



AIRMOBILE



News of the 5th Battalion 7th Cavalry

<http://www.cav57.org>

May, 2005; Volume 14 Issue 1

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Maury Edmonds

What a privilege it is to have served in battle with this great Battalion; and now, to be able to serve along side each of you in building our association of brothers. Each day I marvel at the examples of service and support I see many of you extending to each other. And, what would we all have done without the corps group of Association leaders, from the original Battalion, who have worked so hard to grow our organization over the years. God Bless you all.

It is now up to all of us to do our part in building the membership and expanding the work of the Association. Please do your best to contact any of your old buddies to bring them into our fold. It will be good for them and for us.

Much has happened since the first of the year. The original Battalion Colors, under which the Battalion fought from 1966 to 1971, were presented to the current Battalion at Ft Stewart just days before they deployed to Iraq. It was a very proud and meaningful event for those of us who were there and, I believe, for the Battalion troopers as well. Thanks, again, to Jim Carson for securing the Colors for all these years just waiting for such an opportunity.

Many thanks to those of you who are serving as Sponsors for deployed soldiers. It is a great opportunity to provide support and encouragement to them and their families. Just remember to be patient if your soldier doesn't respond as quickly or as often as you wish. We certainly don't want to appear to be intrusive into their lives. Ultimately, it's up to them. From reports we've seen, we know they are busy around the clock. We also know they're doing a great job.

We grieve over the recent losses in Iraq and offer our condolences to their families and to their buddies in the Battalion. We hope that we are able to provide some comfort and solace to them. Accounts of the tragedy highlight the courage of those who risked their own lives in a vain rescue attempt. Their actions were entirely consistent with the highest standards of valor associated with this Battalion.

Congratulations to the Reunion Planning Team for working through some difficult issues to get us a good location in Colorado Springs for our 2006 reunion. Details will be coming out soon so it's time to begin your own planning to

attend, and to talk it up to your buddies also.

As usual we will lay a wreath at the Wall in Washington on Memorial Day. I will be there and look forward to seeing any of you who are able to attend. We'll meet at the Ki-ock where the wreaths are assembled.

Finally, I ask that you continue to keep our deployed troops and their families in your prayers. They are involved in important and dangerous work; and, we pray for the success of their mission and for their safe return.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR IRAQ'S CHILDREN

By LTC Jody Petery

Dear Americans,

The war in Iraq has been viewed differently by many people, and in some way each of us has been touched by this conflict, some more directly than others. For me it's extremely direct, as I'm currently serving in Iraq in the area known as the Sunni Triangle, near a city of roughly 300,000 Iraqis called Balad. This city was nearly purged in the early 1980s by Saddam for fostering anti-regime rhetoric and ultimately concocting an assassination attempt. It is a poor area, but one with hope largely due to the efforts of Coalition Forces.

One of the key areas of importance is breaking the cycle of distrust that exists between this country as a result of 30 years of government lies painting the US and most western civilizations as evil. Each and every US soldier serving in Iraq faces that challenge daily. We recognize though that it's much less difficult to erase this perception when we show compassion and concern toward the Iraqi chil-

dren. We do this in a variety of ways from waving to handing out pieces of candy or by just asking how children are doing and if they are going to school. Here's where every American can help ensure that future generations will never have to fight in this region again.

Our budget does not allow us to purchase school supplies for the Iraqi school children. The reconstruction budget allows us to build schools,



but not provide these necessary materials. On a routine patrol in Iraq we'll chase terrorists down one street then two or three blocks away we'll stop at a school and hand out notebooks, book bags, or pencils. Our need for these school supplies is greater though than our supply. Even while searching cars for bombs or weapons we hand out supplies to children in other cars awaiting their turn to be searched. In this way we demonstrate care and compassion for these people. We also ensure that the children see us as caring liberators rather than imperialistic infidels. In this manner we'll ensure our children will never have to fight here again.

We've also seen children that have received toys or school supplies from us actually point out bombs, weapons, and terrorists helping us provide a secure future for this country. Please help us secure the future of these children by donating

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Vice President's Report

by Karl Haartz

GARRY OWEN –WE'RE MOVIN' FORWARD

We are moving forward! It has been quite busy here with all the additions to the association. The coordination between the association and the active 5/7 troops in Iraq has been a great undertaking. I want to thank all that have helped with the sponsorship program and all the sponsors. Don Quick will tell you more of this in his update.

