





# SEEKING NOMINEES FOR BOARD

## Part-time Opportunity

SOMETIMES WORDS ARE WORTH A THOUSAND PICTURES.

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We have been telling you that the Association is one hundred years old this year, and that we are taking this historic occasion to replace our venerable and steadfast leaders, some of whom themselves are one hundred years old (or so they complain.) The next new year will mark the third century-span in which there has been both a Regiment (1836 thru 2000 +) and an Association (1899 thru 2000 +). And it is a logical time for a pledge on the part of the Parent Association to continue to support the Regiment; and vice-versa, for the Regiment to acknowledge all that the Association has done for it, particularly in the past fifty years.

But respect for the Regiment would cease if they ever cut down on their preparedness; and respect for the Association would cease if it ever went to sleep. That is why we must never let either failure occur.

The Regiment must take care of itself. It is not the function of the veteran to interfere and give direction where he/they have neither expertise nor accountability - and we have never done this. And the Association must take primary responsibility for the conduct of its own affairs, even though it welcomes the liaison with the Troopers and the ExOfficio services of some of its Officers on the Association Board. Nevertheless the fact remains that the Association is run by an elected Board of Governors composed of twelve Life Members, four of whom are replaced or reelected every two years - a complete turnover every six years. It is this complete turnover which concerns us most urgently, because we have to do it NOW!

The Governors are drawn from the membership. The membership nominates them. The membership elects them. And we now appeal to the membership to get moving on this matter-at-hand with no further delay:

(1) Think of all the good people you have met at a national reunion. One of them must stand head and shoulders above the others. That member is the one you want to consider.

(2) Don't consider anyone you have never met at a national reunion. Our consistent experience factor has been that they never attend meetings or get involved in other basic ways.

(3) If you have someone in mind, contact him/her by telephone (or mail) and urge him to run. If he agrees, submit his name to the Nominating Committee c/o this publication at P.O. Box 915, Southeastern PA 19399-0915.

(4) There will be additional nominees allowed from the floor, but the candidates who clear the Nominating Committee will have had a longer period of scrutiny and evaluation.

(5) Every Life Member is eligible. But we are especially interested in the Border Trooper. Most are not too old and most are not too young, and many are retired by now.

(6) Let us hear from you. That's what is known as "Democracy in Action". We need four nominees. You may even nominate yourself if you can get someone to endorse you.

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# Come Have Fun at the Reunion!

## Fort Worth-Arlington, Texas

**Job growth:** up 3.60 percent from May 1997

**Population:** 1.5 million

**Composite cost-of-living index:** 94.6

**Median new-home price:** \$73,950

**Tax:** Texas levies no personal or corporate income tax.

**Educational opportunities:** Texas Christian University, Texas Wesleyan University, University of North Texas, University of Texas at Arlington, Tarrant County Junior College

**Medical facilities:** The Metroplex is one of the Southwest's leading areas for treatment and research with more than 70 hospitals. Fort Worth has six major hospitals including Harris

Methodist Health System, North Texas' largest fully integrated health system, which was ranked among the best in the nation in a *Newsweek* survey.

**Military facilities:** Fort Hood is approximately one hour away in Killeen.

Bucking a cow-town image, Fort Worth is riding high with high-tech and new business start-ups and a revitalized downtown. Diversity is the key to the healthy economy, with companies representing such high-profile industries as aerospace/defense, transportation, and distribution. Companies expanding and relocating here have made Fort Worth the sixth-hottest spot for such growth in the nation. Lockheed Martin Tactical Aircraft Systems is the second-largest employer, with Bell Helicopter Textron landing third.

The NAS Joint Reserve Base-Fort Worth is an example of how a city can exercise ingenuity. Fort Worth turned the downsizing of then-Carswell AFB in 1991 into a model of realignment. After targeting the base for closure, the Base Realignment Commission eventually designated the facility as a reserve station for several military branches. While the U.S. Navy remains in command of the base, the facility also is used by

the Air Force, Marines, Army Reserve, and Coast Guard.

The Fort Worth Stockyards, revamped as a historic tourist attraction with buckaroo bars, boutiques, cafés, and entertainment, still packs a lot of fun. Downtown, Sundance Square draws folks to elegantly restored Victorian buildings that now house high-end retail, offices, housing, restaurants, and entertainment.

Opened this year, the \$60 million Bass Performance Hall hosts the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, Fort Worth-Dallas Ballet, Fort Worth Opera, and the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. And Cowtown Coliseum happily coexists with the Kimbell Art Museum and the Amon Carter Museum, which features a permanent collection of some of the world's best-known Western artwork.

DOTS .....

DASHES -----

& other Short Notes:

\* **GEN TILELLI:** 4-star general John H. TILELLI, Jr., who served as the 63rd Commander of the Regiment from 1985 to 1987, and who hosted the unit's proud and memorable 150th birthday bash (1986), has been added to the Association's Board of Governors as a non-voting member.

TILELLI accepted Chairman Henry EBREY's nomination as "Special Advisor to the Chair." He replaces the late MGen Lawrence SCHLANSER who served long and well in a similar capacity for then Chairman Louis HOLZ. GEN TILELLI currently serves as Commander-in-Chief of UN Forces in Korea.

