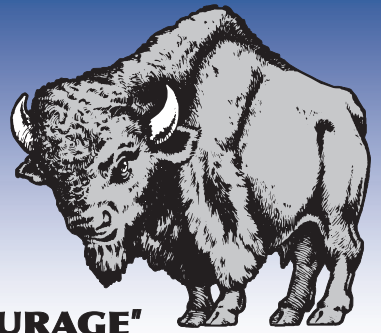


# THE BUFFALO Bugle

'TRUTH AND COURAGE'



Official Publication of the 17th Infantry Regiment Association

Vol. 19, Number 1

May - June 2010

THE 4TH BATTALION, 17TH INFANTRY REGIMENT WILL BE RE-ACTIVATED AT FT BLISS, TEXAS IN 2011



THE BATTLE FOR PORK CHOP HILL, APRIL-JULY 1953, KOREA

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The Buffalo Bugle is edited and produced for the Association by Association Member Donald Shook with article proofreading provided by Carla Shook and or Maria de la Sierra. Stories, photographs, cartoons, and articles of interest to members of the 17th Infantry Regiment Association are welcomed and greatly appreciated. Please identify all personnel and locations when possible on back of photographs, along with a return address so that we can return your photographs to you. Items can also be electronically sent via e-mail to: [deshook@7thinfantry.com](mailto:deshook@7thinfantry.com)



# “TRUTH AND COURAGE”

## FOUNDER

LTG William “Buffalo Bill” Quinn

## HCOR

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Olalla, Washington 98359

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## 1-17 CSM

CSM Peter Smith

peter.lee.smith@us.army.mil

ON THE COVER: C COMPANY 1-17 IN



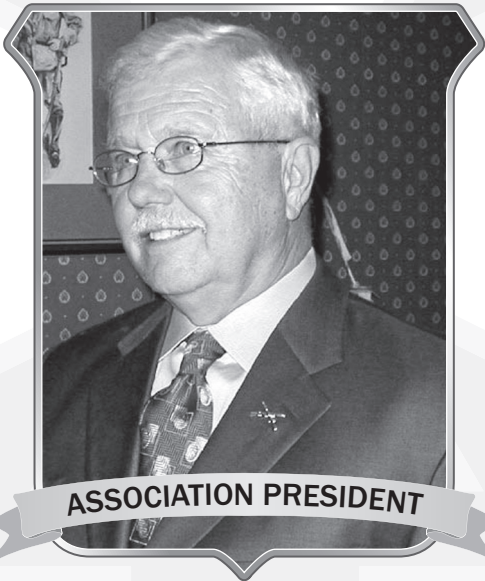
Top Row (L-R) 1LT Stephen Patrick, Commanding Officer /  
2LT Jack Birkner, 2nd Platoon / 1LT Pfeifer, XO

Bottom Row (L-R) 2LT Ronald A. Monier, 1st Platoon /  
2LT **Fred Kamaka**, 3rd Platoon / 2LT William West

Picture was taken in April of 1953 (Days before the April Battle) by 1LT James J Balduzzi Jr. 1LT James Balduzzi was killed in action during the July battle for Pork Chop.

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This spring is a good time to add someone to our paver path if you want it in time for the reunion. Details are included in this issue of your Buffalo Bugle.

We all know that our 1st Battalion has had a difficult mission in the Argandab River area of Kandahar Province in Afghanistan. As I write this, the Battalion is preparing to enter a new battlefield: the City of Kandahar. This city is the home of the Taliban.

Some of the projects that our Association has worked on are described here: During the past 9 months our members have visited our wounded soldiers at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, and several of our members have attended the services of our soldiers who were killed in action. Your association has also provided the funds to get Christmas trees to each platoon and headquarters of the Battalion in Afghanistan. CSM Tim Green (USA RET), our chairman of the board, visited Forward Operation Base Frontenac to present two knives to the soldier and NCO of the year 2009.

Maria de la Sierra has worked diligently getting the ground work done for what we hope will be a vibrant addition to our Association, The Ladies Auxiliary of the 17th Infantry Regiment Association.

Another exciting piece of news is that we may have a new Battalion forming early next year at Ft. Bliss, Texas. Col. Steve Gardner, our Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, has been

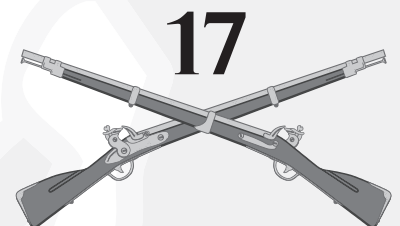
asked by your current president, Bruce Frazer, to take the point as the associations representative in the planning and coordination of the events involving this project. The new 4th Battalion of the 17th Infantry will be part of the 1st Brigade of the 1st Armored Division. Look for an introduction of our new 4th Bn. Commander, LTC Maximo Moore in this issue of the Buffalo Bugle.

We also welcome our new 1st Battalion Commander LTC. Tim Davis. LTC. Davis will take over LTC Neumann's job later this year. LTC Davis's biography is in this issue of the Buffalo Bugle.

WE, as an association, have a lot on our plate now, and I am confident that the Buffalos will rise to the occasion, as always. I am honored to be associated with such Americans as you, and to be given the opportunity to be your point man for a few years.

*Truth & Courage  
God Bless the Regulars*

*Bruce M. Frazer*  
C 1-17 Commander  
1968-1969  
Republic of Korea



## *The President's Pen*

Buffalos,

Summer time has arrived, and it's time again to make ready for our reunion in Columbus, Georgia, the home of the Infantry. Steve Goodwin and Gay Frazer have made two trips to Columbus to finalize the details so that your visit will be both entertaining and fun. Our Thursday and Friday trips will be concluded by mid- afternoon so we can have plenty of time to visit and get to know our new members and those who have not been to a reunion.

Don Shook has been working for months to get our monument at Sacrifice Field up-to-date and to get all the paver bricks placed for those who have purchased pavers since our monument dedication several years ago. As a point of interest and pride, we will be adding another Medal of Honor recipient: Anthony T. Kaho'ohanaho, H Company 17th Infantry Regiment, for actions in the Korean War.





**CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**

Examples of activities are as follows:

1. Attending command ceremonies.
2. Participating in award ceremonies.
3. Speaking on regimental or corps history and traditions at dinings in, or other similar functions.
4. Maintaining contact between CONUS and OCONUS battalions or elements of the regiment.
5. Assisting in historical professional development programs for officers and NCOs.

Members of the regiment are nominated and approved as special appointees because they have a history of perpetuating “the history and traditions of the regiment, thereby enhancing unit morale and esprit” through the examples above and/or examples not given. Becoming a special appointee is not an end in and of itself, but a beginning of more work to come.

Special appointees are looked up to and respected as the true perpetuators and enhancers of the Army’s Regimental Enhancement Program. The Chief of Infantry doesn’t approve special appointees only for what they did to be nominated, but because they demonstrate the ability, the will, and the potential to keep perpetuating and enhancing the program’s objectives. Notice how the primary mission of the program is written in the present tense, not past tense, with an implied future tense also.

Many of our special appointees

continue performing in the same vein and tradition that got them selected as special appointees in the first place. They attend 1-17 functions; visit our wounded in Walter Reed and other hospitals; attend funerals; purchase pavers for our Memorial; contribute to regimental and association programs; run for and serve in elected and appointed association officer positions; and so on.

There are some special appointees who are legitimately incapable of performing their primary mission. There are many extenuating and mitigating circumstances that prevent one from attending reunions, running for association elected or appointed position, doing something in their local communities, etc., and to those special appointees we salute you for what you’ve done to perform your primary mission.

Sadly, though, we have a few special appointees who are fully capable of performing their special appointee activities in some degree but do not. They rest on their laurels. These are special appointees we seldom to never hear from since their induction. They feel no true regimental spirit, obligation, or responsibility to continue perpetuating “the history and traditions of the regiment, thereby enhancing unit morale and esprit.” They contribute no article to the Bugle, purchase a paver for the monument, attend a reunion every five years, nothing. That is a group who need to evaluate themselves

~ continued on page 25

Greetings, fellow Buffalos,

The DMOR/HMOR nomination period is now closed and our nomination packet rests with LTC Jon Neumann, commander of 1-17, for his consideration and submission to Fort Benning, Georgia. The Chief of Infantry will consider our nominations and those he approves will be inducted at the reunion in September.

All the Honorary and Distinguished positions are collectively referred to in AR 600-82, The US Army Regimental System, as special appointees. Taken right from the regulation:

The primary mission of these special appointees is to perpetuate the history and traditions of the regiment or corps, thereby enhancing unit morale and esprit. The activities of (these special appointees) are designed to promote and enhance the history and traditions of the regiment or corps, promote the war fighting ethos among soldiers, and create cohesion among members of the regiment or corps.

## Ladies Auxiliary of the 17th Infantry Regiment Association

On behalf of the Officers and Board of the 17th Infantry Regiment Association, I'm happy to announce the creation of the 17th Infantry Regiment Association Ladies Auxiliary. This idea has been out there for a few years and we're going to try and get it on it's feet at the 2010 annual reunion being held in Columbus, Georgia. Maria de la Sierra, wife of David de la Sierra, has done a lot to get things started (initial research and bi-law creation) and will act as interim President of the Ladies Auxiliary until the 2010 reunion where the initial structure will be created.

If you're interested in joining the "Buffalo" ladies auxiliary, please contact Maria de la Sierra via the information below:

### Maria De La Sierra

134 Red Fox Run  
Macon, Ga. 31210  
Phone: (305) 407-9368  
e-mail:  
cherublace@reynoldscable.net

### Criteria for joining is listed below:

Wife, Mother, or Grandmother of Association Member in good standing.

Daughter, Sister, or Granddaughter of Association Member in good standing and over the age of 18.

Note: if you're already a Lineal Member of the Association (Life or Annual) you'll be exempt from Auxiliary dues.

Auxiliary dues are \$10.00 a year and **do not** include the Association newsletter.

The Ladies Auxiliary can serve the Association and Regiment in many different ways to include, but not limited to; organizing and running the raffles and auctions at our annual reunions, working with the active duty Family Readiness Group (FRG) to support our active duty soldiers during combat and peace time missions, sending out "Get Well" and Sympathy cards to Association members and their families, etc. Through your volunteerism you can help this Association in many ways and many women have already been working hard at reunions, etc since the creation of the national association in 1993.

### The Ladies Auxiliaries first official task:

The 1st Battalion will start returning home to Ft Lewis in a few months and on 22 July 2010, they will be having a re-deployment ceremony in the morning and a Battalion ball that evening at the Hotel Murano in Tacoma, WA. The 1st battalion has asked the association to support wounded 1-17 Soldiers by deferring their cost for the ball. This will be for Soldiers that were injured severe enough to have been medevac'd from theater and returned to the rear detachment or other hospitals stateside as well as

their spouses, primary care giver or one guest. It would greatly reduce the burden that is placed on the unit to support injured buffaloes and their loved ones. We asked for similar donations for the 2008 reunion and thanks to the generosity of many association members and veterans, we were able to sponsor many 1-17 soldiers at the reunion. Your commitment and generosity was appreciated by all in the battalion and now that these men return from Afghanistan, we can show them that we support their service and sacrifices for this nation and regiment. Dinners at the Ball will be approximately \$30 a person and even if you could only spare \$30, it would be a much appreciated show of support.

In our first Ladies Auxiliary utilization, Maria de la Sierra will be the point person in collecting donations for the 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment. Please make all checks out to the "17th Infantry Regiment Association" and Maria will coordinate the donations with Association Treasurer, Steve Goodwin and the Rear Detachment Commander, Luke Bushatz. Please feel free to contact Maria if you have any questions about this sponsorship drive and our sincere appreciation for supporting these young men and their families.

