the city to again sit and wait.

In the afternoon heat, the Soldiers perspired profusely under the body armor loaded with small arms protective inserts and pouches full of ammunition and first aid supplies. The food was consumed, the cigarettes were smoked, and eventually the sun set bringing some measure of relief to the weary Troops. Only a few more hours to go. The Soldiers talked about movies and music, made fun of each others renditions of favorite tunes, and mostly just waited for the time to pass so they could get back into their base, take off their boots after a long day, clean out the trucks, take showers, call home, check e-mail, and get some sleep. Sure, some had caught a cat nap in the back of a truck throughout the day, but for the most part the men had been awake and active. Now in the darkness the tiredness crept over them. When a head would begin to nod other Soldiers would quickly laugh that the "Zzz monster" had gotten a hold of them. When it was finally time to roll back into the city and their base, the men talked to each other over the intercom headsets inside their trucks, mainly to help keep everyone awake rather than out of any real interest in the various conversations. Passing the same disinterested Iraqi Army soldiers and police they had passed nearly 21 hours ago, the patrol made its way back into Mosul, drivers and truck commanders vigilantly scanning for improvised explosive devices and stray dogs that would dart across the darkened road without warning.

Without incident the patrol returned to their base. The leaders immediately began to write up the patrols debrief accounting for the actions of the day while Soldiers set about the various tasks that they had to accomplish before they would be released to clean up and rest. Despite the late hour the base was active with another platoon preparing to set out for their own mission and other Soldiers manning the gate and various towers for security around the camps perimeter along with those in the small command post monitoring the radios. It had been a typical day for the group. No enemy contact had been made, but they had heard about the enemy's actions in their area. They hadn't broken up any actual fights or disputes between the Arabs and the Kurds, but through their presence had let both sides know that they were monitoring the goings on and would remain involved in the situation. And finally, while not fully comprehending it or understanding its implications they had obeyed the security agreement between the United States and Iraq to the letter of the law which was crucially important in this post-June 30th fully sovereign Iraq.

Over 24 hours had passed from when their mission had begun and finally these Soldiers from B Battery, Task Force 2-82 could finally rest. But not for too long, another mission would be upon them all too soon.

73RD ANNUAL REUNION OF THE 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 10-14 JUNE 2020, LOUISVILLE, KY

The Fort Knox Area Chapter invites you to join the rest of the First Team Family in Louisville, KY for the 73d Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association from 10-14 June 2020. All Life and Associate Members are welcome to attend this special event. Gold Star Families and Widows of our members are always welcome to attend.

Please register early to assist us in coordinating the best reunion possible. Some events have limited seating available due to the size of available rooms. All members of the Association must register and pay the \$20 Registration Fee except for our Active Duty Troopers who pay \$10 to register. Early registration starts 1 November 2019 through 17 May 2020 for all members. Those sending in registrations post-marked after 17 May 2020 must pay a late registration fee of \$40. Family members attending with an Association member, Widows of 1st Cavalry Division Troopers, and Gold Star Family members that attend do not have to pay a registration fee.

NOTE: Cancellations are non-refundable after the May 15, 2020 deadline.

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

HOTEL INFORMATION

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

Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport (888) 233-9527
https://book.passkey.com/e/49951844

I do not foresee the hotel running out of rooms, however if the need arises, I have provided additional hotels for our members to consider and in walking distance to the Crowne Plaza.

La Quinta Inn and Suites (502) 368-8100
Hampton Inn (502) 366-8100
Spring Hill Suites (502) 361-9009

RV PARK INFORMATION

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

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

REUNION EVENT OVERVIEW

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

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

The Welcome Mixer will be done differently in 2020. We will be taking you to Churchill Downs for a little night racing, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and maybe a little gambling at the slot machines. Don't forget to pack your derby hat!

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE BEST PART OF THE REUNION

As always, the best part of any reunion is the people that attend. The 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion brings in Troopers from almost every era of the First Team's history. Troopers that rode horses, fought in the Pacific with MacArthur, occupied Japan, fought in Korea, or stood watch on the DMZ will

spend time with the Sky Troopers of Vietnam and the Troopers from Operation Desert Storm, Fort Hood, Bosnia, and the latest combat Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan. The equipment and terrain might be different, but the common bond of serving with America's First Team binds us together. Saddle up and ride on down to Louisville in 2020!

OFFICIAL NOTICE
ELECTION OF OFFICERS – REUNION 2020

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

The President has appointed a nominating committee to recommend Life Members of the Association for election or re-election to fill the terms of office for the following positions that become vacant as of 12 June 2020:

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

Any Life member of the Association, including an incumbent, who wishes to be considered by the nominating committee for one of these positions, should forward a letter to the Chairman, 2020 Nominating Committee, 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703, requesting consideration for nomination to the specific office. The Nominating Committee must receive all requests no later than 15 April 2020 to assure sufficient time for processing and full consideration. Requests must be accompanied by appropriate documentation that includes proof of service with the 1st Cavalry Division (e.g., a DD214 or equivalent) and a biographical sketch. The biographical sketch needs to outline the applicant's full name and provide ranks, dates of service and units assigned to in the 1st Cavalry Division. Additionally, it needs to provide the dates and positions for any offices held at National or Chapter level in the Association and similar information for any other Veteran's organizations the applicant belongs to. Any instances of special support for Association programs should also be included if applicable.

The election will be held during the General Membership meeting at the 73rd Annual Reunion of the Association on Saturday 12 June 2020 in Louisville, KY. Nominations from the floor will be accepted. A Life Member making such nomination will be expected to provide the information outlined above on the nominee and in addition provide assurance that the nominee is either present at the General Membership meeting or has agreed to accept nomination to the specified office.

Cut off date to pre-order your shirt is 15 March 2020
73rd Annual 1st Cav Assn Reunion T-shirts

Adult Sizes Only

Pre-order
YOURS today!!

- | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> S | Please indicate quantities in boxes. | \$17.95 each S-XL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> M | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> L | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> XL | (2XL & 3XL Add \$2.00) | \$19.95 each +S/H= Total |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2XL | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3XL | | |

Shipping Chart:
1 Shirt @ \$8.00
2-8 Shirts @ \$14.50
9+ @ \$20.00

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



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

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

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____

Reunion T-shirts will NOT ship prior to 01 May 2020.

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

Card Number _____
CVD# _____ Exp Date MO/YR _____
Signature _____
Please mail order form to:
Crossed Sabers Souvenir Shop
PO Box 5774, Ft Hood, TX 76544

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



This is the Louisville Slugger Souvenir that you see on your 2020 Reunion form below. You can order your 18" slugger replica on your order form for \$6.50 each. However they will not be available until the **2020 reunion**. If you place an order, you will pick up your bat along with your tickets at registration.

We're sorry, but unfortunately we will not be able to ship out any bats for any reason, to include unforeseen cancellations.

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

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

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

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

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

1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 73rd REUNION, 10-14 June 2020
Louisville Kentucky

WEDNESDAY JUNE 10
0900-1800 Registration Desk Open
0900-1800 Souvenir Shop Open
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
1200-UTC Downtown Louisville

THURSDAY JUNE 11
0800-0900 Museum Fnd Mtg
0910-1010 Foundation Mtg
0900-1800 Registration Desk Open
0900-1800 Souvenir Shop Open
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
1100-1500 Trip to Elizabethtown, KY
2000-2200 "Night at the Races"
(Welcome Mixer)

FRIDAY JUNE 12
0900-1800 Registration Desk Open
0900-1800 Souvenir Shop Open
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
0900-1100 Board of Governor's Mtg
1100-1400 Ladies Tea (Belle of Louisville)
1100-1400 War Era Luncheons
1500-UTC Downtown Louisville

SATURDAY JUNE 13
0730-0845 Purple Heart Breakfast
0900-1100 General Membership Mtg
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
0900-1600 Registration Desk Open
0900-1600 Souvenir Shop Open

SATURDAY cont'd
1100-1130 Chapter Presidents Mtg
1200-1400 Unit Luncheons
1500-1600 Veterans Benefits Briefing
1745-1845 Cocktails (Cash Bar)
1900-2230 Association Banquet

SUNDAY JUNE 14
0700-0830 Group Breakfast
0700-0830 LRRP/Ranger Breakfast
0900-1000 Memorial Service (Long Roll Muster)

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

Cancellations must be received by 5:00pm Friday, May 15, 2020 in our office (254-547-6537) for a refund. **No Refunds after May 15, 2020.** Seating at some functions is limited.

Are you a member of 1CDA	Yes	No	Registration Fee (Members):	1	\$20.00	\$_____
First Reunion?	Yes	No	Louisville Slugger Souvenir:	_____	\$6.50	\$_____
Name: _____			After May 18, 2020:	1	\$40.00	\$_____
Address: _____			Active Duty w/ID:	1	\$10.00	\$_____
City/State/Zip: _____						
Phone #: _____			<u>WEDNESDAY June 10</u>			
Email: _____			Trip #1 Downtown Louisville	_____	\$10.00	\$_____
Unit(s): #1 _____			<u>THURSDAY June 11</u>			
Year(s): #1 _____			Trip #2 Elizabethtown, KY	_____	\$20.00	\$_____
Unit(s): #2 _____			Welcome Mixer (Cash Bar)	_____	\$35.00	\$_____
Year(s): #2 _____						
			<u>FRIDAY June 12</u>			
Name of Gold Star Fam Mem: _____			War Lunch (Circle one)	_____	\$27.00	\$_____
Guest/Spouse/Other: _____			Kor V Cambodia GWOT			
#1: _____			Ladies Tea (includes lunch)	_____	\$40.00	\$_____
#2: _____			Trip #3 Downtown Louisville	_____	\$10.00	\$_____
#3: _____						
#4: _____			<u>SATURDAY June 13</u>			
#5: _____			Purple Heart Breakfast	_____	\$25.00	\$_____
#6: _____			Unit Lunch (Circle one)	_____	\$27.00	\$_____
			5C 7C 8C 9C 12C			
			W ARTY HQ LRRP ENG			
<u>Method of Payment:</u> (circle one)			Assoc Banquet (Circle one)	_____	\$48.00	\$_____
			5C 7C 8C 9C 12C			
Credit Card	Check: #_____		W ARTY HQ LRRP ENG			
			<u>SUNDAY June 14</u>			
CC#: _____			Group Breakfast	_____	\$25.00	\$_____
Exp Date: _____			LRRP Breakfast	_____	\$25.00	\$_____
CVV#: _____						
Signature: _____			Saber Renewal (\$10 per year)	_____		\$_____
			Donation			\$_____
			Grand Total			\$_____

CHAPTER NEWS UPDATES

We invite all of our Chapter Presidents, Vice Presidents 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 **Friday, 3 January 2020**. Please send to Karleen at Memberships@1CDA.org or mail to 302 N. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522, Attn: Karleen. Your Chapter Thanks you for your submission!

