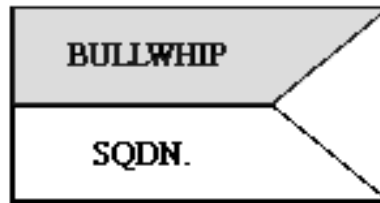


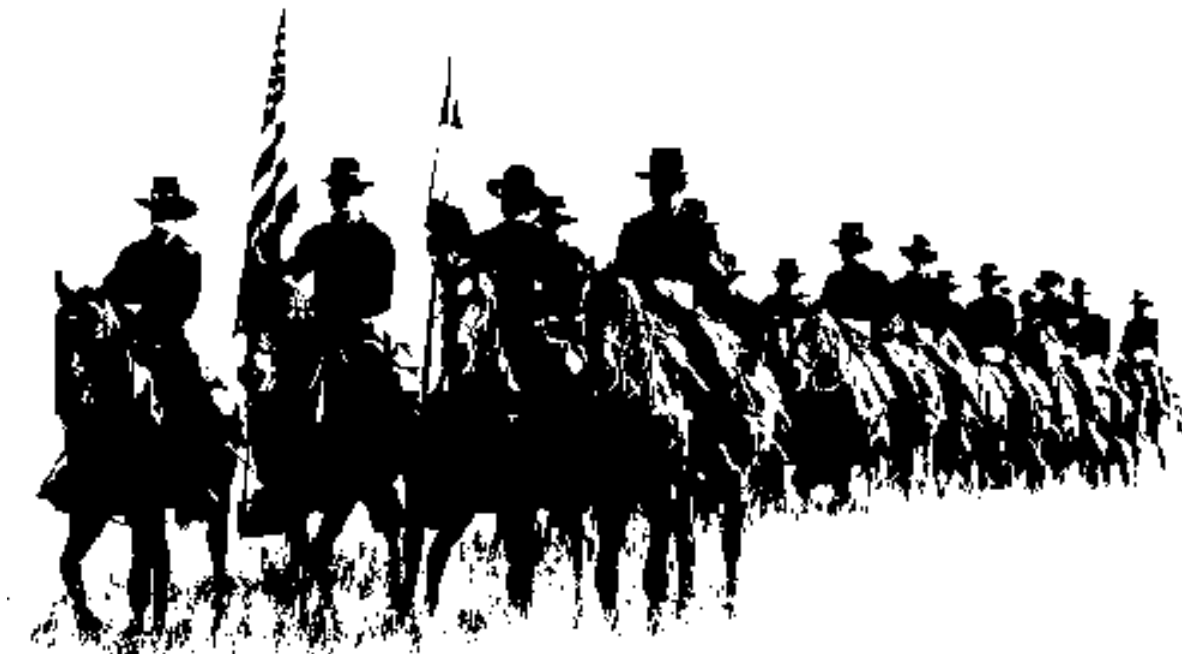
3rd/17th --- 1st/9th
Air Cavalry Squadron



THE BULLWHIP SQUADRON NEWS

The official News Magazine of the Bullwhip Squadron Association

September 2003



THE CAVALRYMAN

You may ask, "Whence came this man?"
Broad shouldered, with a weathered face.
Mounted and weaponed, looking not just ahead,
But with perception into even the next decade of man.

He has come from the heartland of a nation
To accept the burden of war.
From the rich and poor,
The arrogant rabble and idealist alike,
Have come the cross section of his breed.
For him, the torturous trail and endless thirst,
Fear of death and bitter loneliness.

The broken bodies of comrades lost to soon are assuaged
Only by the fleeting emotion of brilliant victory!
He has carved his hallmark on liberty and in so doing,
Cast a long shadow over tyranny.

Freedom shall have its way whenever he stands.
By the sinew of his body
And the spirit of his being,
He has forged the assurance of a tomorrow.
You and all mankind already know him.

His deeds far excel the best efforts of man
Forever accepting his nations challenge,
This proud warrior moves, always to the vanguard.

He is...The Cavalryman.

By Lt. Col. Robert Drudik
from "FIRST TEAM" FALL 1970

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Adjutants Call

ATTENTION TO ORDERS:

"THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES".

THE THEME SONG OF BOB HOPE, CAME TO MIND MONDAY WHEN I HEARD THE NEWS BULLETIN THAT THE CENTURIAN, FRIEND OF THE MILITARY, COMEDIAN AND ALL AROUND ENTERTAINER WAS DEAD. I REMEMBER WELL THE VISIT OF BOB HOPE AND THE CREW TO ANKE IN 1965. I RECALL THAT HE WAS NOT TOO THRILLED TO BE SO CLOSE TO THE ACTION, AND TOLD THOSE SUPPORTING HIS VISIT "TO KEEP THE ENGINES RUNNING" IN THE EVENT HE NEEDED TO MAKE A QUICK GETAWAY. I ALSO RECALL THAT HE SAID HE HAD NO DESIRE TO PLAY OUR GOLF COURSES.

SO BOB. YOU FOUGHT A GOOD FIGHT. YOU SERVED THE NATION FOR SOME 60 YEARS. THANKS AGAIN FOR TAKING THE TIME TO ENTERTAIN THE TROOPERS OF THE 1ST CAV DIV AND 1/9 CAV IN VIET NAM. HUMBERS PLAY A ROLL ONE WAY OR ANOTHER IN OUR LIVES. I AM SURE THAT MANY OF YOU CAN RECALL YOUR OLD SERIAL NUMBERS. US OR RA OR O OR WO. SOME WILL RECALL TWO OR MORE SERIAL NUMBERS BEFORE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS WERE USED TO IDENTIFY SOLDIERS.

OTHERS SUCH AS JOHN B STOCKTON WILL RECALL THEIR NUMBER ASSOCIATED WITH WEST POINT. FOR JOHN B, IT WAS 13746, HIS GRADUATION NUMBER IN 1943. HE WAS JUST 21 WHEN HE GRADUATED. IF ALIVE TODAY HE WOULD BE 81. GEORGE ARMSTRONG CUSTER, ANOTHER GREAT CAVALRY MAN, WAS #1966. HE GRADUATED IN 1861. BOTH GEORGE AND JOHN B WERE BAPTISED BY FIRE SHORTLY AFTER BEING COMMISSIONED. GEORGE IN THE CIVIL WAR----JOHN B IN WORLD WAR II.

AS YOU WILL RECALL, CUSTER COMMANDED THE 7TH CAVALRY WITH ABOUT 700 MEN. WHEN HE HEADED FOR THE LITTLE BIG HORN RIVER IN MONTANA FOR AN ENGAGEMENT WITH A GROUP OF INDIANS, HE HAD NO IDEA OF THE SIZE OF THE ENEMY. HE DID NOT KNOW THE INDIANS WERE IN FACT ARMED WITH BETTER WEAPONS THAN HIS MEN CARRIED.

HE WAS SO SURE OF HIS MEN AND THEIR ABILITY THAT HE CHOSE NOT TO TAKE GATLIN GUNS TO THE BATTLE, FEARING THEY WOULD SLOW HIM DOWN. AFTER CUSTER LEARNED THAT THE INDIAN FORCE NUMBERED SOME 7000, CUSTER DID NOT TURN BACK. OUT NUMBERED 10 TO 1 HE FORMED A PLAN AND PUT IT INTO ACTION, REGARDLESS OF THE OUTCOME.

HE WAS ONE POSITIVE GUY. I GUESS MY POINT TO ALL THIS IS, THOSE OF US WHO FOUGHT ALONGSIDE JBS 38 YEARS AGO HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE WITH A CAVALRYMAN WHO LIKE CUSTER, PATTON AND MANY OTHERS WERE A NOTCH ABOVE THE "ALSO RAN".

FOR THE COMMANDER,
DICK D GRUBE
ADJUTANT

Many of you have written articles for the news magazine and have expressed your opinion on many subjects, both liberal and conservative. The editor has maintained a policy of printing those articles regardless of the “political correctness” of the articles, as long as they were acceptable for all audiences regardless of age, to read, and were written with integrity. Being “politically correct” will not keep this republic free or keep our nation whole.

Here you will find articles on all topics, many not found on our present national and local newspapers. These areas drive today’s national environment and safety, and cannot be ignored. These areas are deciding the life, or death, of our country. You will find several articles on Islam and the threat as seen by historians, to America.

The constitution gives every citizen the right to free speech. It is the citizen’s duty to speak out and fight for their beliefs through congress, the courts or by being in the military. And yes, a voice of one, does count.

Articles in this issue are again from our members, and others, that sound an opinion worth reading. It is up to you, the reader, to determine if the articles mirror your beliefs and attitudes. If they do not, then it is not only your prerogative but your responsibility, to sound off with your opinion in the next issue.

Our lifestyle and freedoms are drastically changed by the aftermath of the 9-11 terrorist attacks on the Twin Towers and the Pentagon. “We” as a people and nation are under attack for our Judao-Christian way of life and beliefs. What we, as a nation, do now, will determine the future survival of our country, The United States Of America.

The articles in the news magazine are not necessarily the opinion of the editor or the BWS Board Members. The articles are here to make you think and act as a responsible citizen and veteran of this great country. We cannot run from our responsibility.

May God Bless America.

BWS

TAPS

James Maher	Passed On	June 18, 2003
Richard H. Marshall	Passed On	August 20, 2003
Joseph Driskill	Passed On	September 11, 2003
Robert Young	Passed On	September, 2003

The passing of true heroes.

"There are those precious moments in life when you share time with old and trusted comrades who shared the same battlefield. You will always be special."

Dick Marshall, Thirsty Red

Those were the words that Dick wrote in my copy of "We Were Soldiers Once..And Young" several years ago and those words sum up the very special place in his heart that he held for C Troopers and the 1/9th Cavalry. It was with a heavy heart that I received the very unwelcome news of Dick's passing on August 20, 2003 from Bruce DeHart and our old commander Billie Williams. Col. Williams asked if it were possible for me to go to the funeral to represent the Troop and the 1/9th since time and distance made it impossible for him to do so. He also directed that I personally pass on to the family the high esteem in which we all held Dick.

The trip to Pawley's Island, SC was a blur and I arrived in the middle of viewing hours at the funeral home just missing Gene and Anne Smith, who had driven down for the viewing but couldn't stay for the funeral. I met David, the oldest son and Susie Marshall his lovely and witty wife; Greg, the youngest son and his lovely wife Claudia Marshall and went into the viewing. At the head of the casket, they had displayed Dick's picture from the old Cavalry days; his saber; his Stetson and his awards and decorations. I also noted that Dick wore his crossed saber tie-pin. A little bit later I met Virginia, Dick's only daughter and still later Dr. George Postic, her husband.

I had the occasion to go through Dick's awards and decorations (over 70 in all) several times with his family members and explain what they all were and what they meant. Each of his children and grandchildren and many of his closest friends were amazed because they said Dick never talked about them or the fact that (in their words) he was a true hero.

The next day I was proud to escort Dick both into and out of the church and had replaced my rank insignia with the Bullwhip Squadron pin on my Stetson. The service was led by Episcopal Bishop Charles Murphy, III who was also a close personal friend of Dick's. He spoke of Dick's faith and support of his church and community. The church was overflowing with family, friends and others who lives were touched by having known Dick.

At grave side I stood with LTC David Michael Gill, from Ft. Jackson, as we jointly presented the American flag that had covered Dick's casket to his eldest son, David along with the shell casings fired by the military Honor Guard and heard the mournful rendition of "Taps" which marked the passing from this life of our dear friend, father, grandfather, uncle and a man that had truly touched the hearts of all that knew him.

Upon my return home, I called Col. Williams to report on the trip. We discussed Dick's quiet, dignified, unassuming manner. Col. Williams pointed out Dick's professional, caring and very trooper-oriented command style - the very qualities that endeared him to all that worked for him and with him. I related the many friends of Dick's that I had met from his high school and college days, and those he met after his military career as well as their glowing comments concerning his character, and genuine interest in people.

I also told Col. Williams of Dick's extended family like David and Deborah Ellerbe and their children Luke, Dorie, Benjamin and Sarah. I related how Claudia, Greg's wife, was the first family contact I had made and what a wonderful hostess and dignified lady she was. I told him about "Uncle" Pete Childers and his wife and fascinating daughter. But most of all, I told him how proud I was to meet Dick's sons and daughter, and their spouses and children, and how they were such a great reflection of the man we all knew and loved.

His sons were born at Ft. Rucker and in Heidelberg, Germany and Virginia at Annapolis during Dick's military career and knew very well of Dick's enduring love of the military in general and the Bullwhip Squadron and C Troop in particular. I couldn't help but remember Command Sgt Major Kennedy's comments concerning shedding tears at the passing of a soldier and freely admit that I shed tears remembering Dick Marshall's life, his sparkling eyes when he talked, his loyalty to his troops and the fact that he could always be counted on to place other's welfare above even his own personal safety.

The Bullwhip Squadron and C Troop has lost a great friend and leader and this grateful nation has lost a great soldier and true hero. Dick Marshall, always my Brother In Arms

Mike Bogdue



FROM THE COMMANDER

Call to Arms

The BWS Association needs your support on a very important effort. It concerns the nomination of our first commander John B. Stockton to the Army Aviation Hall of Fame. First of all, a little background on this effort. Several months after Col. Stockton’s death, I took it upon myself to put together the required paperwork and submitted it to the AAAA office in June of 1998. The Board of Directors, along with several previously inductee Hall of Famer’s then select 8 to 10 individuals for nomination and publish their names with a short bio in the July – August 1998 AAAA magazine, for the members to vote upon.

Prior to the publication of those selected individuals, I was called by a very respected retired Major General who had been a member of the selection committee and this is what he told me: “Dave, I appreciate your effort in submitting Col Stockton’s name for consideration as a Hall of Fame inductee. I personally supported his nomination but there was to many old dinosaurs on the selection board that do not like John B. for various reasons, and they turned his nomination down. I recommend that you wait 5 or 6 years until some of those dinosaurs pass on and then try again.”

Now, we skip ahead to 2003. I asked Loel Ewart in May to put together another submission under his name. With input from Joel Steine and Mike Bogdue, Loel put together an excellent paper submitting John B. for consideration as a candidate to the Hall of Fame. The paperwork was forwarded to the AAAA editor in mid June.

What can our BWS members do to make John B.’s selection a possibility? First of all, he must be approved by the selection committee for nomination by AAAA members, sometime within the next few months if not sooner. The only hope that we have is that the few remaining old dinosaur’s will be outvoted and John B’s name will be published in this fall’s AAAA magazine, along with the other candidates for membership vote.

If we are successful in that effort, all BWS members of AAAA can assist by “talking up” his nomination with other AAAA members. If you

aren’t a member of AAAA, consider joining for 1 year for the sole purpose of voting for John B.

This will probably be our last chance to get him into the Hall of Fame. As the creator of the Air Cavalry concept, he richly deserves this honor. I therefore request your support in this endeavor.

God bless America and the Air Cavalry.

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

From The Command Sergeant Major

Old Soldiers,

Our next reunion will be held in October 2004. It is time now to be planning to attend our “next” reunion.

Loel and AL are steady in the working stage for the 04 reunion and are definitely looking for a bigger turnout (and better) than ‘02.

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

Loel tells me that the membership is now over the 450 point and still growing, weekly.

Troopers, it is very important for us to support our military associations; NCOA, MOAA, American Legion and other retired associations, to protect the benefits we have and work for those promised but never given. What Congress gives, it can take away. Our retiree and veteran programs are in jeopardy due to military spending increases caused by the Iraq war and the war on terrorism.

All of you troopers who make up the 1st/9th Air CAV Squadron make this old soldier proud. When the country called, you were first to answer. I, and this great nation will never forget you. You are truly “My Brothers In Arms”.

Never forget what we were and are still. We are still the Air Cav Squadron, and brothers always.

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

Loel Ewart
381 Lakeland Hills Dr.
Ozark, Al. 36360
Ph. # 334-774-0328
e-mail lewart@charter.net

Or

Al Defleron
1145 Holland Rd.
Newton, Al. 36352
Ph. # 334-692-5685
e-mail aldefleron@snowhill.com

God willing, I will be with you again, seeing all my old soldiers at the October 2004 reunion.

CSM Kennedy
Bullwhip 7

From the Chaplain:

Dear Fellow 1/9 Cavalry Bullwhippers,

Last week I got a call from the past. The call led to a knock at my door at 1407 hours, Sunday August 4, 2003. Harold S. Lewis was at my door with his wife Gail by his side. For the next three hours Gail and my Helga waited patiently by our sides while we returned to Vietnam, mentally and emotionally, if not physically. Naturally, we relived the first time I took Lewis to the field.

At 0730 hours, October I landed with Lieutenant David Jenkins and his Charlie Troop Blues at LZ Jamie in War Zone. We were there as a quick reaction force supporting pink teams operating in the area. Sp4 Harold Lewis was my new chaplain assistant and this was his first trip into the field of battle. Over the next three hours we held a worship service and I got better with the Blues, including squad leader, Sp4 Eugene Carroll.

At 1030 hours we scrambled for the Cambodian border west of the; our mission: circle the area while a pink team conducted a BDA (battle-damage assessment) of an arclight (B-52 bomber strike) strike that supposedly occurred a few minutes before we arrived. We'd been on station a few minutes, circling lazily about five hundred feet above the jungle and wondering where the pink team was,

when, suddenly, the chopper caught me off guard when it lurched right and dived to gain speed. Reflexively, troopers grabbed my LBE to keep me in the chopper. Meanwhile, giant trees leaped into the air as a quarter-mile-wide line of explosions marched straight across the area we'd just vacated—it looked as though some trees were coming right at us and as though some of the bombs passed beneath us on their way to the jungle.

We survived the arclight, thanks to the arrival and keen eyesight of an Air Force FAC pilot. The bombs were already on the way when the FAC pilot spotted our slow moving, jungle-green chopper against the Jungle background. His no doubt frantically radioed warning prompted our chopper pilot's violent evasive maneuvering.

Back at LZ Jamie at noon, hopes of a promised hot meal were dashed because Sergeant Henry Morris's (Talon 4-3) ranger/LRRP team was pinned down by NVA just a few clicks from LZ Jamie. Pinned down with Morris were Assistant Team Leader Charlie Steel, Howard Shute, Julius Zaporozec and Kregg P. J. Jorgenson—who was experiencing his baptism of fire.

After successfully linking up—meaning no friendly casualties—with the LRRP team, Lt. Jenkins and Sgt. Morris conferred, radioed their respective higher commands, and on order from above, promptly moved out to find out what was making the NVA so touchy about the area. Having not heard the new orders, I'd taken a seat and leaned back against an embankment, and barely sat down when, thirty feet from me, Sergeant Morris disappeared from the clearing followed by Carroll and part of his squad. Carroll, the only Blues trooper not wearing a steel helmet, must have turned his head or body to the left for some reason. The NVA who laid in wait may have concluded he had spotted them, for an NVA 30-caliber machine gun renewed the fight with a burst at Carroll from seven to ten meters distance. Carroll fell mortally wounded, his head laid open by an upward-angled gash from just behind the left eye to above and back of the left ear.

Rangers and Blues scrambled for meager cover behind the rangers' massive rucksacks and someone yelled "Medic!" I dashed to Lt. Jenkin's side and, looking over the embankment, saw Carroll lying some fifteen feet away, his face to the sky, and his brain clearly visible through the gash in his skull. Those around Carroll were too busy returning fire to attend his wounds, so I slithered over the bank,

grasped him by his shirt collar and with the platoon medic dragged him back to the meager protection provided by the embankment. From there two Blues helped us get Carroll across the clearing to the near edge of a smaller clearing, the one on the east. There, we fought death for 45 minutes, while the RTO pleaded for Medevac to hurry. Despite all the medic could do, Carroll's heart stopped even as I took my turn administering mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

Meanwhile, the LRRP's and Blues pulled back across the clearing and depression and established a defensive line in the bushes about ten feet from us. Without being told, Harold Lewis joined the Blue troopers in the water-filled foxhole and there spent the rest of the afternoon exchanging fire with the NVA. For his efforts his first day in the field, Lewis got the purple heart for shrapnel in his back and neck and the Bronze Star w/V for his conduct under fire. Lewis had begged to come along that day to "see what it's like on the ground." Now he knew, sort of.

According to the *Stars and Stripes*, more than 30 NVA soldiers died that day. The body-count figures came from the folks in the air, for the we on the ground saw very few dead NVA. Kregg Jorgenson survived to author *Acceptable Loss*—which contains his description of this engagement—, *Ghost of the Highlands* and other books.

We were extracted the next morning following a miserable night that included a walking barrage of 105mm artillery that ceased just before it reached our position, then pulling ourselves from the muck at dawn to “comforting” news from a lift pilot: “Be advised. You are surrounded by crocodiles.” But those are details for another time. Now back to last Sunday.

In the living room our conversation turned to life after Vietnam; for Lewis and Gail, thirty-some years as a Denver police officer, a family that includes eight grandchildren, and his current pursuit of a college degree; for Helga and me 33 years active duty and eight great-grandchildren. But my thoughts and emotions kept returning to Eugene Carroll. I pondered how things might have been, and why I returned home to such blessings while Carroll and so many other younger, often worthier men sacrificed their lives and mortal dreams serving grateful fellow troopers and a not so grateful nation.

