

Summer 2020

# Bridgehead Sentinel

A PUBLICATION OF THE SOCIETY OF THE FIRST INFANTRY DIVISION

## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Returns from Vietnam



*Pictured: The reviewing stand rendering honors during welcome ceremonies for the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division at Forbes Air Force Base. April 8, 1970.*

*Left to right: MG Robert R. Linvill, CG, 24<sup>th</sup> ID and BG John Q. Henion, CG 1<sup>st</sup> ID.*

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# Bridgehead Sentinel



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**Fort Riley, KS 66442**

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## EDITORIAL POLICY

The purpose of the *Bridgehead Sentinel* is to serve the needs of the Society and the interests of its members by:

- Disseminating information from the Society to its members;
- Publishing articles and items of interest to Society members;
- Promoting the history and heritage of the Big Red One.

The *Bridgehead Sentinel* staff reserves the right to edit all articles for length, grammar, and content.

The *Bridgehead Sentinel* does not publish material relating to political issues or campaigns, paid advertisements or solicitations, or material that may be considered defamatory or libelous.

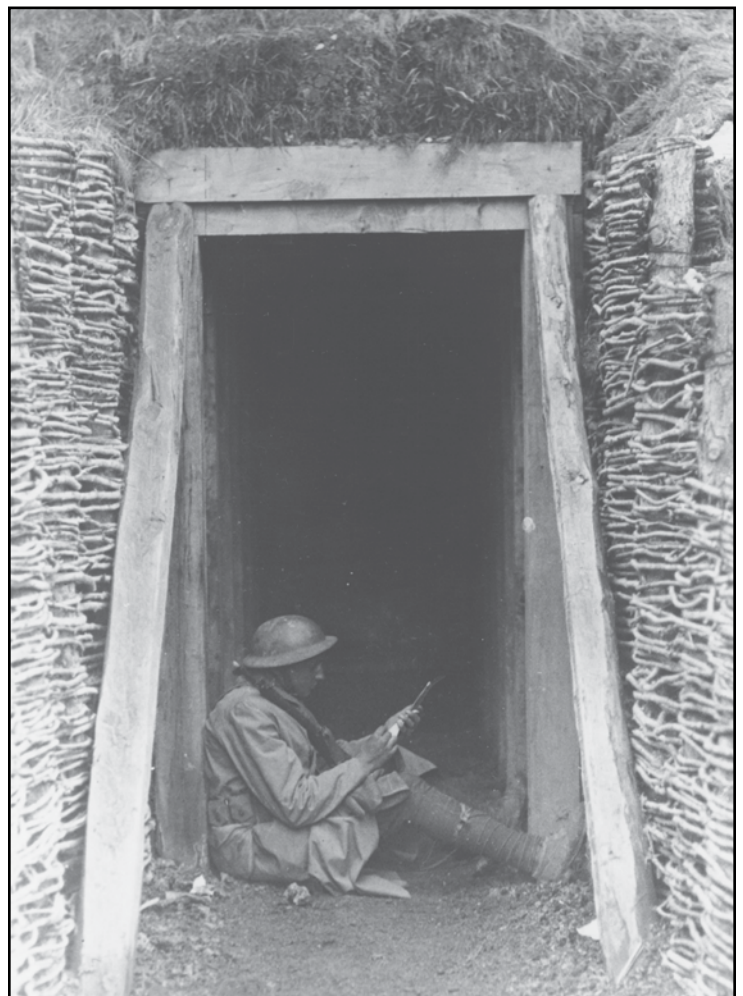
All stories, photos and other items sent to the *Bridgehead Sentinel* will be automatically considered for donation to the First Division Museum in Wheaton, Illinois, unless otherwise requested.

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*A U.S. First Division Artilleryman in the doorway of his bombproof shelter devotes a few peaceful moments in writing to the folks at home. March 7, 1918.*



## Letter from the President

### by LTG (Ret.) Ron Watts

Greetings to all Society members! I trust that you and your families are enjoying the summer and staying healthy and safe from the COVID-19 virus that has brought so much tragedy to our citizens and economy.

Having to cancel our August 2020 Reunion in New Orleans was a big disappointment; however, it was the right decision as the health of our members has priority. We avoided contract penalties by rebooking our 2023 Reunion at the same hotel in New Orleans. Please mark your calendars for 2021 when we'll convene at the Hyatt Regency in Albuquerque, New Mexico, from July 28 to August 1.

I am proud of the work our

Society paid staff continues to do. Phyllis, Linda, Crystal and April continue to increase membership, and support our Society members. You can assist by ensuring they have your current contact information in our database.

Congratulations to our CG, MG John Kolasheski. He has been selected for promotion to Lieutenant General and command of V Corps at Fort Knox. His replacement will be BG (P) Douglas Sims II, who is currently serving on the Joint Staff in the Pentagon. The change of command will take place in August 2020.

We also welcome our new Division Command Sergeant Major Raymond Harris. CSM Harris agreed to write a column in

the Bridgehead Sentinel regarding Division activities. His first column is in this edition.

I, along with the Executive Director need your ideas on how we can improve support to members and corporate sponsors. We currently provide a wide range of support, including three editions of the BHS each year; a database available to find your friends and long-separated battle buddies; scholarships; and support to soldiers and their families. We would appreciate your thoughts on how we might further enhance your membership in the Society.

Our Executive Director is working hard to expand the number of corporate sponsors.

I encourage you to support sponsors when possible. There is always a current listing on the Society website, and in the BHS.

We continue our efforts to add the 631 names, and their units of BRO soldiers lost in post 9-11 operations to the DC Division Monument. We are still awaiting Senate approval. The Monument Fund currently has a balance of \$242,000. We estimate a need for approximately \$150,000 more to complete the project. Your generosity is amazing, and I encourage your continued support.

I look forward to working with you as we continue to support Society objectives. ♥

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## Reminder: We Need Your E-Mail Address on File

The summer, Bridgehead Sentinel is going out digitally to our members. We notified members earlier this year that the magazine will no longer be mailed, and will be digital after

the Spring 2020 edition.

Moving to a digital magazine is more cost effective and timely. We understand that some members may not have the means to download or read the magazine on a

computer; we will address those cases individually.

We have been working diligently to bring our database up to date with our members' information. This is an ongoing project

and therefore important that you help us keep your membership profile up to date. Thank you! ♥





# Letter from the Executive Director

## by CW3 (Ret.) Phyllis Fitzgerald

Greetings to all members and your families. As I write, it dawns on me that I've been in this position for seven months. It's been a great ride. I love the job, our members and their families, our corporate sponsors and our business partners. I have a great team to work with. I have been privileged to meet many of you by telephone, email, in person and by social media. I can say that you all are "the best." The pride that I hear in the voices of our members and the display of the Big Red One is like no other. I too am that proud Big Red One Soldier. "No Mission Too Difficult, No Sacrifice Too Great, Duty First."

This year, with COVID-19, has brought change and challenges for everyone. Sadly, we had to cancel this year's reunion in New Orleans. The health and safety of our members is our top priority. But we will be returning to New Orleans in 2023. Speaking of reunions, it is not too early to start planning for 2021. We are going to Albuquerque, New Mexico (July 28 to Aug 1, 2021). I hope that many of you will attend since we missed seeing each other in person this year.

We have formed a local chapter in Albuquerque. One of our members, Manuel Alzaga, stood up and said he would like to assist in getting the chapter going. I am excited to meet Manuel and

the chapter members next year. Having chapters in our communities is a great way to stay in touch with each other and with the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division. To date we have seven chapters located throughout the states. Here is the weblink for additional information: [1stid.org/chapters](http://1stid.org/chapters). Please consider joining a local chapter or starting one in your community. (We will assist you).

We (Phyllis, Linda, and Crystal) want to stay in touch with you, but we need your help. If you move, or change your telephone number or email address, please let us know. Our goal is to never lose track of a member. Unfortunately, we get many bounced emails and returned copies of Bridgehead Sentinel. Without your current information we are unable to get in touch and keep you informed.

Speaking of correspondence, we mentioned in the 2020 spring edition of the magazine that it would be the last one mailed. Starting with this edition it will be distributed digitally to your email address, and posted online at [1stid.org](http://1stid.org). Some exceptions will be made to mail it on a case by case basis. Email is more cost effective for the Society and more timely for members.

Building membership is a tough one. The growing Society membership opportunity of

sponsoring active duty soldiers in the rank of E-1 to E-7 has been successful. More information is available in the magazine and on our website. Thank you to all those who have sponsored soldiers.

We appreciate our business partners and our corporate sponsors. We have been fortunate in establishing some partnerships and sponsors. These partnerships are vital in assisting us with carrying out the legacy and honoring our fallen comrades of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division. Hyperlinks to these partners are in this edition of the magazine. If you are interested in becoming a partner, please let us know.