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER



Pictured is Connecticut Chapter October meeting. Four new members from the membership drive. Next meeting is **1-25-20** at the Manchester Ct. American Legion **1300 hundred hours**. All prospective

members invited. Contact Keith Moyer at [<kpmoyerco@hotmail.com>](mailto:kpmoyerco@hotmail.com).

CROSSED SABERS CHAPTER

The Chapter held a Stable Call on 24 October at the Association Headquarters in Copperas Cove. The weather was nasty for Texas and we had a much smaller turnout than expected but what we lacked in numbers we made up for in enthusiasm. We have elections coming up during our March 2020 meeting. All offices of the Chapter are up during this year and we have some new candidates that will be running for office and some officers that will run for reelection. If you live in the Fort Hood area and are a member of the 1st Cavalry Division Association, you



are a Chapter member as well. If you are interested in serving as a Chapter Officer get in contact with the current Chapter President. Our next Stable Call is Thurs, **Jan 23, 2020** at the Copperas Cove **VFW 8577** at **6pm**.

Another thing that our Chapter does is manage the Crossed Sabers Chapter Souvenir Shop (CSCSS) that is located in the 1st Cavalry Division Museum. We are very proud of the fact that we provide donations to the Association and the

Foundation from the proceeds from this shop and hope that you will always buy your Cav clothing and souvenirs from the CSCSS which supports your organization. If you don't live in the Fort Hood area, you can shop at the CSCSS on-line using the link on the Association web page [<www.1CDA.org>](http://www.1CDA.org). That's all for this issue - Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy Holidays to all from the Crossed Sabers Chapter. First Team! Chapter President, Tim Hodge. 254-718-4533 or [<tim@allaboutinsurancetexas.com>](mailto:tim@allaboutinsurancetexas.com).

FLORIDA CHAPTER

Hello to one and all. The Florida Chapter is still active and meets the second Tuesday of every month at 1PM. Our meetings are still being held at the VFW post 2093, 4444 Edgewater Dr., Orlando, FL. We look forward to all of our members joining us at these meetings. Best regards, Ferd Gardiner, President FL Chapter.

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

On Saturday, October 26, the New York-New Jersey Chapter held its fall meeting. A large turnout with many old friends. Many topics discussed were VA community care, VA triage and signing up for the VA health newsletter.

Congratulations to the chapter basketball team making the state semi-finals.

Chapter members will gather for the park dedication for Sal Mione that will take on place on November 16, at 11 am, on New Church Street in Rahway NJ. Sal was a Veteran and a true Patriot. He helped many Veterans and was a faithful friend to all that knew him.



Larry Mayes and Chapter President Bob Arbasetti

NORTHWEST CHAPTER

Happy Veterans Day; as we prepare for our December General Membership Meeting and Christmas Dinner on Pearl Harbor Day, December 7, 2019, I personally solicit your support to come to this very special event. We look forward in seeing you at our Christmas Dinner Party; if you have not done so already, request that you RSVP now and take a look at our delicious Christmas Dinner Menu posted on the website.

January 13, 2020 is our Executive Board meeting, 12pm, at Family Pancake House, 3900 Kitsap Way, Bremerton, WA 98312. Hope to see you there! Earnest Ryan, President

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER



Rocky Mountain Chapter in Colorado Springs, Colorado, recognizes members with the "Hard Charger Award" and presentation of an engraved saber and certificate signed by Robert Stauffacher, President, and Paul Lemieux, Vice President.

The latest member to receive the award is SGT Alan Jacobsen, Public Communications Officer for the Chapter. He served in Vietnam in 1967-68 as an M-60 machine gunner in the 1/8 Cav. SGT Jacobsen was presented his saber by Robert Stauffacher, Chapter President.

In other news, Rocky Mountain Chapter recently voted to send a regular contribution to St. Jude's Children's Hospital. The Chapter holds a monthly meeting on the second Saturday of each month, 9:00 am, at Valley Hi Golf Club, 610 South Chelton Road, Colorado Springs, CO, and always welcomes new members. For more information, please call Paul Lemieux, Vice President, at 719-687-1169.

SHERIDAN'S CHAPTER

Our esteemed member Allen Lynch (Medal of Honor recipient) was the honored guest at the Lockport, IL annual World War II reenactment. This reenactment is a two-day affair and is the second largest reenactment held in the state of Illinois held every year in September.

Members Sam Fantino, James Kasmer and Don Smolinski (Association 3rd VP) were among those members who attended the 1st Cavalry Division Reunion this past June.

Regretfully our member Mason Holmes will be leaving his position as chapter secretary as he is moving to Texas – Mason looks forward to becoming a member of the Crossed Sabers Chapter in Texas.

Next Chapter Meeting Dates: December 7 Xmas Party – February 8, 2020 meetings held at American Legion Post #1084, 322 East Maple Ave, Roselle, IL 61072. The Sheridan Chapter cordially invites anyone who served or was attached at any year with the 1st Cav to join our group.

Contact Terry Hodous POC at [<us67-hodo@outlook.com>](mailto:us67-hodo@outlook.com) or 773-445-1213 for additional information regarding attending our future events.

NEW FORMING CHAPTER

FLORIDA'S FIRST COAST

A formal application for chartering of the chapter has been submitted to the Board for approval. The Chapter will meet monthly at the American Legion Post on San Juan Ave. in Jacksonville. Officers have been elected. Inquiries will be answered at 904-534-8899.

ARE YOU IN THE AREA?

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

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

AMARILLO, TEXAS

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

SEND US YOUR CHAPTER PHOTO!

Feel free to email or send us one so it can appear in the next issue!

Send your submissions to:

Karleen at Memberships@1CDA.org or
Tina at Programs@1CDA.org

CHAPTER INDEX

**ALMOST HEAVEN
WEST VIRGINIA**
POC: Jim Hays
713 Diamond St.
P.O. Box 97
French Creek, WV 26218-0097
(304) 924-6380
Email: purplehays_05@yahoo.com
Facebook: Almost Heaven Chapter
1st Cavalry Division Association-
West Virginia

**CALIFORNIA
CENTRAL COAST**
Pres: Barney B. Jones
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COLUMBIA-WILLAMETTE
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16560 S Harding Rd.
Oregon City, OR 97045-9679
(503) 210-5558
Email: tangolima2505@comcast.net
Website: www.Hood2Hood1stCav.
webs.com
Meets 1200 2nd Thurs of ea mos at
the Bomber Restaurant, 13515 SE
McLoughlin Blvd, Portland, OR.
No meeting in Dec.

CONNECTICUT
Pres: Keith Moyer
48 Boretz Rd.
Colchester, CT 06415-1009
(860) 537-1716
Email: kpmoyerco@hotmail.com
Website: www.ConnCav.com
Facebook: CTCav
Meeting info in newsletter and on
webpage.

CROSSED SABERS
Pres: Tim Hodge
(254) 718-4533
Email: allabout_insurance@sbcglob-
al.com
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division
Association Crossed Saber Chapter
Board meeting is the 4th Tues of the
mos (except Dec), 11:30 at 1CDA
HQ at 302 N. Main St. Copperas
Cove, TX. Open to everyone.
General Membership meeting is 3rd
Thurs of Mar & Sept at 6pm, place
TBD.

FLORIDA
Pres: Ferd Gardiner Jr.
2290 W Tall Oaks Dr.
Beverly Hills, FL 34465
(407)-473-8407
Email: fgardiner@cfl.rr.com
VP: Gill Harris
(585) 704-2758
Facebook: Florida Chapter 1st
Cavalry Division Association
Meets 1300 2nd Tues of ea mos at
VFW Post 2093, 4444 Edgewater
Dr, Orlando

**FLORIDA TROOP E
“BLACK HAT”**
Pres: Juan Kellog
607 SE 47th St., Apt. 7
Cape Coral, FL 33904-5506
Email: juankellog@embarqmail.
com
POC: Johnnie Robertson
2641 Ashwood St.
Fort Myers, FL 33901-0910
(239) 265-1509
Website: www.seahog.org/cav/
index.html
Meets 4th Sat ea mos from Sept.-
May 1:00 pm at Biggys Place, 3701
Fowler St., Fort Myers, FL 33901

FOLLOW ME
Pres: Robert Dodson
Meets 1900 4th Tues ea mos
Veterans Ctr., 1000 Victory Dr.,
Columbus, GA. No meeting in
December.

FORT KNOX AREA
Pres: Thomas Ken O’Barr
12210 Valley Dr.
Goshen, KY 40026-9501
(502) 228-8032
Email: ko42@bellsouth.net
POC: Larry A. Whelan
2103 Winston Ave.
Louisville, KY 40205-2535
(502) 439-6454
Email: whelan1@outlook.com
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Div Fort
Knox Area Chapter
Meets 3rd Sat of mos at 1100 at the
Barker Masonic Lodge, 705 Main
St., West Point, KY.

**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 on 1st Tuesday of odd number
months at 6pm, at the 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 1-8 Cav
Pres: Harvey Auger
4825 King Arthur Dr
Charlotte, NC 28277-0052
(704) 321-2011
E-mail: ltauger@aol.com
POC: James C. Knafel
5510E - 500 South
Columbia City, IN 46725-7621
(260) 244-3864
Email: jjknafel@gmail.com
Website: www.JumpingMustangs.
com

KETTLE MORaine
Pres: Gordon Weidner
1219 Cleveland Ave.
Racine, WI 53405-2929
(262) 637-3835
POC: Robert Richter
W204 N11945 Goldendale Rd.
Germantown, WI 53022-2321
(262) 628-8056
Meetings held at 3-month intervals
with a banquet dinner in Dec when
elections are held.

**LOS ANGELES/
ORANGE COUNTY**
Pres: John Guillory
780 Mandevilla Way
Corona, CA 92879-8251
(951) 278-3740
Email: fisheye1@sbcglobal.net
Vice Pres: John Burgner
228 South Hacienda St.
Anaheim, CA 92804-2569
(714) 535-0737
Email: jburgner@sbcglobal.net
Meets 0900 on 3rd Sat. of mo. at
American Legion Post 132, 143 S
Lemon St., Orange CA 92866



**LRRP/RANGER of the 1st Cav
Division during the Vietnam War**
Pres: Robert J. Raab Sr.
725 Tuttle
Mason, MI 48854
(517) 525-0747
Email: RJBarsr@yahoo.com
Website: www.lrrprangers.com
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unions.

NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY
Pres: Bob Arbasetti
973A Thornbury Ln.
Manchester, NJ 08759-5296
(732) 657-4284
Email: b.arbasetti@gmail.com
Facebook: New York New Jersey
Cavalry
Instagram: NYNJcavalry
Meets at Elk Lodge at Cedar and
Spruce, Ridgefield Park, NJ.

**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.

NORTHWEST
Pres: Earnest Ryan
112 17th St.
Bremerton, WA 98312-2623
(360) 602-9712
Email: ryans0920@comcast.net
POC: William Al Jackson
9703 Vantage Terrace CT SE
Olympia, WA 98513
(360) 539-8110
Email: williamaljackson@comcast.
net
For meeting info contact William
Jackson.
Looking for new leaders to run this
Chapter.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
Pres: Robert Stauffacher
18355 Drennan Rd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80928-9308
(719) 683-2837
POC: Paul Lemieux
PO Box 6548
Woodland Park, CO 80866-6548
(719) 687-1169
Email: lemieuxpe@live.com
Meets 9am 2nd Sat of mos at Valley Hi
Country Club, 610 South Chelton Road,
Colorado Springs, CO.

**SHERIDAN’S CAVALRY
(Greater Chicago Area)**
Pres: Don Smolinski 630-841-1452
POC: Terry Hodous
3718 W 114th Place
Chicago, IL 60655-3414
(773) 445-1213
Email: us67-hodo@outlook.com
Website: www.sheridansfirstcav.com
Facebook: Sheridan’s Chapter 1st
Cavalry Division
Meets at the American Legion Post
#1084, 322 E. Maple Ave, Roselle,
IL 61072.
2019 Meeting Dates: Feb 9, April
13, June 15, Aug 10 Picnic, Oct 12,
Dec 7 Xmas party

**WALTER H. WESTMAN
NORTHLAND**
Pres: Donald A. Delsing
3697 Gresham Ave. N.
Oakdale, MN 55128-3212
(651) 770-5422
Email: dandmdelsing@aol.com
POC: James D. Wright
12781 Able St. NE
Blaine, MN 55434-3261
(763) 757-7140
Email: 1stCav-MN@comcast.net
Facebook: Walter H West-
man-Northland Chapter 1st Cavalry
Division Association
Meets quarterly at different loca-
tions. Call or write for information.

**WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON
NATIONAL CAPITOL REGION**
Pres: Gene Russell
7923 Jansen Dr.
Springfield, VA 22152-2413
(703) 220-5322
Email: enrussell@msn.com
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division
Nat’l Capitol Region
Meets 3rd Sat of the mos Jan-Apr
and Sep-Oct 9am at the American
Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst
Ave, Springfield, VA. Breakfast
available prior to start of mtg. Jun
meeting is at WRAMC and Nov
meeting at the Assn Vets Day
gathering.

CROSSED SABERS CHAPTER SOUVENIR GIFT SHOP

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

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SAVE THE DATE!

Plan now to attend the 73rd Annual Reunion of the
1st Cavalry Division Association from 10-14 June 2019
in Louisville, Kentucky.

Details and registration form are on
pages 12 and 13 of this issue of *Saber*,

or for your convenience register online at www.1CDA.org!

From the
Director's Desk

Office of 1CDA

WE SUPPORT

UNITED STATES ARMY

SOLDIER FOR LIFE

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

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

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

The next *Saber* newspaper is the
January/February 2020 edition.

Deadline for submissions of your stories or photos is
Friday, 3 January 2020

Please email to Programs@1CDA.org

To all of our 1CDA Members,

May you all have a happy Holiday Season filled
with good health, happiness, and prosperity
throughout the New Year!

The 1CDA Staff:
Dara Wydler, Karleen Maloney, Tina Wilgeroth

HONOR ROLL

We greatly appreciate your overwhelming HONOR ROLL donations, located on pg 23. Due to lack of space we were unable to place the editor notes.

Honor Roll Editor Notes:

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

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

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

1st Cavalry Division Association Historian

The Association wishes to fill this volunteer position ASAP.
Deadline by Feb. 29, 2020

REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS:

- Must have served with the 1st Cavalry Division and must be a Life Member of the 1st Cavalry Division Association.
- Must submit 1st Cavalry Division related article for the *Saber* every other month (6/year). Topic is your choice. Submissions must be typed and sent via email. Photos are allowed. Deadlines will be provided.
- Be able to answer 1st Cavalry historical questions from our members; phone calls or email, your preference.

Anyone interested in filling this position should call the office at 254-547-6537 or email Tina at <Programs@1CDA.org>.

Thank you for your consideration!

2020 CALENDAR DONATIONS

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

Contributions made between 18 Sept - 31 Oct 2019

SFC (RET) ANDERSON, R.T.	\$100
LTG (RET) BOLGER, Daniel P.	\$1,000
SP-5 BONN, Henry L.	\$200
SSG BURCH, Charles	\$100
SP-4 ELSASSER, Robert	\$100
SP-5 JOHNSON, Deane L.	\$100
COL (RET) KNIGHT, Lee F.	\$100
1LT SALVUCCI, Joseph L.	\$100
MSG SCHRODER, Richard	\$100
PFC STEPHENS, William M.	\$100

Hope you are enjoying your 2020 calendar!
Calendar donations keep this program operational.
Without your donations we are unable to continue this program.

Thank you to all our members that support this program!

USEFUL 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION LINKS:

- <https://home.army.mil/hood>
- [Facebook.com/1stCavDiv/](https://www.facebook.com/1stCavDiv/)
- [Facebook.com/1stCavalryDivisionHorseCavalry Detachment](https://www.facebook.com/1stCavalryDivisionHorseCavalryDetachment)
- [Flickr.com/photos/1st-cav-div/albums](https://www.flickr.com/photos/1st-cav-div/albums)
(Photos taken by 1CD Public Affairs Office, updated after each major event.) So keep checking back!

If you like to see what is going on within the Division, we highly recommend following them on Facebook.

[Facebook.com/1stCavDiv/](https://www.facebook.com/1stCavDiv/)

The site is run by the 1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs Office & Diligent Representatives. ALL information on this site has been cleared of any Operational Security issues and is fit for public dissemination.

VIETNAM T-shirts are still AVAILABLE! \$23

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Vietnam Shirt Front

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MBodnar27@Gmail.Com
www.15thMedBnAssociation.org



I received an email from **Joel Chase** who said he was a platoon leader in D Co 1-5 Cav. On 14 Jun 70 he was on perimeter guard at FSB David in Cambodia. The NVA sent a reinforced company to attack

David and left behind twenty-six dead with no U.S. KIA. Joel said he was the worst of the U.S. WIA. You can read about the attack on their website: <<https://echorecon.com/sunday-june-14th-1970/>>.



FSB David Cambodia
YU346653 12.21'N 107.8'47"E.

them with plastic and more sandbags. The hole was maybe ten by twelve feet. My head medic, an E5 named Rick Fortune, and I had cots in the Aid Station. A couple of other medics had built a 'hootch' out of corrugated culvert raised up on sandbags which abutted one corner of the Aid Station.

"I had just gotten orders for my R&R and planned to hitch a ride to the rear area on June 13th to call my wife to make reservations for Hawaii. I never got off FSB David because the weather on June 13, 1970 was so bad that no one was flying.

"For some reason neither Rick nor I were sleeping well that night. Around 2:30 am we heard an explosion followed by M16 fire coming from what seemed like the northeast perimeter of the base. We were immediately up, and it seemed then that all hell broke loose. Some of my medics came down to the Aid Station. I was standing near the opening where the hootch abutted the Aid Station when there was an explosion right outside that knocked me across the Aid Station and onto the floor. We assumed it was a grenade and that another one would soon be lobbed into our hole. That didn't happen so I eventually stood up and shined my flashlight into the hootch fully expecting to be shot. What I discovered was that an RPG had landed at the other end of the hootch and the hootch directed the concussion into the Aid Station where I was standing. Around that same time, we began hearing calls for 'Medic!' "I was ready to go out when cool-headed Rick Fortune told me to stay put. I was the only doctor on the base and he and the other medics needed to know where I would be.

"Shortly thereafter I started receiving the wounded. It was chaos, the ground was muddy, and it was still raining. We were next to a mortar pit so as they unwrapped the plastic from their ammo, they would throw it over to us for use as covers.

"I quickly assessed each Soldier and tried to determine the extent of the injuries and what could be done. My supplies were meager...Kling wrap, Ace bandages, gauze, Vaseline gauze, sterile saline and syrettes of morphine (imagine a small tube of toothpaste with a needle attached. You put the needle in the patient then squeeze the morphine out of the tube).

"Certain injuries remain in my memory: a SGT who was shot in the thigh with an AK-47, the entry wound was small but the exit wound in the back of his leg was huge. I packed it with gauze and wrapped it tightly with an ace wrap which seemed to control the bleeding; a Soldier with a pneumothorax (collapsed lung) and all I had to plug the wounds was Vaseline gauze (maybe LT Chase?); a Soldier with multiple shrapnel wounds on his chest and face who was awake and looked at me when I spoke but didn't respond; a Soldier who didn't look too bad initially but had a massive scalp wound on the back of his head. I cleaned it with saline then replaced the skin flap and wrapped his head with Kling holding the flap in place. There were numerous broken bones and lacerations. We splinted what we could and dressed the wounds but didn't have the time or the supplies to suture.

"All told we had thirty-three wounded Soldiers for about three to four hours. We had no air support because of the weather and no way to evacuate anyone. When the weather cleared a little around 6 am the first chopper in was a Huey MEDEVAC chopper. I tried to evacuate the most serious on it and was able to get nine men (as I recall) out. Shortly thereafter I got word that a Chinook had just delivered artillery ammo to the other side of the base and was coming over to evacuate the wounded. They settled down just outside the perimeter and I was able to get everyone else on board. So, within five minutes we went from thirty-three wounded to none.

"As I gradually came back to reality, I didn't fully comprehend what had just happened. I was relieved but other emotions just swirled. I still remember blood just running in rivulets across the ground. I eventually went for a walk with Rick Fortune and viewed at least twenty-eight enemy bodies outside the perimeter, many of them just blown apart. We thought we heard an AK-47 near the Aid Station at one point and, indeed, found spent AK shells on the ground. I assume that the shooter was on the roof of the Aid Station. Was he the one who was shot?