Again, I reminded myself that I survived, not because I was worthier or because the prayers of my loved ones were more acceptable than those of Carroll's loved ones. I'm left though, as always, with

faith and confidence that a loving God is in control, a loving Father who understands all the variables and perfectly balances the sum of all our sacrifices. And this brings me peace, which peace I hope extends to our Gold Star mothers (and fathers), the older ones and the new ones.

Until next time.

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

From the Sergeant Major:

Reunion News, Dothan, Al Oct. 8 – 10, 2002

Troopers, the above date is 13 months away and many things are starting to take place to ensure that all will have a very memorable time at this oncoming reunion.

This will be a brief rundown of what is taking place at this time. Loel will cover the details in his article. Barbara will also write an article in the near future as to what She is putting together for the Ladies with assistance from the Dothan Visitors Center

Dothan has welcomed us with open arms and we will be receiving assistance from many Departments of the City as we prepare for the reunion

First of all, we have three Motels lined up with the location being on Ross Clark Circle, all on the same side of the street and all of these are within a very short walking distance of each other.

The Quality Inn and the Holiday Express are owned by the same Company and are separated by a driveway. The Ramada is about 40 yards further down. This will reduce the driving to a minimum. We have a total block of 294 rooms and more can be added should we need them (we used 217 rooms in 02)

The Headquarters will be in the Quality Inn and will also host the only hospitality room. There will be a bar setup with a wet bar. Beer and soft drinks will be on the house but the hard stuff will be pay as you go.

The Quality Inn and Ramada both have Restaurants along with Lounges. All motels serve breakfast in the room price.

We also have 11 spaces reserved at the Dothan "Good Sam" Travel Park for those bringing campers. The park is 5 miles from the motels.

We will have a separate room set up with a slide projector, TV and a VCR for the viewing of slides and tapes for those who bring them.

There will be an office set up for the sale of merchandise a short distance from the Hospitality Room. And please if you are going to order anything prior to the reunion please do so as soon as possible (ASAP). It will make it easier for all.

At the 2002 reunion we had a couple of mini reunions take place by various Troops. Should any desire to do the same this year please appoint a point of contact to get numbers and coordinate with me, what they would like to do. We will be more than happy to assist in any arrangements you need to make, to include lunches and dinners.

We will keep you informed on the reunion from now till it happens, so start making those plans to attend.

As Ever

L.A, De Fleron
BWS SGM & Sec.

"Most people and actors appearing on the stage have some writers to write their material -- but I don't do that. Congress is good enough for me. They have been writing my material for years and I am not ashamed of the material I have had. I am going to stick to them."

Will Rogers

From the Vice President:

The Association membership continues to grow as we find troopers that did not know of the squadron. We are presently seeing new members weekly. Nine new members were added to our roles within the past

three weeks. We are unique, and all our troopers are dedicated to carrying on and sustaining the CAV tradition.

Year 2003 has definitely been another banner year for new members.

Members are what make the Association. As of September 2003, our active membership is r 455 with 322 of these being lifetime. We have increased by 19 new members since January 1, 2003, with 10 of these joining for lifetime . Well done! We could not do this without your support.

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 and supporting our Association!

Take a look at the membership roster. How many of the names do you know? Notice the amount of * by troopers names (322). Think about becoming a lifetime member.

As you will notice, the * denotes a lifetime member, (h) denotes an honorary member and (a) denotes an associate member. This says a lot for the caliber of our Bullwhip Squadron Association and the members themselves.

We have by far, a greater percentage of lifetime members (72%) in our organization than probably any other organization either military or civilian!!

Look well at the list of members. These are the true hero's of our military generation.

The sad part is that the list of those that have passed on to a higher cavalry status is growing. We are losing some of the best due to ravages of time. May they stand tall as Cav troopers and at our time, welcome us at Fiddlers Green, in Squadron formation.

We ask you to continue to look for those troopers who do not know of us and bring them back into the Squadron.

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 correct spelling. And yes, when you join for lifetime, you receive a new certificate that says "lifetime".

All work performed in the Squadron is strictly voluntary and the money taken into the Squadron through dues and merchandise is sufficient to pay for all operating expenses and help defray the bi-annual Squadron reunion expenses.

REMEMBER, Membership dues are due in January each year. If you join in the last 3 months

of the calendar year, you will be given credit for the following year's dues

Many of our troopers either move or change their e-mail addresses. **As all our mail is sent by bulk mail, it will not be forwarded by the post office if you have changed your address (and not notified the Association).** This means that someone in the postal service gets to read your newsletter, and not you. Please let the Squadron Association know of any changes in address. This will keep your newsletter coming.

Troopers can pay their lifetime member status in installments. Contact me if you would like to pay in installments. Also you can pay in more than one year (2,3,4, etc)

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

2004 REUNION:

And now for the news that everyone is waiting for. YES all coordination has been completed on motels, and the motels and the travel trailer park are set up to start taking reservations in mid October this year. So by the time you receive and read this newsletter you will be able to call for reservations.

All motels are \$55 per night and have a breakfast with that price. We have 3 motels for a total of 294 rooms. More rooms are available if needed.

The travel park is a "Good Sam" park, \$18.48 per night and we will receive a 10% discount if we have 8 or more staying.

We are still setting up the Friday and Saturday night meals and more information will follow in later newsletters.

Now for the information you have been waiting for.

The three motels are;

- Quality Inn, phone # 334-794-6601
- Holiday Inn Express, phone # 334-671-3700
- Ramada Inn, 334-792-0031

Call the Ramada 0700-1500 hrs and ask for Tammie Pylant.

The travel park is Clean Park (Good Sam), phone # 334-792-2000.

When calling for a reservation, **USE ONLY THE ABOVE PHONE NUMBERS.** Do not use the national numbers or you will be told the motels are

full for that period. **AGAIN, USE ONLY THE NUMBERS ABOVE.**

When calling for reservations, be sure to give the dates of the reunion and tell them you are coming in for the Bullwhip Squadron reunion. **The reunion dates are 8-10 October, 04.** Be sure to get your room reservation number. Yes you can come in early and stay late. Be sure to tell them if you need a handicapped room.

The motels are located on Ross Clark Circle in Dothan, AL. Close to all shopping and entertainment, etc.

The Headquarters motel will be the Quality Inn. The good news is that all three motels are side by side on the same side of the street. Motels are in very easy walking distance to each other, (3 minutes or less). Also we will have one big hospitality room located in the Quality Inn, with a bar setup. The other 2 motels also have lounges.

The Travel Park is located just 5 miles away, south on highway 231 toward Florida. Less than 10 minutes to the motels.

We have some very neat things planned for this reunion, and there will be activities for the wives and girlfriends, so be sure to bring them to the reunion. As usual, all the family is welcome and more the merrier!

If you have any questions or special request, call either AL or myself.

Future newsletters will give you more info and maps, to help you navigate on the ground to the LZ.

Until the next news mag.

Loel Ewart
LTC (Ret)
V.P.

From The Public Affairs Officer

In the previous PAO article, there was a request for the help and support of our troopers to get the word out about our squadron organization. Many of you have responded and new members are coming aboard daily. A job well done. But do not stop. We have many more to find.

As I mentioned, we are pursuing two PAO efforts: one is to find troopers who should become members

of the Bullwhip Squadron and the other is to publicize the squadron's accomplishments especially during the Vietnam era. To accomplish both of these objectives, in the very near future some of you in selected areas will be contacted to assist in getting notices and full articles in your local outlets. However, the effort can be greatly expanded if you will volunteer to assist from where you are in your local area. Your ideas and comments are solicited and are welcome.

On a new point, some of our members have written articles about the Bullwhip Squadron that has been published in newspapers and magazines. It would be greatly appreciated if you would share the articles or information about them, when and where published, etc., with the undersigned. That way we can let our members know what you have done and perhaps inspire others to publish their remembrances. With your permission, we would like to also publish those articles in the BWS magazine.

You may contact me any time via mail, e-mail, or by phone.

Ken Bedsole
305 Oakwood Drive,
Enterprise, AL 36330
dotken@juno.com
334-347-7949

Keeper Of The Rock

On Vacation:

The following article is submitted in place. This is the acceptance speech made by the 35th Army Chief of Staff. General Shoemaker was brought out of retirement for this post.

General Peter J. Schoemaker
35TH CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY
Arrival Message, August 1, 2003

This afternoon I stood in the office of the Secretary of the Army and was sworn in as the 35th Chief of Staff of the Army. Thirty-four other distinguished leaders have preceded me -- well-known stewards of our Army. It is a great honor to walk in their footsteps.

Twenty-three years ago I stood in another place -- in the Iranian desert on a moonlit night at a place

called Desert One. I keep a photo of the carnage that night to remind me that we should never confuse enthusiasm with capability. Eight of my comrades lost their lives. Those of us who survived knew grief ... we knew failure -- but we committed ourselves to a different future.

There were some important things we did not know about the future that night. We did not recognize that this was a watershed event -- that the military services would begin a great period of renewal that continues to this day. We did not know that we were at the start of an unprecedented movement to jointness in every aspect of our military culture, structure, and operations -- a movement that must continue. We also did not realize that we were in one of the opening engagements of this country's long struggle against terrorism -- a struggle that would reach our homeland and become known as the Global War on Terror.

Today, our Nation is at war and we are a critical part of the joint team -- an Army at war. This is not a new war. Our enemies have been waging it for some time, and it will continue for the foreseeable future. As the President has stated, "This is a different kind of war against a different kind of enemy". It is a war we must win, a war for our very way of life.

War is both a physical reality and a state of mind. War is ambiguous, uncertain, and unfair. When we are at war, we must think and act differently. We become more flexible and more adaptable. We must anticipate the ultimate reality check -- combat. We must win both the war and the peace. We must be prepared to question everything. What is best for the Nation? What must endure? What must change?

This war has demonstrated that our Soldiers, civilians, and families are up to the task. It has also provided new insights into the current operating environment. Can we sustain our high performance with our current methods of preparation? Can our Combat Training Centers better reflect the joint context in which we will fight? Are we organized for the long haul? We must answer these questions and more. We need to be mindful that the world has changed and it will never return to the old way.

We have already shown that we have innovative and adaptive leaders. But our enemies are adapting as well. Will our development programs continue to produce leaders who can meet this challenge?

Leadership and courage are easily recognized as prerequisites at the tactical level, but they are

essential at the operational and strategic levels as well. Are we developing the George C. Marshalls for the new era?

The National Guard and Army Reserve are indispensable, full members of the team. Do we have the proper mix of both active and reserve units? Are we properly balanced? Is all of our structure readily accessible to meet the requirements of this and future wars?

As we transform the Army from the current force to the future force we must ask these questions and more. While some things will change, others will not.

The American Soldier remains indispensable. Our Soldiers are paramount and will remain the centerpiece of our thinking, our systems, and our combat formations. As General Creighton Abrams taught us, "People are not in the Army, they are the Army".

We are, have been, and will remain a values based institution. Our values will not change and they are non-negotiable. Our Soldiers are Warriors of character. They exemplify these values every day and are the epitome of our American spirit. They are the heart of the Army.

As long as the United States Army has existed we have transformed -- and we always will. For four years under General Shinseki our Army has asked hard questions and made tough choices. We will continue to go where the answers to those questions take us. Our azimuth to the future is good. The Army must remain relevant and ready.

Our Army has much to be proud of. It is the preeminent land force in the world -- and continues to be respected by our friends... and feared by our enemies. We set the standard. We were part of the joint team that defeated the Taliban in Afghanistan and took down a brutal regime in Iraq. Today we are deployed and conducting contingency operations at an unprecedented pace.

Our Soldiers, civilians, and their families set the standard every day for selfless service.

The Army continues to serve our great Nation well and faithfully as it has in the past. For more than 228 years, the Army has never failed the American people, and it never will.

As an American Soldier, I have never left your ranks; but it is a great privilege to wear our uniform once again.

Schoomaker

Until next newsletter,

Keeper of the Rock,
Gene Smith

The 9TH CAV'S "SABER" Column

Hello Real Cav Troopers and Family,

The 1st Cavalry Division Assn. held their annual reunion this year (as it does every other year) at Killeen/Ft. Hood. This year, I was only able to attend the 9th Regimental Luncheon. The event is really the highlight of the Reunion for former members of the 1-9th and attached units from the Vietnam era. Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, COL (Ret.) Pete BOOTH, organizes and leads this event, along with the current 1-9th CO at Ft. Hood. As has been the custom since I've been attending, active duty soldiers at Ft. Hood have joined us, sitting among the tables so that we all could have a chance to talk among ourselves. LTC Thomas MACDONALD (recently replacing LTC Roger McDonald), the current CO of the 9th Cavalry at Ft. Hood, welcomed us and showed a video of past and present 9th Cavalry activities, including recent training activities and awards earned by the Troopers. These soldiers did not expect to be at Ft. Hood for this reunion, as they were slated for deployment to Iraq. However, the rush to Baghdad was so fast, the 9th Cavalry stayed at home. This year the luncheon was at the Ft. Hood Officers' Club. Although all seats were taken, there seemed to be fewer former 1-9th Cav guys and family in attendance than during the previous 3 luncheons I have attended. That may just have been due to the larger room and more active duty enlisted folks there. Keynote speaker was former A Troop CO GEN (Ret.) Paul FUNK who spoke about the 9th Cavalry heritage. Was great. I remember him being interviewed on TV during the height of the Iraqi invasion, and being so proud that I was listening to an experienced leader and a voice of knowledge and reason. He wasn't mentioned in connection to the 1-9th or the Cav. Pete BOOTH called on COL (Ret.) Bob TREDWAY (C Trp CO, '69-70) to present the Distinguished Member of the Regiment (DMR) certificate to Charles Irling SMITH (C Trp Wpns Plt Ldr, '69-71), accepted by his widow and Irling's brother and wife. Barry

MCALPINE presented the framed DMR certificate to the family of SGT Otis CINK. Louis "Rocket" ROCHAT (Pilot, A, E Trps, '70-71) received the DMR from COL BOOTH. The active duty Troopers around my table belonged to HHT and were mortar men; their big mortars are track mounted these days. The meals for all the attending Troopers were paid for by the Bullwhip Squadron Assn. CPT Trevor SULLINS, current CO of Company C, gave out some coins he'd had made, which resembled the quality coins BWS produced and distributed to its members. CPT SULLINS provided an After Actions report and some photos to Jack SCHWARZ' C Trp site at <http://cavalier44.my100megs.com/>. I won't attempt to name all the former Troopers in attendance, but I know there were 3 former Regimental COs and at least 3 former Troop COs present. It was nice to see some good friends. I didn't make it in time to visit the Regimental barracks area, although I'd visited there a few years earlier during the dedication of C Company's new Day Room to Gary MCKIDDY. BTW, Gary MCKIDDY is still being considered for the Medal of Honor. Former Regimental Flight Surgeon and POW Hal KUSHNER also attended; was great to see him again. Also present, if I heard correctly, was a former CO of the DMZ Police (Korea), as well as a former Tracker Dog handler. After the program, I was immediately approached by the commander of the 2-7th – the helicopter-borne Scouts of the Cav. He wanted to rope in any former pilots to come talk with some of his pilots who have never seen combat. Also after the program, Pete BOOTH rushed over to join the 75th Rangers at their luncheon, hopefully to say some words of our bond and invite them to the 9th Cav hospitality suite that is always maintained as a gathering point/watering hole at the Plaza Hotel, the reunion headquarters. I was told that Al "D" DEFLETON, who usually mans the suite, didn't make it this year. I apologize for any errors in fact or if I left out something I shouldn't have.

Since I have promised to send copies of the *SABER* to several former 1-9th guys who do not (yet) receive the *SABER*, I have decided that I should refer to a story that appeared in Joe CHRISTOPHER's 8th CAV News column in the March/April issue. Submitted by a Ken MERTEL, it is apparently an excerpted chapter called "The First Night Air Assault of the U.S. Army", from the book "Night of the Horse, Viet Nam" (no author given and a book with which I am unfamiliar). The excerpts are from the

night that CPT Ted DANIELSEN's C-1-8 Cav, detailed to the 1-9th, and led by then-A Trp CO MAJ Robert ZION, were air assaulted to reinforce an outnumbered 8th and 9th Cav ambush force. The piece was continued in the column's May/June issue. The events are of crucial importance to all Vietnam era 1-9th members, particularly those that trained with the 11th Air Assault and landed in Vietnam in the fall of '65. What was related was, three night ambushes were set up by the 1-9th-led group. C Trp CO, CPT Chuck KNOWLEN got lucky and nailed part of a huge, heavily armed main force NVA unit moving down a trail late on the night of Nov. 3, '65. Thanks to LT. TWEEDY's A-1-8th mortar platoon, KNOWLEN's team, as well as the two other outnumbered teams, made it back to ZION's Patrol Base. But soon, that base was surrounded by a large NVA force, and after the first attack, ZION knew they would be overrun. So COL STOCKTON, the first CO of the 1-9th Cav, called in A-1-8th to air assault into the Patrol Base as reinforcements. LT HANLON's 3rd Plt, A-1-8th unloaded under intense fire. By midnight it was evident that more reinforcements were needed, so "COL STOCKTON called for the remaining elements of A-1-8 Cav" under command of CPT DANIELSEN. "Next day a captured prisoner revealed that of the attacking force, only 17 emerged without being killed or wounded. Of course, most of us know what happened to COL STOCKTON for calling in reinforcements; if not, you should. Thanks 8th Cav. In an earlier major fight with the NVA by 1-9th called "The Hospital Battle", the Blues were relieved by the 1-12th Cav. As the Divisions "Eyes and Ears", each Troop of the 1-9th would generally be "assigned" to support one of the 3 Cav brigades and would go on throughout the war starting most of the battles by finding the enemy first -- often composed of much larger enemy units -- while inflicting about half the enemy casualties attributed to the Division. This is fact.

I've been communicating with a former Air Force FAC who lived at Squadron HQ during his tour in '69. He recently wrote: "I just returned from participating in the Vietnam Oral History Program at the Archives at Texas Tech. You're right, it is a very pleasant experience and more guys should do it. It really isn't necessary to visit because they can do it using instant messaging on the internet. The majority of the 13 hours I spent doing it was on the 1-9th. They seem extremely interested in the unit and it's exploits and want all they can get. Thanks for putting

me on to it and I really think there should be something about it in each of your columns and I'll be willing to share my experience by email with anybody that wants to know about it. Let me hear from you! Ray JANES, Rash 41 '69" <janesx2@earthlink.net>. Like the LRRPs, tracker dog teams, and maintenance units, these FACs compose a more complete source of history regarding the 1-9th in Vietnam.

Also fans of the 1-9th are filmmakers Cheryl and Patrick FRIES <pfries@arrowheadfilms.com>. While spending several weeks in San Antonio while my wife is still recovering from surgery (she's fine), I accompanied Johnny HUBBS (DG, 229th Avn Bn, '71-72 <Skytrooper@stic.net>) to Austin to deliver a audio recording he made to Arrowhead Films for the documentary "In the Shadow of the Blade" <<http://www.intheshadowoftheblade.com/>>. After showing us around, Pat immediately left work and took us to his home to show us excerpts of the film that uses the Huey to tell the story of the crews that flew in Vietnam; personal reunions, reminiscences of the aircraft that saved them so many times, of family whose crewmembers didn't make it, etc. One of their first and most rewarding stops was at Ft. Rucker and meeting characters from the 1-9th. I've never felt more welcomed – and honored, though I flew Loaches and Cobras. They were just honoring my service. And they are from a later generation. The film will be fantastic.

A reminder to you former Alpha Troopers of the big reunion planned and hosted by John and Billie BARTLETT <bootjack2@centurytel.net>. The March/April column had contact info. The latest (late June) from "Bloody Bart" is that 58 former A Troopers have committed, with over 110 family members and guests. Joe BOWEN is soliciting photos for a tape he's preparing for the reunion. Looks like A Troop is doing it RIGHT! Must have been stimulated by C Troop's recent reunions ☺. Speaking of C Troopers, several are taking an Alaskan cruise together in August.

The 1-9th certainly has generated writers, beginning with Matt BRENNAN's trilogy, Jerome BOYLE's "Apache Sunrise", Bert CHOLE's tomes, chaplain Claude NEWBY's "It Took Heros (1 & 2)", and John FLANAGAN's "Born in Brooklyn ... Raised in the CAV!" Randy Zahn's "Snake Pilot" is being printed as I write. Also, there's the controversial "Taking Fire" by Ron Alexander (I'll probably 'take fire' by mentioning it). Tom CRISER

<tlcriser@yahoo.com> has written "Doctors are From Jupiter" <http://www.syldoctor.com/>, a "must read for all healthcare professionals".

The current armored 1-9th Battalion at Hood call themselves the "Headhunters" and the "Real Cav". I see from cruising the web that HHT, 2/17 Cav, the air cav trp for the 101st Airborne Div, has as their call sign, "Headhunters". As far as I know, the original "Headhunters" were the Lift Platoon for A Troop. Someone correct me if I'm wrong. Brennan used it as the title of one of his great compilation books on 1-9th personal stories, and now it has somehow become synonymous with the 1-9th in general, but now being usurped by other active Army units. The current 1-9th at Ft. Hood carries on the tradition as a Battalion moniker, and I think it's OK. But I think that for any other active unit, e.g. HHT, 2/7th, 101st, it is inappropriate. C Troop's lift platoon was initially called the "Bushmasters". Did B Trp have a lift platoon "callsign"? When I got in country, C Troop's "(Dashing) Cavalier" was our "home" call sign, though we used different operational call signs every few weeks/months while operating out in the AO.