\* **INTERNET:** Well over a year ago, following the national elections held in Norfolk, a Computer/Internet

Committee was appointed to guide the Board of Governors in phasing in the applicable and appropriate state-of-the-art technology once the funding has been resolved. The members are: Thomas W. STEWART of Puyallup WA, Chairman; Robert A. (Bob) DOBSON of Poway CA, Member & Technical Consultant; and Thomas M. MOLINO of Centreville VA, Member & Secretary. The members consult with each other by e-mail. Others may contact them (DOBSON) via "www.radsolutions.com/dragoons". What's new with Y2K, guys?

\* **COL BUTLER:** LTC Joseph C. BUTLER, who co-hosted our convention visit to the Regiment at Fort Polk in 1995, and who co-represented the Regiment in Norfolk in 1997, was dispatched last June to Saudi Arabia as an advisor to their General Staff. His family is awaiting his return at their home in Boerne TX. BUTLER hopes to be back in Texas so as to be able to attend the October convention in Fort Worth. That will make three-in-a row, Joe! What are you trying to do, old friend, set an example, or something? He provided his on-line to us, but whether this will reach him in Saudi Arabia, we are not quite sure: "butlerjc@aol.com".

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

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xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

7 January 1999  
Gatesville TX

ISSUE # 106

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Dear Sir:

I do enjoy the "Newsmagazine" and I plan to attend the Association event in October 1999 and maybe the one in June. I was lucky enough to attend the Change of Command from COL HARDY to COL LUTE, and it was beyond words of my feelings to see the Regiment again. The last time was my departure from Germany in 1992. The Regiment lost a great Commander in COL HARDY, but not a step will be missed with COL LUTE. I served under both in different units. Thanks for the good job with "Thoroughbred".

s/ Larry CASE  
t/ Larry W. CASE, CW4(Ret)

=====  
(Preface: CPT Carter Nelson CATLETT was the commander of Troop A, 42d Recon Sqdn, in April 1945 when that Troop was the lead element of the 2d Cavalry Group in the capture of Hostau, Czechoslovakia, and the liberation of the famed Lipizzaner horses. He was present in Norfolk in 1997 to autograph photographs and prints of the horses, many taken in 1945. A reknowned episode of 2d Cavalry accomplishments is slowly fading into history.)

January 4th, 1999  
Poquoson VA 23662

Dear Lou,

The 2nd Cavalry Newsletter just arrived and I thought it was a good time to write and let you know that Nelson passed away on October 26th from cancer in the lungs and on the brain. He went very quickly and went without too much suffering, which was a blessing. I'm sending this to you because you're the only channel I know to the Association. Wish you the very best in the New Year. Sincerely,

s/ Rachael  
Rachael G. CATLETT  
(757) 868-7890

=====  
January 21, 1999  
Salado TX 76571

Dear Lou,

Thanks for your note of the 13th. Sorry to hear that your legs are slowing you down. I trust that they'll carry you down to Fort Worth for the next Association meeting. I look forward to seeing you there. The Fort Worth gathering ought to precipitate a lot of action of the new leadership and should make them a closer, better coordinated group.

I stay in tough with many former Dragoons and hope to see many of them at the

Reunion. Doug LUTE, 70th Colonel, tells me that the Regiment remains busy and continues to do the high quality work that its predecessors were known for. I'm working pretty steadily. I travel a lot. My work keeps me in contact with Army friends.

Hope that 1999 will be a wonderful year for you. See you at the Reunion!

Toujours Pret  
s/ Don Holder  
LGen(ret) L. D. HOLDER

=====  
2d Cavalry Association  
P.O. Box 915  
Southeastern PA 19399-0915

Looking for a cool one after a long, dusty ride, the drifter strode into the saloon. As he made his way through the crowd to the bar, a man galloped through town screaming, "Big Mike's comin'! Run for your lives!"

Suddenly, the saloon doors burst open. An enormous man, standing eight feet tall and weighing 400 pounds, rode in on a bull. Grabbing the drifter by the ankle and throwing him over the bar, the giant thundered, "Gimme a drink!"

The terrified fellow handed over a bottle of whiskey, which the man guzzled in one gulp and then smashed on the bar. The drifter stood aghast as the man stuffed the broken bottle in his mouth, munched broken glass and smacked his lips with relish.

"Can I, ah, get you another, sir?" the drifter stammered.

"Naw, I gotta git," the man grunted. "Big Mike's comin'."

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# CHAPTER AFFAIRS

Where do all our members come from? You have asked this question before some time ago; so now we'll give you an updated answer. We keep track of these things because we are interested in Chapter Matters. Chapters are organized entities loyal to and supportive of the national parent Association.

(1) If there are enough members (and families) who are residents of the same State or enclave, they could be considered for a Regional Chapter. They could/should/would hold their own local affairs in-between National Conventions such as a picnic or a dinner-dance or anything of interest to the membership. They owe nothing further to the national entity beyond their individual dues.

(2) National Chapters, such as a Squadron, on the other hand come from all over the United States. To travel so far for just a local picnic would not be very practical. So they wait for the national convention, which somebody else plans and runs for them, and have their own private reunion inside a larger reunion. They could have their own reserved tables for group meals and all sit together. They will have the time and place for a Chapter meeting and election. Some National Chapters even have their own newsletters. We have taken the most recent 200 new LIFE members as our data base, and this is what we found.

A. LET'S LOOK AT THE REGIONAL ANALYSIS FIRST. Mind you, that out of an organization of 2107 members, we are only looking at the 200 most recent LIFE members as a manageable sample.

