



The Official Newsletter of the
Seventh United States Cavalry Association

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PRESIDENT	VICE-PRESIDENT	SECRETARY/TREASURER
J.S.(Jim) Brigham Jr.	Robert Arbasetti	Robert J. Anderson

Garryowen and Welcome ...

Dateline Grand Rapids. Saddle up for the latest news of your 7th Cav. This is my last installment as your reporter and brings to a close 37 columns over these last 6 years. I will also interject thanks to folks who have helped me during the last years as your scribe throughout this article. Ron MIGUT, C 1/7 takes over as your reporter and will do an admirable job. Now let's ride.

Roland E. HORN writes us about his experiences with Alpha Troop in the Philippines. After going through 16 weeks of Basic Training at Camp HOOD, TX, he was sent to Hollandia, New Guinea via Ft. Ord and Camp Stoneman arriving in Dec '44. Two days out of New Guinea the LST that he was on was torpedoed and split in two with the rear half sinking almost immediately with a heavy loss of life including many friends from Basic. The convoy kept on moving and the lucky survivors were picked up by an LCI. His only possessions were a life belt and the clothes that he was wearing, while some had even less. They were dropped off at a Navy floating hotel in Samar and trucked to a replacement Camp near Tacloban, Leyte. After drawing new equipment he was shipped to Luzon and Alpha Troop commanded by Cpt. ADAMS and assigned as a rifleman and point scout in Lt. CRANES, 3rd Platoon. After the Antipolo campaign, the Regiment was sent to Siniloan to take over the mission of securing Infanta. They traversed over narrow, muddy and rutted roads lined by tunnels and caves especially near the Kapatalan sawmill area. During this campaign two of his fox hole buddies were killed by sniper fire. After Luzon was "declared secure" he was reassigned to the duty of Troop clerk and promoted to Sergeant on 1Sep45. Was promoted to acting First Sergeant in Nov and that was made official in Jan '46. Thanks Roland for this view of 7th Cav action in WWII.

Received a phone call from Phil ZOOK informing us that he is on the mend from a recent bout with appendicitis. He had spent several days in the hospital and reported that it was very surreal to again be in the hospital some 32 years after being medically evacuated from Cambodia after suffering serious wounds on 24 May70. I would like to thank the following troopers from WWII, who have supported me in my duties with the Association: Norm OSTERBY, who has served as President of the 7th Cav and Division Association and who did a masterful job as scribe for so many years. Sherman HAIGHT who

provided needed leadership during the reunion at Ft Bragg. The late Bill "Sir Cedric" SWAN, a gallant soldier and consummate professional who gave so much of himself for the betterment of the Association. Bill RICHARDSON, our immediate Past President and former President of the Division Association who has provided wise counsel and a steady hand over these last two years. Members of the Division Association staff who have edited these columns, prodded me to get them submitted and assisted with the formation of the West MI Chapter: Bob LITTLE, who commanded the 2/7 in RVN; Lorinda DAVISON, who edits most of the SABER columns, Martha FISHER who handles with professionalism the many Chapter doings and lastly, Art JUNOT, who has given tirelessly these many years to the growth and betterment of both Associations. GarryOwen to all of you and my gratitude.