"I later found out that Rick Fortune went out without his 'steel pot' to identify him as American. The sergeant major (whose name I can't recall but would like to know) told me that he had Rick in his sights but recognized him at the last minute and didn't shoot.

"We didn't lose any GIs at the base and I subsequently learned that all survived.

The 1-5 Cav Battalion Surgeon then, Jon G. Walker, says: "On June 14, 1970, I, Jon G Walker, was CPT, Medical Corps, U.S. Army and I was the Battalion Surgeon of the 1-5 Battalion of the 1st Cavalry Division. At FSB David my Aid Station was located near the woods on the southeast perimeter and consisted of a partially below grade hole dug by backhoes. My medics and I gained enough vertical height to stand by creating pillars of sandbags on the edges of the hole and laying logs across the pillars. We then laid PSP strips on top of the logs, covered



FSB David MEDEVAC low approach

I'm especially pleased to know that. I eventually got a Bronze Star with a V, which was certainly, a novelty at my next assignment in the Out-Patient Clinic at Fort Gordon, GA.

"And, that's my story. I haven't been able to find my name anywhere in the records but occasionally look. Again, I was the only doctor on FSB David on that infamous day. I left the Army in the fall of 1971, specialized in Urology and am now retired after practicing in Lancaster, PA, for over thirty years. Jon G. Walker, MD."

Mike Crutcher, E 1-5 Cav CO, responded that the sergeant major then was CSM Bell. The doctor followed up with: "CSM Bell...that's right. I really liked and related to him. As an MD in an infantry outfit I always felt out of place. He would go out of his place to talk to me!"

Joel Chase apparently, indeed, was the Soldier with the collapsed lung. He says, "The first shot fired on David on 14 June came from an M16. A trip went off and a guard on a bunker in my sector took a shot when he thought he saw movement in our wire. There was no return fire, but I was convinced we were in for trouble. A thirty-minute visual search produced no results, and everyone wanted to pack it up. Mortar and trip flares thrown simply created eerie glows in the fog. Then, a guy standing next to me said; '2-6 what is that?' and pointed about thirty feet out. I was sighting down his arm when a burst of AK-47 fire erupted. The sapper was inside our wire and he decided to drill me a new 'innie', but the rounds skimmed off the berm and grazed the top of my head.

"Then all hell broke loose with red and green tracers piercing the darkness. I jumped on the horn to the mortar guys and requested they begin their preplanned fires in the ravine and walk them up the ridge. Then I called Bill Vowell and gave him a sit-rep when a chi-com frag rolled up next to me with the fuse sparkling. It went off right in my face with a flash of light and pop. The pain was tremendous.

"I tried to get up and run but couldn't see nor hear. My legs had multiple shrapnel wounds and collapsed, so I attempted to crawl, but my right elbow was pulverized and simply flapped around, so I slithered like a snake until I found some sandbags for a little cover. It was of little use as I got hit several more times by either B-40 or mortar shrapnel.

"While I didn't know it at the time, I took three pieces of shrapnel to my heart (two of which are still there) and one piece got pumped into the brachial artery of my arm. Additionally, my right lung was punctured, my liver was lacerated, kidney cut up, and my eyes were perforated. But I made it somehow and have led a relatively normal life with just one eye. The Army decided they didn't require my services any longer and retired me at one hundred percent disability.

"So, there you have the true story of how the battle for FSB David started. Those who fought did so heroically and professionally." It's important to note that during that attack the defenders had no external artillery nor air support, because of their location and weather conditions.



Gully ravine by FSB David near O Rang, Cambodia 1970

J.D. Coleman in his book *In-cursion* says that the 1st Cav 1st Brigade had turned over its AO in Tay Ninh to the 25th ID and moved with two battalions into the O Rang area, which was due north of the II Corps-III Corps boundary. "In mid-June the 5th VC Division sent a couple of its 174th Regiment on a mission of death directed against FSB David, the command post for Bob Kingston and his 1st Brigade headquarters. Fortwo hours the NVA had a go at David, but found that a 1st Cav firebase, even in Cambodia,

was too tough a nut to crack. The NVA lost twenty-eight men; the cost to the Americans was twelve wounded."

It sounds to me that Joel Chase, being the worst of the wounded, should have gone out on the MEDEVAC that got in at 6 am. That's what MEDEVAC was for, to take out the most urgent first. But I wasn't there and don't know what exactly transpired. Fortunately, all the wounded survived.

Rethinking what I've read, Joel could have gone out on the MEDEVAC. But, he writes, "When the hook delivered much needed mortar ammo, I was loaded on board for a ride to FSB Buttons. I was totally out of it but have learned that the hook landed on the Huey pad and blew their tents all to hell. Nobody seems to know who the hook crew was because they probably came from Quan Loi." If he was totally out of it, as he says, he may not have remembered if he was on a Huey or Chinook.

My MEDEVAC crew went up to FSB David every day when it was first built and parked it until we were called. I've included photos that I took with my Instamatic of FSB David from the air and on the ground beyond the berm. You can see the lushness of the area and the ravines the NVA used to infiltrate. Color versions are better and can be viewed on my webpage: <<http://mbodnar27.tripod.com/15.html>>.

I remember on one occasion, probably tired of just sitting there, we took off and burned some fuel on call in the air. I think I remember the pilot was Ray Zepp. Mr. Zepp was monitoring the radio and had it on the intercom. We picked up on a grunt unit getting into a firefight. The screaming and yelling was gruesome. I think that was B 5-7 Cav at Shakey's Hill, which was 23 May 70. I don't recall going in when they needed a MEDEVAC, but we would have if called, as any other MEDEVAC would when the time came. Unfortunately, I don't remember many of our pickups. There were dozens of them, they say you only seem to remember what was most traumatic.

Joel Chase wrote, "Several years ago a member of that 15th MED Bn Assn

Continued to pg. 19



Enemy infiltration opportunity gully ravine leading up to FSB David

20th and 79th Artillery Regiment News



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



Well, friends, hopefully I'm back on schedule with the articles. As I sit here listening to the wonderful rainfall which we so needed from this hot dry summer, I am tuned into the local TV weather channel because we are under a tornado watch with winds gusting to 78 mph! The ground is so dry that the water is once again running off quickly and flooding our creeks and streams. It is either feast or famine! Welcome to our new weather system.

Not much news in the mail bag these past few months, but I do want to report on the 2019 reunion held at the Handlery Hotel in San Diego in September. The staff and management made us feel very special and welcomed us with great enthusiasm! They even put down the red carpet for us artillery folks. We had a great reunion and enjoyed all the sites we could take in while there. We had a delightful group attending this year, and I noticed more family members. The younger generation added a depth of conversation to our sharing of memories which included their view on how it was while we were in Vietnam. Even the grandchildren present seem to relate to what we were all about and paid attention to the words of Joe Galloway and Marvin Wolf, our guest speakers. Their mutual remarks were that they did not realize all the things we did and what went on during those years of the 1960s. Why? Because it was not mentioned in schools as part of their history studies!



We did create some more memories while there. A group of over seventy members made it to the Casa Guadalajara Restaurant our first night for an outdoor Mexican fiesta. They seated us for a private patio dinner under one of the largest trees in Old Town, San Diego, with their mariachi band providing special music. There was enough food on each plate to serve two or three individuals. We came back to the air conditioned Handlery Hotel where we could rest, digest our food, and hear Marvin Wolf speak about his time with the 1st Cav Div. It was a good evening!

The next morning, we toured California's official Air and Space Museum, the San Diego Air and Space Museum in Balboa Park where we saw a collection of historic aircraft and spacecraft from all over the world; including a flyable replica of Lindbergh's Spirit of St. Louis (top), the Apollo 10 Command Module spacecraft (left), and (below) a spacesuit where individuals could stand inside the suit for a photo op, especially for "Astronaut" Wilder and his wife, Patti.

After a couple hours at the museum, we traveled to the Harbor House Restaurant for a waterfront lunch. We were able to view numerous naval ships coming and going through San Diego Bay. The Ladies took advantage of the Seaport Village to shop and look for some souvenirs. Next, we took a relaxing bus tour around the downtown area and then returned to the hotel. All-in-all, it was a great day and we talked a lot about the interesting people we met at the Air and Space Museum. One of the docents was a gentleman who was the lead engineer on the electronics on the spacecraft.

On Friday, we toured the USS Midway Museum, a historical naval aircraft carrier museum located in downtown San Diego at Navy Pier. The carrier was the United States longest serving aircraft carrier of the 20th century, from 1945 to 1992. Since I was not able to walk the tour this time, I sat with the docent at the information booth and heard many stories of the Midway. He came on active duty in 1959 and served his entire navy career time at sea on the Midway. One could see the pride in his eyes and hear it in his voice as he told visitors about "his" ship!

A visit to the Midway requires a photo of the famous launching routine (above) with the mannequin in full deck gear. And before departure one must go to the grounds and see the famous statue of the U.S. Navy sailor kissing the nurse (right)!

After the tour of the Midway, we did a two-hour harbor cruise with a box lunch. The weather was perfect, and the waterways were active with ships of all descriptions going and coming. Another beautiful day!

We were blessed with a special attraction! Joe Galloway was sent, by his boss in the Office of the Secretary of Defense in charge of the Vietnam War 50th Commemoration

project, to San Diego with a video team to conduct four or five interviews per day for the duration of our reunion. The video interview copies will go the Library of Congressional history archives and used on the Commemoration website. I was one of 18 Veterans interviewed by Joe Galloway that week, with mine being on Saturday morning. The hour-long interview was very meaningful to me as I have been recording written documentation of my time in Vietnam as part of a book I am doing for my grandchildren. Many of Joe's questions had to do with feelings and reactions to various situations and conditions that were prevalent at that time. Some included race relations during the tour and treatment by citizens upon return to the states. I went away feeling that I had contributed to the history of the Vietnam War in a positive manner.

The historian, Marc Henderson, on the team with Joe, was very helpful in scheduling the interviews and helping us prepare. He made it a pleasant experience and Joe was excellent in his interview technique and delivery. I wish every Veteran could be a part of the Vietnam War 50th Commemoration and document their experiences and memories of their time in Vietnam.

