



THE PRESIDENT’S CORNER

Scott Sjule
1CDA President 2021-2023
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Greetings Troopers, I would like to thank Terry McCarl for his dedication as the 1CDA Historian. As

you may know from Terry McCarl’s last Historian *Saber* article, he has resigned to focus on health and family. Thank you, Terry, we wish you well moving forward. You will remain in our thoughts and prayers.

I am appointing Dennis Webster as the 1CDA Historian. Dennis’ background with the Army and the 1CDA has and will continue to be a great asset to the Association. Dennis has maintained his connection with Fort Hood and the Central Texas community and beyond. He has a passion to serve Soldiers. Veterans and their Families. Dennis shares the history of the 1st Cavalry Division and the 1CDA at every newcomer briefing conducted by the Division Commander and Division CSM. There are very few if any that know the 1CD history as well as Dennis. Thank you, Dennis, for accepting the duties of the 1CDA Historian.

I hope all are well as we turn toward the end of 2022 and look toward 2023. As the temperatures cool and the leaves begin to fall, it is a natural time to reflect on the past year. We have said our last good-byes to long time friends and comrades; we have welcomed new Soldiers into the 1st Cavalry Division; we have said farewell to First Team Trooper deploying around the globe and welcomed them home upon their return. Additionally, we have seen Troopers from the past receive long overdue awards and decorations. We celebrated the 101st Birthday with a grand ceremony, parade and display of units Troopers and equipment around Cooper Field and the Division Headquarters. All of these represent the continuing legacy of the 1st Cavalry Division. Courageous, Audacious, Victorious! Great reasons to be an active member of the 1st Cavalry Division Association! Stay connected with your military service, for many it was the most formative time of their lives. Share your experiences with others, especially those that have also served. I cannot tell you how many Troopers have finally found their long way home while sharing stories and experiences at the annual 1CDA Reunions, often decades after they had physically returned from overseas. I remember past Division Commander MG Joe Peterson’s First Team power thought: What is the 1CD power thought? I can save my own life. What does it mean? I am responsible for my own safety on and off duty, on and off post. Why is it important? My friends and family love me, my unit needs me, and my country depends on me! Stay connected and never forget, you are part of the legacy. Live the Legend!

May God Bless You All...First Team, Let us Ride!
Respectfully, Scott Sjule

THE DIRECTOR’S CHAIR

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An excerpt of the Presidential Proclamation 3071, October 8, 1954:

“WHEREAS it has long been our custom to commemorate November 11, the anniversary of the ending of World War I, by

paying tribute to the heroes of that tragic struggle and by rededicating ourselves to the cause of peace; and

WHEREAS in the intervening years the United States has been involved in two other great military conflicts, which have added millions of veterans living and dead to the honor rolls of this Nation; and

WHEREAS the Congress passed a concurrent resolution on June 4, 1928 (44 Stat. 1962), calling for the observance of November 11 with appropriate ceremonies, and later provided in an act approved May 13, 1938 (52 Stat. 351), that the eleventh of November should be a legal holiday and should be known as Armistice Day; and

WHEREAS in order to expand the significance of that commemoration and in order that a grateful nation might pay appropriate homage to the veterans of all its wars who have contributed so much to the preservation of this Nation, the

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HORSE DETACHMENT by CPT Abby Edwards, Commander



Current A Groupers celebrating the newest A Groupers: (L-R) SSG Jenkins, CPT Edwards, SPC Roman, SFC Hannibal, SGT Jones, Mr. Davis, SGT Evans, SGT Jones, SSG Helgren, 1SG Villarreal

Howdy Y’all! The Troopers and Mounts at the HCD hope you had and are having a wonderful holiday season. It is that busy time again this year at the detachment as we start to get ready for the Tournament of Roses Parade at New Years. First, I’d like to announce and congratulate our newest A Group Members on successfully achieving the distinction as elite cavalymen in the HCD due to their hard work and dedication: SSG Helgren, SGT Evans, SPC Roman, SFC Hannibal, CPT Edwards, and SGT Jones.

This past month we’ve been bouncing all over the state, and even out across the pond to London. We provided outriders for the Army vs. Airforce football game while MG Richardson and CSM Munday delivered the game ball on horseback. In honor of Veteran’s Day, the parade team rode in the Tarrant County Veteran’s Day Parade. We were invited by the Inns of Court and City Yeomanry and the Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment to ride with them during the 807th Lord’s Mayor Show in London, England. It was an honor and privilege to ride in such a historic event and to have to opportunity to build and grow the relationships between our armies and organizations.



MG Richardson & CSM Munday delivering game ball at Army vs Air Force game

To get into the holiday spirit we participated in the Salado and Killeen Christmas Parades to help spread some holiday cheer to our supporting communities. The Horses and Troopers will get a well-deserved rest, but don’t worry we’ll still be open and around, for the holidays to spend time with friends and family. Soon after the horses will be loaded up for their three-day journey to Pasadena, CA to participate in Equestfest and the 134th Tournament of Roses Parade.

The Horse Cavalry Detachment is fully open to the public! Please come visit us at our barn for a barn tour or our Thursday 1000 demonstration at 69007 Trooper Loop, Fort Hood, TX. We love and appreciate the support that this amazing community bestows on us and look forward to our continued engagements and exchanges long into the future. Please check out the link on the Association website to make it easier to request the HCD to support an event in your area. We do ask that you have the request turned in for consideration 120 days before the event so that we have enough time to prepare.

Please call (254) 287-2229 with any questions. Check us out on Facebook (1st Cavalry Division Horse Cavalry Detachment) where we post pictures from the barn and strive to keep everyone informed of upcoming events and ceremonies. We have an Instagram (horsecavalrydetachment) as well where we post pictures of the great things our Troopers are doing. HOT TO TROT!

ADDRESS
CHANGE

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

Last 4 #'s of your SSN _____

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Rank and Name: _____

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If you have two addresses during the year, we need to know them. Please give us the dates and addresses for both households.
(Circle one) Winter Summer

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LAST 4#s SSN: _____ DOB _____

1: Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Dates: _____ Tel: (____) _____

2: Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Dates: _____ Tel: (____) _____

1CDA EVENT CALENDAR

Feb 25, 2023	Board of Governor's Hybrid Meeting
June 13-17, 2023	75 th Annual 1CDA Reunion, Louisville, KY
Nov 9-11, 2023	14 th Annual Veterans Day in Washington, D.C.

SABER RENEWAL / DONATION FORM

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

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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:



Matalyn Schellinger

While growing up, my father always told me stories about being in the 1st Cavalry Division. He was deployed to Iraq for Operation Desert Storm and Desert Shield with F Co, 227th Aviation. His stories inspired me to serve in the Army National Guard while attending The Citadel. I am thankful and honored to receive this grant.
Thank you!
Matalyn Schellinger



Zach Schellinger

As a kid I would always hear stories about my dad's time in the Army. He was a part of F Co, 227th Aviation, deploying with them to both Desert Shield and Desert Storm. I believe the leadership skills, motivation and determination he developed from the 1st Cavalry Division and the Army he instilled in me, leading me to go to the Citadel, a senior military college in South Carolina, and contract with Army ROTC so that I can keep serving my country like him.
Zach Schellinger

OTHER REUNIONS:

15th Medical Battalion Association, 26-30 April 2023. Austin, TX. Holiday Inn Austin Midtown, 6000 Middle Fiskville Rd, Austin, TX 78752. Reservations 512-451-5757, Group code is MBA. POC: Ron Huether, medevac2@15th-medbnassociation.org or call or text 830-456-5580.
Info at 15thmedbnassociation.org

75th Annual 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion, 13-17 June 2023. Louisville, KY. Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport Expo Center, \$124/night plus tax. (866) 888-0620 reference code: SAL. Refer to pages 12 & 13.

18th Annual 12th Cavalry Reunion, 5-9 September 2023. Branson, MO. Branson Hillside Hotel and Theater, formerly (The Welk). Reservations: 417-243-1335, Mellodie Suire. POC: Fred Wilson, 740-331-1814 or fnwilson49@hotmail.com.

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

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

Consider donating today.

DIVISION DOINGS

First Team Celebrates 101 Years by SGT Brayton Daniel, Photo by SPC Cheyne Hanoski

FORT HOOD, Texas – The 1st Cavalry Division celebrated its 101st birthday over the course of the past week with friendly competitions and ceremonies to build camaraderie around the heritage of the First Team, Sept 12-16 at Fort Hood, Texas.

To conclude the week-long celebration, Troopers and local community attended a ceremony that was held to pay respects to the history and tradition of the cavalry.

“Every once in a while, we have to step back and reflect on where we came from,” said MG John B. Richardson IV, commanding general, 1st Cavalry Division. “In an Army organization, your history is your foundation. We’re walking in some huge footsteps, and sometimes we have to remind ourselves of that lineage and that history that we have to live up to.”

In 1921, the division was formally organized at Fort Bliss, Texas consisting of two cavalry brigades, a field artillery battalion, an engineer battalion, division quartermaster trains command, special Troops command, an ambulance company and a headquarters element.

“To me, a large part of having pride in my unit is knowing the history,” said SFC 1st Class Teosha Profit, support operations non-commissioned officer, 1st CD Sustainment Brigade. “With 101 years of history, there’s a never-ending sense of pride. Most importantly, teaching junior Soldiers the history and allowing them to witness this year’s events is impactful.”

Troopers within the division were able to come together as a team to have fun, rejuvenate, and celebrate the history of the 1CD. The friendly competitions held throughout the week included a 5k run, softball, soccer, dodgeball, basketball, flag football, triathlon, tug of war, powerlifting, paintball, cornhole, and bowling.

2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment reigned victorious with the most wins in every competition and claimed the Cavalry Commander’s Cup.

1st CAV Staff Ride: Cavalry History Takeaways for 1st CAV and 3CR Leaders Story and photos by LTC Jennifer Bocanegra

Winston Churchill once said, “Those that fail to learn from history, are doomed to repeat it.” Last week leaders from the 1st Cavalry Division and 3rd Cavalry Regiment spent time outside of the office participating in a three-day staff ride, which included visiting battlefields in southern Montana from the summer of 1876 Sioux War Campaign.

From September 17 thru 20, brigade commanders, the division cavalry squadron commander, their command sergeants major, and senior staff of the 1CD were given the opportunity to underpin their professional development by participating in the three phases of a U.S. Army Staff Ride: Preliminary Study Phase, Field Study Phase, and Integration Phase. The preliminary study phase included professional reading, followed by a series of classroom-based leadership professional development sessions (LPDs). The group then travelled to Montana to walk the ground and glean further insights during the field phase of the staff ride.

As part of the field study, the team was joined by subject matter experts from the Combat Studies Institute (CSI) out of Fort Leavenworth who facilitated the professional dialogue. The leaders walked the historic battlefields from the Battle of the Rosebud and the Battle of Little Big Horn both located in Big Horn County, Montana.



This field study of two legendary U.S. Cavalry engagements with Native Americans enabled participants to deep dive into the decision-making processes of U.S. military and Sioux and Cheyenne leaders leading up to and during these military

engagements. Those who participated in the staff ride each took on a role from key players involved in the battles allowing group members to critically apply those lessons learned from both battles into modern military training and operations.

Before the field study phase the team embarked on a collaborative LPD series that systematically analyzed the missions assigned to the US military at Rosebud and Little Bighorn, scrutinizing the situation, decisions made and perceived reasons for situational changes that caused decisions to be made or changed. Military historians have published an extensive number of books examining the conduct of this campaign. In order to enable the 1CD’s staff discussions the CG provided 2 books, “Centennial Campaign, The Sioux War of 1876” by John Gray, “The Atlas of the Sioux Wars” by Charles D. Collins, Jr. and an article from Military Review “Custer and Cognition” by David C. Gompert, all of which provided a strong base for developed discussions enabling thought-provoking and challenging debates due to their well-balanced points of view and detailed analysis.

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OIF / OEF VETERAN 1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion News

SSG Brandy Harvest
HHC 1BSTB, 2007-2009
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This column is a collection of stories submitted from
1BSTB Soldiers that served during OIF / OEF.

-Credit to the Soldiers of 1BSTB Battalion Yearbook 2006-2008 Publication
“Thunder Company”

Headquarters Company, 1st Special Troops Battalion, was formally known as Headquarters Company, 20th Engineers Battalion. The 20th Engineers traces its origin to August 1917, when the War Department issued General Order Number 108 forming the 20th Engineer Regiment. On November 11, 1917, the first contingent of the newly formed regiment departed for St. Nazaire, France, where the regiment grew to become the largest regiment in the history of the US Army, consisting of 29 battalions and over 46,000 Soldiers. The regiment was reactivated in July 1940 at Fort Benning, Georgia. In July 1942, the 20th Engineer Regiment deployed to Casablanca, French North Africa, where President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill met for the Casablanca Conference. The regiment next executed a motor march over 1,000 miles of desert to join the command of General Omar Bradley. In July 1943, the regiment departed Tunisia with the 3rd Infantry Division and conducted a first wave assault landing onto the beaches of Sicily. The 20th Engineers landed in the assault echelon of the 1st Infantry Division in support of the 16th Infantry Regiment on D-Day.

The battalion was redeployed to Germany from 1961 to 1963 in support of the Berlin Crisis. In 1966, Troop ships deployed the Battalion to Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam. The 20th Engineers served in the 18th Engineer Brigade areas of operation throughout the war, at times reorganized as infantry. The Battalion redeployed to Fort Campbell, Kentucky on 20 August 1971. In October 1990 the battalion deployed to Saudi Arabia for Operation Desert Shield.

In June 1992, the 20th Engineers moved to Fort Hood to reorganize and become part of the 1st Cavalry Division. In September 1998 the 20th Engineers deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina as part of a NATO mission to conduct peacekeeping operations for Operation Joint Forge. In early 2004 the 20th Engineers, as part of the 1st Cavalry Division, deployed to Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The battalion’s area of operations included the capital city of Baghdad.

On July 12th, 2005, HHC 1BSTB officially stood up well on its own with CPT Thomas L. St. John and 1SG Ricky L. Linton to lead the way. In September 2005 the MP Platoon went to New Orleans, Louisiana to help aid the victims of Hurricane Katrina. In March 2006 HHC 1BSTB joined the rest of the brigade for a 45-day field problem known as IRONHORSE Rampage. In June 2006 HHC 1BSTB ramped up once again for training. This time it was at Fort Polk, Louisiana for JRTC. HHC 1BSTB supported the rest of the IRONHORSE Brigade by conducting 24-hour operations, EOD escort teams, Task Force Iron Claw (TFIC), and 24-hour maintenance operations. Upon completion HHC 1BSTB was dubbed ready, willing, and able to join the fight of OIF. In October 2006 HHC 1BSTB would be deployed to Camp Cooke, near Taji, Iraq to help fight the war on terrorism. During OIF 06-08 HHC 1BSTB had been tasked to do chemical reconnaissance, EOD escort, Task Force Iron Claw (TFIC), and integration with the local Iraqi Police stations to provide security and guidance to the Iraqi Police.

THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

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Congress, by an act approved June 1, 1954 (68 Stat. 168), changed the name of the holiday to Veterans Day;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, President of the United States of America, do hereby call upon all of our citizens to observe Thursday, November 11, 1954, as Veterans Day. On that day let us solemnly remember the sacrifices of all those who fought so valiantly, on the seas, in the air, and on foreign shores, to preserve our heritage of freedom, and let us reconsecrate ourselves to the task of promoting and enduring peace so that their efforts shall not have been in vain.”

We salute our Veterans and their Families who have dedicated their lives and have made sacrifices for our nation and our freedom. Thank you for your bravery, strength, hard work, commitment, dedication, and willingness to do the hard things that were required of you day in and day out.

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LRRP/Ranger News



Pete Dencker
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I wanted to start out by providing a “shout out” to Mike Hall and the Three Ranger Foundation, supported locally in the Franklin/Brentwood TN area by the 75th Ranger Regiment Assn for the annual commemoration of the gallant men of Task Force Ranger and the original “Mogadishu Mile,” or simply, “The MOG MILE.” We had a great turnout on October 4th, and all proceeds went directly toward enabling Three Rangers Foundation to assist Ranger Veterans, who are transitioning from life in the 75th Ranger Regiment – to civilian life as valuable and productive citizens; citizens who will bear the same unwavering commitment to excellence in their new AO.

I would also like to thank Anita and Pat Lyons for their support of VetFest that was held on October 22, 2022, in Round Rock TX. Members of the H Co LRRP Rangers, along with Rangers from other Lettered Companies from the Vietnam era were finally welcomed home in a ceremony in their honor by the O.P. Veteran Organization. This group was founded 6 years ago to help all Veterans “lighten their rucks” and to continue the mission of “Watching Over Our Own.” All Veterans were invited to the event held in Old Settlers Park in Round Rock, Texas, where there were over 140 Veteran owned companies and vendors set up to offer services and information about Veterans’ groups to help every Veteran find the support he or she needs to assimilate back into society after military service. There were lots of free giveaways for everyone who attended. Each year the O.P. Veterans group chooses a unit to honor, and this year, the LRRPs in Vietnam were chosen.

All names with a Texas address were contacted and 9 LRRPs from across Texas attended the event. The chief financial officer for Vet Fest, Kimberly Thorngate, had an uncle, David T Dickinson, who was a member of E52nd/H75th when he was killed on December 6th, 1967, in Vietnam. She suggested that the LRRPs and all Combat Veterans should be welcomed home properly. The 9 LRRPs who sat in front of the stage to be welcomed home by the crowd were: Pat Blewitt, 67-68 Patrick Lyons, 67-68 Charlie Ochoa 69-71 Dan Roberts 69-70 Alvin Deimes 1970 Oscar Martinez 71-72 John David Floyd 71-72 Roland Garza 71-72 Bruce Cain 67-69.



All these amazing heroes received a bag with two t-shirts and a plaque made of the same kind of shells used during the Vietnam War, with the LRRP emblem on top of the shells. Family and friends and a nice size crowd finally were able to welcome home these soldiers. Special thanks go to: Kimberly Thorngate for suggesting that the LRRPs be honored. Dara Wylder and Tina Wilgeroth, Executive Director, and Program Director for the *Saber* newspaper for the 1st Cavalry Division Association for putting the flyer in the paper to invite all Veterans to the event. Pete Dencker, 1st Vice President of the 75th Ranger Regiment Assn for adding the flyer to the last issue of Patrolling Magazine to remind everyone that all Ranger Veterans were invited to attend, and – a special thanks to the 1st Cavalry Division for bringing their beautiful horses as the Color Guard.

As we approach the Christmas Season – I was thinking back about 52 years to my first Christmas in Vietnam. Like most who spent time in SE Asia, or other theaters – this was the first time I was unable to spend time at home with my family and coming from a large Italian family I was unsure how that would all play out, emotionally and practically. Yes, there was a cease fire in place for the day, but then not everyone played by the rules. Anyway, thought it would be interesting to get some other thoughts and feelings about Christmas in Vietnam. My guess is that these thoughts and feelings were/are very similar regardless of which war or which environment. So, I asked for some input from the H Company Brotherhood. Names here are not included to protect the “innocent.”

(From a Ranger) My right arm was in a cast that started just below my fingertips and ended just below my elbow. Could not go to the field, so I was Sergeant of the guard on Christmas Eve, which included driving a Jeep along the Green Line at frequent intervals during the night to check on a section of the guard towers along Phouc Vinh perimeter.

The guards assigned to the towers had been warned that any celebratory pyrotechnics were forbidden and that there would be dire consequences for any violation. So, of course, about midnight the sky light up like, well, like a Christmas tree. That display was exceeded only a week later New Year’s Eve when the sky was lit up like an exploding fireworks factory.