Please check out the 1st Recon Sqdn, 9th Cav, 1st Cav, Korea, photo website at: <<http://community.webshots.com/album/62781925GCNgLc>> for photos of 9th Cav guys during the DMZ Police era. They are part of the 9th Cavalry. And as a starting point for all, click on: <<http://www.vhpmuseum.org/9thcav/9thcav.html>>.

WE CAN – WE WILL!

Walker Jones
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Harlingen, TX 78550
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Julie

A tradition started for me in November 1996, when I visited Washington, DC for the first time. I'll never forget my first visit to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. I was to meet up with a group of Vietnam helicopter veterans whom I only knew through email. It was rainy and by 7 p.m., it was already dark. I took the "metro" subway to the Foggy Bottom stop, got off

and asked a woman, "Which way to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial?"

"Go about six blocks that way, then about two blocks that way," she told me. Afraid I might be late, I started running down the street until the sidewalk ended, so I took to the gutter and sloshed through wet leaves avoiding traffic. Soon I saw a brown sign indicating "Vietnam Veterans Memorial," and somehow in the vastness of that huge memorial grounds, I found my small group almost immediately.

Two of them took me down the walkway to panel 20W and showed me my brother's name. I put my fingers to the granite, wet with raindrops, and for the first time in my life, traced those letters: David R. Kink.

Now, I wouldn't think of being anywhere else on Veterans' Day. My brother David, who was killed in Vietnam in 1969 at age 19, was born on Veterans' Day 54 years ago. I go to Washington every year not to mourn his death, but to celebrate his birth, and to embrace the men whom I refer to fondly as my "new big brothers."

In his book, These Good Men, author Michael Norman wrote, "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."

For those thinking of visiting Washington, DC, Veterans Day is a beautiful time of comradeship and remembrance. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Vietnam Women's Memorial. I've gathered an informal list of events and information that may be of some help. I've tried to compile the type of information that was of help to me on my first trip there. Please confirm details, as most of this information has been gathered from the internet.

ACCOMMODATIONS & HOSPITALITY SUITES

1st Cav Division Association - will be at Crystal City/National Airport Hilton Hotel, 2399 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA. 800-774-1500 (ask for Crystal City Hilton) or 703-418-6800. Rate is \$106

per night plus tax, parking included. Rooms available from Nov. 6-12.

VHCMA - Vietnam Helicopter Crew Members Association Hospitality Suite - also at Crystal City Hilton. Generally, a good place to find folks, kick back, have a beer or pop, sign in and listen to some "war stories" - family members welcome! Crystal City Hilton (same hotel as 1st Cav) National Airport, 2399 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA. 800-774-1500 or 703-418-6800.

MRFA & 9th Infantry Division - Have blocked 25 rooms at the Quality Hotel & Suites, 1200 North Courthouse Road, Arlington, VA 22201. 888-987-2555 or 1-703-247-1006 and refer to group code "MRFA3." Room rates vary from \$89.00 (plus tax) per night to \$105.00 (plus tax) per night. Reservations under this code must be made before the cut off date of October 17, 2003.

Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) will be at Hamilton Crowne Plaza, 14th & K Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 202-682-0111 or 800-637-3788.

EVENTS & CEREMONIES

Sat. Nov. 8

- The VVA tent will be set up on the mall area. It will remain in place through the afternoon on November 11. One tent dedicated to women veteran information provided by invited resources. (VVA sponsored) See http://www.vva.org/veterans_day/2003/events.htm

• Ia Drang Alumni Remembrance & Banquet

Part of the annual 1st Cav reunion - banquet SELLS OUT FAST and may be sold out as of this printing. Location is Hilton Crystal City at National Airport, 2399 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA. Tickets \$50 per person, check to: Ia Drang Dinner, Joe Galloway, 809 Hillwood Ave., Falls Church, VA 22042.

- 7:00 PM (Tentative) The play, A Piece of My Heart, presented at Women in Military Service for America, Arlington National Cemetery, sponsored by The Women's Memorial Foundation. See http://www.vva.org/veterans_day/2003/events.htm

Sunday, November 9

- 2:00 PM (Tentative) The play, A Piece of My Heart, presented at Women in Military Service for America, Arlington National Cemetery, sponsored by The Women's Memorial Foundation. See http://www.vva.org/veterans_day/2003/events.htm

- 3:00-4:00 PM Service at the National City Christian Church, 5 Thomas Circle, N.W., Washington, D.C. in celebration of the service of

women during the Vietnam Era. (VVA sponsored)
See

http://www.vva.org/veterans_day/2003/events.htm

Monday, November 10

- 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM Celebration Luncheon at the Hamilton Crowne Plaza, 14th and K Streets NW, Washington, D.C. Keynote speaker is Ms. Cokie Roberts, noted journalist and author of We Are Our Mothers Daughters. Secretary Principi will be present. Reservations are limited. Tickets: \$30.00, payable cash, check, or major credit card. Contact: Deborah Johnson, (800) 882-1316 ext. 164 (VVA sponsored) See;

http://www.vva.org/veterans_day/2003/events.htm

- 4:00 PM Ceremony at The Wall sponsored by Circle of Sisters. See http://www.vva.org/veterans_day/2003/events.htm

- 6:00 PM Candlelight Ceremony held at the Vietnam Women's Memorial, sponsored by the Vietnam Women's Memorial Foundation (formerly The Vietnam Women's Memorial Project) See <http://www.vietnamwomensmemorial.org>

- 8:00 PM - Midnight "A Rock & Roll Reunion" at the DMZ to Delta Dance held at the Holiday Inn - Rosslyn at Key Bridge, VA. (VVA Chapter 227 sponsored)

Tuesday, November 11

- 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM & 2:30 PM - 5:00 PM Story telling at the Vietnam Women's Memorial sponsored by the Vietnam Women's Memorial Foundation. See;

<http://www.vietnamwomensmemorial.org>

- The MRFA and 9th Infantry Division will be placing wreaths at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. on Veterans Day, Tuesday, November 11, 2003. They will be gathering at the steps of the Lincoln Memorial at 8:30 A.M. on the 11th, and proceed to the Wall at 9:00 A.M. See <http://www.mrfa.org/vetdayDC2003.htm>

- 11:00 AM The Color Guard Review. Formation is at 10:00AM. One hour will be set aside for a Color Guard Pass in Review of the Vietnam Women's Memorial. This unique experience and tribute requires prior registration due to the guidelines of the National Park Service permit. Registration slots are limited. Any and all Color Guards are invited to participate. The Color Guards may not exceed ten members in size. Absolutely no weapons or replicas of such are permitted. Contact Bruce Whitaker, Color Guard Coordinator, at bwhitaker@vva.org to register for this event. (VVA sponsored)

- 1:00-2:00 PM Ceremony at The Vietnam Veterans Memorial with wreath laying at "The Wall" and the Vietnam Women's Memorial to follow.

- 4:00-5:00 PM Ceremony at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, sponsored by the Women's Memorial Foundation.

- ? time - Closing Ceremony of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War. Arlington National Cemetery. See <http://www.koreanwar.go.kr/english/revere/rever09.htm>

OTHER INFORMATION

DC Visitors' Guides Digital City: Washington, DC Visitors Guide. List of links to major attractions with maps, schedules, event details, and reviews

<http://www.digitalcity.com/washington/visitorsguide/article.adp?aid=218>

Travelocity.com Washington, DC Visitors Guide. Lowest round trip fares, sites, maps, weather etc.

http://dest.travelocity.com/DestGuides/geo_main/0_1743,TRAVELOCITY|4893,00.html

DC Pages. Accommodations, transportation, entertainment, etc. <http://www.dcpages.com/>

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority - the "Metro" (subway) - the best way to get around. Maps, specials, fares. <http://www.wmata.com/>

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

These are my personal observations from attending Veterans Day in Washington, DC since 1996.

1. If you want to look for particular names on the Wall, look them up on your computer BEFORE you leave home and take a list of the panel and line number with you. If you forget, there are directories available at the Memorial, or check with a National Park Service "Yellow Hat" Volunteer - they carry their own personal copies of the directories.

- Vietnam Casualty Search Page, <http://www.no-quarter.org/>

- State Level Casualty Lists,

<http://www.nara.gov/nara/electronic/korvnsta.html>

- Army Medics Listed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial,

<http://www.1stcavmedic.com/Medic-Corpsman.htm>

- Vietnam Helicopter Casualties via the VHPA home page, <http://www.vhpa.org/>

2. If you want to get a name rubbing, you can ONLY use pencil - no pens or other items as they can damage the surface of the Memorial. Ask a National Park Service "Yellow Hat" Volunteer to assist if necessary. They also have rubbing papers. If the name is up too high for you to reach, only a Yellow Hat can climb on the ladder that resides at the VVM

to get those high name rubbings. General public isn't allowed to climb the ladder.

3. No smoking at the VVM. There are other spots to smoke nearby.

4. Nearest rest room to the VVM is in the bldg. under the Lincoln Memorial, a 2 minute walk across the street.

5. Renting a car in DC is not necessary, in my experience. The Metro is an easy way to get around, if you can walk about 6 blocks to get to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Nearest stop to the VVM is Foggy Bottom. You also can take taxis just about anywhere. There is a tour-mobile bus that also circulates to the sites of interest.

6. Weather in DC at this time of year can be t-shirt weather, warm jacket weather, can warrant gloves (my opinion) or an umbrella. No snow boots needed in my experience the past 7 yrs. (remember I live in Minnesota). But you do want to bring gloves and ear muffs/cap and umbrella just in case!

I hope these hints help anyone interested in going to DC for Veterans Day.

"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

Little Sister,
Julie Kink
e-mail; KINK100@aol.com
Sister of WO1 David R. Kink, C Troop 1st Squadron
9th Cavalry, 1st Cav. June to July 1969. Killed in
Action 8-3-69
Honorary Life Member Bullwhip Squadron
Honorary Life Member of VHPA
Honorary Member 9th Cavalry Regiment
Member of Family Contacts Committee of the
Vietnam Helicopter Flight Crew Network
website: <http://www.VirtualWall.org/contacts>

"I have come to the conclusion that one useless man is called a disgrace, two men are called a law firm, and three or more become a Congress."

--John Adams, in the play 1776

From The Swamp

The Swamp will return next newsletter.

The Future Of Choppers In Battle Looks Choppy

Deaths in Iraq Have Pentagon Leaning Toward More Drones

By Nicholas Kulish and Anne Marie Squeo, Staff Reporters
Wall Street Journal
July 23, 2003

Helicopters are arguably the most dangerous pieces of hardware in the Pentagon's arsenal. During the conflict with Iraq this year, six were shot down by enemy fire and several were totaled in other incidents, killing 23 Americans and 14 British soldiers.

The toll is prompting military experts inside and outside the government to pose a provocative question with huge ramifications for future wars and the defense industry: Are helicopters' fighting days numbered?

The Army has more than 3,000 helicopters and the Marine Corps has about 700. Most of the 37 helicopter-related deaths in the Iraqi conflict occurred on transport missions, and experts say there are no viable short-term alternatives for getting troops and supplies into and out of hostile territory quickly. But just as tanks replaced horses on the battlefield early in the 20th century, a similar moment may be arriving for attack and reconnaissance helicopters. No one is predicting the imminent elimination of attack helicopters. But there already is noteworthy movement away from these aircraft as technological advances and closer cooperation between military branches undercuts their role.

"We need to think about really laying out a long-range plan and decide what we need from helicopters," said Edward Aldridge, who recently

stepped down as Pentagon acquisitions chief and now is a consultant to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. "There could be another way," he added, to perform some helicopter tasks as 21st century innovations improve other weapons systems and aircraft, including unmanned drones.

Computer processors, ever smaller and quicker, have made unmanned drones increasingly capable -- so much so that the Air Force armed some with precision bombs in Iraq. The Pentagon had planned to use unmanned Predator drones to back up ground troops if serious urban warfare had materialized in Baghdad, Iraq. During helicopter-grounding sandstorms, the Global Hawk and other drones used infrared radar and other sensors to peer through the maelstrom for enemy positions. On the drawing board is a new family of drones specifically for bombing runs, and unmanned reconnaissance helicopters.

Fixed-wing aircraft such as fighter jets and bombers are doing more missions in support of ground troops. These aircraft can stay above the danger zone, firing increasingly accurate missiles guided by satellites to specific target locations. In Iraq, more than half the 30,542 combat missions flown by Air Force, Navy and Marine fighter jets and bombers between March 19 and April 18 provided what is known as close-air support of ground troops -- attack helicopters' traditional forte. Pentagon officials say that is a big increase from fights in Afghanistan and elsewhere, and that it will accelerate. For Americans, one of war's most jarring images from Iraq came on March 24. The Army sent 34 Apaches to attack Republican Guard troops on the approach to Baghdad. The helicopters came under a torrent of small-arms fire, forcing a retreat. Every helicopter was hit and 27 returned to base too damaged to fly. One was forced down, and television footage showed joyous Iraqis surrounding the aircraft and its two pilots in captivity. (They later were rescued.)

The Apache "is the most capable attack helicopter ever built, so if it can't operate safely in a place like Iraq, that has to raise questions about the whole concept of attack helicopters," says Loren Thompson, director of the Lexington Institute, a defense think tank in Washington.

In retrospect, Army commanders concede they shouldn't have sent Apaches into a densely populated area without additional air or artillery support. "We learned from our mistakes ... and we still used the Apache helicopter in a significant role during the

course of the fight," Lt. Gen. William Scott Wallace said.

Certainly, helicopters have been crucial to some big victories. The first shot of the 1991 Gulf War came from an Army Apache during an attack on Iraqi radar stations that cleared the way for the air campaign. And "during the 100-hour ground war ... attack helicopters played their most decisive role ever in combat," according to GlobalSecurity.org, an authority on military matters.

Such successes, however, aren't enough to ease all doubts about choppers. Overall, their performance in recent fights "certainly puts attack helicopters in question," said former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, a close adviser to Secretary Rumsfeld who sits on the Pentagon's Defense Policy Board.

During the past decade, the military-helicopter industry has shrunk. Just Boeing Co., United Technologies Corp.'s Sikorsky and Textron Inc.'s Bell Helicopter are in the industry -- and often in partnering roles, as Sikorsky and Boeing are on the Comanche helicopter, now in development.

Before post-Cold War downsizing, the Army had 1.2 million troops and 8,338 helicopters in 1990; today, it has 905,000 troops and 3,773 helicopters -- a 25% drop in soldiers and a 55% reduction in helicopters. Last fall, the Pentagon cut the Army's long-term plans to buy more than 1,200 Comanche helicopters -- which is intended to gather intelligence for Apache pilots -- to 650, at a cost of \$38 billion. Pentagon leaders have little sympathy. "The helicopter industry is in the toilet, and probably it ought to be," because it hasn't improved technology, says Art Cebrowski, director of the Pentagon's Office of Force Transformation.

Further movement away from attack helicopters, however, won't come easily. Neither the Army nor the Marine Corps will part with them without a fight; current plans call for both to employ helicopters in attack roles for decades. Service officials contend that calling in heat-of-battle help from Air Force fighter jets takes too long when they aren't nearby. Choppers are more versatile, capable of maneuvering in tight spaces and low enough for an up-close view of the battlefield.

"I won't accept the premise [that] you can do without attack helicopters," says Lt. Gen. John Riggs, who is overseeing the Army's transformation efforts. Adds retired Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Fred McCorkle: "I think that they're more important now than ever.

Tactical jets and tactical helicopters complement each other. No one airplane is ever all things to all people."

We Can, We Will! We Did!!

A.J. Welch
SwampFox

SMOKY

Smokey has 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).

These tapes talk about our heritage and is for the Squadron troopers to see their past and the honor of seeing true Cav Troopers in action.

The latest taping is the FT. HOOD (1st Cav Reunion) VIDEO TAPE. The tape of last years 2000, 1st CAV Division reunion at Fort hood with the Bullwhip Horse presentation to the 1st Cav Div Horse Detachment is ready. Here is what it will have and it's over 2 hours long.

1). COL STOCKTON & CSM KENNEDY speak about how the 1/9 Cav was put together prior to shipping out to Vietnam. Also they explain how the Stetson Hats that we wear today got started and now everyone else that is Cav wears. Plus about how the saddle bags and crossed sabers were started by troopers who were in the unit at that time. Also they

talk about the Ia Drang campaign, the hospital battle started by B Troop Blues Platoon Leader, CPT Jack Oliver, on Nov 1, 65, that 1/9 was involved in. Also the ambush sight that 1/9 was involved, started by C Troop Blues Platoon Leader, CPT Chuck Knowlen. A, B, C Troops were all involved in it together.

2). Presentation of "Bullwhip" Horse to the 1st Cav Div Horse Detachment

3). C Co dedication ceremony for the SGT Gary Lee McKiddy Hall.

4). Flight Surgeon Hal (Doc) Kushner who speaks of his capture by the VC after his chopper crashed.

5). Retreat ceremony for the award of the Air Medal for Valor to six members of the 1/9 CAV.

6). The presentation to the division which our former squadron commander MG James Smith rode "Bullwhip".

7). Also updated the KIA list that runs through 1972. This tape is \$20.

SEND CHECKS TO:

Jerry Schmotolocha
23 Congressional PKWY
Livingston, N.J. 07039
Phone: (973) 535-3926

In order to receive the tape, you must be a member of the Squadron Association. It has the most informative newsletter that explains what's happening with the 1/9 CAV troopers that served in the Vietnam

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

Taking the path of least resistance is what makes rivers run crooked!

Legally Speaking

1. MILITARY RECORDS

DD-214 online discharge form.

The National Personnel Records Center has provided the following website for veterans to access their DD-214 online: <http://vetrecs.archives.gov>.

This may be particularly helpful when a veteran

needs a copy of his DD-214 for employment purposes. Please see the details below. Point of contact is Lyn Krout, linda.krout@us.army.mil <mailto:linda.krout@us.army.mil>, DSN 458-1755 or commercial 410-306-1755. NPRC initiates online records request procedures

The National Personnel Records Center is working to make it easier for veterans with computers and Internet access to obtain copies of documents from their military files. Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use a new online military personnel records system to request documents.

Other individuals with a need for documents must still complete the Standard Form 180 which can be downloaded from the online web site. The new web-based application was designed to provide better service on these requests by eliminating the records center's mailroom processing time.

Also, because the requester will be asked to supply all information essential for NPRC to process the request, delays that normally occur when NPRC has to ask veterans for additional information will be minimized.

Veterans and next of kin may access this application at <http://vetrecs.archives.gov>. Please note there is no requirement to type "www" in front of the web address.

2. OFFICIAL MILITARY PERSONNEL FILE (OPMF)

Beginning mid-September, all active-duty and Reserve servicemembers will be able to get a copy of the Official Military Personnel File (OMPF) in the Electronic Military Personnel Records System (EMPRS) on Compact Disk (CD) instead of microfiche.

The CD can be requested via mail, FAX, or if visiting NPC, record review room in Wood Hall, Bldg # 769, and on BUPERS Access, where your CD will be sent to the servicemembers official command address. Go to the [Navy Personnel Command Website](#), click on the BUPERS Access link, login and under programs you will find a link to order records. For more information regarding military records, visit [Military.com's Records Overview](#).

3. BEWARE INVASIVE DoD RETIREE SURVEY

In mid-August, the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) mailed out a new survey instrument to an unknown number of military retirees. MOAA has obtained a copy of the survey. The survey

probes the retiree community to reveal information on a wide range of subjects-some good, some bad, and some downright ugly. Consider these:

* In 2002, how much did you earn, including bonuses and overtime pay, from your principal employer before taxes and deductions?

* In 2002, how much income did you receive from the following sources: stocks or bonds, paid up life insurance, IRAs, savings, annuities, estate or trust payments, or rental income from property?

* In 2002, how much income did you receive in supplemental security income, unemployment insurance, civilian or military disability, worker's compensation, GI Bill, Food Stamps, Aid to Families with Dependent Children or welfare, and child support or alimony?

The survey asks for the same information on spouse income.

It's no secret that some DoD officials hold that retiree compensation should be "means tested." In a well-publicized interview last year, senior DoD appointee Dr. David Chu, referring to the concurrent receipt issue, said: "I don't think anyone really argues that two thirds of our military retirees are in trouble financially." He cited a 1996 version of a DoD retiree survey, but neglected to point out that severely disabled retirees were not included in the survey instrument. The new survey apparently would fix that omission by targeting a broad spectrum of military retirees including those with service-connected disabilities.

Clearly, offering personal financial information is the retiree's choice, but does anyone believe the information will be used to improve benefits for those the department believes are well compensated to begin with?

This information could be used at some point to build the case that certain military entitlements should be "means-tested." Concurrent receipt is likely the first target of opportunity.

Let's re-state what should be self-evident: military retired pay is earned for a career of uniformed service; VA disability compensation is compensation for the potential loss of future earnings caused by a service-connected disability. One should not offset the other.