Even though we were not able to have the reunion this year, we will conduct the raffle drawing on Saturday, August 15, at 12 PM (Central time). This drawing will be done virtually on our Facebook page: [Facebook.com/SocietyFirstInfantryDivision/](https://www.facebook.com/SocietyFirstInfantryDivision/). The 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division 2020 NCO and Soldier of the Year or representative will assist us in the drawing. You have until 10 AM that morning to purchase your tickets. More information is in this issue.

Earlier I mentioned meeting many of you. During the COVID-19 crisis, I made a face mask with a Big Red One and "Duty First." I posted a photo on Facebook and next thing I knew Big Red

One veterans were asking how they could get one. Since then I've made over 450 masks and donated them to veterans in every state, Germany and Afghanistan. Every person who received one loved it and said they will wear it with pride and represent the Big Red One.

During this process I met veterans from every era of conflict. I read the stories they shared of their time in the Big Red One (many are tear jerkers). You can hear and feel the pride they have of their time in the oldest and most storied Division in our Army. Many of them are members of the Society of the First Infantry Division, some were not, but have joined. It is amazing how a red BRO "Duty First" face mask brought so many together.

We are now partnering with one of our Lifetime members and CEO/owner of US Wings, David Hack, for face masks. "Sarge" is donating 15% back to the Society for each mask sold. This issue contains more details.

I am honored to be your Executive Director. Linda, Crystal and I will continue to work hard for our members and their families while carrying on the legacy and honoring our fallen of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division. We are here for you and appreciate all of you. Stay safe and healthy. ■



U.S. Army Photo.

## Letter From the CSM Command Sergeant Major Raymond S. Harris

My name is Ray Harris and I am a Big Red One Soldier, proudly serving in America's First and Most Historic Division. I am humbled by the privilege to serve as the 26<sup>th</sup> Command Sergeant Major of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division and Fort Riley. I want to extend my sincere gratitude to all those who have made my transition back to Fort Riley and the Big Red One after 24 years seamless and welcoming. The reception and welcome my family and I received represents Fort Riley's unmatched sense of community and family.

The past few months have been times of change and uncertainty. As a community, we have banded together in an

effort to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19, Protect the Force against contracting the virus, and Preserve the Mission readiness required to answer our nation's call. Our protective and preventive measures proved effective against a formidable opponent. However, we cannot afford to become lackadaisical or complacent, and must continue to do our part in the fight against COVID-19 until the virus is no longer a threat to our Soldiers, families and community.

As our protective and preventive measures started to take hold, we slowly and deliberately re-opened the installation and resumed training with multiple mitigation measures in place. The

Division headquarters and our 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Brigade Combat team remain hard at work preparing for Danger Gauntlet II, a large-scale home-station training exercise that will validate our proficiency prior to deploying for a rotation at the National Training Center this fall. As many of you know, our 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Combat Team is currently deployed to the Korean Peninsula and is generating lethality and combat readiness alongside our 8<sup>th</sup> U. S. Army and U. S. Forces Korea teammates. The 1<sup>st</sup> Combat Aviation Brigade recently resumed collective flight operations and is preparing to support our division and various other units at upcoming combat

training center rotations. Finally, the first Sustainment Brigade recently redeployed select teams who were supporting U.S. Army North's medical response to COVID-19 and continues to provide first-class logistical support to our division and installation.

The Commanding General and I could not be prouder of the resiliency, teamwork and commitment displayed daily by our Soldiers, Airmen, Department of the Army Civilians and family members. The Soldiers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Officers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division remain Brave, Responsible and On-Point for the Army and Nation. ▀

## Division Celebrates 103<sup>rd</sup> Birthday

**Right:** The youngest Soldier in the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, Pvt. Omolola Bakare, cuts the 1<sup>st</sup> Inf. Div. birthday cake in honor of the Division's 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday June 8. She was joined at the virtual ceremony by Maj. Gen. John Kolasheski, senior commanding officer of the 1<sup>st</sup> Inf. Div. and Fort Riley, left, the oldest Soldier in the 1<sup>st</sup> Inf. Div., Sgt. First Class Kevin Hughes, second from left, and 1<sup>st</sup> Inf. Div. Command Sgt. Maj. Raymond Harris, right. ▀



U.S. Army Photo.

# 1ID and 1CD conduct Transfer of Authority for Atlantic Resolve Mission

Story by Spc. Cody Kellum

241<sup>st</sup> Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

The 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Forward and the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division Forward held a Transfer of Authority ceremony on June 1 2020, in Poznan, Poland, as 1ID FWD relinquished authority for the mission command element within the Atlantic Resolve area of responsibility to the First Team.

The TOA ceremony is a longstanding Army tradition that signifies when an incoming unit takes over full responsibility for a mission from the preceding unit.

Maj. Gen. Joe Jarrard, U.S. Army Europe Deputy Commanding General for Army National Guard, presided over the event. Gen. Jaroslaw Mika, commanding general of the Polish Armed Forces, thanked Brig. Gen. Thomas O'Connor, 1ID FWD commanding general, for his efforts and welcomed Brig. Gen. Brett Sylvia, 1CD FWD commanding general.

In his remarks, O'Connor praised the Polish Armed Forces and recognized the operational capabilities of the incoming 1CD FWD.

"It's been a pleasure to be a guest of Poland and serve alongside your armed forces," said O'Connor. "Now as the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division departs Europe, we hand over this mission to an extremely capable fighting force: our nation's 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division. They stand ready to deter regional aggression."

The 1ID FWD team has been here for 27 months training for Regionally Aligned Forces rotations, 1CD FWD will be here for the next 18 months and will participate in both DEFENDER-Europe 20+ and DEFENDER-Europe 21.

Sylvia thanked 1ID FWD for their efforts to ensure a smooth transition and said 1CD FWD

would continue the outstanding success they have experienced.

"Although this ceremony is for the transfer of authority of the Atlantic Resolve mission, it's really more about continuity than about it is about change," said Sylvia.

"We look forward to demonstrating to our NATO allies and partners our commitment to peace, security and stability in Europe."

Mika also praised the efforts of the U.S. forces to build a strong partnership in Europe.

"I'm really proud of the interoperability and security we have established in Europe," said Mika. "I'm convinced our mutual cooperation will continue, and I'm grateful for your service and success here in Poland."

The Atlantic Resolve mission is part of the United States' continuing commitment to European Security in support of our NATO

allies and partners. The deployment of combat-ready U.S. forces to Europe provides the ability to build readiness, increase interoperability and enhance the bond between ally and partner militaries through multinational training events.

There are approximately 6,000 Soldiers participating in Atlantic Resolve at any given time, conducting operations and exercises across 17 countries in support of NATO allies and partners. ■

## 1ID Forward Soldiers Return to Ft. Riley

On June 7, soldiers of the 1<sup>st</sup> ID Forward were welcomed home from Poland where they served as the mission command element for the Atlantic Resolve mission. ■

**Right:** MG John S. Kolasbeski, Commanding General of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division welcomes the troops back to Fort Riley.



U.S. Army Photo.



## Liberty Battalion Supports Readiness, Fights COVID

By Maj. Jon Allen

1<sup>st</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division

Soldiers from the 101<sup>st</sup> Brigade Support Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division implemented preventative measures to protect Soldiers and prevent the spread of COVID-19 here since the outbreak began this spring.

The 101<sup>st</sup> Bde. Spt. Bn. represents one of many units across Fort Riley that have had to overcome COVID related challenges while maintaining their ability to answer the Nation's Call if necessary.

"The outbreak of COVID-19 has been an uncertain time for everyone," said Lt. Col. Angel Cardenas, commander of 101<sup>st</sup> Bde. Spt. Bn. "At Liberty Battalion, we have continued to carry out our unique and expansive mission of supporting the Devil Brigade while ensuring that our Soldiers and their families stay safe by protecting the force, preventing the spread, and preserving mission readiness."

The mission of the 101<sup>st</sup> Bde. Spt. Bn. includes a wide variety of support activities including; distribution of supplies, maintenance, medical care, and food service. Fort Riley categorizes these as 'required readiness activities' as they are required to meet national security commitments to the federal government and U.S. Military.

Chief warrant officer two Nelson Dawson, supply systems technician for 101<sup>st</sup> Bde. Spt. Bn. is the accountable officer of the brigade's supply support activity operations.

"We've been able to split 12- hour days to accommodate physical distance and still get after the mission to get parts in to the hands of the maintainer," said CW2 Dawson. "Everything that comes through here is going to make it into the hands of an operator and determine if a tank goes 'boom' or a warfighter is able to execute his or her mission."

In addition to implementing procedures to maintain readiness of the unit, CW2 Nelson is taking extra precaution to care for Soldiers working in a potentially stressful environment.

"Keeping an eye out and making sure Soldiers are healthy, engaging with the Soldiers more than usual and making sure they're prepared to complete their tasks," said CW2 Nelson.

Specialist Madison Dunn, small arms and artillery repairer with the 101<sup>st</sup> Bde. Spt. Bn. armament shop noted the importance of personal protective equipment in his daily duties.