See Page 17 for a Donation form and thanks in advance for supporting these young men.

"Truth and Courage,"  
Donald Shook





ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN

my lip.”

“Operation Mustache” started when Colonel Quinn signed a resolution that stated: “I hereby resolve that I will attempt to develop a handlebar mustache from this day forward until I depart from the 17th Infantry Regiment; and furthermore, it is my hope that the remainder of the herd will do likewise.”

“Truth and Courage”

*Marc Williams*  
Association Historian



From the Archives of General William W. Quinn

## Now the 17th Infantry Will Look Like the Beaver Patrol

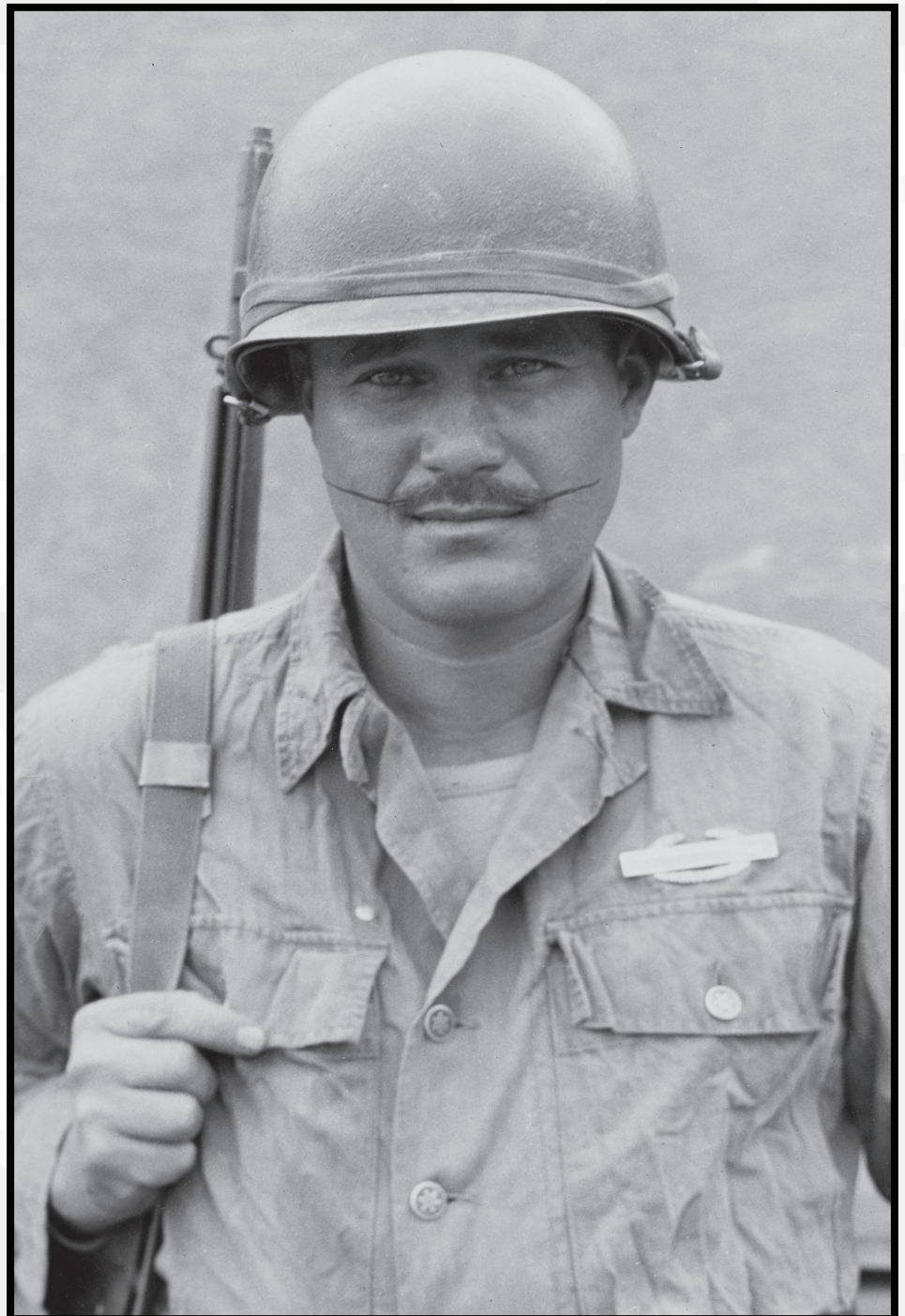
With the 7th Infantry Division, Korea, June 6, 1951: Mustaches sprouted like weeds today among members of the 17th Infantry Regiment.

Colonel William “Buffalo Bill” Quinn, Regimental Commander, has asked his men to cultivate handlebar mustaches for the “good of the morale.”

“There’ll be no penalty for those who don’t raise handlebars,” Colonel Quinn explained. “This is a request, not an order. I think it will serve as a badge of distinction and will help build up esprit de corps.”

“I can’t raise a handlebar,” said 18 year old PFC Wesley C Hill of Wellston, Ohio. “I’ll have trouble raising a small fuzz on

A 17th Infantry Soldier sporting a Handlebar Mustache in 1951





FOB Frontenac, Afghanistan.

Greetings from Northern Kandahar Province. We have just entered the last two months of our deployment, and while thoughts easily turn towards who or what is waiting for us at home, there remains a lot of work to do before we have everyone safely on a plane and headed for FT. Lewis. We have had a busy several months since the last update from here in Afghanistan.

At the start of the New Year, we began a new mission set that has had us tasked to provide freedom of movement along a very important road corridor that connects Kandahar City with a population center to our north. The road networks are a favorite killzone for Taliban ambushes and provide him an easy way to isolate the population from both their government and economic opportunity by preventing people and commerce from moving freely throughout the country. To take the initiative on the roadways from the enemy, we worked hard to

provide persistent surveillance of likely or historical places where the Taliban stage attacks. We also conducted aggressive patrolling to disrupt guerilla operations off the roadways where he generally had sanctuary and could re-arm and plan for missions.

The Arghandab River has been high this spring from both mountain snow melt and rainy season runoff. Where we used to be able to wade the river dismounted, or ford it in our Strykers, we have had to conduct heli-borne missions to lift forces into villages and areas where the Taliban figured we couldn't reach him. During our trainup for combat, we didn't get much practice with either lift or armed helicopters, but they sure have been great teammates here in the fight.

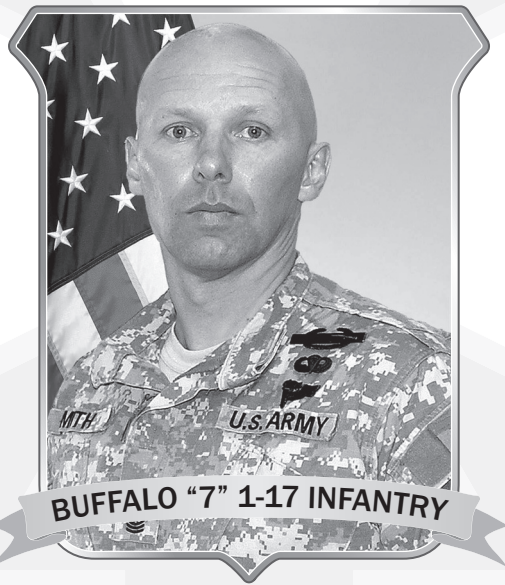
For over three months this winter/spring we had to make do with one less Rifle Company in our area. Attu Company was tasked to support other battalions in the Brigade. During this time away from the Buffalo Herd, the boys from Alpha made us proud by bringing security to the Maiwand district of Kandahar and for a month they participated in the large coalition assault on the enemy stronghold of Marja. That offensive was billed as the largest operation since the invasion in late 2001. Operating with the 4th BN, 23rd Infantry Tomahawks, A company secured key objectives which kept the Marines' battle area cordoned off, and allowed the easy flow of equipment and supplies to sustain the long

battle. For a time during the big Marja Offensive, we had to give up most of B Company as well while our Brigade shuffled troops around to maintain all our assigned areas. Both companies are now fully back with us and that has made a huge difference in our success.

Success is extremely hard to define in a counter insurgency environment. The absence of enemy contact is a good indicator of some momentum, but we all know the enemy is still out there looking for opportunities to try to regain the initiative. In the breathing room we've created through our lethal operations, we've worked hard with non-lethal tools to continue to drive a wedge between the Taliban and the people of the local area. These stability-type efforts include millions of dollars worth of reconstruction and development to build or repair infrastructure like wells, irrigation canals, flood diversion walls, market areas, and schools. These projects leave the villages with very visible signs of progress and also provide a means of employment for the area. The Buffaloes have also been busy tying the rural populations in two districts with their government by encouraging participation in the local town-hall type gatherings called shuras. In January, at one district government center, the weekly shura was attended by about 20 village or tribal elders from the area just outside the district center. After three months of steady pressure against the enemy and steady pressure

~ continued on page 38





the warm and fuzzy stuff! Onto some hard facts we can all be proud of.

1st Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment has been the main effort for all but a few Brigade-level operations and was the spearhead for most of them. These operations left Buffalo hoof-prints in places like Jelluar, Shah Wali Kot, Taryn Kot, and many more within the Arghandab River Valley. Even though these names may not tell you much right now, there will be stories told by these young men at reunions to come.

The battalion has been recommended for the Meritorious Unit Citation and the Presidential Unit Citation for its actions during this deployment. As of right now there have been over 30 Valorous Awards, more than 100 Bronze Star Medals, and hundreds of Army Commendation Medals. Most of the Infantrymen in the battalion have seen combat and received their Combat Infantryman Badge. All of the medics assigned to the battalion have received the Combat Medic Badge and 97% of our support Soldiers have received their Combat Action Badge.

The Unit Crest stone and the Fallen Warrior stone you have seen in pictures will be brought back to Fort Lewis and displayed in the battalion area. We, as a battalion, want to ensure that our fallen Buffaloes are never forgotten for the sacrifice they made to serve our country and protect its freedom. It will be a constant reminder of the honor this deployment will add to the lineage and heritage of the Buffalo Battalion.

Upon redeployment, all of our tactical equipment will remain here for the incoming unit, which leaves the battalion in the unenviable position of re-drawing new equipment during the reset of the brigade. Nearly 60% of the Soldiers in the battalion will be reassigned or reach their Expiration of Term of Service. The battalion will receive an influx of new Soldiers as replacements during reset which will be the start of a new era for the Buffalo Battalion.

The Brigade Welcome Home Ceremony will take place on the morning of July 22d as well, I invite you all to come and congratulate our Soldiers on a job well done. The welcome home Ball will take place that same day at 1800 in the Murano Hotel in Tacoma, WA. All Buffaloes, past and present, are invited to attend. The following day is Block Leave for the Soldiers of the battalion to take a well-earned respite from 'work' and relax, rest, and recuperate before coming back and tackling the hard job of rebuilding the battalion.

*CSM Peter Smith*  
*"Buffalo 7"*



Greetings from Afghanistan my fellow Buffaloes! As we enter the last 100 days of the deployment the boys are starting to think of home, but still 100% focused on the mission at hand and what is happening outside the wire. The attitude and commitment of these young Buffaloes has remained consistent through our incredible hardships and changes of mission.

On behalf of all the deployed Soldiers I would like to thank you for the unwavering support you have shown this great outfit over the last several years – especially the last nine months we have been deployed. Your contributions, thoughts, and prayers have helped us through some of these most difficult times. In my 20+ years of service, I have never witnessed such a strong bond between the former and present Soldiers of one unit. I consider myself very fortunate to be part of such a marvelous organization.