We were treated to one of Joe Galloway's inspiring presentations at our farewell banquet. He made us feel proud for having been one of those who fought in Vietnam and we all left the hall a better person by being affirmed by Joe for what the helicopter units did to protect the Soldiers on the ground. *We made a difference!*

On Saturday morning at the business meetings, we selected the site for our 2020 reunion. It will be held in Savannah, GA with hosts Jerry and Ann Hipp. The location will be the Holiday Inn Express at 199 East Bay Street and the dates are Monday, August 31, 2020 to Friday, September 4, 2020. This change from Wednesday to Sunday was made to avoid the higher weekend rates. We have 30 rooms blocked for our ARA Reunion for base rate \$119.00, subject to the prevailing city and state taxes which are currently 13% plus \$6.00 city occupancy fee and are subject to change without prior notification.

Our reunion farewell banquet will be held Thursday evening at Vic's on the River on Bay Street across the street from our hotel and is within walking distance. A review has this to say. "Locals and tourists alike flock to this historic district eatery where innovative southern fare is offered inside a nostalgic antebellum warehouse setting complete with knock your socks off river views," "friendly yet professional service and daily live music add to the comfortable atmosphere." Please Google Vic's on the River and look at the beautiful setting!

Please start your planning for our 2020 Reunion in Savannah. I just spoke with Jerry and Ann by phone and they are excited about the opportunity to be our hosts and to show us their beautiful city! More information about daily activities, tours, and sites will be forth coming in future *Saber* articles. I hope you all had a Happy Thanksgiving and I wish for you a Blessed Christmas! See you in Savannah!

"This is Armed Falcon 28 Delta, breaking right!"

7th CAV NEWS

Continued from pg. 7

SGT Mione was well known throughout the State of NJ for serving and volunteering on many Veteran organizations and committees, including: The NJ State Council of Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) where he served as past president. He was a founding committee member of the NJ Vietnam Veterans Memorial of New Jersey in Holmdel, NJ. He was also a member of the New York/New Jersey First Cavalry Association and Chapter 779 Vietnam Veteran Association of Kenilworth, the American Legion Post #5, Rahway, The Catholic War Veterans, Rahway Honorary P.B.A and Rahway Council #1146 Knights of Columbus. Sal lost his brother who was killed in action in Vietnam in 1969.

Sal died in March of 2017. For his service to his community and the Veterans of New Jersey the city of Rahway named a park for him. The City Council approved a resolution dedicating a passive park on New Church Street as Salvatore M. Mione Park. The governing body presented the resolution to Mione's extended family. Rest easy Sal, your time is completed.

As is usually the case, members of the 7th Cavalry are again leading the way. Thanks to **SGT Daniel Guerrero** of the 1st ABCT, 3rd ID for this piece. Soldiers from 5-7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division concluded their Troop live fire with the first ever tube-launched, optically tracked, wireless-guided missiles fired on Fort Stewart Oct 9.

The prior variant of the TOW missile used a wire to guide and track the missile to its target. The wire was attached to the missile and would eventually detach as the projectile impacted or reaches its limits. Now, the new variant does not need the wire to track and guide the missile to its intended target. It uses an antenna that is attached to the projectile that receives data via radio frequency.

"The increased reliability is the main advantage of the TOW," said SFC William Wilder, 1ABCT's brigade master gunner. "The chances that obstacles, such as bodies of water or foliage in the missile's path, could break or interfere with the wire are eliminated by removing it completely." The wireless TOW is just as lethal and accurate as the original variant, and is extremely lethal from ground-firing platforms, to include 5-7 Cav's Bradley Fighting Vehicle Systems.

"The big piece here realizing the full potential of their Bradley platforms," said LTC Adam Latham, commander of 5-7 Cav. "During gunnery train-up, they simulate TOW missiles, but this gives them experience for utilizing the missile, and now that it is no longer wire guided it gives them an appreciation for the new capacity that it provides their Bradley Fighting vehicles, and cultivates the lethal mind set."

Although the Soldiers of 5-7 Cav are extremely well trained and ready, a large portion of their formations have not fired this munition before. However, this wasn't a problem for SPC Andrew Spencer, a gunner with Troop B, 5-7 Cav. "If you remember your training prior to gunnery, you will have no problems," said Spencer. "This is my first time shooting a TOW, I hit the target and it made me feel accomplished because I was the first one to shoot, so I made my Troop proud as well as made my mark in 5-7 Cav history."

The Soldiers of 5-7 Cav, also known as the Warpaint Squadron, are continuing to train and hone their skills with this new equipment as they maintain their readiness to answer the call and go where they are needed.

This is my time to wish each of you the very best of holidays and the happiest of New Years. I'll not have the opportunity to talk with you again before we see 2020 emerge. This has been a difficult year for many of us, yet because of our Cavalry family, some of those difficult times have been ameliorated. I am so thankful that I have remained in touch with my "brothers in arms," they have been so instrumental in helping me heal. I have to thank the members of Echo Company, 1/7, for being there when I needed you. May I always be blessed with friends as good as these. And I cannot forget all of you in the 7th Cavalry who have given me your friendship over the years. May you all reap blessings in this coming year.



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SEEKING INDIVIDUALS WHO SERVED IN THE MILITARY!

We invite you to participate in a study focusing on your health behaviors and life experiences as a Veteran. The goal of the Health for Every Veteran Study is to better understand the experiences of Veterans from all backgrounds and promote their health and well-being. We are interested in hearing the diverse voices within our communities. The study is being conducted by researchers at the VA Puget Sound Health Care System. It consists of completing a confidential, web-based questionnaire every 9 months for approximately 2 years (for a total of 4 questionnaires). All research activities are completed online, with no in-person visits required. For more information, please go to <<https://healthforeveryvet.questionpro.com>>.

15th MED NEWS Continued from pg. 17

contacted me and invited me to their reunion. I said no but after some thought I decided to attend to show those incredible people that some of us survived. While I have not been able to discover the pilots or crew who evaced me, perhaps nobody wants to accept the blame for doing so. After attending two reunions of the 15th MED Bn Assn, let me say that it was a humbling experience just being in the same room with those true heroes. They are the real deal. Thank you 15th MED Bn”

I wasn’t able, yet, to find out who knew about Joel, and who invited him to the 15 MED Assn Reunion. As he stated, he doesn’t know who MEDEVACed him, but according to him, he went out on the hook. It would still be nice to know what MEDEVAC crew did get into FSB David at 6 am on 14 Jun 70.

Always remembering our 1st Cav Troops on duty around the world; over and out. FIRST TEAM! Garryowen, Mike Bodnar C 2/7 Cav 1969 MEDEVAC 1-7/1970, SO THAT OTHERS MAY LIVE

THE DOCTOR'S REPORT

COL (Ret) James Noel SSG (Ret) Jonathan Shockley

HHC 1-5 Cav, 1990 HHC 1-5 Cav, 1988-1992 (Doc Shock)

JNoel2@live.com Jsho941055@aol.com

As we are in the neighborhood of Veteran’s Day, I thought it might be a good time to readdress Gulf War related health problems. I will review the latest published information from recent medical journals to categorize what is accepted as Gulf War related illness and how to achieve an evaluation for suspected health concerns.

During the first Gulf War, approximately 700,000 Soldiers deployed to the Middle East. The published medical articles indicate 25-30% of Gulf War Veterans are diagnosed with a Gulf War illness. According to The Centers for Disease Control this results in 175,000 to 250,000 patients. The symptoms experienced by these Soldiers include pain, headaches, problems with memory and thinking, chronic fatigue, skin problems, and breathing problems. Gulf War Veterans have poorer health and are aging at an accelerated rate when compared to the non-deployed service members serving during the same period.

Why has this occurred? During the first Gulf War, Soldiers were exposed to pesticides, chemical weapons (Sarin and Cyclosarin), and toxins from oil well fires, all of which have been shown to be toxic to the nervous system. Interestingly alcohol abuse, post – traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, and depression rates are lower in Gulf War 1 Soldiers than in the subsequent Gulf War Veterans, or in Vietnam War Veterans. The imaging studies of the brain in Gulf War 1 Veterans show similar changes to civilians with similar chemical exposures. In large population comparative studies fibromyalgia, skin conditions, and chronic lung disease are increased when compared to age matched non-deployed populations.

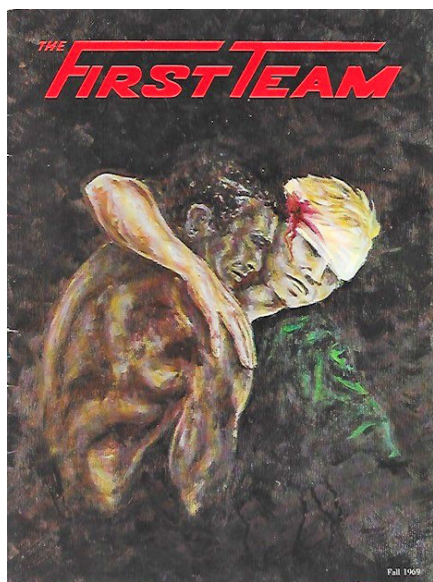
If we have signs or symptoms of a possible Gulf War related illness, what should we do? First, one should contact the Veteran’s Administration Hospital and arrange for a Gulf War Registry health examination. Second, record the symptoms you are concerned might be related to Gulf War deployment, the date of onset and how they affect your life. Third, if you are experiencing memory problems consider taking Coenzyme Q-10 as a supplement. This supplement has been shown in one study to improve mentation and reduce fatigue symptoms. I have references available for the above information on request.

ENGINEER News



Jesse Crimm
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Jacksonville, FL 32207-6241
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TheCrimms@Gmail.Com

Why Me? Well, it finally happened. After all the catty and snarky remarks I made to others over the years about saving files, my original Nov/Dec 2019 Engineer News file vanished from Word without a trace. A loose finger tap? My wife? A worm or whatever they call it from the last porno site visited? I have rummaged and fiddled around for an hour or so and now must restart from memory. So, for anybody that I have talked to in the past month, don't pee in your pants if your name ain't here. Let's see. There was **Dean Kontover** who wanted the 70th and 84th Engineer Bn crests displayed. Ok. Got those saved in iPhoto. As to which one is which that is another frustration. Seems like the newest Apple iPhoto won't let you label things inside iPhoto itself. So, Dean here they are in some order you will remember.



Ok, now it comes back to me in part. **Melvin Blackford**, down in Bartow, Florida went into the safety deposit vault at the bank on the corner and retrieved his original First Team magazine and trusted the USPS to get it to me for copying. He paid a bunch of money to ensure its delivery so what could I do except copy the Engineer section and return the original to him in the same manner? If you've a hankering for other sections of the magazine, call Melvin at 863-640-5668. If he doesn't answer the phone right away, he's gone to his hunting lodge up in Georgia looking for another shot at hogzilla. Yes, for you folks in Vermont, hogzilla is spelled correctly especially if you know what you're talking about and live in that neck of the woods. And just in case you're still wondering, here's a picture to make the hunter in you drool.



