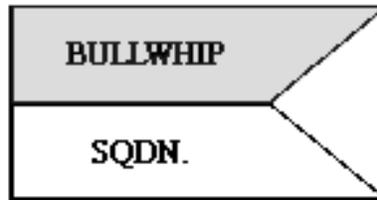


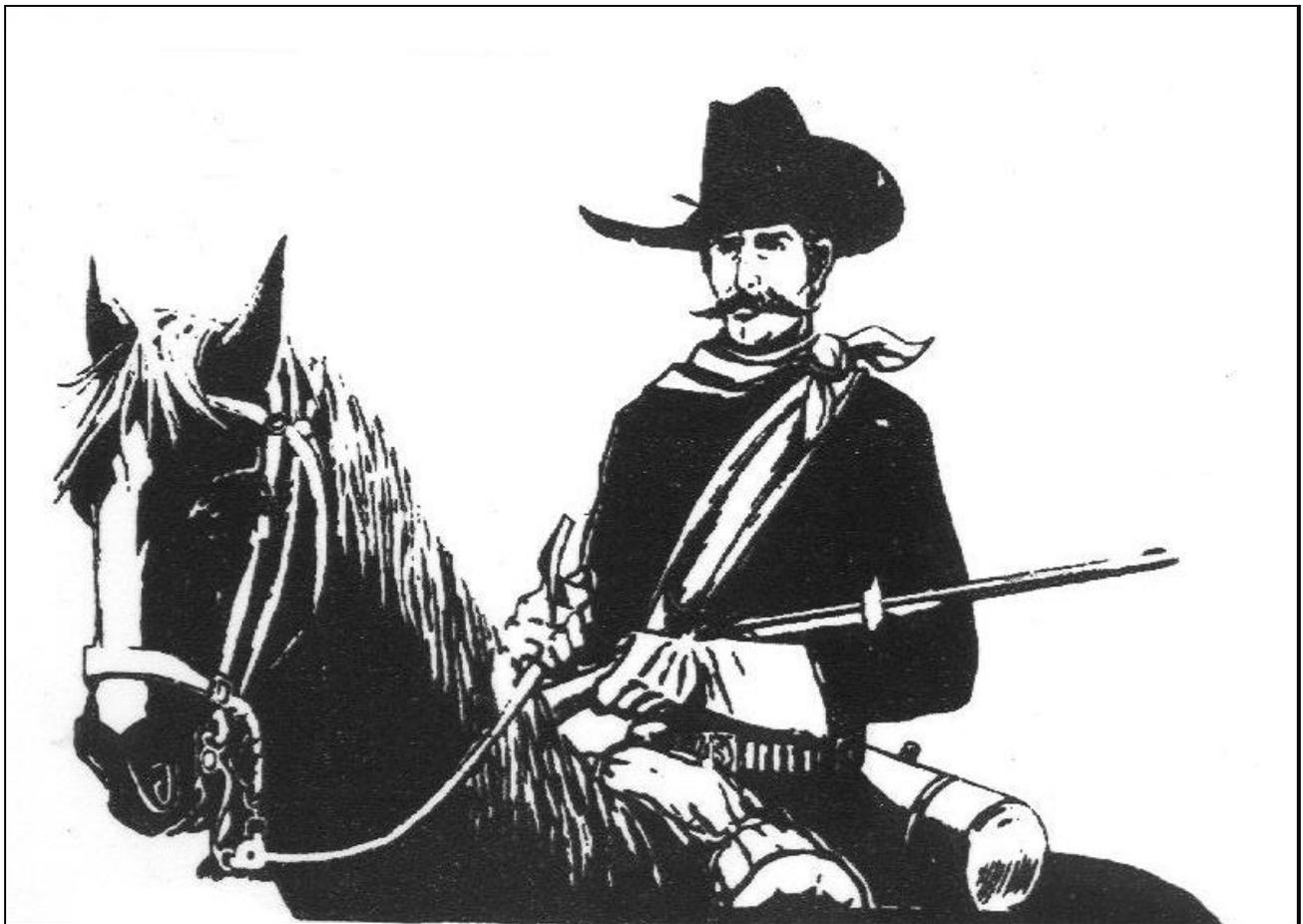
3rd/17th --- 1st/9th
Air Cavalry Squadron



THE BULLWHIP SQUADRON NEWS

The official Newsletter of the Bullwhip Squadron Association

August 2000



THE 9TH CAVALRY SKY TROPER,

Changing of the Guard

At times I close my eyes and I can still see you,
a Sky Trooper in command of all that you do.
Flying in formidable chariots of rotor blades and steel,
with friendship bonds that were never spoken of, but there to feel.

You must admit you were among the country's best in heart and skill,
patiently hand-hewn in the gladiator craftsman's art and will.
Your senses were unspoiled with reflexes faster than light,
in a mature and strengthened body honed for a warrior's fight.

I saw you stand in defiance as you faced the ultimate fear: the loss of Your life,
while you had yet to experience its simple normalcy and mere strife.
Concepts of courage, honor, and pride were earned by your just deed,
they were not just words to describe goals someone wished to seed.

I remember the first day you joined us: your smile, your presence, and wit,
and eagerly sought to soar in the clouds, fire rockets, cannons, and just plain
spit.

In days you were no longer the virgin warrior, untried and unproved,
but a Sky Trooper in a black Stetson cavalry hat for whom all would move.

I feared for the day I and some would leave the troop for the states,
for who would replace us and protect the scouts, blues, and the lift-bird fates?
Your skill and professionalism quickly relaxed my concern,
as I watched you take command, protect our troop, and continue to learn.

Now, many years have past and all the tigers are gone from play,
and I close my eyes and I can still see you there, as if it were today.
These remembrances will keep you forever as you were back then,
as current memories will never change you from the youthful warrior I knew,
and still get to call my friend.

By Grover Wright



Adjutants Call

Attention to Orders

Some years ago while on duty in Barranquilla, Columbia I invited the Bishop of the Canal Zone to attend a luncheon of the American Men's Society. We asked Bishop Gooden to say grace. He spoke eight words and sat down. An old Navy Salt Petty Officer said we pray better than that in the Navy. My point in telling you this story is it is not always what we say but that we are there when we are needed.

That I think is and was the quality of our Chaplain Harry Treude. He was there when he was needed for the troopers of the 3/17 1/9. I recall he was there for me when we lost Billy Nave. I forwarded his words home to Billy's widow. Chaplain Treude was not one for lounging in the home camp area at An-Khe. He found himself a seat of a helicopter and went into battle with his troops. He also did battle with Bullwhip Six on behalf of the troops when needed. He did battle when others merely said, "Yes Sir". Chaplain Treude, while no longer the Squadron Chaplain is still very much alive. Now over eighty, he is active in his church and often goes to Peru and other remote areas with God's word.

I welcome our new Chaplain, I enjoyed reading about his family. I hope that his service to the troops of 1/9 will be long and fruitful. Bless us all.

In December 97 Chaplain Treude said, "John B was not only a fearless soldier, he was a surrogate father to all the troops". Harry, you too were a father away from home to many a trooper.

FOR THE COMMANDER

DICK D GRUBE

POST SCRIPT

The articles in this newsletter from our fellow troopers and other military personnel are printed specifically to make you think. This November is election time for the office of the President of the United States and for many in Congress. Our civilian counterparts and many of our neighbors don't really understand the sacrifices given by our military personnel for the protection of this great nation. It is up to us to vote and to instill the desire to vote in everyone that we come in contact with. Are you satisfied with our Government? If the answer is no, then you must vote. Vote with your mind, not your heart. Vote for what is best for this great country of ours. We must have a say in who will be our elected officials and voting is the only way we can. Vote for the continuation of our Constitution and our Bill of Rights. We must persevere or our beloved nation will fall.

We are who we are: AIR CAV TROOPERS.

BWS

TAPS

Ron Smith
Les Holland
Marshall Wells

Passed On, February 27, 2000
Passed On, May 13, 1999
Passed On, June 15, 2000



FROM THE COMMANDER

As we approach the BWS Reunion in October, there are a number of topics I would like to share with you. First of all, the status of the infamous OH-13 Scout helicopter has just about reached the final stage of becoming a reality as described in the next article. If the creeks don't rise and the apples don't fall, this one of a kind armed scout helicopter will be at our reunion in the parking lot of the Holiday Inn.

This helicopter is one of approximately 22 aircraft owned or leased to the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation based in Atlanta, GA. This organization restores Army aircraft to a flyable status and fly them in air shows. They're in air shows throughout the eastern United States to show the American public various aircraft from World War II (June 1942 was the start of Army Aviation), thru the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. Aircraft types range from an L4 liaison fixed wing used in Africa, Sicily and Normandy, thru the Vietnam era OH-13, AH1 Cobra, Mohawk and Caribou, all painted with the original markings of the units of that event.

The Foundation has already performed 10 of the scheduled 13 air shows. One was completed here at Ft. Rucker on Armed Forces Day, 20 May, before 14,000 spectators – the first air show in over 25 years at Rucker.

Our own BWS member, Stan Grett also participated with his Wiregrass Radio Control Aircraft Club.

I was the local Project Officer representing the Aviation Foundation and assisted in planning the event. Also attending was Loel

and Barbara Ewart, Rex and Kay Dula, Al and Betty Defleron, and Jerry and Nancy McNinch.

Other air shows dates were; Ft. Campbell 10 June, VHPA Reunion in Washington D.C. 1-4 July, Selfridge ANGB in Detroit 21-23 July, Oshkosh air show 26 July- 1 Aug 9 (800,000). Future airshows; Winston-Salem, NC. on 9-10 Sept, Atlanta Motor Speedway Race Days 15-17 Sept, Columbia SC 10-12 Nov, and the International Council Air Show in Las Vegas 3-6 Dec. Watch you local news media for confirmed dates.

The Aviation Foundation has asked me to form a chapter here at Ft. Rucker, and of course I "hired" several of the local BWS members to assist in this effort. We should receive our first of several aircraft within the next several months. Hopefully the first will be an OV-1B Mohawk. The long range goal (2 years) is to get 10 – 12 OH-6 helicopters and form a demo team, similar to the original Silver Eagles, in support of not only Ft. Rucker, but throughout neighboring states for recruiting purposes. And I thought I had retired!!

Enough of that story. Anyway, the upcoming BWS Reunion should be on your long range radar screen as this event will be the largest yet in attendance. Make your reservations ASAP as the Holiday Inn is now booked full and reservations are being taken in the Jameson Inn. It will be another thing of beauty – so please attend and see your friends from the 1964 – 1973 Cav Squadron timeframe.

Until the next newsletter.

David J. Allen
Brigadier General
Cavalry USA (Ret)
Commanding

From the Chaplain:

Hello, fellow Bullwhip Veterans;

I delayed writing this column as long as I could, hoping to get over the solemnity of Memorial Day 2000. But the mood hung on, so please be patient if it shows through in this column, and bear with me.

The emotions that are best described as survivor's gratitude and patriotic appreciation swelled within me on this special day, and were just barely strong enough to hold back heavy brooding over the ever-present past.

In memoriam, my wife and I attended a service at Fort Douglas, Utah. Afterwards, we joined a large contingent of our posterity at a nearby park for what would have been a very pleasant occasion, except for the memories and a tendency to compare all I have with what so very many missed out on. Heavy memories pulled me backwards.

It was Thanksgiving day 1966 and I was visiting medical personnel and patients at a medical clearing company when choppers brought in 20 WIA's and two KIA's. One of the WIA's and a KIA had been the crew of a 1-9 Cav scout chopper (H-13 model) that went down in flames during the fight that created all those casualties.

Questions haunted me as I moved among horrible sights and smells that linger still--the mingled odors of mangled and burned American soldiers: What of the families of these who were killed and maimed on Thanksgiving? What would happen to hope and faith in days to come when each family received word that a loved one--a son, husband or father--fell on Thanksgiving day, despite their special prayers? Would these tragic sacrifices mar all future Thanksgivings, or would time the memories and pain and allow hope and joy to return on some future holiday?

Timely questions. Across American families were preparing for Thanksgiving, and soon would gather and pray for the safety of a loved one in far off Vietnam (Thanksgiving had not yet arrived "back in the world."). They would pray and then feast, only to have hopes dashed to pieces in a few days when a messenger of death--death notification officer--arrived at the door.

Mostly, the answers to these haunting questions were many years in coming. The pain was still there 30 years later in the voice of a father who still couldn't handle the sacrifice of a son who fell in 1967. It was there the Thursday before this Memorial Day in the e-mail of a granddaughter whose family is finally ready to find answers about a grandfather she never met. The answers were there in her grandmother's voice as we discuss the heroic medic I knew as a buddy and a bandager of my own wound, whom she remembers intimately as the light of her life and father of her three children, and in the poem she wrote to her mate after receiving notification of his death and while awaiting delivery of his remains (a poem that I will share in this column in a future issue, with her permission).

And what of the answers? Time softens the anguish and memories but faith and values do a better job. Usually, hope returns, often slowly but more quickly and stronger in many whose faith was abundant before. And now, more than ever before, families and individuals are ready to end each the long silence and are seeking answers and contact with we who came home. We who came home have many of the answers sought by the families of our remembered buddies. So perhaps our best memoriam to those who stayed behind is provided as we help their loved ones deal with their anguish and questions and as we help them understand.

This once, I paraphrase a highly-placed politician that I've never quoted before. On Memorial Day 2000, he (name withheld) told of a young lady who was asked: "What is the true meaning of Memorial Day?" Her response, "It is the day the pools open!"

For the sake of everything we hold sacred and the memory of those we left behind, and

for their loved ones, let's also help the grandchildren of the sons and daughters of the "greatest generation" to rediscover the true meaning of Memorial Day.

Claude D. Newby
Chaplain,
Lt. Col. (Ret.) United States Army

**ALL GAVE SOME ,
SOME GAVE ALL**

IN FLANDERS FIELD

IN FLANDERS FIELD THE POPPIES
BLOW
BETWEEN THE CROSSES, ROW ON
ROW,
THAT MARK OUR PLACE; AND IN THE
SKY
THE LARKS, STILL BRAVELY SINGING,
FLY
SCARCE HEARD AMID THE GUNS
BELOW.