My other memory was the food. Christmas dinner was great, it was perfectly cooked turkey mashed potatoes made from real potatoes, tasty gravy, and all the other traditional Christmas trimmings. This was in stark contrast to the usual fare, which was poorly cooked and tasteless.

Then our mess hall burned and 1SG Price addressed the issue in our next morning formation: “By now you all know that someone burned our mess hall last night, so we will be using the mess hall over by the MPs. I do not know who set that fire. There was nothing wrong with that mess hall. It was a perfectly good mess hall. Whoever it was, he made a mistake. He should have burned the cooks! “Company, attention! Dismissed!”

(From a pilot that worked lots of Ranger missions) I arrived in Vietnam on 6 December. The prospects for a merry Christmas seemed a little grim, poor me! My wife and I learned three weeks earlier that she was expecting our second child. Up until then, I had been excited about a tour in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot. I had justified in my own mind being separated from my family for a year. My wife was supportive, even though she knew I would not be there to help with our toddler son. Then, as we say in aviation, we learned that we now had “one on the ramp, and one in the hangar.”

On the long flight to Vietnam, I had plenty of time to think about the coming Christmas season. I began to feel a little guilty about leaving Sonja in her delicate condition, about not being there for my two-year old-son, and the fact that I had volunteered (sort of) to go away for a year. My little bout with self-pity did not last long. My Christmas season in 1966 was a busy time.

As a brand-new Huey pilot, I had to fly “ash & trash” missions until I learned the Area of Operations. That involved hauling supplies, including hot chow, to Troops in the field. As Christmas neared, I learned that we would be taking a special Christmas dinner to the units in the boondocks. I scrounged a Santa Claus suit, but our company commander would not let me wear it to the boonies. I whined enough to get a slight compromise ... he let me tape the hat to my flight helmet. So, there I was flying around most of the day with a bright red hat on my head. The reaction from the Troops was good, lots of smiles, and even a few photos. I was having a pretty good Christmas, after all! Then two hours after the “truce” ended at midnight, all hell broke loose at Landing Zone Bird. That was my “baptism of fire,” and I really got a good dunking!

I was not scheduled for combat missions for another few days, but that night we needed all the crews and aircraft we could muster. I do not know how many sorties we flew on that mission, but we flew reinforcements into the fray, and the wounded out with each sortie. I do not know it for a fact, but I suspect that most of our aircraft were hit that night. On our last trip out of LZ Bird, we transported the last of the wounded. One was a baby-faced buck sergeant whose arm was in a bloody sling. When we landed, he leaned forward, patted my shoulder, and yelled “Merry Christmas, Santa, and thanks.” It was then that I realized that the red hat was still taped to my helmet! In retrospect, my self-pity disappeared shortly after I saw the hardships and misery endured by our ground Troops. What a lesson for me!

Then there was always some humor - (From a Ranger) I was there for Christmas 1968. My dad was quite the joker. While I watched my hooch mates open the things received from home I waited until everyone else was done to open mine since it was a large box. When it was finally my turn, I opened it and found another box inside. I opened box after box until I reached what proved to be the last box. It had a note attached saying, “I know you’ll enjoy this because I hear there is a great shortage of this over there.” Upon opening the last box, we found a box of Uncle Bens rice! Nothing else!!!

Back to me – again, being from a large Italian family where all the aunts, uncles, and cousins lived within 4 blocks of each other – every holiday was a family affair. Christmas was a family affair on steroids starting with a get together on Christmas eve. I remember that all the kids were ferried off to the local theatre to give the adults time to wrap and arrange all the family exchange gifts. The dinner and party started when we got back, kids were wired, adults feeling much better as they had by now, enjoyed a quantity of homemade wine while we were in the movies. The entire 2 days of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day were straight out of a story book.

Not quite the same in SE Asia. Earlier in ‘70 I had been a grunt platoon leader for 6 months and spent most of that time out in the bush. Our breaks consisted of a week back on a fire base once a month.

Thanks to COL Labrozze (1/7th Battalion Commander, who was later inducted into the RHOF), for finding a way to get a hot Thanksgiving dinner in Mermite containers out to my platoon in the middle of nowhere. Do not know if he was aware of how much that meant to us as other than that all we had to eat were the old c-rations in cans. By December I had been reassigned to H Company and I remember hoping my guys that were still out “humping the bush” received the same treat Christmas Day and that it was a day of no contact.

Although new at H Company, it was an interesting few days. I know many were thinking about wives, children, mothers and fathers and family in general. I do not remember there being any Teams in the field, and in our rear area things were quiet except for the usual fireworks (friendly). I had a real sense of Family, and that although new to H Company, the guys made me feel like I belonged, a feeling that continued to grow over the next almost 2 years while I was with H Company and a feeling that is still there today.

So, to all my E52nd/H75th Brothers and all of you, have a blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas season! RLW

TAPS:

We were notified of the following deaths:
CARROWAY, SSG Donald, B Co, 2-12 CAV, 1965-66. 3 September 2022.
CHRISTY, LTC (RET) Michael B., C Co, 1-12 CAV, 1970-71. 6 September 2022.
CORRIVEAU, SP4 David A., C Co., 2-7 CAV, 1967-68. 8 October 2022.
CRAWFORD, LTC (RET) George S., K Co, 8 CAV, 1953; E Co, 8 CAV, 1955; HHT 1-7 CAV, 1965; C Co, 1-9 CAV, 1966. 7 June 2022.
EGAN, SGT George Michael, D Co, 229 AVN, 1965-66. 10 August 2022.
FAWCETT, SGT Bruce H., A Co, 2-8 CAV, 1969-70. 27 June 2022.
HAWKINS, SGT Ernest M., HHB, DIVARTY, 1968-69. 16 September 2022.
HILL, COL (RET) Howard D., HHC, 2-8 CAV, 1975-76; S3, 1BDE, 1977-78; 1CD, 1985-87; DIV CoS, 1987-89. 15 September 2022.
MUNOZ, Trooper Arturo S., A Co, 1-5 CAV, 1969-70. 31 October 2022.
NAGY, SP5 Frank J., 1-21FA, 1966-67. 25 October 2021.
ROGERS, MSG (RET) George H. Jr., D Co, 2-5 CAV, 1965; A Co, 2-5 CAV, 1972. 22 August 2022.
SCHUSTER, SGT William, B Co 2-12 CAV, 1968-69. 12 September 2022.

ACTIVE-DUTY TAPS:

We have been notified of the following non-combat Active-Duty deaths:
OSWALD, SPC Jacob A., 2ABCT, 2020-2022. 3 November 2022.



5th CAV News

Harold P. "Doc" Truitt
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Rosamond, CA 93560
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rr3-6bandaid@antelecom.net



I recently read a new book about the 1st Cavalry in Vietnam. “*Charlie 1/5 Cav: An Airmobile Infantry Company’s 67 Months in Vietnam*” that follows one company from its initial deployment in 1965 to its return to the states in 1971. Written by Steve Hassett, a Veteran of that company, it uses letters, historical reports, after action reports, and recollections of Veterans written decades after their tours. The book is professionally researched and footnoted and for many of us who did similar tours, it will have the ring of truth and authority. Works like this are important to have, not as common as they could be, and they are not light reading.

As I read it, I was struck again by the fact that every unit drew its character and modes of operation not only from division policy and training, but to a large degree from the presence of Veteran Soldiers among them that imparted the wisdom and experience to both do the job and survive the experience. The only way men like that can be produced is by actual combat experience. Armies must be used often enough to have men like that still in them, which is ironic, regrettable and a fact. I noted that Steve and others as well often expressed the feeling that our efforts were wasted and should not have been made. Many have felt that way and all of us could hope that the dreams or ambitions held for the outcome of a particular struggle do not instead become a disappointment or even an embarrassment. Even when they do let us down, we do well to remember that our military learning curve never stops, and tomorrow’s policy will emerge from today’s frustration.

One of the characters I liked the most in this book was Top Robert Fowler, the company’s first sergeant who repeatedly extended his tour to stay in the field with his men. His combat experience was deep as was his courage. Men (or women) who can assist younger Soldiers to gain operational experience and survive are crucial. The problem is these people and the experience they bring cannot be formed without the very turmoil we wish we could avoid. While I will always mourn our fallen, the crucible of war that cost them their lives is the same one that forms fire hardened warriors. In that light I see Vietnam. I lost many friends and tried to help many I did not know, but also could not save. Families of the fallen suffer immensely, and the sacrifices are not small. But to me, our efforts were on some level noble, and our sacrifices yielded the forces that fought Desert Storm and many other smaller actions. It is my hope that we can learn to see both our successes and our failures in this way and honor our fallen by making their sacrifice pay dividends. We gain nothing at all by doing otherwise. When you see me at a reunion, or on the street, please do not expect me to feel that our efforts were completely wasted. Every war has its flaws, its profiteers and misguided who can embarrass us. Every war has something about it that could have gone better. Do not let that make you cynical or disillusion. Just make sure you are the one your family and all of us can be proud of.

Wars can be very tiring and disheartening. This also you can see in this book. The lengths we sometimes went without a bath or a change of clothes, the constant necessity to stay sharp and alert, or die because we could not, are no joke. You can easily follow that in this book. The details are always different in each

unit, but the similarities are such that it reintroduced me to some things I had forgotten but were faced by all of us. To you who are on active duty now, Steve and I may seem almost fossilized, but there are things that you will face, if you stay in long enough, that will seem strangely similar.

The 1st Cav today is more lethal than ever, but in each of its generations it has always been that way given the weapons and support structure of the day. You can get some idea of this when Steve presents pictures of the mayhem that could be brought through artillery and all the various aircraft of our day both Cavalry, and the Air Force or other supporting units. And you are part of that. Sometimes that is not only enough but can seem like overkill. Sometimes it cannot get there in time.

Like many of you, I have been following events in Ukraine. It was thought they would be overwhelmed quickly. They have not been. The drive to succeed is strong there, and it shows. The spirit and attitude of Troops makes an enormous difference. We still do not know the outcome, but we have our hopes. The things I mentioned earlier can help you, just as I am sure they are helping the struggle in Ukraine. They know what they must gain and have decided what they are willing to do.

Not to say that we had that much of an uphill fight overall, but some of us did face being overrun and its consequences. There are more than one such account in this book.

If you fight a conflict that goes on exceedingly long, the folks at home and some around you will start to show the stress and disappointment. You may do so also. Remember there have been those who went before who had it far worse and still prevailed. At least it was very unusual, in Vietnam, if it ever happened, to see a Soldier without boots as was far from rare in our Revolution and in The Civil War. We see improvements in food and gear, as well as medical care in each conflict, and they will still wear us down.

Moods and attitudes change as things drag on. For us, it was knowing, after a time, that we were going to leave even if we did not win. In other words, we were still there and at risk, but the outcome was cast. We were not the last to be disappointed. It has happened to others and will happen again. Becoming negative or cynical will not help, will interfere with one’s next promotion, and could get you killed. It is unlikely negativity will help you become the next Top Fowler.

None of these words are directly from Steve Hassett. I derived them from reliving my past through “Charlie 1/5 Cav.” He and I might disagree on some points in this article or in his book - I hope not, and I recommend you look at it. It will not be your story. Not exactly. But if you served with the 1st Cav in Vietnam, you would find some of your story in it. And if you were not in Vietnam, you might gain some insight into what it was like to be an infantry soldier in the 1st Cav in that war. “*Charlie 1/5 Cav: An Airmobile Infantry Company’s 67 Months in Vietnam*” is available through Amazon or by ordering it from a local bookstore.

The U.S. 5th Cavalry Association elected a new slate of officers at the reunion. It is gratifying to note that Troopers from the era following 1972 are increasingly becoming involved and we both applaud and encourage this interest. Our historic regiment goes back a long way and deserves the best we can give it. J.D. Shockley (Desert Storm) was elected to a two-year term as President. Terry Skipper (VN) was elected to a one-year term as Executive Vice President. Phil Truitt (yours truly) was elected to two years as Vice President for Membership. Vice President and Secretary (as well as all around go to guy) Rich Sherwood (VN) was elected to a two-year term in that office. Three members, Kim Morelock (VN), James Noel (DS), and Junior Barrios (87-89) were each elected to two-year terms on the board.

NEW MEMBERS

CSM ADAMS, BRIAN TX C 14-9C
SPC ARMSTROFF, JOSEPH II IN D 1-12C
PFC BISHOP, BYRON CA B 2-5C
PFC BOOTH, JACOB TX 1CDH
SSG CAMPBELL, TYLER M. TX C 1-12C
SGT CARLIN, DOUGLAS MT C 15FSB
SSG COLLINS, DAVID IN A 1-26INF
CW5 DAVIS, CARLO TX 1CD
2LT DUFFY, PATRICK TX 2-7C
CPT GERHART, CHRIS NH A 2-5C
SPC GHERING, SHEA FL C 1-12C
2LT GOCHEE, BENJAMIN TX A 717ACB
MAJ GRAYDON, JEB TX HQ 2-12C
E-4 GREEN, CHARLES EDWARD VA B 2-19ARA
2LT GROSECLOSE, AUSTIN TX HHC 2-8C
E-4 HUYCK, MICHAEL TX B 2-7C
MSG INGRAM, GENE A. GA 15ADMIN
SFC ISSAC, ZACHARY OH HHC 2BSTB
MR. KEEL, RON OH 1443 ASSOC
1SG KENNEDY, JOSEPH OH A 1-9C
CW2 (RET) KNAPEK, WILLIAM E. TN A 1-12C
SGT KOCHHEISER, JOHN OH HHC 2-5C
SPC KRAFT SONG, MICHAEL TX HHC 2-7C
MAJ LARSEN, WILLIAM TX 1CD
SGT LOPEZ, AIDAN TX B 1-5C
SPC LULOFs, STEVE IL 980ENG
1LT MC DONALD, MARK TX 1-9C
E-4 MELVIN, BRAD TX HHC 1-91ENG
2LT MULLEN, JAMES C. MO C 2-5C
E-5 TAJALLE, JOEY A.P. GU 2-8C
SGT VARGAS, PETER TX C 1-5C
SFC VERASTEGUI, FIDENCIO OK C 1-82FA
2LT WATERS, LEVIN MA B 1-8ENG
MSG WEBBER, BRIAN TN 1CD
SPC WHITE, LEEVON FL C 1-27MNT
CPT YOUNG, MICHEAL TX 2-12C



WANTED / IN SEARCHING OF:

SGT GEORGE EDWARD “NICK” CROTTS

In search of anyone who served with my grandfather, SGT George Edward “Nick” Crotts who worked in the motor pool of the 1st Cavalry Division in Korea and Japan 1948-1952.

Contact Ashley Crotts-Kassebaum at <crottsgarage1@yahoo.com>.

ISHMAEL FIGUEROA

I am looking for Ishmael Figueroa who served in Vietnam in 1970 Company A, 2-12 Cav. We have had several reunions and would like to contact him.

Thank you,
Stanley Wilson, 828-290-7145
PO Box 772
Lake Lure, NC 28746

DONUT DOLLIES

I am a historian (Pa State Historic Commission) and award-winning author (Military Writers Society of America) who is working on a book about the Donut Dollies and also in seeing that they are at long last honored as they should be, including The Congressional Gold Medal.

I would very much appreciate interviewing any of your members who had contact with a Dollie. Please contact me at my email address below. All my efforts will go to Vets ‘charities. Thank you for your service and sacrifice.

Richard Sand, Esq <rsand@sandsaidel.com>

LOOKING FOR A LONG LOST BATTLE BUDDY?

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

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



WELCOME to the 1CDA TEAM!

12th CAV News



Thomas Lon Crabtree
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Branson, MO 65616
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MMCTLC3@aol.com
www.12thCav.US



This is the last column for 2022, by the time you receive it all the reunion round-a-bouts will be completed for the year. With that in mind, hope ALL have a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year! Time to make plans for 2023 reunion agendas. 75th Annual Reunion of 1st Cavalry Division will be in Louisville, KY, 13-17 June 2023 at Crowne Plaza Hotel. Suggest that reservations be made ASAP for this milestone gathering, Crowne Plaza number is 866-888-0620, reference code: SAL. Registrations forms are in this issue.

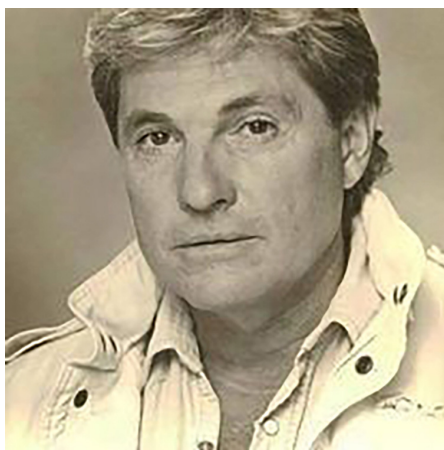
YESTROOPERS: There is a 12th Cavalry Reunion on tap, 5-9 September 2023. 18th Annual 12th Cavalry Reunion will be in Branson, MO at the Branson Hillside Hotel and Theater, formerly (The Welk). Seventy rooms are blocked. Reservations can be made with Mellodie Suire at 417-243-1335. Look for registration forms for the reunion in the upcoming Crossed Sabers Newsletter. Fred Wilson, D Co, 2-12, 1969-70, is point man and primary contact for the 2023 Roundup. Contact Fred at 740-331-1814 or email: <fnwilson49@hotmail.com>.

TERRY McCARL's COLUMN Sep-Oct 2022: Terry wrote of a discovery he made about actors who were Vietnam Veterans. He specifically mentioned a 1st Cav Division Veteran, Steve Kanally, who served in 1-8 Cav, 1967 to 1968 as an RTO, in I Corps-A Shau Valley. Terry stated that, "the name Steve Kanally was familiar," as Terry was a fan of the Dallas Series, 1978-1991. Steve Kanally played the role of Ray Krebbs, Southfork Ranch Foreman, and acted and directed in numerous other TV series and movies. After further research looking for other Vietnam Veterans, he found 156 actors who served in the US Military. Twelve of the 156 were Vietnam Veterans: seven Army, three Marines, two Navy. Terry concluded, "I believe Steve to be the only actor/director to have served in the 1st Cavalry Division in Vietnam. Steve consulted with John Milius on the writing of Apocalypse Now and played a role in the movie Judge Roy Bean with Paul Newman."

Terry, I am sorry to hear you have written your last *Saber* column. I enjoy reading your column. You have provided us with some valuable and useful information that enhances the 1st Cavalry Division Legacy. I must correct your view about Steve as the only actor/director to have served in the 1st Cavalry Division.

There are two Troopers of 1-12 CAVALRY who have acted in movies, television series, and consulted/produced documentaries. LTC (Ret) Michael B. Christy, C Co, 1-12, 1970-71, North Hollywood (Studio City), CA and Frank Crary, D Co, 1-12 (Airborne), 1965-66, Tucson, AZ. Both are highly decorated Soldiers and reflect the highest traditions of the 1st Cavalry Division and the 12th Cavalry Regiment. LTC Christy, crossed over to Fiddlers Green 6 September 2022. He joined the Marine Corps in 1956, served two years active and two years in MC reserves.

In 1962, Christy joined the Army National Guard and was called to Active Duty 1966. Through 18 years in the Army, LTC Christy served in Special Forces Units to include the Famed Delta Force. As a Captain, Christy took command of C Co, 1-12 Cavalry in January 1970, in Phouc Long Province along the Cambodian Border. LTC Christy led the company into Cambodia 29th April 1970 where they operated for over 40 days. Returning with the unit to Base Camp at Phouc Long on 29 June 1970, Christy had earned the respect and admiration of Soldiers, NCOs, and superior officers. He was awarded two Silver Stars, two Bronze Stars, and two Purple Hearts during his service in Vietnam.