That will be quite enough of

# 17TH INFANTRY ASSOCIATION REUNION

September 29th - October 3rd, 2010

Columbus Marriott, Columbus, Georgia (See Page 11 for hotel details)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE OR GUEST \_\_\_\_\_

DAYTIME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME(S) FOR NAME TAGS \_\_\_\_\_

Note: This is separate from the Hotel Registration and MUST BE SENT TO Steve Goodwin at the address below.

Member Status: Life \_\_\_\_\_ Annual \_\_\_\_\_ Note: If you are an annual member, dues for the year 2010 should be paid by this time. If they are not, please enclose a separate check for \$17.00. Your membership year will be on the mailing label of the Bugle (example: RA 2010)

**I (WE) PLAN TO ARRIVE IN Columbus, Georgia on: (date)**

**Wednesday, September 29th, 2010: (Official Start)**

Wednesday officially kicks off the reunion and the Hospitality Room will be open for attendees to use. Remember, the weeks events are not mandatory and veterans are welcome any day of the week.

**Thursday, September 30th, 2010:**

The National Infantry Museum

Includes: lunch, transportation and full access to this wonderful state of the art museum honoring the Infantryman and our distinguished history on the battlefield

**THURSDAYS EVENTS:** \$40 X \_\_\_\_\_ People

**Friday, October 1st, 2010:**

Ft. Benning Tour

Includes: Transportaion, Traditional Memorial Service at a Chapel on post, Post Tour, 17th Infantry Monument visit, Lunch at the Benning Officers Club. Also includes Friday evening entertainment with a Bluegrass band

**FRIDAYS EVENTS:** \$40 X \_\_\_\_\_ People

**Saturday, October 2nd, 2010:**

17th Infantry Reunion Banquet  
Buffet Style Dinner

**\*This year's banquet will be off site from the Hotel and will be a surprise Cost includes transportation. (Trust us, the night will end with a bang!)**

\$30.00 Reunion Fee (per person): Includes hospitality Room Fees (Includes all alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, snacks, etc. for duration of reunion) Personalized Name Tag, lanyard, entertainment, and other reunion items. This is a **MANDATORY CHARGE PER PERSON** (18 years and older)

Make Checks Payable to: **The 17th Infantry Association**  
Please send forms and fees to Steve Goodwin  
no later than September 20th, 2010

**Steve Goodwin**

**3916 Forest Avenue**

**Western Springs, IL 60558**

**SATURDAYS EVENTS:** \$40 X \_\_\_\_\_ People

**REQUIRED REUNION FEE** \$30 X \_\_\_\_\_ People

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE:** \_\_\_\_\_





# FORT BENNING, GA

“FOLLOW ME” to the 2010 Reunion

## HOTEL INFORMATION

Columbus, Georgia

**Marriott**

800 Front Avenue

Columbus, Georgia 31901

1-706-324-1800

Toll-free: 1-800-455-9261

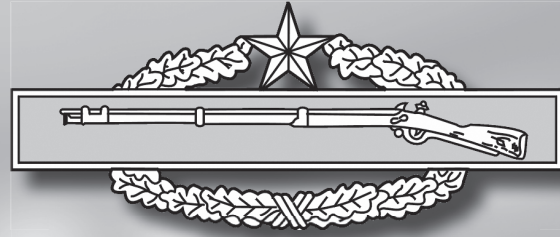
### \$119 a night

Includes free breakfast every morning at the hotels  
Houlihan's Restaurant  
also: internet in every room

Tell them that you're with the 17th Infantry!

We have reserved 125 rooms on a first come first serve basis with a cut off date no later than Sept 8th, 2010

**RESERVE YOUR ROOM NOW!**

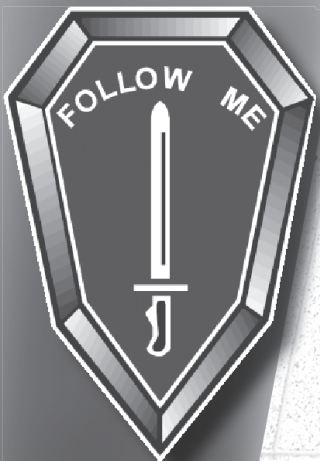


**17th Infantry Regiment Reunion  
September 29th - October 2nd 2010**

**To Include:**

- New Infantry Museum Tour & Lunch
- 17th Infantry Monument Visit
- Lunch at the Ft. Benning Officer Club
- Memorial Service at Ft. Benning
- Eastwind Bluegrass Band on Friday

Contact Steve Goodwin  
[scout417@hotmail.com](mailto:scout417@hotmail.com)



# DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF THE REGIMENT

Selections for Distinguished Members of the Regiment (DMOR) and Honorary Distinguished Members of the Regiment (HDMOR) are not based solely on military accomplishments during an individual's time in service, but also on what the individual has accomplished on behalf of the Association. The Chairman of the selection committee is Association Project Chairman, CSM Tim Green. Nominations for DMOR or HDMOR should be sent to him at [csmgreen@gmail.com](mailto:csmgreen@gmail.com)

The above badge and a certificate suitable for framing, as well as orders signed by the Chief of the U.S. Infantry, are presented to each awardee.



- \* Joe E. DeFosse
- Louis E. Eve
- \* Andy Ferreira
- Eugene P. Feury
- Bruce Frazer
- Pete Gallo
- COL Edward Gibbons
- Kevin Gilfether
- Steve Goodwin
- Joseph Gonsalves
- Eulos Graham
- \* COL Philip Grimm
- CSM Timothy Green
- George Harvey
- \* Raymond Harvey \*MOH
- Fred Hatter
- Lawrence Haynes
- \*HSMOR
- Robert R. Heiter
- \* Thomas Hickman
- \*HCOR
- COL Jeffrey P. Holt
- Einar Ingman \*MOH
- Gilbert E. Isham
- COL Jeffrey "Al" Kelly
- \* BG Ted Mataxis
- \*HCOR
- 1SG Matthew Splechter
- Stuart Johnson
- Louis Kolb
- Jackie D. Legg
- Fred McGee

- Joe Midyette
- CSM Daryl T. Moore
- CSM Timothy Mullins
- SGM Walter L. Murrell
- Judge Stuart Namm
- MSG Robert Northcutt
- COL Mike Okita
- 1SG John Moore
- \* Tony Perez
- Robert Petzold
- Arnold Prather
- \* Rocky Rayos
- \* BG Royal Reynolds
- \* Jack Reynoldson
- Clarence Rineck
- \* SGM Richard Robbins
- James Rohr
- Richard Rosa
- \* Stewart Rothman
- \* LT Richard Shea \*MOH
- James Sheldon
- Donald E Shook Jr.
- Charles Shuck
- LTC James Smith
- John L. Strube
- John A. Sullivan
- CSM Mack Vereen
- Don Watts
- LTC Charles Webster
- Richard Whitson
- Scott Wickland
- Gregory Williams
- Bobby Wilson
- \* Jacob F. Wittler
- Darron Wright
- \* Neil Young
- \* Deceased

## HCOR

Colonel Steve Gardner

## HSMOR

CSM Mack Vereen

## DMOR

- \* SGM Phillip Albert
- \* Alfred Baumann
- SFC Douglas Bell
- \* Clarence Bennet
- Paul H. Bryant
- SFC Lawrence Burke
- \* Dennis Camp
- John T. Carrig
- \* Ralph C. Colley
- CSM George Crisostomo



# ASSOCIATION MERCHANDISE

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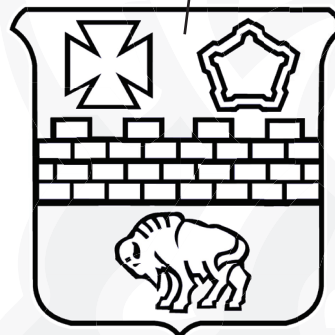
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# 17TH INFANTRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

Challenge Coins	Description	\$ Per Coin	Shipping	Sub-Total
Association Coin	(A) Epoxy filled Coin	\$9.00	\$1.50	
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Silver Bullion patch	(I) Hand Made Silver Bullion patch	\$25.00	\$1.50	
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"Truth and Courage"	(J) Circle One: BLUE BLACK RED TEAL GREEN	\$5.00	\$1.50	
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17th Infantry Decal	(M) Member Decal (small) * White Vinyl	\$4.00	\$1.00	
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# 57th Anniversary of the Battle for Pork Chop Hill

This is an abbreviated description of the Battle of Pork Chop Hill for educational purposes. Two very good resources are the following books which are highly recommended:

## April Battle:

**Pork Chop Hill: The American Fighting Man in Action, Korea, Spring 1953, by S.L.A. Marshall**

## July Battle:

**ON HALLOWED GROUND, The Last Battle for PORK CHOP HILL, by Bill McWilliams**

## History

The Battle of Pork Chop Hill comprises a pair of related Korean War infantry battles during the spring and summer of 1953. These were fought while the U.S. and the Communist Chinese and Koreans negotiated an armistice. In the U.S., they were controversial because of the many soldiers killed for terrain of no strategic or tactical value.

The United Nations, primarily supported by the United States, won the first battle when the Chinese broke contact and withdrew after two days of fighting. The second battle involved many more troops on both sides and was bitterly contested for five days before United Nations Command conceded victory to the Chinese forces by withdrawing behind the main battle line.

Pork Chop Hill was the nick-

name for a United Nations military outpost in the “Iron Triangle” sector of the Korean Peninsula along the 38th parallel. The hill, 300 meters high, first was seized by the U.S. 8th Cavalry Regiment in October of 1951, again in May 1952 by Item Company of the U.S. 180th Infantry Regiment, then defended by the 21st Thai Battalion of the 2nd Infantry Division in November, 1952. Starting in December 29, 1952, the outpost was part of the 7th Infantry Division’s defensive sector. Pork Chop Hill, itself, was one of a several exposed hill outposts in front of the Main Line of Resistance (MLR), defended by a single company or platoon positioned in sand-bagged bunkers connected with trenches.

Opposing the 7th Infantry Division were two divisions of the Chinese Communist Forces the 141st Division of the 47th Army, and the 67th Division of the 23rd Army. These were veteran, well-trained units expert in night infantry assaults, patrolling, ambushes, and mountain warfare. Both armies (Corps-equivalent units) were part of the 13th Field Army commanded by General Deng Hua, who was also deputy commander of Chinese Volunteer Army forces in Korea.

The opposing forces in this sector were roughly equal in size, the 7th Division (Major General Arthur Trudeau, commanding) totaling 11 infantry battalions (including attached battalions from Colombia and Ethiopia), a battalion of armor, and 6 battalions of artillery, while the Chi-

nese forces totaled 12 infantry, 10 artillery, and the equivalent of one tank battalion.

## First battle in April

Both the United Nations Command and the Chinese had used military operations to gain leverage or make political statements relevant to the armistice negotiations since early 1952. The first battle on Pork Chop Hill occurred near Operation Little Switch, the exchange of ill and injured prisoners-of-war scheduled for April 20. The Chinese command authorized the April attack to demonstrate that agreement in contentious negotiations did not equal unwillingness to continue fighting, if necessary.

In a surprise night attack, on March 23, 1953, a battalion of the Chinese 423rd regiment, 141st Division seized an outpost near Pork Chop Hill called “Old Baldy” and quickly overwhelmed Company B of the 3rd Colombian Battalion during its relief. Two days of counterattack, by a battalion of the 7th Division’s 32nd Infantry, failed in retaking the hill, and the United Nations Command ordered it abandoned. This preliminary fight exposed Pork Chop to three-sided attack, and, for the next three weeks, Chinese patrols probed it nightly.