MOAA is deeply disappointed and troubled by this unseemly effort and we strongly recommend that military retirees refrain from answering those questions that pertain to their personal finances.

4. IDENTITY THEFT

Identity theft has become a crises in the United States. It is extremely easy in this day and computer age to steel your identity, charge a great amount against your name and leave you with the mess.

There are things that you can do to reduce your risk factor and at the worst, to reduce the damage after identity theft.

a). **Marketing Lists:** You may limit the marketing material you receive through the mail by telephone or e-mail. If you would like to reduce the amount of advertising you receive from other companies, write to the Direct Marketing Association at one of the appropriate addresses listed below. You must provide your name, address and telephone number with your request:

*Mail Preference Service
c/o Direct Marketing Assn.
P.O. box 9008

Farmingdale, NY 11735-9008

*Telephone Preference Service
c/o Direct Marketing Assn.
P.O. Box 9014

Farmingdale, NY 11735-9014

*E-Mail Preference Service
www.e-mps.org

b). Identity Theft: If someone has used your personal identification to fraudulently establish credit, report the incident as quickly as possible to each of the credit reporting agencies and request a fraud alert be placed on your file.

Experian	888-397-3742
Equifax	800-525-6285
Trans Union	800-680-7289

Obtain a copy of your credit report from each of the credit reporting agencies. Check to see whether any additional accounts were opened without your consent or whether unauthorized charges were billed to your accounts. To request copies of your credit reports call:

Experian	888-397-3742
Equifax	800-685-1111
Trans Union	800-916-8800

Contact the Social Security Administration's Fraud Hotline at 800-269-0271 to report the unauthorized use of your personal identification information.

Contact your State Department of Motor Vehicles to see whether the department has issued an unauthorized license number in your name. If so, notify them that you are a victim of identity theft.

File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) by contacting the FTC's Identity Theft Hotline by telephone 1-877-IDTHEFT; TDD 202-326-2502; by mail: Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20580-0001 or online: www.consumer.gov/idtheft Ask for a copy of ID Theft: When Bad Things Happen to Your Good Name, a free comprehensive guide to help you guard against, and recover from, identity theft.

5. EXCERPTS FROM FIRST USA BANK CARD

The information below was provided by a Navy JAG officer following two incidents of identity theft at his unit. I think this is worth everyone's time to consider, and again think about. We are all at risk for this sort of thing, and while the highest probability is that actions of this type will be perpetrated by criminals, terrorists also use these techniques to gather target information on possible victims. Maintain control of your life. Don't be a victim.

BWS

"INTRODUCTION TO IDENTITY THEFT"

In the course of a busy day, you may write a check at the grocery store, charge tickets to a ball game, rent a car, mail your tax returns, call home on your cell phone, order new checks or apply for a credit card. Chances are you don't give these everyday transactions a second thought. But someone else may.

The 1990's spawned a new variety of crooks called identity thieves. Their stock in trade are your everyday transactions. Each transaction requires you to share personal information: your bank and credit card account numbers; your income; your Social Security number (SSN); and your name, address and phone numbers. An identity thief co-opts some piece of your personal information and appropriates it without your knowledge to commit fraud or theft. An all-too-common example is when an identity thief uses your personal information to open a credit card account in your name.

Can you completely prevent identity theft from occurring? Probably not, especially if someone is determined to commit the crime. But you can minimize your risk by managing your personal information wisely, cautiously and with heightened sensitivity.

The Congress of the United States asked the Federal Trade Commission to provide information to consumers about identity theft and to take complaints from those whose identities have been stolen. If

you've been a victim of identity theft, you can call the FTC's Identity Theft Hotline toll-free at 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338). The FTC puts your information into a secure consumer fraud database and may, in appropriate instances, share it with other law enforcement agencies and private entities, including any companies about which you may complain.

In addition, the FTC has developed the ID Theft Affidavit - a form you can use to alert companies where a new account was opened in your name. A copy of the ID Theft Affidavit is in this booklet. The company can then investigate the fraud and decide the outcome of your claim. You can find a list of some of the companies and organizations that accept or endorse the ID Theft Affidavit at: <http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft>

The FTC, working in conjunction with other government agencies, has produced this booklet to help you guard against and recover from identity theft.

Very respectfully,

John W. Carrasco
LN1(AW), USN
Legal Officer
1st Dental Battalion/Naval Dental Center
Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, CA
760) 725-5419/DSN: 365-5419

6. NEW MAIL SCAM AIMS TO STEAL YOUR IDENTITY AND MONEY

Phony IRS forms demand personal, financial data. The tax forms and letter sent recently to some Washington residents look real.

But the Internal Revenue Service warned yesterday that a multistate scam involving phony IRS forms could end up costing victims their identity -- and their money. Possibly a dozen or so Washington residents have reported receiving a letter and fake IRS form, ostensibly from their banks, IRS spokeswoman Judy Monahan said. Wary consumers might look at the highly personal information being requested and realize that something was amiss, she said.

But the IRS is especially worried about recent immigrants, those who speak English as a second language, the elderly and others who might be fooled by the realistic-looking forms, which refer to citizenship and nationality.

The letter says recipients must fill out and fax in the form within seven days, or the government will withhold 31 percent of the interest on their bank accounts. The form asks for account numbers, PIN codes, passwords, date of birth, mother's maiden name and other highly personal information.

"When you look at this phony form, you will see instantly where you could become that person -- withdraw from their account, get tax returns and apply for credit cards and just charge up a tree," Monahan said. "The form is all-intrusive. It asks for just everything -- your whole identity." Both the letter and the phony tax form are official-looking, although the grammar and syntax of the letter are flawed.

The IRS said these three phony forms are being sent out:

a. "W-9095, Application Form for Certificate Status/Ownership for Withholding Tax." The IRS has no form W-9095, but the fictitious one appears to be an attempt to mimic the genuine IRS Form W-9 "Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification," the IRS said.

b. Form W-8BEN "Certificate of Foreign Status of Beneficial Owner for United States Tax Withholding." The IRS does have a legitimate form of that same number and name. But the fake one, which targets residents of foreign countries who bank in the United States, has been altered to ask for the highly personal information.

c. "W-8888." This fictitious form also asks for the private information.

The IRS has received reports of the scam across the country, including from California, Texas, Maine, New York, Georgia and North Carolina. "Dozens of U.S. and foreign victims have been identified so far," the IRS said, though Monahan said she had no further details about the victims.

The agency investigating the fraudulent scheme, the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, refused yesterday to release any further information about the number, location or identity of the victims or whether any had actually lost money.

"When we look into a matter, we can't release initial public information," said Agapi Doulaveris, a spokesman for the inspector general in Washington, D.C.

PHONY FORMS, FORMS ONLINE

a. Several phony IRS forms have been sent to residents in a multistate scam. One of the forms can be viewed on the Web at ;

www.occ.treas.gov/ftp/alert/2002-3b.pdf

b. The letter that accompanies the bogus form can be viewed at:

www.occ.treas.gov/ftp/alert/2002-3a.pdf

WHAT TO DO

The IRS had the following advice for consumers who receive the mailings:

- a. Do not fill out or fax in the form.
- b. Immediately report the mailings to the inspector general's toll-free fraud hot line at: 800-366-4484. Or submit your complaint by mail to: TIGTA Hot Line, P.O. Box 589, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, D.C. 20044-0589.
- c. Those who have already filled out and faxed in the form should immediately contact the fraud or security departments of their creditors, banks and other financial institutions. They should also contact their local police department and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, which deals with mail fraud. The latter can be reached at: 206-442-6300.
- d. Also, victims of the scam should report identity and financial theft to the fraud units of the three major credit-reporting bureaus: Equifax (800-525-6285), Experian (888-397-3742) and Trans Union (800-680-7289).

Jane Hadley

SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER CONSUMER AFFAIRS REPORTER

7. IMPORTANT! ONELINE FRAUD ALERT!

As tax season ends, a new fraud is spreading over the Internet. Taxpayers are receiving an e-mail that appears to be an audit notice from the IRS. The notice asks the recipient to submit social security numbers and income information. Do not be misled. The IRS does not conduct audits via e-mail. In fact, it's never a good idea to send your personal information in response to an e-mail request. You should only send personal information over the Internet when it's going to a known source and when you initiate the contact. If you have any questions about this tax audit fraud, you may want to refer to the State of Michigan web site. To stay abreast of other tax frauds, you can refer to the IRS site.

8. GOOD ADVICE

Place the contents of your wallet on a photocopy machine, do both sides of each license, credit card, etc.

You will know what you had in your wallet and all of the account numbers and phone numbers to call and cancel. Keep the photocopy in a safe place.

A corporate attorney sent this out to the employees in his company. I pass it along, for your information.

We've all heard horror stories about fraud that's committed us in your name, address, SS#, credit, etc.

Unfortunately I (the author of this piece who happens to be an attorney) have firsthand knowledge, because my wallet was stolen last month and within a week the thief(s) ordered an expensive monthly cell phone package, applied for a VISA credit card, had a credit line approved to buy a Gateway computer, received a PIN number from DMV to change my driving record information online, and more.

But here's some critical information to limit the damage in case this happens to you or someone you know. As everyone always advises, cancel your credit cards immediately, but the key is having the toll free numbers and your card numbers handy so you know whom to call. Keep those where you can find them easily. File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where it was stolen, this proves to credit providers you were diligent, and is a first step toward an investigation (if there ever is one).

But here's what is perhaps most important: (I never ever thought to do this) Call the three national credit reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and SS#. I had never heard of doing that until advised by a bank that called to tell me an application for credit was made over the Internet in my name.

The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit.

By the time I was advised to do this, almost 2 weeks after the theft, all the damage had been done.

There are records of all the credit checks initiated by the thieves purchases, none of which I knew about before placing the alert. Since then, no additional damage has been done, and the thieves threw my wallet away this weekend someone turned it in). It seems to have stopped them in their tracks.

The numbers are:

Equifax: 1-800-525-6285

Experian (formerly TRW): 1-888-397-3742

Trans Union: 1-800-680-7289

Social Security Administration (fraud line): 1-800-269-0271

9. States With RKBA Provisions

States With Right To Bear Arms Provisions In Alphabetical Order:

- a. Alabama Constitution Article I, Section 26
- b. Alaska Constitution Article I, Section 19

- c. Arizona Constitution, Article 2, Section 26
- d. Arkansas Constitution Article II, Section 5
- e. Colorado Constitution Article II, Section 13
- f. Connecticut Constitution Article I, Section 15
- g. Delaware Constitution Article I, Section 20
- h. Florida Constitution Article I, Section 8(a)
- i. Georgia Constitution Article I, Section 1, Paragraph VIII.
- j. Hawaii Constitution Article I, Section 17
- k. Idaho Constitution Article I, Section 11
- l. Illinois Constitution Article I, Section 22
- m. Indiana Constitution Article I, Section 32
- n. Kansas Constitution Bill of Rights 4
- o. Kentucky Constitution Section 1
- p. Louisiana Constitution Article I, Section 11
- q. Maine Constitution Article 1, Section 16
- r. Massachusetts Constitution Part The First, Article XVII
- s. Michigan Constitution Article I, Section 6
- t. Mississippi Constitution Article III, Section 12
- u. Missouri Constitution Article I, Section 23
- v. Montana Constitution Article II, Section 12
- w. Montana Constitution Article VI, Section 13(2)
- x. Nebraska Constitution Article I, Section 1
- y. Nevada Constitution Article 1, Section 11, [1.]
- z. New Hampshire Constitution Part First, Article 2a
- aa. New Hampshire Constitution First, Article 13
- bb. New Mexico Constitution Article II, Section 6
- cc. North Carolina Constitution Article I, Section 30
- dd. North Dakota Constitution Article I, Section 1
- ee. Ohio Constitution Article I, Section 4
- ff. Ohio Constitution Article I, Section 1
- gg. Oklahoma Constitution Article II, Section 26
- hh. Oregon Constitution Article I, Section 27
- ii. Pennsylvania Constitution Article I, Section 21
- jj. Rhode Island Constitution Article I, Section 22
- jj. South Carolina Constitution Article I, Section 20
- kk. South Dakota Constitution Article VI, Section 24
- ll. Tennessee Constitution Article I, Section 26
- mm. Texas Constitution Article I, Section 23
- nn. Utah Constitution Article I, Section 6
- oo. Vermont Constitution Chapter 1, Article 16
- pp. Virginia Constitution Article I, Section 13
- qq. Washington Constitution Article I, Section 24
- rr. West Virginia Constitution Article III, Section 22
- ss. Wisconsin Constitution Article I, Section 25
- tt. Wyoming Constitution Article I, Section 24

States Without Specific Constitutional Provisions:

- a. Only six states fail to enumerate a Right to Keep and Bear Arms Clause. Of these states, Iowa and

New Jersey have a general "defending life and liberty" clause for self-protection.

- b. California: Nothing. However, the California Constitution provides for "inalienable rights" including "defending life and liberty ... and protecting property..."
- c. Iowa Constitution Article I, Section 1 Iowa Constitution Article I, Section 1
- d. Maryland: Nothing
- e. Minnesota: Nothing
- f. New Jersey Constitution Article I, [1.]
- g. New York: Nothing specific, however Article XII, Section 1 of the Constitution covers both the "organized" and "unorganized" militia.

10. FDIC INSURANCE:

Many retirees invest in money market accounts and certificates of deposit because they pay high annual interest rates and are protected by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). Because the basic insured amount of a depositor is limited to \$100,000 it is necessary to diversify your accounts to maintain coverage if you have more than this to invest. However, it may not be convenient to establish different accounts in **different financial institutions to minimize the likelihood of loss. Since FDIC** provides separate coverage for different categories of legal ownership, it allows depositors to have more than \$100,000 in one FDIC-insured financial institution. The most common categories of ownership are individual, joint, and testamentary (trust) accounts.

Other categories include retirement and business accounts. As an example, if a husband and wife have \$600,000 that they want to put in money market accounts. The table below shows how they can maximize their FDIC insurance up to the full \$600,000 using the following different account type:

Individual Accounts

Husband \$100,000 Balance Insured \$100,000
 Wife \$100,000 Type Balance Insured \$100,000

Joint Accounts

Husband and/or Wife \$200,000 Balance Insured \$200,000

Testamentary (Trust) Accounts*

Husband In Trust For Wife \$100,000 \$100,000
 Wife In Trust For Husband \$100,000 \$100,000

*Qualifying beneficiaries include parent, brother, sister, spouse, child, or grandchild of the owner. Total Investment \$600,000 & Total Balance Insured \$600,000. [Source: www.fdic.gov AUG 03]

Military News Report

1. NAVY COMMANDER SEEKS 'ONE ENTERPRISE' OF PUBLIC, PRIVATE SHIPYARDS

By George Cahlink

The Navy's shipyards and private sector ship overhaul facilities need to work more closely than ever to meet the demands of an increasingly agile fleet, according to a senior naval officer.

Vice Adm. Phillip Balisle, head of Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA), says the Navy's four shipyards at Portsmouth, N.H., Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, Bremerton, Wash., and Portsmouth, Va., along with its two largest commercial shipyards, General Dynamics' Electric Boat division in Groton, Conn., and Northrop Grumman's Newport News, Va., unit, should operate as one national shipyard.

"If you want to be as responsive as you can be, as agile as you can be, [then] you treat the enterprise as one business enterprise for all practical purposes. If you can flow people around it, balance workloads, respond to surges, and make adjustments using the synergy of the larger industry, then you've gained responsiveness and efficiency in a significant way," Balisle told Government Executive in a recent interview from his corner office overlooking the Anacostia River at the Washington Navy Yard.

The Virtual Wall website is maintained by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund. You can search the site to find information about names listed on the Wall. More importantly, you can post "memorials" on the site -- personal messages to, or remembrances of, fallen comrades. While confirming the list of Apache Troop's honored dead, I came across many where some of you had already posted memorials, photographs, etc. But I also came across many more where so far no words or pictures have been posted. <http://www.thevirtualwall.org/index.cfm?SectionID=2>

2. COMMISSARIES NIX HOME PRINTED COUPONS

Air Force Retiree News reports that commissaries are no longer accepting "home-printed" coupons as

the grocery industry comes to terms with the fraudulent use of Internet coupons. "We still gladly accept manufacturers coupons - the kind you clip out of newspapers or magazines or that you receive in the mail. What we're not accepting are coupons that have been downloaded from the Internet and printed with a home computer because it's too difficult for our cashiers to tell if they are valid," said Bob Vitikacs, the Defense Commissary Agency's director of operations and product support.

The use of fraudulent Internet coupons is growing in the grocery business and many commercial grocers are also declining to accept home-printed coupons. Most coupons are legitimate, but home computers and Internet access have made it easy to alter legitimate coupons for fraudulent use, Vitikacs said. Some analysts estimate the loss by coupon fraud to the grocery industry to be millions of dollars. Fraud ultimately costs consumers as manufacturers raise their prices to recoup losses.

3. CONCURRENT RECEIPT OF DISABILITY PAY

Repeal of the Disabled Veterans' Tax is still being discussed by National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) conferees and House Armed Services Committee members, with two possible plans that would allow some or all disabled retired veterans to receive both their full retirement pay and VA disability compensation. The latest plan being worked by Rep. Mike Bilirakis (R-Fla.) would initially only include severely disabled veterans rated 50 or 60 percent and above. It would be phased in beginning Oct 1 this year. A less likely plan would include all disabled veterans with VA disability ratings of 10 percent through 100 percent. This plan is more complicated and would not start until FY2005, or October 1, 2004. It would begin by providing a 23 percent payment to all percentage levels with increasing percentages each year until full restoration is accomplished in four or five years.

Veterans Fight Provision In Bill

Washington Times (SEP. 11)

Veterans groups are calling a proposed provision to the 2004 defense authorization bill "outrageous and shameful" because it would limit benefits for disabilities sustained during military service in exchange for providing better pensions for disabled veterans. At issue is a plan proposed by House Republicans

that would deny disability compensation and health care to those who sustain injuries while in the service that are not related directly to performance of their official duties. The bill is in conference. The proposed change was designed to cut costs so veterans could receive both disability and retirement benefits. Currently, military retirees who serve at least 20 years forfeit a dollar of their pension for each dollar of disability pay they receive.

4. DoD APPROVES USE OF CEREMONIAL BUGLE

Ceremonial Bugle [Taps]: The Department of Defense provides military funeral honors free of charge to thousands of veterans' families each year. These honors demonstrate the nation's deep gratitude to those who, in time of war and peace, have defended their country. The ceremonial paying of respect is a final tribute to their service. Only some 500 buglers are on active duty at any given time but about 1,800 veterans [who are eligible for honor ceremonies] die each day across the country. A law effective January 2000 allows the playing of a recorded version of Taps if a live horn player is not available.

DOD, after a six-month test, has approved the use of a push-button bugle that plays Taps by itself. This allows honor guard members vice musicians to play "Taps" at veteran funeral honors ceremonies. It contains a small device that can be inserted deep into the bell of a bugle that plays a high-quality rendition of Taps virtually indistinguishable from a live bugler. The ceremonial bugle is intended to be a dignified alternative to pre-recorded Taps played on a stereo, but will not be used as a substitute for a military musician when one is available. To use the device, a member of an honor guard needs merely to push a button and hold the bugle to his or her lips. A five-second delay gives guards time to raise the instrument to their lips as if they are going to play it. It offers several other advantages over a stereo, including increased reliability. The bugle works on two 9-volt batteries.

Bugles can be ordered from S & D Consulting Int. Ltd., 303 East 94th Street #L, New York, NY 10128 at a Cost \$525 including shipping and handling in the 48 contiguous states. Cost for shipment to Alaska and Hawaii is \$545 and to Puerto Rico is \$539. If you are

a Non for Profit organization or you are outside New York State, you do not pay Sales Tax. Ordering on line and payment by credit card is possible at www.ceremonialbugle.com . The Ceremonial Bugle carries a 1-year warranty.

It comes complete with an authentic bugle, music insert and hard case for protection plus a manual explaining how the Ceremonial Bugle Funeral Honors should be performed as well as operation and maintenance instructions.

Additional info can be obtained at (212) 426-3268, Fax (212) 369-9491 or; info@ceremonialbugle.com Source: DoD News Release No. 652-03 dtd 3 SEP 03]

5. VETERANS UPSET

Apparently the grass roots effort of our legislator's veteran constituents is starting to get their attention on the issue of Concurrent Receipt. A number of them have returned from their congressional recess and announced that if the Bush administration did not bend on the issue they would vote for Rep. Jim Marshall (D-GA) discharge petition to bring the issue to the floor of the House for discussion and ultimately a vote. Four hundred and one retired generals and admirals have written President Bush asking him to change the century-old rule depriving disabled veterans of part or all of their retirement benefits.

There are signs their argument is being heard. Key House Republicans met with veteran's groups in late AUG to discuss plans to address changes in a system that has threatened to sour relations between the president and veterans, normally some of his most loyal constituents. Participants said both full and partial restitution plans are being considered as the administration walks the fine line between alienating veterans and further driving up the budget deficit. Hill sources have indicated the following three plans are among those being considered - 100% CCR phased in over 10-years; CCR for disabilities rated as 60 to 100% phased in over 5-years; or, expanding CRSC to 50% combat related and to include Guardsmen and Reservists.