"We implemented facemasks, it's just another piece of PPE that we're used to wearing," said Spc.



**Above:** A Soldier from the 101<sup>st</sup> Brigade Support Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division armament shop maintains equipment at Fort Riley, KS while wearing personal protective equipment.

Dunn. "We do what we have to do, it's just another day in the Army."

Key to protecting the force is medical care. Captain Ryan Vonderhorst, battalion surgeon with 101 Bde. Spt. Bn. described changes made to healthcare in response to the COVID pandemic.

"Protecting the force is literally why we're here," said Capt. Vonderhorst. "If that means having people limiting contact, distancing, wearing masks, limiting work duties to essential tasks, I think that's incredibly vital."

The Liberty Battalion is also responsible for dining facility operations for the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team. Corporal Jushauna Bayley, culinary special-

ist with the 101<sup>st</sup> Bde. Spt. Bn. has managed challenges from COVID while feeding the Soldiers of the Devil Brigade.

"To ensure we complete the mission, we enforce standards and make sure Soldiers in the kitchen and dining are not complacent," said Cpl. Bayley. "We now keep 6 feet of distance, all Soldiers wear masks, have their temperatures checked, and follow sanitization procedures."

The Liberty Battalion and Devil Brigade continue to take action to protect the force, prevent the spread of COVID-19 and remain ready to deploy, fight, and win America's wars. ▀

U.S. Army Photo.



# Dagger Brigade Certifies FiSTers

By 1LT Emily McGowan

5<sup>th</sup> Squadron 4<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment, 2ABCT, 1ID



**Above:** PFC Carmen Rosato from 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 63<sup>rd</sup> Armor Regiment operates the Lightweight Laser Designator Rangefinder during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division fire support certification at Camp Hovey.

Fire support Soldiers from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division conducted a Fire Support certification at Camp Casey and Camp Hovey from April 1-24.

All Fire Supporters, also known as FiSTers, must be trained and made ready through the semi-annual FiST certification process that tests their ability to perform a series of key fire support tasks including operating fire support equipment and conducting fire missions.

The first phase of the fire support certification process is

the Artillery Skills Proficiency Test and a written exam. The ASPT is an opportunity for FiSTers to demonstrate their hands-on knowledge of fire support systems.

FiSTers were tested on several individual tasks which included utilizing a Lightweight Laser Designator Rangefinder, operating a Defense Advanced GPS Receiver, constructing an antenna and connecting it to a radio, and land navigation. ▀

## Keeping up with the 1<sup>st</sup> Division

### Headquarters (REDEPLOYED)

The DHHB welcomed home its 1<sup>st</sup> ID Forward soldiers serving in Poland on June 7.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team (REDEPLOYED)

In early 2019, 1<sup>st</sup> ABCT soldiers deployed to Europe in support of Atlantic Resolve. In fall of 2019 the brigade redeployed back to Fort Riley.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team (DEPLOYED)

On March 4, the 2ABCT transferred authority from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division at Camp Humphreys in the Republic of Korea.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Combat Aviation Brigade (REDEPLOYED)

In January 2019, soldiers of the Combat Aviation Brigade deployed in support of Atlantic Resolve in Europe. Early this year, the troops of the CAB began their return to Fort Riley.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Division Sustainment Brigade (REDEPLOYED)

The 1<sup>st</sup> Division Sustainment Brigade Special Troops Battalion uncased their colors in Afghanistan in February 2019 in support of Operations Resolute Support and Freedom's Sentinel. In November 2019, the 1<sup>st</sup> ID Sustainment Brigade redeployed back from Fort Riley.

### Division Artillery (REDEPLOYED)

Since the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Artillery stood up in late 2015, there has been an emphasis on the importance of partnership. The Division Artillery continues to train alongside Division elements as well as outside units. ▀

# 1<sup>st</sup> Division Face Masks Available

We're partnering with US Wings CEO/owner and Society of the First Infantry Division lifetime member SFC (Retired) David Hack to bring you Big Red One face coverings. "Sarge" served with A/1-16 Infantry Battalion/1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division during Vietnam.

Sarge is donating 15% of the purchase of each face mask to the Society of the First Infantry Division.

These masks feature:

- Made in the USA
- Commercial-grade cotton
- BRO logo in upper-left corner
- Anti-bacterial coating
- 100% breathable
- Single-needle ribbed binding

- Hand washable for reuse
- One size fits most
- Color: Black

**Order directly from US Wings using this link:**

[uswings.com/product/us-made-custom-military-face-mask-big-red-one/](https://uswings.com/product/us-made-custom-military-face-mask-big-red-one/)

Or go to our website (1std.org) and click on the BRO face mask link on the homepage. Our site will take you to US Wings to complete your order.

Thank you "Sarge" and US Wings for this partnership and thank you members for supporting the Society of the First Infantry Division. ▀



## Christmas in July Sale July 25 to 31, 2020

This unofficial holiday is the perfect time to get an early start on purchasing gifts for others. By the time July rolls around, many folks are already yearning for the coolness of winter amid the scorching summer heat. Shop from the convenience of your air-conditioned home!

We have gone through our quartermaster store and put together a group of specially priced items that will make great gifts.

Beginning July 25, go to our website, 1std.org and click on the Christmas in July tree. Sale ends July 31! ▀

Have you moved, changed your phone number or email address?  
If so, please let us know!

We value our members and want to make sure that we keep in touch with you. It is especially important that if you move, change your phone number or your email address that you inform us so that we can update your member profile.

When we send out emails or post office mail, we get a significant amount of returns, whether it is from a bad address, or a bounced or bad email address. The same is true with phone numbers—if we need to call you and the number is no longer in service we have no way of talking to you.

We want to stay in touch but need your help!

Please contact us with any changes in your status as soon as possible so that we can update our records. Please contact us to submit changes.

**Contact us at:**

Society of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division  
P.O. Box 2307  
Fort Riley, KS 66442  
[sfidkansas@gmail.com](mailto:sfidkansas@gmail.com) or  
[sfidqm@gmail.com](mailto:sfidqm@gmail.com)  
785-579-6761 ▀

**Fellow members, please use this membership form to approach businesses  
in your community to join the Society as a corporate member!**



**SOCIETY OF THE FIRST INFANTRY DIVISION**  
**P.O. Box 2307**  
**Fort Riley, KS 66442**  
Phone: 785-579-6761 FAX: 785-209-3022 [www.1stid.org](http://www.1stid.org)



**Corporate Membership Application or Renewal**

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_ NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
First MI Last Suffix Jr., II, Etc.

Please check if you **do not** want your contact information listed in the "Members Only" online directory in our website.

**COMPLETE TO APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP OR TO UPDATE OUR RECORDS:**

**MAILING ADDRESS (ADDRESS WHERE YOU WANT YOUR MEMBERSHIP  
MATERIAL MAILED TO.)**

Corporate Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(Will **not** be released for any purpose, including the website.)

**Platinum Level:**

With a donation of \$2,500.00 or more, each Platinum Level membership will receive a 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary First Infantry Division commemorative numbered print, a 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary First Infantry Division commemorative Stein, a certificate of membership and window peel decals for each business building, three copies of our Veterans magazine "The Bridgehead Sentinel" (BHS), and free advertisement space in the BHS. Additionally, we give you (4) Banquet Dinner tickets served our annual veteran reunion.

**Gold Level:**

With a donation greater than \$1,500.00 and less than \$2,500.00 each Gold level membership will receive a 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary First Infantry Division commemorative number print, three copies of our magazine The Bridgehead Sentinel (BHS), a certificate of membership to the Society, and two (2) Banquet Dinner ticket at our annual veterans reunion.

**Silver Level:**

With a donation between \$500.00 and \$1,500.00 a Silver Level each Silver level membership will receive a 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary First Infantry Division commemorative numbered print, three copies of our magazine, The Bridgehead Sentinel (BHS), free 2"x5" advertisement space in the BHS, a certificate of membership to the Society, window peels to show membership for each organizational building, and a banquet dinner ticket at our annual veterans reunion.

ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK PAYABLE TO THE **SOCIETY OF THE FIRST INFANTRY DIVISION**

- or -

PLEASE CHARGE MY (CIRCLE ONE): VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER

CARD #: \_\_\_\_\_ EXP DATE: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ CVC: \_\_\_\_\_  
(month) (year) (code on back of card)

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ (CVC CODE & SIGNATURE REQUIRED)

Return this form and your check, if applicable, in the pre-addressed envelope provided. If paying by credit card, you may fax this form to (785) 209-3022.

\*\*\* **THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT** \*\*\*



# Local Society of the First Infantry Division Chapters

The spring 2020 edition of Bridgehead Sentinel discussed forming local chapters of the Society in communities where our members reside. The formation of these chapters is greatly beneficial in helping our members meet, connect with one another and stay in contact with the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division.