To the following Korean War veterans who continue to give of their time and energy: Bob SPIROFF, who sent me a treasured copy of his book; Ray "Old Soldier" MORAN, who after retiring from the Army continued to serve as a liaison for the Army reserves, Chaplain Frank GRIEPP, who has given several invocations at our functions. The Vietnam group consisting of Tom HARTIN, C 1/7 who continues to support the growth of both Associations; Barry "Okie" WILLIAMSON, who wrote the column and kept our books for so many years without the aid of a computer. Roger GALLOWAY and John TINTI who were with Phil and me during the bloody days of April and May of '70, it was great to see you again in Buffalo. Mike BRENNAN, MD, A 1/7, who was finally awarded his well deserved Silver Star some 20 years after the fact and continues to support the searching out of Phantom Raiders. 1/9 guys, Barry McALPINE, DC and Kregg JORGENSEN, a writer of tremendous talent. Extraordinary soldiers that I had the honor to command in RVN and with whom I have re-established contact: Hank GONZALEZ and Dave ALCON, two of the best gun squad leaders that any platoon leader could have asked for. The late Frank MACHADO, who served as an Assistant Gunner to both Dave and Hank. Lito DeLaGARZA who humped the M-79 and Dave HARTZELL who walked point for us. Thank you for making me a better officer. Doug WALDRON, who served the 7th in Desert Storm and who did so much to preserve the history and lineage of the 7th Cav. To ELD who drafted me into the position of scribe these so many years ago. To CSM Basil PLUMLEY, who fought at Normandy and lastly at LZ X-RAY and has served as President of the 7th Cav Association, and currently serves as the Honorary Sergeant Major of the Regiment, to Joe GALLOWAY who also served in Desert Storm and to Hal MOORE, Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, who took the 1/7 to RVN, our thanks for your book and the tenacity to see it brought to a feature film. I am also told that the Division Bookstore has the Movie Hats for sale.

I recently came across another book on Gen. CUSTER called On The Little Bighorn With Walter Camp. Mr. Camp had interviewed some 109 people over a span of 15 - 20 years, starting in about 1908, that had served in the 7th with CUSTER to include some survivors of the battle. The book is a compilation of those letters and notes. It is Volume 14 of the Montana and the West Series and is published by Upton and Sons and their phone number is 800.959.1876. I spoke to my source regarding Mel CHANDLER's Book Of GarryOwen In Glory and he still has a few copies left. His name is Frank MERCATANTE and he can be reached at 616.241.6101.

The active duty 2/7 continues to be quite busy as the following will attest. They are currently training for deployment to the NTC later this summer including Bradley Crew and Platoon Qualification gunnery, Platoon Lanes and Company / Team Lanes. In late June they deployed for a combined arms live fire exercise followed by Task Force External Evaluation. Then they performed a Command Post Exercise at Ft. Carson, CO and the Leadership Training Program at Ft. Irwin. Company A has returned from deployment to Kuwait. Company B set the standard for After Hours Recovery from Company Lanes. Company C was tasked with being the III Corps Regional Reaction Force for FEMA after the 9-11

attack. Company D after Bradley qualification holds the distinction of being the most lethal unit in the Battalion. HHC continues to be the lifeblood of the BN. CSM Hart and LTC Gregory WATT send their thanks to all former members of the GarryOwen as they continue to put "The Seventh First."

The petition for the Congressional Medal of Freedom for Rick RESCORLA continues to gather momentum. The on line registry can be accessed at <http://www.petitiononline.com/pmfrick/petition.html>. In addition American Legion Post 149 in Escondido, CA has set up a memorial fund with a web address as well www.CaLegionPost149.org/rescorla. They can also be reached at rescorlamemorial@usa.com. Rick's hometown of Hayle in Cornwall, UK is building a statue to honor him as well and contributions can be sent directly to Rick Rescorla Memorial Fund c/o John Daniels, Cornish Arms, 86 Commercial St, Hayle, Cornwall, TR27 4DJ UK.

Jim BRIGHAM reports that the memorial service on May 7 was truly a well organized and fitting tribute to Rick. He writes: "On behalf of the Officers and members of The 7th United States Cavalry Association, I would like to express our sincere thanks to the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation, The NY/NJ Chapter of The First Cavalry Division Association, Morgan Stanley and to all members of The Vietnam Veterans of America who participated in this tribute." Please also remember that contributions can still be made to The Raptor Trust in Millington, NJ to honor Rick's memory. The recent printing of the Association roster continues to show some 265 members without a current address. If you didn't receive our first class mailings last year, please send me your address so we can get you back into the fold. We have a goal to achieve 2003 members by next years reunion at Ft Hood. If you served in any Battalion or Squadron of the 7th Cavalry you should sign up today. Please remember to send proof of your service. The Association continues to foster camaraderie between all era's of troopers from WWII to our current active duty soldiers.

