



The Official Newsletter of the
Seventh United States Cavalry Association

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Garryowen and Welcome ...

As I begin this column for the year I, and millions of Americans, am filled with competing emotions regarding the unparalleled and barbaric attack on our Country on September 11th. The first emotion was let's hit them back and do it now, the "eye for an eye" theory. Fortunately we now have outstanding leadership in the Executive Branch and they realize that we must form a coalition and then hit them and keep on hitting them until they get the message. Of course it is a lot easier to second guess and pontificate what should be done when I am now 32 years past having to answer the call to arms, smell the burnt gunpowder and be on the receiving end of incoming fire. This tragedy has served to galvanize and bond our great country like no single event, save Pearl Harbor, in our lifetime.

It has also taken one of our own - Rick RESCORLA - who along with many of our 7th Cav Veterans fought in the early stages of the Vietnam War. Rick died saving others by insuring that they evacuated the World Trade Center as calmly and as expeditiously as possible and instead of leaving, he continued to go up in the building toward the horror to help others and his actions have been estimated at helping to save thousands. I never had the honor of meeting Rick but since this attack, I have had the privilege of speaking to his wife - Susan two times. "It was Rick's wish to have no memorial or grave service. Cremation and a simple urn and to have his ashes scattered. About four months ago as they returned from a second visit at the Raptor Trust, he told me of his desire to give a donation to the trust and to have a simple plaque on one of the cages. He specifically wanted the cage to house the American Eagles." The memorial Service honoring Rick RESCORLA was held on 27Oct01 at The Raptor Trust in Millington, NJ and at the end of the service as a final tribute to Rick, Dr. Len SOUCY, the founder and director of the trust released a Red Tailed Hawk. It was the desire of the family that no advance notice was given of this Memorial Service, even knowing that many of Rick's friends and former comrades would have liked to come. If you would like to contribute to the Raptor Trust you can send donations in care of Len SOUCY at the Raptor Trust 1390 White Bridge Rd, Millington, NJ 07946.

Your 7th Cav Board made on behalf of our membership a donation, as well as making the trust an Honorary Member of the Association. Dr. SOUCY called the Monday following the memorial service to acknowledge receipt of the donation and to let us know that there were approximately 30 family and friends that attended the service. The release of the hawk as well as the sounds of the piper filled

everyone with emotion. Susan sent the following to me and with her permission I share them with you. The first is a poem written by a man in the UK, DAVID PROWSE, which was where Rick was born and is, called HERO.

A little clutch of veterans share a table in a bar, There's a guy off in the corner coaxing tunes from his guitar, They watch the Hudson River as it rolls toward the bend And they talk of Rick Rescorla as a comrade and a friend. While out across the water, many ocean-miles away Within a Cornish tavern by a sandy Cornish bay, Another group are gathered, reminiscing as a clan, And their thoughts are all of Tammy, from the schoolboy to the man. And every head among them has a picture in its mind Which time and place and memory have captured and consigned, Now the pictures weld together until only one remains, Of a sturdy selfless hero guiding others from the flames. It's a picture that unites them in their glory and their grief, More eloquent than eulogies, confirming their belief That theirs has been a privilege to saunter at his side And in the way he'd lived his life had Rick Rescorla died. The veterans recalled him in the killing fields of war As a man whose potent presence would inspire and reassure, Just one among his brothers when the skies began to fall, Yet one whom they regarded as a father to them all. And know their eyes will moisten at the mention of his name And the sources and the substance of the legend he became, When mayhem drove the best of men to crave their mother's love, He'd stand and croon an anthem to the gory gods above. And on that evil morning, so deceptively serene, Amid another carnage, just as callous and obscene, Again he took the mantle of the sainted and the strong To save the lives of others with a blessing and a song. Between the Hudson River and the sandy shores of Hayle, Though eyes encompass differences of latitude and scale, All hands are linked together in the testament they bear,

They are but Rick Rescorla's friends, united by a prayer. The following was written by Fred McBEE and titled WILD COLONIAL BOY a tribute to Rick Rescorla. There was a Wild Colonial Boy Rescorla was his name, He was born and bred in Hayle, Cornwall, Just east of 'ol Land's End. He joined the British Army When a lad of just 16, Became a brave, young soldier then, As good as ever seen. He joined the U.S. Cavalry To fight in Viet Nam, And he killed the Cong at the Ia Drang With bayonet and gun. He saved three thousand people when The terrorists struck home But lost his life when he went back To rescue seven more. So lift a cup to our dear friend Remember him with joy, How dearly do his brethren love That Wild Colonial Boy.