Now, where was I? The Florida/Auburn game? No. By the time this gets to you even Florida/Georgia will be over. Let's try this as an honor roll of sorts. Here are the people that contacted this column in 2012. If you're still kicking, it won't hurt to say hello again. Claude Parker, Rich Estes, Steve Richey, Tom Kjos, Mike Miller, Leo Miller, Scott Smith, Robert Tagge, Bill Tew, Richard Kolb, Bill Arasz, Bob Drenth, Gary Diers, Chuck Larson, Al Capuano, Rick VanDeirzen, possibly somebody just signed as Rick, Lynn Titus, Mike Schwering, R. Henderson, Joe Wagel, (and BTW here is the picture Joe sent that never got published of his beloved dozer), Scott Smith, CSM Sam Sparger, John Newell, Claude Parker, Bill Conley, Jack Morrison, Frank Walter, Frank Sealey (AKA badrass), Jim Bowers, Richard Estes, Ed Gaines, Edward Cadwallader, and David Ciosek. Here is a picture to jog your memories.



Need A Side of Beef? If so, contact **Robert Wellmaker** over in Mt. Vernon, IL. He doesn't have any row crops, that's beans and corn for you folks in NY, but he's got a bunch of steers out in his pastures. Robert is still looking for **Glen Padgett** who was last seen in Mt. Vernon, IN just over the state line from IL. Robert did a bunch of work for B 1/7 and goes to their reunions where he and

Dave Chandler, Joe Persaud, and Bob Kohn share their stories and lives. You can get Robert at 618-246-8747 or look for him at the Kentucky Reunion in 2020.

Also, in Memory of SSG Buchannan: **Richard Esquivel** sent this memory. "SGT Buchannan was my squad leader in 1970. I was in A Co, 2nd Platoon. I arrived in March 1970 and I served with him until his DROS in August. His 1LT was Jeffrey Mitchell. I was his demo man beginning sometime in April. He and I received the Air Medal w/V in Cambodia. We had to rappel through triple canopy jungle at Salties Cache.

Another mission was blowing (up) the Ho Chi Mien trail in Cambodia. We had a team of six. We had to hump 9 – 43lb cratering charges up a mountain. The support infantry unit would not relieve us. The unit was mad they had to carry 4 of the charges up the mountain. This was supposed to be a one-day mission; which expanded into three days. We slid approximately 100+ meters of the trail down the side of this mountain.

SGT and I found each other sometime in the late 90s. We had many great conversations. We talked about other Soldiers in our squad. He was extremely proud of our accomplishments and duty. On more than one occasion, SGT Buchannan was proud of his service. He was most proud that he didn't lose a man under his guidance. I have several pictures of our squad members. I also have some pictures of our AO. I can say that SGT Buchannan cared greatly about his men. I learned more about this man through our phone calls. He will be missed."

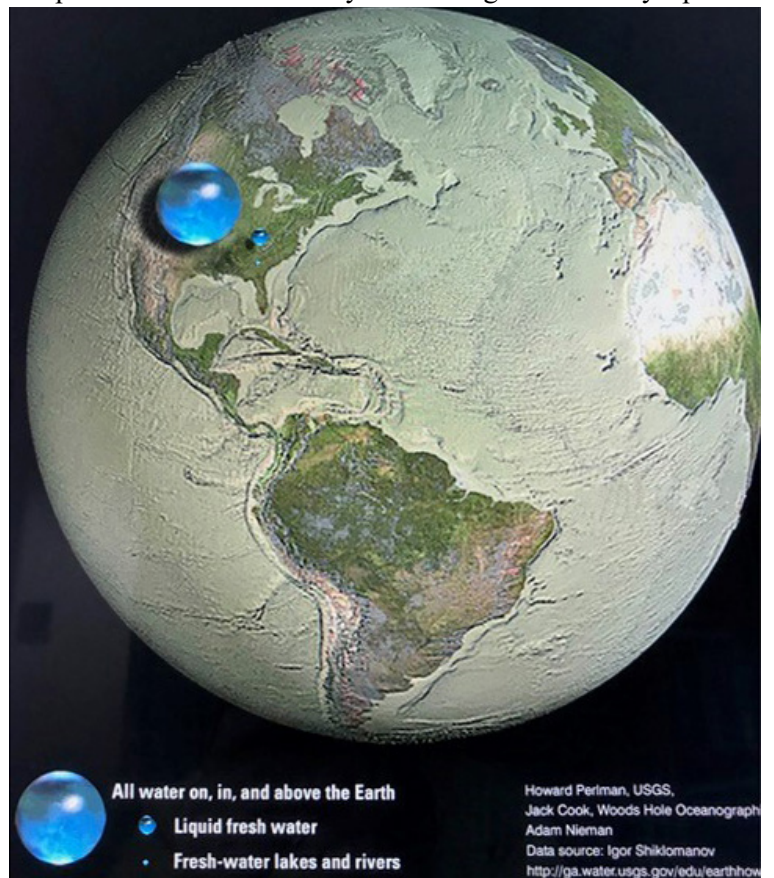
Joe Fleming Looking for Dan Gilotti: I was on LZ English Jan thru March '67, with the 1/30th Arty (155mm). I was mostly West at Duc Co. One of the names you mentioned was Dan Gilotti. I've become friendly with him through the 1/30th Assoc, in fact until this issue, he wrote the 1/30th Arty column for the *Saber*. Recently, he's been somewhat distant. I last saw him at a reunion in the Cleveland area late this summer. I'm assuming it's the same one, so his email address is: <firstCav68@roadrunner.com>. Good luck. Joe Fleming.



And They Gave You a Tent Half: In case you forgot, here is the TOC at Phouc Vinh. Photo courtesy of Lynn Titus.

Houston, We Have A Problem: Hey! I'm not preaching at you or tree hugging but we, yes, we, need to at least be aware of the amount of water, life giving water, that we have been blessed with and able to use, hopefully wisely. This chart gives you a depiction of how precious this source really is. It was given to me by a person

I have reason to trust and endorsed by the U.S. Geological Survey. I pass it on to you for awareness. All the water in the world is displayed in three drops against a waterless planet, ours. The chart is presented in terms of cubic volume thus the bubble above Atlanta is 35 miles high and in comparison, Lake Michigan is about 300 feet deep. The picture will show up better under *Saber* on



1CDA.org. It's food for thought or a hummm?

Alejandro Villeneuve is a West Point graduate and now a pro football player for the Steelers. In response to the interview question, what do you hope people understand about your service and all the men that you served alongside, he answered; "When I think of service, the first thing that comes to my mind is the fact that I'm always and forever going to be humbled by the amount of Veterans who did so much more than I did. And for that, I'll always feel that there's a lot more that I could have done." And that's a good place to end this issue's article. Thanks guys.

NEW MEMBERS
WELCOME TO THE 1CDA TEAM!

E-4 BENNETT, WILLIAM SHERMAN TX 1-15SS
SPC BRITTAIN, DARRELL E. HICKORY NC 120INF
MG BROADWATER, JEFF FORT HOOD TX 1CDH
SSG CONRAVEY, HENRY SUCHES GA HHB 1-141FA
SSG CURTIS, CHRISTOPHER ROANOKE VA HQ 1-227AVN
CPL DITTMAR, WILLIAM FORT HOOD TX 1CDH
SFC GOBEN, ROBERT RADCLIFF KY A 4-7C
SP-4 GONZALEZ, REMJIO ENCINITAS CA E 1-9C
E-4 JOHNSON, WAYNE A. WILLIAMSPORT PA A 1-9C
SFC JONES, ROGER INVERNESS FL 1CDH
SGM (RET) MENDOZA, ANTHONY OLIVE BRANCH MS B 1-6C
E-5 MICKLER, JAMES KOKOMO IN B 2-12C
1LT MINER, DAVID W. MANCHESTER CT HHS 15SS
SSG MISIASZEK, BARTHOLOMEW READING PA B 1-8C
SP-5 MOSER, ALLEN JOHNSTOWN OH HHD 1-8C
SSG MUNOZ, JEFFREY S. KILLEEN TX BAND
MR. MURRAY, JOHN L. SARASOTA FL C 1-77FA
2LT OMEIRE, JENNIFER O. KILLEEN TX 1CDSB
SSG ORRIS, MICHAEL ORMOND BEACH FL C 15ARM
SGM (RET) PARSONS, JAMES F. ENTERPRISE AL E 1-7C
E-4 PETERSON, WILLIE PAMPLICO SC 1-82FA
CW5 (RET) PICOTT, JOHN KEMPNER TX 2-5C
CW3 QUINTANILLA, JESUS LEANDER TX E 227AVN
SFC REYES, CARLOS H. FORT HOOD TX 1CDH
SGT RIVERA, RUBEN LUGO VALRICO FL C 1-7C
E-3 ROBINSON, DONALD LOUISVILLE KY B2-8C
SFC SAUTER, ED CUSTER SD 5-7C
SSG SEHER, RICHARD MERIDIAN ID D 2-7C
MR SHORT, RONALD P. ELLIOT LAKE, ONTARIO CA 155 L-ASSOC
SFC SHUPE, SAIN A. WICHITA KS 3-8C
LTC (RET) STABER, DAN BELLEVUE WA C 2-7C
SSG STRAIN, STEPHEN NEW BRANUNFELS TX 1-C 82FA
E-5 SULLIVAN, DONALD R. BILLINGS WY 1-7C
1SG SULPIZIO, LAWRENCE A. DUNCANNON PA E 1-9C
E-6 TUTTEROW, BILL BOULDER CO 1-B 21ARTY
CPT VALENTI, PETER HARVE DE GRACE MD B 27MNT
E-3 WALL, JIMMY MARTINEZ GA 1-7C
SGT WALSH, DANIEL PHOENIX AZ HHC 5-7C
MSG WOOD, BILLY D. NORMAN OK 1CDH
SPC YARBROUGH, STANLEY L. WOODRUFF SC 4-2

77th FA NEWS
Continued from pg. 10

We had our business meeting Saturday morning, September 14th. Chief among the topics discussed was where we would have our 2021 reunion. There were many suggestions, notably coming back to San Antonio, which many were enjoying, and Colorado Springs/Ft Carson, where the 2/77th FA is stationed. We had our 2017 reunion there, and all who were there testified to the good time we had. Paige Lanier, the Association LNO with the 2/77, guaranteed us that the 2nd and DivArty would go all out for us. It was decided that the Association would appoint a committee to explore locations, and report back at next year's reunion. The 2020 reunion will be at the Hampton Inn on Amelia Island again. Dave Morehead will check rates and dates, to see if we can get good rates a little bit later, and hopefully avoids a hurricane. Fred Taylor, who had been our treasurer since 2010, stepped down, and the Board selected Ray Kreiner as his replacement.