<u>17 each (8.5%)</u> New York & California	<u>5 each (2.5%)</u> Wisconsin & New Jersey
<u>16 each (8.0%)</u> Texas	<u>4 each (2.0%)</u> Michigan & Kansas & Arizona & Kentucky
<u>13 each (6.5%)</u> Florida	<u>3 each (1.5%)</u> Washington & Massachusetts & Illinois & New Hampshire & Rhode Island
<u>11 each (5.5%)</u> Ohio	<u>2 each (1.0%)</u> Minnesota & Connecticut & Colorado & Iowa & Alabama & Oklahoma
<u>10 each (5.0%)</u> Pennsylvania & North Carolina	<u>1 each (0.5%)</u> Europe & District of Columbia & Maine & North Dakota & South Dakota & Puerto Rico & Delaware & Idaho & South Carolina
<u>9 each (4.5%)</u> Georgia & Virginia	Totals States (39): 200 members (100%)
<u>7 each (3.5%)</u> Indiana & Missouri	
<u>6 each (3.0%)</u> Maryland & Tennessee	

Now, what could some of this mean? Take Virginia for example: Even though they are tied for eighth spot on the above breakdown, no single other state has as many resident 2d Cavalry veterans and alumni (plus families) as does the Commonwealth of Virginia. They have sufficient human power to organize now, or as soon as they select a local leader. The District of Columbia doesn't have enough resident veterans to do anything; but they could be satellited onto Virginia. Ditto Rhode Island could be combined with Connecticut. Delaware is already part of the Southeastern Pennsylvania (Delaware Valley) Chapter. North Carolina is big enough to have two Chapters, and South Carolina residents can be accommodated by one or the other. And so it goes. Just study a map.

# By the way . . .

ASSOCIATION IN ITS NINTH YEAR  
OF VALENTINE DAY GREETINGS TO  
2d ACR TROOP UNITS.

ISSUE # 106

The practice of 2d Cavalry Association Valentine greetings to Troop units for Bulletin Board display started in 1991 during Desert Shield. It was started during a period of great uncertainty and great anxiety. It was to be the "Mother of All Battles." Our units had not been in sustained combat for 46 years since World War II when we ended up in Klatovy, Zinkovy, and Nepomuk - towns in Czechoslovakia few of us had ever heard of before. That was the beginning. We are now in our ninth year.

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Because of positive responses by commanders and key NCO's, the tradition has been perpetuated: Iraq - Germany - Fort Lewis - Fort Polk - Haiti - Bosnia; wherever our units found themselves. When the units are away from garrison and their own families, they seem to acknowledge and welcome the embrace of their Cavalry Family all the more.

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In 1999, we welcome the acknowledgements of commanders and NCO's, especially since the 2d Cavalry Association is 100 years old this year! Our message is not new. It is consistantly eternal.

"Again, as we do every year, we respectfully say unto you:

VALENTINE'S DAY IS A SPECIAL OCCASION WHICH CAUSES EVERYONE TO THINK OF  
SOMEONE SIGNIFICANT TO THEM, EVEN THOUGH IT MAY ONLY BE AN OLD SOLDIER  
THINKING OF A YOUNGER ONE."

(s/ 2d Cavalry Association)

There is nothing more left to say. We may decide to print some of the better responses received from the caring leaders. (We may even list the one or two units which didn't respond at all.)



CHAPTER AFFAIRS - (Continued from page 7 )

B. NOW LET'S LOOK AT NATIONAL CHAPTERS. These are pretty much limited to the 42 Border Years, but not necessarily so. The 3rd Squadron (the Amberg Chapter) was the most recently active in membership growth and can organize themselves this year in Fort Worth if they are prepared to do so. The 1st Squadron (the Bindlach Chapter) has wasted several years. They hold their Squadron reunions to conflict with the national convention - a big fat no-no, and nothing gets done. In a national year, Squadrons join National in a reunion within a reunion. In the alternate years, Squadrons may do as they please and go where they please - or just meet when National meets. The Aviation Chapter (4th Squadron) is another friendly and pleasant bunch whom we never see because they are off doing their own thing. Just think if we had gone through combat like that. All the separate and specialized units (e.g., MI, Chemical, Engineering, etc) are grouped with Regimental HHT for planning purposes and can even accomodate the Regimental Support Squadron until they become large enough to be self-sufficient. If you have any comments or questions, or want to make group reservations, just contact this publication. We'll get the matter to the right official.

(Concluded on page 9 )

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Dear Mr. Sortino,

I am currently researching the history of the 776th Amphibian Tank Battalion and would like to contact any 2d Cavalry Association members who served in or have information about the unit. I would also like to know of any information the Association Historian may have. Is it possible to publish this request in "The Thoroughbred?"