Michael Christy

LTC Christy served in Korea and Japan where he developed an interest in film and appeared in nine martial arts films in Korea and Japan. He had a recurring role in "Tour of Duty," wrote fiction drama stories and produced non-fiction documentaries. After retiring in 1984, LTC Christy was a freelance producer/writer for Actuality Producers, Claymore Communications. He was executive producer/writer for "The DocuMedia Group" and executive producer for The DocuMedia Group, where he produced "Mysteries of the Bible," "Red Star Murders," and "The Unexplained." His documentaries "Booby Traps," "Camouflage," and "Bullets" are on the History Channel network and numerous articles in Vietnam magazine.

Frank Crary, served with D Co, 1-12 (ABN), 1965-66. He was awarded a Silver Star 7 April 1966 that was upgraded to the Distinguished Service Cross in May 2018, FT Huachuca, AZ.

Frank has had several roles in movies and numerous actions as a stunt man in various productions. One of his prouder moments was being stunt man in "Dances with Wolves" in the wagon scene at the river where the tribe rescued Costner.

Here I will invoke some words from our iconic war correspondent, Joseph L. Galloway, "America, you shot yourselves in the foot by turning your back on Vietnam Veterans." I might add that, "many of the problems in our country today, would be minimal or resolved, had the country tapped into the many talents of Veterans who served in Vietnam. Yet, we were able to accomplish many things against much prejudice thanks to the superb training and character developed in Combat and



Frank Crary

the 1st Cavalry Division," to that I add a Semper Paratus and Boot to Boot (TLC)!



Linh Hoang Le at Bob March's Place

D COMPANY 1-12: 3-6 October 2022, D Company was in Las Vegas at Southpoint Casino and Hotel. Visited by Linh Hoang Le, producer at Vietnam TV, Hanoi. Linh and his camera operator interviewed Delta Company originals and C Company Troopers Doug Warden and Thomas Crabtree. Linh was invited to attend the reunion by Bob March D Co, 1965-66. Bob's efforts in bringing together C Company Troopers Spencer Matteson, Kinborne Lo, Ivory Whitaker 1966-67 and C 1-5 Trooper Steve Hassett 1966-67, to assist in searching for mass burial site on LZ Bird in July 2022, inspired Linh to want to meet more of the Troopers of the initial period. Arrangements were made to bring him to Vegas and after Vegas Linh visited Bob at his home in Poulsbo, WA. While in Vegas, Linh made a recorded presentation to the D Company Troopers, talking about the LZ Bird Project and asking for information about any mass burial sites that Troopers may recall. He asked that any who recall these scenes try to help the Vietnamese people with input and information that may help them locate their lost ones. This 9-minute recorded presentation is on the Delta Company website at <www.catrack.6india>. It is worth 9-minutes to view Linh's speech. Go to the site, click on videos, click Linh's name, and offer your feedback. Linh's view is to have his documentary the Bird dig in July incorporated with the material he gathered in Vegas and at Bob March's place completed sometime in 2023 and return to the U.S. to present to us. It will be in English, dubbed in Vietnamese for his people.

C COMPANY 1-12 ORIGINALS: 12-15 October 2022, 17 original Airborne Troopers of 1965-66 got together at Hilton Hotel, South FT Benning in Columbus, GA. Troopers present were Gary Rhodes, Mike Martin, David Muniz, Doug Warden, Jerome 'Doc' Bacon, Mario Mata, John Spranza, Martell Swain, Ben Dubose, Dave Hamrick, Jay Snyder, Rich Grainger, Bill Martin, Wayne Bormann, Carlos Cruz, Thomas Crabtree, Ivory Whitaker. Thursday, 13 October, the 'Order of Saint Maurice' Medallion was presented to 15 Troopers.



Front L-R: Rhodes, Martin, Muniz, Warden
Standing L-R: 'Doc' Bacon, Mata, Spranza, Swain, Hamrick, Snyder, Grainger, Bill Martin, Bormann, Cruz, Crabtree, Whitaker

Warden and Crabtree had received theirs 25 January 2022 with Delta Company Troopers. After the presentation, Troopers and spouses attended a tour of the Infantry Museum and lunch. Highlight of the week was Friday, 14 October at the Jump School graduation ceremony. Former Airborne Troopers were invited to pin Wings on the new Paratroopers. Saturday night, a grand, catered bar-b-que was had at the hotel and Ivory Whitaker gave an informative talk about his and the rest of the Troopers' experiences participating in the LZ Bird grave search in July. Sunday all departed to their primary base camp homes with a vow to gather again in 'Boot to Boot' tradition before crossing to Fiddlers' Green.

All good things have an ending. In the beginning, 2022 had some interesting developments, then some setbacks and some glitches. Overall, it has been a good year, more plusses than minuses. Enjoyed the Dayton Reunion, 12th Cavalry Reunion, Delta, and Charlie Company Reunions.

Just received a call from the plastic surgeon's office in Springfield that, they will be moving ahead with surgery on my left leg and finally, correct the hole in the left shin area. Gives a new light to the coming year. Thus, this last article for 2022 wishes ALL a Happy Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and good tidings for the year to come. I thank all those Troopers who have offered their stories which helps keep the column going and provides accurate information to the 12th Cavalry Legacy we have played a major part in. Until 2023, "May the chief chopper pilot hover over us, the original paratrooper correct our parachute malfunctions, and the head point man keep us in the assigned AO."

To the active-duty Troopers, "roll with the lead tanker and keep the mud off your track wheels," Happy holidays and best to all in the New Year!

Boot to Boot
Crabtree out!

7th CAV News



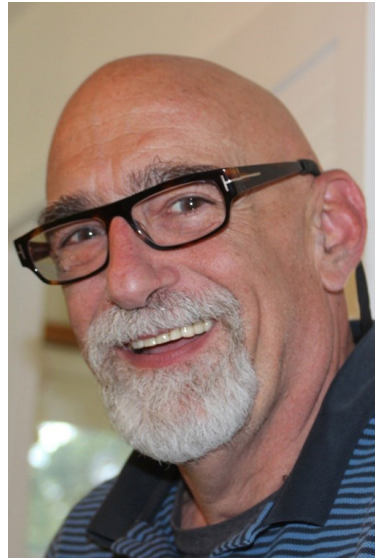
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Hello again, my friends, brothers, and sisters. This is my 32nd issue of the *Saber* as scribe for the 7th US Cavalry Regiment, and it is also my last. After five years of writing the column I am turning it over to Jack Parente, my brother in arms from Echo Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry. Jack (we called him Boz then) was one of my M-60 machine gunners until I found out what a great shot he was with the M-79 grenade launcher. He could hit a branch in a tree from 100 meters causing an air burst. He was good! Jack and I will co-write the next column, and then the column will be his. I would wish him luck, but with his talents, he will not need it. I would like you all to meet him, both as:



Boz from Vietnam 1969



Jack from Hauppauge, NY

From the Active Duty Units

GARRY OWEN! 1-7 is at Ft Irwin, California, and improving our readiness daily. We just finished 10 days of force-on-force training at the section, platoon, and Troop level in the central corridor at the national training center. CSM Laconico and I saw tremendous improvements at the Trooper, Leader, and Unit level and I have every confidence in the world that this formation is ready to fight anywhere at any time and WIN!

We will remain in California through the end of November and will participate in Project Convergence 22 (PC22), which is an Army Futures Command event that evaluates the Army's latest technologies. We completed the Manned/Unmanned Teaming (MUMT) in June, which was the largest robotics experiment that the Army ever conducted. Between PC22 and the MUMT experiment, 1-7 CAV is undoubtedly the best trained formation on future weapon systems and is prepared to operate in future conflicts.

When we get back to Ft Hood, Texas, we will bid farewell to CSM Laconico, who served as the SQDN CSM for three years. His mark on the unit has been impactfully; he is developed everyone from my level to the most junior Trooper. The Army selected CSM Laconico to serve as the 1st SQDN, 11th ACR CSM and I have every confidence in the world that he will excel there as well. We welcome in CSM Gomez from 2nd Infantry Division who will undoubtedly continue the legacy of phenomenal CSMs in 1-7 CAV.

What distinguishes 2-7 CAV as a unit is our strength as a team and our unit cohesion. The strong bonds between our Troopers are based on confidence in the competence and character of their teammates and the knowledge, that as a unit, we all have each other's backs. I would like to extend my gratitude to all those at home who have had our backs while we have been here in Poland. The support of our Troopers' families and friends has been indispensable in our success, and we are grateful. The foundation that those at home provide has enabled our Troopers to demonstrate their competence and lethality this past month as they conducted both gunnery and multiple live fire exercises.

As the Commander of 2-7 CAV, I appreciate all that our Troopers and our Troopers' families do to ensure that Ghost Battalion is not only the most competent and lethal force possible, but also the strongest and most tenacious team.

I am LTC Michael Wellock, and I am a proud Ghost Trooper. Garryowen!!! The 5th Squadron has had an incredible two months of well-deserved rest following their redeployment from Europe. The Squadron has begun the initial stages of New Equipment Fielding in preparation for drawing new armored vehicles.

As a part of the Squadron's Unit Reintegration all Troops participated in the FMWR's Warrior Adventure Quest (WAQ) at Holbrook Pond; an outstanding program that provides Soldiers with outdoor, team-building activities. We culminated with a Squadron Run on 13 OCT followed by the BDE Colors Uncasing Ceremony and the DIV Welcome Home Ceremony that evening where two of our incredible FRG spouses; Mrs. Kristina Vance and Mrs. Nae Cawthon, were recognized by the Troops and CSM Kelly.

We look forward to our Squadron Hail and Farewell, Squadron Golf Scramble, Squadron Stable Call, and Squadron Trunk or Treat and DUI DONSA in the upcoming weeks as we continue to build ready and cohesive teams within our Troops and families.

The 5-7 Cavalry Association held its annual Veterans Day gathering at

the Holiday Inn in Crystal City, VA on November 9-12, 2022. Events included a banquet dinner on November 10th at the hotel, and the Association again be laid a wreath at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on November the 11th as part of the official ceremonies at the Wall.

And this account of the heat of battle, Vietnam 1969, from Greg Schlieve

I served in Charlie Company, 5th Bn, 7th Cavalry Regt of the 1st Cavalry Division. As you may know, Custer died with Echo Troop, the smallest Troop in the 7th Cavalry Regt. It was a recon Troop. He sent Troops A and B to confront the Sioux village from one direction while he advanced from another direction. Phil Sheridan was right behind him and came upon Custer and Echo Troop a couple of days later. The Colors of Echo Troop were retired and cased. It was 90 years to the day that Echo Troop's Colors were unfurled and re-instated as the 5th Bn (Echo is the 5th letter in the alphabet) of the 7th Cavalry Regt and sent to Vietnam to fill out the Brigade that only had the 1-7 and the 2-7 battalions and were thus one battalion short. It was strange that when the battalion finally left Vietnam, they were one of the most decorated battalions of the war.

I got to Vietnam at the end of January 1969. I did not know that at that very moment Charlie Company was being filmed and on TV as they had just discovered the largest cache of enemy ammo/supplies that had ever been found up to that time. I was told it was a battle that lasted several days, but in the end Charlie Company prevailed. Then on July 4th of 1969 Charlie Company once again stumbled onto a bunker complex that the enemy did not want to give up or leave. The battle lasted 5 days. I think the Army had gotten smarter, and the decision was made to pull out early in the morning, about 4 am.

As we marched away, we were told that we had to make up a large amount of distance as B-52's had already left the Philippines and would be bombing this area to find out why the enemy was so determined to hold onto this piece of ground. The next issue of *Stars and Stripes* said that after the bombing, a recon unit went in and found a full hospital underground, division size, and many large underground areas where substantial amounts of supplies were being stored. They also found a large tunnel, large enough for a Russian deuce-and-a-half truck to drive in that was 17 miles long going all the way back into Cambodia. For 3 days 6 Chinooks carried bicycles out of the bunker complex. The article said it was the largest cache of weapons, food, and supplies ever found in Vietnam up to that time.

I was only halfway through my tour. It had been two months earlier on May 6th that our company had just come in from the jungle, and 2 days later were attacked by a battalion of NVA soldiers. It was a bloody battle that cost the enemy 300 dead and their dead laid right in front of our positions when we woke up in the morning and the smoke had cleared. It was startling to see a dead body on every square yard of dirt in front of us. It reminded me of battle scenes I had seen of the Civil War. That night was the first time I had witnessed the "Puff the Magic Dragon Gun Ship" firing on enemy positions up close and what I call personal.

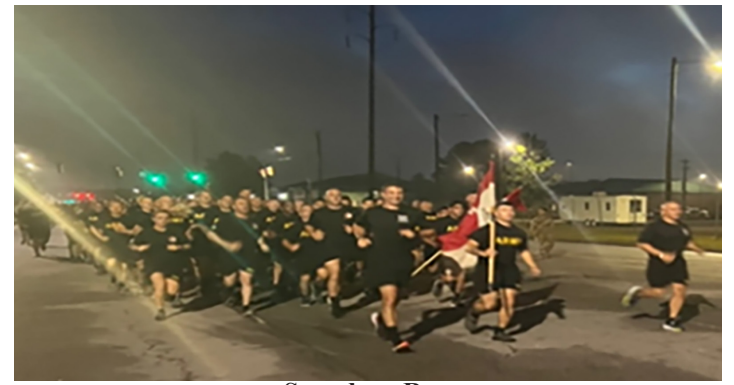
The LZ had a deuce-and-a-half truck with quad 50's on it. It was also called into action and drove around the inside of the perimeter firing directly into the enemy positions. We also had a 105-howitzer firing beehive rounds directly at the enemy, which really blew them apart. It was the artillery, the Cobra gunships, Puff the Magic Dragon, and the deuce-and-a-half that we called "Blood, Sweat, and Tears" that did most the killing that night. The enemy made three human wave attacks on us that night, which to me looked like the most foolish, stupid thing they could have ever decided to do. They were just throwing away the lives of their men with no chance of prevailing. It was a brutal battle with at least 300 enemy dead, but we could see that many other bodies had been dragged away down trails.

The 1-8 battalion came by a month later and found two large graves of enemy dead. Sixty-eight bodies in one grave 82 in another. The Army finally decided that we were attacked from several directions by two battalions of enemy. We had four killed and 26 seriously wounded. Looking around at our company a few weeks later after we finally re-assembled (they said that we were combat inefficient and were given a two-week rest after the battle) we saw many new men. Now we had the job of deciding just what nickname we would give to each new Trooper. We must have looked like a sight to them when they finally got to our company. Our squad had for some strange reason been sent to the top of Nui Ba Ra as soon as we marched away from the July 4th battle site.

We never knew where other platoons of our company were sent to. But as soon as we got there, we had a perfect view to witness the B-52's dropping their bombs. The red dust would bloom up into the air as each bomber dropped its bombs. The line of red dirt floating into the sky just kept going away from us, mile after mile. I had never seen an arc-light taking place before. It was awesome, unbelievable. I felt sorry for anyone on the ground that had to endure that. The thought struck me that I had felt sorrow for the enemy and reminded me that there was still a part of me, deep inside me, that was still human.

And so it goes, another issue in the tank. Thanks so much for the experiences of the past 5 years and letting me believe that some of you enjoyed my meanderings through some of the history of the 7th US Cavalry. I am so proud to have served in Delta and Echo 1-7 way back in 1968 and into 1970. And I am also proud that you have allowed me to prepare these missives. I am still around should you wish to talk with me, I always have time to talk to a Cav Trooper! Please treat my replacement, Jack Parente, with the same level of dignity that you have shown me. It is his turn now. Help him out, send your stories in!! For the next couple of months send them to me and I will forward them to Jack. We especially need stories from the GWOT folks – we know you have them; you just have to get up off them!

And, for the last time, Garryowen my dear friends, brothers, and sisters!



Squadron Run



8th CAV News



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Hello, my 1st Cav family. I hope everyone is doing well. The fall leaves are falling quickly now and soon we will hear old winter's song. God bless us all and here is hoping you have had a great Thanksgiving. Santa is right around the corner so be good to yourselves and the ones you love. Merry Christmas from me and Jennifer.

Speaking of Christmas: at our Kentucky Kampout reunion in October, we were sitting around the campfire when the subject came up about being in the Nam around Christmas & good memories.

Randy Whitman, D 2/8 1968, was in the hospital in Cam-Rahn Bay around Christmas. He was able to see the Bob Hope show with special guest Ann Margret and the Gold Diggers. He was seated with Ann Margret's husband and other family members.



Larry Hempfling, D 2/8 1968, had gone to Sydney, Australia before Christmas. Coming back to the jungle was a big letdown. Lo and behold, word came down to let the company go into LZ Rita for a Christmas dinner. Larry told me it was one of the most grueling humps he had been on, but the grub was worth it.

Chuck Ciufo, HHQ on LZ Caroline 8/68 - 8/69, is a new addition to the Kampout and a terrific addition to our group. Christmas '68 he got a package from his wife. It was a small plastic Christmas tree, all decorated with ornaments and such. He said that little piece of home brought huge smiles and a few tears to LZ Caroline. After a while, he could not get rid of the tree so he took it to HQ so other Troops could enjoy that small piece of home. Thanks, brothers for sharing.

Kentucky Kampout

And now my pride and joy, my most enjoyable time of the year, the Kentucky Kampout. Me and others started this 23 years ago. We had 24 in attendance this year. It started on a Tuesday and ran until Saturday. The feeling of seeing friends and buddies each year is indescribable. Great weather, great food, and great lodging. I want to thank the Amvets Ladies Auxiliary and Amvets at Post 45 in Buchanan, TN for our Wednesday night meal and the Ladies Auxiliary of American Legion Post 89 for providing us with 3 mornings of down-home breakfasts. We invite everyone to come join us in October.

We had the privilege and honor to welcome COL (R) Rich Woods who was 8th Battalion commander in 1968 and Rocky Colavita, LTC (R) Company Commander with D 2/8 1968/1969 Angry Skipper to the Kentucky Kampout this year.

Once a Medic, Always a Medic

I recently received this email from Trooper Bird. I was really moved by it and thought it was so well written. I contacted Steve and asked him if I could print this letter in its entirety and he readily agreed. Thank you, Trooper, for both your efforts to save Mike "Mouse" McGhie (December 17, 1947 - May 20, 2011) and your letter.

Jim:

I noticed your reference to the passing of Mike McGhie at our past Reunion at Ft. Benning, in your recent column. You may recall that I was the former Medic who tried in vain to resuscitate Mike. I had been with my Company (B 2/8) in another function room at the hotel. We were just wrapping up a private dinner, when Tom DeYoung rushed into the room and told me we had a man down in the Hospitality Room. When I got there, several guys were hovering around Mike as he lay unconscious on the floor. Several guys were crying, and since he had been down for several minutes before they found me, and they detected no pulse or breathing, they thought he had already passed.

I used one of my old tricks from Vietnam and found that his pupils were still reacting to light. This told me there was still a flicker of life left. I immediately started CPR and yelled out for an AED. I was stunned that a major chain like Holiday Inn did not have an AED readily available! I worked feverishly on him for about 15 minutes until the EMTs arrived. I gave them a report and an estimate of how long he had been down and how long I had been doing CPR. They quickly determined that he was gone.

Ed Scholes rode to the hospital with Mike. He was declared DOA when they arrived. There was an outpouring of grief when Ed returned and told us that Mike was gone. I am convinced to this day that I could have saved Mike if I had an AED to use on him. I would hope that the 8th Cavalry Association would buy one and bring it to all future Reunions.