Jim BRIGHAM, our 7th CAV VP sent in a link to the Washington Post, which ran a wonderful story on Rick on 28 Oct. You can find this article by looking under the Washington Post on the Internet.

Ed WAGNILD, B Troop from 43-45 writes in response to my request on how you traveled to war. They left Camp Stoneman, CA on 29May43 enroute to who knew where as part of the advanced detachment of 8 (1 Sgt. And 7 Pfc.'s). After several days the PA announced that we were heading for Australia although we had no idea what the objective was or why we had been picked. With nothing to do but play cards for 8-10 hours per day we made lots of assumptions and after realizing that we were fairly intelligent hoped we would end up in some type of school. Some Troops had 24 men and there were several thousand of us in the advanced detachment. Our ship was the USS Maui and we arrived in Brisbane on 18 Jun.

A couple of years ago I met a neighbor by the name of Buster SCHONENBERGER, who was with the 8th Cav who had also gone over with the advanced detachment but couldn't remember the name of the ship he was on. His discharge certificate indicated that he had left Camp Stoneman on 28May and arrived on 19Jun. Ed is sure that there was only 1 ship that made up that advance party and if that's the case, Buster must have been in the front of the ship when they left San Francisco and in the rear when they

arrived in Brisbane because it took him an extra 2 days to get to Australia. Seriously if anyone knows of another ship departing in late May of '43 it would be interesting to know. They never did go to any schooling but spent the month getting ready for the Division to arrive.

Glen ALLEN, Jr. writes that as a member of A 2/7 they left Benning around the middle of August of '65 and were bussed to Charleston, SC. Most of the Division embarked on a series of troop ships and he was assigned to the USS Patch. They traveled south, past Cuba and through the Panama Canal. Glen says that this was very interesting and educational and seeing the locks do what they were designed to do was awesome. They then turned North up the coast of Mexico and arrived at Long Beach, CA for resupply. So far the trip was uneventful, no seasickness - yet and the days spent stripping down and reassembling our M-16's and .45's. We had recently been issued the M-16 and had only fired them once or twice. The days were filled with redundant classes and endless lines waiting for rotten chow. He remembers "lots" of hot dogs but nothing really special and although the food was hot it just wasn't the best. After resupply, we were headed west and one trooper became seriously ill and we stopped off from the coast of HI so he could be evacuated. We got a nice view of Diamond Head off in the distance. A few days later we hit a typhoon and the ride was like a bucking bronco. I, along with many others, was extremely sea sick, resulting in the dry heaves which lasted for days. I remember laying in an overcrowded hold on a canvas type sling stacked on top of each other with minimal ventilation. I believe the officers and non-coms had it much better. We were not restricted and did visit other parts of the ship but it was not encouraged, besides most of us stayed close to each other. At night we played a lot of cards, wrote letters and were entertained by a fellow (later KIA) who played the sax. All in all it was an adventure and I'm glad that I had the experience. Of course we landed in Qui Nhon in the middle of Sep and then the fun really began.

Thanks to Ed and Glen for these memoirs of troop deployment. We still need more. Two more books on the recommended reading list: The first details our involvement in Mogadishu in Oct of '93 titled Black Hawk Down and written by Mark BOWDEN. It covers in great detail the extraordinary courage of the Army Rangers as they come to the aid of their comrades who were shot down. Bin Laden helped to train the people that we were fighting there and this gives us an idea of the type of person we are up against right now. The second titled The Price Of Honor by David H. HACKWORTH is a compelling and entertaining read with a lot of twists and turns. I believe that you will enjoy both. I hope that you have been watching the Band of Brothers Mini Series detailing the exploits of the 101st Airborne from training through the end of WWII. LTG (ret) Harry WO KINNARD served with the 101st at Bastogne. I found the series extremely well done.

Speaking of the 7th Cavalry Band of Brothers, those veterans will again be gathering in Washington over Veterans Day to observe and expand on the camaraderie that was forged in the Ia Drang valley in November of '65. The banquet is a sell out this year with over 500 people already signed up. Clips of the upcoming movie We Were Soldiers Once and Young are scheduled to be shown and some of the actors are hoping to attend. I can hardly wait to receive the "After Action Report" on this year's festivity. While searching for antiques this past September,

I came across a pristine copy of Mel CHANDLER's Of GarryOwen In Glory. This book was originally published in '60 and came replete with dust jacket. Originally published by Turnpike Press, you have to look in literally every nook and cranny of antique shops or old bookshops. This is most definitely the one book that historians and veterans of the 7th Cav should have in their library.