The 776th Amphibian Tank Battalion was activated as 1st Battalion, 2d Armored Regiment on July 15, 1942 at Fort Riley, Kansas with personnel and equipment from the 2d Cavalry. It was subsequently reorganized and redesignated the 776th Tank Battalion on October 9, 1943 and finally reorganized and redesignated the 776th Amphibian Tank Battalion on 28 January 1944. The battalion served in the western Pacific, often attached to the 7th Infantry Division. During that division's landings at both Leyte and Okinawa, the 776th led the first wave ashore. After the war, the battalion was inactivated on 21 January 1946 and later consolidated with the 2d Armored Cavalry on 8 January 1951. My initial research was unfortunately stymied by the fact that there is little mention of the battalion in the materials I had access to at the Reed Museum at Fort Polk. At Fort Knox, I have been able to conduct some research at the Patton Museum, and have requested unit records from the National Archives. Sincerely,

s/ Toujours Pret! J. P. Gottlieb  
t/ 1LT Jeffrey P. GOTTLIEB \* (502) 942-3397  
5895-A Adams Street \* Fort Knox 40121

(Ed: The cadre who were sent to form parts of the 9th Armored Division - including the then Regimental Commander, since deceased - may have experiences to relate to LT Gottlieb. Note especially, cadre sent to the 2d Tank Battalion, 2d Armored Regiment, 9th Armored Division. Those of us who have tried to follow the scheme of things know only that 1942 was all screwed up by the repeated "deactivations" when they meant "redesignations"; and "reorganizations" which meant nothing because there was no change in unit designation; and "redesignation" which sometimes meant only the difference of one comma, or one adjective. Sometimes, even when the National Archives tries to explain it all, one has to conclude that the novice rookie General Staff of 1942 had no guidelines and it showed.)

1 May 1998

(via Web Application)

Comment: Regardless of my experiences and friends in other assignments, I'll always think of the Army as the Cavalry. We were always like a family; good times, bad times, whatever. That's what the Cavalry is - a family of men, wives, girlfriends, children, leaders, soldiers.

t/ Paul M. LANGNEFF  
SSGT(Ret), Radcliff KY

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**Self Defense**

A man, much the worse for wear, was standing before the court. The judge eyed him menacingly. "You are accused by your landlord of being drunk and setting fire to the bed."

"It's a lie, Judge," cried the man indignantly. "That bed was on fire when I got in it!"

**Giddyap!**

For his birthday, a young man received the gift he'd always wanted: a horse. But it was a rather old horse, so the young man thought he should have it looked over by a veterinarian. After the animal doctor was finished, the young man anxiously asked, "Will I be able to race her?" He looked at the young man, then at the horse. "Sure," said the vet, "and you'd probably win."



# The trouble with North Korea



Source:

"THE ECONOMIST"  
London, England

## Worse and worse

TO INSTALL a president for life is to court misfortune. But to have a dead president inflicted on you for eternity, as has happened to the people of North Korea, is a downright calamity. All the more so, as North Korea's grim regime poses a threat not just to its own people (the economy has shrunk by at least 30% since 1990) but also, as its latest rocket launch has shown, to others near and far. Kim Jong Il's decision to assign the presidency to his dead dad—the living Kim runs the place through the Central Defence Committee—is rational in one respect: he would be barmy to want public responsibility for the mess North Korea is in ( ). But it bodes ill for efforts to prevent a crisis of nuclear proportions erupting on the Korean peninsula.

The "framework agreement" America struck with North Korea in 1994 to freeze and eventually dismantle its production of plutonium (from which nuclear bombs can be made) in return for two modern, less proliferation-prone nuclear reactors, had many flaws—not least that it put off, perhaps indefinitely, the date when North Korea had to tell all about its past nuclear cheating. But there was little alternative, short of an American military strike against North Korea, since there was so little support for economic sanctions. And, it was argued at the time, the deal would buy time to draw North Korea into talks with outsiders, including South Korea, thus reducing tensions along the world's most dangerous border.

But North Korea had no intention of letting that happen. The change of government in South Korea last year, to one with a "sunshine policy" of promoting more contacts with the North, posed, if anything, an even bigger threat to the survival of Kim Jong Il's regime; that regime still rules out even limited contacts between divided families, since these would show northerners just how bad their lot really is. And whenever it looks as though North Korea's diplomats may be getting too matey with their American or South Korean counterparts, some new military provocation—the dispatch of spy

submarines into South Korean waters or a controversial missile test—tends to be arranged.

Even before the firing last week of a rocket (launching an innocent satellite, say the northerners), North Korea had said it would keep on selling nuclear-capable missiles to anyone with the cash to buy. Its chief customers recently have included Iran (which may be trying secretly to build a bomb) and Pakistan (now in open nuclear rivalry with India). But the latest piece of pyrotechnics was not just a part of North Korea's sales drive. Whether satellite launch or missile test, it showed that North Korea has the technology to put much of North-East Asia in missile-firing range.

Clearly, the time America thought it had bought for diplomacy has been used by North Korea to strengthen its military muscle. It may also have been secretly continuing its bomb-building with plutonium produced before 1994. It has threatened to restart its plutonium-rich reactors if the project to supply it with western-designed alternatives and the promised interim deliveries of fuel oil are delayed. Yet more delays seem inevitable: incensed that part of North Korea's rocket travelled over its territory, Japan has suspended, at least for a while, its \$1 billion contribution for the reactors.

## When time runs out

The "agreed framework" for reducing North Korea's ability to cause nuclear mayhem thus looks ever more rickety. It may not be possible to keep either the reactor project or the oil shipments on schedule: getting more money from America's Congress for the oil will now be all the harder. Yet there is still no alternative course of diplomatic action. Meanwhile, the danger North Korea poses to its neighbours is greater even than before: it can now fix Tokyo and Beijing, not just Seoul, in its missile sights. Unless the living Mr Kim improbably changes his ways, it may be only a matter of time before his neighbours, and America, have to consider tougher action.

## SAM SORTINO HAS A SUGGESTION ...

designed especially for those who intend to drive to Fort Worth:

1. Get yourself a map of Texas.
2. Get yourself a Texas travel guide, especially one which is 264 jam-packed Texas pages huge.
3. Plan a side-trip on the way down.
4. Plan another side-trip on the way back.
5. Get and do all of this FREE.