WE ARE THE DEAD, SHORT DAYS AGO
WE LIVED, FELT DAWN SAW SUNSET
GLOW,
LOVED, AND WERE LOVED, AND NOW
WE LIE IN
FLANDERS FIELD.

TAKE UP OUR QUARREL WITH THE
FOE:
TO YOU FROM FAILING HANDS WE
THROW
THE TORCH, BE YOURS TO HOLD IT
HIGH.
IF YE BREAK FAITH WITH US WHO DIE
WE SHALL NOT SLEEP, THOUGH
POPPIES GROW
IN FLANDERS FIELDS.

BY COL. JOHN McCRAE

From The Command Sergeant Major

Old Soldiers,

Another quarter year has passed and the days go faster than I can count. Our next reunion is just three months away and still much to do in preparation for the big event.

This coming October, will see the Bullwhip Squadron's 4th reunion. This reunion is building to be the biggest yet and one that everyone will remember. We will see many new members for the first time.

Our beloved Army continues with people cuts and changes, with a strong possibility of more base closures. Consideration is even being given to having only a wheeled vehicle army with no treads, like tanks. Some of our leadership feels that we will never have to fight a major war again.

It seems like when the old soldiers go, the newbies have to learn the hard way all over again. It's time for all our troopers to do their part in bringing back this country to the standards we believe in, by voting in the upcoming elections. Your vote counts and the man that is the next President will control your destiny and guide this great country for the next 4 years. **Vote carefully!** Remember, "what rolls downhill doesn't stop until it hits the retirees".

We are still looking for lost troopers. If you know of any troopers that have not been contacted, give the Squadron Association their names and addresses and we will contact them.

Our association continues to grow and all of you troopers who make up the 1st/9th Air CAV Squadron make this old soldier proud.

Let no trooper ever forget that it is the Air Cav Squadron troopers that is always first in battle, always first in friendship, always first for our country.

As ever, your points of contact for normal Squadron business remain;

Loel Ewart
Rt. 2 Box 158
Ozark, Al. 36360
Ph. # 334-774-0328
e-mail lewart@snowhill.com

Or

Al Defleron
1145 Holland Rd.
Newton, Al. 36352
Ph. # 334-692-5685

I am looking forward to seeing all my old soldiers this October at the reunion.

SGM Kennedy
Bullwhip 7

"Life without sergeants is mean and brutish. That's my strongest impression of being a civilian."

Barry R. McCaffrey, Drug Czar

From the Sergeant Major:

Troopers!!

The bees are swarming, the Florida love bugs are back and the gnats too, have returned and are starting to get to me. But unlike Gen. Allen who will be returning to Maine for the summer to avoid all of the above mentioned, I'll just have to remain in Alabama and make the best of it. Boy do I ever need a bottle of that GI (Vietnam special) issue bug and insect repellent (that we all know about). On second thought I had better just go to Wal-Mart and get a can of bug-off and keep moving.

What I am really getting around to, or trying to say is: October will soon be here and there is still a lot of things to do to be ready for our reunion.

The reunion is shaping up to have the largest in attendance to date. We have over a hundred reunion registration forms at the present time. However, a lot of those who have reserved rooms at the Holiday Inn have yet to send in their reunion forms. Once again we need these forms and numbers to obtain an accurate head count for meals, BBQ and etc.

WE NEED numbers for planning purposes. HELP GUYS!!

The Holiday Inn is booked for all 90 rooms., the Jameson Inn is now getting the overflow from the Holiday Inn. Those of you still needing rooms should call and make your reservations at the Jameson, Ph # 334 774-0233. They have 35 rooms for us there. Be sure and let them know you are booking for the Bullwhip Reunion for special rates. After we use up this block of 35 rooms we'll have the overflow go to the Best Western where we have a 55 room block reserved there. Ph # 334 774-5166 for reservations. Again let them know about the reunion for special rates. The longer you wait and procrastinate the further away you will be from the Holiday Inn (Reunion HQS). Again we need that head count ASAP!

Any of you that are going to want, or need shirts personalized, please order ASAP. This will give me time to get them ordered, personalized and shipped to you in time for the reunion. It will also save a lot of time for someone having to sell merchandise. Then they too can enjoy the reunion. Thanks!

Next on this little agenda is our upcoming **Reunion Raffle**. We are going to raffle off a **Grand Prize**; a reproduction of a cavalry saber mounted on a beautiful plaque. **First Prize**; regulation 3 ½ " brim black Stetson w/app braid to include 1/9 crossed saber brass. There will be a **Special Drawing** for our ladies (this will be a surprise item). The cost of the tickets are \$1. each. You need not be present to win. Contact me for your tickets I'll either mail them to you or you can pick them up with your reunion packet, just let me know how many you want. Proceeds from raffle will go for newsletter and reunion expenses. So now troopers we are waiting for you guys to make this a success. Make us get more tickets printed. **BUY TICKETS.**

There will be a lot of new faces at the reunion as we've found quite a few of those lost troopers out there. We are locating more daily and almost daily getting new members. We will soon be hitting the 500 mark. Now if all will get their dues current, we will be

setting pretty. Many thanks to those who have assisted us in finding these lost troopers.

As ever;
L.A. "D" DeFleron
SGM B/W Sqdn Assn

Keeper Of The Rock

I was sufficiently moved by this to think it worthy of your reading. I wanted to share this with you. Bucky Burrus was one of the original members of "Delta" and eventually became commander of the unit. He is a tough but colorful character. Feel free to pass this on to those who deserve to read it!

COL James C. Hiatt

**VIETNAM 25th ANNIVERSARY
THOUGHTS**

Twenty-five years ago the Vietnam War finally reached the conclusion that had become inevitable years earlier. The Vietnamese communists invaded and quickly overwhelmed the Republic of Vietnam, blatantly violating the "Peace with Honor" agreement they had signed in Paris, just as they had violated the truce during Tet of 1968. Their victory came as no surprise, for the will of this country to stop them was long since gone, and with a national shrug of the shoulders, it was all over. The sacrifice of more than fifty-housand of America's finest young men seemed to have been for naught.

I was stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, just back from a three year tour in Germany after a couple of tours to Vietnam. The Soviet Union was the threat then, and our martial energies were directed toward defending Western Europe against them, at the same time implementing the permissiveness intended to make an all-voluntary military appealing to America's new generation of youth - a generation that had spent its adolescence watching many of the baby boomers who preceded them cast aside their

parents' values for ones that would provide instant gratification.

"Vietnam" was all but a prohibited word in the army, as if there was nothing to be learned, military, from a political defeat - and the defeat *was* political, for we had not lost on the battlefield, thanks to the courage and sacrifice of so many gallant soldiers. It is a sad fact that gallantry goes largely unrecognized in defeat, for as JFK once declared, "Victory has a thousand fathers, but defeat is a bastard."

How many of today's students, I wonder, are taught that the 7th Cavalry, in their desperate fight in the Ia Drang Valley in 1965 - America's first big battle against the North Vietnamese - lost more men, and killed more of the enemy, than any regiment on either side in the battle of Gettysburg?

Many students learn of the despicable aberration of the My Lai murders, but is it balanced by also teaching them of the thousands of civilians executed by the communists during their occupation of Hue in 1968, or of the Viet Cong massacre of some two hundred women and children with flame throwers at Song Be?

Fortunately, many of our then-young officers *did* learn valuable lessons in Vietnam, and those hard-learned lessons stuck with them, translated by Vietnam veterans such as Colin Powell, Norman Schwarzkopf, Barry McCaffery, Wayne Downing, and Gary Luck into the stunning military victory of Desert Storm.

And for every one of those mentioned above, there are hundreds of thousands of other Vietnam veterans who went back to productive civilian lives. Only a few of them are well known: Roger Stauback, John McCain, Al Gore, Pat Sajak, Chuck Robb, Rocky Bleier, both U. S. Senators Kerry, for example.

But we all know some of them. Among my own Vietnam vet friends are successful writers, a stockbroker, a college president, and businessmen who employ hundreds of other men and women. There are physicians, welders, photographers, nurses, airline pilots, college professors, a ferry operator.

I don't know any who are homeless. I've encountered a few on the streets who purported to be, but in every instance that I was able to stop and question them, their stories just didn't flush. As Burkett and Whitley, authors of the excellent and important work **STOLEN VALOR** documented so thoroughly in their book, many if not most of the scruffy panhandlers in camouflaged fatigues not only never served in combat, but are not even military veterans.

So don't be fooled by phony and criminal wannabe "vets", nor by the twisted image that often the entertainment industry and even some educators give of America's Vietnam veterans.

Just think for a moment of the men and women you know or know of who actually *are* veterans of the Vietnam War. They may be neighbors or uncles or coworkers, or the father of a friend, or even your employer.

Ask yourself where this nation or this world would be if only those who really wanted to go off to war for America did so. And remember that those who served in Vietnam, whether you agreed with the war or not, went because they were born by chance in the Forties, and because their nation said she needed them to go - just as their fathers had done before coming home, victorious, to conceive them. You will see that they are the same caliber of man and woman as those who served at Normandy and Gettysburg, at the Frozen Chosin and Bunker Hill, at Cantigny and Iwo Jima. And if the mood strikes you, give the ones you know a call today, and tell them you appreciate their service.

They're dying by the tens of thousands each year now, and some of them have never been told, personally, that their service was appreciated. It won't cause any horrible, phony flashbacks or crazed-vet massacres. I promise it won't. But don't be surprised if it brings a tear or two. And if you're a vet yourself, thanks. My greatest honor is to have served with men and women like you in the not-always-successful defense of freedom. God bless.

L.H. Burruss, 19 Apr 2000

25th Year Anniversary, Fall of Saigon

I sometimes find it difficult to believe that this past April marked the 25th anniversary of the fall of Saigon to the North Vietnamese Communists and the departure of all U.S. presence from South Vietnam. As the anniversary approached I planned to watch some of the replay of events on television, but after seeing some coverage I decided against watching any more.

It may be a mistake perception on my part, but I have always felt that the American mainstream press has portrayed the U.S. and its South Vietnamese allies in a less-than-favorable light, and the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Communists in, at worst, a neutral light. Remember there were no boat people until the Communists took over South Vietnam.

I think it is time that we as Vietnam veterans set the record straight. Certainly mistakes were made at time by American soldiers in Vietnam, but all armies throughout history have had individuals who have committed wrongs. And certainly one could make the case that US policy should not have gotten troops bogged down in Vietnam. Having said all this, I think it is time the American media in general and news media in particular should wake up and start stating facts.

The American objective in Southeast Asia, however flawed, was a noble one. That objective was to stop the spread of godless communism. Communism, which as some in the media seem to be unaware, throughout its history has only enslaved, murdered and impoverished its citizens. In fact, in the 1980's President Reagan referred to the Soviet Union as precisely that which it was - "an evil empire" - and for the next ten years reporters in the mainstream press chuckled at his very accurate statement, not once telling us why they thought it was wrong.

I think we as Bullwhip troopers have an obligation to help educate the American people as to the justice of our cause thirty-five years ago and how, as a result of our actions

and tens of thousands of our comrades during the Cold War, communism is being committed to the trash heap of history.

Gene Smith
Keeper of the Rock

THESE GOOD MEN

I now know why men who have been to war yearn to reunite. Not to tell stories or look at old pictures. Not to laugh or weep. **Comrades gather because they long to be with the men who once acted their best, men who suffered and sacrificed, who were stripped raw, right down to their humanity.** I did not pick these men. They were delivered by fate and the Military. But I know them in a way I know no other men. I have never given anyone such trust. They were willing to guard something more precious than my life. They would have carried my reputation, the memory of me. It was part of the bargain we all made, the reason we were so willing to die for one another.

I cannot say where we are headed. Ours are not perfect friendships; those are the province of legend and myth. A few of my comrades drift far from me now, sending back only occasional word. I know that one day even these could fall to silence. Some of the men will stay close, a couple, perhaps, always at hand.

As long as I have memory, I will think of them all, every day. I am sure that when I leave this world, my last thought will be of my family and my comrades.....such good men.

from "These Good Men" by Michael Norman

BWS

We continue to have calls about the videotapes that Jerry has for sale, especially by our many new members. So, for all of you that are interested, the following article is

again being reprinted, for all of our new Brotherhood members.

Troopers, I introduce, SMOKY.

SMOKY

For those of you who do not know Smoky, we, in the Bullwhip Squadron, have a fantastic asset in the person of Jerry 'Smoky' Schmotolocha. Smokey has done an excellent job of compiling and editing tapes about the Bullwhip Squadron, the 9th Cav and the Air Cav in general. In addition to these tapes being of great interest to us, some of the proceeds from the sales go towards the Squadron General Fund.

The available tapes are;

Tape #1: "The Making of Decisive Weapons" by the BBC. This tape includes a 1 hour, 30 minute interview with COL Stockton and CSM Kennedy about the Bullwhip Squadron and how such traditions as the black hats and saddlebags, were begun. The final 30 minutes of the tape is the final program, aired by the BBC. This is available for \$25.00 (with \$15 of this going to the Squadron Fund).

Tape # 2: BG Dave Allen and LTC Chuck Knowlen discuss the ambush in the Ia Drang Valley (1 hour 10 minutes). This is followed by a 50 minute, A & E program about the Air Cav in Vietnam. The purchase price is \$25.00 (with \$15 going to Squadron Fund).

Tape # 3: LTG Hal Moore talks about the Battle of Ia Drang Valley from the 7th Cav perspective. This is a \$20.00 tape (of which \$10 goes to the Ia Drang Scholarship Fund).

This is a very worthy cause and is for the Squadron troopers to see their past and the honor of seeing true Cav Troopers in action.

For further information about ordering these and other tapes, please contact:

Jerry Schmotolocha
23 Congressional Parkway
Livingston, NJ 07039
Phone: (973) 535-3926

These tapes are a part of our heritage and Smoky has gone to much effort to compile and edit them. I feel that as fellow troopers, we need to support his efforts.

Much thanks, Smoky.