We now have seven (7) areas with a chapter. Thank you to the members who volunteered to lead a chapter in their community. At this time, meeting in person may not be possible due to COVID-19. When in-person meetings resume, please follow all the suggested health and safety measures. In the meantime, email and phone calls can help us all stay connected.

Next year our reunion is in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and we have started a chapter there. Manuel Alzaga volunteered to take the lead on getting this chapter

going. It will be exciting next year to meet the folks in this chapter.

The Society is here to assist in getting new chapters started. An email is sent out from our database to all the members in an area, such as a city or state, advising that a chapter is being formed and we provide in that email the contact information of the member who has volunteered to lead the effort.

How do you get involved in a chapter? If there is not one in your community and you want one started, email or call us. If you get an email from the Society about a chapter forming and you want to be a part of it, please reply to the email. Please consider starting a chapter where you reside or if there is one your area, be a part of it.

Chapters with POC information are also listed on 1stid.org.

### KANSAS

Junction City Kansas Chapter  
POC: Phyllis Fitzgerald  
Email: sfid1919@gmail.com  
Phone: 785-579-6761

### INDIANA

East Central Indiana Chapter  
POC: James Allen  
Email: Jallen5749@gmail.com  
Phone: 765-969-7977

### NY/FORT DIX/NEW JERSEY

New York/Fort Dix Branch  
POC: Antonio Maria  
Email: black\_lions66@yahoo.com  
Phone: 973-477-9360

### NEW MEXICO

Albuquerque/Sante Fe Chapter  
POC: Manuel Alzaga  
Email: manuelalzagajr@gmail.com  
Phone: 505-270-4068

### BUFFALO, NEW YORK

Western New York,  
SSG David Bellavia  
Medal of Honor Chapter,  
Society of the First  
Infantry Division  
POC: John B. Long  
Email: marinawoolcock54@gmail.com  
Phone: 716-877-6818

### OHIO

South Eastern Ohio Chapter  
POC: Mike DeBolt  
Email: 1infdivseo@gmail.com  
Home office address:  
1434 Linden Ave  
Zanesville, OH 43701  
Phone: 740-252-1485

### WISCONSIN

Wisconsin Chapter  
POC: Jeff Anderson  
Email: jeffoakvalleyfarm@gmail.com  
Phone: 608-381-3791

## Growing Our Membership

Efforts continue to share the History of the Society of the First Infantry Division with the active duty soldiers and the importance of being a member.

One of the endeavors launched in the spring was the opportunity to sponsor an active duty soldier or soldiers in the rank of E-1 to E-7 with a one-year free membership. The initiative has so far resulted in seven of our members sponsoring 42 soldiers.

We thank you for sponsoring our soldiers and will continue this effort to grow our membership among the current active duty.

We would like to give a big shout out to the following members for sponsoring these 42 active duty soldiers:

- Carl Ferguson
- Nicholas J. Harvey, Jr
- Daniel Joyce
- Ronald Lewis
- John Silva
- Mari Villanueva
- Ron Watts

### Growing Society Membership Opportunity.

Support an Active duty E-1 to E-7 with a one year membership (\$15.00) into the Society.

Make checks payable to the  
Society of the First Infantry Division  
"Sponsor Active Duty Soldier"

Mail to: Society of the First Infantry Division  
P.O. Box 2307  
Fort Riley, KS 66442



## 2020 Reunion Canceled 2021 Reunion in Albuquerque, New Mexico

***“Let’s Start Planning Now” for the 2021 Annual Reunion***

Meet me in Albuquerque, New Mexico, for the 102<sup>nd</sup> BRO Reunion, July 28 to August 1, 2021.

Let’s not let COVID-19 ruin our plans for 2021. Albuquerque here we come! A city of diverse

cultures, authentic art and vibrant traditions, Albuquerque averages 310 days of sunshine yearly. Start planning now for the 2021 reunion. I look forward to meeting and seeing everyone. ♣

## Buy Your Raffle Tickets Today!

Our annual Raffle Ticket Drawing will occur on Saturday, August 15, 2020 at NOON. We will be assisted by the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division 2020 Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) and the 2020 Soldier of the Year or their representative.

We will broadcast the drawing live on our Society of the First Infantry Division Facebook page. Click this link on Saturday, August 15, to watch live: [Facebook.com/SocietyFirstInfantryDivision/](https://www.facebook.com/SocietyFirstInfantryDivision/)

All raffle tickets need to be to the Society by 10 am on Saturday, August 15, 2020. Mail in your check with tickets from this

issue or go to the link on our website: [1stid.org/raffle-tickets-reunion-2020-new-orleans](https://1stid.org/raffle-tickets-reunion-2020-new-orleans). Mail in your raffle tickets or call us at 785-579-6761.

### Prizes:

- 1<sup>st</sup> - \$2,000.00
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$1,000.00
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - \$500.00

All winners will be notified immediately by phone.

Thank you for your support of the Society of the First Infantry Division. ♣



## New Orleans Reunion T-Shirts are available

Don’t miss out on getting a shirt for this historic year of 2020.

It was disappointing to cancel this year’s reunion but the good health of our members is top priority. We do have the reunion

T-shirts available for purchase, in sizes Small to 2XL. Visit our website home page to order online: [www.1stid.org](https://www.1stid.org). ♣

## 2020 BIG RED ONE REUNION RAFFLE TICKETS



**SOCIETY of the FIRST INFANTRY DIVISION**  
**REUNION 2020 RAFFLE -- DONATION \$5.00**  
**ENTIRE SHEET - \$50**  
**1st Prize \$2,000      2nd Prize \$1,000      3rd Prize \$500**

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

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

Winning tickets will be drawn at Fort Riley, Kansas on Saturday Aug 15, 2020 at Noon. You need not be present to win. All entries must be received in KS office 10 am August 15, 2020.

**Mail payment and raffle tickets to: Society of the First Infantry Division P.O. Box 2307 Fort Riley KS 66442**



**SOCIETY of the FIRST INFANTRY DIVISION**  
**REUNION 2020 RAFFLE -- DONATION \$5.00**  
**ENTIRE SHEET - \$50**  
**1st Prize \$2,000      2nd Prize \$1,000      3rd Prize \$500**

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**Mail payment and raffle tickets to: Society of the First Infantry Division P.O. Box 2307 Fort Riley KS 66442**



# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL Effective For 2020



**SOCIETY OF THE FIRST INFANTRY DIVISION**  
**P.O. Box 2307**  
**Fort Riley, KS 66442**  
 Phone: 785-579-6761 FAX: 785-209-3022 [www.1stid.org](http://www.1stid.org)



## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION or RENEWAL

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_ NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 First MI Last Suffix Jr., II, Etc.

☐ Please check if you **do not** want your contact information listed in the "Members Only" online directory in our website.

### COMPLETE TO APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP OR TO UPDATE OUR RECORDS:

#### MAILING ADDRESS (ADDRESS WHERE YOU WANT YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATERIALS DELIVERED)

Street City State Zip  
 PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Will not be released for any purpose, including the website.)

#### YOUR SERVICE WITH THE BIG RED ONE (Please check all that apply.)

☐ WW II ☐ VIETNAM ☐ COLD WAR ☐ PEACETIME ☐ GULF WAR ☐ BALKANS ☐ IRAQ ☐ AFGHAN

#### UNIT SERVED IN OR PRESENT UNIT:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (COMPANY) (BATTALION/REGIMENT) (BRIGADE)

### SELECT A MEMBERSHIP TYPE (please check one)

ALL MEMBERSHIP TYPES INCLUDE A SUBSCRIPTION TO THE BRIDGEHEAD SENTINEL

#### VETERANS

☐ REGULAR \$35 per year  
☐ EXECUTIVE \$65 per year

#### ACTIVE DUTY ONLY: (CURRENTLY SERVING WITH THE BRO)

ANNUAL  
☐ E-1 TO E-7 \$15  
☐ E-8 TO O4 \$20  
☐ O5 TO O8 \$25

#### 3 YEAR

☐ E-1 TO E-7 \$35  
☐ E-8 TO O4 \$50  
☐ O5 TO O8 \$65

#### LIFETIME

☐ E-1 TO E-7 \$100  
☐ E-8 TO O4 \$200  
☐ O5 TO O8 \$250

#### LIFE - VETERANS:

☐ UNDER 40 \$400  
☐ 40 - 49 \$350  
☐ 50 - 59 \$300  
☐ 60 - 69 \$250  
☐ 70 - 79 \$200  
☐ 80 + \$100

#### ASSOCIATES (Family and Friends of the BRO)

☐ REGULAR \$35 per year  
☐ EXECUTIVE \$65 per year

☐ WIDOWS/WIDOWERS OF BIG  
 RED ONE VETERANS: (FREE)

I would like to make an additional tax-deductible contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_, to be used for

- ☐ **Where it is most needed**  
☐ the **Society's General Fund** or  
☐ the **BRO Support Fund**, benefiting active duty soldiers and their families.

(NOTE: Donations of \$100 or more will be recognized as **Century Club** members in the Bridgehead Sentinel.)

ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK PAYABLE TO THE **SOCIETY OF THE FIRST INFANTRY DIVISION**

- or -

PLEASE CHARGE MY (CIRCLE ONE): VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER

CARD #: \_\_\_\_\_ EXP DATE: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CVC: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (month) (year) (code on back of card)

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ (CVC CODE & SIGNATURE REQUIRED)

Return this form and your check, if applicable, in the pre-addressed envelope provided. If paying by credit card, you may fax this form to (785) 209-3022.

\*\*\* THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! \*\*\*

**SOCIETY OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION**

P.O. Box 2307, Fort Riley, KS 66442

Phone: (785) 579-6761 Fax: (785) 209-3022

[sfidkansas@gmail.com](mailto:sfidkansas@gmail.com) Web: [www.1stID.org](http://www.1stID.org)

**BUSINESS APPLICATION/RENEWAL**

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_ NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
(RANK OR MR./MRS./MS.) (FIRST) (MI) (LAST) (SR./JR/II/III etc.)

NAME OF BUSINESS: \_\_\_\_\_

WEB PAGE ADDRESS: [www.](http://www.)\_\_\_\_\_ WILL BE LINKED ON OUR WEBSITE

**BUSINESS ADDRESS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(STREET) (SUITE#/APARTMENT#)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(CITY) (STATE) (ZIP CODE +4)

PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Benefits of a Business Membership:**

- Your business name, address & phone featured in the business supporter link on our webpage
- Listing as a supporter in the Bridgehead Sentinel magazine printed 3 times a year and mailed to all of our members
- Subscription to the Bridgehead Sentinel
- Society of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Calendar
- Certificate of Membership suitable for framing
- Window decal signifying your support

**Annual Membership Fee: \$200**

I would like to make an additional tax-deductible contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ beyond my regular dues.

I would like to become a CENTURY CLUB member with a donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$100 minimum) to the BRO Support Fund which is used to assist Active Duty Soldiers in need.

*Century Club members will be recognized in the Bridgehead Sentinel throughout the year.*

**The Society of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.**

**All donations are tax deductible as provided by law.**

ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK PAYABLE TO THE **SOCIETY OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION**

-OR-

PLEASE CHARGE MY (CIRCLE ONE) VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER

CARD # \_\_\_\_\_ EXP DATE \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CVC \_\_\_\_\_  
(MONTH) (YEAR) (Code on back of card)

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form and your check in the envelope provided. If paying by credit card you may fax this form to (785) 209-3022

# Sarge

By William S. Jackson

His name was Omega Hibbert. In civilian life he'd been an oil roughneck from Bartlesville, Okla.

When I first met him in June of 1957, he was Sergeant First Class Omega Hibbert and my platoon sergeant for basic training as a member of Company A, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battle Group, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, at Fort Riley. I and 43 others belonged to him, body and soul, for the next 13 weeks of basic training.

Sergeant Hibbert made it clear during the first few days that we were going to become the Honor Platoon of the basic training cycle and he immediately set out to make that happen.

Close order drill and manual of arms with our M1 Garand rifle were early tasks, along with memorizing both our serial number (US52457193, sir!) and our rifle serial number.

Physical conditioning was a large part of those early days. Our platoon always was on the drill field a little longer than the others and our road marches and calisthenics longer and more intense.

We had already learned he was a two-war soldier, having served in both World War II and Korea, earning a chest full of ribbons we didn't yet understand. We also noticed during calisthenics he had the Marine Corps globe and anchor tattooed on his chest. We didn't have the courage to ask why.

His goal in training us to be prepared for combat was made very clear. "If you get yourself



*Above: In 1957, the 1<sup>st</sup> Division was reorganized into smaller battler groups as a "Pentomic" Division to meet the needs of the "atomic battlefield" of the future. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Combat Group Activated BG Van H. Bond (left) and Lieutenant Colonel George F. Monsarret, acting commanding officer of the Big Red One's 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Combat Group, salute the colors of the new organization during activation ceremonies at Fort Riley, 1957.*

killed, it ain't gonna be my fault!" From the start he taught us things that weren't in the manuals.

Following our basic equipment issue, he got out a file and told us all to sharpen our bayonets. One recruit exclaimed, "But Sarge, we were told if we sharpened our bayonets, we had to buy them and they cost \$21!" A hard stare brought that argument to a quick end.

The sharpening didn't end there. He told us to get out our entrenching tools, had us sharpen the blade edge, then repaint them. He then explained how, when his unit was facing the mass charges of North Korean and Chinese troops during the Korean War, the entrenching tool, set into the hoe position and tightening it down, made the best close combat

weapon when you ran out of ammunition. "You can take half a person's face off with one swing!" he explained. This was the first of several combat experience lessons he passed on to us.

When we hit the rifle range with our M1 rifles, he more than the range officers emphasized the importance of deep breathing to calm you for a good sight picture. That, and really knowing how to use and adjust a hasty sling for a solid shot.

Sarge told us he never wanted to catch us without 20 feet of commo wire, rolled around our fist and in our pocket. What for? When in combat, we would be equipped with PRC-6 radios, the hand-held walkie-talkie. He showed us the spring steel antenna, a little over a foot long,

had a hole near the tip. The radio normally had about a half-mile range. However, they learned in Korea that tying a piece of commo wire to the tip and throwing the wire, weighted with a rock or something, up in a tree you might extend radio range to a mile.

The other use he taught us, and this was totally off the books, was how to use the commo wire as a trip wire tied to a pineapple grenade with the pin pulled. Yes, he only demonstrated this with practice grenades!

Our combat education continued on the automatic weapon range. After receiving the basics on the handling, use and maintenance of the Browning Automatic

Continued on Page 18...





*Above: Big Red One soldiers training with M1 rifles during the Cold War.*

## "Sarge"

...Continued from Page 17

Rifle (BAR), Sergeant Hibbert took us to one end of the range and proceeded to tell us how, in Korea, the North Koreans and Chinese would set up opposite our lines and conduct enough action to draw our fire. They thus determined where the automatic weapons facing them were located—i.e., the single-round firing M1 rifle, the slow automatic fire of the BAR and the more rapid automatic fire of the .30-caliber light machinegun. They then planned their mass charges accordingly. He then explained and we practiced and learned how to quickly “fan” the trigger of the BAR, making it fire a single round. The enemy would think it was just a semi-automatic M1.

For the .30-caliber light machinegun, he showed us how to adjust the head space by turning the threaded barrel, likewise,

making it fire a single round. If the enemy fell for these deceptions and charged, our troops simply fired the weapons as they were meant to be fired.

At the conclusion of basic training we were indeed named the Honor Platoon. I was named Outstanding Trainee of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division for 1957 and fellow platoon member Jack Gobble was runner-up.

What that bought me was when we moved on to advanced infantry training, I became an “acting jack” master sergeant (green arm band with master sergeant stripes) and my own platoon of 44 men.

My relationship with Sergeant Hibbert became a friendship and I used his guidance frequently during the next 13 weeks. As an acting NCO, I could accompany him to the NCO Club and I finally

got the story on his globe and anchor tattoo. Seems he had enlisted in the Marine Corps fraudulently, underage without his parent’s permission, and was already on his way to the South Pacific when the truth was discovered. He was discharged and turned right around and joined the Army!

I said goodbye to Sergeant Hibbert when I was sent on to Germany and the 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, where I became a fire team leader in a rifle squad. Once again, I realized the intensive training I received under Sarge made me better prepared for the job and the leadership that went along with it. I later advanced to company guide, company pathfinder in today’s Army.

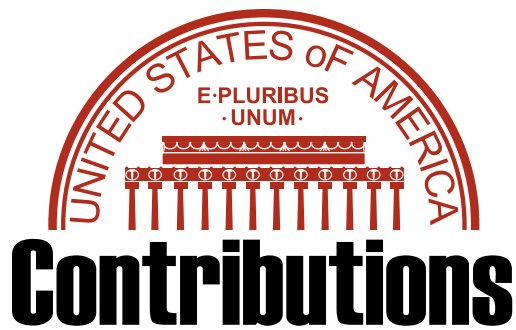
It was years later, in the 1990s, that I thought again of Sergeant

Hibbert. I was determined to find him and thank him for being one of my life’s mentors. Being in the media business, I was able to locate him but it was too late. He’d passed away six months earlier.

Yes, he had gone on to fight in Vietnam as well, making him a three-war soldier. He had retired to San Antonio to be near the vast Army Medical facilities there.

I spoke to his wife and poured out my thanks. Much to my surprise, she recalled him mentioning my name.

I tell this story now for the Division’s present-day basic training cadre. You come to the table with experiences of combat in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere, many of them not “in the book.” By all means, let today’s recruits know and profit from those experiences. ▀



We thank all who have responded to our requests for support of our SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS. Your generosity will enable us to fulfill our obligation to the children of all Big Red One soldiers who have lost their lives in combat—over 180 children to date—and to the children and grandchildren of our 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division veterans.