Either: (a) Call toll-free 1-800-8888-TEX (extention 1088) - or  
(b) Invade the Internet at [www . Travel Tex . com](http://www.TravelTex.com) - or  
(c) Write: Texas Travel Guide \* Dept 2H 119

P.O. Box 149-249 \* AUSTIN TX 78714-9249

and ask for a copy of the TEXAS TRAVEL GUIDE package. Most of us will be flying and this does not seem to apply. But for the others who can make an extended vacation out of this reunion - ASK WHY NOT ??

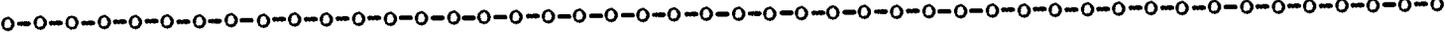
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CLIPPINGS  
FROM  
OTHER  
PUBLICATIONS  
OF  
POSSIBLE  
INTEREST  
TO OUR  
MEMBERS

# NEWS & NOTES

ISSUE # 106 \*\*\*

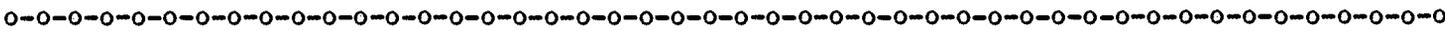
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## GULF WAR RECORDS

**Gulf war veterans, no longer on active duty, may request copies of hospital records previously thought to be lost. Gulf war veterans treated in military hospitals and host nation hospitals, such as Saudi Arabia, can now obtain copies of those records by calling the Office of the Special Assistant for the Gulf War at 1-800-497-6261. You will be mailed a database search request to sign and return.**

**Gulf War illnesses are on the world wide web (www) at [www.gulflink.osd.mil](http://www.gulflink.osd.mil). This site provides a detailed history of the Office of the Special Assistant for Gulf War illnesses' investigation. It also offers a running account of research, meetings and investigators' findings on specific events during the Gulf War (Defense Press Service: News).**



## **N. Carolina court awards tax refunds to retirees**

A recent North Carolina Supreme Court ruling could mean state income tax refunds to military retirees. The state has agreed that government retirees, including military retirees, who had five or more years of creditable service as

of Aug. 12, 1989, are exempt from paying North Carolina income tax on these retirement benefits. The exemption extends to heirs of a government employee who are receiving benefits based on that employee's service. Re-

funds would be for state taxes paid between 1989 and 1997. For more information, write to the Federal Retiree Tax Equity Task Force; 3117 Kinnamon Rd.; Winston-Salem, NC 27104 or call toll-free, 1-877-829-2273.



## VA HANDBOOK

**Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents is a 89 page handbook that covers changes in eligibility for VA medical care. It also contains addresses and phone numbers of all VA benefits offices, medical centers, national cemeteries, counseling centers and VA facilities.**

**You can access this book on the internet at [www.va.gov/benefits.htm](http://www.va.gov/benefits.htm). You may purchase a copy for \$3.75 from the Government Printing Office (GPO). The address to submit your request to is: Superintendent of Documents, PO Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954. The GPO Stock Number for the handbook is 051-000-00214-8. You may also order using VISA or Master Card by calling (202) 512-1800.**

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# Patton: Sweat and peanut butter

By Edwin Guthman  
Editor of *The Inquirer*

George S. Patton Jr. was a hell-to-leather general who had what it took to lead men in battle.

As commander of the Third Army he was rugged, audacious, flamboyant, outspoken and unstoppable — and he was America's most controversial general in World War II, admired for his ability to motivate his troops and to gain ground, but disparaged for his rebellious eccentricities and his love of war.

He was immortalized — and fairly portrayed according to those who knew him well — in the 1970 movie *Patton*, but his contributions to the Allied victory in Europe will speak for themselves for all time. Two stand out: the Third Army's dash across France after breaking out of Normandy in August 1944 and the relief of beleaguered Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge four months later.

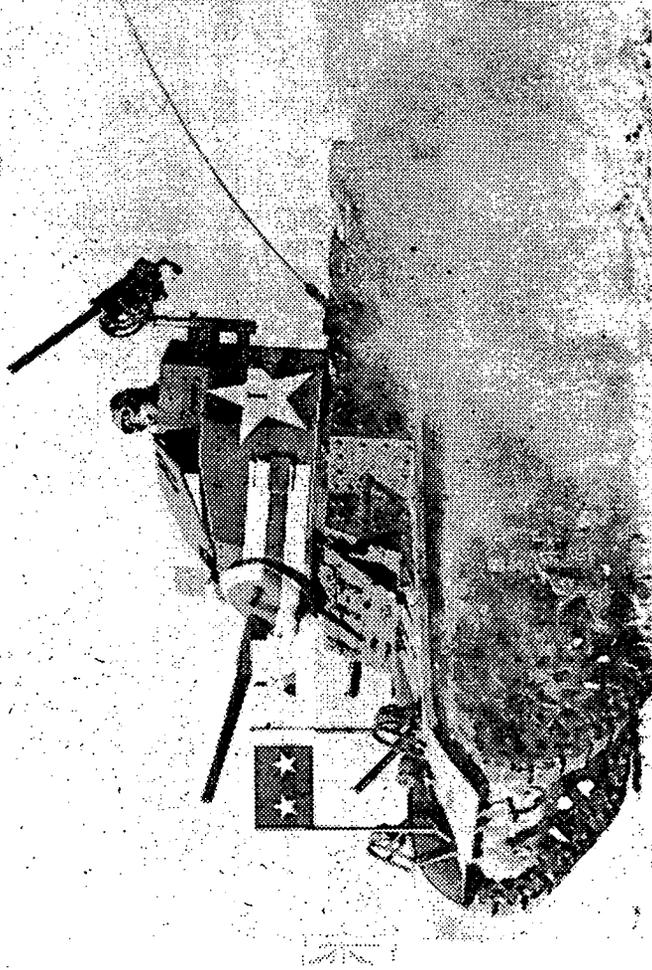
Yet last Monday was the 100th anniversary of his birth and his centennial passed with little or no public notice even though it coincided with Veterans Day. His spirit, no doubt, is wondering about that.