BWS

Legally Speaking

The ability of military members to challenge adverse board actions in federal court looks like it may soon be severely restricted. The Senate Armed Services Committee has approved a measure in its 2001 DoD budget legislation, which will not allow military personnel to challenge adverse board proceedings, such as promotion non-selection, selective early retirement and involuntary separation, without first being considered by a special board convened by the service secretary. Besides cutting back on the jurisdiction of federal courts to review adverse board actions, the legislation also would limit the relief that a federal court could grant to a remand to a special selection board. This changes the power of a federal court which currently has broad authority to award damages and other relief. This curtailment in the rights of military members was requested by DoD in draft legislation submitted to the Congress in March. DoD also sought to make the law applicable to several on-going federal court cases; however, the Senate specifically denied this request. The House of Representatives has already approved its version of the DoD budget without DoD's proposed change in administrative board appeal procedures. The Senate is expected to pass its bill soon, and both houses will meet in conference this summer to resolve differences in the legislation before sending it to the President for his approval.

Under the 1998 Veterans Employment Opportunities Act, qualified veterans are eligible to compete for vacant positions in Federal Agencies if the hiring agency is accepting outside applications. OPM recently announced that Federal agencies must now hire veterans using normal competitive procedures, retroactive to 31 October 1998. Previously, OPM had advised agencies to hire veterans in special, noncompetitive "Schedule B" positions. Veterans hired under the Act should be aware that they should be moved

from their Schedule B positions to standard competitive positions, thereby enhancing their potential for future promotions.

These items were extracted from the Military Report. You may subscribe to the Military Report by e-mail at: subscriptions@militaryreport.com Military report is a publication of MR Group, LLC, A Veteran-Owned Small Business. Editorial questions: editor@militaryreport.com Website: <http://www.militaryreport.com>

Do your fellow troopers and friends a favor by passing them the e-mail addresses above.

BWS

"To be right with God has often meant to be in trouble with men."

A. W. Tozer

Military News Report

Highlights from the Military Report.

AMERICAN GI - PERSON OF THE CENTURY

Earlier, the House of Representatives voted unanimously to recognize the American GIs as the "Person of the Century." The bill was Concurrent Resolution 282. Several members of the House spoke in tribute to the American GI, including one who noted that the term GI should be extended to include members of the Coast Guard and Merchant Marines. Another Member of Congress described the American GI as "the guardian of our and our allies' security and freedom." The House then referred the resolution to the Senate Judiciary Committee for further action. All who serve or have served in the military, as well as those who work with them, should take pride in this recognition. For a complete transcript of the House proceedings, go to the Archives page of our website at www.militaryreport.com and click on the American GI link. We encourage

you to make a copy and pass it to your colleagues.

RETIREMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Defense Science Board, a Pentagon study group made up of prominent civilians and retired admirals and generals, has recently released a series of recommendations to address recruiting and retention problems. The Board's Task Force on Human Resources Strategies said that the military's traditional 20 year retirement is out of step today and recommended different lengths of service for different career specialties. In addition, the Task Force recommended vesting some retirement-plan benefits under the TSP plan for the military after five years of service, giving some younger service members an incentive to reenlist. The TSP plan was authorized for the military last year but issues over tax revenue losses have yet to be resolved, and implementation has not been finalized yet. The Task Force recommended that retirement pay be credited at the rate of 2.5% a year and that the length of time needed to retire vary depending upon the career field. As examples, the Task Force said an infantryman or fighter pilot could retire at 15 years (or stay longer) while a surgeon would retire at 30 years. Those who separated before the minimum retirement standard for their career field would get no retirement pay. The Task Force also proposed that retired pay stop at age 62, when service members could spend TSP savings without a tax penalty. The Board does not set policy but instead makes recommendations to senior DoD leaders.

HOUSE HEARING ON LIFETIME CARE

Early in April, the House Government Reform civil service subcommittee held a field hearing in Florida on HR 3573 a bill offering 20 year veterans who joined the military before June 7, 1956, the same medical coverage as other federal employees. Under the bill, veterans would not have to pay for the plan and would have free coverage after age 65. The bill has broad bipartisan support in both the House and Senate, but DoD does not support it. At the hearing, DoD's witness pointed out that the bill could cost \$5 billion to \$9 billion per year, and that DoD wants to complete a three-year study and pilot project

before making any decision. The congressional goal is to move the bill to the House floor for consideration during this session of Congress.

LOS ALAMOS FIRE DESTROY VET RECORDS AND MEDALS

Tragically, a great number of military personnel sustained property losses in the Los Alamos fire. Many have written to militaryreport.com requesting information about how to replace medals, awards, and documentation of military service. The requests for documents such as DD Form 214 can be obtained through the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, MO. It is recommended that you complete Standard Form (SF) 180 to request the document available on our website - see below). You can use the same form to request replacement awards and medals, however please note: DO NOT send the request to the address noted on the form. For a list of the addresses for each of the separate branches of the military that you should send it to, simply go to our website at <http://www.militaryreport.com> and click on the "archives" button on the top of the homepage (you'll be able to print out the Standard Form (SF) 180 there as well). The response time for each request depends upon the complexity of the request and the number of requests pending.

TRICARE 3.0 UNDER FIRE

TRICARE 3.0, the name for the new contract between the government and private companies that administer TRICARE is under fire from some. At a recent congressional hearing, several umbrella military groups criticized the new contract over concerns that the new agreement could result in unequal benefits across the country and may limit the access of some active-duty families and retirees to military pharmacies, hospitals and clinics. DoD officials supported the new approach as designed to improve services for TRICARE users and give contractors more freedom to use "best business practices" in providing services. Bids under TRICARE 3.0 are being solicited in the Northwest region, comprising Oregon and Washington, and already the group which currently administers

that program has indicated it may not participate in the process because of contract flaws.

FREE -- 2000 VET BENEFITS GUIDE RELEASED

A recently released guide entitled "Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents" outlines a variety of federal benefits available to veterans and their dependents. Produced by the VA, the guide addresses everything from eligibility of benefits to describing the benefits themselves, including health care, pension, education, employment, burial, and many more. The guide also includes a listing of VA offices and facilities as well as important contact numbers. For a FREE copy of the 2000 Vet Benefits Guide, simply go to our website at <http://www.militaryreport.com> and click on the "archives" button on the top of the homepage.

HOUSE APPROVES 2001 SPENDING BILL

The House's version of the 2001 Defense Authorization Bill was passed on May 18th. The bill authorizes a \$309.9 billion budget targeting improvements to military health care, modernization and readiness shortfalls, and 3.7 percent pay raises for service members. The House approved \$4.5 billion more than the President requested. The healthcare portion of the bill will restore pharmacy benefits for Medicare-eligible retirees, promote a permanent healthcare program for retirees over age 65 by 2004, extend coverage to families for TRICARE Prime Remote, and eliminate co-payments for active-duty TRICARE members. The bill has been sent to the Senate for action. For more budget highlights (including housing, pay and bonuses, recruitment, and more), simply go to our website at <http://www.militaryreport.com> and click on the "archives" button on the top of the homepage.

CANDIDATES PUSHING DEFENSE REFORMS

Both of the expected candidates for the presidency this fall are making defense reforms important part of their campaigns. While it is too early to know what if any proposed reforms would actually be realized, both candidates are showing their awareness

of the importance of the military to their campaigns. Predictably, their positions reflect the feelings of their respective constituencies on both the left and the right. For example, Vice President Al Gore has focused on policy issues including pushing for a homosexual's right to serve in the military; a position that concerns many in the military. According to published reports, Vice President Gore has also pledged to increase military pay and benefits. Texas Governor George Bush is backing a forward-looking and controversial future way to equip and organize the military known as the "revolution in military affairs" projected to enable Defense to skip a generation in weapons technology. Bush's program has created concern in the defense industry that production of current weapons may be sidelined in favor of research for the next generation of weapons. On military pay, Bush has pledged to include \$1 billion for a military pay raise that is 2.5% more than average increases in the private sector.

WOMEN TO SERVE ON SUBMARINES?

After two years of studies, the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services recommended that the Navy begin to assign women to serve aboard submarines. While the civilian advisory committee suggested that the Navy begin to include women by assigning officers to their Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines, it recommended against placing enlisted women sailors on subs. As a long-term goal, the committee suggested that the new Virginia-class submarines, which are expected to begin service in 2004, be redesigned to accommodate coed crews. Navy officials say that the redesign could increase the cost of each sub by \$4 million.

ARMY WORKING WITH JOB CORPS FOR RECRUITS

The Army has recently signed an agreement with the Job Corps with the hope of increasing Army recruits. Job Corps is a residential six-month to two-year program for at-risk youth ages 16-24, providing job training and discipline. The agreement sets out parameters for Army recruiting in Job Corps centers. To be eligible to enlist, Job Corps students must have completed 675

clock hours in a post-secondary vocational training program and have their GED. The Army will treat these individuals as high school diploma graduates, qualifying them for bonuses. Enlistees will still attend the Army's job training program and basic training.

ARMY MAY PROMISE RECRUITS CIVILIAN JOBS

Just as the military services are facing challenges meeting recruitment goals, so too are civilian companies. The Army's new "Partnership for Youth Success" (PaYS) initiative hopes to address these problems by teaming up with the private sector to offer new recruits civilian jobs upon completion of their enlistment commitment. Army officials presented the details of the initiative to over 70 chief executives and human resources at the "Investment in America Forum" on June 5 at the National Defense University in Washington, DC. The program will initially be open to 5,000 recruits in selected military occupational specialties, a list of which will be released in July. Companies such as General Dynamics, Pepsi, Ford, and TriCon have expressed interest in becoming partners in the program.

PROPOSAL TO INCREASE MONTGOMERY GI BILL BENEFITS

A proposal before Congress would expand the Montgomery GI Bill benefits from \$536 to \$720 per month. The increase would be incremental - jumping to \$600 on Oct. 1, 2000 and then again to \$720 on Oct. 1, 2001. A proportional increase would also be available to part-time students. The proposal would also allow members enrolled in the Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP) to convert to the Montgomery GI Bill. In addition, the proposal would permit the fees for civilian occupational licensing or certification tests to be paid with Montgomery GI Bill benefits.

VISIT ARLINGTON CEMETARY ON THE WEB

Although nearly 5 million people visit Arlington National Cemetery each year, there are millions more who can't afford to travel there. Now, anybody can visit the cemetery's new web site that includes historical information, rules about burial, explanations

of military ceremonies, and a photo gallery. The web site, according to cemetery officials, is updated based on requests from the public. For example, when the site was launched, information on President Kennedy's grave was omitted, it has since been added. The web address is <http://www.arlingtoncemetary.org>.

Quote for the Day!

"[Freedom] is the principle that each individual shall have the right to judge and to choose his own ends and the best course of action for realizing them, as long as he does not infringe the similar and equal freedom of others."

Frank H. Knight

From the Swamp

For this newsletter I have taken the privilege to bring to you the following message instead of my usual. It is very appropriate for this, 4th of July time.

A.J. Welch
SwampFox, RVN: 71-72
B 1/9, H/16, F/9 CAV, 1st Cav Div

Independence Day 2000 Message

On July 4, 1776, the 13 American colonies declared their independence. The first Patriots, with diverse backgrounds, representing different regions and interests, were united in their quest for freedom and their willingness to fight for liberty. Despite the considerable risk of almost certain defeat at the hands of the greatest land and sea power of that age, they ultimately triumphed and a new, independent United States of America emerged.

At sea, on land, and in the air, whether during peace or war, the men and women of America's Armed Forces have continued to ensure the sacrifices of our forefathers and others who followed them were not made in

vain. The backgrounds of the individuals in today's Armed Forces are even more diverse than those of our predecessors -- yet we all continue to unite behind the same ideals and values that guided this Nation to independence over 200 years ago.

Today, on the first Independence Day of the 21st century, you -- America's soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines and coastguardsmen - - are America's new Patriots, linked in spirit to the generations of fighting men and women of our Nation's great history. Around a troubled world, you deter our foes, protect our friends, and keep the peace.

Despite enormous danger, personal sacrifice, and lengthy separation from family and friends, it is your indomitable spirit and steadfast willingness to serve that define America and manifest its ideals, both at home and abroad. On this Independence Day, America honors you and all those who preceded you.

On behalf of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, thank you for all you do in the defense of our great Nation -- on this -- America's birthday.

HENRY H. SHELTON
Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

Veterans Sound Off

Loel,

I just had a depressing experience. After Bob Williams and I had finished lunch and were walking back to the truck, I noticed a pickup with a 92 Clinton/Gore sticker on the bumper. The truck bed contained a skeleton of a Deer head plus numerous empty beer cans, trash, etc. The owner, who was also leaving, noticed that I was looking at his truck and thought we were admiring his "trophy." He seemed like a "Good Ole Boy" and I asked him if he was actually going to vote for Gore again in December, especially after the damage his candidates have done to the country for the past 7+ years!!

He replied, in a friendly tone, that keeping the Democratic Party in power was much more important than the individual man and yes, he would vote for Gore in the national election.

I, also in a friendly (but restrained) tone, assured him that he could count on me to cancel out his vote in December. Bottom line: If there is any hope of bringing honesty, integrity, and honor back to the Presidency, we "The Silent Majority") better get off our collective butts and out to vote in force.

The "Democrat, Right or Wrong" mentality is alive and well and not necessarily isolated in Lower Alabama!!!

Chuck Gant

On 12 Jan, Ms Cindy Williams wrote a piece for the Washington Times denouncing the pay raise(s) coming service members way this year-citing that the stated 13% wage gap was bogus. A young airman from Hill AFB responds to her article (see below)--IT IS A CLASSIC!!!

I'm proud of A1C Bragg for both his "thoughts" and his ability to articulate them so well. ENJOY THIS PIECE...AND PASS IT ON TO ALL THOSE WHO PROUDLY DEFEND THE WALL!!!

Letter

Ms. Williams:

I just had the pleasure of reading your column of 12 Jan 00, "Our GIs Earn Enough," and I am a bit confused. Frankly, I'm wondering where this vaunted overpayment is going, because as far as I can tell, it disappears every month between DFAS (The Defense Finance and Accounting Service) and my bank account. Checking my latest leave and earnings statement (LES), I see that I make \$1,117.80, before taxes. After taxes, I take home \$874.20.

When I run that through Windows' Calculator, I come up with an annual salary of \$13,413.60 before taxes, and \$10,490.40 after.