Rick Maze, an Army Times staff writer, reports congressional sources said the Bush administration has agreed in a deal with House Republican leaders. Allegedly, he will support concurrent receipt of full-retired pay and veterans' disability compensation, backing a five-year phased end of the offset that reduces pay for about 700,000 vets eligible for both benefits.

But the cost of getting President Bush's backing for full concurrent receipt could be so high that military and veterans groups who have been pushing for concurrent receipt will refuse to accept the White House offer. Sources involved in talks with the White House and Pentagon said that in return for allowing those who have served 20 years to receive full retired and disability pay, White House budget officials want a revision of veterans' disability payments.

The White House proposes giving future benefits or an increase in current disability only to those with injuries or illness linked directly to service. This could cut the number of new claims by 40 percent and prevent many veterans who get disability payments from seeing increases in the future as their health worsens. Limiting disability compensation isn't a new idea.

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) - a bipartisan arm of Congress - has proposed for years to restrict benefits for service-connected disabilities as a way to cut federal spending. They contend that someone injured in an off-duty accident or who came down with an ailment while in the military did not have to be covered.

The General Accounting Office, the investigative arm of Congress, also endorses the proposal. The idea, suggested by the congressional budget analysts, would be to make disability and death benefits similar to civilian workers' compensation, which only covers on-the-job injuries and illnesses.

Congress has never adopted the idea, although disability benefits for tobacco-related illnesses have been eliminated as a service-connected disability, along with use of illegal drugs and some alcohol-related disabilities. The change would save enough money in the VA budget to fully pay for the increase in military retired pay, and possibly more. The cost, estimated at up to \$5.8 billion a year, is why the Bush White House opposes concurrent receipt. The White House proposal would, in effect, provide an increase in pay for disabled retirees by cutting benefits for people now on active duty whose disabilities would prevent them from serving until retirement.

Tired of not having their voices heard by members of congress, and broken promises from the Bush administration, Florida veterans are banding together and have formed their own political party.

Veterans have officially launched the Veteran's Party of Florida (VPF). The VPF was officially approved by the Florida Board of Elections on 28 August 2003. Florida has the second largest

population of veterans in the country, so the VPF should grow rapidly into a political voice/force to be reckoned with. For more information concerning this movement contact Thom Mathey, State Secretary and Bay County's coordinator for the Veterans' Party (850) 36-3347 or email tmathey@arinc.com. [Source: Various 8 SEP 03]

6. INTERNET TAXATION:

The U.S. Senate Commerce Committee has toughened an existing ban on Internet access taxes by voting to make it permanent and requiring nine states to repeal existing taxes on access fees. The measure would make permanent a ban on the access taxes currently due to expire in November, and would require states that have existing taxes in place to remove them within three years.

Access taxes levied on the monthly fees Internet users pay to providers have been prohibited under a temporary ban since 1998, but nine states who had such taxes in place before the ban was enacted are currently allowed to keep them. The nine states New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Washington and Wisconsin take in between \$3.6 million and \$45 million each year from such taxes. The committee also extended the ban to include all forms of Internet access, closing a loophole that Internet businesses had feared could be used to tax wireless and high-speed service.

The House of Representatives Judiciary Committee approved a similar bill two weeks ago. The measure must be passed by both houses of Congress and signed by President Bush before it becomes law. Once it become law we should then stop seeing the semiannual Hoax emails regarding this subject.

The ban does not apply to online sales taxes, which are prohibited by a Supreme Court decision unless the retailer has a substantial presence in that state. Many states, facing revenue crunches, have argued that the Internet is now a mature business like any other and should be taxed accordingly. But their appeals to allow online access or sales taxes have found little support this year. [Source: Reuters 31 JUL 03]

www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=POS51XNCZCCHSCRBAEOCFFA?type=internetNews&storyID=3199303

7. ID CARD:

[CAC]: DOD in OCT 03 plans to make the Common Access Card (CAC) the standard form of

identification card, as well as a token for physical and logistical access, for all active-duty military, selected Reserves, DOD civilians and eligible contractor personnel.

The CAC costs about \$8. It is about the size of a credit card and embedded in the card is a small gold-colored computer chip with 32 kilobytes of usable data space for storing information. It also has a magnetic strip that allows information in the chip to be electronically scanned and interfaced with other computer systems. About 7 kilobytes of space are reserved for the services to program the cards for certain applications, such as the USMC for the tracking of weapons issued by armories.

DOD does not plan to convert the ID cards of family members, retirees, members of the Inactive Guard and Inactive Ready Reserve or disabled veterans because no requirement has been identified to justify the expense. However, if at some time in the future a need for issuing the CAC to persons in these categories arises, DOD would consider revising its policy. [Source: NAUS Update 22 AUG 03]

8. WALL COMMEMORATION RECOGNITION

Every spring there is a ceremony alongside the Vietnam Veterans Memorial that commemorates those whose deaths were attributable to the Vietnam War but whose names are not on The Wall. These would include those who died from Agent Orange complications, suicide, etc.

In order for a loved one to be honored at the In Memory ceremony, one must call the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund at (202) 393-0090 and request an application. The application must be returned with a copy of the DD-214, the death certificate, and two photographs. After the application has been reviewed and approved, the name will be added. [Source: Wm. Sawyer <http://silverrose.org> SEP 03]

9. COLD WAR CERTIFICATES STILL AVILABLE

Army News Service reports that servicemembers, veterans and federal employees who served between Sept. 2, 1945 and Dec. 26, 1991 are still eligible for a Cold War Recognition Certificate. In 1998, the secretary of Defense approved awarding the certificate to personnel who served during the Cold War. Thus far, about one million people have responded out of the 22 million entitled to receive the certificate, officials said. An application for the Cold War Recognition Certificate can be found on the Internet at <https://coldwar.army.mil/> The Website informs applicants about the correct procedures and

the required documentation to receive a certificate. Applications will only be accepted by fax or mail, officials said. More information on the certificate can be found on PERSCOM's Cold War Web site or by calling customer service at (703) 325-5864.

Health

1. OVERSEAS RETIREES GET PRESCRIPTIONS MAILED OVERSEAS

Military retirees living overseas who are eligible to receive mail through the Military Postal Service can now receive prescription drug shipments larger than 16 ounces through the TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy program. A 90-day supply of prescription drugs can now be mailed due to a prescription exception in the policy limiting weight of packages. Express-Scripts, Inc., is currently the only authorized contracted supplier for this program. Previously, medication shipments had to be in multiple packages weighing less than 16 ounces.

2. SMOKING TIED TO PNEUMONIA CASES IN WAR ZONES:

A puzzling cluster of pneumonia cases among American troops in Iraq and other countries in the war region seems to be partly related to the fact that many had taken up smoking shortly before they became ill, Pentagon officials said yesterday. Two teams of military and civilian epidemiologists and environmental health specialists have been investigating a cluster of 19 cases of severe pneumonia, including two deaths, that occurred from March 1 through August. No new cases have occurred since Aug. 20, and the earlier patients have all been discharged from the hospital. "We do not have an epidemic," and there is not an unusual number of pneumonia cases among troops in the war area, Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, told reporters in a telephone conference call. (New York Times - SEP. 10)

3. AGENT ORANGE RETROACTIVE BENEFITS:

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is adding a new provision to its adjudication regulations concerning certain awards of disability compensation and dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC). The new rule explains that certain awards of

disability compensation or DIC made pursuant to liberalizing regulations concerning diseases presumptively associated with herbicide exposure may be made effective retroactive to the date of the claim or the date of a previously denied claim. This can happen even if the claim date is earlier than the effective date of the regulation establishing the presumption. The new rule also provides that VA may pay to certain survivors of a deceased Beneficiary, or to the beneficiary's estate, any amounts the beneficiary was entitled to receive under the effective date provisions of this rule, but which were not paid prior to the beneficiary's death. The purpose of this rule is to reflect the requirements arising from court orders in the class action litigation in *Nehmer v. United States Department of Veterans Affairs*, No. CV-86-6160 TEH (N.D. Cal.). Effective Date: September 24, 2003.

[Source: NAUS Update 5 SEP 03]

4. TRICARE & VA COMBINED CARE:

On August 19, 2003, DOD published a new proposed rule (Volume 68, Number 160) in the Federal Register. This proposed rule clarifies one piece of TRICARE's coordination of benefits problem with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Under the current policy, beneficiaries who are eligible for both TRICARE and VA health benefits may use only one program for a specific episode of care (care of a specific diagnosis and its subsequent treatment(s)). The new rule will allow beneficiaries to use TRICARE benefits to augment or replace services being provided through the VA, while ensuring that neither department duplicates treatment.

The effect of the proposed change will allow individuals who are receiving care from the VA to change to care provided by TRICARE for the same episode of care. The VA will be responsible for payment for the services they provide through their facilities and TRICARE will pay for any services provided through their Prime, Extra or Standard programs. As long as the care is considered medically necessary and is not found to duplicate the care provided by the other service, the new rule ensures freedom of choice for beneficiaries who have entitlement to both TRICARE and VA benefits. The proposed rule notice that is posted in the Federal Register at;

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2003/03-21012.htm>.

[Source: NAUS Update 22 AUG 03]

5. VA PRESUMPTIVE AO CONDITIONS [Vets]:

The following health conditions are presumptively recognized for service connection. Vietnam veterans with any of these conditions do not have to show that the illness is related to their military service to get disability compensation. A current medical diagnosis of the condition and a DD Form 214 showing Vietnam Service is normally all that is needed to accompany a completed Veterans Application For Compensation or Pension VA Form Number 21-526.

a. Chloracne (must occur within 1 year of exposure to Agent Orange). Chloracne is a skin condition that looks like common forms of acne seen in teenagers. The first sign may be excessive oiliness of the skin. This is accompanied or followed by numerous blackheads. In mild cases, the blackheads may be limited to the areas around the eyes extending to the temples. In more severe cases, blackheads may appear in many places, especially over the cheekbone and other facial areas, behind the ears, and along the arms.

b. Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma is a group of malignant tumors (cancers) that affect the lymph glands and other lymphatic tissue. These tumors are relatively rare compared to other types of cancer, and although survival rates have improved during the past two decades, these diseases tend to be fatal.

c. Soft tissue sarcoma (other than osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, or mesothelioma.) Soft tissue sarcoma is a group of different types of malignant tumors (cancers) that arise from body tissues such as muscle, fat, blood and lymph vessels, and connective tissues (not in hard tissue such as bone or cartilage). These cancers are in the soft tissue that occurs within and between organs.

d. Hodgkin's disease is a malignant lymphoma characterized by progressive enlargement of the lymph nodes, liver, and spleen, and by progressive anemia.

e. Porphyria cutanea tarda (must occur within 1 year of exposure.) Porphyria cutanea tarda is a disorder characterized by liver dysfunction and by thinning and blistering of the skin in sun-exposed areas.

f. Multiple myeloma is a cancer of specific bone marrow cells that is characterized by bone marrow tumors in various bones of the body.

g. Respiratory cancers, including cancers of the lung, larynx, trachea, and bronchus.

h. Prostate cancer is a cancer of the prostate and one of the most common cancers among men.

i. Peripheral neuropathy (transient acute or subacute. It must appear within 1 year of exposure and resolve within 2-years of date of onset.) A nervous system condition that causes numbness, tingling, and muscle weakness. This condition affects only the peripheral nervous system, that is, only the nervous system outside the brain and spinal cord. Only the transient acute (short-term) and subacute forms of this condition (not the chronic persistent form) have been associated with herbicide exposure.

j. Diabetes mellitus: Often referred to as Type 2 diabetes: A condition characterized by high blood sugar levels resulting from the body's inability to respond properly to the hormone insulin.

k. Chronic lymphocytic leukemia (Final rule and regulations pending). A disease that progresses slowly with increasing production of and older) who live in areas where it's offered.

VA health care providers occasionally see combat veterans with multiple unexplained symptoms or difficult-to-diagnose illnesses that can cause significant disability. Two new VA centers offer specialized evaluations for combat veterans with disabilities related to these difficult-to-diagnose illnesses. The centers, called War Related Illness and Injury Study Centers - WRIISCs (pronounced "risks") are at the VA Medical Centers in Washington, DC, and East Orange, NJ. Veterans who were deployed to combat zones, served in areas where hostilities occurred, or were exposed to environmental hazards while on duty may be eligible for services. [Source: NAUS Weekly Update for 22 August 2003]

VA Presumptive AO Conditions [Kids]:

The following health conditions are presumptively recognized in children of veterans for service connection. Vietnam veteran's children with any of these conditions do not have to show that their illness is related to their parent's military service to get disability compensation. A current medical diagnosis of the condition and a DD Form 214 showing the parent's Vietnam Service is normally all that is needed to accompany a completed Veterans Application For Compensation or Pension VA Form Number 21-526.

Spina bifida (except spina bifida occulta): A neural tube birth defect that results from the failure of the bony portion of the spine to close properly in the

developing fetus during early pregnancy. Other (than spinal bifida) disabilities in the children of women

Vietnam veterans. Covered birth defects" means any birth defect identified by VA as a birth defect associated with the service of women Vietnam veterans in Vietnam from 28 FEB 61 to 7 MAY 75, and that has resulted, or may result, in permanent physical or mental disability. However, the term does not include a condition due to a familial (this is, inherited)

disorder; birth-related injury; or fetal or neonatal infirmity with other well-established causes. Covered birth defects include, but are not limited to, the following conditions:

- 1) achondroplasia,
- 2) cleft lip and cleft palate,
- 3) congenital heart disease,
- 4) congenital talipes equinovarus (clubfoot),
- 5) esophageal and intestinal atresia,
- 6) Hallerman-Streiff syndrome,
- 7) hip dysplasia,
- 8) Hirschprung's disease (congenital megacolon),
- 9) hydrocephalus due to aqueductal stenosis,
- 10) hypospadias,
- 11) imperforate anus,
- 12) neural tube defects,
- 13) Poland syndrome,
- 14) pyloric stenosis,
- 15) syndactyly (fused digits),
- 16) tracheoesophageal fistula,
- 17) undescended testicle,
- 18) Williams syndrome.

** Not covered are conditions that are congenital malignant neoplasms, chromosomal disorders, or developmental disorders. In addition, conditions that do not result in permanent physical or mental disability are not covered birth defects. All birth defects that are not excluded under the language above are covered birth defects. (Source: Extracted from Agent Orange Review, Vol. 19, No 2, Dated July 2003) Lt. James "EMO" Tichacek, USN (Ret) Director, Retiree Activities Office & U.S. Embassy Warden Baguio City RP PSC 517 Box RCB, FPO AP 96517-1000Tel: (63-74) 442-7135 or stateside FAX to email service 1-801-760-2430 Email:

raoemo@mozcom.com & raobaguio@hotmail.com
Web:
http://post_119_gulfport_ms.tripod.com/rao1.html

6. Q: I'm considering lasik eye surgery. Is it acceptable to the FAA?

A: The FAA currently accepts lasik, photorefractive keratectomy (PRK), or radial keratotomy (RK) for all classes of medical certification. Following the procedure, when the treating physician is satisfied that visual acuity has stabilized and there are no other post-operative symptoms, the FAA requests that the pilot submit a brief report from the ophthalmologist to the Aeromedical Certification Division in Oklahoma City. No other action is required until the time of the next scheduled FAA physical examination, when a completed report of eye evaluation, FAA Form 8500-7, should be submitted with the medical application. If the visual acuity meets the standard for the class of medical applied for and there are no significant persistent complications (glare and compromised night vision), the aviation medical examiner may issue the certificate at the time of examination. See AOPA Online at; <http://www.aopa.org/members/files/medical/rk&lens.html>.

8. \$1.8 Billion In Vet Medical Care Funding Denied

Groups representing the nation's military veterans say they are "howling mad" that the Republican leadership in the House of Representatives has backpedaled on a promise to approve \$1.8 billion for healthcare funding and caused substantial delays in service personnel receiving medical treatment.

President Bush asked Congress to set aside \$25.4 billion for veterans' medical services in the VA-HUD appropriations bill for fiscal year 2004. The House Budget Resolution provided \$27.1 billion, approximately \$1.8 billion over the administration request. However, lawmakers voted 51-50 against final passage of the resolution.

The dispute over funding comes as the United States has more than 368,900 Army troops deployed to 120 countries, and 12,500 Marines to Afghanistan, Iraq and the region near Liberia. According to Peter Dickinson, communications director for the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, the reason the bill did not pass was that some lawmakers believed the level of funding for healthcare was inadequate. (Military Report)

7. Hepatitis C Intelligence Report

Veterans seeking service-connected disability for Hepatitis C based on military air gun injections may be interested in the following. Many of us, throughout the nation, are individually filing our

service connected disability claims. If you are interested, contact a veterans service officer near you. JET GUN INJECTIONS Boot Camp, Paris Island 1968; Jet Injectors Capable of Transmitting Blood-Borne Pathogens, August 03, 2001 by N.R. Saltmarsh, staff medical writer - Jet injectors may be ideal for mass immunization programs but not until design refinements eliminate their capacity to transmit blood-borne infections, say researchers working in England.

The injectors, which are needleless systems that penetrate skin with high-pressure fluid, have potential advantages over needles and syringes, but P.N. Hoffman and associates at the Laboratory of Hospital Infection, London, sought to determine whether they might have a major disadvantage as well.

They used a highly sensitive enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) to detect whether small amounts of blood and fluid remained in the jet injector after injecting inert buffer into calves.

All four injectors tested - two with reusable heads and direct skin contact, one with single-use injector heads, and one with an injector head that discharged at a distance from the skin - contained at least 10 pl of blood, enough to transmit hepatitis B infection, reported Hoffman and coworkers ("A model to assess the infection potential of jet injectors used in mass immunisation," Vaccine, July 2001;19(28-29):4020-4027).

"The source of the contamination was consistent with contamination by efflux of injected fluid and blood from the pressurized pocket in tissue that is formed during injection," reported Hoffman and coauthors. "This insight should inform the design of safe jet injectors." (Source: Vaccine Weekly)

8. Military Health Care Cost

This week, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) released a study of the growth in military health care spending over the past fifteen years. The study says the military health care budget has grown from \$14.6 billion in 1988 to \$27.2 billion today. CBO uses these numbers to claim that health spending "per active-duty service member" has tripled, from \$6,600 to \$19,600.

That's a bogus statistic that's been taken out of context in national news stories. First of all, it attributes retiree health care costs to active duty members, which makes no sense at all.

Second, it's skewed by changes in active duty and retiree demographics that are driven by the Department of Defense's own policy decisions. We

have a growing retiree population because the country and Department of Defense pursued a large career force for the past 50 years to meet national defense commitments. These members were enticed to stay for a career in part by Service promises of lifetime health care. Over the last decade, the Department has consciously shrunk the active duty force - way too much, MOAA believes.

Third, the 2003 budget numbers are inflated by recent changes in government accounting methods introduced with enactment of TRICARE For Life. While the newly required health care trust fund deposits appear in DoD's budget, this isn't a real expenditure. It's just an accounting mechanism to recognize health costs that will be incurred many decades in the future after current active duty members attain Medicare eligibility.

The CBO study acknowledges that:
*56% of the cost growth is due to national health care cost increases in general;
*23% is due to changes in the relative sizes of active duty and retired populations;
*18% is due to changes in government accounting methods; and
*Only 3% of the change is due to "benefit changes and improved efficiency."

This bogus active duty cost assessment would hardly be worth noting if CBO weren't using it as an excuse to propose options to cut health care spending-almost all at the expense of the beneficiary. One option would offer retiring members a cash payment in lieu of TRICARE For Life. The payment-supposedly one-half the discounted value of TFL-would require members to sign away their future health care security. But nobody can predict at age 40 what their future expenses might be between age 65 and 85, 90, 100, or whatever life expectancy might increase to by then. So this would likely bilk any naïve member who accepted it out of tens - if not hundreds - of thousands of dollars.

The CBO report has the effect of blaming servicemembers and retirees for cost increases that were driven by the government's own decisions, then uses that false implication to justify proposals to take huge amounts of money out of servicemembers' pockets.

The military retiree is screwed again by our government. Wrong, and wrong again. (Source; MOAA Legislative update)

"It is better by noble boldness to run the risk of being subject to half the evils we anticipate than to remain in cowardly listlessness for fear of what might happen."

Herodotus

Sick Call

Our troopers need our thoughts and concerns through their illness.

1. Jessie Glance
2. A. T. Pumphrey
3. James Connor
4. Paul Maldonado
5. Frank Stewart
6. David Johnson
7. Bob Garrett
8. Jack Kilcrease
9. George (Nick) Nicholas
10. Sam Dupreast

With Gods help, may you have a full and speedy recovery. Our prayers are with you.

BWS

RELIGION

There has been much talk about **separation of church and state**, by the ACLU, the liberal side of our citizens, our news media and other special interest groups.

There has also been law suits by the above groups to remove prayer from our schools, Under God from our pledge of allegiance, prayer at the start of sports games and the removal of the 10 Commandants from the walls of our judicial buildings.

It is time to see just what our founding fathers had to say and what they believed concerning church and state.

The Historical Record is Clear

America Was Built on Christian Principles!