The 2nd Battalion has been busy as the following will attest. On 1Aug the Ghost Bn changed command as LTC Ned WOOLFOLK passed the colors to LTC Gregory WATT who will be assisted by CSM Humberto HART. Alpha recently returned from SW Asia to form part of Task Force 3-8 for Operation Desert Spring. Bravo has been engaged as OPFOR for the 3rd Bde NTC Train-UP and is currently OPCON'd to the 1st Squadron. Charlie and Delta are assisting the Army in evaluation of the Battlefied Combat Identification System. In mid September the Bn will deploy at Ft HOOD as OPFOR against the 3rd BCT during TF EXEVAL. During this phase the 1/7 will be OPCON'd to the 2/7. In October they will be conducting Bradley Crew Qualification to be followed by the GHOST BALL on 8Nov. LTC WATT would like to hear from former members of the 2/7 as they continue to honor the proud heritage of the 7th Cavalry.

This update should serve to remind us that our troopers continue to march in harms way, whether they be deployed to SW Asia or Bosnia. Just as our Great Grandfathers, Grandfathers, Fathers and we did, so now go our sons and daughters into the breach to protect and to serve our wonderful country. Keep them in your daily prayers. Guinn UNGER reports that his beloved Phyllis passed away on 31Oct from her battle against cancer and wants to let everyone know that they greatly appreciated the prayers and e-mails of support. There will be a memorial service in Gettysburg and she will be buried in Arlington. Col UNGER commanded the 1/7 in RVN during the first half of '69. I am pleased to report that Joe GALLOWAY has been confirmed as a special assistant to another great American Soldier and our Secretary of State - Colin POWELL. Congratulations Joe on this high honor.

Don ASHTON e-mail's from Ireland about the piece on Dennis KECK from last month. It seems that he and Dennis were classmates in OC class 514, late '68, and remembers him as "perhaps one of the youngest in the class." They have found most of their class and have had eight reunions to date, usually over the Columbus Day weekend and have been told that they are the only OCS class to do that, what a great idea. Don worked for JD COLEMAN as the Division's press officer. He edited much of the "Black Book" and then ran the forward press camp at Quan Loi during the Incursion. Don can be reached at jayhawk@eircom.net.

Marc LEVY reports that he and Dennis PARRISH have connected with Dennis NOBLE's daughter Gina, who was very much appreciative of hearing about her father. We continue to receive new applications to our Association and are hopeful that we with some assistance from each of you could top TWO THOUSAND members by the reunion in Colorado.

We do need your help though. For your membership fee you receive a certificate, suitable for framing, a roster with an update since the last printing, a membership card and a welcome letter. A roster is a perpetual document and the cost prohibits publishing each time a new member is added. The update serves that purpose and new members are incorporated into each new printing. A pretty good bargain for only \$15. It is also helpful and speeds up the process if you include some proof of service with the 7th Cav. Unit orders work very well for this, especially those that have multiple names such as CIB, Air Medal or Meritorious Bronze Stars.

This year we dressed up at work for Halloween and being the clever boy that I am, I went as an Army person, replete with jungle fatigue jacket (pants won't fit), boonie hat (very faded), dog tags and P-38 (very scratchy), ruck sack, canteens, poncho and liner (very musty), and some left over c-rations (Oct67) and a larp ration. I drew the line at bringing my SKS, but did bring a round and a dummy hand grenade. More than anything it was a history lesson for my staff, all but one having been born since '72. Opened

up a B-2 unit with the P-38 (need practice), the crackers were still there and intact but smelled funny and the peanut butter tin was starting to swell up. Interesting for them to see what we had to work with in the "Old Army."

This article should arrive about three weeks before Christmas and I would like to urge each of you to try and find one of your lost buddies, whether it be from your service with the 7th or someone that at one time was your best friend. What a special present that will be for the both of you. We must continue to be ever vigilant and let our elected officials know how we feel. This is a trying time for us as a Nation, but with our steadfast resolve, we will prevail. I hope that everyone paused for a few moments on November 11th and paid tribute to our fallen comrades and said a little prayer for our troops currently going in search of the "Evil Doers." Julie and I wish each and every Trooper of the famed 7th United States Cavalry a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. God Bless the United States of America and GarryOwen from Michigan.

Bob Anderson Scribe
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Your foxhole buddy is just a phone call away. Why not try to find him now? If you have copies of orders for awards, company rosters or copies of morning reports any item with list of names you are urged to make copies and send to Jim Brigham for addition to the reference file. This file is used to verify those seeking membership and also to form search lists.

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