I work in the Air Force Network Control Center (AFNCC), where I am part of the team responsible for the administration of a 25,000 host computer network. I am involved with infrastructure management, specifically with Cisco Systems equipment. A quick check of <http://www.monster.com> under jobs for Network Technicians in the Washington, D.C. area reveals a position in my career field, requiring three years' experience with my job.

Amazingly, this job does NOT pay \$13,413.60 a year, nor does it pay less than this. No, this job is being offered at \$70,000 to \$80,000 per annum. I'm sure you can draw the obvious conclusions. Also, you tout increases to Basic Allowance for Housing and Basic Allowance for Sustenance (housing and food allowances, respectively) as being a further boon to an already-overcompensated force. Again, I'm curious as to where this money has gone, as BAH and BAS were both slashed 15% in the Hill AFB area effective in January 00.

Given the tenor of your column, I would assume that you have never had the pleasure of serving your country in her armed forces. Before you take it upon yourself to once more castigate congressional and DoD leadership for attempting to get the families in the military's lowest pay brackets of AFDC, WIC, and food stamps, I suggest that you join a group of deploying soldiers headed for Saudi-I leave the choice of service branch up to you.

Whatever choice you make, though, opt for the six month rotation: it will guarantee you the longest possible time away from your family and friends, thus giving you the full "deployment experience." As your group prepares to board the plane, make sure to note the spouses and children who are saying goodbye to their loved ones. Also take care to note that several families are still unsure of how they'll be able to make ends meet while the primary breadwinner is gone-obviously they've been squandering the vast piles of cash the DoD has been giving them.

Try to deploy over a major holiday; Christmas and Thanksgiving are perennial favorites. And when you're actually over there, sitting in a DFP (Defensive Fire Position, the modern-day foxhole), shivering

against the cold desert night, and the flight sergeant tells you that there aren't enough people on shift to relieve you for chow, remember this: trade whatever MRE you manage to get for the tuna noodle casserole or cheese tortellini, and add Tabasco to everything. Talk to your loved ones as often as you are permitted; it won't nearly be long enough or often enough, but take what you can get and be thankful for it.

You may have picked up on the fact that I disagree with most of the points you present in your op-ed piece. But, tomorrow from Voltaire, I will defend to the death your right to say it. You see, I am an American fighting man, a guarantor of your First Amendment rights and every other right you cherish. On a daily basis, my brother and sister soldiers worldwide ensure that you and people like you can thumb your collective nose at us, all on a salary that is nothing short of pitiful and under conditions that would make most people cringe. We hemorrhage our best and brightest into the private sector because we can't offer the stability and pay of civilian companies.

And you, Ms. Williams, have the gall to say that we make more than we deserve? **Rubbish.**

A1C Michael Bragg
Hill AFB AFNCC

What follows is an excellent commentary by an educator at the University of Alabama:

"Lawless"

I grew up in rural America in the '50's and '60's. On any given day, you could walk through the high school parking lot and observe that half the vehicles parked there were trucks with windows rolled down and doors unlocked. Most of them carried, as standard equipment, an FFA sticker (Future Farmers of America for you city folks) and a gun rack with at least one gun, usually loaded. You could make the same observation at any of the four high school campuses in our county. Amazingly, I do not ever recall reading or hearing about mass shootings in

any of those high schools. What has changed in America is not the accessibility of guns, but the character of man. On the wall in my parents' home is a plaque awarded to my father in recognition of service for 27 years on the local school board. He told me that for years, a standard requirement on every teacher's contract was membership in a local church.

I remember starting every school day with the pledge and a prayer. I remember when girls who got pregnant in high school were ashamed, when abortions were illegal, when the divorce rate was not 50%, because couples stayed together for the kids' sake, when there were no X-rated movies, when milk cartons didn't have missing kids' faces on them, and I didn't know anyone personally who used drugs. I remember when kids were taught respect for authority and accountability to God. I hear people say that the good old days weren't always so good, but please don't tell me you think these are better.

Last night, I attended a high school football game that was covered by local and national news. The news coverage was not about the football teams, but about the defiance of a court order by one brave little Texas town to preserve the right to pray before a football game.

The more this country struggles to free itself from religion, the more we become entangled in the consequences. If people are taught that they came from slime, the obvious questions, and consequences, must follow. What is the purpose of my existence? [hopelessness]. Who made you the boss of me? [lawlessness]. Why are your rules good and mine bad? [relativism]. What does it matter how I live if I came from slime and return to slime? [immorality and inhumanity]. I realize that in any given poll, the vast majority of Americans claim to believe in God. I claim to believe that running is good for me, but that does not make me a runner. Putting on my running shoes and running makes me a runner. The climbing abortion rate, murder rate, divorce rate, alcoholism and drug abuse rate, child and spousal abuse rate, contradict that claim, and prove that actions speak louder than words. It

is an observable truth that the best time you will ever make on any American city freeway is on Sunday morning, because there are no traffic jams getting to church. For those who believe that separation of church and state is not enough, that the world would be better off with no church at all, ask yourself this question. How many hospitals, universities, orphanages, homeless and abuse shelters have been founded by the ACLU or American Atheist Society? It is the inclusion of the word Catholic, Baptist, Presbyterian, Christian, etc., in the name of so many of these institutions that proves by actions, not just words, who really cares for the suffering of mankind and desires to make the world better. The question that people should be asking is not "Why does God allow tragedies?," but "When will we realize that no nation, in the history of the world, has ever separated itself from God and evolved to a better society?"

Of course, to answer, you would have to know history. Most people, it would seem, prefer People magazine."

Joyce Minor
Asst. Director of Development and Alumni Relations
University of Alabama School of Law

Nothing Like A (Military) Dame

Willie and Joe, cartoonist Bill Mauldin's famous World War II grunts, were sitting in a foxhole with water up to their waists. Willie, chewing on a day-old cigar, looks at Joe's three-day old beard encrusted in grime and mud, and asks plaintively: "Why couldn't you have been born a dame?" (Or was it a broad?)

That was only satire in World War II, but time has transmuted satire into reality. Soldiers today know better than to call a woman a dame (or a broad). Willie and Jo(sephine) share barracks, berths, tents and tarps, through thick, thin, wind, rain, sea sickness and morning sickness. If Willie makes passes, even at grunts who wear glasses, he can expect a court martial.

This is not news. But when it's documented meticulously, satire becomes farce and military readiness turns into a terrible joke - on us.

Stephanie Gutmann offers abundant documentation of the absurdities and difficulties of the Willies and Josephines in uniform in the thoroughly modern military in her new book, "The Kinder, Gentler Military." The subtitle asks the question almost nobody in Washington wants asked: "Can America's Gender-Neutral Fighting Force Still Win Wars?"

The chilling answer is "no," if we're depending on keeping quality leaders serving up to their retirement age, leaders being the most important ingredient in any military. Mid-level career officers are leaving the army in regimental and battalion numbers, dissatisfied with a military mystique that has been trivialized, downsized and worst of all, feminized. Day-care has become a commander's concern, pregnancy counseling more important than battlefield tactics and warriors are encouraged to become wimps, oh-so-sensitive but worthless in warfare.

This may warm the hearts of women who prefer to "make love, not war," but it's a strange way to make soldiers whose ultimate task has to be killing people and breaking things. Without irony, feminist Carol Gilligan, who celebrates women as the more nurturing, caring sex, reviewed "The Kinder Gentler Military" for the New York Times. She suggests that women in uniform can help men combine sensitivity with aggression, creating a more efficient fighting force. Sensitive soldiering?

It's a sign of the times, if not progress, that safe sex in the military aims to prevent babies, not venereal disease, but this presents another set of problems. Instead of scaring recruits with terrifying footage of genitals withering from gonorrhea, as the "old Army" did, a voice-over in a "New Navy" film describes the unwanted pregnancy as merely letting the team down. "Pregnancy and parenthood are compatible with your Navy or Marine Corps career," the voice over says, "but only when you're ready to make the personal choices and sacrifices necessary to raise a child."

The USS Acadia and the USS Yellowstone, the "love boats" of the Gulf War, became joke mills for stand-up comics everywhere when 31 percent of the sailors on them came home expecting more than a shore leave. Shore leave has always been preceded by stern warnings about hanging out in bawdy houses, but the new emphasis is less on what a guy might get there than what he might leave on shore (or worse, what a gal might bring back to the ship). And boastful men, the Navy says, are likely to create "a hostile environment" for the women aboard, and that could mean trouble.

Harassment issues for the military are similar to those of civilian employers, but they're not identical. The military life not only stirs up sexual attractions between men and women thrown together for days and nights, but a barracks or a ship becomes a hothouse of sexual competition and rivalry. Soldiers fighting each other can't fight anyone else.

That's particularly true on submarines. Until now, the ban on women down below has been secure. Now that's in doubt, despite a pre-emptive strike last week by the House Armed Services Committee to block a recommendation by the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services, a civilian panel stacked with feminists. The panel wants to assign female officers to subs now, with female sailors to follow as soon as the subs can be fitted with proper female quarters. "Hot bunking," submariner slang for guys sharing a bunk in shifts, takes on new meaning.

Women are evacuated from ships for medical reasons (usually pregnancy) two and half times more often than men. Proportional losses on submarines would ruin combat missions and make rescues at sea far more hazardous. But, hey, maybe losing a war and getting a lot of men killed is a small price to pay for "equality" on submarines.

Suzanne Fields
Columnist for The Washington Times.

These views are the views of veterans and those who support veterans. Your views may be different.

Troopers, you have heard their views, now it is time to hear yours. Sound Off!

BWS

**Vision without action is merely a dream.
Action without vision just passes time.
Vision with action can change the
world.**

BWS

Army Aviation Today?

Aviation Has Little Visibility In The New Army Vision. Are Its Helos Losing Lift?

For the US Army, the last quarter of 1999 was as eventful as any in recent memory. Chief of Staff General Eric Shinseki, in his position only a few months, was convinced that the Service's first-to-fight forces had to be made faster, lighter, and more deployable. At the annual conference of the Association of The US Army (AUSA) in October, he promised that big changes would be made to ensure that the vision was carried out.

Within months, he and the Pentagon leadership hammered out a deal to terminate seven programs, radically restructure the development of two high-priority weapon systems, including the self-propelled Crusader artillery system, and shift hundreds of millions of dollars within the Service's spending plan all to pay for Shinseki's transformation vision.

Notably absent from the Army's substantial overhaul plans, however, was much talk about aviation. In fact, as many supporters pointed out, Shinseki didn't utter the words "aviation" or "helicopter" during his AUSA speech; not even the Comanche helicopter, the service's

top modernization priority, received a mention. This was interpreted in different ways by aviation backers; some felt lucky that, unlike other Service programs, theirs appeared unlikely to be trimmed or terminated, while others feared that aviation was being ignored as the Army embarked on the most significant attempt to overhaul itself since the end of the Cold War.

Compounding these worries was the secrecy in which many of the moves in support of Shinseki's vision were made. The changes were nominated by a select group of advisers to top Army leaders, who approved them in secret and worked with the Office of the Secretary of Defense to make them real without breathing a word about them in public or even informing many in the Service.

By the time the news leaked out at the end of 1999, the moves had been made and the vision was under way. Crusader would be made lighter, both in tonnage and in the Army's wallet. A cooperative effort with the United Kingdom to develop a future scout vehicle was relieved of hundreds of millions of dollars, leaving its future now in doubt. Advanced versions of the Stinger missile and the Army Tactical Missile System were killed, as was a command and control vehicle and a smart rocket for the Multiple Launch Rocket System.

The funds freed by these and other moves would pay for new medium-weight brigades, a fleet of "interim" armored vehicles to outfit them, and the acceleration of a handful of programs deemed crucial to the lighter and easier-to-deploy force Shinseki felt would be needed for future conflicts. Among these programs were an advanced tank-killing missile system (LOSAT), a mobile long-range fire support platform (HIMARS), and a Future Combat System that will one day take the place of the M1 Abrams tank.

In the end, however, the Army could not come up with all the money required to fully fund the chief's plans. Service officials had hoped that the Pentagon leadership would not only embrace those plans, which it did, but also offer up a substantial amount of additional money to pay for them, which it did

not. Thus, the Army was unable to carry out some of the key tenets of Shinseki's vision.

Prominent among these unfulfilled goals were two high priorities for the Army's aviation community: restoration of the AH-64 Apache attack helicopter's Longbow upgrade program cut back the year before to pay other bills and the acceleration of upgrades to the Service's workhorse fleet of UH-60 Black Hawk utility helicopters. Both of those goals, according to service officials, are high on the Army's list of priorities to work on this spring as it builds a new six-year spending plan.

AVIATOR CONCERNS

But even with all the changes wrought by Shinseki and the Pentagon in time for submission of the Fiscal Year 2001 budget request last month, the Service remains well shy of the funding needed to carry out all of the modernization changes that vision planners say are key to the chief's transformation plan. This has put some of those tenets in doubt, and it also means that the Army may be forced again to find additional dollars. Accordingly, the next few months promise much of the intrigue that the end of 1999 brought, and aviation supporters remain worried both about finances as well as a litany of other issues, including training, spare parts, and congressional displeasure with previous Army modernization plans.

They should be worried, according to Lt. Gen. Johnny Riggs, Commanding General of the 1st US Army and one of the Service's top aviators. In January, at a conference on Army aviation, Riggs made news when he declared the branch was in crisis. He called for an overhaul of current training programs to give pilots more time in the air. He spoke of a lack of a clear vision for aviation. And, notably, he decried the state of aviation modernization, singling out the Apache and the need to field the Comanche armed reconnaissance helicopter to meet future needs.

Riggs' comments were embraced by others at the conference. "A lot of folks thought he was right-on," said a former senior Army aviation official who asked not to be identified. Shinseki, he said, "understands the role of aviation" in the future Army, but "he's concerned about the cost and he's out looking

for money. He's also looking at who's got the money." Comanche, with its enormous price tag, remains a target for budget cuts in a resource-constrained era, according to this official and others. The Service's stated intent to purchase more than 1,200 of the reconnaissance-attack helicopters has long been seen by even die-hard aviation supporters as an unlikely goal, but how far the number might be cut the Crusader buy has already been sliced by more than half remains to be seen.