America’s Founding Fathers believed that a widespread faith in God was the true source of America’s greatness. They would see today’s war against Christianity by our government, our educational institutions, the media and throughout our popular culture as a grave threat to America’s survival as a free nation.

Here’s what America’s Founding Fathers believed:

- 1.) “Our laws and our institutions must necessarily be based upon the teachings of the Redeemer of Mankind. It is impossible that it should be otherwise; and in this sense and to this extent, our civilization and our institutions are emphatically Christian.” U.S. Supreme Court, 1892
- 2.) “I have a tender reliance on the mercy of the Almighty; through the merits of the Lord Jesus Christ. I am a sinner. I look to Him for mercy; pray for me.” Alexander Hamilton, last dying words, July 12, 1804
- 3.) “This is all the inheritance I give to my dear family. The religion of Christ will give them one which will make them rich indeed.” Patrick Henry, in his “last Will and Testament” November 20, 1798
- 4.) “Suppose a nation in some distant region should take the Bible for their only Law Book, and every member should regulate his conduct by the precepts there exhibited...What a paradise would this region be!” John Adams, 1756, America’s Second President
- 5.) “It is fit and becoming in all people, at all times, to acknowledge and revere the Supreme Government of God; to bow in humble submission to His chastisement; to confess and deplore their sins and transgressions in the full conviction that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; and to pray, with all fervency and contrition, for the pardon of their past offenses, and for a blessing upon their present and prospective action.” Abraham Lincoln, Declaring a National Day of Prayer and Fasting following the Battle of Bull Run
- 6.) “It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the Providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and to humbly implore His

protection and favor.” George Washington, Oct. 3, 1789, Proclaiming a National Day of Prayer and Thanksgiving

7.) “If we abide by the principles taught in the Bible, our country will go on prospering and to prosper; but if we and our posterity neglect its instructions and authority, no man can tell how sudden profound obscurity.” Daniel Webster, 1821

8.) “We have been assured, Sir, in the Sacred Writings, that except the Lord build the House, they labor in vain that build it. I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without His concurring aid we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel.” Benjamin Franklin, Statement he made at the Constitutional Convention, June 28, 1787

9.) “God who gave us life gave us liberty. And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are a gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with His is just; that His justice cannot sleep forever.” Thomas Jefferson, 1781

10.) “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal. That they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” Declaration of Independence, 1776

It’s important for every American to understand what America’s Founding Fathers knew to be true:

- 1. That America’s political freedoms are based on Christian principles; and,
- 2. That only a widespread Christian faith and general belief in God could keep our political freedoms secure.

By the statements of our founding fathers, it is clear that our present courts system is out of touch with the true meaning of our constitution.

"History by apprising [citizens] of the past will enable them to judge of the future...."

Thomas Jefferson

Religion, a Deadly Topic

The following articles are a continuation to make you think about the future of America. Where will

we go from here? The fate of our future is in your hands. We are responsible for the future of our children and grandchildren. Can we allow any entity or any group to destroy their future?

The Editor

A refugee from the Muslim Middle East believes he has discovered Islam's 20-point plan for conquering the United States by 2020. Anis Shorosh, author of "Islam Revealed" and "The True Furqan," is a Christian Arab-American who emigrated from Arab-controlled Jerusalem in January 1967.

"The following is his analysis of Islamic invasion of America, the agenda of Islamists and visible methods to take over America by the year 2020," Shorosh says. "Will Americans continue to sleep through this invasion as they did when we were attacked on 9/11?"

Islamic Secret 20-Year Strategy To Undermine America

1. Terminate America's freedom of speech by replacing it with statewide and nationwide hate-crime bills.

2. Wage a war of words using black leaders like Louis Farrakhan, Rev. Jesse Jackson and other visible religious personalities who promote Islam as the religion of African-Americans while insisting Christianity is for whites only. What they fail to tell African-Americans is that it was Arab Muslims who captured them and sold them as slaves. In fact, the Arabic word for black and slave is the same, "Abed."

3. Engage the American public in dialogues, discussions, debates in colleges, universities, public libraries, radio, TV, churches and mosques on the virtues of Islam. Proclaim how it is historically another religion like Judaism and Christianity with the same monotheistic faith.

4. Nominate Muslim sympathizers to political office to bring about favorable legislation toward Islam and support potential sympathizers by block voting.

5. Take control of as much of Hollywood, the press, TV, radio and the Internet as possible by buying the related corporations or a controlling stock.

6. Yield to the fear of the imminent shut-off of the lifeblood of America -black gold. America's economy depends on oil and 41 percent of it comes from the Middle East.

7. Yell "foul, out-of-context, personal interpretation, hate crime, Zionist, un- American, inaccurate interpretation of the Quran" anytime Islam is criticized or the Quran is analyzed in the public arena.

8. Encourage Muslims to penetrate the White House, specifically with Islamists who can articulate a marvelous and peaceful picture of Islam. Acquire government positions and get membership in local school boards. Train Muslims as medical doctors to dominate the medical field, research and pharmaceutical companies. (Ever notice how numerous Muslim doctors in America are, when their countries need them more desperately than America?) Take over the computer industry. Establish Middle Eastern restaurants throughout the U.S. to connect planners of Islamization in a discreet way.

9. Accelerate Islamic demographic growth via: (a.) Massive immigration (100,000 annually since 1961). (b) Use no birth control whatsoever - every baby of Muslim parents is automatically a Muslim and cannot choose another religion later. (c) Muslim men must marry American women and Islamize them (10,000 annually). Then divorce them and remarry every five years - since one can't legally marry four at one time. This is a legal solution in America. (d) Convert angry, alienated black inmates and turn them into militants (so far 2,000 released inmates have joined al-Qaida worldwide). Only a few "sleeper cells" have been captured in Afghanistan and on American soil.

10. Reading, writing, arithmetic and research through the American educational system, mosques and student centers (now 1,500) should be sprinkled with dislike of Jews, evangelical Christians and democracy. There are currently 300 exclusively Muslim schools in the U.S. which teach loyalty to the Quran, not the U.S. Constitution. In January of 2002, Saudi Arabia's Embassy in Washington mailed 4,500 packets of the Quran and videos promoting Islam to America's high schools - free of charge. Saudi Arabia would not allow the U.S. to reciprocate.

11. Provide very sizeable monetary Muslim grants to colleges and universities in America to establish "Centers for Islamic studies" with Muslim directors to promote Islam in higher-education institutions.

12. Let the entire world know through propaganda, speeches, seminars, local and national media that

terrorists have hijacked Islam, when in truth, Islam hijacked the terrorists.

13. Appeal to the historically compassionate and sensitive Americans for sympathy and tolerance towards Muslims in America who are portrayed as mainly immigrants from oppressed countries.

14. Nullify America's sense of security by manipulating the intelligence community with misinformation. Periodically terrorize Americans with reports of impending attacks on bridges, tunnels, water supplies, airports, apartment buildings and malls.

15. Form riots and demonstrations in the prison system demanding Islamic Sharia as the way of life, not America's justice system.

16. Open numerous charities throughout the U.S., but use the funds to support Islamic terrorism with American dollars.

17. Raise interest in Islam on America's campuses by insisting freshman take at least one course on Islam.

18. Unify the numerous Muslim lobbies in Washington, mosques, Islamic student centers, educational organizations, magazines and papers by Internet and an annual convention to coordinate plans, propagate the faith and engender news in the media.

19. Send intimidating messages and messengers to the outspoken individuals who are critical of Islam and seek to eliminate them by hook or crook.

20. Applaud Muslims as loyal citizens of the U.S. by spotlighting their voting record as the highest percentage of all minority and ethnic groups in America.

Shorrosh is a member of the Oxford Society of Scholars, has traveled in 76 countries, and is a lecturer and producer of TV documentaries. "Islam Revealed" is a bestseller now in its eighth printing. His forthcoming 10th book, from which the 20-point plan is abridged, is titled "Islam: A Threat or a Challenge." "The True Furqan" is also available for viewing on; Islam-Exposed.org. Shorrosh's new website is Focusing-on-Islam.com.

"Islam is a religion in which (their) God requires you to send your son to die for him."

"Christianity is a faith in which God sent his Son to die for you."

John Ashcroft

Attorney General of the United States, 2003

Is bin Laden the 'Mahdi'?

Some Muslim followers believe he is prophesied 'awaited enlightened one'

No one who has seen the video is quite certain of the meaning or the context. But, the Hadith, a collection of Islamic holy writings that supplement the Quran, predicts a messianic figure will arise in the last days of history. This "Mahdi," along with the "Prophet Jesus," will lead the believers to victory over the infidels.

Osama bin Laden

The video raises the question of whether bin Laden sees himself as this Mahdi or if he is expecting another to arise and lead. Either way, the addition of a dimension of Islamic prophecy to the global terror war may seriously complicate matters for planners in the West, G2 Bulletin reports.

According to G2 Bulletin's military sources, some of the detainees currently held at Guantanamo Bay have told interrogators they joined bin Laden's al-Qaida offensive because they think he is the "awaited enlightened one." Others in military intelligence say some of the terrorists crossing the border into Iraq with al-Qaida ties are doing so because of their belief in this Islamic prophecy.

Muslim believers both Sunni and Shiite expect the Mahdi to return one day to restore justice to the world. This messenger is not as great as Muhammad, but is a messianic figure found in all branches of Islam.

Interestingly, since the end of 2001, bin Laden has been signing his name "Osama bin Muhammad bin Laden," rather than just Osama bin Laden. This is significant, reports G2 Bulletin, because it gives the al-Qaida leader an apocalyptic dimension. The Hadith says the Mahdi will be recognizable, among other things, by the fact that he carries the name of the Prophet.

"Al Mahdi" is supposed to appear at a time when Muslim believers are severely oppressed in every corner of the world. He will fight the oppressors, unite the Muslims, bring peace and justice to the world, rule over the Arabs, and lead a prayer in Mecca at which Jesus will be present.

While some Islamic analysts have expected bin Laden to declare himself as "caliph," few have speculated about the possibility of the terrorist upping the ante. Operating as he does without a territorial base, bin Ladin could, some suggest, resort to claiming the most powerful title in Islam the Mahdi.

The Mahdi is one of two positive prophetic figures who, according to Islamic teachings, will appear at the end of time Prophet Jesus being the other. Together, these two will combat unbelievers and the forces of evil: the antichrist-like Dajjal, or "Deceiver"; the Dabbah, or "Beast"; and the murderous, rapacious hordes of Yajuj wa-Majuj, who appear earlier in the Bible as "Gog and Magog." The description of the Mahdi that emerges from these Islamic sources can be summarized as follows:

- a.. he will be descended from the Prophet via his daughter Fatima;
- b.. he will have the same name as the Prophet, and his father's name will have been the same as the Prophet's father;
- c.. he will have a distinct forehead and prominent nose;
- d.. he will be extremely generous and altruistic;
- e.. he will arise in Arabia and be compelled by popular acclamation in Mecca to lead the Muslims;
- f.. he will withstand attack by an army from Syria, which will be swallowed up by the desert;
- g.. he will fill the earth with justice and equity;
- h.. he will reign for five, seven or nine years, perhaps as co-ruler with Jesus (after which, an unspecified amount of time later, the last trumpet will sound and the final judgment will ensue).

If bin Ladin or some other Islamist leader were to declare himself the Mahdi, should that make a difference to U.S. policy-makers? Yes.

If the claim were believable to the Islamic world, then the U.S. could no longer claim to be fighting terrorism alone. Indeed, it would become a global religious conflict.

George "Brazo" Barry
Phone (256) 772-3161
United States MOTTO "In God We Trust"

Fighting Islamization To The Death

I have just finished reading Oriana Fallaci's passionately written book, "The Rage and the Pride,"

in which she warns us, loudly and clearly, of the Islamic Reverse Crusade which has as its goal the conquest of the West. The attack on 9-11 was the Pearl Harbor of the Crusade.

"It is a war of religion," she writes. "A war they call Jihad. If we do not defend ourselves, if we do not fight, the Jihad will win. ... It will cancel our culture, our art, our science, our identity, our morals, our values, our pleasures. ... Europe is no longer Europe. It is a province of Islam. ... It hosts almost 16 million Muslim immigrants and teems with mullahs, imams, mosques, burqas, chadors. It lodges thousands of Islamic terrorists whom governments don't know how to identify and control."

Oriana Fallaci, the dauntless, uncompromising Italian journalist, made her mark as an international writer by her incisive interviews with such world leaders and politicians as the Dalai Lama, the Ayatollah Khomeini, Kissinger, Arafat, Golda Meir, Ariel Sharon, Indira Gandhi, Ali Bhutto, Willy Brandt and many others. She lives in Manhattan where for the last ten years she has been working in seclusion on a historical novel.

She was at home on Sept. 10, 2001, when she had a premonition of something terrible happening. On the next day, hearing the sirens of police cars and fire trucks, she turned on the TV and, she writes, "Don't ask me what I felt at that moment or soon after. ... I was ice-frozen. Even my brain was ice-frozen. I don't even remember if I saw certain things on the first tower or on the second. The people who jumped from the windows on the 80th and 90th and 100th floors so as not to burn alive, to begin with. Who broke the glass of the windows, climbed over the windows, and jumped the same way we jump from a plane with a parachute. By dozens. And they came down so slowly. Slowly tossing their arms and their hands, slowly swimming in the air. ... And, finally, they dropped like stones and bang!"

She didn't know what to do until six days later, when the editor of a major Italian newspaper came to New York and asked her to write about what had happened in the form of a letter to him. She wrote the article, and the paper sold a million copies. She decided to expand the article into a small book.

"It was born all of a sudden. It burst like a bomb. Unexpectedly like the catastrophe that on September 11 disintegrated thousands of creatures and destroyed two of the most beautiful buildings of our time: the Towers of the World Trade Center." Writing nonstop,

"The Rage and the Pride" was completed in two weeks.

It caused a sensation in Italy and elsewhere in Europe. In France, a Muslim group tried to get the French edition banned because they considered it racist. But the judge saw no point in banning a book that had already sold 45,000 copies in France and about a million in Italy. Besides, the book has nothing to do with racism. It has everything to do with the war between religions. Fallaci writes:

“All the so-called Revolutions of Islam began in the mosques. Not in the universities, as the [liberals] want us to believe. Behind every Islamic terrorist there is an imam, and Khomeini was an imam. ... And I declare that many imams (too many) are spiritual guides of terrorism. ... [The Saudi Ministry of Religion] is the mighty organism that divulges fundamentalist theories throughout the world. That throughout the world builds mosques and schools where the unlucky Muslim students learn nothing but the 6,236 Koran's verses by heart. ... And where they are recruited to fight the Holy War.”

The Islamists have threatened to kill Fallaci because of her courage in speaking out against the Islamization of Europe. But now she is not alone. Brigitte Bardot, the famous French film star, writes in her new book, "A Scream in the Silence," "I am against the Islamization of France. ... For centuries our forefathers, the ancients, our grandfathers, our fathers gave their lives to chase all successive invaders from France."

There are now 5 million Muslims living in France. But the situation in Italy is worse, since it is like a land bridge from Africa to the European Union. Fallaci writes:

“Because our cultural identity has been well defined for thousands of years, we cannot bear a migratory wave of people who have nothing to do with us ... who are not ready to become like us, to be absorbed by us ... who, on the contrary, aim to absorb us. To change our principles, our values, our identity, our way of life. And who in the meantime molest us with their retrograde ignorance, their retrograde bigotry, their retrograde religion. I am saying that in our culture there is no room for the muezzins, for the minarets, for the phony abstemious, for the humiliating chador, for the degrading burkah.”

Fallaci, a passionate defender of Western Civilization, vows to fight to the death. She tells the

Islamic enemy, "War you wanted, war you want? Good. As far as I am concerned, war is and war will be. Until the last breath."

Dr. Samuel L. Blumenfeld

2003 WorldNetDaily.com

Aauthor of eight books on education, including: "Is Public Education Necessary?" "NEA: Trojan Horse in American Education," "The Whole Language/OBE Fraud" and "Homeschooling: A Parents Guide to Teaching Children."

Allah is not the Christian Almighty God but is "Allah, the Moon God", just one of the 360 gods of the Arabs before the other 359 were removed by Muhammad. They pray to Allah. Christians and Jews pray to the one True God.

There is no such thing as "live and let live" under Islam.

The more you learn about the Islamic religion, the scarier it is.

You decide. Is Islam a peaceful religion?

The Editor

Should we find ourselves in a state of apathy, think about the quote from Edmund Burke,

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

Veterans Sound Off

Articles from our members and those who support us. If you disagree, or agree, sound off.

BWS

Why They Don't Like Us

Provided by Joe Galloway, author of We Were Soldiers and is posted as an item of possible interest.

This one is definitely NOT tongue in cheek. Sig, the author, was a teen-aged Marine who marched and fought as a rifleman to and from the Chosin reservoir

in Korea in 1950. He switched to the Army, and served as a Special Forces officer in Vietnam. After Vietnam he joined the CIA, and went back to Korea.

He's been there, done it, and has some specific thoughts on countries that don't "like" us.

If you aren't interested in the ramblings of an old man, please stop reading now. If you're still there, pull up a chair and read.

Is there anyone else out there who's sick and tired of all the polls being taken in foreign countries as to whether or not they "like" us? The last time I looked, the word "like" had nothing to do with foreign policy. I prefer 'respect' or 'fear'. They worked for Rome, which civilized and kept the peace in the known world a hell of a lot longer than our puny two centuries-plus.

I see a left-wing German got elected to office recently by campaigning against the foreign policy of the United States. Yeah, that's what I want, to be lectured about war and being a "good neighbor" by a German. Their head honcho said they wouldn't take part in a war against Iraq. Kind of nice, to see them taking a pass on a war once in while. Perhaps we needed to have the word "World" in front of War. I think it's time to bring our boys home from Germany. Outside of the money we'd save, we'd make the Germans "like" us a lot more, after they started paying the bills for their own defense.

Last time I checked, France isn't too fond of us either. They sort of liked us back on June 6th, 1944, though, didn't they? If you don't think so, see how nicely they take care of the enormous American cemeteries up above the Normandy beaches. For those of you who've studied history, we also have a few cemeteries in places like Belleau Woods and Chateau Thierry also. For those of you who haven't studied it, that was from World War One, the first time Europe screwed up and we bailed out the French.

That's where the US Marines got the title 'Devil Dogs' or, if you still care about what the Germans think, "Teufelhunde". I hope I spelled that right; sure wouldn't want to offend anyone, least of all a German.

Come to think of it, when Europe couldn't take care of their Bosnian problem recently, guess who had to help out there also. Last time I checked, our kids are still there. I sort of remember they said they would be out in a year. Gee, how time flies when you're having fun.

Now we hear that the South Koreans aren't too happy with us either. They "liked" us a lot better, of course, in June, 1950. It took more than 50,000 Americans killed in Korea to help give them the lifestyle they currently enjoy, but then who's counting? I think it's also time to bring the boys home from there. There are about 37,000 young Americans on the DMZ separating the South Koreans from their "brothers" up North. Maybe if we leave, they can begin to participate in the "good life" that North Korea currently enjoys. Uh huh. Sure.

I also understand that a good portion of the Arab/Moslem world now doesn't "like" us either. Did anyone ever sit down and determine what we would have to do to get them to like us? Ask them what they would like us to do. Die?. Commit ritual suicide? Bend over? Maybe we should follow the advice of our dimwitted, dullest knife in the drawer, Senator Patty Murray, and build more roads, hospitals, day care centers, and orphanages like Osama bin Laden does. What with all the orphans Osama has created, the least he can do is build some places to put them. Senator Stupid says if we would only "emulate" Osama, the Arab world would love us.

Sorry Patty; in addition to the fact that we already do all of those things around the world and have been doing them for over sixty years, I don't take public transportation, and I certainly wouldn't take it with a bomb strapped to the guy next to me.

Don't get me wrong: I'm not in favor of going to war. Been there, done that. Several times, in fact. But I think we ought to have some polls in this country about other countries, and see if we "like" THEM. Problem is, if you listed the countries, not only wouldn't the average American know if he liked them or not, he wouldn't be able to find them. If we're supposed to worry about them, how about them worrying about us?

We were nice to the North Koreans in 1994, as we followed the policies of Neville Clinton. And it seemed to work; they didn't re-start nuclear weapons program for a whole year or so. In the meantime, we fed them when they were starving, and put oil in their stoves when they were freezing.

In a recent visit to Norway, I engaged in a really fun debate with my cousin's son, a student at a Norwegian University. I was lectured to by this thankless squirt about the American "Empire", and scolded about dropping the atomic bomb on the Japanese. I reminded him that empires usually keep

the stuff they take; we don't, and back in 1945 most Norwegians thought dropping ANY kind of bomb on Germany or Japan was a good idea. I also reminded him that my uncle, his grandfather, and others in our family spent a significant time in Sachsenhausen concentration camp, courtesy of the Germans, and they didn't all survive. I further reminded him that if it wasn't for the "American Empire" he would probably be speaking German or Russian.

Sorry about the rambling, but I just took an unofficial poll here at our house, and we don't seem to like anyone.

I Was a Soldier

I was a Soldier: That's the way it is, that's what we were...are. We put it simply, without any swagger, without any brag, in those four plain words. We speak them softly, just to ourselves. Others may have forgotten.