Jean STARK, a long time member of the Association recently passed away. After being rescued from the prison at Santo Tomas in February of '45, she spent the rest of her life promoting the 7th Cavalry. She served on the Sunshine Committee and sent literally hundred's of cards to troopers that she read about in the Saber. She was welcomed into Fiddler's Green on 27Apr. For those who can make it there is the 24th Annual Assembly of The Order of the Indian Wars in Kansas City beginning on 24Aug. More info can be reached by e-mailing indianwars@aristotle.net.

Mary Jean KUPISIEWICZ writes to say thank you regarding the request for information on her Dad, MSG J.M. SHEPHERD who was killed in Korea. 4 troopers have stepped up to assist Mary Jean in finding out more information about her father. GarryOwen to Bob RUPERT, Robert C. GRAY and especially to Larry WIDENER, who sent pictures of Sgt. SHEPHERD along with his recollections. "You have done me such a great service, Thank You seems to little." Mary Jean, it is to you that we owe our debt of gratitude for you lost one of the greatest gifts known to human beings, the continuing love of a father. To me this is really what makes our Association so great - We never forget our comrades and even 50 years later we can and do extend comfort to those who need it most - The Survivors.

To Bob COX, Patrick J. KEANE, Dana B. "Horse" DILLON, Steve SHARP and John TALBOTT, thanks. To Eva RICHARDSON, Julie MOORE, Peggy OSTERBY Francis DILLON and Vivian JUSTICE thank you for YOUR service to our Nation. Special thanks to Jim SAVAGE, who has designed and brought to life the 7th Cav Website and serves as our site manager. This is something that Jim started on his own a number of years ago and he does an admirable job. To Jim BRIGHAM, who has done yeoman's work in bringing new members into the Association, most notably members of the 2nd Battalion and somehow finds the time to attend most of the functions to honor fallen comrades. And

finally to my "brother" in life, forged and strengthened by combat in the Jungles surrounding FSB Francis with C 1/7, Phil ZOOK, who for almost 10 years served as Secretary / Treasurer of OUR Association. And to all of those troopers, to numerous to mention (well over 700 hundred) who sent in pictures, letters or e-mails and helped to tell our story, my heartfelt thanks.

Remember that Ron "Shortround" MIGUT takes over as OUR next Scribe and his e-mail address is Saber@us7thcavalry.com and he (like I did) will need your input to make the columns interesting. You can order your very own 7th Cavalry Tartan Tie from either Jim or myself and the cost is just \$30 which includes shipping and handling. We are still looking for old rosters of the Association. The earliest roster that we have is dated 1989 and we are missing a number of those in between and prior to that year. We will pay for copying if necessary to get this part of our lineage completed and in one place.

We are also looking for any Unit Orders, Letter Orders or anything that contains multiple names as it makes verification of applications so much easier. Many guys have lost their files and without "Proof" of service that comes from these orders we can't allow membership. It causes hurt feelings and unhappiness especially so when the person is legitimate. Up until a few years ago, I continued to carry in my wallet the plastic sealed Code Of Conduct card and the little flag that I carried through my tour in RVN and call me old fashioned I guess but I become very emotional when I hear The National Anthem, The Pledge of Allegiance and America The Beautiful. I am concerned when some factions seemingly continue to attack the basic tenants of what our Armed Forces have fought defending and protecting us over these 225+ years. We must continue to be ever vigilant and let our elected representatives know "what we are thinking," for without input from us they will do what they think is best and not necessarily what we elected them to do. It has been a pleasure and an honor to have brought the news of OUR 7th Cavalry to you over these last 6 years. Julie (the love of my life) and I wish each of you good tidings and long life.

Now according to General Order Number 5, I stand relieved from my post as Scribe and Salute each of you with GarryOwen, First Team and Good Bye. Robert J. Anderson, 1LT, Infantry.

Bob Anderson
Secretary / Treasurer
The 7th United States Cavalry Association