This incident brought back many bad memories from my service in Vietnam. When I lost a Trooper in the field, I would be inconsolable for days. I would always be second guessing about if I had this or that for equipment, I could have kept the guy alive long enough to get him on a Medevac. Eventually I would realize that I could not carry advanced life support equipment in the field. I frequently carried blood volume expanders that helped, but none of the more advanced equipment found in the rear at the 15th Med. The guys who I served with in the field knew full well what my reaction would be to losing Mike. The next morning when I did not show for our normal breakfast, I got a knock on my door and found several of my guys waiting for me! They did what they would do when we were in Vietnam. They would tell me to stop dwelling on those I could not save and remember the ones that I did. This helped, but the sting of losing Mike and Troopers in Vietnam will stay with me for the rest of my days. The day after Mike passed, Ed Scholes took me aside and told me that when he had called Mike's wife with the sad news, he told her

that one of our best Medics in Vietnam was on the scene and gave Mike the best chance possible to survive! His words were very therapeutic - to say the least!

Keep up the excellent work with your *Saber* column! When I get *Saber*, I immediately go to your 8th Cavalry page first! Hope you are fully recovered from your recent health issue. Now that we do not have to wear those stupid masks to fly, I expect to see you at a future 8th Cavalry Association event.

Steve Bird

B 2/8 and HHC (April 68 - January 69)

B Company 15th Med (January 69 - April 69)

Kentucky Kampout 2022



Top Gun & Smiley



Jim Nix & Larry Hempfling



Rich Woods & Rocky Colavita



Signed Cav Board



Wes & John Lee



Kentucky Kampout Reunion 2022 attendees

9th CAV News

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GOOD TIMES AND SHARED MEMORIES

For the past few issues of the *Saber*, ever since reports began to surface of mental issues and high rates of stress and suicide among Veterans, this column has touted the therapeutic value of reunions.

One person who has experienced the horrors of war may be inclined to try to bear that burden all alone, but when two or more who have shared the experience get together, the result can be the lightening of the load for all.

The long Covid lock-down caused reunion plans to be put off for a couple of years. One of the first to be held as the pandemic started easing was the 74th Annual Reunion of our Association, held in Dayton, Ohio in early July. It was the first 1CDA reunion I ever attended, and everyone I met there soon felt like an old friend. It restored my faith in the healing qualities of getting together. Since then, two Troops of the Vietnam-era 1st of the 9th have held reunions.

CHARLIE TROOP, 19-21 AUGUST

This gathering was the sixth one organized by Trooper Patrick Bieneman and his bride, Troopette Carol. As related in the September/October 2020 *Saber*, from the outset they decided seven things are a must for every reunion: (1) Honor the Troopers who went to Vietnam, (2) Honor Our Fallen Brothers, (3) Honor the Gold Star Family Members in attendance, (4) Keep it casual, (5) Keep it entertaining, (6) Keep the families involved, and (7) Welcome any 1st Cavalry Division Trooper who wants to attend, regardless of which unit they served in. Charlie Troop's 2022 reunion checked all seven blocks, as reported by Patrick:

Charlie Troop held its annual reunion in Branson, Missouri. Several regular attendees could not make it this year due to surgeries (also known as old age repairs). We did have 26 Troopers, representing all four Troops – Alfa, Bravo, Charlie, and Delta – and covering the years 1965-1971. They were joined by 16 spouses, plus one son, one daughter, one granddaughter, two grandsons, two great-grandsons, two nephews, and two nieces.

We also had three Gold Star Families in attendance. SP5 Billy Knight's widow, Ruth Brenner; his son, Billy Brenner; and his daughter Judy Donaldson were there. So were SP5 Louis Walton's daughters, Diane Walton-Gleaton and Kathy Walton, along with Diane's husband, Michael, plus Diane's daughter, grandson, and granddaughter. CW2 John Jelich's widow, Cecelia Jelich-Frost was accompanied by son John II, his wife, Beth, and their two sons, John III, and Brooks. The widows of three Troopers who died after their tours in Vietnam also came to enjoy the companionship and camaraderie.

One way we try to involve families in our reunions is by having a family come up and read the poem, "It's me who has your back." This year the Jelich family answered the call, with Cecelia reading the part of the mother, Beth the part of the wife, brothers John and Brooks the part of the child, and John II the part of the Soldier. Afterward, we presented the boys with certificates making them "Little Brothers" of Charlie Troop. We also presented them with Dog Tags, one with John II's info from when he served in Bosnia and one with their grandfather's info. So far, we have inducted 6 Little Sisters and 13 Little Brothers. The boys' numbers are higher because we inducted 10 Boy Scouts at our first reunion in 2015 for presenting the colors at our opening ceremonies and our Wall presentation.



Jelich family and the boys' certificates

Charlie's 2023 reunion is planned for 5-7 August in Columbus, Georgia.

APACHE TROOP 29 SEPTEMBER - 2 OCTOBER

Apache Troop's get-together was held in Tempe, Arizona and organized by Mike Lentino and his daughter Angela, with help from Pam Hoskin and Pick Pelter. Original plans called for an airworthy Huey and Cobra to be present and available for rides, but unfortunately both were scratched at the last minute. In a sense so was Angela, because before the gathering got underway, she tested positive for Covid and was not able to join in the fun she helped plan.

Afterward the reunion, Pam Hoskin shared these observations:

Mike Lentino hosted us at the Embassy Suites in Tempe, Arizona. Twenty-five Troopers attended, along with 16 wives and two sisters. The hotel had great space where everyone could gather for a lot of conversation. Chocolate martinis made an appearance and were deemed acceptable.

Many of us toured the Commemorative Air Force Museum and the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation hangar in Mesa, followed by lunch at a great local Mexican restaurant. A couple of Troopers made a quick side trip to Tucson in their quest for the best steak in Arizona, while some of us explored the wide variety of good dining that was not a two-hour drive away.

Always a centerpiece of our reunions is the hour we devote to honoring the memory of those Troopers who did not return from Vietnam, as well as those Troopers who have died since their tour.

Plans are in the works for our next reunion, which will be held in Killeen, Texas, home of Fort Hood, in October 2023. Fort Hood is slated for renaming as Fort Cavazos, and it is possible that process will have been completed by then.

Phil Raschke, who trained with the 1-9 Cav at Fort Benning, deployed with it in 1965, and served as Apache 15, had this to say:

Reunion took place in Tempe, AZ and was thoroughly enjoyed by all attendees. Once again, I was the only member of the original A Troop group commonly known as the An Khe "Boat People." At the traditional reading of the "We Remember" casualty lists, I was given the honor of reading the names from the period October '65 to June '66. Even after all these years, it was not an easy read.

Finally, Ron Livingston, Apache 29, reported a wonderful time in Tempe and offered these thoughts on why reunions are important:

All of us who were in A Troop need to go to these reunions. I want to see everyone there at Fort Hood, regardless of what you did in Vietnam. It took ALL of us to make Apache Troop work. So, talk to your buddies and plan to attend the next reunion at Fort Hood. Thanks, it was an honor to have served with all of you.



Phil Raschke, Boat Person, representing the First Team of the First Team



The Bieneman's newest 1/9 Cav man, great nephew Jon, age 1



Apache Foursome L-R: Ron Livingston, John Allan, Mike Lentino, Paul Funk

BRAVO, DELTA, AND HEADQUARTERS TROOPS

In the three years I have been your scribe, the only Troop reunions I have gotten word of were Alfa's and Charlie's. If anyone reading this knows of other Troops getting together, please let me know so I can help get the word out. Meanwhile, I learned from Paul "Bat" Murtha of a B Troop Facebook page. Check it out at <<https://www.facebook.com/BravoTroop1stSquadron9thCavalry/>>. Bat tells me the site has put him in contact with 50+ B Troopers he would otherwise never have found as he works to enlarge a spreadsheet he is building of B/1-9 Soldiers.

OTHER WARS, OTHER SQUADRONS AND BATTALIONS

Veterans and current members of the First, Fourth, and Sixth of the Ninth, you too can enjoy the rewards of staying connected with those whose experiences you shared. Whether it is by Facebook or Zoom meetings or in-person reunions, please take the advice of us old guys and make it a point to stay in touch. If you would like to share information about how to do so with others who might be reading this column, send me what you are planning, and I will help get the word out.

HELP WANTED

When the November/December 2018 issue of the *Saber* arrived in the mail, I was shocked to find there was no 9th Cavalry column and even more shocked when I learned it was because Mike Bond, who had cranked out the column for five years, passed away suddenly. I did not want to see the column disappear, and I had always thought it would be fun to be a newspaperman, so I took on the job as 9th Cav Scribe. Now, four years later, I am running out of things to say. Efforts to find contributors among the younger set – those whose service in units of the 9th Cavalry came after Korea and Vietnam – have proved unsuccessful, and I suspect readers may be growing tired of my carrying on about the importance of staying connected, attending reunions, and seeking the company of others who understand the stresses and strains of wartime service.

I therefore could use some help. If you have a memory to share, a funny story or a tragic one, or if you just would like to express what serving in the 9th United States Cavalry has meant to you, please let me know – my email address and phone number are at the top of this column. In return I will share the by-line with you and help you learn and carry out the *Saber* submission guidelines. If you have the time and find you enjoy meeting the editor's deadline every other month, I would be pleased to step aside and let someone else take their turn as the 9th Cavalry *Saber* Scribe.

One more thing: If you do decide to send me words you would like to see published in the *Saber*, send photos too.

IN MEMORIAM

LTC George S. Crawford of Palatka, Florida, died 7 June at the age of 89. He served in C Troop in 1966.

May He Rest in Peace





1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN

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I want to thank Association President Scott Sjule for recently appointing me as the Historian for the 1st Cavalry Division Association, taking over from Terry McCarl.

Many of you know me but to give a little of my personal history, I served as the Division Sergeant Major of the First Team from January 1996 to August 1998. After retiring from the Army with a little over 30 years, I began serving as the Executive Director of the 1st Cavalry Division Association from 2002 to 2016. I have remained active in the Association volunteering at reunions and briefing newly assigned personnel to the Division on our Association. As part of my duties, I will be preparing an article for each issue of *Saber* to highlight a portion of the History of the First Team and/or the 1st Cavalry Division Association.

This past 13th day of September marked the 101st year of existence for the 1st Cavalry Division. The First Team celebrated that entire week with sporting events and ended the celebration with a Parade on Cooper Field to honor the History of the 1st Cavalry Division. In this issue, we look back to the beginning of the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Bliss, Texas. Much of what I am presenting comes from the research and writings of William H. "Harry" Boudreau who served many years as the Association Historian. Additional information is added from the *US Army Order of Battle 1919-1941, Volume 2* by LTC (Ret) Steven E. Clay.

Texas. The 1st Cavalry Brigade and its units were assigned to Camp Harry J. Jones in Douglas, Arizona. Originally, this brigade consisted of one white Cavalry Regiment and one black Cavalry Regiment, the 10th Cavalry. However, under existing War Department policies at the time, units of the two races were not to be in the same brigade. Thus, the 5th Cavalry Regiment was assigned on 18 December 1922, relieving the 10th Cavalry Regiment. It would not be until 3 January 1933 that the 12th Cavalry Regiment would join the 1st Cavalry Division, relieving the 1st Cavalry Regiment which was transferred to Fort Knox to form the basis for the 7th Cavalry Brigade (Mechanized).

In early September 1921, the first venture of the 1st Cavalry Division into the aviation environment was in cooperation with the 12th Observation Squadron, one of the oldest USAF Squadrons, which operated out of Fort Bliss. The Air Corps furnished the plane and pilot for observation of artillery fire while the Field Artillery furnished the observer. Doctrine specified that such observation planes should be attached to Corps and from there allotted to Cavalry units on a mission-by-mission basis as the situation dictated. The coordination process between Cavalry requirements and Squadron fulfillment became a major obstacle in its implementation. The General Staff officers of the Cavalry were often out of touch with the requirements of modern aerial warfare and their chief complaint about air personnel was the disrespectful way flying officers flouted regulations by refusing to wear their cavalry spurs while flying airplanes. The joint venture ended in June 1926.

In the fall of 1923, the 1st Cavalry Division assembled at Camp Marfa, Texas to stage its first division-level maneuvers since its organization. The maneuvers were held in the Marfa-Shafter-Alamito area of the Big Bend District, Texas. The line of march was Fabens, Ft. Hancock, Sierra Blanca, Hot Wells, Lobo Flats, and Valentine. The wagon trains, all drawn by four mules (no motorized vehicles yet), seemed endless. Terrain covering an area of 900 square miles was obtained through the generosity and public spirit of ranch owners. The enormous tract was mapped and marked by a detachment from the 8th Engineer Battalion.

The actual maneuvers consisted of both one-sided and two-sided problems with brigade against brigade and included the entire division as a whole unit. The 12th Observation Squadron participated in maneuvers with the Division. The use of aircraft allowed the maneuvers, in every detail, to conform with actual war conditions. Since this was the first major United States Army training exercise since World War I, representatives of several foreign governments attended the maneuvers.

Published results of the exercises of the 1st Cavalry Division attracted the interest of other cavalry organizations, nationally and international, which placed emphasis on the incorporation of additional realism in successive exercises. From a Time Magazine, article dated Monday, 10 October 1927: "Not since the Civil War had US Cavalry engaged in maneuvers on the scale of those conducted last week on 120 square miles of terrain in and about Marfa, Texas. Some 280 officers, 4,000 men, 3,200 horses and 1,500 mules were deployed over gulches, hillocks, and sagebrush plains - the 2nd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Fort Bliss) playing "Brown" army to the "White" army of the 1st Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Fort Bliss) and 1st Cavalry Regiment (Marfa). Tanks, cannons, airplanes, Red Cross ambulances and every appurtenance of real war, right down to hot weather, secrecy and red tape, accompanied the show."

Over the next four years, elements of the Division were stationed at Camp Marfa, Fort Bliss, and Fort Clark, all located in Texas. The early missions of the Division were comprised of rough riding, patrolling the Mexican border, and constant training. Operating from horseback, the cavalry was the only viable force capable of piercing the harsh terrain of the desert to halt the band of smugglers that operated along the desolate Mexican border. Despite the lack of ample funding and the limited availability of new equipment, priorities were placed on readiness evaluation by extensive field maneuvers.

BOOK of INTEREST:

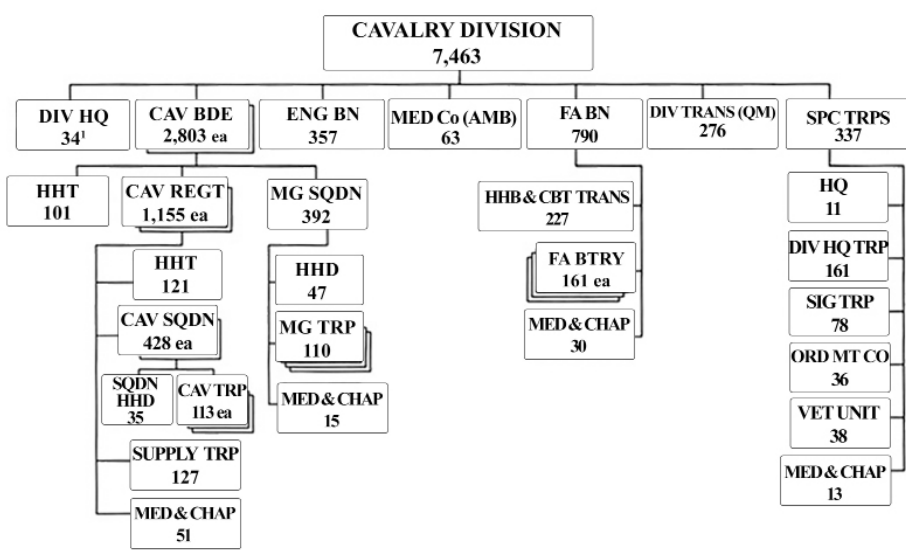
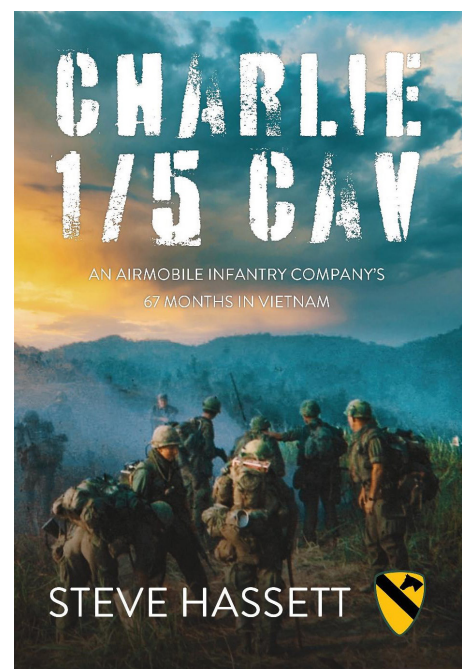
Charlie 1/5 Cav: An Airmobile Infantry Company's 67 Months in Vietnam by Steve Hassett

This is a history of one infantry company in Vietnam over five and a half years of war. Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry, was a light infantry company, part of the Army's 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), the military's first unit trained and equipped for helicopter warfare. It was one of about 300 Army and Marine infantry companies that served in that war and its experiences are both typical of what all these companies endured and unique to Charlie Company and its men.

Charlie Company was in Vietnam longer than and served in more areas of that country than most other companies, encountering different terrain and circumstances, and with missions that reflected the changing nature and the larger political backdrop of the war. Told in part through the voices of Charlie Company Veterans, Charlie 1/5 is a history of the Vietnam War through the eyes and memories of some of the men who fought it.

Steve Hassett was a member of the 1-5 Cav from August 1966 to August 1967, operating in Binh Dinh and Pleiku Provinces so he drew on his own experiences. It's a history of Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry from its initial deployment in August 1965 until its return to the states in April 1967.

The book is available through Amazon or directly from Steve, (716) 258-8638 or <steveh77@comcast.net>.



1ST CAVALRY DIVISION 1921

The Beginning

The history of the 1st Cavalry Division began in 1921 after the army established a permanent Cavalry Division table of organization and equipment (TO&E) on 4 April 1921. It authorized a square division organization of 7,463 officers and men, organized as follows: Headquarters Element (34 men), two Cavalry Brigades (2,803 men each), Field Artillery Battalion (790 men), Engineer Battalion (357 men), Division Quartermaster Trains Command (276 men), Special Troops Command (337 men), Ambulance Company (63 men).

On 20 August 1921, the 1st Cavalry Regiment, the first unit assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division, was preassigned to the 1st Cavalry Division a month before the formal activation of the Division. On 13 September 1921, with the initiation of the National Defense Act, the 1st Cavalry Division was formally activated at Fort Bliss, Texas and MG Robert Lee Howze, a Texas native from Rusk County and seasoned Veteran of the Frontier Indian Wars, Spanish American War, Philippines Insurrection, Mexican Expedition, World War I, and recipient of the Medal of Honor, was selected as its first Division Commander.



MG Robert Lee Howze, first Commanding General of the 1st Cavalry Division.

Upon activation, the 7th Cavalry, 8th Cavalry and 10th Cavalry Regiments were assigned to the new Division. With a century of service behind the oldest of its regiments and sixty-five years of service for its youngest, the units that had already ridden and fought its way into the pages of history were organized into the newly formed divisional structure. The four regiments were now to fight side by side. Other units initially assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division in 1921 included the 1st and 2nd Machine Gun Squadrons, Weapons Troops, 8th Engineer Battalion, 1st Signal Troop, 15th Veterinary Company, 27th Ordnance Company, 43rd Ambulance Company, 82nd Field Artillery Battalion (Horse) and the 1st Cavalry Quartermaster Trains which later was redesignated as the 15th Replacement Company.