Following is a list of contributors to the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Foundation Scholarship Fund and 1<sup>st</sup> Division D.C. Monument Fund since March 2020. Duplicate names indicate additional contributions.

## SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Richard Dahlseid  
Robert Riggie  
Rachael Lyman Charitable Fund

### Contributions in Memory of John Hay

Raymond and Alice Burrell

## D.C. MONUMENT FUND

### Platinum Contributions \$1,000

Fred Calenda Memorial Gifting Fund  
Artillery Association of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry  
Division Association

### Silver Contributions \$100 to \$499

Thomas Pugh  
Len Wishart  
Michael Fuller

## First Infantry Division Monument Fund Drive

### Redesign and Add Names

- First Division Monument located west of White House
- Each Conflict contains names and units of 1<sup>st</sup> ID KIAs
- 12,947 Names on Monument (WWI–Desert Storm)
- Modifications needed to add Iraq and Afghanistan BRO KIAs
- Fund Drive Goal: Raise \$400,000 for modifications
- Donations are Tax Deductible

### I want to do my part in reaching the Society Goal

Make checks payable to: 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Foundation

☐ \$1,000    ☐ \$500    ☐ \$300    ☐ \$100    ☐ Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Foundation  
PO Box 607  
Ambler, PA 19002  
or online at 1stID.org

# Looking For

## World War II

🌐 Hello, I am writing to see if there is anyway I can get any records, paperwork, DD 214, and just any information on my great uncle, Hugh G. Brown. My great uncle served with the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division in Europe during the entire course of WWII. Below are some photos of him. They are all the records we have of him

through the war, no paperwork or anything made its way to us. If you find any information out on him or have any questions please feel free to email me at: awesomeaustin00@live.com.

Thank you,  
Austin Joyce ▀



## Vietnam

🌐 For the past 10 years I have really been searching for friends of my father that may still be alive. His name was Ulysses Alford Sr. If my dad were living he would be 81 years old this year. We have visited his grave in Arlington and the Wall in DC. I have come across a photo of my father with another gentleman. The other soldier was a SGT as well and left from Korea on May 29, 1966. I can only surmise, but it was after

Easter and he asked my mom to send him Easter pictures. She was also pregnant with his last child, due in August, but he was killed before that time.

Please take a look at the attached photo below to see if this mystery can be solved.

Thanking for your time and dedication on this project.

Unece Abrams  
706.627.6389 ▀



*Above: Ulysses Alford Sr. (right) pictured with another soldier (left) in Vietnam.*





# In Memoriam

SPENCER BENNION  
JAN 3, 2019  
GLENSIDE, PA  
E CO. 2/18<sup>TH</sup> INF, WWII

JOHN MALAST  
JULY 17, 2018  
MASSAPEQUA, NY  
B CO., COLD WAR

FRANCIS CAMPBELL  
NOV 8, 2019  
NEW YORK  
D CO. 2/16<sup>TH</sup> INF, VN

LEON C. SCOTT  
NOV 12, 2019  
GREENWOOD, SC  
2/18<sup>TH</sup> INF, VN

BOBBY FOSTER  
DEC 29, 2018  
SPRING, TX

KENNETH R. CARUSO  
FEB 24, 2019  
FLORIDA  
2<sup>ND</sup> BN, VN

FRANK CARUK  
DEC 9, 2017  
PALATINE, IL  
H CO. 2/16<sup>TH</sup> INF, WWII

COL(RET) JOHN M. BROOKS  
JAN 13, 2020  
MISSION, KS  
HQ CO. 1/16<sup>TH</sup> INF, WWII

MAJ(RET) HOWARD RUBIN  
JAN 10, 2013  
MESA, AZ  
TACTICS FIELD ARTILLERY, VN

HOLLIS SMITH  
JAN 21, 2017  
INDEPENDENCE, MO  
L CO. 1/26<sup>TH</sup> RECON, WWII

ROMAN MARTINEZ  
NOV 6, 2014  
PHILO, CA  
E CO 1/26<sup>TH</sup> RECON, VN

CWC(RET) JOEL BECERRA  
DEC 14, 2019  
MONUMENT, CO  
HHC 1/26<sup>TH</sup> INF, VN

FRED R. RANDALL  
JUNE 6, 2019  
SCHENECTADY, NY  
2/18<sup>TH</sup> INF, WWII

JOHN G. AYCOCK  
JAN 17, 2014  
PORT ORANGE, FL

DENNER ASTYK  
JAN 2019  
CHEEKTOWAGA, NY  
D CO 2/16<sup>TH</sup> INF, VN

LEROY VENCKUS  
SEPT 2012  
ILLINOIS  
ARTY, VN

COL (RET) GERALD M. DIRKX  
JUL 2013  
RANCHO MIRAGE, CA  
WWII, US NAVY

LTC(RET) RICHARD DEERWOOD  
GOLF  
JUL 2016  
LAUREL, MS  
5<sup>TH</sup> ARTY COMMANDER, VN

DONALD DIBBLER  
JUN 2011  
EL CAJON, CA  
16<sup>TH</sup> INF, WWII

LTC (RET) THOMAS E. HETTLER  
MAR 2012  
2/28<sup>TH</sup> INF, VN

JOHN G. CLEMENTS  
APR 2009  
NAPLES, FL  
26<sup>TH</sup> INF, WWII

FRED W. SHEPARD  
MARCH 2020  
RINGWOOD, NEW JERSEY  
D 1/16<sup>TH</sup> INF, WWII

DUANE ALBERT VAN GUNDY  
SEPT 2014  
SPOKANE, WA  
HHB 1<sup>ST</sup> DA, CW

E. NEAL FINKELMAN  
MAY 2011  
CHICAGO, IL  
G 1/16<sup>TH</sup> INF

DUANE MORROW  
MAR 2017

WALTER F. "BUTCH" WALICKI  
APR 28, 2020  
MOUNT WASHINGTON, PA  
VN

GRAYLE G. LEECH  
APR 28, 2020  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN  
VN 68-70

LTC(RET) JOHN W. HILL  
MAY 2020  
LADY LAKE, FL  
INF CDR/1<sup>ST</sup> INV DIV, VN

DONALD M. BERGREEN  
APR 10, 2017  
OLEAN, NY  
1<sup>ST</sup> ENG 1<sup>ST</sup> ID, VN

ARTHUR LEINEN  
MAR 25, 2012  
SOUTH BEND, IN  
3<sup>RD</sup> BN/26<sup>TH</sup> INF, WWII

COL (RET) ROBERT VIDRICK  
JAN 8, 2014  
MECHANICSVILLE, VA  
DTO CO., VN

MAJ (RET) HOWARD RUBIN  
JAN 10, 2013  
MESA, AZ

DANIEL BASILE  
NOV 6, 2018  
VERNON HILLS, IL  
H CO 2/16<sup>TH</sup> INF, WWII

DALE SHURTZ  
JAN 2015  
FLORISSANT, MO  
16<sup>TH</sup> INF, COLD WAR

LTC (RET) RONALD HANSEN  
FEB 28, 2017  
MELBOURNE BEACH, FL  
HHC 1/16<sup>TH</sup> INF, VN

HARVEY MOORE  
2011  
PALMER, TX  
H CO. 26<sup>TH</sup> INF

RONALD KANINE  
DEC 29, 2014  
ST LOUIS, MO  
18<sup>TH</sup> INF, WWII

ROY JOHNSON  
MAY 23, 2020  
LONGWOOD, FL  
D CO 1/26<sup>TH</sup>, VN

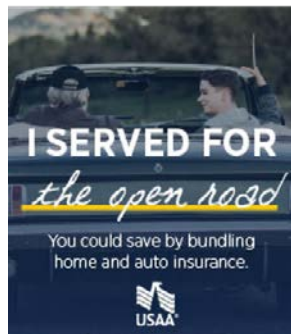
CALVIN G. CARRIER  
APR 30, 2020  
CLINTON TWP, MI  
I CO 3/26<sup>TH</sup> INF, WWII ♀

*As we continue to clean up the Society's member database, we will share names we find of members who have passed in this section.*

# CORPORATE SPONSORS

Thank you to our Corporate Sponsors! If you'd like to become a Corporate Sponsor of the Society of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, see the registration form on page 11.