COL Ryan Meander, the DivArty Commander for the 4th Infantry Division, spoke to us on speaker phone and gave us a State of the Artillery report, both on artillery in general and the 77th. In general, artillery is becoming faster, harder hitting, and able to reach longer ranges. The 1-77th has been reactivated, and is a MLRS battalion with the 41st FA Bde, stationed in Grafenwoehr, Germany. The second battalion is transitioning to M77s after the first of the year.

2019 is the 50-year anniversary of the attacks on LZ Grant. And Bill Capshaw, who was BC of C Battery, which was stationed on Grant then, wanted to commemorate the 10 cannoneers of C Battery who lost their lives defending LZ Grant in February and March of 1969. In January 1969, in order to thwart the NVA who were building up their force around Tay Ninh, the 2/12th Cav was assigned to occupy the location known as LZ Grant. Bill Capshaw recounted C Batteries role in that mission. Charlie provided direct support for the 2/12 and was with them at Grant. The 2/12 was further supported by Alpha Battery, 1/30th Artillery, the Cav's 155mm battalion. The 2/12 immediately started patrolling and encountered both VC and NVA troops. It soon became apparent, from captured prisoners and documents that the enemy was determined to eliminate the American presence. The first attack came on Feb 22/23 with a heavy mortar and recoilless rifle attack, followed by a ground attack. CPT Capshaw directed that a 105mm howitzer be moved to the front gate, where the main attack was occurring. Using beehive ammunition, the attack was broken. The next attack was on March 7/8, starting with another rocket and mortar attack. A 120mm rocket hit the 2/12 TOC, and LTC P. Gorvad, the BN CO, was among those killed. Again, the artillery played a key role in repulsing the attack. The next attack was March 10/11, in which the NVA was observed massing for huge ground attack. The artillery used a new type of ammunition, called COFRAM, which was essentially bouncing betties to break up this attack before it even started, 287 NVA bodies were found the next morning. The final major attack was by a company of sappers who were discovered in the wire and some past the berm, there were some lighter moments in all of this. Bill Capshaw recalled that when a couple of C Battery's mules (used to move ammo, etc. on a firebase) in one of the attacks, he had asked some of his Troops to get replacements. They came back with one painted a very pretty sky blue, with loads of commo equipment; by morning it was the traditional OD. Gotta love GI resourcefulness! For their actions during this time, C 1/77th was awarded their 2nd Valorous Unit Citation and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry w/ Palm. They had suffered 10 killed and

WELCOME HOME
SOLDIER

COL Roy A. Knight Jr. Pilot Killed in Vietnam Is Returned Home by His Son by Neil Vigdor, The New York Times



Bryan Knight was 5 years old when he said goodbye for the last time to his father at Love Field in Dallas.

Fifty-two years later, Mr. Knight, piloting a Southwest Airlines flight, returned to that same airport on Thursday, bringing home the remains of his father, Roy A. Knight Jr., an Air Force colonel who was killed in the Vietnam War.

COL Knight was shot down May 19, 1967, during a strike mission on the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Laos, according to the military, which initially listed him as missing in action and then declared him dead in 1974. Scientists used a dental analysis to identify COL Knight's remains this year.

The solemn homecoming stopped travelers, security agents and airline employees in their tracks at the busy airport, where an Air Force honor guard greeted the Boeing 737 carrying the coffin of COL Knight.

Among the people watching from Gate 12 was Jackson Proskow, the Washington bureau chief for Global News, a Canadian media outlet. He was returning from El Paso after reporting on the mass shooting there.

An airline employee alerted travelers on the public address system about a special arrival, which Mr. Proskow chronicled on Twitter.

"I just sort of assumed they were waiting for a local politician or a newsmaker," Mr. Proskow said in an interview. "He was sort of struggling to get the words out. He said, 'Today we're welcoming back COL Knight to Dallas. He took this long, emotional pause. Then he paused again and put down the microphone. He said, 'The pilot of the plane today is his son.' 'It was kind of a quiet gasp in the lounge area,' Mr. Proskow added. 'Everybody was sort of standing almost at attention.'"

Mr. Knight was at the controls of the Southwest flight for the last leg of his father's journey home, from Oakland, California to Dallas. The plane landed at 11:16am. It taxied under an arc of water sprayed by two airport fire trucks--an aviation and maritime tribute known as a water salute. Dozens of airline ground crew employees stood reverently as the 737 pulled up to the gate.

As the coffin was brought out of the plane's cargo hold, COL Knight's relatives waited on the tarmac. Six members of an Air Force honor guard marched toward the plane and then carried the coffin. In the terminal, airline workers handed out American flags to observers.

Mr. Knight, who has been a Southwest pilot for nearly 20 years, was not available for an interview on Thursday, according to an airline spokesman.

"Our Southwest Airlines family is honored to support his long-hoped homecoming and join in the tribute to COL Knight as well as every other military hero who has paid the ultimate sacrifice while serving in the armed forces," the spokesman, Dan Landson said in an email.

COL Knight was 36 when his Douglas A-1E Skyraider was shot down in the northern Laos, according to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, which is part of the Defense Department. He was a member of the 602nd Tactical Fighter Squadron, which was assigned to Udorn Royal Thai Air Base in Thailand.

He had flown combat missions almost daily before his death and was posthumously awarded the Air Force Cross, Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, Purple Heart and six Air Medals, according to COL Knight's obituary, which was posted online by a local funeral home.

COL Knight, who was born in Garner, TX, enlisted in the Air Force just days after his 17th birthday. He was one of eight children. Five of his older brothers served in World War II. He and his wife, Patricia, whom he met in the Philippines and who died in 2008, had three children.

"They've waited five decades for this moment," Mr. Proskow said. "It was just so dignified and respectful. It's rare to have quiet time at an airport, especially in the middle of the day. It's one of those weeks where people are looking for a good news story."

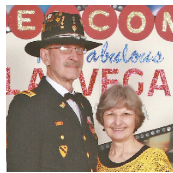
77th FA NEWS

approximately including Howard Fisher, who attended the Reunion. Howard has written a very good book on LZ Grant, "The Living Ghosts." 1st Cav Div HQ subsequently stated that LZ Grant and its units repulsed no less than 4 VC/NVA divisions and turned the tide for TET 69!

We also had our election of officers for 2020: Dwayne Fowler was elected President; Mark Schwartz, 1st VP; Lu Merritt, 2nd VP; and Bill Capshaw, 3rd VP.



HQ and Special Troops News



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

Greetings Troopers from NW Louisiana. Just for those of you who always asked me about the swamps in Louisiana when I told you where I was from, there are no (few) swamps in NW LA and there are a lot more swamps in FL than in LA.

Sue and I hope that all of you are well and enjoying life. We had a crazy summer, very hot and a drought that I thought would never end. Some say it is "Global Warming" while some say it is just a cycle of the weather, just as many cycles have occurred in the past. I have no opinion, just know it was unusually hot and dry. We also had a recent cold snap down to freezing and temperatures about 10-15 degrees below normal. We hope to see you at the reunion in June.

Richard Wadleigh of Turnersville, NJ, who served with the 15th Supply and Service Battalion, 1st Cav Div, emailed me and sent a "thank you" for writing the Hq and Special Troops column all these years. He was wondering if I had published information on the Ordnance corps. I responded back because he said he retired as a warrant officer in the U.S. Air Force and he followed up with the following comments:

"Personally, I'm amazed at the opportunities and school requirements for warrant officers today. I follow the Ordnance School, along with the other branches now housed at Fort Lee. My hat goes off to these "young guys" as they pick up the mission. The rank of warrant officer has not been used in the Air Force since around the time "Super" enlisted grades were established. My retired rank is based on highest grade held in the Army. I started my career in the Ordnance Corp when I completed basic training (July 1962) was an Ammunition Storage Specialist MOS 411 prior to going to Explosive Ordnance Disposal school in 1964 and served in that MOS 413.3 until May 1969 when I got my appointment to warrant officer. While in EOD, I did some work with the USARJ Criminal Investigation Lab at Camp Zama when it needed tech assistance involving ordnance. (I was in Japan, after my first tour in RVN, 21 months) When appointed as an Ammunition Technician MOS 411A, I returned to CONUS to Fort Sill for the WO orientation course followed by reassignment the replacement company in Cam Rahn Bay with final assignment to the 1st Cav in Bien Hoa. HHC, 15th Supply & Service Bn. Our forward platoons served as brigade support at up country fire bases (I was at Buttons, in Song Be) for about 6 months, spent the rest of my time between Div HQ in Phuc Vinh and Bien Hoa. Returned to CONUS to Fort Riley and released from active duty there. Completed my obligation and was discharged. In 1977 I decided I had too much time in to throw away, so I joined the Iowa Air National Guard and completed my last 10 years there; finally retired at age 60. So, I had just short of ten years active Army and just over ten years Air Guard, with about 21 years inactive (Red ID card) reserve time. In the *Saber* there is a column for the 15 Med, 15 Maintenance, and 15 BSB, but it really doesn't cover the 15th S&S. I had a phone call from some folks from the 15th S&S a few years ago, apparently, they do have a group that has reunions, but have heard nothing since. We moved from Omaha Nebraska/Council Bluffs Iowa to New Jersey in 1988 when I took a job with Glassboro State College (now Rowan University), we live in Turnersville, NJ, five miles from Glassboro, which is on US Rt 322 about 20 miles East of the Philadelphia airport. With 24 years there, plus my time in Omaha, I have about 32 years in Campus private law enforcement, emergency management and safety."

Thanks, Richard, for your input and if anyone out there wants to contact Richard, or served with Richard, you can email me for his contact information.