The 1st Cavalry Division was assigned to the VIII Corps Area and its Division Headquarters and 2nd Brigade along with its units were assigned to Fort Bliss,

DIVISION DOINGS

Continued from pg. 3

“This week’s staff ride was a great experience and provided the opportunity to walk the grounds and see firsthand the terrain at Rosebud and the Little Big Horn. We gained invaluable insight into leadership, decision making, and commander’s intent,” said LTC Hadiya O’Neal, 1CD adjutant general. “Being physically present, on the same ground as the 7th Cavalry Regiment, provided new perspectives for everyone.”

MG John Richardson, commanding general, 1CD, has been a major proponent of staff rides as training events. He believes the staff ride provides a very unique perspective for every staff member and the command teams using history as a vehicle to learn timeless lessons of leadership and military decision making. Richardson previously led staff rides to these two historic battlefields for his units at the squadron and the regimental levels in order to foster professional growth and development, nurture unit cohesion, and encourage a deeper appreciation and respect for military history.

“I am always trying to achieve an effect and one of the main effects we are trying to achieve on this staff ride as we pivot to building our warfighting capability as a division is unit cohesion,” Richardson said. “When I came into command over a year ago, I felt this staff ride would be a good transition at the one-year point to consolidate the gains we had made over the year in team-building, and as we are preparing to stand up the new Division Cavalry Squadron (DIV CAV) and integrate the 3rd Cavalry Regiment into the division.”



In order to enhance the learning experience, Richardson invited two expert instructors from CSI, Mr. Chuck Collins and Mr. Kevin Kennedy, to lead the participants through the interactive field tour of the two battlefields. Both instructors are retired U.S. Army officers who studied

the Sioux Campaign extensively and have led hundreds of CGSC students, over 80 staff rides, through the two battles between Sioux and Cheyenne warriors and U.S. Army.

Over a three-day period, participants traversed the landscape of the two battlegrounds on foot, by vehicle and ultimately on horseback while discussing the pros and cons of mental models and the balance between the commander’s reliance on intuition based on experience and reasoning based on new information and analysis, all which affect decisions made by key leaders on both sides of the conflict. Most valuable was the opportunity to analyze and understand the importance of terrain and its impact on military decisions, something that cannot be fully appreciated by simply reading a book or looking at a map.

Following the field tours, the leaders gathered at the Little Big Horn National Park cemetery to participate in the most important of the three phases of a staff ride, the Integration Phase. In this phase, leaders discuss the “so what?” What did we learn from the preliminary study and field work and how can we apply those lessons to be better leaders, commanders, and decision makers in the future, sharing leadership lessons they could apply today to strengthen relationships and improve training and overall readiness among leaders and Soldiers.

The Battle of the Little Big Horn, also called Custer’s Last Stand, named after the historical figure of LTC George A. Custer (brevet Major General during the U.S. Civil War), is considered the most significant battle of the Great Sioux War of 1876 because it marked the most decisive Native American victory and the worst U.S. Army defeat during the Plains Wars.

During final discussions at the Little Big Horn National Park Cemetery, participants noted the study of the campaign failures provided a platform from which to understand leadership challenges, the importance of adequate competitive intelligence, the advantage of resilient relationships and trust, effective and clear communication, and the need for focused un-biased decision-making under extreme pressure during an ever changing and highly fluid situation.

Through our detailed discussions, Richardson highlighted the key to making a good decision was to combine “reliable intuition with timely reasoning” something that was not executed on Little Big Horn.

As the only Canadian Army officer on the 1CD staff and also the G5 Plans Director, COL Jordan Schaub reflected that he “was given the opportunity to support and oversee the final planning efforts of this event, as well as, attend a once in a lifetime professional development session which was extremely professionally valuable.”

“We all knew that we would be conducting research on the Battle of Little Bighorn, but I don’t think we understood it would provide a forum where commanders and senior staff would come together to discuss, debate and exchange experience and thoughts with an intent to promote team building and strengthen our bonds further enabling the building of cohesive teams and unstoppable inertia towards success,” Schaub said.

The final day of the Staff Ride the group had the unique opportunity to ride horseback off the National Park grounds with tour guides from the Crow Nation, the Army’s Indian allies in the Sioux War, and ride the route taken by Custer and the 7th Cavalry on that fateful day, June 25th, 1876, to see and experience the terrain the Troopers rode in 1876, adding another layer of understanding of the battlefield.

“It’s one thing to read about a battle and study the maps but to stand on the same hilltop, to actually see the terrain makes all the difference,” said CPT Abigail Edwards, 1st Cavalry Division, Horse Cavalry Detachment Commander. “There’s a sense of understanding and perspective that you can’t find when you’re only looking at a paper. It helps to really learn and recognize the lessons of the past that we can use today and, in the future.”

First Team Shares Cavalry Pride at Texas Motor Speedway

Story by PFC Jacob Nunnenkamp, Photo by SPC Cheyne Hanoski



FORT WORTH, TEXAS – 1st Cavalry Division Troopers attended the Texas Motor Speedway to support a NASCAR event and engage with members of the local community, Sept 24-25.

“Seeing the 1st Cavalry out here today reminds me of my time serving in the infantry,” said Thomas Benson, a Veteran of the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade.

Troopers spent the day, highlighting the lethality of the First Team and connecting with families by showing static displays of the M1A2 Abrams Tank. The 1st Cavalry Division Horse Detachment, Band and Honor Guard shared the heritage of the division with everyone in attendance during the opening ceremony for the event, performing the national anthem and posting the colors.

“I’m proud to have served in the cavalry and I’m happy to see them out here,” continued Benson.

NASCAR enthusiasts arrived at the racetrack early, greeted by “First Team” Troopers donned in Stetsons. The Abrams Tank, Bradley Fighting Vehicle and PATRIOT Missile Launching Station stood on display for onlookers to enjoy.

“I like being able to share the Army’s story and its equipment with the public and let them know it’s not just what they see on T.V.,” said SSG Brokk Nyswonger, 1st Cavalry Division Horse Detachment Honor Guard.

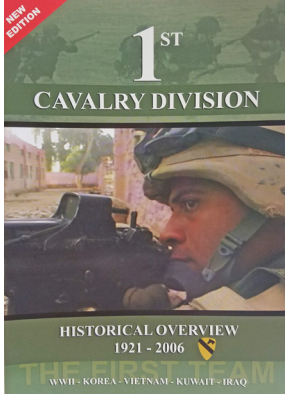
As guests moved into their seats for the upcoming race, they heard the First Team Band as they performed ‘The Star-Spangled Banner’ for thousands as the Honor Guard posted the colors.

“It’s always a great feeling to honor the nation by playing the anthem,” said SPC Ryan Youmans, 1st Cavalry Division Band musician. “Our rock band had the opportunity to perform last night, they were very humbled with the reaction they got, and we had the same response today.”

Troopers ended the night by celebrating in the winner’s circle with Tyler Reddick and his team.

1ST CAVALRY DIVISION
HISTORICAL OVERVIEW DVD
1921-2006

The 1st Cavalry Division is the most lethal and powerful division in the U.S. Army. The Soldiers of this distinguished Division are recognized around the world for their courage, honor and bravery. Travel through time and witness legendary battles as Troopers share their combat experiences. Over 30 interviews combined with real Army war footage, their stories come to life. 89minutes.



DOCUMENTARY DVD

1 for \$5 or
2 for \$8!

Historical Overview 1921-2006

Quantity _____

Amount Due: \$ _____

Form of Payment:

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

Credit Card # _____

Exp Date: _____ CVV on back: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

Phone #: _____

Address: _____

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

SHIPPING
IS FREE

75th ANNUAL REUNION OF THE 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
LOUISVILLE, KY 13-17 JUNE 2023

Overview of 75th Annual Reunion June 13 - 17, 2023

The Fort Knox Area Chapter invites you to join the rest of the First Team Family in Louisville, KY for the 75th Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association from 13-17 June 2023. 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 **\$30 Registration Fee** except for our Active-Duty Troopers who pay \$20 to register. Family members attending with an Association member, Widows of 1st Cavalry Division Troopers, and Gold Star Family members that attend do not have to pay a registration fee.

On-line registration starts 1 October 2022; the Reunion registration form will be included in the *Saber* from November '22 through April '23. Those sending in registrations post-marked after 1 May 2023 must pay a late registration fee of \$50.

The Association will be providing our guests with transportation to the Louisville Slugger Museum and back to the Crowne Plaza Hotel. The Buses will run from 0930-1800, on 13-14 June and from 0930-1600 on 15 June 2023. Bus passes can be purchased when you initially register, either by mail-in or on-line, or at the Walk-in Registration area. **A bus pass is per person if you plan to visit the Downtown Louisville area.** There will be no bus passes issued for those attending the mixer. A one-day bus pass will cost \$10, or you can purchase a three-day bus for \$25.

NOTE: Cancellations are non-refundable after the 1 May 2023 deadline.

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 (866) 888-0620 reference code: SAL
830 Phillips Ln
Louisville, KY 40209

Or use the provided link on the right-side menu of the Association web site.

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.

Spring Hill Suites Louisville Airport	(502) 361-9009
Tru by Hilton Louisville Airport	(502) 792-8800
Hampton Inn Louisville Airport	(502) 366-8100
Howard Johnson by Windham Louisville Airport	(502) 363-9952
Courtyard by Marriott Louisville Airport	(502) 368-5678

RV PARK INFORMATION

For our members traveling with an RV, I have provided you with several options:

Derby Park Campgrounds & RV Parking (502) 636-3532
2900 7th Street Rd
Louisville, KY 40216

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

Louisville North Campground (812) 282-4474
900 Marriott Dr
Clarksville, IN 47129

REUNION EVENT OVERVIEW

You will notice several event changes on the registration form. Instead of War Lunches we will be having a Legacy Breakfast. The Mixer has now been changed to the President's Reception. We did raise the registration costs, to include late registrations and Walk-in registrations.

This year's Ladies Tea will be a Louisville River Cruise (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 is also a step onto a piece of American history.

Transportation arrangements have been made for our members to visit the Downtown Louisville area. There is a slight cost required for this transportation. Louisville is a city full of culture and compassion. For the "Foodie," Louisville is ranked among the top ten 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 President's Reception/Mixer will be done differently in 2023. We will be taking you to Churchill Downs. Thursday is Night Racing in Kentucky. There will be a light meal available for attendees, a cash bar, and camaraderie while you take in a race or two.

As usual, we will have all other planned events in the Crowne Plaza: Legacy Breakfast, Unit Lunches, Purple Heart Breakfast, Association Banquet, Group Breakfasts, and Memorial Service. We will have meetings of the Chapter Presidents, Foundation Trustees, the Board of Governors, and our General

Membership meeting. During our General Membership meeting on Saturday morning, we will hold elections for the Association and Foundation.

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

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

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

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

THE BEST PART OF THE REUNION

As always, the best part of any reunion is the people that attend. The 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion brings in Troopers from every era of the First Team's history. Troopers that rode horses, fought in the Pacific with MacArthur, occupied Japan, fought in Korea, or stood watch on the DMZ will spend time with the Sky Troopers of Vietnam and the Troopers from Operation Desert Storm, Fort Hood, Bosnia, and the latest combat Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan. The equipment and terrain might be different, but the common bond of serving with America's First Team binds us together. Saddle up and ride on down to Louisville in 2023!



Photos from
2021 Reunion
in
Dayton, OH

Cut off date to pre-order your shirt is **15 MARCH 2023**

75th Annual 1st Cav Assn Reunion T-shirts

Pre-order **YOURS today!!**

Back

Adult Sizes Only

☐

S

☐

M

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L

☐

XL

☐

2XL

☐

3XL

Please
indicate
quantities
in boxes.

\$23.95 each

+S/H= Total

Front



Description:

Shirt with Logo on the left chest as well as full-color imprint on back.

Shipping Chart:

1 Shirt @ \$9.50
2-8 Shirts @ \$16.50
9+ @ \$21.50

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

☐

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Reunion T-shirts will NOT ship prior to 15 MAY 2023.

☐

Check enclosed

☐

Visa

☐

M/C

☐

Discover

☐

American Express

Card Number _____

CVD# _____

Exp Date MO/YR _____

Signature _____

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



75th ANNUAL 1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION, JUNE 13-17, 2023, in LOUISVILLE, KY
is open to all members of the 1st Cavalry Division Association

TUESDAY JUNE 13 0900-1800 Registration Desk Open 0900-1800 Gift Shop Open 0900-2400 Reunion Room Open 0930-1800 Bus Downtown	THURSDAY JUNE 15 0730-0900 Legacy Breakfast (in place of War Lunches) 0900-1600 Registration Desk Open 0900-1600 Gift Shop Open 0900-2400 Reunion Room Open 0930-1600 Bus Downtown 1200-1400 Ladies Tea (River Cruise) 1430-1530 Veterans Benefits Briefing 1700-2000 President's Reception/Mixer	FRIDAY JUNE 16 0730-0845 Purple Heart Breakfast 0900-1100 General Membership Mtg 0900-2400 Reunion Room Open 0900-1500 Registration Desk Open 0900-1600 Gift Shop Open 1100-1300 Unit Luncheons 1745-1845 Cocktails (Cash Bar) 1900-2230 Association Banquet
WEDNESDAY JUNE 14 0900-1800 Registration Desk Open 0900-1800 Gift Shop Open 0900-2400 Reunion Room Open 0930-1800 Bus Downtown 1000-1100 Foundation Mtg 1100-1300 Board of Governor's Mtg 1330-1400 Chapter Presidents Mtg		SATURDAY JUNE 17 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
The 1st Cavalry Division Association 75th Annual Reunion is at Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport, 830 Phillips Lane 40209, Louisville, KY (866)888-0620, June 13-17, 2023.
Cancellations must be received by 5:00pm May 1, 2023, in our office (254-547-6537) for a refund. **Cancellations are non-refundable after the May 1, 2023 deadline.
*Registration fee is required for Lifetime and Association Member only (Widows and Gold Star Family members pay no fee).
*Registration fee includes Name Tags, Reunion Booklet, Reunion Pin, and an information packet.

Are you a member of 1CDA? Yes No
Is this your first reunion? Yes No

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone #: _____
Email: _____
Nickname: _____
Unit (s) #1: _____
Year (s) #1: _____
Unit (s) #2: _____
Year (s) #2: _____
Guests/Spouse/Other: _____
#1: _____
#2: _____
#3: _____
#4: _____
#5: _____
#6: _____

As your name will appear on your nametag

Method of Payment: (circle one)
Credit Card Check: # _____
CC #: _____
Exp Date: _____
CVV#: _____
Signature: _____

BUS PASSES (per person): One-Day \$10 or Three-Day \$25 per Person

• Needed to go Downtown Tues - Thurs 1-Day \$10 Qty: _____ \$ _____
• See above schedule 3-Day \$25 Qty: _____ \$ _____

THURSDAY JUNE 15			
Legacy Breakfast (in place of War Lunches)	_____	\$ 30.00	\$ _____
Ladies Tea Includes lunch on Belle of Louisville Steamboat No bus pass needed	_____	\$ 40.00	\$ _____
President's Reception/Mixer Cash Bar, Buffet No bus pass needed	_____	\$ 45.00	\$ _____
FRIDAY JUNE 16			
Purple Heart Breakfast	_____	\$ 25.00	\$ _____
Unit Lunch (Circle your unit) 5C 7C 8C 9C 12C ENG AVN ARTY HQ LRRP	_____	\$ 30.00	\$ _____
Assoc Banquet (Circle your unit) 5C 7C 8C 9C 12C ENG AVN ARTY HQ LRRP	_____	\$ 48.00	\$ _____
SATURDAY JUNE 17			
Group Breakfast	_____	\$ 25.00	\$ _____
LRRP Breakfast	_____	\$ 25.00	\$ _____

REGISTRATION FEE: (For member, not guests)	1	\$ 30.00	\$ _____
Active Duty w/ID	_____	\$ 20.00	\$ _____
Reunion Donation	_____	Donation	\$ _____
Saber Newspaper Renewal (\$10 per year)		(\$10 per year)	\$ _____
REGISTRATION FEE AFTER MAY 15, 2023		\$ 50.00	\$ _____
GRAND TOTAL			\$ _____

SEATING AT SOME FUNCTIONS IS LIMITED

CHAPTER NEWS UPDATES

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

Submission deadline to appear in the next Saber is **Tuesday, January 3, 2023.** Please send to Memberships@1CDA.org

COLUMBIA WILLAMETTE CHAPTER

Gary Crapser introduced Steve Bates who represents the Oregon Vietnam War Memorial committee. These Veterans are determined to create a new memorial on the capitol grounds in Salem, it's been in planning since 2017. It is shovel ready now and will start Veterans Day, 2023, with all Oregonian contractors. They hope to celebrate the new memorial March 29, 2024, during a ceremony honoring the National Vietnam Veterans Day, prior to completion Veterans Day of that year. Our chapter cheerfully funds this effort, eager to show our support. Thanks to Steve B. and his committee for making this project a reality. Again, Jim Johnson. and Gary Crapser, have separately shared this project with us in previous meetings. We have these listings for following this effort: www.vietnamwarmemorialfund.org/ and Vietnam War Memorial Fund, PO Box 1448, Boring, Oregon, 97009.

Michael Carter, our esteemed Treasurer (left), is pictured here with Steve Bates (right), Oregon Vietnam War Memorial Fund spokesman. Our chapter raised \$1000 in support of the proposed new memorial on the Capitol grounds in Salem.



FLORIDA'S FIRST COAST CHAPTER

We continue to meet on the third Tuesday of each month. Contact information is noted in Saber's Chapter Listings (pg 15). We recently toured the National POW/MIA museum at Cecil Field in Jacksonville and also had presentations on maintaining personal health. (Don't sit. Move!)

As you read this, we will have been given a personal remembrance of life in a submerged naval device called a submarine.

If you get this issue late, we will have already been horseback riding at the Jacksonville Equestrian Center.



LOS ANGELES/ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER



On Saturday, October 15, chapter members and wives of the Los Angeles/Orange County Chapter met at Mimi's Cafe in Yorba Linda, California for their Fall Meeting and Lady's Day Breakfast. Members came from all over southern California: Pomona, Westminster, Fullerton, Hemet, Huntington Beach and Corona. We enjoyed great company, an excellent breakfast and it's safe to say, a grand time was had by all.

NY/NJ CHAPTER

The NY/NJ Chapter members enjoyed its quarterly meeting on October 15th at the Elks Lodge in Ridgfield Park. Twenty members attended and enjoyed a presentation by former LT Tak Furumoto discussing his experiences as an Intelligence Officer and advisor to the Vietnam National Police Chief during the CIA's Operation PHOENIX. He also discussed his experience with PTSD and Agent Orange poisoning as an aftermath of the war.

We heard from Kevin O'Hara, Veterans Service Officer for Bergen County, NJ and learned about expanded VA benefits and the new PACT Act which provides benefits for toxic exposure for those who served in Vietnam, the Gulf War and post

9-11 combat. Interested members who were unable to attend can contact Kevin for more information at kohora@co.bergen.nj.us or call him at 201-336-6329.

Robin Bartlett, Chapter President, talked about his own experience as a platoon leader with A 1/5 Cav and his forthcoming book to be published by Casemate Publishers in February 2023: *"Vietnam Combat: Firefights and Writing History."* More information available at www.RobinBartlettAuthor.com.

The chapter gratefully acknowledged a donation from the Whitestone Community Post 4787 VFW by Joe Panzardi, a longtime member of the Cav. Joe mentioned the forthcoming meeting of the 1/7, 2/7 Cav and attached operations units at Ft. Benning on November 17-20. More information available from Earnie Savage, earliesavage@gmail.com.

Our next chapter meeting will be held in February or March 2023, weather permitting. Watch this *Saber* column for details of our next guest speaker or contact Robin Bartlett, President, at rbbartlett01@gmail.com to be added to our email list.