"Shinseki is saying the Army needs another \$10 billion just to get the vision off the ground," said Andrew Krepinevich, director of the independent Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments. However, the Army has been loath to tap into force structure any further to pay its bills and "that leaves modernization," he noted. "This is not good news for Comanche or for Army aviation in general," he believes.

A PROMINENT PLACE

According to senior Army officials, however, Comanche has a place a prominent one in Shinseki's vision. Lt. Gen. Paul Kern, the military deputy to the Army acquisition executive, told reporters in January that the helicopter was looked at hard by Army budget planners during the development of initial vision plans, and it came out ahead. "It fits the requirement as we see it in the 21st century," he said.

Overall, says Maj. Gen. James Snider, the Army's program executive officer for aviation, the situation is not as bleak as some aviation supporters believe. In fact, Snider contends that things are going quite well. He acknowledges some of the concerns raised by Riggs and others earlier this year, but prefers the Term "transition" to "crisis." Shinseki, he says, is a big supporter of Army aviation, and while some modifications are in order, "I don't see any big changes."

Aviation wasn't mentioned much as initial transformation plans were being put together, Snider believes, because not any changes are needed. "Our heavy forces have to change," he says. "I don't think aviation has to change as much."

Kern concurred, telling reporters in January that the "biggest shortcoming" for the Army is its ground forces. "We can get the Apaches [to the fight]," he said, alluding to the service's much-publicized Task Force Hawk experience during the Kosovo conflict last year. "It's the other stuff that consumes the weight, tonnage, and time."

THE BIG FOUR

"There have been no cuts to our aviation programs," Snider noted. In fact, either Congress or the Army leadership has increased funding for the "big four" aviation programs in recent months. Those four programs are Comanche, Apache Longbow, the Black Hawk upgrade, and an improved Chinook heavy-lift helicopter, dubbed the CH-47 "F."

The CH-47F program got a boost in the final vision funding plan, hammered out in late December. Comanche is considered fully funded and was helped out by Congress. And, according to Kern, the Army plans to boost funding for the UH-60L Black Hawk upgrade and restore the Apache Longbow program to much of its former glory. This means that more aircraft will be equipped with the Longbow radar and that a "pure fleet" of only AH-64 "D" models will be fielded to the service's top fighting forces rather than AH-64As.

Snider said in January that a new aviation modernization plan, due to be delivered to Congress in early March, will address the restoration of previous plans to field more AH-64D Apache Longbow-equipped aircraft, although the final numbers were not yet final. As for the Army's UH-60s, "Everybody recognizes that the Black Hawk needs to be modernized," says Snider. "We will fix the Black Hawk, I'm sure." He added, "We are really well poised for the next 10 years."

Other goals in the new mod plan include the need to rid the active forces of so-called "legacy" aircraft, principally the AH-1 Cobra and the OH-58 Kiowa. Both soak up valuable operations and maintenance dollars, and both are considered far too old and obsolete for the future Army. No money is to be spent on either program unless absolutely necessary;

safety upgrades and the like are all that are in store.

UAVS AND HELOS

The modernization plan also will address a relatively new facet of Army aviation: unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). Snider talks often of the contribution to Army aviation that tactical UAVs can make, increasing the effective range of helicopters, sensors, and missiles by increasing the amount of ground they can cover.

"The potential for using UAVs in other-than-intelligence modes is just unlimited," Snider says, noting that the Army has already experimented with Apache pilots controlling a UAV while in flight.

Snider asserts that, by using UAVs and advanced rotorcraft like Apache Longbow and Comanche, Army aviation will dramatically increase its "area of influence, doubling the amount of ground we can cover."

One issue: Snider covets control over the tactical UAV program, and he has made no secret of it; however, his intelligence and electronic warfare counterpart wants it too. So far, the Army leadership has left the program where it is.

NEXT-GENERATION CARGO HELO

One of the biggest challenges for the future of Army aviation, Snider acknowledges, is the Joint Transport Rotorcraft, ostensibly a cooperative program among the military services, but so far a largely Army-driven effort. Even within the Army, there is disagreement over what technology to pursue and when the heavy-lift cargo aircraft should be available.

"The next challenge for us and this is a resource challenge as much as anything else is the JTR piece," Kern said. "We will have a very serious technical debate on whether tilt-rotor or advanced variable rotor aircraft is the right answer for that future replacement aircraft. So the next generation of Army aviation is really a science and technology issue that we have to resolve before we can get to that decision."

The JTR will also be a costly program for which there are few available dollars. "Aviation is expensive," according to Kern. And the joint program of the Marine Corps, in

fact, remains a part of it will be one of many the Army will have to fund as Shinseki's vision moves off the drawing board and into the field. In that process, says Krepinevich, Army aviation is in "danger of being one of the red-headed stepchildren of the vision. It's under-funded to begin with."

SKEPTICAL VIEWS

Even if the Army, as expected, cuts back on the number of Comanche helicopters it will procure, Krepinevich contends that "it's not clear how you get there from here" to there being a fully funded, integrated aviation modernization plan. Others outside the service agree.

Congress, too, remains skeptical. Dissatisfied with previous Army aviation modernization plans, lawmakers last year demanded a new one that makes fiscal sense and preserves key priorities like Comanche, a healthy Apache Longbow effort, an upgraded Black Hawk, and an overhauled UH-1 Huey. "Unfortunately, the Army has yet to provide a complete and funded program that adequately describes actions that would modernize, upgrade, or retire the entire range of aircraft currently in the fleet, or provide alternative fleet strategies that would bring current modernization requirements down to a more affordable level," the Senate Armed Services Committee wrote last May. That was before Shinseki began the transformation process, which has added a substantial new factor to the aviation equation. For Kern and Snider, though, the transformation of the Army as a whole means only good things for Army aviation. While there are "valid issues" to be dealt with in the aviation modernization plan, Kern said in January, "I am more optimistic than less optimistic that Army aviation will be a centerpiece of the future battlefield."

"Aviation is going to be a huge part of the transformed Army," Snider concurs. "Transformation is really a larger look at making the Army more lethal and lighter, and everything we're doing in our aviation modernization plan furthers those goals."

By Daniel G. Dupont
Armed Forces Journal International
March 2000

Dan Dupont edits the Arlington, VA-based newsletter Inside The Pentagon and insidedefense.com, an on-line news service.

BWS

"The struggle ... between doing what you ought and what you desire is common to all. You have only always to do what is right. It will become easier by practice, and you will enjoy in the midst of your trials the pleasure of an approving conscience. That will be worth everything else."

Robert E. Lee

With the 4th of July, Independence Day, many forget what courage our forefathers had to stand up to a foreign government and declare themselves free. Would the citizens of America do the same today? I wonder.

Patrick Henryⁱ

After having been removed from the House of Burgesses by the governor, the Second Virginia Convention convened in St. John's Episcopal Church, Richmond, Virginia. It was in this church, on March 23, 1775, in the presence of Washington, Jefferson, and the other members of the Second Virginia Convention, the torch of Liberty was kindled by the inspired word of Patrick Henry.

Unbeknownst to most Americans, Patrick Henry's "Liberty" speech also contained great appeals and supplications to Almighty God for his beloved America and for the breaking of the yoke of tyranny from round her neck. In order to fully comprehend the import and meaning of his eloquent and galvanizing speech, it is here reproduced in its entirety.

"Mr. President: no man thinks more highly than I do of the patriotism, as well as abilities, of the very worthy gentlemen who have just

addressed the House. But different men often see the same subject in different lights; and, therefore, I hope that it will not be thought disrespectful to those gentlemen, if entertaining as I do, the opinions of a character very opposite to theirs, I shall speak forth my sentiments freely and without reserve. This is no time for ceremony. The question before the House is one of awful moment to this country. For my own part I consider it as nothing less than a question of freedom or slavery; and in proportion to the magnitude of the subject ought to be the freedom of the debate. It is only in this way that we can hope to arrive at truth, and fulfill the great responsibility which we hold to God and our country.. Should I keep back my opinions at such a time, through fear of giving offense, I should consider myself as guilty of treason toward my country, and of an act of disloyalty toward the majesty of heaven, which I revere above all earthly kings.

“Mr. President, it is natural to a man to indulge in the illusions of hope. We are apt to shut our eyes against a painful truth, and listen to the song of that siren, till she transforms us into beasts. Is this the part of wise men, engaged in a great and arduous struggle for liberty? Are we disposed to be of the number of those who, having eyes, see not, and having ears, hear not, the things which so nearly concern their temporal salvation? For my part, whatever anguish of spirit it may cost, I am willing to know the whole truth; to know the worst and provide for it.

“I have but one lamp by which my feet are guided; and that is the lamp of experience. I know of no way of judging of the future but by the past. And judging by the past I wish to know what there has been in the conduct of the British ministry for the last ten years to justify those hopes with which gentlemen have been pleased to solace themselves and the House? Is it that insidious smile with which our petition has been lately received? Trust it not, sir; it will prove a snare to your feet. Suffer not yourselves to be betrayed with a kiss. Ask yourselves how this gracious reception of our petition comports with these warlike preparations which cover our waters and darken our land. Are fleets and armies

necessary to a work of love and reconciliation? Have we shown ourselves so unwilling to be reconciled, that force must be called in to win back our love? Let us not deceive ourselves, sir. These are the implements of war and subjugation; the last arguments to which kings resort. I ask gentlemen, sir, what means this martial array, if its purpose be not to force us to submission? Can gentlemen assign any other possible motives for it? Has Great Britain an enemy, in this quarter of the world, to call for all this accumulation of navies and armies? No, sir, she has none. They are meant for us; they can be meant for no other. They are sent over to bind and rivet upon us those chains which the British ministry have been so long forging. And what have we to oppose them? Shall we try argument? Sir, we have been trying that for the last ten years. Have we anything new to offer on the subject? Nothing. We have held the subject up in every light of which it is capable; but it has been all in vain. Shall we resort to entreaty and humble supplication? What terms shall we find which have not been already exhausted? Let us not, I beseech you, sir, deceive ourselves longer. Sir, we have done everything that could be done to avert the storm which is now coming on. We have petitioned; we have remonstrated; we have supplicated; we have prostrated ourselves before the throne, and have implored its interposition to arrest the tyrannical hands of the ministry and parliament. Our petitions have been slighted; our remonstrances have produced additional violence and insult; our supplications have been disregarded; and we have been spurned, with contempt, from the foot of the throne. In vain, after these things, may we indulge the fond hope of peace and reconciliation. There is no longer any room for hope. If we wish to be free - if we mean to preserve inviolate those inestimable privileges for which we have been so long contending - if we mean not basely to abandon the noble struggle in which we have been so long engaged, and which we have pledged ourselves never to abandon until the glorious object of our contest shall be obtained, we must fight! I repeat it, sir, we must fight! An

appeal to arms and to the God of Hosts is all that is left us!

“They tell us, sir, that we are weak; unable to cope with so formidable and adversary. But when shall we be stronger? Will it be the next week, or the next year? Will it be when we are totally disarmed, and when a British guard shall be stationed in every house? Shall we gather strength by irresolution and inaction? Shall we acquire the means of effectual resistance by lying supinely on our backs, and hugging the delusive phantom of hope, until our enemies shall have bound us hand and foot? Sir, we are not weak, if we make a proper use of the means which the God of nature hath placed in our power. Three millions of people, armed in the Holy cause of Liberty, and in such a country as that which we possess, are invincible by any force which our enemy can send against us. Besides, sir, we shall not fight our battles alone. There is a just God who presides over the destinies of nations; and who will raise up friends to fight our battles for us. The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone; it is to the vigilant, the active, the brave. Besides, sir, we have no election. If we were base enough to desire it, it is now too late to retire from the contest. There is no retreat but in submission and slavery! Our chains are forged! Their clanking may be heard on the plains of Boston! The war is inevitable - and let it come! I repeat it, sir, let it come!

“It is in vane, sir to extenuate the matter. Gentlemen may cry peace, peace - but there is no peace. The war is actually begun! The next gale that sweeps from the North will bring to our ears the clash of resounding arms! Our brethren are already in the field! Why stand we here idle? What is it that gentlemen wish? What would they have? Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it Almighty God! **I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!**”

A true patriot!

BWS

This is what our comrades in arms mean to us who have served. They are never alone. We take care of our own and we never forget. They are our brothers.

BWS

Espirit de Corps

There is a statement that was written by an unknown author and was found on a c-ration box in Vietnam, and It was said to say something like "**To those who fight for it, freedom has a meaning the protected will never know**". So true!

Wednesday, 24 May - At about 1100 hours a hearse and a few family members appear on the tarmac at El Paso International Airport. Quietly and from nowhere rows of veterans began to appear and surround the family. With the family was the familiar dress blue uniform of a Marine. A Marine from N Battery, 5th BN, 14th Mar, El Paso, TX. Beside him the red jacket of a member of Marine Corps League Detachment, Carlsbad, NM. A lone casket appeared at the door of the aircraft and is gently lowered. Someone called "Present Arms" and all present saluted smartly. Lance Corporal Andres Garcia, United States Marine Corps, MIA 15 May 1975, was coming home.

At about 1130 hours a motorcade formed behind the white GMC Suburban that would head the procession and transport LCpl Garcia home. A 160 mile trek from El Paso, TX to Carlsbad, NM. Car after car closed in behind the Suburban. As they pulled out of the cargo area, an escort of El Paso Police led the way, joined by Texas State Police and the U. S. Border Patrol, all with emergency lights flashing. Still more vehicles joined the procession. Every car was flying a small U.S. Flag or Marine Corps Colors from their antenna.

It was one hundred thirty miles to the Texas - New Mexico state line. The convoy began to slow to a near walk. All Texas police escorts proceeded to the head of the line and pulled off the highway. One by one, the troopers exited their vehicles and saluted as

the convoy continued on into New Mexico. Now joined by New Mexico State Troopers, U. S. Forestry Service, U. S. Border Patrol, the city of Carlsbad Police and many more cars for the final 30 miles.

Arriving in Carlsbad, traveling through this town of about 25,000, traffic stopped, drivers pulled off the city streets, children and parents along the route stopped and placed their hand over their heart. Old men and young men removed their hats. Friday, 26 May At about 1845 MCL Dept. of New Mexico, and MCL Carlsbad Det. posted Colors. At 1900 the service began.