At present there have been 3 fatalities with the 5/7 in Iraq. With our network in place we were able to have representation and send flowers to two of the funerals. This was our first test as home front support, and I want to say thanks to all.

It is without a doubt that through your efforts, and I mean all of you Vietnam Troops, that the 5th Battalion 7th Cavalry Association continues to grow. Every one of you and all your family members make this the BEST.

LOCATING TROOPERS

Our trooper locating is off and it's time to get this moving again. Don Shipley is waiting to help you guys find your buddies. I have received orders from late 1970. On one set of these there were 39 names we didn't have. The trooper that sent them to me was not on our roster either. How he got my address I don't know. Some of you troops are sharing the "Airmobile" newsletter with one or more of your 5/7 buddies. This is great but we would like every one to join and get their own newsletter.

NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL

If you would like to get your newsletter at the web site, E-mail the editor and he can add your name. If you do so, send me your e-mail address and I will make sure you're on the update list. When the editor tells me the "Airmobile" is posted I immediately send e-mail to all to let them know.

BRAIN FADE

To the fellow trooper that used all our e-addresses from the newsletter to send us a stock tip; I haven't left you off my update list intentionally. I mistakenly deleted your address. Send me your address again and I will add you. !! NO MORE TIPS!!

REUNION VIII

Now is the time to start planning for a trip to Colorado Springs, Colorado. The dates for Reunion 8 have been put in place. July30 – August5, 2006. We will be holding it at "The Academy Hotel of Colorado Springs, Colorado. We are working on a couple of format changes, which should prove interesting. No! We are not doing away with Free Pizza Night. That will be Wednesday August 2, 2006.

OPERATION HOMECOMING USA --- BRANSON, MISSOURI JUNE 13 –19, 2006

Some of us are planning to attend Operation Homecoming USA. We will be staying at the Classic Motor Inn in Branson, Missouri and the phone # is 417-334-6991. Tell them you are with the 5/7 as they are trying to keep us together. We are planning to carry our colors in the Parade on June 17. The parade begins at 10 AM. You can check it out the details on line at www.operationhomecomingusa.com.

The address is:

**OPERATION HOMECOMING USA
1756 BEE CREEK ROAD, SUITE F
BRANSON, MO. 65616
888-265-8387 OR 417-336-5719**

There is a \$100 registration fee for all the Operation Homecoming USA activities. If you don't do this it doesn't stop you from going to any of the shows or activities other than OH USA.

I think this would be a good place to have an off-year get together.

Garry Owen,
"Krazy" Karl

If you would like to be on Krazy Karl's e-mail updates list, please send him your e-mail address. Karl sends out news flashes and frequent updates. He does not forward your address. Karl's e-mail is: Cav571vpkk@adelphia.net.

Update from Membership VP

Call to Duty:

I want to personally thank everyone who is participating in the sponsor program for all the support you have given to the new Cav 5/7 troopers in Iraq. They are very grateful, while also being very busy.

If you are not yet sponsoring someone please contact Don Quick. Don has taken on the task of coordinating the Sponsor program for our association and he can let you know of other troopers who are requesting a sponsor. Contact him directly (dquick@communicomm.com) or contact any officer of the association and we will pass the message.

The association's eighth reunion in 2006 is now set for Colorado Springs: July 30 - August 5, 2006. It's time to contact old friends and arrange a great reunion in a fun area. If you have never been to Colorado Springs you may want to plan for more than one week. There are many great attractions in the area.

The quest to find troopers from the Vietnam era 5/7 Cav goes on. Old orders are one of the best ways to find names of persons that served with the 5/7 Cav. If you have some of your old orders tucked away in some drawer or file cabinet it would be much appreciated if you could share them with the association.

For some reason we seem to be especially lacking names from D Company for the years of '67, '68, '69, & '70. We are also short on names from A and B Company for 1970.

The more people we locate the more they learn about the association and hopefully the more that turn up for the reunions so dig into those old records and see if you can turn up some old orders that we can use to locate more 5/7 Cav troopers.