Welcome Home Sky Troopers,
Robin Bartlett, President, rbbartlett01@gmail.com



Joe Panzardi, presents check to Robin Bartlett



NY/NJ Chapter 1CDA meeting on 10-15-2022

SHERIDAN CHAPTER



Chapter Members Mike Gasparo, Rick Hudson & Terry Hodous (pictured left) joined 115 local Veterans on the Honor Flight from Chicago to Washington DC this past September. Proudly displayed the 1st Cav Flag at the Korean War Memorial (pictured below).

Our October meeting was held at the Italian American Veterans Museum, located in Stone Park IL. Chapter member Peter

Platt donated a model Loach Helicopter and full sized 2.75mm training rocket for their display case.

2022 events remaining – Christmas Party December 3 – this event will be held at the Roselle American Legion Post #1084, 322 East Maple Ave., Roselle, IL 60172.

Our 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 or 773-445-1213 for additional information regarding membership or attending our future events.



CHAPTER INDEX

**ALMOST HEAVEN
WEST VIRGINIA**
Pres: Jim Hays
P.O. Box 97
French Creek, WV 26218-0097
(304) 924-6380
Email: purplehays_05@yahoo.com
POC: Marie Dockery-Goben
304-207-8910
Email: emariedoc@gmail.com
Facebook: Almost Heaven Chapter 1st
Cavalry Division Association- West
Virginia
Contact Marie for meeting dates.

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

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

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

CROSSED SABERS
Pres: Dennis Webster
(254) 220-2164
Email: Dennis.webster7@gmail.com
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division Asso-
ciation Crossed Saber Chapter
Gen membership mtgs Mar & Oct.
Stable Calls: 4th Thurs of eamos, 6pm,
except Nov, Dec and the month of the
Assn Reunion. Stable Calls at various
locations in Cen TX area.

FLORIDA
VP: Gil Harris
(407) 296-2413
Facebook: Florida Chapter 1st Cavalry
Division Association
Meets 1300 2nd Tues of ea mos at
VFW Post 2093, 4444 Edgewater
Dr, Orlando

FLORIDA'S FIRST COAST
Pres: Jesse Crimm
4445 Silverwood Ln
Jacksonville, FL 32207-6241
904-534-8899
Email: thecrimms@gmail.com
Meets at noon on 3rd Tues of every
mos. Locations alternate between
westside & southside Jacksonville.
Call 904-534-8899 to be notified &
placed on mailing list.

**FLORIDA TROOP E
"BLACK HAT"**
Pres: Juan Kellogg
607 SE 47th St., Apt. 7
Cape Coral, FL 33904-5506
Email: juankellogg@embarqmail.
com
POC: Johnny Robertson
1109 Highland Ave
Lehigh Acres, FL 33972
(239) 265-1509
Email: Robertson.johnny06@gmail.
com
Website: www.seahog.org/cav/index.
html
Meets 4th Sat ea mos from Sept.-May
1:00 pm at Mission BBQ, 12984 S.
Cleveland Ave, Fort Myers, FL 33907

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

**JAMES H. UNRUH
CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA**
Pres: Michael T. Mazzaro
2600 Willow St. Pike North
PMB 231
Willow Street, PA 17584
(717) 389-1000
Email: cenpenn1cda@gmail.com
Meets 1800 2nd Tues of ea mos,
except Nov, Dec, and Jan,
Lititz VFW Post 1463, 14 N. Spruce
St., Lititz, PA 17543

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

JUMPING MUSTANGS 1-8 Cav
Pres: Wayne Volk
3106 Nebraska Drive, Unit 2
Bismarck, ND 58503
(701) 226-9929 or (701) 527-1262
E-mail: lois.reinhardt@midco.net
POC: James C. Knafel
5510E - 500 South
Columbia City, IN 46725-7621
(260) 244-3864
Email: jjknafel@gmail.com
Website: www.JumpingMustangs.
com

KETTLE MORaine
POC: A. Michael Lorber
4819 Longwood Dr., Mt. Pleasant,
WI 53403-9769
(262) 554-8310
We meet quarterly on 2nd Sat of Mar,
Jun, Sept at 12pm at the Bunker in
Waterford, WI. Election of officers
are the 2nd Sat of Dec at 12pm at
Meyers Restaurant in Greenfield, WI.

**LOS ANGELES/
ORANGE COUNTY**
Pres: John Guillory
780 Mandevilla Way
Corona, CA 92879-8251
(951) 278-3740
Email: manhunter6869@yahoo.com
Vice Pres: John Burgner
228 South Hacienda St.
Anaheim, CA 92804-2569
(714) 535-0737
Email: jburgner@sbcglobal.net
Meets 0900 on 3rd Sat of mos at
American Legion Post 132, 143 S
Lemon St., Orange CA 92866

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

NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY
Pres: Robin B. Bartlett
63 Burlington St.
Norwood, NJ 07648-1515
(201) 856-7530
Email: RBBartlett01@gmail.com
Facebook: New York New Jersey
Cavalry
Instagram: NYNJcavalry
Meets at Elk Lodge at Cedar and
Spruce, Ridgefield Park, NJ.

**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: Gail Porter
6791 Jasper PL SE
Port Orchard, WA 98367-9038
(360) 265-6216
Email: Blueplate545@gmail.com
POC: William Al Jackson
9703 Vantage Terrace CT SE
Olympia, WA 98513
(360) 539-8110
Email: williamaljackson@comcast.
net
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division As-
sociation-Northwest Chapter
We currently meet online due to
Covid-19. We will resume after the
pandemic on the 1st Sat of even
months, 12pm at Carr's Restaurant,
11006 Bridgeport Way SW, Lake-
wood, WA, except Christmas dinner,
TBA

SHERIDAN'S CAVALRY
(Greater Chicago Area)
Pres: Don Smolinski 630-841-1452
POC: Terry Hodous
3718 W 114th Place
Chicago, IL 60655-3414
(773) 445-1213
Email: us67-hodo@outlook.com
Website: www.sheridansfirstcav.com
Facebook: Sheridan's Chapter 1st
Cavalry Division
2022 Remaining Meeting date:
Christmas Party Dec 3.
Meetings and events held at Roselle
American Legion Post #1084, 322
East Maple Ave., Roselle, IL 60172.

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

**WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON
NATIONAL CAPITOL REGION**
Pres: Gene Russell
9056 Belvoir Pkwy
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-2702
(703) 220-5322
Email: enrussell@msn.com
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division Nat'l
Capitol Region
Meets 3rd Sat in Jan-May off Jun-Aug.
Meets again Sept-Dec. Nov meeting
held in conjunction with 1CDA
Veterans Day gathering.



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

1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION - ALUMNI OF THE FIRST TEAM

CROSSED SABERS GIFT SHOP located at 1CDA HQ

302 N. Main St Copperas Cove, TX 76544

E-mail: 1stcavgiftshop@gmail.com
Online Catalog Visit: shop.1CDA.org

254-532-2075

Gift Shop Hours:
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GOT CAVALRY HISTORICAL QUESTIONS?
Did you know we have a 1CDA Historian?


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

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

From the
Director's Desk

Office of 1CDA

WE SUPPORT



UNITED STATES ARMY
SOLDIER FOR LIFE

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

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

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

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

BE A SABER WRITER
CARRY ON YOUR UNIT LEGACY!
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Email for details:
programs@1CDA.org

USEFUL VETERAN ASSISTANCE INFO:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SPECIFICALLY FOR TEXAS VETERANS

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

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

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

The next *Saber* newspaper is the
January / February 2023 edition.
Deadline for submissions of your stories or photos is
Tuesday, January 3, 2023.
Please email to Programs@1CDA.org

2023 CALENDAR STATUS
Exciting News!!
Everyone should have received your 2023 calendar!

Consider Donating Today!
Calendar donations keep this program operational.
Without your donations we are unable to continue this program.

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

A big Thank You Shout Out goes to Terry McCarl
as serving at the 1st Cavalry Division Association
Historian for the past two-years.

A Thank You goes out to Dennis Webster for stepping
up and becoming the new Historian for the Association.
Please reach out to Dennis
for any 1st Cav historical questions.
Dennis.Webster7@gmail.com or 254-220-2164

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

- 1st CAVALRY DIVISION UNIT BREAKDOWN**
1st Armored Brigade Combat Team "IRONHORSE"
- 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment "GarryOwen"
 - 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment "Lancers"
 - 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment "Stallions"
 - 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment "ThunderHorse"
 - 1st Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment "Dragons"
 - 91st Engineer Battalion "Sabers"
 - 115th Brigade Support Battalion "Muleskinners"
- FACEBOOK: 1st ARMORED BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM**
- 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team "BLACKJACK"**
- 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment "BlackKnights"
 - 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment "Mustangs"
 - 1st Battalion, 9th Cavalry Regiment "HeadHunters"
 - 4th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment "DarkHorse"
 - 3rd Battalion, 16th Field Artillery Regiment "RollingThunder"
 - 8th Engineer Battalion "TrojanHorse"
 - 15th Brigade Support Battalion "Gamblers"
- FACEBOOK: 2nd ARMORED BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM**
- 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team "GREYWOLF"**
- 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment "Chargers"
 - 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment "Ghost"
 - 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment "WarHorse"
 - 6th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment "Saber"
 - 2nd Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment "SteelDragons"
 - 3rd Engineer Battalion "Beavers"
 - 215th Brigade Support Battalion "Blacksmiths"
- FACEBOOK: 3rd BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM**
- 1st AIR CAVALRY BRIGADE "AIRCAV"**
- 1st Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment "Attack"
 - 2nd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment "Lobos"
 - 3rd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment "SpearHead"
 - 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry regiment "PaleHorse"
 - 615th Aviation Support Battalion "ColdSteel"
- FACEBOOK: 1st AIR CAVALRY BRIGADE AIRCAV**
- 1st Cavalry Division Sustainment Brigade "WAGONMASTERS"**
- 1st Special Troops Battalion
 - 553rd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion
- FACEBOOK: 1st CAVALRY DIVISION SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE**
- 1st Cavalry Division Artillery Brigade "REDTEAM"**
- 6/56 Air Defense Artillery (ADA)
- FACEBOOK: 1st CAVALRY DIVISION ARTILLERY**
- Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion "MAVERICK"**
- 15th Finance Bn
- FACEBOOK: 1st CAV HHBN**

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

THE HICCUP - Health Care
Information Committee Report

THE PACT ACT AND YOUR VA BENEFITS

The PACT Act is the largest health care and benefit expansion in VA history. The full name of the law is The Sergeant First Class (SFC) Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act.

The PACT Act, which covers Veterans from Vietnam through Iraq and Afghanistan, is the most significant expansion of benefits and services for toxic-exposed Veterans in more than 30 years and addresses a broad spectrum of toxic exposures.

Veterans will now see additional benefits for exposures to burn pits in Iraq and Afghanistan, additional presumptive conditions for Agent Orange exposure and provisions for victims of water contamination at Camp Lejeune.

Question: What changes will the PACT Act bring?

Answer: While some ailments caused by toxic exposure can present quickly, other illnesses can take years to manifest. This left many Veterans outside their eligibility window to enroll in Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care and others struggling to prove a service connection because of the time that had lapsed. To address this, the PACT Act makes significant changes to the timeline Veterans must enroll in VA health care.

The PACT Act:

- Increases the period Veterans must enroll in VA health care from five to 10 years following discharge for post-9/11 combat Veterans.
- Establishes a one-year open enrollment period.

Additionally, the legislation codifies VA's new process for evaluating and determining presumption of exposure and service connection — removing the burden of proof from the Veteran.

Question: How do I know if I have been exposed to burn pits?

Answer: If you served in any of these locations and time periods, VA has determined you have a presumption of exposure to burn pits or other toxins.

On or after Sept. 11, 2001, in any of these locations: Afghanistan, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Uzbekistan, Yemen, and the airspace above any of these locations.

On or after Aug. 2, 1990, in any of these locations: Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, The United Arab Emirates, and the airspace above any of these locations.

Question: What new presumptive conditions were added for burn pit exposure?

Answer: The PACT Act added more than 20 new conditions, including a dozen cancers, which are now presumed to be caused by exposure to burn pits and other toxins. This change impacts Gulf War era and post-9/11 Veterans. These cancers were added to the presumptive conditions list:

Brain cancer, gastrointestinal cancer of any type, glioblastoma, head cancer of any type, kidney cancer, lymphatic cancer of any type, lymphoma of any type, melanoma, neck cancer, pancreatic cancer, reproductive cancer of any type, and respiratory (breathing-related) cancer of any type.

Additionally, these illnesses are also now considered presumptive: asthma that was diagnosed after service, chronic bronchitis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, chronic rhinitis, chronic sinusitis, constrictive bronchiolitis or obliterative bronchiolitis, emphysema, granulomatous disease, interstitial lung disease, pleuritis, pulmonary fibrosis, and sarcoidosis.

Question: What changes were made for Vietnam-era Veterans?

Answer: The PACT Act added two additional Agent Orange presumptive conditions: high blood pressure (hypertension) and Monoclonal Gammopathy of Undetermined Significance (MGUS).

Additionally, five new presumptive locations were added for Vietnam-era Veterans:

- Any U.S. or Royal Thai military base in Thailand from Jan. 9, 1962, through June 30, 1976,
- Laos from Dec. 1, 1965, through Sept. 30, 1969,
- Cambodia at Mimot or Krek, Kampong Cham Province from April 16, 1969, through April 30, 1969,
- Guam or American Samoa or in the territorial waters off of Guam or American Samoa from Jan. 9, 1962, through July 30, 1980, and
- Johnston Atoll or on a ship that called at Johnston Atoll from Jan. 1, 1972, through Sept. 30, 1977

Question: What new radiation presumptive locations were added?

Answer: VA added three new response efforts to the list of presumptive locations:

- Cleanup of Enewetak Atoll, from Jan. 1, 1977, through Dec. 31, 1980,
- Cleanup of the Air Force B-52 bomber carrying nuclear weapons off the coast of Palomares, Spain, from Jan. 17, 1966, through March 31, 1967, and
- Response to the fire onboard an Air Force B-52 bomber carrying nuclear weapons near Thule Air Force Base in Greenland from Jan. 21, 1968, to Sept. 25, 1968

Question: How do I receive these benefits?

Answer: VA encourages anyone who thinks they may be eligible for benefits and care under the PACT Act to file a claim.

For more information on filing a VA disability claim:

<<https://www.va.gov/disability/how-to-file-claim/>>

For more information on the PACT Act:

<<https://www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits/#vietnam-era-veteran-eligibilit>>



SALUTE TO OUR
VETERANS

Across our great Nation and throughout the world, Americans will pause on Veterans Day to honor our brave men and women who have underwritten our freedoms through their duty, honor, and selfless service. On

November 11th, we recognize that all our Veterans and their Families have given something of themselves to this Nation.

All Veterans, regardless of their service and the era in which they served, have paid the price time and time again; defending America through both the best and worst of times and have performed their duties tirelessly, with little recognition or fanfare. Thomas Paine said, “Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must undergo the fatigue of supporting it.” Our members have shouldered that burden and experienced the fatigue of waging war to bring about peace.

As American citizens we owe an eternal debt to the untold number of Veterans, who chose to set aside their personal ambitions for the well being of our great Nation. We are indeed the beneficiaries of those sacrifices. May we always be humbly grateful... to those brave patriots...who suffered and sacrificed for the glory of God and for the freedom of all Americans.

Our Nation is fortunate to have had millions of its brave men and women stand and fight for freedom. We owe it to them and their Families to ensure that their service and sacrifices are always remembered.

We have a simple yet heartfelt message -- Thank You. Thank you for your unwavering service in peacetime and war, for our country... and throughout the world.



Michael S. Heinze of Sibley, ND
1-7 Cav & 1-12 Cav, 1972,
proudly displays his yard
ornament that he has made, as a tribute
to his service in
1st Cavalry Division.
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Merry Christmas & Happy
New Year!



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15th MED/15th FSB/15th BSB

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Sun City, AZ 85351-3250
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MBodnar27@Gmail.Com
www.15thMedBnAssociation.org



I got email from 1967-'68 MEDEVAC 21 Art Jacobs. He wanted to confirm some things I had written, and give his perspective on some:

"Mike: Read the latest *Saber*. Yes, there was never a Roy or Ray Land, only the famous Henry Land. And, it may have been true that the Platoon Leader (MAJ Goodman) and the XO (MAJ Norris) kept themselves in a reserve flying status (a good command decision by the way), but I can give you at least two instances when that was not the case:

"1. When I was wounded the second time on 24 July 1968 on a hoist mission in the mountains, our engine failed because of the enemy fire, and down we went (not fun). As we were trying to look like infantry guys setting up a perimeter with the off-loaded M-60's, another 15th Med aircraft finally found us. Not only was MAJ Goodman the aircraft commander, and WO Jim Magin (my flight school classmate) the co-pilot, but when my crew lifted me up onto the ship, two strong hands reached down to pull me in. It was none other than LTC Guthrie Turner, the 15th Med CO! I will never forget it. He held me in his arms on the flight back to Evans, keeping pressure on my bullet wound to stop the bleeding, and saying over and over, 'I've got you.' Years after Vietnam we began a friendship and I got to spend time with his marvelous family. And, in one of the greatest honors in my life, the family asked me to deliver one of the eulogies at GEN Turner's funeral at Arlington.

"2. On 19 May 1968, the day that WO Tom Pursel was killed, it was MAJ Larry Norris who was flying the left seat on that fateful mission east of Evans. I got to the aircraft as they were unloading Tom and will never forget the look of sadness and resignation on the face of MAJ Norris that day at the Charlie Med pad.

"Bottom line, while I was there, MAJ Goodman and MAJ Norris flew missions - maybe not as many as us regular pilots, but they were both definitely out there whenever they were needed."

Art added:

"Mike: That is totally wrong. MAJ Norris flew the aircraft back to Charlie Med at Evans and landed safely. There was one bullet hole in the left side of the aircraft just behind the pilot seat. I would estimate that the bullet came from the 7 or 8 o'clock direction as they sat on the ground at the pick-up site. Art"

When I asked Art about WO Tom Pursel, Art replied:

"Mike: Tom Pursel was only 19 years old when he was killed by an enemy bullet on a Medevac mission east of camp Evans on 19 May 1968.

Born: 17 September 1948, KIA: 19 May 1968

"Tom had gotten into flight school at just about the earliest age allowed by the Army. He was in flight school class 67-21 at Fort Rucker, Alabama, graduating just before Christmas, 1967. He arrived in country on 18 January 1968. Everybody liked Tom. He was a happy blond kid with a big smile.

"In 1996 I visited his parents in Yakima, Washington when I drove across the country from Chicago to Seattle. His parents had scant details on Tom's death. I stayed there 2 days hearing all the stories - they took me to see his high school, and then to the cemetery to see his grave.

"I wrote the following tribute to Tom and sent it to his brother, who, I saw in Charlotte, NC in 2021 at the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association. He was there as a Gold Star family member.

"Growing up strong, Tom built treehouses,
Did well in school, good with horses,
Knew how to hunt, was a good son,
The pride of Yakima, his future bright.

A natural in the cockpit, good under pressure,
Situational awareness we call it,
He was not just respected, he was genuinely liked,
Oh, that Tom - his boyish charm and ever-quick smile.

Went to that awful dark valley - the A Shau,
Day after day he dodged most of the bullets,
His aircraft battered but he flew on still,
The flight hours built quickly - more than his share.

From up the chain the decision was made,
Tommy - time for you to take a little break,
Rotate back to base camp and get some rest,
You will still fly, but just the safer stuff.