On the night of April 16, Company E, 31st Infantry manned Pork Chop Hill. Shortly before midnight, an artillery barrage foreshadowed a sudden infantry assault by a battalion of the

~ continued on page 19



**LTC TIMOTHY C. DAVIS,  
UNITED STATES ARMY  
IN-COMING 1-17 CO  
SEPTEMBER 2010**

Lieutenant Colonel Davis was born in Tampa Florida, but as an Army brat traveled throughout the east coast and Germany growing up. He is a graduate of The Citadel - The Military College of South Carolina where he received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in German Literature in 1993. He received his Master of Military Science Degree in Military Studies from the Marine Corps University, Virginia in 2005. He is currently serving as the Armor LTC Career Manager, US Army Human Resources Command.

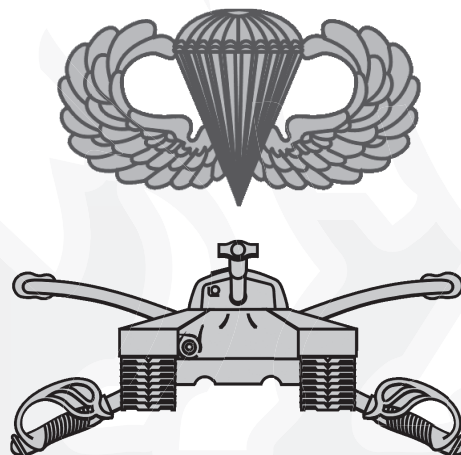
LTC Davis served and the Executive Officer and Commander 1-40 Cavalry Squadron, 4th BCT, 25th ID (Airborne), from July 2005 – November 2007. He deployed with the Squadron in support of Operation Iraq Freedom and conducted combat operations South of Baghdad. LTC Davis also served as the ABCT's Operations Officer

upon redeployment from Iraq.

His previous assignments consist of: Maneuver Captains Career Course Small Group Instructor (FT Knox, KY and Afghanistan 2001-2003); C (Infantry) and D (Tank) Company Commander of 1-4 Infantry Battalion (Hohenfels, Germany); D Company Commander, 1-46 Infantry Battalion (FT Knox, KY); Tank Platoon Leader and Executive Officer of D Co 2-72 AR (Republic of Korea).

Tim's Military Education includes the Armor Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Combined Arms and Services Staff School, the Marine Command and Staff College, and Airborne Course, Ranger Course; Cavalry Leader's Course and the Joint Firepower Control Course.

LTC Davis is married to the former Dona Brown of Louisville, Kentucky. They have three children: Leigh Anne (13); Sara (11) and Jamison (6).



**LTC MAXIMO MOORE III,  
UNITED STATES ARMY  
IN-COMING 4-17 CO  
SOME TIME IN 2011**

Lieutenant Colonel Maximo A. Moore III enlisted as an Infantryman in the New York National Guard in December 1989.

After receiving his commission from Fordham University ROTC in 1992, he attended Armor Officer's Basic and Advanced Courses and Cavalry Leaders' Course at Fort Knox, Kentucky, Ranger School at Fort Benning, Georgia, and both the Command and General Staff College and School of Advanced Military Studies at Fort Leavenworth Kansas.

Lieutenant Colonel Moore holds a Bachelors of Science in Biology from the State University Of New York College of New Paltz, a Masters Degree in Operations Research/System Analysis from The Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey California, and a Masters Degree in Theater Operations from the United States Army's Command and General



Staff College's Advanced Military Studies Program.

From 1989-1992, he served as a Rifleman then later as a Fire Support Team Leader in the then, 27th Brigade 10th Mountain Division New York Army National Guard. From 1993 to 1995, he was a Platoon Leader, Executive Officer, and Assistant Operations officer in 1-12 Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, at Fort Hood, Texas.

After attending the Armor Officer Advanced and Cavalry Leaders Courses, LTC Moore commanded A Troop 4-7 Cavalry, 2nd Infantry Division in the Republic of Korea from 1996-1998. From 1998-2000, he completed his Masters in Operations Research at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA.

Between 2000-2003, he served as a Theater Campaign Analyst at the Center for Army Analysis at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. During that period he deployed to support The Coalition Force Land Component Command's CJ5 as a planner. After a brief deployment he worked as the Forces Command Account Manager at the US Army's Human Resources Command in Alexandria, Virginia. Between 2004-2006,

LTC Moore attended field grade level professional military education programs at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. From 2006-2008, he served as the 4th Brigade 25th Infantry Division (Airborne) Brigade Operations

~ continued on page 25

*Support our Wounded Warriors*



*of the 1st Battalion  
17th Infantry Regiment*



The 1st battalion has asked the 17th Infantry Association to support wounded 1-17 Soldiers by deferring their cost for the redeployment ball. This will be for Soldiers that were injured severe enough to have been medevac'd from Afghanistan and returned to the rear detachment or other hospitals stateside as well as their spouses, primary care giver or one guest. It would greatly reduce the burden that is placed on the unit to support injured buffaloes and their loved ones (Dinners are approximately \$30.00 a person.)

Please make checks out to the  
**“17th Infantry Regiment Association”**

Please send checks to:  
**Mrs Maria de la Sierra  
17th Infantry Association  
134 Red Fox Fun  
Macon, GA 31210**

Our goal is to collect enough donations to pay for 100 dinners for active duty 1-17 soldiers.

**Donations are tax deductible**

When sending in donations, please include your

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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**“TRUTH AND COURAGE”**

# PRIVATE MURPHY

## HDMOR

Honorary Distinguished  
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Shirley Stoddard  
Janet Strube  
Marie Sullivan  
Mary Watts  
Lee Whitson  
Patricia "Pat" Wilson  
Tomicene Wilson  
Laura Wittler



Mark Baker's tribute to the 3-17 and 4-17 "Lightfighters" who served under the 7th Infantry Division (L) at Ft. Ord, CA



U.S. Army Spc. Jerimiah Butts, with Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment, mans a .50 caliber machine gun and provides security during Operation Helmand Spider in Badula Qulp, Helmand province, Afghanistan, Feb. 12, 2010.



Chinese 201st regiment; Pork Chop Hill was quickly overrun, although pockets of U.S. soldiers defended isolated bunkers. Elsewhere in the sector, other positions were attacked, pressuring the entire 7th Division.

### **31st Infantry counterattack**

Company K and Company L, 31st Infantry, in reserve behind the MLR, were ordered to counterattack and began their attack at 04:30 on April 17. By dawn they reached the main trenches on top of the hill but suffered almost 50% casualties, and half of Company L's troops had not been able to leave the trenches of an adjacent outpost, Hill 200. Lt. Clemons, in tactical command of the assault, requested reinforcement. 2nd Battalion 17th Infantry was already attached to the 31st Infantry and its Company G (commanded by 1st Lt. Walter B. Russell) was immediately sent forward, linking up with Company K at 08:30. All three companies were subjected to almost continuous shelling by CCF artillery as they cleared bunkers and dug in again.

Through a series of miscommunications between command echelons, Division headquarters ordered Russell's company to withdraw at 15:00 after they too had suffered heavy losses, and did not realize the extent of casualties among the other two companies. By the time the situation was clarified the companies of the 31st Infantry were down to a combined 25 survivors. Maj. Gen. Trudeau, by then on scene, authorized the

commander of the 31st Infantry, Col. William B. Kern, to send in a fresh company to relieve all elements on Hill 255 and placed him in tactical command with both the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 17th Infantry attached and at his direction.

### **17th Infantry counterattack**

Kern sent forward Company F, 17th Infantry (commanded by Captain Monroe D. King), which started up the hill at 21:30 under heavy artillery fire but reached the trenches at 22:00, suffering 19 killed in the process. Kern at 23:00 then ordered Company E, 17th infantry (commanded by 1st Lt. Gorman C. Smith), to move up to reinforce Company F. Smith, to avoid the bulk of the artillery fire, moved around the right flank of the hill and up the side facing the Chinese positions

Company K, 31st Infantry had incurred 125 casualties, including 18 killed, of its original 135 men. After twenty hours of steady combat the remaining seven members started off the hill singly just after midnight of April 17-18 and withdrew without further losses. Several of Company L's survivors remained with the relief troops to familiarize them with the layout of the hill defenses.

During the early morning of April 18, the Chinese 201st Regiment renewed its attack at 01:30 and again inflicted heavy losses on the defenders, nearly overrunning Company F in battalion strength. The timely counterattack by Company E, 17th Infantry caught the Chinese

by surprise on their flank and ended the organized assault. The 141st Division renewed attacks in company strength at 03:20 and 04:20 but did not gain further ground.

At dawn on April 18, an additional U.S. rifle company (Company A, 17th Infantry) climbed the hill to reinforce the 2nd battalion companies. Together the three companies spent the bulk of the day clearing the trenches and bunkers of all hiding Chinese and securing the hilltop. The battle ended that afternoon.

UN artillery had fired over 77,000 rounds in support of the three outposts attacked, including nearly 40,000 on Pork Chop Hill alone on April 18; the Chinese expended a similar amount.

### **Tactics and losses**

Both the Chinese and U.S. infantry assaulted the hill initially under cover of a moonless night. Each used a heavy preparatory artillery barrage to force the defenders to cover in bunkers and to screen the approach of the attacking troops. Chinese forces used rapid movement and infiltration tactics to close quickly on the trenches and surprise the defenders, while the US forces used grazing fire to limit defensive small arms fire, then maneuvered systematically up the hillsides under shellfire. Neither side employed supporting fire from tanks nor armored personnel carriers (APC) to protect attacking troops.

Once inside the trench line,

troops of both forces were forced to eliminate bunkers individually, using hand grenades, explosive charges, and occasionally flame throwers, resulting in heavy casualties to the attackers. For the UN forces, infiltration of cleared bunkers by bypassed Chinese was a problem throughout the battle and hand-to-hand combat was a frequent occurrence.

Evacuation of casualties was made hazardous by almost continuous artillery fires from both sides. The 7th Division made extensive use of tracked M39 APC's to evacuate casualties and to protect troops involved in the resupply of water, rations, and ammunition, losing only one during the battle.[5] In addition the UN forces employed on-call, pre-registered defensive fires called flash fire to defend its outposts, in which artillery laid down an almost continuous box barrage in a horseshoe-shaped pattern around the outpost to cover all approaches from the Chinese side of the MLR.

U.S. losses were 104 dead, including 63 in the 31st Infantry, 31 in the 17th Infantry and 10 among engineers and artillery observers, and 373 wounded. Chinese losses were unknown.

A 1959 movie, *Pork Chop Hill*, based on S.L.A. Marshall's account of the battle, presented a semi-fictional account of the engagement, in which Lt. Clemmons was portrayed by Gregory Peck and Lt. Russell by Rip Torn.

## Second battle in July

### Rebuilding the defenses

The 7th Division rebuilt its defenses on Pork Chop Hill in May and June, 1953, during a lull in major combat. Final agreements for an armistice were being hammered out and the UN continued its defensive posture all along the MLR, anticipating a cease-fire in place.

### Night surprise attack

On the night of July 6, using tactics identical to those in the April assault, the Chinese again attacked Pork Chop. The hill was now held by Company A, 17th Infantry, under the temporary command of 1st Lt. Richard T. Shea, Jr, its executive officer. Company B of the same regiment, in ready reserve behind the adjacent Hill 200, was immediately ordered to assist, but within an hour, Company A reported hand-to-hand combat in the trenches. A major battle was brewing and division headquarters ordered a third company to move up. The battle was fought in a persistent monsoon rain for the first three days, making both resupply and evacuation of casualties difficult. The battle is notable for its extensive use of armored personnel carriers in both these missions.

On the second night, the Chinese made a new push to take the hill, forcing the 7th Division to again reinforce. Parts of four companies defended Pork Chop under a storm of artillery fire from both sides.