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City Cycle Sales Harley Davidson,

Kawasaki and Suzuki, Junction City, KS

[citycyclesalesinc.com](http://citycyclesalesinc.com)

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Manhattan, KS

[dehartplumbing.com](http://dehartplumbing.com)

D.E.L. Motors, Junction City, KS

[delmotors.com/index.cfm](http://delmotors.com/index.cfm)

Dibben Tax and Accounting,

Junction City, KS

785-304-4505

or E-mail: [dibbentax@tctelco.net](mailto:dibbentax@tctelco.net)

EAE Enterprises, Junction City, KS

785-238-1854

Exchange Bank, Junction City, KS

<https://eb-us.com/branch-location/junction-city-kansas/>

Fort Riley-Central Kansas Chapter of AUSA

[ausa.org/chapters/fort-riley-central-kansas-chapter](http://ausa.org/chapters/fort-riley-central-kansas-chapter)

Geary Rehabilitation and Fitness Center,

Junction City, KS

[gearyrehab.com/](http://gearyrehab.com/)

Hampton Inn, Junction City, KS

[hilton.com/en/hotels/mhkjchx-hampton-junction-city/](http://hilton.com/en/hotels/mhkjchx-hampton-junction-city/)

Hi-Tech Interiors, Manhattan, KS

[hitechinteriors.com](http://hitechinteriors.com)

Hometown Insurance Agency,

Junction City, KS

[hometownins.net/](http://hometownins.net/)

Hoover, Schermerhorn, Edwards, Pinaire

& Rombold, Junction City KS

[hooverlawfirm.com](http://hooverlawfirm.com)

JC Abstract & Title Company,

Junction City, KS

Email: [todd.fawcett@jcabstractandtitle.com](mailto:todd.fawcett@jcabstractandtitle.com)

Jim Clark Auto, Junction City, KS

[clarkcars.com](http://clarkcars.com)

Junction City Area Chamber of Commerce

[jacc.org](http://jacc.org)

KS State Bank, Junction City, KS

[ksstate.bank](http://ksstate.bank)

MAC'S Trophies, Junction City, KS Email:

[macstrophies@yahoo.com](mailto:macstrophies@yahoo.com)

[facebook.com/Macs-Tro-](https://facebook.com/Macs-Trophies-345968753496/)

[phies-345968753496/](https://facebook.com/Macs-Trophies-345968753496/)

Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce,

[manhattan.org/1](http://manhattan.org/1)

Mitchell's Metals,

East Bethel, MN

[facebook.com/mitchellsmetals/](https://facebook.com/mitchellsmetals/)

Navy Federal Credit Union,

Junction City, KS

[navyfederal.org](http://navyfederal.org)

R2B4 Bramlage Family Foundation,

Junction City, KS

785-762-2019 or

Email: [clintfrancis40@gmail.com](mailto:clintfrancis40@gmail.com)

Screen Machine Sports,

Junction City, KS

[screenmachinesports.com](http://screenmachinesports.com)

Twitches Gallery & Gifts LLC,

Junction City, KS

[twitchesgifts.com/](http://twitchesgifts.com/)

University of Mary,

[degrees.umary.edu](http://degrees.umary.edu)

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Junction City, KS

785-238-8606

## BRO SUPPORT FUND

### THE BRO SUPPORT FUND

The Big Red One Support Fund is the Society's own fund that provides assistance to serving 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division soldiers and their families in non-emergency situations—our 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Foundation's McCormick Grants program handles the emergencies. As the Global War on Terror has progressed, the number of needs and assistance programs have multiplied dramatically, yet there are often needs that fall between the cracks. These situations are the reason the BRO Support Fund exists.

If you would like to donate to the BRO Support Fund, please use the coupon below or the membership renewal application on page 18 to do so. With your generosity, help and support, the Big Red One continues to take care of its own!

### CENTURY CLUB

Welcome to the new members of the Century Club! These are members who have donated \$100 or more toward the *Big Red One Support Fund*. Thank you for partnering with us to support our division!

JACK DURHAM

DALE GREENFIELD

DANIEL JOYCE

JAMES LOURENTZOS

TREVOR HOWARD

JOSEPH RICHARD

DEAN THOMPSON

GEORGE MEREDITH

RON WATTS

PHYLLIS FITZGERALD

DONALD CONLEY

TWITCHES GALLERY AND

GIFTS

ROBERT UHL

THOMAS JENNINGS

DEBBIE KEATING

WILLIAM MOORE

BARBARA GARDNER

JAMES WESSER

JAMES JENSEN

THOMAS JORDAN

STEVE KOESLER

LINDA SIGNOR

JAMES JENSEN

SARAH BROWN

SABRINA PASS

### BRO SUPPORT FUND

Yes . . . I want to help our Society help the soldiers of the BIG RED ONE! Here is my TAX DEDUCTIBLE contribution to the BRO Support Fund!

☐\$15 ☐\$30 ☐\$60 ☐\$100 ☐\$150 ☐Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to: **Society of the First Infantry Division.**

Mark it "**BRO SUPPORT FUND**" and mail it to:

Society of the First Infantry Division, PO Box 2307, Fort Riley, KS 66442.

*Your contribution is 100% deductible for income tax purposes.*



# QUARTERMASTER

Order online at [1stID.org/Quartermaster](http://1stID.org/Quartermaster)

1-\$20  
Auto License Holder



2-\$15  
Auto License Plate



3-\$20-Baseball Cap



4-\$20-Baseball  
Cap - Desert Storm



5-\$20-Baseball  
Cap - Vietnam



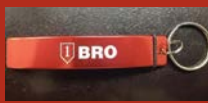
6-\$20-1<sup>st</sup> ID  
Baseball Cap



7-\$20-Camo Hat



8-\$4-Bottle Opener



9-\$5  
Bumper  
Stickers  
(DS / Iraq /  
Afghanistan /  
Blank)



10-\$6-Christmas Ornament



11-\$9-Desert Storm Coin



12-\$11-IID Society Coin



13-\$10-Ladies Charm  
(chain not included)



14-\$15  
Lady Victory  
Broach



15-\$8/\$10  
Lady Victory  
Lapel Pin (King or Reg)



16-\$11  
Lady Victory  
Necklace



17-\$10/\$13  
Lapel Pin



18-\$10  
Mini Badge CAB



19-\$10  
Mini Badge  
CIB, CIB 2<sup>nd</sup>



20-\$30-Picnic Blanket



21-\$8-Pocket Knife



22-\$4  
Shoulder Patch



23-\$75  
Stein



24-\$15-Teddy Bear



25-\$10-Tie Tac



26-\$12-Tote Bag



27-\$6  
Window Cling - Clear  
(Blank, VN or Member)



28-\$2  
Window Cling (Small)



29-\$40-Centennial Print



# SUMMER 2020 ORDER FORM

*PLEASE NOTE: Previous order forms no longer valid.  
Please use this form only until next issue.*

Mail to: Quartermaster Society of the 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Division  
P.O. Box 2307 Fort Riley, KS 66442

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Item #	Cost	Qty	Circle Size/type	Circle Color	Total
1 Auto License Holder	20.00		Metal		
2 Auto License Plate	15.00		Metal		
3 Baseball Cap	20.00			Blk / Wht	
4 Baseball Cap - Desert Storm	20.00			Blk	
5 Baseball Cap - Vietnam	20.00			Blk	
6 Baseball Cap - 1 <sup>st</sup> Division	20.00			Blk / Wht / Khaki	
7 Baseball Cap - Cammo	20.00			Cammo	
8 Bottle Opener	4.00				
9 Bumper Sticker	5.00		DS / Iraq / Afghanistan / Blank		
10 Christmas Ornament	6.00			Wht / Silver	
11 Desert Storm Coin	9.00				
12 IID Society Coin	11.00				
13 Ladies Charm (charm only)	10.00				
14 Lady Victory Broach	15.00		2"		
15 Lady Victory Lapel Pin	8 / 10		Regular / King		
16 Lady Victory Necklace	11.00				
17 Lapel Pin	10./13		Regular / King		
18 Miniature Badge	10.00		CAB		
19 Miniature Badge	10.00		CIB/CIB 2 <sup>nd</sup>		
20 Picnic Blanket	30.00				
21 Pocket Knife	8.00				
22 Shoulder Patch	4.00		Red / Subdued / Desert		
23 Stein	75.00				
24 Teddy Bear	15.00				
25 Tie Tac	10.00				
26 Tote Bag	12.00				
27 Window Cling (LG-Inside)	6.00		Blank, VN, or Member		
28 Window Cling (Small)	2.00				
29 Print (Centennial)	40.00		18" x 36.5"	Unframed	

New Items Coming to Our  
Quartermaster Web Store! Check it out:  
<http://www.1stID.org/Quartermaster>

SUB-TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

**KS Residents Only ADD 7.75%**  
for state sales tax +(x .0775) \_\_\_\_\_

**Overseas Orders ADD 10% +(x .10)** \_\_\_\_\_

**+\$9.95 Shipping Charge** \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks payable to: **Society of the First Infantry Division**

Payment method (circle one): Cash, Check, Visa, MC, Amex, Discover

Card Number

Expiration Date: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g. 08 22) Security Code \_\_\_\_\_  
(Back of card)