This time I wanted to share some information about the Ordnance Corps since Richard wrote about his assignment as an Ammunition Tech (Warrant Officer). "The United States Army Ordnance Corps, formerly the United States Army Ordnance Department, is a Sustainment branch of the United States Army, headquartered at Fort Lee, Virginia. The broad mission of the Ordnance Corps is to supply Army combat units with weapons and ammunition, including at times their procurement and maintenance. Along with the Quartermaster Corps and Transportation Corps, it forms a critical component of the U.S. Army logistics system. The

U.S. Army Ordnance Corps mission is to support the development, production, acquisition, and sustainment of weapon systems, ammunition, missiles, electronics, and ground mobility materiel during peace and war to provide combat power to the U.S. Army. The officer in charge of the branch for doctrine, training, and professional development purposes is the Chief of Ordnance. In July 1775, Ezekiel Cheever was appointed by General George Washington as Commissary of Artillery Stores, soon to be called Commissary of Military Stores with Major General Henry Knox, the Chief of Artillery.^[1] He was the civilian in charge of ordnance support for Washington's army in the field. By the end of the American Revolution, every brigade had ordnance personnel, usually civilian, providing munitions support to the Soldiers in the field. In 1776, the Board of War and Ordnance was established to oversee the conduct of the war. This board selected Benjamin Flower to be the Commissary General of Military Stores. Benjamin Flower was given the rank of Colonel and served in that capacity throughout the American Revolution. The Commissary General of Military Stores was an echelon above the Commissary of Military Stores in the field. His responsibility was to recruit and train artificers, establish ordnance facilities, and to distribute arms and ammunition to the army in the field. In 1777, a powder magazine was established at Carlisle, PA and a foundry at Springfield, MA. In the early years of the 19th Century, the Ordnance profession played a key role in the burgeoning Industrial Revolution in America. In 1794, President Washington established the two federal armories; the Springfield Armory in Massachusetts and the Harpers Ferry Armory in Virginia. At these locations, early developments and innovations striving towards interchangeable parts were achieved. Inventors such as Thomas Blanchard, Simeon North, John Hall, and Eli Whitney would perfect the methods and means for mass production. Growing out of the technical innovations of the arms industry, these methods would be widely adopted by American industry by the middle of the 19th Century, establishing what has become known

as the American System of Manufacturing. On 14 May 1812, as part of the preparation for the War of 1812, Congress established the Ordnance Department. During the war, the Ordnance Department furnished 90 million pounds of lead, 13 million pounds of artillery projectiles, and 26 million pounds of powder for a Union Army of over 1 million Soldiers. However, despite the growth of the Army, the Ordnance Department did not grow in a corresponding manner. By the end of the war, it numbered only 64 officers and approximately 600 Soldiers, officially. Yet, to support the Ordnance needs of the Army, officers and Soldiers who had civilian experience in Ordnance responsibilities (i.e. blacksmiths, etc ...) were assigned additional duty in their units, so that every unit, company-echelon and above, had someone assigned in ordnance responsibilities. By 1872, the Ordnance Department reflected the Army's return to a small peacetime status with 50 officers, 475 enlisted Soldiers, and 1,738 civilian workers. Even though World War I had been raging in Europe for nearly three years, the Ordnance Department had to play catch-up when the United States entered the war. With only 97 officers and 1,241 enlisted Soldiers, the department had a myriad of problems to overcome. However, by the end of the war, it had solved all these problems, matured as an organization, and adapted to modern, mechanized warfare. It established an embryonic process for echelon based maintenance for field units, a tradition of ordnance education at one of the officer or enlisted ordnance schools, a new proving ground at Aberdeen, Maryland, and a plan to coordinate production and mobilize industry. By the end of the war, the Ordnance Department numbered 5,954 officers and 62,047 enlisted Soldiers, with 22,700 of those officers and Soldiers serving in the American Expeditionary Force in France. During World War II, the Ordnance Department was responsible for roughly half of all Army procurement, \$34 billion. Ordnance Department strength increased from 334 officers to 24,000 officers, 4,000 enlisted to 325,000 enlisted, and 27,088 civilians to 262,000 civilians. During World War II, the Ordnance Branch gained its third core competency, Bomb Disposal (renamed Explosive Ordnance Disposal after WWII) added to its previous missions of ammunition handling and maintenance. By war's end, there were more than 2,200 ordnance units of approximately 40 types, ranging in size from squads to regiments. Per the Army Reorganization Act of 1950, the Ordnance Department was renamed the Ordnance Corps.^[10] With the outbreak of the Korean War, the Ordnance Corps largely re-established its successful procedures from World War II. It reactivated the various schools and units at Aberdeen Proving Ground, which had been dis-established following the end of World War II, to serve the Korea effort. It continued its tradition of echeloned-based maintenance and increased the rapidity of maintenance and ammunition supply and repair. Explosive Ordnance Disposal, formerly Bomb Disposal Squads, improved their procedures with a focus on Russian and Chinese ordnance. In 1962 the Ordnance Corps and the office of the Chief of Ordnance were disestablished. The Ordnance Branch (along with the Transportation and Quartermaster Branches) was placed under the supervision of the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics. Army Materiel Command assumed responsibility for Ordnance's historical tasks of research and development; procurement, production, and storage; and technical intelligence. Combat Development Command assumed responsibility for developing the Army's organization and doctrine. The Ordnance Center and School trained personnel in ammunition handling, maintenance, and Explosive Ordnance Disposal and was under the direction of Continental Army Command (CONARC). The Ordnance Corps was reestablished on 28 October 1985. In 2008, the Ordnance Corps consolidated the Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School from Aberdeen Proving Ground and the United States Army Ordnance Munitions and Electronic Maintenance School from Redstone Arsenal into a single training facility based at Fort Lee, Virginia as a part of the 2005 Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC) decision. With an entirely new campus dedicated to the training of all ranks of Ordnance Soldiers and civilians, the Ordnance Corps maintains its commitment to the life-cycle sustainment of the Army's materiel from cradle to grave, providing ammunition, and protecting the Army's forces through EOD operations. The Ordnance Corps branch insignia is represented by the "Shell and Flame." It is considered to be the oldest branch insignia in the U.S. Army. This symbol has been used since the 17th century by various armies of Western Europe, including British and French forces, and was considered a common symbol used by the military. Ordnance officers began wearing the symbol in 1832 and have been wearing it ever since. There has been a multiplicity of designs throughout the years, but the current design was adopted in 1936." (All info above taken from wikipedia.org, <<https://goordnance.army.mil/history/>> and other sources on the internet.)

The Ordnance Corps Association can be reached at <<http://usaoca.org/>>. The U.S. Army Ordnance song is "Arms for the love of America" and can be found at by searching for it online. The Ordnance creed is "As an Ordnance Soldier of the United States Army, I will utilize every available talent and means to ensure that superior mobility, firepower, and communications are advantages enjoyed by the United States Army over its enemies. As an Ordnance Soldier, I fully understand my duty to perform under adverse conditions and I will continually strive to perfect my craft. I will remain flexible so that I can meet any emergency. In my conduct, I will abide by the Soldier's code. In my support mission in the field, I will use every available skill to maintain superiority; I will always be tactically and technically proficient As an Ordnance Soldier, I have no greater task."

By now you have received your association calendar for 2020. Hope you enjoyed it as much as I am enjoying it and that you will contribute to help cover the cost and keep this program going. Don't forget to make your hotel reservations and send in your reunion registration. See'ya in KY.

I know you are out there and have a story to tell. I would really appreciate hearing from you. Meantime, as the ordnance corps would remind you, "keep your powder dry", watch your back and hope to see you in June. May God bless the USofA, the US Army, the great 1st Cav Div and all our military around the world. Keep them in your prayers.

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

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

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LTC FRATES, Ralph C. Jr.
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In Memory of All 1st Cav Troopers Past, Present and Future

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Thank you for your generosity Troopers!

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In Memory of James Skomski-KIA Feb 8, 1969
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SGT TAYLOR, Peter A.
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SP-4 TURPIN, Marion W.
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SP-4 VONDERHEY, Thomas L.
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CPT (RET) WARD, Nathaniel P.
COL (RET) WASIAK, Joseph E.
SGT WILLIAMS, Gerald L.
CSM (RET) YOUNG, Darriel R.
In Memory of Michael Waters

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SGT SILVER, Royal
In Memory of SP-4 Larry Keenan, Kia 1967; SP-4 Bobby Sells KIA 1967
SGT SILVER, Royal
In Memory of SP-4 Charlie Funk Agent Orange 2018
SGT SILVER, Royal
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Birthday Wishes
to the Roaring 20's Birthday Babies!!

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turns 94 on 11/2/19

JOSEPH E. SAYRE
turns 91 on 11/5/19

LEO LOUGHRAN JR.
turns 91 on 11/7/19

RAYMOND J. MORAN JR.
turns 90 on 11/8/19

RAY D. IRBY
turns 95 on 11/9/19
- S. S. SINDELAR
turns 90 on 11/10/19

MELBOURNE LEROY ROGERS
turns 90 on 11/16/19

LLOYD GRABLE
turns 92 on 11/29/19

FREDERICK T. BARRETT
turns 92 on 12/12/19

WILLIAM F. MCGRATH SR.
turns 90 on 12/19/19

ED REED
turns 93 on 12/23/19

DONALD CHAPPELL
turns 92 on 12/23/19

ERVIN L. BOHNSTENGEL
turns 98 on 12/27/19

WILLIAM B. MEREDITH
turns 90 on 12/29/19



Happy Birthday to these
young Troopers!

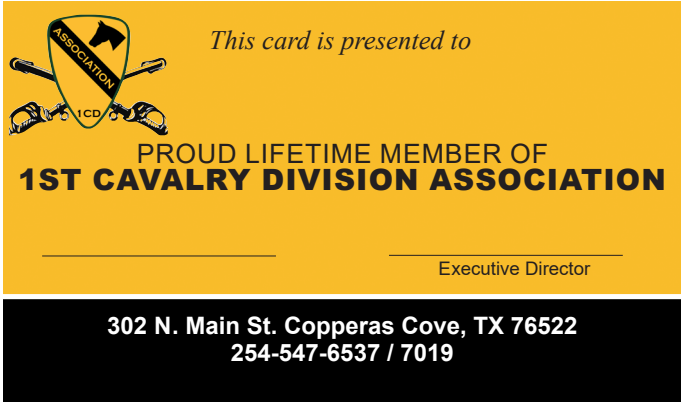
BG (RET) ART JUNOT of Copperas Cove, TX celebrated his 90th birthday on 9 Sept 19. He, his lovely wife and his son popped into the HQ office to say hello and to see the changes we have made.

BG (Ret) Arthur Junot is on the 1st Cavalry Division Association Advisory Council and was also the past Executive Director for the Association from Oct 1992-June 2002!

What an honor for him to come on by! It was great to see him and his wife!



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