At dawn of July 8, the rain temporarily ended and the initial defenders were withdrawn. A fresh battalion, the 2nd Battalion of the 17th, counter-attacked and re-took the hill, setting up a night defensive perimeter.

### 7th Division counterattacks

On both July 9 and July 10, the two sides attacked and counter-attacked. A large part of both Chinese divisions were committed to the battle, and ultimately five battalions of the 17th and 32nd Infantry Regiments were engaged, making nine counter-attacks over four days. On the morning of July 11, the commander of the U.S. U.S. I Corps decided to abandon Pork Chop Hill to the Chinese and the 7th Division withdrew under fire.

### Results and losses

Four of the thirteen U.S. company commanders were killed. Total U.S. casualties were 243 killed, 916 wounded, and nine captured. 163 of the dead were never recovered. Of the Republic of Korea troops ("KATUSA") attached to the 7th, approximately 15 were killed and 120 wounded. Chinese casualties were estimated at 1,500 dead and 4,000 wounded.

Lieutenant Richard Thomas Shea and Cpl. Daniel D. Schoonover, a combat engineer, were both posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

Less than three weeks after the Battle of Pork Chop Hill, the armistice was signed and actual hostilities halted, though the Korean War did not technically end as a result.



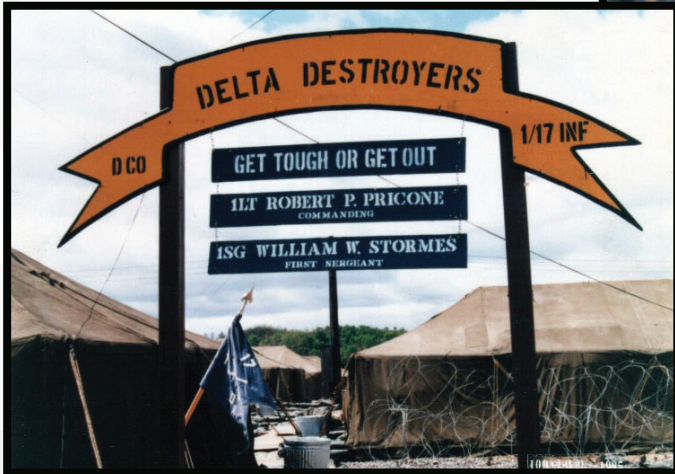
SGT Guillermo Garcia of Alpha 1-17 in Afghanistan



Working on "Phase Line Papa" 1968  
Lt Jurwood Moxley and 1SG Ramirez



D 1-17 Circa 1984-1985 (ROK)



Members of A 1-17 scan for enemy activity during Operation Moshtarak / Afghanistan



Then LTC Steve Gardner: 4-17 Battalion Commander 1991-1993





1-17 Buffalo serving during “Operation Iraqi Freedom” in 2006



PHILIPPINE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION



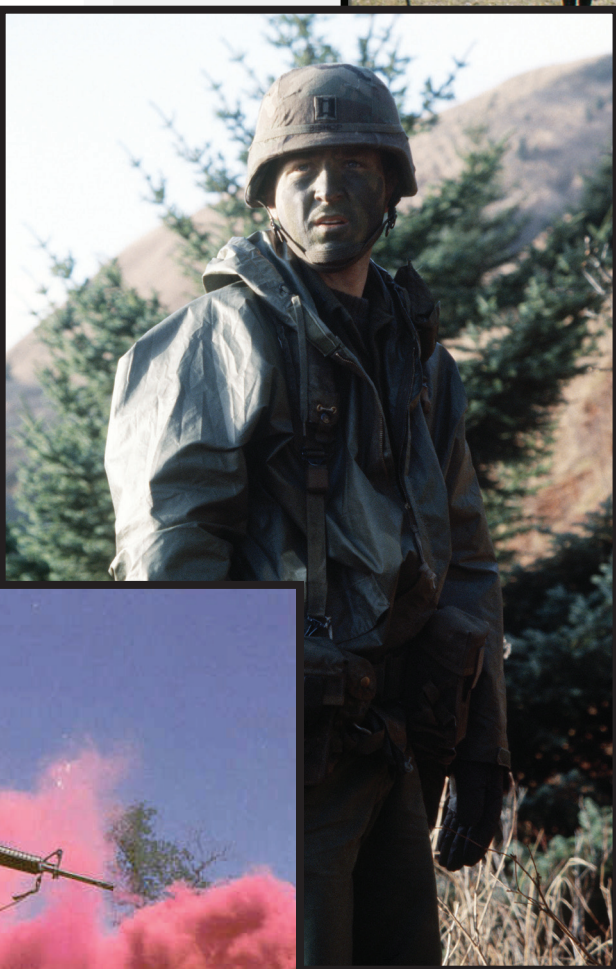
Paul Wilcox and 1LT Mel Metts of C 3-17  
Circa 1989 at Ft. Hunter Liggett, CA



CHARLIE AIRBORNE



2-17 Officer in Alaska. Circa 1987



SPC Mark W. Mackeen of Alpha 1-17 / 23 Feb 2010



Terry McIntosh D-17 LRP Germany 1967



Alpha 3-17 AT Section Panama 1990



Colonel "Buffalo Bill" Quinn circa 1951





Officer and Squadron Operations Officer for 1-40th Cavalry Squadron (Airborne) at Fort Richardson, Alaska. From OCT 2006 – DEC 2007, LTC Moore deployed with the Brigade to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 06-08. In JUN 2009, he became the Chief of Plans for the United States Army Pacific's Early Entry Command Post also at Fort Richardson, Alaska.

In JAN 2010, LTC Moore was selected for the Chairman of The Joint Staff's Afghanistan/Pakistan Hands Program. In MAY of 2010, he completed language training in Dari, one of the three national languages of Afghanistan.

LTC Moore's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (1 OLC), Army Commendation Medal (5 OLCs), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal (2 OLCs), Combat Action Badge, Ranger Tab, and Parachutist Badge.

LTC Moore is married to the former Ms. Cheryl Gindhart and they have four children: Sofia (8), Eva (7), Maria Elena (6), and Max IV (4).



## GIs Baited With Turkey Rout Chinese Regiment

The 1st Battalion of the 17th Infantry Regiment had fought for three days to dislodge a Chinese Regiment from "Saw Tooth" hill. The enemy was dug in deep and had heavy mortars. The Buffaloes had to cling to a 45 degree slope to reach the positions. 1st Battalion Commander, LTC Edwin Sayre of Breckenridge, Texas, decided something had to be done. "Pass the word down," he told his adjutant, "that there'll be roasted turkey for dinner tonight if we're sitting on top of Saw Tooth hill."

After three days of nothing but C rations, the men accepted the challenge! Rapidly "Charlie" company made a Banzai charge up the front of the hill while "Baker" and "Able" companies hit the flanks. The Chinese surprised by the ferocity of the attack, fled to the north in disorder. They left behind six intact 60 mm mortars, hundreds of mortar shells and grenades as well as their dead and wounded.

2LT Thomas Rodney of Crowell, Texas, who led the Banzai charge, said the Chinese outnumbered the Buffaloes "three or four to one."

LTC Sayre kept his word and at 5:00 PM the cook's truck came up with big thermos boxes of roasted turkey. The men relished their dinner and there was only one complaint, "We didn't have any cranberry sauce," said SGT Clarence Rineck of Chipewewa Falls, Wisconsin.

and make a decision about their primary mission.

Almost all of us served in the 17th because the Army assigned us to the unit, but we came to love the 17th because of its rich history; its profound customs and traditions; its battlefield exploits; its 18 Medal of Honor recipients; the brotherhood of serving with tough people doing tough things; and the extraordinary morale, spirit, camaraderie, and esprit de corps that resides deeply within us. Even after our active service time in the regiment we veterans continue our service to the regiment by serving it as association members and by participating in, or contributing to, active battalion and association programs. And the backbone of it, the perpetuators and enhancers of our legacy, are our special appointees.

To all our special appointees, we salute you and thank you for performing your hallowed purpose. I encourage those who reverently and actively perform their primary mission to keep up the fire for the legacy and continuity of the regiment. For our epic special appointees who are just unable to perform the primary mission that got them selected to a distinguished or honorary position, we gratefully thank you for what you've done to keep the 17th Regiment spirit alive for 149 years; and to our able and capable silent special appointees, the regiment needs your involvement.

Thundering Herd!!  
CSM Timothy Green



## AGENT ORANGE UNITS SPRAYED OUTSIDE OF VIETNAM (KOREA)

In 1968-69, during the “Second Korean War,” 59,000 gallons of three toxic chemicals defoliated nearly 21,000 acres of the DMZ. For vets of the U.S. 2nd and 7th Infantry divisions, the recent U.S. government acknowledgment is a major breakthrough. It is said you can no more win a war than you can win an earthquake. Events transpiring on the Korean Peninsula some 30 years ago add credence to that old adage.

An investigation by the South Korean government into reports U.S. troops sprayed Agent Orange along the Korean demilitarized zone (DMZ) three decades ago has raised questions about possible contamination of American servicemen who also served on that hostile border. Citing declassified U.S. Department of Defense documents, Korean officials fear thousands of its soldiers may have come into contact with the deadly defoliant in the late 1960s and early 1970s. According to one top government official, as many as “30,000 Korean veterans are suffering from illness related to their exposure.”

The exact number of GIs who may have been exposed is unknown. But C. David Benbow, a North Carolina attorney who served as a sergeant with Co. C, 3rd Bn., 23rd Inf. Regt., 2nd Div., along the DMZ in 1968-69, estimates as many as “4,000 soldiers at any given time” could have been affected.

Benbow, a life member of Post 2031 in Statesville, NC., is spearheading a campaign to publicize the use of the defoliant in South Korea. He bases his estimate on “the number of GIs who received hostile fire pay” while serving between 1968 and 1973. “Hostile fire pay began on April 2, 1968, for soldiers serving north of the Imjin River,” Benbow explained. “And it ended on Sept. 1, 1973. These 4,000 soldiers [out of the 50,000 serving at any given time in Korea] should be the focal point for determining the rate of exposure.” The region was on heightened alert due to the continuing war in Vietnam and the seizure of the USS Pueblo by North Korean forces, Benbow said. According to a Pentagon spokesman, the total number of soldiers serving “North of the Imjin River” during the period in question “[probably] did not exceed 20,000.”

‘Widespread’ Herbicide Use  
Previously, the U.S. government had said Agent Orange was used only in Vietnam. But a recent television report by the Seoul Broadcasting System quoted from the Defense Department documents: “American troops stationed in South Korea spread more than 21,000 gallons of

toxic defoliants along the border in 1968 and 1969.” At a Pentagon briefing, Rear Adm. Craig Quigley said the U.S. military “researched the matter” as a result of the South Korean media reports. “[But] there is no evidence of an effort to cover up use of Agent Orange in Korea,” Quigley stated. Its use was not classified but “just had fallen off people’s scopes for a long period of time.”

“[Recently released documents] clearly substantiates that Agent Orange was also applied in Korea as early as 1968,” Combs wrote. “[Agent Orange] was used primarily along the DMZ where over 12,000 of our men were assigned.” According to Combs, the chemical was used “to keep the area on either side of the 18.5-mile barrier clear of vegetation.”

The report first came to light through the persistence of Richard D. Morrow, a former 2nd Infantry Division soldier who also “walked the perimeter” during the early 1970s. Upon returning to the states, Morrow began to develop classic symptoms of Agent Orange exposure. “After [Morrow] fought to get the documents released,” Benbow said, “he stayed with it until Congress passed the Agent Orange Act of 1991.” Essentially, because of Morrow’s efforts, Benbow added, “The legislation allows for service members stationed outside of Vietnam to apply for VA disability benefits.”