A lone Soldier wounded in a rice paddy,
Good old Tom will go - be back in a jiffy,
The LZ is green - all is secure - smoke popped,
Everything quiet on landing, patient on board.

Then one lone rifle shot from 300 meters,
Could have hit anything - could have been a miss,
Caught poor Tom near the back of his head,
He simply relaxed his grip on the cyclic and looked down.

Momentary chaos, hurried radio calls, red-line airspeed,
Medic on board doing all he can - doctors standing by,
Hot landing, we carry Tom inside in our arms,
His eyes roll back, shallow breathing, a low moan.

Frantic desperate measures - every attempt made,
To no avail, our young Tom was gone,
We stood silent, staring at our own helplessness,
Nothing now except the painful ordeal of a body bag.

The pride of Yakima - good with horses, knew how to hunt,
Going home now, soon just a flag for his family,
The pride of Yakima - always the good son, his future bright,
Our poor Tom, but his memory lives on - and resides in us all.

"It was on that same road trip in 1996 that I stopped in Riverton, Wyoming to visit Jerry Dick; for the first time of a number of visits over the years I was lucky enough to have with Jerry and his family. The last time was just last year to see his brother Wayne and Uncle Mike. We visited Jerry's grave again.

"One last item: I got to spend an evening with Rick Medlock earlier this year in Dayton, Ohio. We were both at the 1st Cavalry Division reunion in Dayton, Ohio.

"Hope that all helps. Art Jacobs Medevac 21"

I mentioned to Art, "Thanks. The info on the 15th Med site Memorial Wall says, 'Crashed on land.'

The photo with his medals on the site looks like an older man. It does say he was 19. One would not get that impression from that photo. I did not.

"On a second, closer look, he does look like he could be very young. Being an Army aviator may have put some age on him for the photo from a distance."

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



MEDEVAC pilot WO1 Thomas R. Pursel KIA 19 May 68

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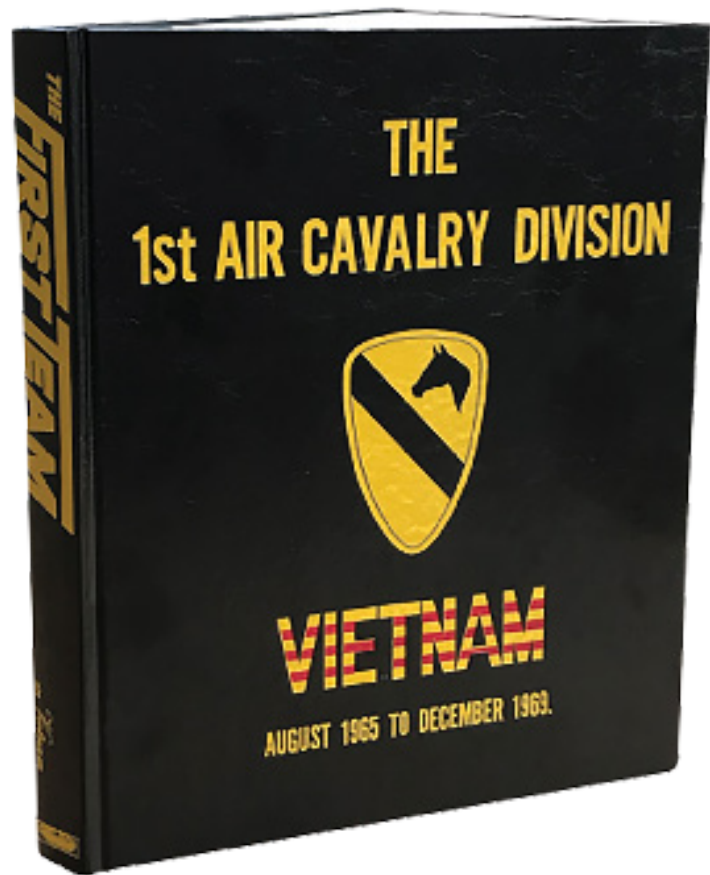
Yes! This is the same book Acclaim Press offered in the *Saber* last year (where you purchased directly from the publisher). If you missed that opportunity to pre-order, we were able to order a limited amount of copies to have available to our members. Please mail us your completed order form located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

ABOUT THE BOOK

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

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ENGINEER News



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

A Year in the 8th Engineers in Viet Nam

I arrived in Viet Nam on April 12, 1969. As we were coming down the ramp of the Freedom bird at Ton Son Nhut airbase, we got mortared. Welcome to Viet Nam. When I stepped out the door of the

plane, we still do the work that is required. That is one of the things that makes our military the best in the world. Just like rust, we never stop.

There were times of uproariously funny events and, heartbreaking painful events. As Soldiers, always we remember and talk about the funny ones. It is too painful to recall the bad times. Explosions were a daily occurrence. They were usually memorable. The bigger they were, the better we liked them, unless they were from incoming and got near us. B-52 Arclight strikes were as bad as about any earthquake I have been in, and living in California, I have been in several. A B-52 attack is about like a magnitude seven earthquake. Most PX items would be bounced off their shelves when the B-52's dropped their bombs nearby. I have no doubt the guys who worked at the PX, would box up a lot of wine to keep, and report the bottles broken after an attack. The wine aisle at the PX would be covered with broken bottles and flowing with wine. I know I would have.

At about eight months, and it is different for everyone, I surrendered to being in Viet Nam in a war. Congress called it a "Police Action" because they could not call it a war, without breaking rules on how they could declare a war and who with. Now that we are no longer in Viet Nam, everyone calls it a war and say we lost it. They tell us we lost the war, but I have never heard who said it, why they said it, or how they came to that conclusion, when we won every battle. All the Soldiers I knew in Viet Nam or ever heard of being in Viet Nam, will tell you that is not true. We never lost the war. Our country told us to quit fighting.

After a year of evolving as a Soldier, in Viet Nam, all the squares on my lovely female short timer's picture, had all the little numbered areas colored in, and I got my orders to leave and come home. I left the 8th Engineer HHC company with Doc Stone and LT Brown, both men I had in extremely high regard. Sadly, LT Brown was killed in a plane accident a few years ago, but Doc Stone is alive and well, the last time I emailed him.

I flew to Tan Son Nhut then was taken to the 90th replacement battalion again. After two days there, I was taken back to Tan Son Nhut and to get on a Freedom Bird and come back to the States. I remember the coast of Viet Nam passing below me as we flew over it. One of the best sites I ever experienced in my life. I arrived in California on April 9, 1970, signed the last line I needed to, to leave the Army, fly home, and begin my life again. What a year!!!!

And lastly, very lastly, Goodbye. Writing for the 8th Engineers has been fun for me and I was glad to do it. Someone needed to. However, guys, and a lot of you know this, to write these articles I must remember the events and relive them. In doing so, I remembered a lot of other events, not so much fun to write about, and the only way to stop thinking about all those rocket attacks, men dying, things blowing up, the cruelty and craziness of war, is to just stop writing about it and so I will. I simply choose to work on my pocket watches in the shed back of my house, scratch my two small dogs behind the ears, write books to publish on Amazon, I have nineteen there now. Marty Suydam and I are writing a book on the 8th Engineers in Vietnam. Should be out soon.

Thank you all kindly and take care of yourselves and each other.
Garry Owen... Stephen Richey

plane the heat hit me along with the stench. Both were oppressive.

In a day or so I was sent to An Khe to be processed into the 1st Cavalry. I went to charm school there, learned how to listen for incoming from the few mortar attacks we had while I was there, learned to not pick up a mongoose. One of the guys there did and got his chest ripped in several places from the little animals' sharp claws. I also learned there really were little lizards who had a foul mouth. I kept a diary the year I was there.

I thought if I got killed, and it was possible I might, it would be in my personal belongings to be sent home to my family. Today, it is a great reference for what I did in Viet Nam. Most of us guys think we remember what happened, but we do not remember accurately. My diary helps me to remember the days and dates, accurately.

I arrived in Phouc Vinh at the 8th Combat Engineers on April 20, 1969. I flew down from An Khe sitting on an aluminum pallet in the belly of a C-130, deluxe military accommodations. I could barely walk when I stood up. I was loaded in the back of a ¾ ton truck at the Phouc Vinh airport and taken to HHC of the 8th Engineers. I was processed into the company at the TOC, shown the tent I would be sleeping in, and was where I would be for the next year. One of the guys in the tent was Poncho from Texas, a good hearted, hardworking guy, who was in one of the equipment platoons. He tried to teach me to yell like a Mexican and I failed miserably. I had a rat under my cot who in a few days became a pet. I would feed him with food I brought him from the chow hall.

I was a surveyor, but the company already had all the surveyors they needed in S-3, so I had no real job. I was stuck in S-2, given every detail they could find. Was given the job of walking the perimeter wire daily looking for gaps in it made by sappers in the night and had no real purpose to fulfill. While walking the perimeter wire, I felt like the bear in the arcade shooting gallery game. I had read the book "No Time for Sergeants" and I became that guy.

I was permanent poop burner, guard duty guy, walked the perimeter fence checking for holes every day, was on KP a lot, just a permanent detail guy, like the guy in the book. Somehow a nearly junk jeep, was assigned to the S-2 section, and it became my duty to repair it, paint it, keep it running, and drive anyone who was not important around. I was in Viet Nam, and each day I got up and got to see the sun go down, was one less day I had to endure the nothing existence I was living, and if the damn incoming would stay away from me, I just might live out the year I had to be there and get to leave.

One of the surveyors finally rotated home and I was moved into S-3, operations, with the other surveyors where I belonged. I was a surveyor, but I did little surveying. I surveyed twenty days the entire year I was in Viet Nam. Since S-3 run the operations, I did other things.

I would go in on Combat Assaults to set up new fire bases. I would check the "LZ Kits" to make sure all the materials were there that would be needed to build the next LZ. They would be staged at the airstrip, and we engineers checked to see all that would be needed, was there and ready to be slung out to the LZ being built. I would often stay a few days on the new LZ helping build whatever they were building and then return to Phouc Vinh. I often would fly out with the "Log" ship and deliver supplies to our line companies on various LZ's. Occasionally, I would be asked to make a topography map of an existing LZ and then we would draw a map of it. We had a couple talented artists in S-3 who would take our information, draw in the 105's, the bunkers, the structures we built on the LZ, then they would color everything with colored pencils, making a pretty drawing, which was fairly accurate. Flying over the LZ and taking a picture would have been more accurate and taken far less time, but our section Major got "ataboys" at the division briefings for our pretty drawings, so we did several of them for him.

We built an airstrip, which 50 years later I found out, was not really needed. It was just practice for the May 1970 push into Cambodia. We got it built in three days. This was the LZ, where our motor pool Sergeant became the swamp thing when he jumped into a ditch filled with four' of the nastiest, slimiest, stinkiest, foulest water I had seen in Viet Nam when one of our guys set off some Bangalore-Torpedoes to clear bamboo outside our perimeter wire. It was also where the perimeter guards shot a tiger creeping up on a foxhole looking for dinner and big guns fired around us for hours to keep the enemy away from us at night. We were building the airstrip right on the Ho Chi Minh trail.

I started out as a green Soldier, who knew less than nothing. Time in a war zone, causes you to learn, or you can pay a high price. Once I began to go out to the LZ's, usually to a new and different place, I made it a point to stay alert and be aware. Notice everything, assume little, and learn from the men, who were there when I arrived, as to what to do. Follow all the rules of being a good Soldier, take care of your gear, bring the right gear with you, be prepared to be self-sufficient, do not expect help, but do not refuse it if offered. Bring your own food, water, ammo, rain protection, and a damn good knife. Keep your weapon or weapons clean. Protect your ammo and keep it clean also. When the day is done, find a place to sleep for the night, in as safe an area on the LZ if you can find. If you cannot get in a bunker, sleep next to a foxhole or in it. The garbage dump hole is a welcome hole if you get incoming. You might get some garbage on you, but it washes off. Shrapnel holes do not.

Your steel pot filled with water is plenty to shave, take a bath in, and wash your clothes. When you finish, the water in your helmet will look muddier than any mudhole around you, but you will be much cleaner and smell better.

I became an old hand. I had been there and stayed alive for more than six months, I had been out on the LZ's daily, I knew my way around, and could be counted on to do what I was asked to do. At six months you learn who to respect and from whom to stay away. I had a friend, Gardner. He was a black and I am white. Wherever we would end up at the same time, we took care of each other, had each other's back, like good Soldiers do. The rear area, base camp, had race problems. Out in the field, it was managed differently. In the field you carried your load, without question or hesitation. The price you could pay for not carrying your load, could be severe. Our engineers always carried their load and supported each other. I never saw any instances they did not.

People fight wars. The birds and animals just happen to be in the area where it is happening. People die. It happens every day, some are people you knew well. Those are hard days. When the sun comes up the next morning, the grief of the previous day, lingers, but there is still a job to be done. The war does not stop for moments of pain and grief. The job that needs to be done, is still there waiting to be completed, and as Soldiers, and Americans, regardless of how we

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Want to see your name under Honor Roll section?

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Please Consider!

545th MP Co News

Lawrence Gardner Ketron

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LGKetron@earthlink.net

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

TIME FOR AIR ASSAULT II TO BEGIN.

As the summer of 1964 ended, it was time for the 11th AAD to begin to evaluate the air assault theory against the 82nd Airborne Division of Ft. Bragg. The test maneuvers were to take place in the Carolina's. Farmland was rented for such things as airstrips and military operations areas. Some of the towns subjected to the influx of Soldiers were Camden, Cheraw, Winnsboro, Ridgeway, and Chester in South Carolina and the area around the Wateree Lake. There was also activity around Shaw AFB adjacent to Sumter, SC. Like the rest of the division, the men and equipment of the 11th moved via convoy from Ft. Benning to the maneuver areas.

PREPARATION FOR AIR ASSAULT II

As told by then SP4 Dallas Mills:

During the train-up phases of becoming the 1st CAV Division Airmobile I did two road RECON trips to the Wateree/Ridgeway area of South Carolina. That was many years ago, so I do not remember the dates of either trip. The first was conducted by SGT Robert Woods and another Soldier in one vehicle. Another Soldier and I were in vehicle # 2. The second trip was 1SG Miller and another Soldier in vehicle #1. Another Soldier and I were in vehicle #2 (forgive me, I do not remember the Soldier's names).

Our mission was to drive the exact route that the convoys from Fort Benning would follow and check the height and width clearance of all the bridges and overpasses the convoy would have to traverse. Also, we were to mark pull-off areas that would accommodate the convoys for rest and re-fueling.

On one trip (I believe it to be the first one) we had to spend the night at Shaw Air Force Base, and we elected to bivouac outside the base gate instead of going through the routine of going on base and getting a room in the transient barracks. That worked well until several of the local girls started hanging around and the base commander appeared and instructed us to go on base and get a room or "get out of Dodge." We had a quiet night inside the wire that night.

At that point in time the Army had not announced that we would be going to Viet Nam, so we aroused quite a bit of curiosity as we measured bridges and overpasses. At least two times law enforcement questioned us because they believed we could be impostors planting explosives.

On my third trip I flew Airborne Radio Relay in an Otter covering a small convoy delivering the payroll to the Troops in the field. The pilot was a CPT who brought along his big shepherd dog that sat right beside me and shed all over me. The co-pilot was a young WO1 who would drink a pint a day of whiskey while we were flying.

AIR ASSAULT II BEGINS

Wayne Callaway and yours truly were sent for eight days with a jeep to Shaw AFB to provide traffic control for supplies and equipment being transported by air. Since we were on our own for meals and lodging, we got a room in the transient barracks. What luxury! Two-man rooms containing beds with inner-spring mattresses, a mess hall that offered a choice of items to pick from, and a salad bar where one made his own salad. And, as I found out when I got paid in November, I received TDY pay of eight dollars a day for the eight days that we lolled around Shaw watching the jet fighters take off and land. In the early sixties, the only airplanes that I had seen at the local airport where I lived were propeller driven.

From there we went to Camden, SC, to provide security at a landing strip just outside of town, this strip being nothing more than a cow pasture or hay field flanked by pine woods. Just a few days prior, a hurricane had dumped several inches of rain on the area and the field was soggy. A 11th AAD Caribou (De Havilland twin turboprop) had been landed on the muddy field with the results that one wing and the attached landing gear had separated from the fuselage.

The personnel of the 11th AAD were dispersed over a large area, which required a like dispersal of the MP's. Vehicle drivers were often a long way from any direct supervision, and being mostly young men, had the habit of exceeding the speed limits on the public highways. The new multi-fuel 2½ ton trucks were a joy to a Soldier with a lead foot. They would approach 85 mph. The author, in an M-151, personally chased one for 16 miles and only was able to catch up to it because the driver had reached his destination. The terrain in the area consisted of long hills which gave road builders the opportunity to create a lot of long downhill straight stretches. One day when my partner and I were going up one of these straightaways, we were met by a ¾ ton that was pulling a water trailer that should have been attached to a much larger truck. The trailer was loaded, and the driver had a full head of steam and was halfway down the grade when we met. Since the ¾ ton was underpowered for the task at hand, we were able to catch up easily. The driver's comment when he was stopped was, "These trailers really push you when you are going downhill!"

One of the problems encountered by patrols was that many times due to distance and terrain, the patrol was out of contact with the desk sergeant.

As the calendar moved into November and the nights began to get colder, a jeep with only a top began to be uncomfortable after sunset. We were allowed to attach the side curtains and doors at night (had to be removed during daylight hours), but even that was not sufficient to keep the occupants warm. As was mentioned in a previous article, the M-151's of the 11th had no heater or defroster. Even when long underwear and the overcoat were worn, the chilly damp air at the bottom of the low spots went right through to the bone. Depending on the patrolled area there might have been a fire station where a patrol could stop for a short while, warm up, and get a cup of coffee.

SITTING ON 2 or 3 MILLION DOLLARS:

Since in 1964 Soldiers were paid monthly in cash and October 31st was approaching, someone had to take the responsibility of getting the money and delivering it to the paymaster tent which was in the middle of a field. There the company

To the reader community:

I been asked to author a series of articles about the experiences of the men of the 545th MP Company of the 1st Cavalry Division (AIRMObILE). I joined the company in July of 1964, shortly after its inception at Ft.

paymasters could pick up the cash for their unit. The task of transporting the cash fell to the 11th MP. The plan was thus: The cash would be picked up at Ft. Jackson. A convoy of 11th MP vehicles would drive to Ft. Jackson. The first vehicle in the convoy would be a SC state trooper. The second and third would be 11th MP M-151's. The fourth would be an 11th MP ¾ with a lock box for the cash. Fifth would be another 11th MP M-151. Last would be a 11th MP M-151, but the last was to stay at least a half mile behind so that in case of a robbery, this pair of MPs would come swooping into the rescue. Each M-151 driver was to be armed with the .45 pistol, his partner to be armed either with an M-14 or a 12-gauge pump shotgun. Bob Stamey was to sit on the cargo in the bed of the ¾ and be armed with a shotgun. There was to be an aircraft overhead to monitor the movement. Since the 11th MP had no shotguns, these weapons were to be borrowed from the main post MPs at Ft. Jackson. Therein was a problem in that when the convoy arrived at Ft. Jackson, the MPs there would not let the 11th MPs have that many shotguns. Yours truly was the driver for the last M-151 and had checked out a .45 pistol. Partner Charles Adcock was expecting to borrow a shotgun at Ft. Jackson. The result was that the author gave his pistol to Charles and thus was unarmed. Another small glitch was that as per usual procedure when going on patrol, an MP was given only five rounds of 45 ammunition. Seems like there was also a shortage of M-14 ammunition. The plan was for the M-14 ammo to be obtained at Ft. Jackson but could not be released to the 11th MP without certain authorization which we did not have. The cash was successfully delivered without incident to the division paymaster tent and MPs posted as guards until the money was dispersed.