Patton deserved better.

I served very briefly and very distantly under his command early in the war. Like most encounters GIs had with Patton, the experience is indelible in my memory.

Shortly after Pearl Harbor, Winston Churchill came to Washington to confirm an informal understanding, reached a year earlier between American and British military officers, that if the United States became involved in the war it would follow a Europe-first strategy.

That meant getting assistance to the Brits as soon as possible, and since Libya was the



**Maj. Gen. George S. Patton Jr. in the Mojave Desert, 1942**

only place where British ground forces were fighting at the time, it seemed likely that American troops would be sent there. Thus, it became necessary to train Americans for desert fighting, and Patton was given the assignment.

In March 1942 he selected a desolate, remote part of the Mojave Desert in California where the terrain varied from sandy stretches to rocky mountains. There was little shade, and the temperatures ranged from below freezing at night to over 100 degrees the next day. It was, as Patton wrote

in his diary, the ideal place to condition and harden troops and to train them realistically for combat.

I was a corporal in a heavy weapons company of the Seventh Division's 32nd Infantry Regiment, the outfit that had the "honor," as our colonel put it, of being Patton's desert-training guinea pigs.

What that meant was three weeks of grueling mock battles, careening across the desert in half-track vehicles or marching with full-field packs, broiling in daytime, and learning to navigate at night off the

North Star.

We never saw Patton, but we felt his presence constantly. That was because, besides the rigor of the training, we were allowed one full canteen of water during daylight hours.

At dawn, armed guards were placed around the 38-gallon Lister bags that stood near our pup tent encampment. No matter how thirsty we became, what we had to do was not to touch our canteens until very late in the day.

If we took even a sip of water during the heat of the day, we had to keep on drinking, and it did us no good because the water was immediately sweated out. So, we learned to drink all we could before sunup and after sunset and to gut it out during the long daylight hours.

To make matters worse, each morning we were given peanut butter sandwiches for lunch. I haven't eaten one since.

We thought Patton was a sadist, but I would think most men came to realize later that he was not, that it was his way of preparing us to handle the violence we soon would have to face.

It was common belief, of course, that the Seventh Division was going to North Africa. But that's not the Army way. Shortly after coming off the desert, I went to officers' school at Fort Benning. The Seventh invaded Attu and Kiska, islands far out on the Aleutian chain that the Japanese had captured.

The Philadelphia *INQUIRER*

Op-Ed Page # 7-F

Sunday, November 17, 1985

# THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE... GERMAN or ENGLISH?

A medical officer was testing the camp water supply.

"What precautions do you take against infection?" he asked the sergeant in charge.

"We boil it first, sir," replied the sergeant.

"Good."

"Then we filter it."

"Excellent."

"And then," said the sergeant, "just for safety's sake, we drink beer."

. . .

The stranger walked up to a Las Vegas dice table and laid down a \$1000 bet. He shook the dice, but as he threw them a third cube fell unexpectedly from his sleeve. The house operator was unruffled. He handed back two of the dice and pocketed the third, saying, "OK, roll again. Your point is 15."

A group of men on a hunting trip in the deep South sat around the campfire one night telling tall stories, when one of them went to the spring for a bucket of fresh water.

He soon came tearing back through the brush without the water to report that there was an alligator in the spring.

One of the men said, "You shouldn't have paid any attention to the 'gator and got the water. That 'gator was probably just as scared as you."

The man who had been to the spring replied, "If that 'gator was as scared as I was, that water ain't fit to drink."

## Taking A Powder

A lawyer questioned one of the witnesses, "Are you sure my client shot him at close range?" The witness said, "Very close range." "Were there powder marks on him?" "Yup, why do you think she shot him?"

## Paying Cards

Something's wrong. We spend \$60 million a year on medical research and \$2 billion on get-well cards.

## First U.S. Hitchhiker

Washington had the right idea when he stood up in that boat crossing the Delaware. Every time he sat down, somebody handed him an oar.

## Tie It Down, Sport

At a zoo where animals are kept in open compounds so that visitors can mingle with the beasts, a woman tickled a kangaroo. The kangaroo jumped once and took off at 80 miles an hour. The keeper asked the lady what happened. "I tickled that kangaroo and it took off," the lady said. To which the keeper replied: "You better tickle me in the same place, lady, because I have to catch it."