According to the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA),

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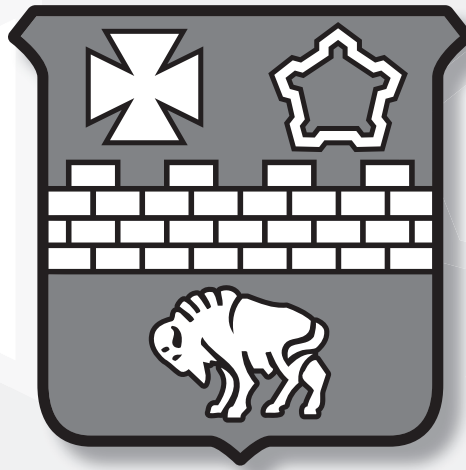
## *“Buffalo Blade”*

**The 17th Infantry Regiment now has an official fighting knife!**

The Association has teamed up with the Ek Commando Knife Company for some high quality, battle tested, combat knives for official presentations such as Soldier and NCO of the year. These will also be available to Members of the Association for purchase. What a great, functional item to show your pride in serving with the Regiment.

Ek Commando Knives, famous since 1941, have been battle proven in WWII, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War, Afghanistan and Iraq. They are proud to be the living link continuing the tradition that dates back to the days of John Ek, himself, in 1941.

Much thanks goes to CSM Green for spearheading the efforts to get these produced for the Association and it's members. These are made with the



Infantryman in mind as the guard and X-Head Fasteners are solid brass. Note the wide “gripping grooves” on the Micarta grips. Contact Bob Buerlin for ordering (make sure you mention the 17th for the discount.)

**Knife (as shown) \$349**  
**Optional Display Case: \$59**  
**Free Shipping for Association Members (APO and CONUS)**

**Bob Buerlein**  
Ek Commando Knife Co.  
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[www.EkKnife.com](http://www.EkKnife.com)  
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**CSM Timothy Green presents SGT Mark Goodwin (C 1-17) and SGT Anthony Roney (A 1-17) a “Buffalo Ek Fighting Knife” at Camp Frontenac, Afghanistan for their selection as the 2008, 1-17 NCO and Soldier of the year. “Truth and Courage!”**

# THE TOOLS OF WAR

May - July, 1953

Many people think that the tools of war are the weapons of war: rifles, pistols, machine guns, hand grenades, and so forth. But that is not so. I have previously written about shovels, picks, axes, and other hand tools that are indeed vital. But the real tools of war among the soldiers I knew were three: the toothbrush, the can opener, and the spoon. No one that I knew was ever far from these basic tools of war. Mostly you carried them on your person at all times, day and night, and no one went to the MLR (Main Line of Resistance) in Korea without them no matter what the circumstances. This applied to all ranks from private to company grade officers.

When going to the front, each person's personal check list would include issued (and acquired additional) weapons (pistol, M1 rifle, carbine, grenades), flak jackets, steel helmet, and other gear of various sorts, but everyone carried the tools of war: a toothbrush in a pocket, a can opener on his dogtag chain around his neck, and a mess kit spoon.

The toothbrush was not for dental hygiene in the field. The toothbrush was for cleaning your weapon, which, in trench and bunker warfare, was almost always in need of cleaning. Many people also carried some other equipment like rifle oil, cleaning patches, and/or a rag,

perhaps even a shaving brush, which is also a good weapons cleaner. But everyone carried a toothbrush. Strangely, there were no olive drab, GI-issue toothbrushes. One chose Pepsodent, Tek, or Colgate from the PX according to choice or availability. The special C ration packs might have contained some, too. I just do not remember. The toothbrush was an essential tool of war, a totally utilitarian, civilian utensil carried to the MLR by everyone.

The second tool was the can opener. Every large pack of C rations contained a few can openers, little folding, flat openers with holes in them. One of the first acts when you reached your unit was to string a can opener onto your dogtag chain so that it would always be with you. Nothing is so useless as a can of C rations that you cannot get into. Bayonets will open the cans in emergencies, but the result is always messy. However, the little P38 can opener around your neck will make a clean cut every time. And with the lids folded back like handles, the cans can be warmed over a fire. The flat end of the can opener could also be used as a screw driver that was helpful in weapons cleaning.

The third tool of war was a spoon, particularly one engraved with the GI family initials: "U.S." Almost all food in the field can be consumed with a spoon - all canned rations and even warm meals served on a tray or mess kit. Mess kit knives and forks are clumsy and dangerous. If you fall down with

one in your pocket, it might kill you. So no one carried those. But a GI spoon has all rounded edges. Most of the soldiers I knew carried their spoon in the breast pocket of their fatigue jacket or their field jacket.

Toothbrushes wear out and have to be replaced frequently, so I did not attempt to save any from service in Korea. But I still have the little can opener on the dogtag chain and my U.S. spoon. The basic tools of war, they are among my greatest treasures. Every museum should have a display calling attention to their vital, honored, almost revered place in the life of every infantryman.

*John W. Phillips,*  
Company H, 17th Infantry Regiment  
Submitted to Buffalo Bugle  
Newsletter 04/22/2010







Regiment and its' history the current Buffalos have. I know many of you have ideas on how to do this and hope you will pass these on. The strength of our Association is not only in numbers but in the dedication of its members to the goals and objectives of the Association. With many new Buffalos joining the Battalion soon, it will provide us a great opportunity to help pass on to them the benefits of the Association and the strength and history of the 17th Infantry Regiment.

**Truth and Courage!**

**Very Respectfully,**  
*Steve Gardner*  
**Honorary Colonel of the 17th  
Infantry Regiment**

### Spot Report 3.

I want to pass on to you how proud I am of our Association. This past year members of the Association have really shown a true dedication to the Regiment. Visits to see the wounded soldiers, attendance at memorial services, attendance at funerals, purchasing artificial Christmas trees to make Christmas a bit more bearable for the deployed soldiers, and showing a genuine concern for the soldiers and families of 1-17 Infantry all contributed to outstanding support of our active duty soldiers and families over a very difficult year. I am extremely proud to be the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment and a member of the Association.

Soon the Battalion will redeploy and with that redeployment will come the PCS of the majority of the Battalion. New Buffalos will arrive to man the positions of those being reassigned to other units. Our challenge will be to do all we can to instill in the new Buffalos the same sense of pride in the



### VA to Survey Veteran Households

VA is launched a National survey of veterans, active duty service members, activated National Guard and reserve

members, and family members and survivors to learn if they are aware of VA services. In addition to assessing awareness levels, the National Survey of Veterans will collect health care, benefits, employment, and demographic information that VA will use to inform policy decisions and improve benefits. Recognizing a broader client base than just veterans, this is the first time VA has included others, such as veteran family members, in its survey population.

VA is mailing out survey "screeners" to more than 130,000 households to identify potential survey participants. The screener asks if anyone in the household is a member of one of the identified survey groups – veterans, family members and survivors, active duty, Guard or Reserve members. Eligible survey participants then may be requested to participate in a full-length survey.

Participants will be able to select a preferred survey method: through U.S. mail, telephone or a password-protected Internet address. VA expects approximately 10,000 veterans to complete the full-length survey. This is the sixth VA National Survey of Veterans since 1978. The data collection is expected to be finished by the end of December 2010.

If you should get one of these surveys complete it and return it.

*Robert Petzold*  
**17th Inf Service Officer**

# NATIONAL INFANTRY MUSEUM

1. Parking lot
2. Infantry Museum
3. World War II Barracks Street
4. Amphitheater
5. River Vignettes
6. Walk of Honor (This is where the 17th Memorial will be located)
8. Airborne Jump Tower
9. Parade Grounds (All Infantry graduates will graduate from this field)



PO Box 2823, Columbus, GA 31902  
 Tel. (706) 323-2560; Fax (706) 323-0967  
 members@infantryassn.com  
 www.infantryassn.com

## Why Belong to the NIA?

- To support the work of the ONLY organization representing the entire Infantry and the Chief of Infantry. The combined strength of our membership ensures that the Infantry voice is heard by decision makers.
- To share the camaraderie of like minded soldiers and citizens who believe in maintaining the Infantry spirit, and to help recognize outstanding Infantrymen.
- To grow professionally through participation in Association activities, programs and publications.
- To support a new, expanded National Infantry Museum and the educational values associated with its contents.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please Check One:  Change of Address  New Membership  
 Membership Renewal Chapter Affiliation

Rank/Grade      First Name      MI      Last Name      Sex

Mailing Address

City      State      Zip+ 4 Digit

Active Duty or Civilian Job Title, Unit, Firm or Company

Office Phone      Home Phone      Email

Annual Dues:      All applicants other than those listed below:  
 1 yr. - \$20       2 yrs - \$33       3 yrs. - \$55

Trainees, Enlisted E-2/E-6, Officer Candidates; 2LT in IOBC, GS-8, DACS and below, Wage Board 12 DAC and below:  
 OSUT 1 yr. - \$10     1 yr. - \$14       2yrs. - \$25       3yrs. - \$36

Corporate Membership - Annual Dues:  
 Corporation - \$300       Small Business - \$100

Life Membership:  
 Up to age 65 - \$300 (Payable in Full or in \$25.00 Monthly Installments by credit card.)  
 Check her to pay in \$25 monthly installments  
 65 & Older - \$ 100 (Payable in full)

Professional Qualifications:  
 Active Army       Nat'l Guard       Army Reserve  
 Army Retired     Other Military Branch  
 Infantry Veteran     DOD Civil Service     US Defense Industry  
 Civilian Supporter     Consultant

Payment Options:  
 Check: Payable to NIA       MC       Visa

Name on Card

Card Number      Exp Date

Signature





service members who served along the Korean DMZ during the late 1960s and early 1970s are covered under the 1991 Agent Orange Act. For veterans who served elsewhere on the peninsula, eligibility for benefits will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Special legislation would have to be enacted for “blanket coverage,” VBA says.

#### VA DECISION CRUCIAL

A March 12, 1999, ruling by VA’s Board of Appeals served to bolster Benbow’s claims. Citing the 1991 legislation, the Board awarded full VA benefits to a former “Camp Casey soldier” suffering from non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma (a cancer widely associated with Agent Orange exposure).

Linkage of the disease with exposure to Agent Orange in Korea marked a major milestone for Benbow and his fellow veterans. “Taken [in context] with release of the documents, there is no doubt that our suspicions were right all along,” Benbow said. “[We] are not doing this for anything other than fairness.”

#### The 4 Combat Brigades of the 2nd Infantry Division:

- 1-38 Infantry
- 2-38 Infantry
- 1-23 Infantry
- 2-23 Infantry
- 3-23 Infantry
- 3-32 Infantry
- 1-9 Infantry
- 2-9 Infantry
- 1-72 Armor
- 2-72 Armor

#### 4-7th Cavalry

#### 3rd Brigade of the 7th Infantry

##### Division:

- 1/17th Infantry
- 2/17th Infantry
- 1/73rd Armor
- 2/10th Cavalry

DoD has stated that 21,000 gallons of Agent Orange were sprayed in Korea in 1968 and 1969 in an area from the Civilian Control Line to the Southern boundary of the DMZ. Only Republic of Korea troops were involved in the actual spraying of the herbicide Agent Orange in Korea. However, it is plausible that U.S. service members in the area near spraying operations may have been exposed to Agent Orange during this period.

There were approximately 40,000 US service members deployed annually in Korea in 68-69, with nearly 100 percent turnover each year, i.e. as many as 80,000 service members over the two year period.