QUANDRY - WHICH WAS MORE IMPORTANT, MONEY (OUR ORDERS) OR CRASH ASSISTANCE?

After the money was dispersed, there still some left, so the 11th MP had to provide guards at the paymaster tent until the money was disposed of. One day Martin Howard and the author had that duty. There was a Huey helicopter maneuvering just over a slight rise from us. When it was close to the ground, it was out of sight from us, but we could see it when it was making an approach. Since this had been going on for a few minutes, we were not paying any attention to the aircraft until suddenly there was silence. We looked at each other and decided that something was amiss. Howard ran to the top of the rise while I guarded the tent. He saw the aircraft upside down with some occupants standing around, relayed the info to me, whereby I called the desk sergeant. Must not have been any serious injuries because I do not remember any emergency vehicles responding to the site.

TENT FIRE

When at our base of operations, the men were billeted in what was known as GP (General Purpose??) tents. Men slept on the ground on their individual air mattress. In November as the nights began to get colder, gasoline burning heaters were distributed to provide some semblance of comfort. There was a place in the tent wall where a thin metal plate could be inserted. The plate had a hole in it where the heater flu could be inserted, the theory being that the plate was large enough to disperse enough of the heat from the flu to prevent the canvas from igniting. Late one night one of the tents belonging to another unit in the area caught fire, from a heater. Everyone was wakened by the shouts of 'Fire!' Since there was no large water source nearby, in short order the tent was gone. Do not remember there being any injuries.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – REUNION 2023

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 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 16 June 2023:

1st Vice President

2nd Vice President

3rd Vice President

Three Foundation Trustees

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, 2023 Nominating Committee, 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703, requesting consideration for nomination to the specific office. The Nominating Committee must receive all requests no later than 30 April 2023 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 75th Annual Reunion of the Association on Friday 16 June 2023 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.



LTC (RET) J. Shawn Perry
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(254) 458-0428
Stetsonlife1cda@gmail.com



Greetings brothers and sisters! Merry Christmas and happy holidays to you! I pray that all is well in your world, and I offer myself up to you if you ever feel the need to chat with someone but have no one you feel you can turn to.

Fall seems to be the season for reflection, as long summer days give way to shorter fall nights. I have much to be thankful for, as I am sure you do, too. I am thankful to be here and to be alive; thankful for my friends and family, and thankful to have served in the finest US Army division with the finest Troopers.

Each fall here in north Alabama, our weather turns from the hot sun of summer to the cloudy and rainy skies of autumn. I recall from my first tour in Iraq, how thrilled we were to see a small, lone, tuft of a cloud in the vast blue sky after the scorching hot, cloudless summer. Tracking cloud size almost became its own weather report as we would see more and more clouds as the days and weeks passed. Soon, the whole sky was overcast, and we rejoiced! Finally, some relief from the sun! And as more time went by, the sky grew darker, and we eagerly anticipated our first taste of rain in over half a year. We rushed out into that first rain, raindrops creating spots on our dust-crusted uniforms, as we cheered and laughed with this change in the weather. Well for maybe thirty seconds or so. Then the realization that it was raining, and we were getting wet hit us, and we ran back under shelter. I don't think it took even a full day before we were "done" with the rain and began complaining about the mud that seemed to be getting everywhere and into everything. Ah, good times!

I'd like to throw kudos out to Hank Llewellyn for his time as the aviation correspondent and Silver Wings contributor. Ours is a branch, that although the technology may change and evolve, is still one where we break the bonds of earth and touch the sky; and I found his stories of flying in Vietnam relatable to my own experiences flying in and around Baghdad. You've set a high standard, Hank, and thank you for your continued service.

Another special shout-out to Jesse Patton of West Babylon, New York, who sent me a typed letter after reading my first column in the last edition of the *Saber*. Jesse included a clipped copy of Hank's last article which I found very special. I also want to recognize Carl Buick from Washington, who I believe was a Bird Dog pilot in Vietnam. He called me and we had a great conversation about his service, the Division, and how happy he was to see aviation once again represented in the *Saber*. Thank you, Gentlemen, for your time and for sharing with me.

Did you know the Army is changing the name of Fort Rucker to Fort Novosel? That's right; the Army is changing the names of Fort Rucker, Fort Benning, Fort Bragg, Fort Hood, and others. In fact, Fort Gordon in Augusta, GA, has already changed to Fort Eisenhower. Here is the update:

- Fort Rucker – changing to Fort Novosel in commemoration of CMH awardee CW4 Michael J. Novosel
- Fort Benning – changing to Fort Moore after LTG Hall Moore and his wife Julia Moore
- Fort Bragg – changing to Fort Liberty in commemoration of America's value of Liberty
- Fort Hood – changing to Fort Cavazos in commemoration of General Richard E. Cavazos
- Fort Gordon – changed to Fort Eisenhower after General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower

My understanding is that these name changes will take place over the next year or two, so you may have to keep that in mind if you are planning any travel out to any of them. There are others out there, too, which are also changing names. Shoot me an email if you would like the full list, or if you would like to share your opinion about it.

In other current news, your 1st Air Cavalry Brigade just returned from a 9-month deployment to Europe in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve. According to the DVIDSHUB article, "... the Air Cav flew over 12,500 hours in 11 different countries. [The] Air Cav executed 17 urgent real-world MEDEVAC missions and provided multi-functional aviation support during four Tier 1 and three Tier 2 NATO exercises, partnering with other US Army forces, as well as allies and

partners throughout Europe." During the transfer of authority ceremony between the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade and the 1st Armored Division Combat Aviation Brigade in Powidz, Poland on 9 September, COL Timothy Jaeger, the 1ACB Commander remarked, "1st Air Cav Troopers, you represent an innovative and trusted fighting force that is a testament to the extraordinary efforts of its officers, non-commissioned officers, and Soldiers, and is keeping with the rich history of both the 1st Cavalry and 1st Infantry Divisions. Your collective contributions, past and future, are invaluable to the support of the EUCOM theater, in order to promote continued peace and stability while assuring our allies and partners and deterring our enemies." The article goes on to explain, "Since April 2014, U.S. Army Europe and Africa has led the Department of Defense's Atlantic Resolve land efforts. Atlantic Resolve provides rotational deployments of combat-credible forces to Europe to show our commitment to NATO while building readiness, increasing interoperability, and enhancing the bonds between ally and partner militaries." Learn more about the 1ACB and Operation Atlantic Resolve here: <<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/429236/1st-air-cavalry-brigade-redeploys-fort-hood>>.

When my father retired from the Army, I asked him if he missed the Army. He retorted, "Hell no! I don't miss the Army; but I do miss the Soldiers!" This last week was his Class of '67 reunion at West Point, and I was intrigued by the pictures of him and his former classmates that he shared with me. How amazing is our Army that it brings together citizens from all over, and how we create bonds and friendships that transcend time and distance. I am a believer in the power of human connections, and I like to bring people together.



Cliff Mead is a man I want to introduce to you. Seemingly a Cavalryman since birth, Cliff is a UH60 Blackhawk maintenance test pilot extraordinaire. He could put the helicopter through maneuvers I didn't think possible. One of my favorite quotes of his went something like, "Yup, when you're a test pilot and people see you walking out to a broken helicopter with a hacksaw and duct tape, they want to

come see what is about to happen." Cliff, a tactician, and leader is also one of your ICDA Board of Governors members. He flew himself up to Dayton for the reunion in his Piper Lance II (photo above). Who else out there has or had their own airplane? I'd like to get you in touch with Cliff, so please drop me a line and I'll do that. I know that my friendships with the likes of Cliff and others I've served with continue because we had more in common than just the Army. I believe finding those other parts of our lives that are similar or compatible with others and sharing with them, enriches our lives and theirs, providing additional opportunities for camaraderie, fellowship, and support. Yeah, Cliff is a guy you would enjoy getting to know.

As a reminder, this is your column. Shoot me an email, send me a letter, or give me a call, and let me know what you would like to hear about or what you would like to share with all of us. We have decades of aviation excellence represented in our ranks of Air Cav Veterans, and I know we have much in common. Hank Llewellyn closed out his last column quoting Leonardo Da Vinci. Hank, wherever you are now, know that quote is a favorite of mine. He wrote, "For once you have tasted flight you will walk the earth with your eyes turned skyward, for there you have been and there you will long to be."



I look forward to hearing from y'all. Have a Merry Christmas, happy holidays, and joyous New Year. I'm going to continue Hank's traditional sign-off; it just feels right.

Clear Right! Shawn



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**WARNING FRAUD
MEMBERSHIP SUSPENSION NOTICE**

The 1st Cavalry Division Association does **NOT** send out emails asking you to verify your membership account to avoid your membership being suspended.

It has been brought to our attention that one of our members received the following email, the beginning of October:

Subject: Membership Suspension Notice
Date: Tue, 4 Oct 2022 14:07:02 -0700
From: Rafita T <rafitorez@gmail.com>

ATTENTION

1st Cavalry Division Association Membership notice- Kindly verify your membership account HERE to complete your most recent up-to date membership License certificate.

NOTE: The s(PW)s code means your email password.
You have 24 hours to complete these steps to avoid Membership License suspension.

Thank you
Assistant of Administration

THIS IS A SCAM!

The Association does NOT send out such emails.



HONOR ROLL



Thank you for the generous donations from our following Troopers:

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SSG CALLAHAN, Don	\$100	IMO A Co 1-5 Cav Troopers:		SP-4 QUIJANO, Alec J.	\$20
IMO SGT Ernest Hawkins, HHB DIVARTY,		Mark Nielson, Ronald English, Mario Grisanti		MRS. QURESHI, Anne	\$35
my best buddy in Vietnam		COL (RET) KIES, Robert H.	\$15	IMO My Father Clifford C. Parker, WWII	
LTC (RET) CASEY, Leonard R.	\$25	IMO UNSAN-Who Gave Their All		Veteran 1Cav 1 st BDE HQ	
IMO Mary L. Casey		E-4 KRAUS, Rich	\$10	SGT RABKIN, Ted	\$25
CPT CASEY, William L.	\$80	IMO E-4 Evans Benbow, Vietnam		1LT RASANEN, Eric K.	\$25
SGT CAZIER, Stanley W.	\$40	CW2 KRULL, James A.	\$25	SGT RICHARDS, Dick C.	\$25
IMO C Co HHC 1-12 Cav		SP-4 KUBIK, Gerald H.	\$15	IMO B 2-5 First Cav Class of 1967	
1LT CHILD, Robert J.	\$25	CW2 La DUE, John J.	\$25	SP-5 RIORDAN, Brian L.	\$25
IMO BG Howard T. Prince II		IMO CW2 Wade H. Bishop Jr.		IMO C 2-8	
SGT CITELLI, Kenneth	\$130	CPL LOPENSKI, Allen	\$100	SGT ROWDEN, Ronald W.	\$100
E-4 COENEN, Timothy T.	\$25	IMO Ron		CPL RUMBLE, Blair C.	\$25
CW2 (RET) COGUT, Theodore L.	\$100	SGT LEE, Carl R.	\$75	MRS. SABATELLI, Priscilla	\$250
IMO Martha Marie Cogut 1925-2022		IMO Jace E. McBride, D 1-7		SGT SCHREINER, Dennis R.	\$50
LTC CRANE, Kit C. Dean	\$25	IMO Michael Dawson, D 1-7		E-4 SERINI, John P.	\$25
COL (RET) CRTUCHER, Michael H.	\$50	SP-5 LOW, Terrance,	\$15	SGT SIMPSON, Paul R.	\$40
IMO PFC Timothy Brown		1SG LU JAN, Frank	\$10	IMO Ralph (Pete) Triplett A 2-5	
IMO COL Ronald R. Rasmussen		IHO Me		SSG SINDELAR, Sheldon S.	\$25
COL (RET) CUMMINGS, Frank	\$25	1SG (RET) MACKEY, Charlie	\$25	CPT SPARKS, Thomas W.	\$25
E-4 DAISY, Anthony	\$25	SP-5 MALTRICH, Terry L.	\$25	SP-4 STRANDE, James L.	\$50
SP-4 DAVENPORT, Douglas C.	\$15	SPC MARKELL, Joseph	\$25	IMO All KIA's	
IMO David Osbourn		MR. MAROTTA, Joseph	\$100	1LT STRAWTHER, Edward L.	\$35
De NUZZIO, Domenick	\$30	SSG MARSHALL, Loyd W.	\$15	IMO Henry C. Williams	
IMO USAF (RET) SSGT Domenick De Nuzzio		IMO Virgil Griffin		SGT STROSSER, Robert J.	\$150
SP-4 DiNATALE, Richard	\$15	E-2 MATEAS, William	\$25	IMO COL (RET) Ward Amory Lutz (2009) former	
IMO Mary Tortorici		1LT MATULICH, Frank	\$25	Commanding Officer 227 th Pathfinders and friend	
SP-4 DOLAN, Michael	\$100	IMO SGT William R. Furr		SSG (RET) SWAN, Donald	\$100
1SG (RET) DORN, Arthur J.	\$80	SGT MARTIN, Steve	\$100	IMO Charles C. Hagemeister, MOH	
IMO James Harrington		SGT McCLAFFERTY, Michael J.	\$25	SGT SWEENEY, Ronald C.	\$10
SP-4 DUNNE, Lindsay J.	\$25	SP-4 McKEE, Henry	\$25	CPL TOMASCHESKI, John W.	\$50
SP-5 EMBREE, William M.	\$25	LTC (RET) McKISSICK, James	\$25	IMO CPT John Sabine	
SSG FARMER, Francis E.	\$25	MR. McHENRY, Robert	\$25	SP-5 TRENT, Larry G.	\$25
SGT FLICKING, James G.	\$25	IMO SSG Paul Hurdle		COL (RET) TRIPP, Edwin A.	\$25
SGT FREASE, Jerry	\$20	PFC MEYER, Charles	\$20	IMO Charles "Woody" Leonard	
IMO John Ulfers		CPT MOKHIBER, Samuel E.	\$190	SP-5 TURNER, Danny R.	\$40
IMO Dwight Sarjrant		SSG MONTGOMERY, Alfred	\$100	SP-4 TRUPIN, Marion W.	\$25
SGT FREAD, Neal		IMO Troopers of A Co, 1-5 Cav KIA at		IMO SP-4 Gary Mell	
IMO MIA-POW		LZ Albany Nov 1965		SP-4 VALLS, William	\$50
COL (RET) GAIDA, Gerry	\$25	E-2 MORGAN, Gordon B.	\$40	SP-4 VAN DEURZEN, Richard J.	\$50
BG GASPARD, George W.	\$25	IMO Morgan Bio, Combat Veterans, WW2, Korea		SP5 VARGA, Wayne E.	\$25
IMO BG George W. Gaspard, Jr.		Cambodia, Viet Nam, Dad-Fred, Mom-Flora, and		IMO PFC James Batson	
AP-4 GASTON, Harry L.	\$50	Brother-Donald		SGT VARGO, George W.	\$25
IMO William Hill Co B 2-8 Cav, 1966		CPT NANDOR, David	\$25	1SG (RET) WAINRIGHT, Ralph P.	\$25
E-5 GIORDANO, Anthony	\$25	SP5 NICOLICH, Steve	\$50	E-4 WALDO, James	\$50
IMO Men on Thanksgiving Day 1 st PLT				SP-4 WARREN, Steve	\$30
C Co 1-8Cav 68'-69'				SFC (RET) WILSON, Richard C.	\$25
CPT GLADYSZ, Jerome S.	\$25			CPT WILSON, William	\$200
SP-5 GOLIO, Dominick J.	\$25			SGT WOODS, Stephen R.	\$30
IMO CPT Robert Cioffi (KIA)				IMO LTC Peter Gorvad	
SP-4 GOTTESMAN, Harold	\$50			LTC ZABICKI, William	\$125
IMO Lee Tully and Billy Ford KIA 1968				To the Brave Troopers of Fire Base Jay	
				29 March 1970	

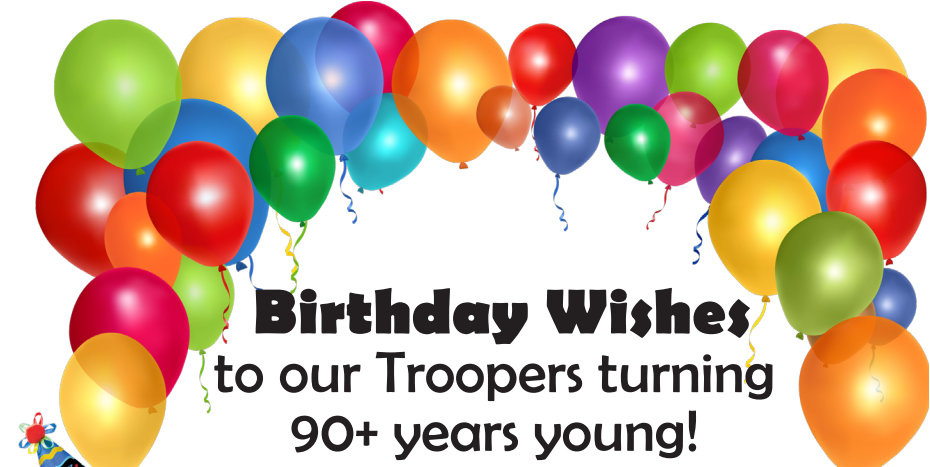


As of November 1, 2022

Editor Note:
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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.

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



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

COL (RET) JOHN L. MOMEIER turned 90 on 11/02/2022	COL (RET) JAMES DINGEMAN turned 97 on 11/23/2022
CPL RICHARD E. BARHAM turned 91 on 11/03/2022	COL (RET) LARRY E. WIDENER turned 94 on 11/23/2022
CPT (RET) JAY C. COPLEY turned 90 on 11/03/2022	MR. ELISEO V. MARTINEZ turned 90 on 11/24/2022
SSG JOSEPH E. SAYRE turned 94 on 11/05/2022	CPL ROBERT R. TRYON turned 91 on 11/26/2022
PFC GEORGE K. BOBBITT turned 92 on 11/06/2022	LTC (RET) RICHARD W. WOOD turned 92 on 11/28/2022
MG (RET) EDWARD TROBAUGH turned 90 on 11/07/2022	CPT LLOYD GRABLE turned 95 on 11/29/2022
SSG S. S. SINDELAR turned 93 on 11/10/2022	CPL JAMES J. SORCE turned 94 on 12/02/2022
LTC FRANK H. WAGNER MD turned 90 on 11/11/2022	CPL DONALD FELDMAN turned 93 on 12/03/2022
CPL WILLIAM I OSTEEN turned 91 on 11/13/2022	CPL RAYMOND S. MORAGA turned 92 on 12/05/2022
	PVT ARCENIO G. VALDEZ turned 95 on 12/14/2022
	CPT (RET) JAMES L. EMBREY turned 92 on 12/15/2022
	CPL RICHARD VAGTS turned 98 on 12/18/2022
	PFC WILLIAM F. MOUL turned 91 on 12/22/2022

Replacement Membership Cards



This card is presented to

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Executive Director

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On the back of the card it says:
1st Cavalry Division Association is a non-political, non-profit 501(c)19 fraternity for Soldiers and Veterans currently serving or have served in 1st Cavalry Division.
The Association is a group of Soldiers and former Soldiers from Private to 4-star Generals who share a bond of service with the FIRST TEAM who are dedicated to supporting the Division and each other.

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1ST AIR CAV BRIGADE DOCUMENTARY: *THE LONGEST MONTH*



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1ST AIR CAV BRIGADE DOCUMENTARY THE LONGEST MONTH

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