When our forefathers were in the process of putting a government together, one of the questions which arose was "What should the official language be?" There was a good deal of squabbling, and eventually it boiled down to a choice between German and English. The Pennsylvania Legislature put the choice to a vote. German lost out by only one vote! The founding fathers, being political animals, decided to avoid a showdown with a vote so close. As a result, there never has been an official language of the United States. The virtues of English, with its rich variety of words, has made it the de facto language. Indeed, more people in the world speak English than any other language. There are more converts every day. The European Commission has just announced an agreement whereby English will be the official language of the European Union rather than German, which was the other possibility.

As part of the negotiations, Her Majesty's Government conceded that English spelling had some room for improvement and has accepted a five-year phase-in plan that would be known as Euro-English. In the first year, "s" will replace the soft "c". Certainly, this will make the sivil servants jump with joy. The hard "c" will be dropped in favor of the "k". This should klear up konfusion and keyboards kan have one less letter.

There will be growing publik enthusiasm in the sekond year when the troublesome "ph" will be replased with the "f". This will make words like "fotograf" 20% shorter!

In the 3rd year, publik akseptanse of the new spelling kan be expected to reach the stage where more komplikated changes are possible. Governments will enkorage the removal of double leters which have always ben a deterrent to akurate speling. Also, al wil agre that the horrible mes of the silent "e" in the languag is disgrasful and it should go away.

By the 4th year, peopl wil be reseptiv to steps such as replasing "th" with "z" and "w" wiz "v".

During ze fifz year ze unesesary "o" kan be dropd from vords kontaining "ou" and similar changes vud of kurs be aplid to ozer kombinations of leters.

After se fifz yer ve vil hav a rali sensibl ritn styl. Zer vil be no mor trubl or difikultis and evriun vil vind it ezi tu undrstand ech ozer.

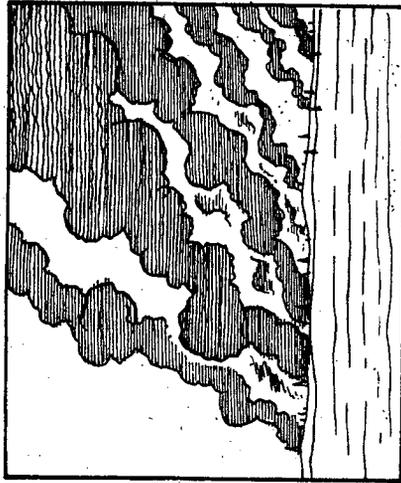
Zen Ze Drem Vil Finali Kum Tru!!



THE INVASION OF KUWAIT



EXECUTIONS OF KUWAITIS



THE BURNING OF THE OILFIELDS



GENOCIDE AGAINST THE KURDS



THE HIDING OF CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL & NUCLEAR WEAPONS



THE U.N. IS SPYING ON ME!

DUHHH.

**Ask a Silly Question...**

As far as Saddam Hussein being a great military strategist, he is neither a strategist, nor is he schooled in the operational arts, nor is he a tactician, nor is he a general, nor is he a soldier. Other than that, he's a great military man. I want you to know that.

— Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf

# Don't be sidetracked

*“Spy charges” against UNSCOM are nonsense. Stick to the long-term goal: Getting rid of Saddam.*

TONY AUTH / The Philadelphia Inquirer (tauth@phillynews.com)

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS 2d CAVALRY MEMORABILIA ORDER FORM (or photocopy) AND MAIL TO:

Ray THOMAS, Esq. \*\* 215 Pilgrim Lane \*\* Drexel Hill PA 19026 \*\* (610) 446-4421

If you wish any item to be mailed to you, a Packaging & Postage (P&P) charge must be added. All monies go to the General Fund which purchased this inventory initially. Tell us how many you want and to whom to be sent. CHECK PAYABLE TO: "2d CAVALRY ASSOCIATION". Your suggestions for future items are welcome.

Shelf Count	ITEMS (List revised February 1999)	Basic Price	P&P	Cost Mailed	How Many	Total \$ \$ \$
<u>MEMORABILIA w/ UNIT INSIGNIA</u>						
22	Ass'n Necktie w/ '2' crossed sabers	\$14.00	3.00	\$ 17.00		
19	Unit Crest Tie Tac (w/ short chain)	6.00	1.50	7.50		
11	Unit Crest Lapel Pins w/ clasp	6.00	1.50	7.50		
14	Gold Thread Breast Patch w/ prong clips	23.00	3.00	26.00		
6	White Polo Shirt w/ pocket & insignia Circle size: only "L" and "XL"	16.00	3.20	19.20		
<u>BOOKS and PRINTED MATTER</u>						
17	1947 Regt'1 History 367 pp Bound	\$30.00	\$3.20	\$33.20		
71	'Desert Storm' 2d ACR 8x10 Booklet	2.00	1.00	3.00		
68	'Ghosts of Patton's Army' 1944 reprint	.45	.55	1.00		
17	150-year History 2d ACR (1986)	3.00	1.00	4.00		
8	'Eye of the Storm' (Pictorial History of the Iraqi Desert War)	14.00	3.20	17.20		
170	Back issues "The Dragoon" Regt'1 newspaper Circle desired issues: 1975 - Feb - June - Aug - Sept - Nov - Dec 1976 - Jan; 1977 - Feb - Mar - July - Aug 1979 - Aug - Nov; 1980 - Jan - Mar - Apr - July - Aug - Sept - Oct 1981 - Jan - June - July - Sept; 1985 - Feb - Apr - Jun - Aug 1986 - Jan - May - June - Aug - Sept - Oct - Dec 1987 - Jan - June - July; a988 - Mar	.70	.55	1.25		
55	1980 Col Reed Obituary issue 'Dragoon'	2.00	.55	2.55		
43	Reunion Yearbook (Circle choice) 1985 - Washington DC * 1987 - Chicago IL	2.00	1.50	3.50		
8	25pp photocopy: Panzer Attack in Lorraine	1.50	.55	2.05		
<u>PRINTS and POSTERS (Can Be Framed)</u>						
1	Stiver "Lipizzan Rescue" print (Scholarship Fund)	\$100.00	5.00	\$105.00		
9	Autographed 'Re-Up' Posters. Choice: Colonels MOLINO SHARP HARDY	3.00	2.00	5.00		
16	'Remember Your Regiment' 1846 CPT May	3.00	2.00	5.00		