VA currently offers through its VA Medical Centers the Agent Orange Registry (AOR) examination to all United States veterans who served in Vietnam during the Vietnam War. Participating veterans are given baseline lab work-ups, with particular attention to those illnesses that VA presumptively links to Agent Orange exposure. The AOR has helped Vietnam War veterans by providing an entrance to VA healthcare, providing the opportunity for recording a comprehensive mili-

tary history, and as a means of veterans outreach to share future developments and provide access to VA’s Agent Orange Review newsletter.

VA will now provide a veteran who served in the Korean Conflict in 1968-69 with this same AOR examination, consultation and counseling, if the veteran requests participation in the AOR examination program. Accordingly, The benefits alluded to many likewise extend to these covered Korean veterans. In addition, VA’s general outreach authority permits VA to notify veterans who served in Korea in 1968-1969 about the AOR program and to include them in the Departments AOR examination program updates and newsletters.

Veterans seeking the AOR examination are urged to contact the nearest VA Medical Center.

Information contained herein is from the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office in St. Petersburg, Florida and is considered reliable and accurate information.





# 17TH INFANTRY PHOTOGRAPHS



Then Major, Hal McCown, 17th Infantry Regimental CO 1951



Blue Buffalo CP (3-17 Infantry) circa 1952

TOC Busters (C 4-17) Circa 1991

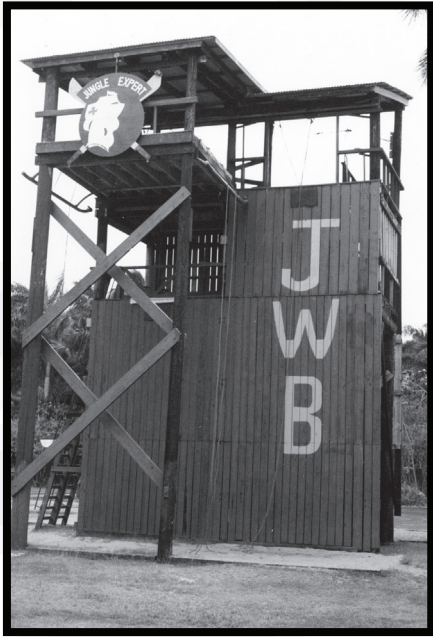




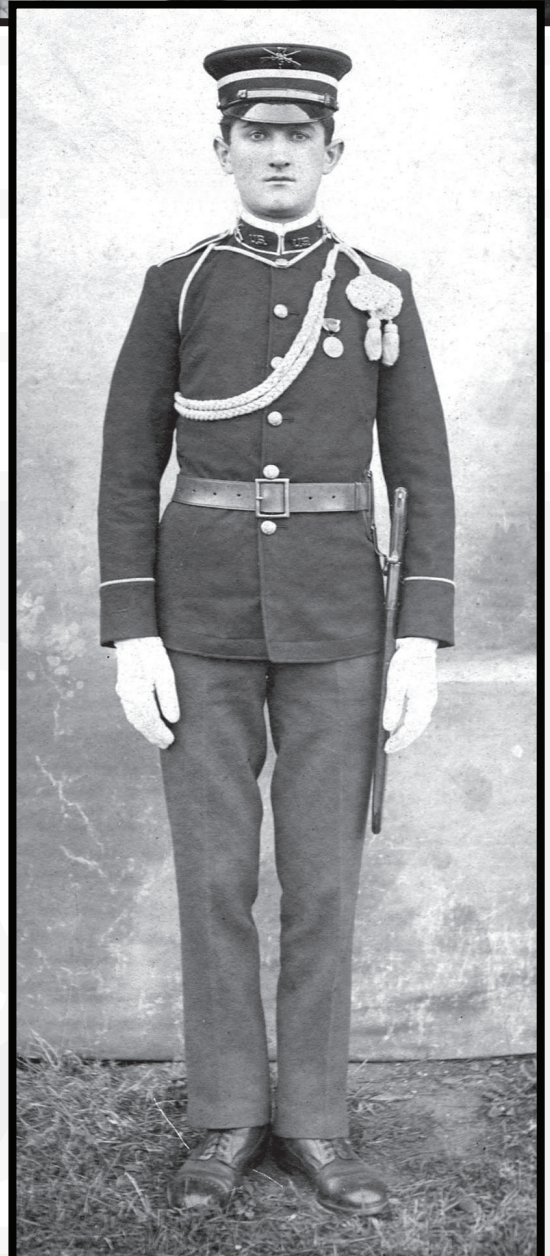
C 2-17 "Arctic Light" Soldiers. Circa 1988



Repel Tower at Ft. Sherman, Panama



New Member, Terry McIntosh (Company D -17th LRP) 1967



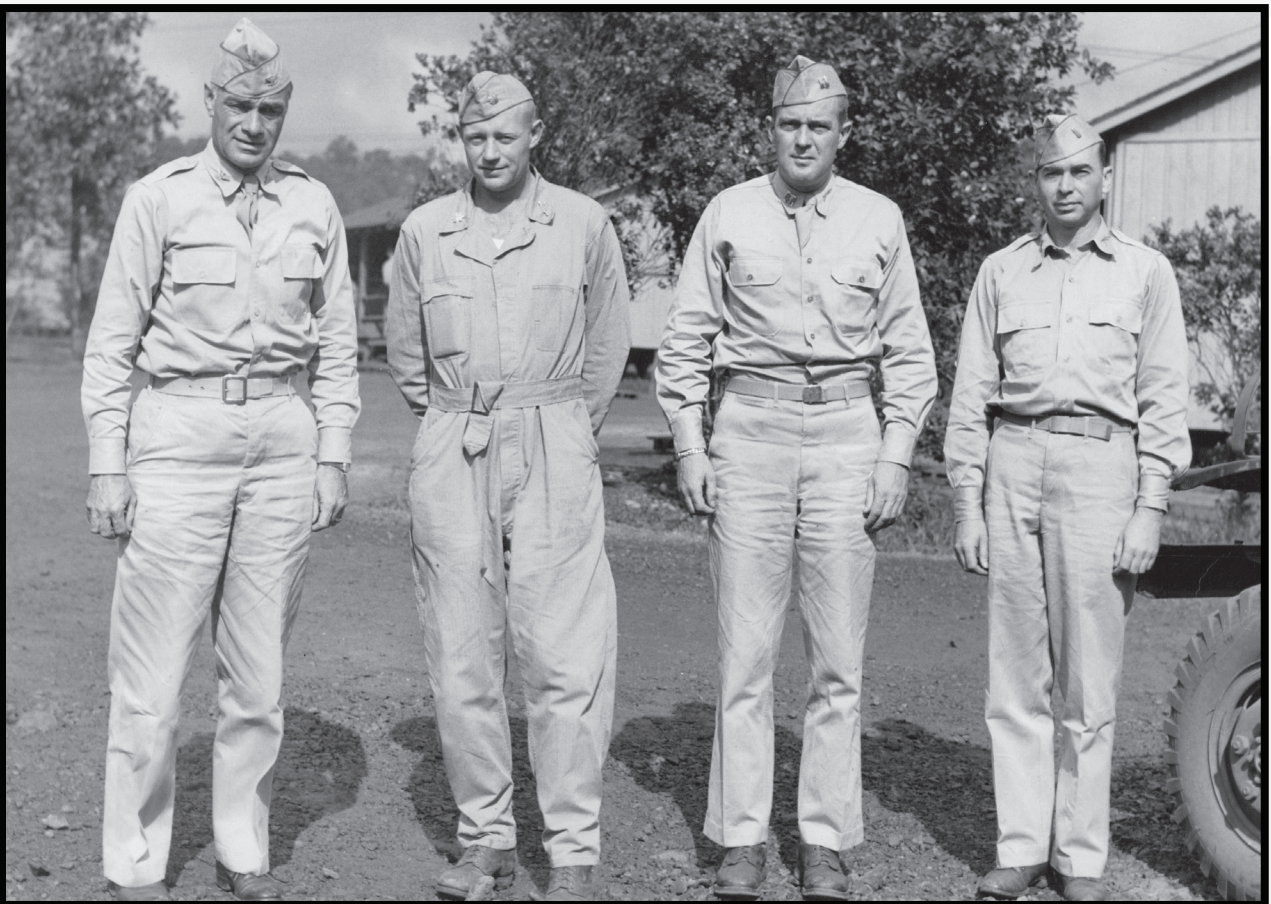
A Soldier from Company G, 17th Infantry. Circa 1905



Regimental Commander, Wayne Zimmerman (L) on Kwajalein 1944



COL Zimmerman and unknown 17th Infantry Officers (WWII)





# TAPS



## ANTHONY A. PACI

HHC MORTARS 1-17 IN

Spc. Anthony A. Paci, 30, of Rockville, Md., died Mar. 4 at Gereshk, Afghanistan, of injuries suffered during a vehicle rollover.

## JESSE HUFF

BRAVO 1-17

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Died April 16 2010 / 27 Years Old  
Dayton Ohio

## MICHAEL BLANCHETTE

Operation Enduring Freedom

SSG 1-17 INFANTRY

Died April 11 2010  
Lakewood, Washington

## JOSEPH N. ROBERTS

Korean War 1952-1953

C 1-17 Infantry Regiment

Died April 2010

Wilbraham, Massachusetts

# REST IN PEACE

# OPERATION GATOR

## Knitting for the Troops

### Operation Knitted Gator:

Kerlina Vinyard is the wife of an A Company NCO and she's been the driving force behind "Operation Knitted Gator." She started out with a goal to fit every man in her husband's company (about 160 soldiers) and now the goal is to get everyone in the battalion a gator (approximately 800 men.) If you can't knit, but want to help, cash donations will be used for shipping and additional yarn for the knitters (the yarn isn't cheap.) Please contact Kerlina via the following:

### Kerlina Vinyard

kerlina@mac.com

253-345-2617

<http://web.mac.com/kerlina/TheVinyards/Blog/Blog.html>

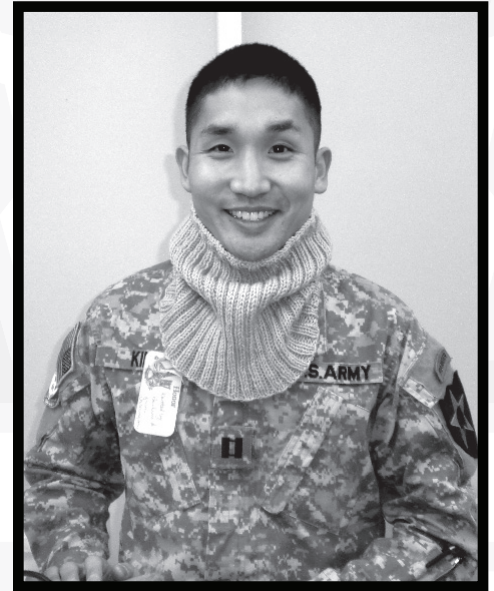
Important Information: If you choose to substitute yarns, please make sure that it is 100% soft wool or the following wool blends: lama, alpaca, cashmere. Absolutely NO acrylic as it poses a danger to the soldiers and even though cotton and bamboo are nice, it doesn't hold in the heat nor does it fall within regulation and the soldier will not be allowed to wear it.

### Materials:

1 skein Cascade 220 Super-Wash, Color # 875

(can be purchased at Yorkshire Yarns in Lakewood, WA or any knitting shop)

• Tapestry Needle



• Needle: US 7 or 4.5 mm (US 8 or 5.5 mm)

Cast: 120 (or 116 sts if using US 8) Stitches loosely. Join but be sure you don't twist!

This will be a simple 2 x2 rib. All Rounds: K2, Purl 2. Continue until you finish the skein (about 8.5 - 9 inches), saving enough for bind off. Bind off loosely in pattern and then weave in the ends. Voila! You now have a military neck gator!