Throughout the service, many people stood to say a few words about "Andy". Some were family, cousins, brothers. Many went to school with him. Several teenagers stood and told how they had been named after Andres. A boot camp buddy of LCpl Garcia's had flown in from Seattle. They were in BLT 2/9 together and in the same rescue team. That fatal team when LCpl Garcia's helo was shot down and he became an MIA. As he left the diaz, he paused beside the flag draped casket. Deliberately and slowly he removed the MIA bracelet he'd been wearing for 25 years.

MCL red jackets dot one corner of the chapel. Among them is a young 19 year old Marine Lance Corporal in dress blues. LCpl Sanchez, a reserve of Amerillo, Texas. Did he know the Garcia family? Was he a relative? "No. I didn't know him. I saw it in the paper and just came because he's a Marine".

MCL NM Commandant Jimenez presented Mrs Garcia with a highly polished cedar box containing a leather bound bible, engraved in gold with "Lance Corporal Andres Garcia, USMC"

Saturday, 27 May - The Marine Honor Guard from N 5/14 El Paso arrive at the 1st Baptist Church in Carlsbad . Commanded by Capt W. Gates with 1st Sgt Balczo. Inside the Church are some 400 people plus. There is an overflow outside the church and it is standing room only for the hour long service. As the Marine Honor Guard forms, and Marine Pall bearers escort the casket outside, the temperature nears 100 degrees. The motorcade weaves through town away from the main highway. People come to their doors and

stand. A Mother and her daughter stand at the corner. The little girl has her hand over her heart as her ice cream cone melts in her left hand. Little children playing under a shade tree stop riding their bicycles and stand silently. One boy snaps a salute.

There is a traffic jam at the cemetery. There are so many in attendance that cars begin to double park along the road. A lone Marine stands at attention at the foot of the grave as the family and hearse arrives. The Honor Guard pallbearers quietly execute every move with deliberate precision as the gently handle the flag draped casket. A lane is formed from curbside to graveside by an estimated 15 different Color Guards of veterans organizations from all over the state.

As the pallbearers depart only the Captain and 1st Sgt remain by the casket. The clergy speaks with quiet firmness for a few minutes, then pauses. Someone in the crowd goes down from the heat, paramedics are at hand. The Capt and 1st Sgt stir and your attention is centered again. They raise the flag from the casket. In the background you hear a few short words, but you're intent on watching the flag.

BANG! The first volley, by the time you recover, BANG! the second volley. Now you're ready, BANG! the third volley. You have it under control now. TAA TA TAAA (taa ta taaa) That first note from the echo bugler! Damn! I've been to too many of these things, but that tear still came and there was no stopping it! The flag is folded for a last time. The Captain faces Mrs. Garcia and makes the solemn presentation.

15 May 1975 to 27 May 2000, more than twenty five years, Lance Corporal Andres Garcia has finally come home.

Letters To The Editor

We have several letters for this newsletter and also several e-mails. These are from our troopers who have a desire to add to the Association and be a part or our "keeping in touch" philosophy.

Our first letter is from our own CSM.
Enjoy.

BWS

Letter to the editor:

Old soldiers keep up the good work. You all are doing a great job. I am looking forward to seeing you all in October.

CMS Kennedy

Enclosed you will find my check for a lifetime membership to Bullwhip Squadron. I enjoy the newsletter very much. I think the organization's staff have accomplished an amazing feat at putting this unit back together.

Please keep up the good work and thank you.

Richard (Reb) Herron

Richard

It is the troopers like you that make the Squadron. We just do the paperwork. Thank you for the kind words.

BWS

Hi Loel,

Trust all is well with you and yours, everything pretty much hunky dory here, for which we are thankful.

See you in October.

Regards,

A.T. Pumphrey
San Antonio, TX

Loel:

Sending in my lifetime dues. It was great to read about Bill Hughes in the Cav paper. Bill did a big favor for me, one that 'one other' member is aware of. His actions squared things.

See ya

Ron Owen
St. Charles, MO

Dear Loel,

I guess it's CRS, but I seem to have missed the annual dues date again. So here is my Lifetime dues check. I won't worry about missing again!

I really am proud to be a member even if I was a second-teamer; Jan 66 to June 66. One day I want to thank Bob Thaxton personally for teaching me that I must never play poker for real money. After he beat my brains out, taking every cent I brought to RVN with me, he took me aside and told me never to get in a card game for money again. He said he knew every hand what I had. I listened. I never played any game for real money again. Not once!

I'll be with you all one of these reunions.

Sincerely yours,

Gene Lassiter
Fairmont, WV

Gene

We were all First Team. All of us, in the Squadron from day one to the end. Never forget that we are all brothers, all FIRST TEAM ! Gene we look forward to the day you can make the reunion. Until then, we know you are with us in spirit.

BWS

Dear Al:

My name is John Kerns and I am a retired CSM. I would like to apply for membership in the Bullwhip Squadron. I was in A troop 9th Cav in 66. I am planning to come to the reunion at Ft. Rucker.

Would you please send me an application for membership. Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to meeting you in October.

Sincerely,

John Kerns
Louisville, KY

To All

John was sent the paperwork and is now a member in high standing. He is also coming to the reunion, so plan on seeing him there.

BWS

Date: Sun, 12 Mar 2000

John,

Thank you for your e-mail, I, like many other Australians owe the American helicopter pilots a debt of gratitude for our wounded they carried and for the fine gunship support that was on call in time of need...my platoon which was also nicknamed the "Head Hunters" until a new platoon commander took a dislike to our NVA skull tacked onto a rubber tree also owe a few of our lives to a passing Cobra pilot who came across us when we were in deep trouble caught inside a VC main force battalion bunker system in early 70.

We had a strength of around 25 then and documents later showed there were around 450 enemy in the bunkers when we hit them...there were calls for fire support as we were about to be surrounded and then this passing Cobra came up on the radio and asked if he could join in. He hit the platoon + sized group to our rear with mini guns and the 40

mm and eventually we were able to fight our way out. This knight of the air came back on the radio and thanked us for letting him share in our battle and then flew off into the sunset as our own gunships took over....just one of those lucky breaks that happen in war that gave us a chance for another day...so to you and all the other Army pilots I say thank you.

Garry Adams
alphasix@ozdocs.net.au

re;33 PAVN-Your email was fwd to me from another Ninth Cav Trooper. I SALUTE YOU! We were young but it seems like yesterday. Be Safe.

John R Nielsen
A Troop 1/9Cav(recon)
1st Cav Div(Air Cav)
HEADHUNTER
Huey Pilot

Loel

I thought I would share this with you. We talked about this sort of thing at the reunion. I have been in touch with this aviator since Bosnia-he is now at Hood.

JR Nielsen

Howdy J. R.!

Been out of town and in the field. We had a two week trainup for NTC and then went out to California to play in the desert. What fun! Thankfully that will be my last one as I have only about four months left in the army. I'm still planning on going to work for Comair when I get out. I have four friends there already and they're growing like crazy.

How have you been? I hope all is well with you. I've just been totally swamped by army stuff but it's been that way for the last four or five years it seems. I'm REALLY looking forward to being out. It's a shame that it's gotten to the point that it is. Everyone, and

I'm serious, is absolutely miserable and most are getting out.

It's really bad for the army because they're losing a lot of really good people.

Take care and write again,

Glen

Whether you love him or hate him...read this "letter," Hate it as you may, but you can't argue with this letter to the President.

Eric Jowers, a retired Army Officer, who served as public affairs officer at Fort Rucker from 1989 to 1991, wrote this letter. He now lives in Ozark, Alabama.

BWS

Dear Mr. President:

It's not about sex. If it were about sex, you would be long gone. Just like a doctor, attorney or teacher who had sex with a patient, client or student half his age, you would have violated the ethics of your office and would be long gone. Just like a Sergeant Major of the Army, Gene McKinney, who though found not guilty, was forced to resign amid accusations of sexual abuse. Remember the Air Force General you wouldn't nominate to be Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff because he freely admitted to an affair almost 15 years before, while he and his wife were separated? Unlike you, he was never accused of having a starry-eyed office assistant my daughter's age perform oral sex on him while he was on the phone and his wife and daughter were upstairs.

If it were about sex, you should be subjected to the same horrible > hearings that Clarence Thomas was subjected to because of the accusations of Anita Hill. The only accusation then was that he talked dirty to her; he didn't even leave semen stains on her dress. No, it's not about sex. It's about character. It's about lying. It's about arrogance. It's about abuse of power. It's about dodging the draft and lying about it. When caught in a lie by letters you wrote, you concocted a story that nobody believed. But we excused it and

looked away. It's about smoking dope, and lying about it. "I didn't inhale" you said.

Sure, and when I was 15 and my buddies and I swiped a beer from an unwatched refrigerator, we drank from it, but we didn't swallow. "I broke no laws of the United States," you said. That's right, you smoked dope in England or Norway or Moscow; where you were demonstrating against the U.S.A. You lied, but we excused it and looked away. It's about you selling overnight stays in the White House to any foreigner or other contributor with untraceable cash. It's about Whitewater and Jim and Susan McDougal and Arkansas, GOV. Jim Guy Tucker and Vincent Foster and Jennifer Flowers and Paula Jones and Karen Willey and nearly countless others.

It's about stealing the records from Foster's office while his body was still warm and putting them in your bedroom and "not noticing them" for two years.

It's about illegal political contributions. It's about you and Al Gore soliciting contributions and selling influence at Buddhist temples and in the same Oval Office where Abraham Lincoln and Franklin Roosevelt led their countries through the dark days of wars that threatened the very existence of our nation. But we excused you and looked away. It's about hiding evidence from Ken Starr, refusing to testify, filing legal motions, coaching witnesses, obstructing justice and delaying Judge Starr's inquiry for months and years, and then complaining that it has gone on too long. The polls agreed. Thank goodness that Judge Star didn't read the polls, play politics or excuse you and look away. He held on to the evidence like a tenacious bulldog. Your supporters say that you've confessed your wrong doings and asked for our forgiveness. Listen, what you said on TV the night you testified to the grand jury was not a confession; overwhelming evidence is not a confession at all. Not that it would make a lot of difference. A murderer who contritely > confesses his crime is still a murderer. When your "confession" didn't sell, even to your friends, you became more forthcoming. Maybe someday you'll confess more, but probably not. You've established such a pattern of lying that we can't believe you

anymore. Neither can your cabinet, the Congress or any of the leaders of the nations of the world. When a leader's actions defame and emasculate our country as profoundly as yours have, it's no longer a personal matter, as you claim. It's no longer a matter between you, your family and your God.

By the way, I don't believe for a minute that Hillary was unaware of your sexual misadventures, abuses of power and pattern of lying. She has been a party to your wrong doings since Whitewater and Jennifer Flowers just as surely as she lied about the Rose law firm's billings and hid the Vincent Foster evidence in your bedroom for two years. Why? So she could share in the raw power that your office carries. The two of you probably lied to Chelsea, but that is a matter among you, your family and your God. Remember the sign over James Carvill's desk during the 1992 campaign? It said, "It's the economy, stupid!" Place this sign over your desk: "It's about character, stupid!"

No, it's not about sex, Mr. President. If it were, you would be long gone. It's about character; but we have to live with your filth, lies and arrogance for a while longer. Your lies, amorality and lack of character have been as pervasive as they have been despicable, so we have no reason to believe that you will quietly resign and go away. You'll count on half truths and spin doctors to see you through, the country be damned. It has always worked before. We excused you and looked the other way. No more, we've had enough. You betrayed us enough. You have made every elected official, minister, teacher, diplomat, parent and grandparent in the country apologize for you and explain away your actions. Now go away, and let us show them that our country was not without morals. It was just that you were. Let us show them that America was not the problem.

William Jefferson Clinton was.

Go away, Mr. President. Leave us alone. And when you leave, know that your legacy to the United States of America will be a stain on the Office of the President that is as filthy as the stain on Monica's dress. It will take a lot of scrubbing to make it clean again.

Eric Jowers

Dear Loel:

Let me apologize for the lateness of my dues. Thought I had already sent them in.

Will not be able to make this years reunion; regretfully. Some health problems, not serious, but hinderous.

Say hello to all, especially SMJ Kennedy, Larry Banks, and all from "D" troop.

All of you will be in my prayers and thoughts.

God Bless
Harold Campbell
D 1/9

Troopers, that is all the mail for this newsletter. Get your e-mails and letters in for the next newsletter.

BWS

Sick Call

Bob Tredway: Former C Troop CO is recovering from major surgery. With Gods help, may you have a speedy recovery.

BWS

Ed Arthur; Is recovering from major surgery. Ed, may your recovery be quick and complete. Our prayers are with you.

Health

As troopers age, we began to think about our health and what we need to do to stay as healthy as possible. Our occupation is not the most healthy. It always helps to know just

what is causing our problems.

BWS

Old Drug Has Wide Benefits

Ramipril, a drug that has been marketed for eight years to combat high blood pressure, also substantially lowers the risk of heart attack, stroke, bypass surgery and diabetes and its complications in those who have heart disease, scientists reported.

Agent Orange

Problems associated with Agent Orange indicate the importance of getting to a VA facility and being medically evaluated for all of us who served in Nam. We were all exposed to Agent Orange in the An Lao, amongst other places. May not make a difference now, but it could in a few years.

The following Web pages on Agent Orange are for your use.

http://dns.advnet.net/gdmoore/a_o_ams1.htm USAF Ranch Hand Herbicide Amounts Sprayed in Vietnam
<http://www.brooks.af.mil/HSC/products/doc79.html> Ranch Hand II

Agent Orange is being linked with more diseases monthly. Everything from cancer, destruction of the immune system, birth defects in newborn, mental problems and neurological, muscular, eyesight, liver, kidney, stomach problems, just to name a few.

For piece of mind, have the VA facility run the complete Agent Orange tests on yourself. It could mean the world of difference and the difference between living and Taps.

BWS

Veterans' enrollment in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care system.