They are a manifesto to mankind; speak those four words anywhere in the world -- yes, anywhere -- and many who hear will recognize their meaning.

They are a pledge. A pledge that stems from a document which said: "I solemnly Swear", "to protect and defend" and goes on from there, and from a Flag called "Old Glory".

Listen, and you can hear the voices echoing through them, words that sprang white-hot from bloody lips, shouts of "medic", whispers of "Oh God!", forceful words of "Follow Me". If you can't hear them, you weren't, if you can you were.

"Don't give up the ship! Fight her till she dies... Damn the torpedoes! Go ahead! . . . Do you want to live forever? . . . Don't cheer, boys; the poor devils are dying."

Laughing words from Willie & Joe, and words cold as January ice, words that when spoken, were meant, .. "Wait till you see the whites of their eyes". The echo's of I was a Soldier.

You can hear the slow cadences at Gettysburg, or Arlington honoring not a man, but a Soldier, perhaps forgotten by his nation...Oh! Those Broken Promises.

You can hear those echoes as you have a beer at the "Post", walk in a parade, go to The Wall, visit a VA hospital, hear the mournful sounds of tap, or gaze upon the white crosses, row upon row.

But they aren't just words; they're a way of life, a pattern of living, or a way of dying.

They made the evening, with another day's work done; supper with the wife and kids; and no Gestapo snooping at the door and threatening to kick your teeth in.

They gave you the right to choose who shall run our government for us, the right to a secret vote that counts just as much as the next fellow's in the final tally; and the obligation to use that right, and guard it and keep it clean.

They prove the right to hope, to dream, to pray; the obligation to serve. These are some of the meanings of those four words, meanings we don't often stop to tally up or even list.

Only in the stillness of a moonless night, or in the quiet of a Sunday afternoon, or in the thin dawn of a new day, when our world is close about us, do they rise up in our memories and stir in our sentient hearts.

And we are remembering Wake Island, and Bataan, Inchon, and Chu Lai, Knox and Benning, Great Lakes and Paris Island, Travis and Chanute, and many other places long forgotten by our civilian friends. They're plain words, those four. Simple words.

You could grave them on stone; you could carve them on the mountain ranges. You could sing them, to the tune of "Yankee Doodle."

But you needn't. You needn't do any of those things, for those words are graven in the hearts of Veterans, they are familiar to 24,000,000 tongues, every sound and every syllable. If you must write them, put them on my Stone.

But when you speak them, speak them softly, proudly, I will hear you, for I too, I was a Soldier.

Colonel Daniel K. Cedusky
to feedback@washingtondispatch.com.
Jun 5, 2003

The Fall of the Athenian Republic

A warning from Scots Historian Professor Alexander Tyler, circa 1787.

"A democracy cannot exist as a permanent form of government. It can only exist until the voters discover that they can vote themselves largesse (generous gifts) from the public treasury. From that moment on, the majority always votes for the candidates promising the most benefits from the public treasury, with the result that a democracy always collapses

over loose fiscal policy, (which is) always followed by a dictatorship."

"The average age of the world's greatest civilization has been two hundred years. These nations have progressed through this sequence. From bondage to spiritual faith; from spiritual faith to great courage; from courage to liberty; from liberty to abundance, from abundance to complacency; from complacency to apathy, from apathy to dependence, from dependence back into bondage."

Professor Joseph Olson of Hamline University of Law, St. Paul, MN passed on that gem and provides the following 2000 election facts for consideration.

1. Population of counties won by Gore 127 million, won by Bush 143 million
2. Sq. miles of country won by Gore 580,000, won by Bush 2,427,000.
3. States won by Gore 19, by Bush 29.
4. Murder per 100,000 residents in counties won by Gore 13.2 by Bush 2.1 (not a typo).

Professor Olson adds, "And may I add that the map of the territory Bush won was (mostly) the land owned by the people of this great country. Not the citizens living in cities owned by the government and living off the government...."

Apache Troop Mini Reunion

Great fun, great friends and great weather! I think all of us attending the reunion in Whitefish Montana will use that word to describe the time we had together. It was more than most of us had anticipated and tears of remembrance followed by tears of joy and laughter permeated the festivities.

The Whitefish VFW put on a wonderful steak feed to start the official opening of the weekend and once everyone was settled in and fed, we passed the microphone around and each trooper was able to reintroduce himself to the troop. Some of it was hilarious and many memorable one-liners will stay with us to the next gathering.

Saturday was spent at beautiful Grouse Mountain Lodge with a brunch and visiting and then a relaxed dinner with multi media presentations and a wonderful address from now retired LT General Paul Funk. There wasn't a dry eye left when the hours of work Joe Bowen, portraying our KIA friends aired. Jim Kurtz had made rubbing from Wall and 108 Apache Troop heroes were on the reunion wall that traveled to all our events.

Ken Yeisley played the bagpipes at our memorial service atop Big Mountain on Sunday and Lou Rochat had brought the helmets, boots, and bayoneted rifle all the way from Texas for the ceremony led by Chaplain Claude Newby. Glen Senkowski had made the guide-on and it was flown beneath the American Flag from the Top of our world.

It is a cinch that the next reunion will be even bigger. Folks are encouraged to post photos on the web sites so those who couldn't attend this time will see some of the action. This was worth the effort to arrive out in the sticks of Montana as most troopers had praise in the voice when they said "Yeah! But what sticks!" The entire community of Whitefish welcomed the Cav of the Cav and stopped men on the street to say "Welcome Home."

See you all at the next reunion...

Bart

Afterthought

Whitefish Reunion, Sacred Moment

All

On the way home from Whitefish, I started reading Chaplain Newby's book, *It Took Heroes*. The book reads really well and for those who might worry that it's too "preachy," let me assure you I haven't found it that way. Claude is a man of faith, and his faith shines through, but he appears to have set out to tell the story of combat in the 1st Cav as seen by a chaplain, not to save lost souls like mine and yours. The chapter on "The Real Cav" alone is worth the price of a paperback, and all the other chapters are a bonus.

I came across a passage in the book that instantly brought to mind our gathering Saturday night, and the hymn that John Bartlett sang with his back to the audience.

Claude Newby was chaplain to the 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry, and in this passage he describes the battalion's return to a battleground where it had taken many casualties:

"On June 7, I accompanied Alpha Company on an air assault to the top of the east-west running ridge that divides the Bong Son Plain from I Corps to the north. We landed without opposition and set up a larger than usual FOB.

"After sunset, the troops gathered for a worship service in a clearing on the hillside, the congregation facing south. We worshipped with the soldiers looking over my shoulder as twilight descended on the Bong Son Plain -- the place of so many terrible memories. In the fading light, Lieutenant Miller, the artillery FO, stood forth and sang How Great Thou Art. Our souls vibrated and our bodies tingled -- the hairs on the back of my neck snapped to attention. Under Miller's majestic voice, we were at peace. Even the plain seemed peaceful for just a flicker of time. Never had the song touched me so. 'Oh Lord, my God, when I, in awesome wonder, consider all . . .'" The special feelings and memories of this sacred moment in hell spring unbidden to my mind and lips whenever I feel especially worshipful and in awe of my God and his Christ."

"How Great Thou Art" was, of course, the song that Bart chose. I sent him an email, asking why he chose that particular song, wondering if the chaplain had suggested it. Bart answered that he wanted to sing something, because in Vietnam he was singing much of the time, and when he understood what Joe Bowen was working on, it just seemed appropriate to sing a couple of verses of that song, one of his favorites. Bart said he wasn't sure he'd be able to get through it after watching Joe's presentation, so he sat up front where he could look away from the troop. And he added that he thought our KIA guys needed more than their names. To which I could only say, amen.

Bart said he and Billie were were sitting with Chaplain Newby and his wife Helga, and the chaplain appeared a little shaken right after the song, and Claude told him the story related above. I can see why teh chaplain might have appeared shaken. Reading that passage in his book after having heard Bart sing the same hymn made the hairs on my neck snap to attention, as the chaplain put it.

I will never again hear "How Great Thou Art" without thinking of Vietnam, Apache Troop, and the sacred moment we shared in Whitefish.

Dear James,

Thanks for your kind review of It Took Heroes. Yes, I was quite affected when Bart Sang How Great Thou Art, but I thought I hid it very well---must be losing my cool, stone-face grip.

Your analysis is correct in that I did not intent the book to be preachy, nor to save lost souls like [ours]. However, I very much wanted to remind us all of the

worth of our souls and service and sacrifices and experience, and of our collective and individual worthiness to become saved souls in the eyes of our God. And I very much wanted to pay tribute to you all.

James, you made my days!

P.S. Emboldened by James Kurtz's endorsement, below, I send this impromptu commercial to everyone else on the e-mail list:

It Took Heroes is available for \$7.50 through Barnes and Noble, Walmart, probably Books-a-Million and other outlets. Should the place you shop be out of stock, it helps the reputation of the book when patrons place special-order requests. Of course, you can order autographed copies directly from me for \$10.00 (to cover packaging and postage), but give me lead time, say December 1, if you want multiple copies to use as gifts for Christmas. Of course, I keep on hand a few copies to fill individual orders.

Again, thanks to all of you for including me in the Apache reunion. End of commercial

Claude

Sacred Moment Claude, and all,

As perhaps I've said to a few of you, I know the feeling you had during your reunion, immediately afterward, and what significance it will have now, forever. You'll meet again, but the first one is, for many, life-changing. Not that your co-workers would notice. And it will continue to change if you choose to sustain your connection.

I've read every word or Claude's 2 books. I'm no longer a religious man, but I don't remember anything about them being one bit "preachy". I wouldn't have minded either, as I once seriously contemplated seminary (12 years in Catholic schools).

I am honored to have met Claude Newby (BWS) and Jim Kurtz (Rose Garden, White House). Both are eloquent witnesses to our what it now means to have served our Country with special people on a special mission. We are on a special mission now -- Brotherhood.

Walker, C-1/9th, 4/70 - 4/71, OH-6As & AH-1Gs

Brothers with brothers. That is what reunions are all about. Apache Troop, well done!

BWS

WOUNDED KNEE

This story is intended to show that it was the 9th Cavalry, who by saving the 7th Cavalry from total defeat following the Wounded Knee massacre should have been given credit for the defeat of the Indians. Moreover, this story cannot be told without exposing the actions of the 7th Cavalry at Wounded Knee. So be it.

Lionel DeLa Rosa

THE 9TH CAVALRY AND THE 7TH CAVALRY

In the waning days of the western frontier, the 9th Cavalry was considered one of the best, if not the best regiments in the U.S. Army. This was in spite of the fact that the 9th Cavalry usually received discarded or second rated equipment and the worst horses from the more popular and privileged 7th Cavalry, yet, still managed to surpass all expectation in accomplishing their mission.

The 9th Cavalry did not participate in the massacre at Wounded Knee, but was involved in a battle the following day when the 7th Cavalry was trapped by the Sioux in what could have lead to a repetition of Custer's last stand at Little Bighorn had not the Buffalo Soldiers come to their rescue. The 7th Cavalry massacre at Wounded Knee will long be remembered, but their rescue by the 9th Cavalry would receive little or no attention by history, the U.S. Government or the General Public.

The massacre occurred on December 29, 1890, by the banks of Wounded Knee Creek, 25 miles West of what is now Martin, South Dakota. What had led up to this massacre was a new religion and the fact that the U.S. Government had reneged all the treaties it had made with the Indians.

In early 1890, in a desperate attempt to return to the days of their glory, the once proud Sioux sought deliverance from a new messiah, a Paiute Shaman named Wovoka, who promised them salvation. In 1889 the young Paiute had fallen into a trance during a solar eclipse. When he awoke he told of being taken into the Great Spirit World and received revelations of future events. The messiah message was quickly picked up by many of the Western tribes. This new religion, the Ghost Dance, prophesied that by the following spring, the dead would soon join the living in a world in which the Indians could live in their old ways with plenty of game. This would occur by following certain rite, then the earth would

be covered with new soil that would bury the white men and restore the prairie, it would bring back the buffalo and horse, so that only the Indian would live there.

This scared the hell out of the white settlers who felt that the Indians were about to take back the land they had stolen from the Indians. They wanted protection and the Indian tribe leaders arrested and confined at some military post until the matter was over.

The first to react to this new Indian religion was the Standing Rock Indian Agents who sent 40 Indian Police accompanied by two companies of the 8th Cavalry to arrest Sitting Bull, the aging holy Lakota Medicine Man and Chief, who was suspected of encouraging the Ghost Dancers in order to provoke an uprising. What followed was a melee that killed the proud chief, Sitting Bull, along with 8 of his warrior and 6 Indian police.

On hearing of Sitting Bull's death, Big Foot, sick with pneumonia, led his 300 Sioux south seeking protection at the Pine Ridge Reservation but was intercepted by the army and taken to Wounded Knee. There are several accounts on what happened the following morning, December 29, 1890. The commander of the 7th Cavalry, Colonel James W. Forsyth had been ordered to arrest and disarm Big Foot's tribe, believing that his removal would cease the conflict. The chief under a flag of truce, surrender peacefully. Colonel Forsyth ordered the Indians to turn over all rifles, guns and knives, after some hesitation the Indians turned over some antiquated rifles. But Colonel Forsyth was not satisfied and ordered the search of the Indian lodges where several more arms were found. As the disarming continued an old, deaf warrior was order to surrender his rifle and he refused. He then began singing the death chant and fired his rifle into the air starting the massacre.

A reporter with the 7th Cavalry, however, claimed that it was a 7th Cavalry trooper that fired the first shot, possibly in revenge for the 7th Cavalry defeat at Little Big Horn.

Whatever the reason, the troopers from the 7th Cavalry opened fire on mostly disarmed warriors, the women and children. Some of the still armed and unarmed warriors rush the troopers and manage to kill and wound several of the troopers. However, in the melee, their own troopers accidentally killed and wounded several of their own 7th Cavalry troopers.

On top of a hill overlooking the Indian lodges several Hotchkiss guns opened fire on the village tearing the Indian camp to shreds causing the Indians to seek shelter in a ravine. The troopers followed them into the ravine, some as far away as two miles from the village, massacring men, women, children many of these were babies, born and unborn. The number of Indians killed in the massacre also varies. However it is estimated that over 146 Indians were killed and many more wounded.

An account by a Indian survivor stated that a 7th Cavalry Trooper deliberately shot another Cavalry Trooper who, after shouting "Remember Custer", shot an elderly woman and then a child. Even Colonel Nelson Miles, the commander of the 7th Cavalry who after reviewing the account of the "battle" stated that, "I have never heard of a more brutal, cold-blooded massacre than that a Wounded Knee". In 1990 congress acknowledged the 7th Cavalry massacre and offered apologies to the Sioux people, Colonel James W. Forsyth the commander of the 7th Cavalry was brought up on charges and was cleared by a court of his peers.

Because of a snowstorm that accented on the area after the massacre, the bodies of the tribe were left where they lay. It would be three days before the troopers would return to collect and dumped the bodies in one mass shallow grave.

History claims that this was the last major engagement between the army and the Plain Indians; however, they failed to mention of another battle that occurred after the massacre that was fought against Indian warriors and not women and children.

THE 9TH CAVALRY COMES TO THE RESCUE

There were at least six thousand Sioux Indians around Wounded Knee when the 7th Cavalry moved out of Wounded Knee and the Indian had several skirmishes with the retreating. Alarmed, General John R. Brooks, Commander of the Department of the Platte, in a move that actually change history, sent a courier to Major Guy Henry of the 9th Cavalry.

The 9th Cavalry had been searching the badlands for Big Foot and had just returned from the 50 miles search when they received the message. They immediately mounted and started the march that would take 24 hours and 100 miles through extremely cold weather and a snowstorm. As they neared their destination Major Henry decided to leave his much slower train and with most of his troops continued on to Pine Ridge. He arrived at dawn and as the haft-frozen and weary troopers started their fire to warm

themselves, they received word that their train was under attack. The troops mounted their horse and went to the rescue of their train. After running off the Indians, the troopers and the trains, return to Pine Ridge.

Meanwhile, that same morning, a watcher at Pine Ridge saw smoke rising from Drexel Mission 4 miles away and the 7th Cavalry mounted up and rode out to investigate. As they neared the mission, they saw a small building on fire and several Indians who galloped away as the cavalry approached. On hot pursuit, the 7th followed the Indian into a narrow valley with steep cliffs on each side. As they chased the Indians into the narrow valley, the 7th cavalry failed to put out flanker and ere quickly trapped in the valley by the Indians who had taken command of the cliffs. The 7th Cavalry made several attempts to break out, each one failed. It would had easily been another Little Big Horn, except..,

Back at Pine Ridge the 9th Cavalry had just laid down for a well-deserved rest, after rescuing their train, when the sound of gunfire from the trapped 7th Cavalry reached their ears. With less than two hours of rest they, nevertheless quickly saddle and mounted their weary horses and proceeded toward the sound of battle.

On reaching the mouth of the valley, the 9th cavalry quickly surveyed the situation and charged the Indian on both side of the cliff with a two-prong attack. A Cavalry charge was initiated on the East side of the slopes while a dismounted charge swept the Indians off the cliffs on the west, thus, saving the 7th cavalry. The Buffalo Soldiers lost one trooper, while there was no report found as to the 7th Cavalry casualties. It is written that the white troopers from the twice as large 7th Cavalry were so grateful at being saved that they actually hugged the black troopers!

This really was, beyond doubt, the last major engagement between the army and the Plain Indians that occurred after the massacre. But history does not recognize this fact and gives credit to the 7th Cavalry.

According to some writing, the 7th Cavalry troopers were awarded 20 Medal of Honor for their participation in the massacre, while only 1 trooper from the 9th Cavalry was awarded the Medal of Honor for action against the Indians during the rescue of the 7th Cavalry a day later.

Acting on a report by General Miles, congress reviewed all the medals awarded to the U.S. Army

and in 1916-1917 new guidelines were implemented for awarding future the Medal of Honors.

Had the 9th Cavalry search for Big Foot been successful, history would had been quite different as was demonstrated by it's sister unit, the 10th Cavalry. It was during this same period that the 10th Cavalry was battling the Apaches in the Southwest and brought that action to a successful conclusion.

Note: The majority of the casualties inflicted on the Southwest tribes during the Apache war were by the U.S. Army Apache Scouts.

Lionel DeLa Rosa, SFC
delarosa@cox.net
U.S. Army Infantry, Ret.

Judicial Tyranny

One of the greatest contemporary threats to the survival of republican government arises from the courts. Increasingly, judges are behaving like black-robed autocrats, not simply ruling upon the law, but making law.

Consider some recent controversial court rulings: In California, the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals found the Pledge of Allegiance unconstitutional because it refers to "One Nation, Under God," allegedly violating the First Amendment's "establishment clause."

In Florida, the state supreme court threw out a law requiring parents of minor girls to be notified before their daughters obtain an abortion, this despite overwhelming public support for such a common-sense provision.

Although voters in Nevada twice in the 1990s passed an amendment to the state constitution calling for a two-thirds supermajority of the legislature to pass any tax increase, the Silver State's supreme court ordered legislators to pass a \$1 billion tax increase by a simple majority. This ruling effectively disenfranchised the voters of Nevada, stood the constitution on its head, and made a mockery of popular self-government.

In her opinion in the University of Michigan affirmative action case, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor admitted that the plain language of the 15th Amendment prohibits the government from making any discrimination among citizens on the basis of race. Nonetheless, Justice O'Connor asserted that a "compelling state interest"

in diversity trumps the plain meaning of the Constitution.

In *Lawrence vs. Texas*, the Supreme Court kicked open the door, as Justice Antonin Scalia noted in his scorching dissent, to legalized same-sex marriage, polygamy and other unconventional relationships, thereby setting up a revolution in social norms despite the unwillingness of the American people to undertake such an upheaval. Any day now the Massachusetts Supreme Court is expected to legitimize same-sex marriage.

These and other outrageous cases -- will we soon forget the U.S. Supreme Court rewriting the rules of golf for the PGA? -- suggest our American system of separated powers, checks and balances, is seriously out of balance. Although many of the people's elected representatives are perfectly willing, even eager, to punt some of the most incendiary issues to courts, the Framers of the Constitution never intended for Americans to live under a judicial oligarchy in which berobed despots issue decrees like so many Mogul potentates.

The notion of judicial supremacy, that the court has the final say on the meaning of the law and Constitution, is nowhere to be found in the thoughts of the Framers or the text of the Founding document. It is a power the courts have arrogated to themselves over time with little resistance from the legislative or executive branches of government. Federalist 78 by Alexander Hamilton contains not so much as a hint that the courts constitute the supreme branch of government or that judicial rulings irrevocably settle issues in dispute. Such a notion of unaccountable, unanswerable, unfettered judicial power does violence to the whole notion of separated powers.

The Framers limited the power of the courts just as they did the powers of the other two branches of government. Not only can the people amend the Constitution, but the Congress also can limit the courts' jurisdiction under the Constitution's "exceptions clause" in Article III, Section 2, putting specific matters beyond the reach of grasping judges (Federalist 81, also by Hamilton).

Even so, the crisis of the courts is deeper than is widely recognized.

American judges increasingly are looking to harmonize U.S. law and the Constitution with European and international legal norms, thereby threatening both our national sovereignty and the sovereignty of the Constitution under which our liberties have been secured for two centuries.