As of 13 April: 571 Gators Have been made for 1-17 ONLY 139 MORE NEEDED! Thanks to everyone, especially Kerlina Vinyard



**BUFFALO BUGLE EDITOR**

## *Editors Rant*

Fellow Association Members, the reunion will be here in a few months, as will the return of our 1st Battalion men from Afghanistan. Please keep the men in your prayers for these final several weeks until they're all back home with their families and loved ones. I was very pleased to hear that the 4th battalion, 17th Infantry will be re-activated sometime in 2011 at Fort Bliss, Texas under the 1st Armored Division as a Stryker Battalion. This will be a great day for the Regiment and the Association!

I've been scanning many photographs for our archives and I'll continue to work with Marc Williams and Bruce Frazer to establish a rock solid record of our regiment's historic preservation. It's important that everyone help out with this project with photographs, first hand accounts, documents, orders, or anything with dates or names of fellow 17th Infantry veterans. The 17th Infantry has such a vast and interesting history and

it will take a lot of work to get it all accurately recorded.

I'm planning on doing a series of articles on the various armored vehicles that the men of the 17th Infantry have used in the past. Everything from the old World War II DUKW's and M2 Half Tracks, the Korean War M39 Armored Utility Vehicles, the cold war M113 APCs and M561 Gamma Goats, and other unique vehicles like the M973 SUSV vehicles used in Alaska, and finally the Strykers from the past several years. If you have information, personal experiences, and photographs (especially ones with vehicle markings, camouflage, etc.) please get them to me for this series.

I'd also like to continue to feature the "Buffalo Bio" in future editions of the Buffalo Bugle. Bob Northcutt was featured in our very first Bio and I've had a couple other people interested, but never received any information from them. We'd love to continue to do this, so if you'd like to be featured or would like to nominate someone, please let me know. This is just a good way for other Association members to learn more about interesting 17th Infantry veterans.

I recently had the pleasure of talking with Terry McIntosh, who served with the D-17 Infantry "LRP" company in the mid 1960's before going to Vietnam with the 5th SFG. Terry joined the Association and provided some great pictures and copies of orders with other D-17 LRP member names. Using some

tried true techniques, I was able to find about 15 listings for guys that served with Terry in Germany. He's already started contacting them and I've already sent a couple of newsletters out to folks that Terry served with. It's a win-win for everyone. Terry gets to re-connect with some old buddies, and we get to reach out to potential new members of the Association. The LRP Units of V corps in Germany were some of the very first LRP units in the US Army and many did tours with Special Forces and Ranger units after serving in Germany. Just a quick "historic" note, but when the 4th battalion was officially activated in 1984, they were given the Lineage and Honors of D Company, 17th Infantry, so when they're re-activated in 2011, the D Company veterans of WWII, Korean War, Germany, Vietnam, etc will essentially have their old unit back.

Be on the look out for an article in the July VFW magazine for an article on the 17th Infantry Regiment during the Korean War (specifically the Sept 1951 battles and the 1953 battles for Pork Chop Hill.) The National VFW contacted us several months ago for information and photographs and thanks to some recent projects with folks like Peter Doyle, and Fred Kamaka, we were able to provide the VFW some quality items. Also due to the recent historic activities of the 1st Battalion in Iraq and Afghanistan and the history of 17th Infantry veterans organizing the VFW after the Spanish American War, the VFW wants to do a historic piece on the Regiment's history.

~ continued on page 38



# NEW ASSOCIATION MERCHANDISE



ACU "Afghanistan" 1-17 patch Design A  
Velcro: \$5.00 / Iron on: \$4.00 + 1.50 S&H



ACU "Afghanistan" 1-17 patch Design B  
Velcro: \$5.00 / Iron on: \$4.00 + 1.50 S&H



Large Silver Bullion 17th Infantry Crest  
Hand made and great for blazers, etc  
\$18.00 + \$2.00 S&H

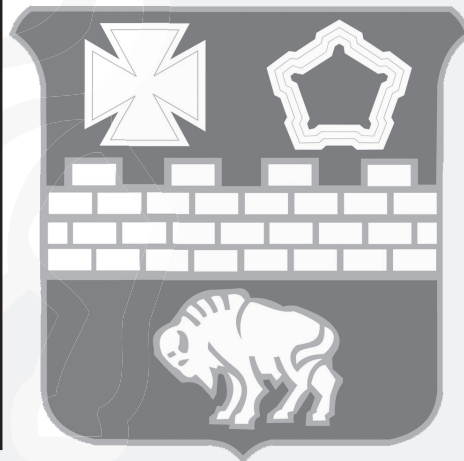
Send Payment to:  
**David de la Sierra**  
**17th Infantry Quartermaster**  
**134 Red Fox Run**  
**Macon, GA 31210**  
**Other details on page 14**

Include your phone number and contact information

CAP FORMS CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM THE WEBSITE or contact TIM GREEN at [csmgreen@gmail.com](mailto:csmgreen@gmail.com)



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(909) 949-7070





Now's the time to get us your photographs and or information on your service (peace time and war.)

I've been working on getting the new website up and running and recently hit a few snags, so it's taking me a little bit longer than I expected. The new site will be worth the wait, so thanks for your continued patience.

I recently started using my work cell phone as my primary cell phone and neglected to change my number in the last issue of the Bugle. I've been told that the poor guy who got my old number is pulling his hair out from all the "17th Infantry" calls he's getting. Please use the new number listed on page 2 if you need to get a hold of me for anything.

"Truth and Courage"

*Donald Shook*



**ROMANS 5 : 8-10**

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

on the locals to participate, we saw that attendance number rise to as many as 90. We now see elders travel from throughout the district to attend the shura and add their voice to the concerns they expect the governor to deal with. While many of their concerns are beyond his capability or just petty gripes, the fact that they see the governor as the power broker, and not the Taliban, is a very sure sign of progress.

While we are working hard to maintain the momentum we've gained in our assigned zone, we are also now starting the required prep work to receive the incoming Stryker unit that will replace us this summer. At the end of May, we'll send our first small team home to get the barracks and headquarters at Ft. Lewis ready to receive us. By mid-June, the incoming unit will be flowing in, and as we work the relief in place mission with them, we'll simultaneously begin to flow our men out of theater. By mid-July, we all ought to be home or headed that way, and on July 22d, the Brigade will hold a ceremony at Ft. Lewis to signal the deployment's end.

In the meantime, the Taliban has been trying to make sure we don't forget they are still around and not willing to just go away quietly. Our enemy seems to be warming up with our South Asia weather, and before we can consider ourselves properly relieved by the next unit, we expect to still have a fight on our hands. We are very much up to the

task, and will ensure we stay aggressive and on the hunt right up until the day the last Buffalo boards a plane for home. The men of this battalion continue to amaze me every day, and I remain so proud to be counted among them.

Thanks for your continued support of our efforts here in Afghanistan. We're excited to have the end in sight and look forward to sharing war stories with those who can join us for homecoming events, and with the rest of the association at the reunion in Georgia.

*Truth and Courage,  
LTC Jon Neumann.  
"Buffalo 6"*







# William W. Quinn Scholarship Foundation Application



The 17th Infantry Regiment Association annually awards four \$500.00 scholarships to academically qualified applicants of children or grandchildren of association members in good standing for at least two years. Please fill out this form and be sure to follow **all** instructions and criteria listed below for scholarship consideration. Award winners will be notified by 1 November of the application year.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION and GOOD LUCK

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

RELATIONSHIP TO YOU: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include the following: A copy of your last year's report card (Please note your current cumulative G.P.A.) Also include a short essay giving us a brief history of your background, academic goals and your sponsor's (family member) history while serving with the 17th Infantry Regiment. Lastly, please include a current photograph of yourself.

Forward your application, report card, essay, and photograph to:

**Mr. Steven Goodwin**  
**Scholarship Chairman & Treasurer**  
**17th Infantry Regiment Association**  
**3916 Forest Avenue**  
**Western Springs, IL 60558**



# 17th Infantry Regiment Association Membership Application



Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name First Name Middle

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Member Status:  Active Duty  Veteran  Widow of Veteran  Descendant of Veteran

Veteran Spouse's Name (or nearest of kin): \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

With the 17th From: \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_

Unit served with (Battalion, Company, etc) : \_\_\_\_\_

Referred to the Association by: \_\_\_\_\_

For Annual Membership Dues, please enclose \$17.00. For Lifetime Membership Dues, please enclose \$150.00.  
Note: Lifetime Membership includes a 17th Infantry Bronze Buffalo Coin and Certificate.

Please Check One:

New Annual Membership  Renewal Annual Membership  Lifetime Membership

Note: You can have a subscription to the "Buffalo Bugle" for only \$10.00 a year if you do not qualify for a 17th Infantry Regiment Association membership.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE WHEN FILLING OUT FORM, do not write. Mail completed form and check or money order made out to the 17th Infantry Regiment Association to Membership Chairman, Ron Miller:

Ronald Miller  
4503 Christy Drive  
Granbury, Texas 76049  
817 - 910 - 9520  
E-Mail: millerdog70@hotmail.com

# MEMBER QUESTIONNAIRE

What is your primary reason for joining the 17th Infantry Regiment Association?

What do you feel is the most important benefit you receive from being a member of the Association?

What do you feel the Association could do differently to better serve its membership?

Do you have photographs or color slides that we can copy from your time with the 17th Infantry Regiment?

Would you be interested in serving on a committee or helping in a technical way, i.e., website administration, database administration, graphic art, technical writing, photography, etc.

Would you be interested in serving as a Board Member or Officer of the Association?

Are you a current member of the National Infantry Association?

Miscellaneous Comments, etc.





# NEW MEMBERS

## Upgraded to Life

**Dan Parrott:** 1966-68  
D-17 LRP (ABN): Germany

## New Life Members

**Anthony J. Paige:** 1993-1995  
Officer with 1-17 and acting S-4

**Edward M Gripkey:** 1961-1962  
Officer 1st Battle Group, 17th IN

**Ryan O'Connor:** Active Duty  
Officer with 1-17 Infantry

**Terry Tlumac:** 1984-1988  
HHC 4-17

## New Annual Members

**Kenneth Weiss:** 2003-2006 and  
2007-2010: C 1-17

**Richard L. Champan:** 1956-1957  
Bn Hqs. 3-17 Infantry

**James R. Kirker:** Active Duty  
HHC 1-17 Medic

**LTC Patrick A Turner:** 1974-1975  
Officer C, HHC, Co. A 1-17

**Harold B Feroe:** 1947-1948  
HQ 1-17

**James F. Kerr, III:** 1964-1965  
B Company 2-17 Infantry

**Hugh F. Muir:** 1943-1945  
Company A, 17th Infantry

**Col. George H. Gardes:** 1952-1953  
I Company Officer; S-2 3-17

**Terry McIntosh:** 1967-1968  
D-17 LRP (ABN) Germany



1-17 Officers and high ranking NCOs 1975  
Camp Howze, Korea: 2nd Infantry Division



L-R: 2LT Barrett, 1LT Turner, 2LT Buckmaster, 2LT Ben Jones,  
and 2LT Marrion Baggett: Operation Commando Strike: 1975



1LT Patrick Turner, 1LT Steve Hughes,  
and 2LT Mark Phillips: 1975





Donald E Shook Jr  
17th Infantry Regiment Association  
1010 Manor Road  
New Kensington, PA 15068

# FIRST CLASS

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**AL** - Associate, Life  
**DA** - Active Duty, Annual Pay  
**DL** - Active Duty, Life  
**LA** - Lineal, Annual Pay  
**LL** - Lineal, Life  
**2007** - Year Dues Paid Until

# AFGHANISTAN



Keith Bradley, left, and Arthur Troche of A 1-17 search for enemy movement during Operation Helmand Spider