Dear Fellow Veteran:

In compliance with the law October 1, 1998, VA will began treating enrolled veterans and using the enrollment system to determine which priority groups it will be able to

accommodate. The process is new, but most veterans' access to VA health care will not change due to enrollment. The VA claims this authority has enabled it to treat more veterans because it is now able to use more cost-effective types of care, and so far it has significantly increased the number of veterans it is treating under this new authority.

Registry and enrollment are different. Registry is simply applying for health care. VA is automatically registering all of the veterans it treated in the past year for VA health care enrollment. Enrollment is actually assigning veterans to health care providers within VA. Veterans who have not used VA services in the past may register to enroll at any time, but enrollment is not guaranteed. A veteran may be registered for care, but never enrolled. Given VA's space and resource availability, VA will continue to enroll veterans by their priority group. Veterans will be informed by mail when VA enrolls them for health care. You will also be advised if VA cannot accept your application for enrollment. I hope the "Fact Sheet" below helps to answer other common concerns about the new enrollment process.

FACT: VA is now registering all veterans by their priority to health care.

FACT Priority 1 veterans are not required to be enrolled. Priorities 2 through 7 will be enrolled so long as space and resources allow.

Priority 1 Service Connected 50% or more.

Priority 2 Service Connected 30-40% .

Priority 3 Service Connected 10-20%

•Former POWs •Discharged from Active Duty for Service

Connected Condition •Special Eligibility Classification.

Priority 4 •Veterans receiving aid and attendance or housebound and Veterans with catastrophic disability who would otherwise fall into Priority 5 or 6.

Priority 5 Veterans below income threshold.

Priority 6 •WWI and Mexican-Border Veterans • receiving care for Radiation or Toxic Substance or Environmental Hazard Exposures •Veterans with compensable 0% disabilities Priority

All other veterans (COPAYMENTS REQUIRED)

FACT - VA will use a "rolling enrollment" system. This means veterans may submit an application for enrollment at any time. VA will begin the process of accepting veterans' applications with the veterans who have the highest priority to health care. VA will continue to enroll veterans by priority group as long as VA has the space and resources to treat them.

FACT - If you think you will use VA for health care in the next year, you should apply for enrollment. You may be able to receive VA health care before you are enrolled, but remember that until VA sends you notification, you are not enrolled at VA. Remember that where you enroll should be the VHA site from which you choose to receive primary care.

FACT- The acceptance of your application will still be contingent upon your priority for care and VA's space and resources.

FACT - Veterans eligible for VA health care based on financial need or other special qualifications, will be provided health care based on established priorities and available funding. If you have any questions about these policies, please contact me or Susan Edgerton, Democratic Staff Director of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, Subcommittee on Health, at 225-9756. As more information becomes available, this report will be periodically updated on the Democratic Home Page on the Committee's Website.

Sincerely,
LANE EVANS
Ranking Democratic Member

NOTE: All Veterans should be enrolled in the VA Health System. BWS

Vietnam Military Facts

Demographics of Vietnam War US Servicemen

These are results of a new survey from THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL FUND Wash DC. It plays with

preconceptions we may have about who Vietnam Veterans really are.

VIETNAM WARRIORS: A STATISTICAL PROFILE IN UNIFORM AND IN COUNTRY

* Vietnam Vets: 9.7% of their generation. 9,087,000 military personnel served on active duty during the Vietnam era (Aug 5, 1964-May 7,1975). 8,744,000 GIs were on active duty during the war (Aug 5, 1964-March 28, 1973).

* 3,403,100 (including 514,300 offshore) personnel served in the Southeast Asia Theater (Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, flight crews based in Thailand, and sailors in adjacent South China Sea waters).

* 2,594,000 personnel served within the borders of South Vietnam (Jan 1,1965-March 28, 1973).

* Another 50,000 served in Vietnam between 1960 and 1964.

* Of the 2.6 million, between 1-1.6 million (40-60%) either fought in combat, provided close support or were at least fairly regularly exposed to enemy attack.

* 7,484 women (6.250 or 83.5% were nurses) served in Vietnam.

* Peak troop strength in Vietnam: 543,482 (April 30, 1969).

CASUALTIES

* Hostile deaths: 47,378.

* Non-hostile deaths: 10,800.

* Total: 58,202 (includes formerly classified as MIA and Mayaquez casualties), subsequently died of wounds account for the changing total.

* 8 nurses died-1 was KIA.

* Married men killed: 17,539.

* 61% of the men killed were 21 or younger.

* Highest state death rate: West Virginia-84.1 (national average 58.9 for every 100,000 males in 1970).

* Wounded: 303,704-153,329 hospitalized + 150,375 injured requiring no hospital care.

* Severely disabled: 75,000-23,214 100% disabled; 5,283 lost limbs; 1,081 sustained multiple amputations.

* Amputation or crippling wounds to the lower extremities were 300% higher than in WWII and 70% higher than in Korea.

* Multiple amputations occurred at the rate of 18.4% compared to 5.7% in WWII.

* Missing in Action: 2,338.

POWs: 766 (114 died in captivity).

DRAFTEES VS. VOLUNTEERS

* 25% (648,500) of total forces in country were draftees. (66% of US armed forces members were drafted during WWII).

* Draftees accounted for 30.4% (17,725) of combat deaths in Vietnam.

* Reservists killed: 5,977.

* National Guard: 6,140 served, 101 died.

* Total draftees (1965-73)1,728,344.

* Actually served in Vietnam 38%.

* Marine Corps draft: 42,633.

* Last draftee: June 30, 1973.

RACE AND ETHNIC BACKGROUND

* 88.4% of those who actually served in Vietnam were Caucasian.

* 10.6% were black.

* 1% belonged to other races.

* 86.3% of the men who died in Vietnam were Caucasian (includes Hispanics)

* 12.5% (7,241) were black

* 1.2% belonged to other races.

* 170,000 Hispanics served in Vietnam; 3,070 (5.2% of total) died there.

* 70% of enlisted men killed were of Northwest European descent.

* 86.8% of the men who were killed as a result of hostile action were Caucasian

* 12.1% (5,711) were black

* 1.1% belonged to other races.

* 14.6% (1,530) of non-combat deaths were among blacks.

* 34% of blacks that enlisted, volunteered for the combat arms.

* Overall, blacks suffered 12.5% of the deaths in Vietnam at a time when the percentage of blacks of military age was 13.5% of the total population.

RELIGION OF DEAD

* Protestant-64.4%

* Catholic-28.9%

* Other/none-6.7%.

SOCIETY-ECONOMIC STATUS

* 76% of the men sent to Vietnam were from lower middle and working class backgrounds.

* 3/4ths had family incomes above the poverty level; 50% were from middle income backgrounds. - Some 23% of Vietnam vets

had fathers with professional, managerial or technical occupations.

* 79% who served had a high school education or better. 63% of Korean War and only 45% of WWII vets had completed high school upon separation).

DEATHS BY REGION PER 100,000 OF POPULATION:

* South-31

* West-29

* Midwest-28.4

* Northeast-23.5.

WINNING AND LOSING

* 82% of vets who saw heavy combat strongly believe the war was lost because of lack of political will.

* Nearly 75% of the public agrees it was a failure of political will, not arms.

HONORABLE SERVICE

* 97% of Vietnam-era veterans were honorably discharged.

* 91% of actual Vietnam War veterans and 90% of those who saw heavy combat are proud to have served their country.

* 66% of Vietnam vets say they would serve again if called upon.

* 87% of the public now holds Vietnam veterans in high esteem.

Now you have the facts. I am proud to have been a Vietnam era fighting soldier. We served our country.

BWS

"A nation's strength is found not in the number of its laws but in the character of its people."

James Montgomery Boice

Recipe Corner

As you will notice, almost all of our recipes are from the south. OK troopers, lets hear from the rest of the country. Send in your best.

We start out with an old fashion southern favorite. Try these recipes and give your taste buds a treat.

Chicken Pot Pie

1 whole fryer
salt & pepper to taste
2 med potatoes, peeled , cubed &
cooked until tender
4 carrots, peeled , sliced & cooked
1 can peas, drained
1 can cream of mushroom soup
1 can cream of celery soup
2 cups reserved chicken stock

Crust:

2 cups plain flour
1 teaspoon salt
¼ cup cooking oil
1 cup milk

Boil fryer, drain (reserve 2 cups stock), cool and tear into bite size pieces. Combine soups and reserved stock, add vegetables and chicken. Set aside. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Make Crust: Combine all ingredients. Divide into ¾ and ¼ portions. Roll ¾ of dough into size large enough to line a 4 quart casserole; place in casserole dish. Pour chicken mixture. Roll ¼ dough and place on top. Crimp edges and slit top. Bake for one hour or until brown.

Ultimate Cornbread

2 cups onion, chopped
¼ cup margarine
1 carton (8 oz) sour cream
1 cup cheddar cheese, shredded
1 ½ cups self rising cornmeal
1 tbsp sugar
¼ tsp dill weed
2 eggs, beaten
1 can (8 ¾ oz) cream corn
¼ cup milk
¼ cup vegetable oil
dash of hot sauce

Saute' onion in margarine until tender. Let cool, stir in sour cream and ½ cup cheese. Set aside. Stir together remaining ingredients and

spoon into lightly greased 9" square pan. Spread sour cream mixture over top and sprinkle with remaining cheese. Bake at 375 degrees about 35 – 40 minutes or until done. Cut into squares.

Éclair Cake

Graham crackers
2 small packages French Vanilla instant pudding
8 ounces Cool Whip

Topping:

¼ cup cocoa
2 tbsp white corn syrup
1 teaspoon vanilla
3 tbsp margarine
1 ½ cups powdered sugar
3 tbsp milk

Line a 9 x 13 inch pan with whole graham crackers. Prepare pudding and mix with Cool Whip. Spread half of mixture over crackers. Add another layer of crackers, top with rest of pudding and add final layer of crackers. Prepare topping by mixing ingredients and ice cake. Refrigerate. Best if prepared 2 days ahead. Serves 15

Butter Pecan Ice Cream

5 eggs, beaten
1 box dark brown sugar
½ cup white sugar

Beat together until thick and fluffy. Add:

1 ½ cups toasted pecans (toast in butter in oven)
1 pint half & half
½ pint whipping cream

Finish filling freezer with regular milk; freeze in freezer. Will make 1 gallon or 1 ½ gallons depending on your freezer.

No Egg Ice Cream

- 5 qt. Freezer
- 3 cans Eagle Brand condensed milk
- Dash of salt
- Peach or strawberry pie filling, if desired
- 2 tbsp vanilla
- Milk (complete to fill line)

Place condensed milk, flavoring, salt and pie filling in freezer pail. Add milk to full line and stir until mixed with other ingredients. Freeze and pack for 1 to 2 hours if desire firmer texture, or may be eaten as soon as frozen. Delicious!

Troopers, that is all the recipes for this period. It's time for you and your spouses to send in your recipes for the next newsletter. As you can see, most of these are still from the South.

For the next newsletter, lets have some recipes from the northern and western part of the country. **OK Spouses, send in your recipes to Loel Ewart!**

BWS

"**Bright is the ring of words, when the right man rings them.**"

Robert Louis Stevenson

BULLWHIP SQUADRON CHARTER

The Squadron now has an official charter as a nonprofit Military Fraternal Organization. One of the requirements of the Charter is to hold elections periodically. Therefore there will be **a charter meeting and election for new officers on Saturday afternoon, 14:00 hrs at the Holiday Inn.** All members are encouraged to attend.

The following board officer positions will be up for changes or re-election.

- President – BG David Allen
- Vice President – Loel Ewart
- Secretary – AL DeFleron
- Treasurer – Barbara Ewart

A copy of the bylaws is available for any Squadron Member to view. Arrangements can be made to fax copies to a BWS member upon member request.

Note

You will see in this newsletter, paid advertisements from the local merchants. These merchants are supporting our Association by advertising. The funds generated by the advertisements help to defray printing expenses and allow us to provide you, the members, with a quality newsletter.

The Association asks you to support the merchants that advertise in our newsletter when you are in their vicinity or at their location. Lower Alabama has truly become the home of the Bullwhip Squadron Association.

There is no shame in being afraid, there is only shame in being a coward.

BWS

RAFFLE TICKETS

Don't forget to get your raffle tickets. One dollar per ticket. Great prizes. Good cause. Something for everyone including the ladies. Call AL DeFleron for your tickets.

Go back and read AL DeFleron's article. This is one reunion no one wants to mss.

BWS

The following list of Association members is as of 30 July 2000.

Bullwhip Squadron
Association members

Honored Halls

COL J. B. Stockton (Deceased)
Glenn Shumake (Deceased)
Earl D. Thompson (Deceased)
John Schlichter (Deceased)
William Gilboy (Deceased)
John E. Kilgallen (Deceased)
Anthony Heinz (Deceased)
John Valaer (Deceased)
Les Holland (Deceased)
Garry Massey (Deceased)
Phil Foley (Deceased)
Thomas Beadle (Dec.)
John E. Kilgallen (Dec.)
Ronald L. Chapman (Dec.)