Denying the federal courts jurisdiction under the Exceptions Clause may be the best option available to rein in a runaway judiciary. As Justice O'Connor's opinion in the affirmative action ruling illustrates (as does the Nevada court's lawless order in the tax case), many judges are willing simply to ignore constitutions and the expressed will of the voters.

Amending the Constitution would be a waste of effort in the face of an activist court majority determined to rule by judicial fiat and to run roughshod over the basic law to achieve desired social ends. Such despotic jurisprudence would not be restrained by any constitutional amendment, as Justice O'Connor's affirmative action ruling proves.

The executive branch, too, should begin exercising its constitutional responsibility to provide a check over a rogue judiciary. Again, as Federalist 78 notes, the judiciary possesses neither the power of the purse nor the sword. It depends upon the power of the executive to execute its orders. But the executive, no less than the judicial, has sworn an oath to defend the Constitution. Thomas Jefferson refused to enforce the Alien and Sedition Acts even though the Supreme Court held those egregious laws to be constitutional. And Abraham Lincoln refused to abide by Dred Scott, holding that the court's rulings were binding only upon the immediate parties to the case. As Lincoln noted, if the Supreme Court's decisions irrevocably resolve issues, the people will have ceased to be their own rulers and resigned their government into the hands of judges.

The fiction of judicial supremacy, often cloaked in the guise of a high-minded though self-serving assertion of "judicial independence," poses a direct threat to self-government. The proper balance between the branches of government, as envisioned by the Framers in the separation-of-powers doctrine, must be restored if our American experiment in popular self-government is to prosper.

By Richard Lessner
The Washington Times
Sunday, August 10, 2003

Sent in by Frank Alverson

For Want of a Horse

The commander of an Armored Cavalry Squadron (TOE17-105H) is the only commander in the Army

who has an organic air cavalry troop but does not have helicopters allocated to his own headquarters. Because of this, I believe that the armored and mechanized divisional cavalry squadron commanders are not adequately equipped to command and control their air cavalry troop. The current equipment authorization of an armored cavalry squadron dictates that either the commander uses some of the air cavalry troop's aerial vehicles or he accepts a less than desirable capability to control air cavalry operation. Neither course of action should be acceptable.

The air cavalry troop exists today with almost the same organization and equipment that was envisioned by the Howze Board and tested by the 11th Air Assault Division. Through 7 years of combat, this aerial combat unit with 27 helicopters repeatedly proved itself to be a viable and effective organization. From one air cavalry squadron of the 1st Cavalry Division with its air cavalry troops, the air cavalry concept has permeated the Army. During the height of the Vietnam War, there were separate air cavalry squadrons as well as those organic to divisions. Today you can find an air cavalry troop organic to all divisional cavalry squadrons and armored cavalry regiments. Considering the 13-year existence of the air cavalry troop and its expanded utilization, it should be apparent that the air cavalry troop effectively employs all of its aerial vehicles (helicopters). If the armored cavalry squadron commander utilizes aerial vehicles from his air cavalry troop for command and control, he reduces the operational ability of the troop.

By looking at figure 1, it is readily apparent that the divisional armored cavalry squadron has been slighted in the area of headquarters aerial vehicles. An air cavalry squadron has four aerial vehicles, and armored cavalry regiment has 10, and the regimental cavalry squadron does not have an air cavalry troop but does have four helicopters authorized of its headquarters. Hence there appears to be a basic disparity in the organization of these cavalry units.

There are no basic differences between the missions of the three types of cavalry squadrons or the cavalry regiment. The conduct of offensive, defensive, and retrograde operations while performing missions of reconnaissance, security, and economy of force is common to all cavalry organizations. Having the same missions, it would seem that all cavalry headquarters having organic air cavalry should have the same requirements for aerial

command and control vehicles. What capabilities do the cavalry headquarters helicopters provide? The stated missions of the aviation platoon/section organic to cavalry headquarters follow:

Aviation Platoon--Air Cavalry Squadron. Organized and equipped to furnish command and control helicopters for the squadron commander and staff and to establish air traffic control (FM 17-37).

Aviation Section--Regimental Armored Cavalry Squadron. Provides command and control, emergency supply and evacuation, and liaison (FM 17-95).

Aviation Platoon--HQ, Armored Cavalry Regiment. Provides command and control, limited troop transport, emergency re-supply, evacuation, and liaison.

If the foregoing helicopter support of cavalry headquarters is justified, then the divisional armored cavalry squadron should have the same requirements.

Even without considering the air cavalry command and control problem, the divisional cavalry squadron commander requires constant helicopter support for performing his operational missions.

The normal spatial diversity of cavalry squadron ground operations prohibits the commander's firsthand knowledge of the situation unless he has helicopter support. A squadron helicopter section would provide additional operational assets for ground cavalry operations. The ability to rapidly resupply critical parts and ammunition and to position observation posts by air would substantially enhance divisional cavalry effectiveness. All divisional brigade commanders have the aerial capability provided by four helicopters organic to each brigade headquarters. The divisional cavalry squadron's area of operation is normally greater than that of a brigade and therefore would derive greater operational enhancement from the employment of organic helicopters.

It is not probable that the helicopter support required by the divisional cavalry squadron would or could be provided by the armored/mechanized division aviation company. This company has only 10 helicopters and its mission is to provide aircraft for command and control or liaison as required by the division commander and staff.

It appears that the helicopter support requirements of the divisional armored cavalry squadron can only adequately be satisfied by changing TOE 17-106H "Headquarters & Headquarters Troop, Armored Cavalry Squadron," to include an aerial support

platoon (figure 2). The organization should have a cross section of the number and type of helicopter organic to an armored cavalry regiment and those of an air cavalry squadron. The divisional squadron has fewer ground cavalry units than the regiment but more than the air cavalry squadron.

The command and control section with two light observation helicopters (LOH) and one utility helicopter (UH-1) would provide initial and responsive aerial vehicles which would enhance the squadron commander's ability to control both armored and air cavalry troop operation. This section would also provide for squadron liaison and could be used to support armored cavalry troop commanders in special situations.

The transportation section would indeed be a versatile element of the cavalry squadron. This section equipped with four utility helicopters would be both a combat and a combat support aerial force. By reinforcing the air cavalry troop's lift section, a two-platoon infantry air mobile assault could be conducted, thus doubling the squadrons air assault shock effect. The squadron lift section would more normally be employed in support of one or more of the armored cavalry troops. Scouts could be air lifted over obstacles or to inaccessible observation points and a composite infantry platoon could be lifted providing a significant increase in air mobility for the armored cavalry troop.

In the combat support role, the squadron lift section would be invaluable. There is almost no end to the list of supplies; ammunition; and petroleum, oil, and lubricants (POL)-a shortage of which would be critical for an armored cavalry troop. The rapid aerial delivery of missiles or conventional ammunition would promote extended cavalry operation and, therefore, improve the security which the squadron provides for its parent division.

The armored Cavalry Squadron of the Armored and Mechanized Division requires and organic aviation section to provide adequate command and control of the air cavalry troop and to enhance the overall mobility of the squadron in the performance of its assigned reconnaissance and security mission. This addition of helicopters would ensure that air cavalry troop aerial vehicles are not diverted from their primary mission and place the organization of the divisional armored cavalry squadron in line with the other major cavalry units in the Army.

UNIT	HQ HELICOPTERS	NUMBER AIR CAV TRP
AIR CAV SQDN	4	3
ARMORED CAV REGT	10	1
DIVISIONAL ARMORED CAV SQDN	0	1
ACR ARMORED CAV SQDN	4	0

Figure 1

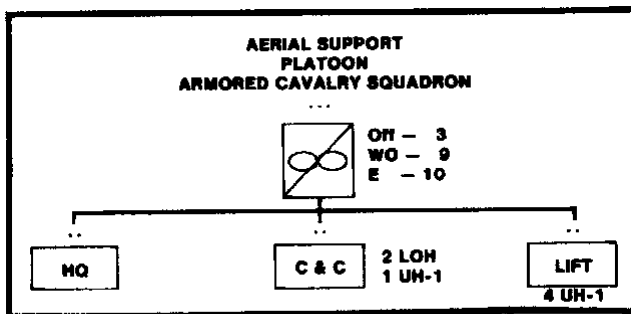


Figure 2

William P. Gillette
LTC, Armor
Ft. Carson, CO

These views are the views of veterans, those who support veterans and those that disagree. Yours may be different.

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

BWS

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 of our "keeping in touch" philosophy.

As always, if you send the BWS an e-mail, it is subject to going into the Letters to the Editor column. So if you do not want your letter printed, then let BWS know in the e-mail that it is confidential, and it will not be printed.

Our first letter is from Lionel DeLa Rosa.

Enjoy.

BWS

Loel,

Looks like I finally stepped into a big mess and things might be looking better if not excellent.

As you might remember, I have been working on the creation of a monument for the Buffalo Soldiers in the Phoenix Metropolitan area. Recent events have drawn more light into the subject with the possibility of drawing a hell of a lot of publicity for the 1/9 and this can be done with the help of the Bullwhip Squadron.

In New Orleans, Louisiana a group of individual petition congress for funds to create a Buffalo Soldiers monument. S-499 was sponsored by Mary Landrieu, D-LA. and was past by the Senate on July 14, 2003 thru the American Battle Monument The amount is supposed to be about 3 to 5 Million for the creation of the monument. The monument will be similar to the one at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Both monument and others like in the one at Fort Bliss, Texas in El Paso were lead by Buffalo Soldiers committees and both are in military posts limiting the viewing to the general public. The New Orleans monument will be available to the general public and so will the Phoenix monument. But we have one additional advantage.

This one is being led by a former 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry veteran, ME, and the Bullwhip Squadron. This will allow us to bring more attention to the many achievement that the 9th Cavalry did in Vietnam. (First capture enemy installation, first ambush on a large enemy unit, first night reinforcement, etc.)

This Phoenix monument will represent a black trooper with a Native American scout, an Apache which is more appropriate since both were minorities fighting each other and in dire need of recognition.

With so many former 9th Cavalry officers and men in position to influence the government for funds this could be quite a feat for the Bullwhip Squadron.

I do have a congressman in our Buffalo Soldier Monument, Rep. John Shadegg, but it cannot be done alone. We need the support of the Arizona Senate and we can get that with your help.

Me? Take a big bite of politics? God No! However, when I see an opportunity to address a

subject like the Bullwhip Squadron and the Buffalo Soldiers Monument, I do put in my two cents in. I am also aware of the present cost of the war and projected future cost, however, there is still a lot of money that is normally used for all type of grants that the government is always willing to give away for people who qualify. The New Orleans Buffalo Soldiers Monument is one that is not a grant, but has the possibility of making money for local economy. The same is true with the Phoenix BSM with the proper leadership.

The Buffalo Soldiers Monument at Fort Leavenworth draws quite a crowd for the Midwest, local population, school kids, tourist, etc., that help the local economy, even though the monument is inside the post. Think of it as a small Disneyland without the rides.

Frankly, the New Orleans project is one of the best ideas that I ever seen.

My hope is to draw attention to the Bullwhip Squadron and at the same time attention to the Buffalo Soldier Monument since it includes a Native American. See the web site at;

www.buffalosoldiermonument.com

What do you think? Let me know.

Lionel DeLa Rosa, SFC

delarosa@cox.net

U.S. Army Infantry, Ret.

Troopers

You have his address. Lionel needs help and if you are able and willing, give him a call. This is definitely for a noble cause.

BWS

Hello:

Mrs. B. Ewart, Loel & De keep up the good work. You all are doing one heck of a good job for us troopers.

See you all in 2004!

From the Bayous

Paul Tassin

Paul

Thanks for the good words. Just don't miss the Oct 04 reunion. This one is planning to be the very best yet.

BWS

Al:

I have been looking for the newsletter and of our reunion. I also wanted to let you know that I had to have a leg amputated due to a hospital stay. I somehow contracted a staff infection in my right knee. This has been the most painful event I have ever had. I have had several operations on it and have spent almost a year in the hospital. I am doing better now and can get along better now. But I am still in constant pain. I have just learned to live with it. But I would not miss our reunion no matter what. God bless all of the soldiers of the 1st Squadron 9th Cavalry, this unit is the best thing that ever happened. I look back on their selfless bravery, and it has helped me cope with my condition. What a wonderful group of outstanding men and soldiers, to be among such men as these is such an honor and privilege.

Jesse Glance

Louisville, KY

Jesse

Our heart felt prayers are with you.

AL

July 22, 2003

Its been really great to see those articles by the Sergeant major, Colonel McKentry and my brother Bob Allen in May's Squadron News.

I was very glad that the small way I helped could turn out to be such a positive experience for all those kids and McKentry as well.

There will come a time when the facts of what we did in Vietnam will exist only in the minds of those kids and their accounts of that day.

It is very important that the version they take away be factual and not the politically correct version they're use to reading. "We can, we will, we did!"

Are there any more copies of Bullwhip "6"'s book available? Would be interested in obtaining a copy.

I have several thousand slides that I took of the early days. Our trip through the Suez on the USS Boxer. We carried Maggie, the mule on the Boxer along with most of our aircraft. Hueys, sky cranes, Mohawks, chinooks, 13's scout ships and bird dogs. Building Ankhe "Golf Course" the base camp. Also a lot of slides of the various areas we operated in, climbed down a landing net on the side of the carrier to a LST and went ashore like a John Wayne movie. Used E-tools to cut down trees and termite dens to get the flight line ready. Built a regular home away from home for those that followed us. Funny, but it seems the older I get, the better I was.

Richard Denning, White team
C - 1/9 "Golf course" Ankhe Vietnam 65-66
LeMoore, CA

Hi to all:

My name is Jean York. My husband John York Jr. CW4(Ret) has written a book that has been published by Athena Press of London, formerly of Florida. Unfortunately John passed away before he seen the book published.

It is called "SEEING THE WIND". It is the story of his life, but mostly about Army Aviation. His experiences as an Army Aviator flying both helicopters and fixed wing aircraft. It is a very good book and a lot of it takes place at Ft. Rucker.

John was a member of the Bullwhip Squadron and was in the advance party going to Viet Nam. I feel that a lot of the members of the Association would really enjoy reading the book and find themselves identifying with his experiences.

I would appreciate it if you would mention the book in your next newsletter. It is available at Barnes and Noble either by ordering it from the store or at their web site Barnes and noble.com and also at Amazon.com.

Dorothy Kemp and wife of Jim Kemp CW4(Ret) is listed as co-author. She did all the editing and with the help of her grown children put the book together. It was through her efforts that the book got published. John was very ill near the end of the book and was able to finish it. The words are all his and he never pulled any punches and told it as it was. I am very proud of him.

There should be a copy in the Ozark Library.

Thank you,
Jean York

Jean

Our thoughts are with you. Troopers, there is another book about us and our times. You have the information. Lets read the book.

BWS

Lost and Found

None this period.

"I do not feel obliged to believe that the same God who has endowed us with sense, reason, and intellect has intended us to forgo their use."

Galileo Galilei

Magazine Update

More of our troopers are writing articles for each magazine. If you have a story to tell, then write it and send it in. You can send it in by e-mail or by regular mail to me.

Next articles are due to me by 1 December 03.

If you would like to see a specific subject in the magazine, let us know. This is your magazine and will only be as good as we, the troopers, make it.

May we all laugh a little, cry a little and all be proud of what we accomplished. We are a brotherhood both in trust and in spirit. May you enjoy the news magazine.

BWS

Bullwhip Squadron Web Site

Our Association Web site continues to grow under the hand of Ms. Loretta Stager, our Web Master. Loretta asks for any ideas from our troopers as to what they would like to see on the site. If you have any particulars, give her a call at (909) 657-3014 or e-mail at Loretta@pe.net and discuss your ideas.

We hope to make our web site a showroom for the 1st Cav Division, Air Cav Troopers and the 1st/9th. We cannot do this without your help.

The web site address is;
www.BullwhipSquadron.org

We are also looking for an assistant web master and someone from each troop to maintain that portion of our site with articles and pictures. See Loretta. Troopers, we need your help.

THE QUARTERMASTER CORNER

BWS Items For Sale

1. White or Black Ball Caps with Sqdn. Insignia. \$10.00
2. White or Black Golf Shirts with Sqdn. Guidon insignia \$ 23.00. Personalized with name and 1st Cav. Patch add \$5.00
3. Troop Guidons for all Troops A” through F” exactly as the originals \$ 70.00
4. 1st/9 Car Tags for the bumper. \$ 8.00
5. 11th and 1st Cav .Air Assault Badges exactly like the original issue. \$5.00
6. Bullwhip Squadron bumper stickers with crossed sabers. \$ 1.75
7. Denim Shirts in Blue , Black Green , Red, Wheat , with Sqdn. Insignia. Can also be personalized. \$38.00
8. BWS Unit Coins. \$ 5.00
9. BWS Lapel Pins. \$ 3.50
10. Reunion Table Center Decoration (flags and coin with holder).. We have only a few left. \$25.00 each
11. The Cavalry Trade, book by J.B Stockton. \$6.00 each
12. White or Black Golf towels with Sqdn. Insignia. \$ 5.00

We are now taking orders for A very close “look alike” Flight Jacket that has a heavy lining and is weatherproof , ribbed cuffs and ribbed waist, personalized , Tan ,Black, Green and Blue \$65.00 each.

Add \$5.00 per order for postage (We ship all by Priority Mail)

Contact AL Defleron at 334-692-5685.

The following list of Association members is as of 26 September 2003

**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 (Deceased)
Ronald L. Chapman (Dec.)
Ron Smith (Deceased)
Donald Chandler (Dec.)
Charles Covert (Deceased)
Charles Smith (Deceased)
John Teel (Deceased)
Marshall Wells (Deceased)
Gary Hayes (Deceased)
John York (Deceased)
Cowles Waldron (Deceased)
William D. Preacher (Dec)
Judson Lucas (Deceased)

Association Members

Association Members

*Abernathy, George
*Adams, Bobby
*Adkinson, Charles
*Allen, David
*Allman, Darrell
*Alverson Jr., Frank
*Anderson, Jere
*Anuskjewicz, Richard
*Anzelmo, George
*Arthur, Edward

*Avelar Jr, Jose
*Bagnal, Charles
Ballard, Stephen
*Banks, Larry
*Barati, Stephen
*Baron, Joe
*Barrett, James
Barton, Glenn
Baskin, Claud
Batcheller, Clinton
*Beardsley Jr, Guy
Bechberger, Paul
*Beck, Clyde
Beckwith (h), Karen
*Bedsole, Keneith
*Berggren, Jerry
*Betts, Tommy
*Black, James
*Blad, Hjalmer
*Blankenburg, Mitch
Blankenship, Nelson
*Blouin, David
*Bluestone-Eull, Mike
*Bogdue, Mike
*Boisseau, Mark
*Boles, James
*Bond, Michael
*Bowen, Joseph
Bowling, Billy
Bowman, Robert
*Branard, Thomas
*Bray, David
Breski (h), Harry
*Brown Jr, Albert
*Brown, Charlie
*Brown, Larry
*Bulkley, Morton
Burgess, Ronald
*Burke, Paul
*Burnett, Clark
*Burrow, George
*Busch Jr, George
*Bush, Pat
*Butt, Harry
*Byrd, William
Cable, Charles
*Caine, Vaughn
Cairns Jr, Ernest
Cameron, Bruce
*Campbell, Donald
Campbell, Harold

*Carll, Frederick
*Cavalieri, Dominic
*Chimoski Jr, Al
*Chole, Bert
*Christopher, Mark
*Christopher, Ronald
Clark, William
Coburn, Jeffrey
*Conner, James
Connor, Terrence
*Coombs, Robert
Copson II, Charles
Cornwell, Robert
*Coshey, Donald
*Covey, Michael
Cox (h), David
*Cox, Robert
Cox, Leonard
*Crawford, George
*Crispino, Joseph
Cryster (h), James
*Curtis, Grant
*DaCosta, Stephen
Davidson, Alva
*Danielsen, Ted
*Davis, Gary
*Davis, Thomas
Day Jr., James
Deardorff, Ken
*Defleron, Al
Dehart, Bruce
Dela Rosa, Lionel
*DeMailo, Alfred
*Denning, Richard
*Derrick, Charles
*DeSloover, David
*Dettmer, Marion
Dillbeck, William
Diamond, Riley
*Dinsmore, Delamere
*Dishaw, Michael
*Doslop, Joseph
Drews, David
*Dubois, Adam
*Duckworth, Walter
*Dula, Jones
Dunning, David
*Dupreast, Samuel
*Dupree, Ronald
*Edmunds, John
Egonis, Clement

*Ellis, James
Elloit Jerry
*Erway, Douglas
*Ewart, Loel
*Featherston, Steven
*Ferrea, Albert
Fieg, John
*Fisher, Gordon
*Flanagan, John
Fournier, Albert
*Francis Jr, Jim
*Frank, Patrick
*Frazer, Bill
Frazier (h), Charles
*Frederick, Donald
Fullen (h), Barbara
*Funk, Paul
Gabel, Dennis
Galloway (h), Joe
Garnhart (h), Stan
*Garrard, Timothy
*Garrett, Robert
Gavaria (h), Lillian
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