Total amount enclosed: \$ (payable to "2d Cavalry Association")

THIS FORM INVALID AFTER 15 MARCH 2000

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

# Editor's Notes

1. The Association's most altruistic and idealistic program is also its biggest failure. The Scholarship Memorial Award, given out annually, has so few applicants. Sometimes zero.

2. In order to attract more participation, the rules of eligibility have been expanded, and will be reviewed later in this article. Suffice it to say for now that we have money to give away and nobody seems to want it.

3. The original concept came from the active duty veterans of the Iraqi War. Their original nestegg of \$26,000.00 funded the project. Wise investment by the Association's Custodian of the Scholarship Fund has expanded that base since 1991. Failure of anyone to collect an academic grant any given year helps the fund to expand further, but that is not the sort of growth we seek. What we do seek is to help 2d Cavalry parents (grandparents) to assist in the cost of higher education of their child or grandchild. Let's review the essential elements of information:

**WHO:** Who is eligible to participate as a sponsor or as an applicant? Sponsors may include anyone who is a LIFE member of the 2d Cavalry Association, and/or anyone serving on current active duty with the Regiment regardless of rank. Applicants may include any son or daughter and/or grandson or granddaughter of any legitimate sponsor, and may be as young as a Junior in high school.

**WHAT:** What is it that the final selectee receives? There is no money given directly to the student or his parents. Rather, a check will be made out to the school of attendance or school of future choice in the amount of \$700.00 (or more) in the name of the recipient to be used to help defray costs, whatever they may be: tuition, books, dormitory, or related. The check is undated and is valid for one year so as to be of value to anyone entering a post high school institution or campus as well as an undergraduate already there.

**WHEN:** An essay competition is held annually so as to be conducted in the late spring and summer. The final judging is completed in late August so as to have the completed check available in early September.

**WHERE:** Where is this competitive essay sent? To the Regiment. There will be a specific address in the next issue of "Thoroughbred". Watch for it.

**WHY:** The Desert Storm veterans during their ordeal, were very mindful of the readiness of the next generation and wanted to do something about it. Because of (then) 92 years of service to the Regiment and its veterans and alumni, the 2d Cavalry Association was selected as the Executor and Administrator. The Association is carrying out the expressed wishes of the original benefactors.

**HOW:** Watch for the next issue of "Thoroughbred" for more procedural ("how") instructions, including the authorized topic for the essay competition.

**SUMMARY:** Today we have misformed minds with guns who shoot their classmates and teachers. Yesteryear we had misformed minds without guns who shot at their fellow veterans and their leadership equally for no valid reason. Yesteryear (as today) we were all victims of the agony. Stop paying all that homage to the evil disruptors. Stop ignoring the good. Accentuate the positive; eliminate the negative; and don't mess with Mister In-between. If you are an active duty Cavalryman with proper age offspring, or an Association LIFE member with proper age child/grandchild, you have this chance to enhance somebody's future.

The service we render others is really the rent we pay for our room on the earth. (Sir Grenfell)

# THERE ARE STILL SOME ASPIRATIONS YOU DON'T HAVE TO ABANDON.

RESERVATION FORM: Please return this form (or a photocopy) to:

Louis T. HOLZ, 1999 Events Chairman \* (610) 688-3715  
726 Mancill Road \* Wayne-Strafford PA 19087-2005-07

I/We are interested in visiting Fort Worth for the 2d Dragoon active duty ceremonies, Pipe Band, Honor Guard & Wreath Laying services, and related events. We plan to be in the city at the Radison Plaza Hotel on or about 5-6-7 June 1999.

I/We are interested in visiting Fort Worth for the Association's biennial convention, which simultaneously celebrates two "biggies": (a) the Association's 100th anniversary as well as the sesquicentennial of the founding of the City of Fort Worth by 'F' Troop of the 2d Dragoons. We plan to be at the Radison Plaza Hotel on or about 8 thru 13 October 1999.

I/We have called the Radison Plaza Hotel at (817) 870-2100 for the June and/or the October dates, and have identified ourselves as "2d Cavalry" in order to qualify for the Dragoon rate of \$89.00 per room (up to a quad) per night.

We have enclosed \$30.00 per person for each person to attend in October. This registration deposit is not refundable, but the entire amount will be deducted from the final prorated meal, admissions, setup, entertainment, transportation, and other related costs of the reunion.

I/We have called our very best Cavalry friends and asked that they join us there.

The following persons are planning to attend. (More may be added later:

-----  
-----  
 My name and phone number are: -----  
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REMARKS:

**"WE'VE HAD SOME GOOD TIMES"**

The surest way to have happiness and peace of mind is to give them to somebody else.