Association Members

Abernathy, George
Adams, Bobby *
Allen, BG David *
Amos, Richard
Anzelmo, George
Arthur, Ed
Ashcraft, Al
Avelar Jr, Jose
Ballard, Stephen
Banks, Larry *
Baron, Joseph *
Barrett, James *
Barton, Glenn
Beardsley, Guy *
Beckwith, Karen (h)
Bedsole, Ken *
Berggren, Gerald *
Betts, Tommy
Black, Jim
Blad, John
Blankenburg, Mitch *
Blankenship, Nelson
Blouin, David
Bluestone, Bill (h)

Bluestone-Eull, Michael *
Bogdue, Mike *
Boisseau, Mark *
Bowen, Joseph
Bowling, Billy
Branard, Thomas
Bray, David *
Bressem, David
Brown Jr., Albert
Brown, Larry *
Bulkley, Morton
Burke, Paul *
Burnett, Clark *
Burrow, George *
Busch Jr, George *
Bush, Pat *
Butt, Harry
Cairns Jr, Ernest
Cameron, Bruce
Campbell, Donald *
Campbell, Harold
Carll, Frederick
Cavalieri, Dominic *
Chole, Bert *
Christopher, Mark *
Clark, Jimmy
Conner, James
Copson II, Charles
Cornwell, Robert
Coshey, Donald *
Cote, Zenith
Covert, Charles
Covey, Michael *
Cox, Jerry
Cox, Robert
Crawford, George *
Crispino, Joseph *
Curtis, Grant
Danielson, Ted (h)
Davis, Gary *
Davis, Thomas *
Defleron, Al *
Dehart, Bruce
Dela Rosa, Lionel
Derrick, Charles
DeSloover, David *
Dettmer, Marion
Dillbeck, William
Dishaw, Michael *
Doslop, Joseph *
Dubois, Adam
Dula, Jones R. *
Dunning, David
Dupreast, Samuel *
Egonis, Clement
Ellis, James *

Erway, Douglas
Ewart, Loel *
Ferrea, Albert *
Fisher, Gordon *
Flanagan, John
Francis Jr, Jim *
Frank, Patrick *
Franks, Floyd
Frazier, Charles (h)
Frederick, Donald
Gabel, Dennis
Galloway, Joe (h)
Garnhart, Stan (h)
Garrett, Robert
Gavaria, Lillian (h)
Glance, Jesse *
Glassford, Gary
Goldsberry, James
Greer, Jim
Gregor, Charles *
Grett, Stanley
Grube, Dick *
Gutsche, Walter
Hale, Dick *
Harmon, Thomas *
Harris III, Lucious *
Hartin Jr, William *
Hartley, Thomas
Harvey, MG Thomas *
Haslitt, James
Hearron, Aussie *
Hendrix, James
Henson, Kenneth
Herra, James
Herron, Richard *
Hewlett, George
Hill, Doug
Hilton, Mark
Hiser Jr, Francis
Hlywa, Nicholas *
Hobbs, Earl *
Holcomb, Brian
Holt, Robert
Hope, Timothy
Hubler, Irwin *
Huff II, William
Hughes, Billy
Hulsey, Jim *
Hundley, Stephen *
Hunter, Jerry
James, Jesse *
Janes, Ray *
Jarvis Sr., George
Johnson, Bruce *
Johnson, Michael
Johnson, Monte

Johnson, Ricky *
Jones, Walker *
Judson, Robert
Kelbus, Joseph *
Kelley, Mike
Kenerson, Ron (h)
Kennedy, Lawrence
Kerns, John
Kilcrease, Jack *
Kilgallen, Elizabeth (h)*
King, Thomas
Kink, Julie (h)
Knowlen, Charles
Knowles, Patrick *
Kohler, James
Kolar, Larry
Kowalski, Henry *
Krohlow, Kenton
Kuhnell, Harold
Kushner, Hal *
Kuster, Robert *
Labak, Robert
La-Bombard, Lloyd *
Lackey, Robert *
Laidlaw, William
Landor, Jaime
Lanier, Michael *
Larsen, John *
Larson, Edward
Lassiter, Norman *
La Vigne Sr, Barry *
Leadabrand, Jerry *
Lenker, Max *
Lentino, Michael
Leonard, Thomas *
Lott, Claude
Lucas, Judson
Machnic, Jerry
Machulsky, Michael
MacLeod, Richard *
Maher, James
Marcum, Eugene
Marshall, Dick
Martin, Thomas
Matlock, Milton
Matthews Jr, Allan
McAllister, Bo *
McAlpine, Barry *
McCloud, Harry
McIlwain, Blake
McKee, Orvel
McKiddy, Edgar (h)
McLaughlin, Davin *
McMullan, Bob
McNinch, Jerry *
Moore, Arthur

Moore, Harold (h)
Moore, Marion *
Moser, Frank *
Mundy, G.G. *
Neilsen, John *
Nevins, Robert
Newby, Claude *
Niles, Louis
O'Grady, Stephen
Oliver, John
Olson, Kenneth *
Orifici, Tony
Oshiro, Clyde
Owens, Ronald *
Park, George
Parnell, James *
Pettit, Richard
Phipps, Wayne
Poe, Robert *
Poos, Robert (h)
Potts, William *
Powell, John
Pratt, James *
Preacher, William
Pressman, James *
Pryce, David
Pumprey, A.T *
Quinn, William
Racine, Maurice *
Rainwater, Ross
Rawl, Joe
Reid, Jim *
Retterer, John *
Rhoden, Joe *
Rice, Robert
Ricks, Douglas *
Rittenhouse, William
Rochat III, Louis *
Rodriguez, Alejandro
Rose, Harold
Roshier, Galen *
Rostar, David
Ryan, James
Ryan, John
Salmon, Gary
Salyer, James
Schellenberg, Woodrow
Schmotolocha, Jerry *
Scott, Kenneth *
Sedacca, Emanuel
Sellers, Robert
Shaffer, Nate
Shalala, Mark
Shanklin, David *
Shrader, Cecil
Silva, Robert

Sistek, John
Sistrunk, Richard
Smith, Ben
Smith, Cecil *
Smith, Gene
Smith, Jim *
Snow, Peter
Stanley, William
Steine, Joel *
Stewart, Frank *
Stewart, Patrick *
Stockton, Rita (h)
Stockton, Wootsie (h)*
Stone, Gordon *
Stoverink, Robert
Sullivan, Dennis (h)
Sundt, Richard
Swain, Robert *
Tadlock, Robert
Tasker, Larry
Tassin, Paul *
Terry, Michael *
Thaxton, Bob
Thomas, John
Timmons, William *
Titchnell, Wallace *
Tramontano, Joseph
Tredway, Robert *
Treude, Harry
Trombley, Thomas
Tucker, Douglas *
Turner, Barrie
Tuttle, Mike
Tyrrell, Paul
Vanasse, Eugene
Van Winkle, James *
Vines, Ottis
Volheim, James
Waldron, Cowles
Walker, John *
Wallace, John
Wardzala, Daniel
Washington, Royall
Weatherspoon, Freddie
Weaver Sr, Charles
Weeks, Jimmy *
Weems, Neil
Welch, A. J.
Westfall, Ronald *
Whigham, Charles *
Whitehead, John
Wilke, Charles *
Wilkins, Donald
Wilkinson, George *
Williams, Franklin *
Williams, Billie *

Wingate, Charles *
Wood, Doug
Woodward, Wallace *
Wright, Larry
Wuensch, Marc *
Wulff, Richard

York Jr, John
Young, Robert *
Young, Terry
Zahn, Bob *
Zahn, Randy
Zemke, Phillip *

Zion, Bob *

h - Honorary
* - Lifetime

Pittsburg, PA 15203

Members are what makes the Association.

Dues paid on time is what keeps the Association running, allows us to print the newsletter and manage all Association expenses.

The Association has increased its membership rolls by 54 new members since January 1. A Very Warm "Welcome" to all of our new members

You are the professionals who make the Bullwhip Squadron Association a success!

Thanks guys for joining our Association!

Please check your names for spelling. If any corrections are required, call me (Loel) and I will update as needed. Also check your certificates for spelling. Let me know if they are wrong and we will correct and mail ASAP.

Lost and Found

Troopers

Gray Rogney, a former Scout gunner with A Trp. (65-67), wants to contact COL. Robert Hurley, A Trp CMDR 66-67. If you have any information contact him at;
Home 270-737-3590
Work 502-624-2247

Troopers

The family of Jimmy Cryster is searching for anyone who served with him in RVN. They would appreciate hearing from anyone who knew Jimmy. Please contact his sister;

Ms. Barbara Fullen
1810 Wharton St.

Hi, My Dad's name is Del Dinsmore and he served as gunner/crewchief, 1/9th in 66-67. Dad remembers Craig Castle, Johnny Corn, and Kempf Breedlove. And served under Maj. Bagnell. We are looking for Craig Castel. If any one knows or remembers his address please contact me at;

Jalene Dinsmore
Lubec, Maine
jalenedinsmore@hotmail.com

Hello:

I am trying to find information on my father, Major Lewis Beasley, who flew a helicopter gun ship in RVN around 66. He passed away several years ago and I have little to go on except he served in the 1st Cav and I think in the 1st/9th. I am hoping to find out more information on his service, company, and perhaps some people who knew him. Any help you can give would be appreciated.

Keith Beasley
beasley@mciworld.com

Troopers

I am looking for the addresses of some past friends from A Troop, 65-66, Maintenance Platoon. An SP5 crewchief named Maldonado who crewed the maint. Slick, and SSG James Vandeventer who was also in the maint plt. I was 18 at the time and seems the older I get the more I forget. If not for the foresight of some of you guys, everything would be forgotten.

Yours truly,

TROOPERS

Remember our next BWS Reunion will be 6,7,8 October 2000, at Fort Rucker, AL.

You received a special newsletter in January on the reunion with all reservation information. If you have misplaced your reservation forms and need another copy, call AL DeFleron and we will send a replacement.

Now is the time for all of you troopers who have never attended, to attend, and for all of the last attendees to re-attend!

You will find good fellowship and remaking of friendships, along with a very good time for all.

ATTEND!!!

Due to the number of troopers that have registered with the Holiday Inn, all the rooms are filled and reservations are going toward the other two motels. Call the Jameson Inn, NOW, for your reservations. Phone # (334) 774-0233 or the Best Western, # (334) 774-5166. Secondly, fill out your Reunion Registration and send it in. This reunion will be the largest for the Squadron yet.

For all going to the reunion, we need the reunion forms and \$ NOW. We need to determine the number of meals for the bar-b-q and banquet. So stop procrastinating and get the paperwork in!!!

For the golfers, be sure to bring your golf clubs!

SEE YOU AT THE REUNION

BWS

**Patriotism means to stand by the country.
It does not mean to stand by the President.**

From the Comptroller:

It was very gratifying to see all of the new members that became associated with the Bullwhip Squadron during 2000.

To date our paid membership is 317 with 135 of these being lifetime. We have increased by 66 new members since January 1. We could not have done this without your support.

Unfortunately 88 old members did not renew their membership for 2000.

We are a non-profit organization. All work performed in the Squadron is strictly voluntary and the money taken into the Squadron by dues and merchandise sold, just is sufficient to pay for all operating expenses and help defray the Squadron reunion expenses.

Annual dues are still just \$15. Lifetime Memberships are available and the cost for a lifetime membership is just \$100. This is equivalent to only 6.5 years of dues. The Lifetime Membership means never having to pay dues again and the quarterly (almost) Squadron Newsletter (book) comes with the Lifetime Membership.

You can send your Membership dues to;

Loel Ewart

Rt. 2, Box 158, Ozark, AL. 36360.

My phone number is

home, (334) 774-0328,

office, (334) 983-3828.

e-mail, lewart@snowhill.com

Membership runs from January through December regardless when dues are paid. This is the only way to keep our books straight with the least work.

Many of our troopers either move or change their e-mail addresses. Please let the Squadron Association (Loel Ewart) know of any changes in address. This will keep your newsletter coming.

The Association does not sell or give away members addresses or phone numbers, except to other BWS Association members when they call in for a members individual number.

The Bullwhip Squadron Association has the following items for sell. All the proceeds go into the Squadron fund, so as you buy, you help build the Bullwhip Squadron Association fund. All merchandising items for sale will be handled by Squadron member, Al Defleron.

You can call or write Al Defleron for any of the items we have. The items will be shipped to you after receiving the money. When you order, please state size. Also add \$5 for shipping. The items we have for sell are;

1. White or black, ball caps with the Squadron guidon insignia, \$10.
2. White or black polo shirts (golf), with Squadron guidon insignia, \$23 (add \$5 for personalized with name and 1st Cav patch).
3. Wind breaker jackets, lined, in colors, with Squadron guidon insignia, \$30.
4. ** Unit Guidon flags for all troops, "A through F". These guidons are exactly like the troop originals, \$65 each.
5. Headhunter Bumper Stickers, \$2.00.
6. Original Bullwhip Squadron Bumper Stickers, \$1.50.
7. Bullwhip Squadron Bumper Stickers with Crossed Saber, \$1.75.
8. Sun Visors with Squadron Guidon, \$8.00.
9. Denim Shirts are available with Squadron guidon and personalized. \$38.00.
10. Statues (98 reunion), a few left, \$25 each.

If you desire any of the above for the reunion, be sure to order now to have in time for the reunion.

The Association has gone all out to find those troopers who do not know of the Association. To date, over 4000 Invitation to Join letters have been sent out to those who carried on, and sustained, the CAV tradition.

"A nation dies culturally and spiritually first. Its money and its army are the last to go, but go they do once the light goes out in the nation's soul."

Charley Chase

Bullwhip Squadron Web Site

Our Association has finally come into the modern age with a Bullwhip Squadron Web Site.

Our own, Joseph Bowen is the Web Master for the Association's site and is responsible for building and maintaining the site.

Joe asks for any ideas from our troopers as to what they would like to see on the site. If you have any particulars, give Joe a call at (334) 774-1184 and discuss your ideas.

The web site address is www.BullwhipSquadron.org

Check the address from time to time to see how we are progressing. We hope to make our web site a showroom for the Air Cav Troopers and the 1st/9th.

Eulogy For A Veteran

**Do not stand at my grave and weep.
I am not there, I do not sleep.**

**I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am the diamond glints on snow.**

**I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the Gentle autumn rain.**

**When you awaken in the mornings
hush,
I am the swift uplifting rush
of quiet birds in circled flight,
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there, I did not die.**

Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association

Our 1st/9th guidons led our troops on marches across Vietnam during the sixty's and seventy's, during the Vietnam era. Now thirty plus years later they are still leading the way.

They led our march at the Fort Hood, 1st Cav Division reunion in 99, as we marched in the Horse Presentation. Now on the 4th of July, 2000 they led the march down Constitution Avenue in Washington D.C. Our 1st/9th guidons were at the head of The Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association with C Troop 1st/9th Reunion Troops carrying the guidons. Our 1st/9th guidons led the parade with all other units following behind.

As always-- WE CAN, WE WILL!!

Induction Into The Officers Candidates School Hall Of Fame

Once again one of our own leads the way. Hilbert (Bert) Chole was inducted into the Officers Candidates School (OCS) Hall Of Fame, in April 2000. Congratulations Bert! Well deserved and received.

Troopers from left to right are; Louis (Lou) Rochat, Al DeFleron, Bert Chole, Joe Rawl, and General Allen.

ADVERTISEMENT