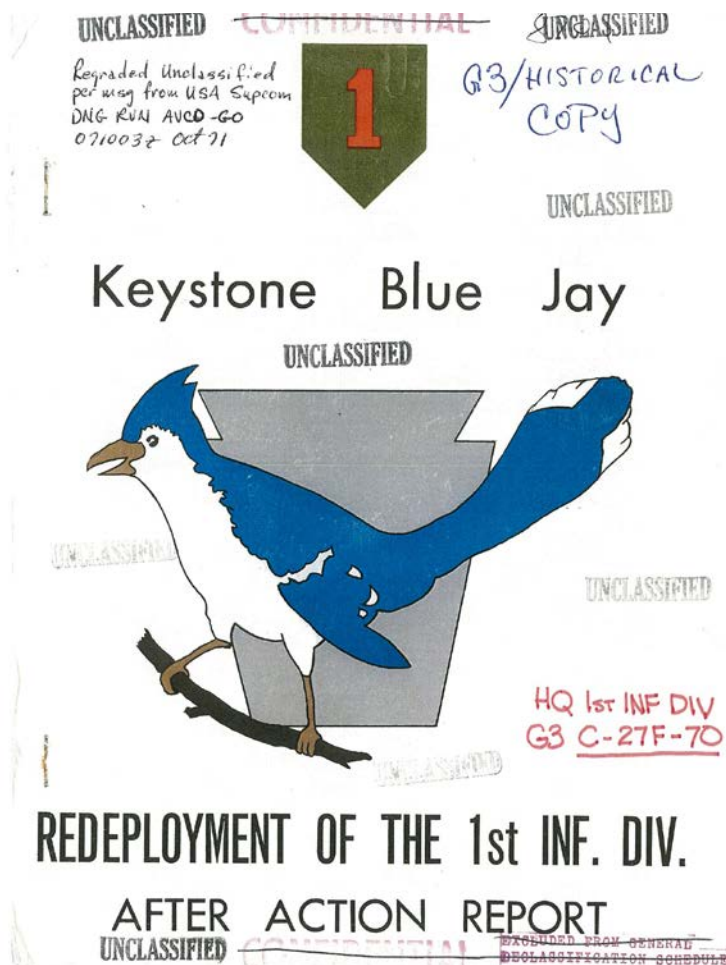
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

PART OF THE MCCORMICK FOUNDATIONS

# Museum Notes

FIRST DIVISION MUSEUM AT CANTIGNY PARK

MCCORMICK RESEARCH CENTER



By Krewasky A. Salter

Keystone Blue Jay, the name of the redeployment After Action Report (AAR) for the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division's (BRO) return from Vietnam to the United States, is an enlightening read. Published on April 7, 1970, IID Commander, Major General Albert A.E. Milloy, explains how the BRO had been conducting Vietnamization operations prior to receiving redeployment orders without mentioning Vietnamization by name. Coined in early 1969, Vietnamization was

the process of gradually turning the ground war over to South Vietnam's Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) forces. The entire AAR, annexes included, is 382 pages, but a quick read of MG Milloy's 24 pages distribution and cover memorandum—which includes maps—whets the research appetite.

Though not mentioned by name, the concept of Vietnamization resonates throughout MG Milloy's distribution and memo-

randum. MG Milloy was notified on December 15, 1969 "that his division would return to CONUS by 15 April 1970." He recounts the BRO "was the first divisional size unit to redeploy all of its major elements from the Republic of Vietnam." He further explains how beginning in July 1969 "US commanders... became 'advisors' to their ARVN opposites... encouraging them to conduct offensive operations against a common enemy." Essentially, the BRO was "producing a steady rise in Vietnamese operational efficiency," which was Vietnamization in action. Written to provide guidance for subsequent redeploying US forces, the BRO certainly set the standard for redeployment from Vietnam. While MG Milloy points out several BRO shortfalls, towards the end of his memorandum he states:

"KEYSTONE BLUEJAY officially began on 15 February 1970 and by 7 April,... all equipment and personnel processing was complete and the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division was officially redeployed. ... approximately 17,000 personnel and 45,000 major end items were processed, 4 major base camps and 15 fire support bases were turned over or vacated, and... 3600 square kilometers of territorial responsibility was transferred to other combat units. The entire redeployment was carried out efficiently without enemy interference and with no lapse of combat operations...."

The First Division Museum

Colonel Robert R. McCormick Research Center and Library is a gold mine of primary source documents like Keystone Blue Jay just waiting for researchers to come, learn and perhaps write about BRO history to share with the world. Its mission is synchronized with the museum's mission to interpret U.S. Military History Through the Lens of the Army's 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division. For research and library assistance our professional team includes:

## In-Depth Research?

Contact Andrew Woods, Research Historian, at (630) 260-8223 or [awoods@fdmuseum.org](mailto:awoods@fdmuseum.org).

## Reference Questions?

Reach Mary Manning, Reference Librarian, [mmanning@fdmuseum.org](mailto:mmanning@fdmuseum.org) or (630) 260-8129.

## Book Inquiries?

Ask Tracy Cirar, Librarian, [tcirar@fdmuseum.org](mailto:tcirar@fdmuseum.org) or (630) 260-8211.

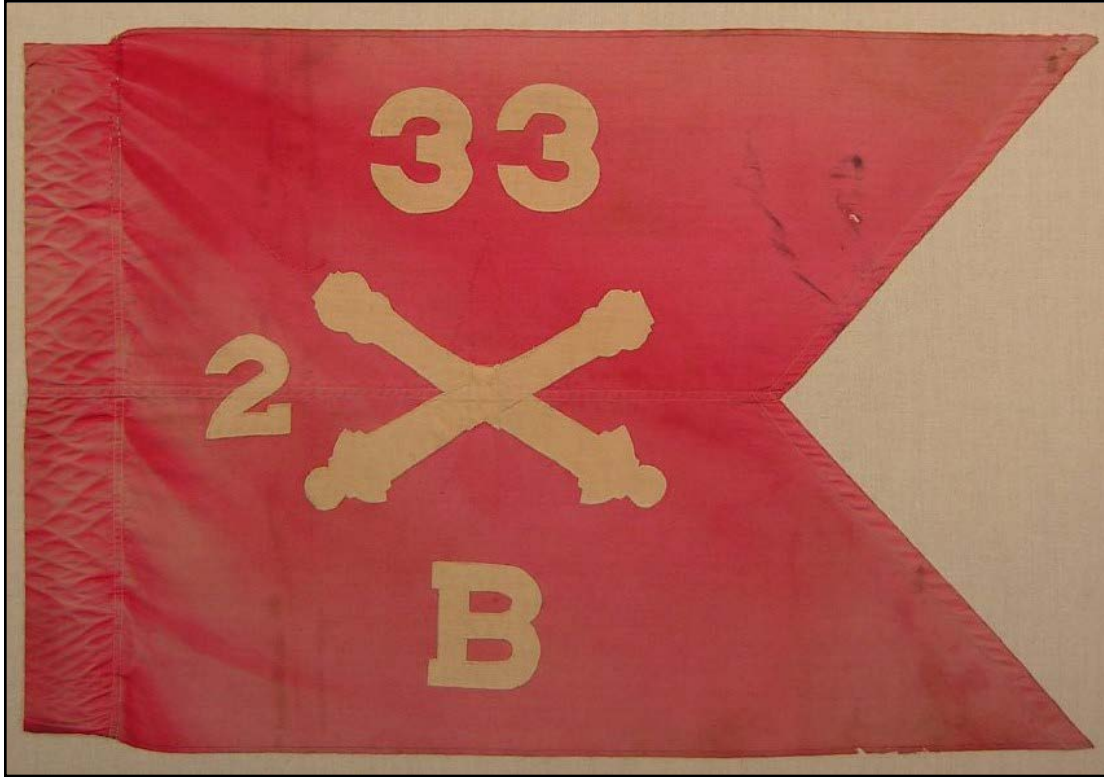
## Archival Donations?

Contact Kate Kleiderman, Archivist, (630) 260-8221 or [kkleiderman@fdmuseum.org](mailto:kkleiderman@fdmuseum.org).

## General Questions?

Reach Eric Gillespie, Director, at (630) 260-8186 or [egillespie@fdmuseum.org](mailto:egillespie@fdmuseum.org). ▀





## Guidon and Shell Casing from the Division's Last Days in Vietnam

This Guidon and shell casing are artifacts in the First Division Museum's collection with direct provenance to Keystone Blue Jay, Battery B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 33<sup>rd</sup> Field

Artillery, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division was the "Honor Battery" that fired this last BRO round in Vietnam on March 19, 1970. It is engraved: Last round fired in support of

1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Operations Vietnam 19 March 1970 B BTRY, 2d BN, 33<sup>rd</sup> ARTY Presented to MG Albert E. Milloy CG 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division. ■



## Museum Welcomes New Curator

Kyle Mathers was named Curator of the First Division Museum on Monday. He joined FDM in 2017 as Exhibits and Collections Processing Technician.

Kyle has 11 years of experience as a museum professional, including designing and creating exhibitions in the FDM and conducting outreach with

veterans. He holds a Bachelor's in History from Bradley University, a Master's in Public History from Loyola University Chicago, and a Museum Studies Certificate from Northwestern University. He's currently pursuing a Master's in Military History from Norwich University. ■