In February, our new 5/7 Cav brothers lost three troopers in a night maneuver accident. The lost troopers were: Specialist Dakotah Gooding, Sgt. Chad Lake and Sgt. Rene Knox. Don & Lanie Phares were able to attend the services for Sgt. Knox and Bill Moore and Bill Litvjak attended the services for Sgt. Lake. Unfortunately we were not able to get a representative to the Gooding services as it was scheduled before we were alerted. Our deepest sympathies go out to the Gooding, Lake, and Knox Families.

Should the need arise again the association will do its best to contact members in the area to attend services for any fallen comrades from the new 5/7 Cav. Unlike the treatment that some of our fallen Vietnam comrades received we want to be available to give comfort and understanding to families should they encounter a loss of a family member serving with the new 5/7 Cav. We hope this is the last loss for the 5/7 Cav in Iraq however we all understand this is war, so we will remain prepared.

If you need help locating a friend drop me an e-mail, note, or call. My contact information follows:

E-Mail: Donshipley@aol.com

Snail mail: Drawer 67-A Calhoun, IL.62419

Phone: 618-863-2635

Garry Owen, Don Shipley

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school supplies to the address listed below. Every bit of your donation will go directly to needy kids in Iraq and it will lessen violence in Iraq today and tomorrow. Please help us help these children and also save American lives by improving the attitude of Iraqis towards America.

**Thank you very much and God Bless,
Jody L Petery LTC,
Battalion Commander, 5/7 Cavalry**

SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR IRAQI CHILDREN:

No. 2 pencils, Spiral Notebooks, Writing Tablets, Ball Point Pens, Rulers (metric if possible), Pencil Erasers, Colored & Plain Chalk, Pen/Pencil Bags, Notepads or Sticky Note Pads, Bookbags, Crayons, Scissors (children's) & Pencil Sharpeners

Please send all donations by the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) to the following address:

**CPT Mark Varga
Attn: School Supplies
HHT, 5/7 Cavalry
FOB Paliwoda
APO, AE 09391**



The 5th Battalion 7th Cavalry Rides Again

By Charlie Baker, Liaison Officer

Much has transpired in the past months since the Reactivation Ceremony on July 21, 2004. Under the leadership of LTC Petry and CSM Webster, 5/7th Cav has conducted intensive training to mold this previous air-defense unit into a cavalry scout battalion for the 1st Bde, 3rd ID.

The unit began preparations for deployment to Iraq in November. By early December, all the Bradleys and Hummvs had been shipped out by rail, headed for the port. LTC Petry ran us through the motor pool at the end of a Revielle Run of 4 miles, just to prove to everyone that they were gone. After block leave in December, the battalion came together again for final preparations for departure.

On January 5, 2005, on a bright and sunny day at Ft. Stewart, the original colors that were with us in Vietnam were returned to the battalion, complete with the holes and stains of a long and storied past. Great speeches were made by our President, Maury Edmonds, by Captain Carson who has been caretaker for the colors all these years, and lastly by Lt. Gen. Vaught. Mike Sprayberry was there, as well, along with many of our veterans. Some individual company guidons were passed on as well. It was another great day to be an American Soldier. The battalion has proudly carried these colors to Iraq.

The troops of the main body commenced movement by air on January 9th, with everyone closed into Kuwait by the 13th. Over the course of the next two weeks, they had hot chow, got used to the heat, had daily showers, and lived the good life. Intensive in country training was conducted. The section and team leaders received some great training from experienced ex-Delta Force people, and had some precious time alone with their teams and sections before heading north. Interestingly, the battalion had several contacts with terrorists in Kuwait, the details of which I do not have other than that our men did great. They also had team level live firing exercises in the rain – precious rain.

On the 22d of January, a small group of lieutenants and sergeants were sent to train on calling in Apache Gunship fire missions, along with groups from other units. After watching others ahead of them for a while, the group decided to conduct "opportunity training" – a trademark of the battalion – until their turn came up. In this case, they trained on how to give each other an IV. Shortly after they had completed this medical training, one of the Apaches crashed while making a firing run. The entire group raced to the scene in Humvees, where they found both pilots trapped in the cockpit with extensive injuries. The helicopter was a jumble of hot engine parts, exposed wiring, live ammo, and dripping aviation gas. Without hesitation, the 5/7th Cav group organized into three teams. SSG Espino and Lt Lewis had been standouts in the rigorous PT at Ft. Stewart– they did the strength work of tearing off helicopter doors and other parts to get to the pilots. After extinguishing fires, Lt Bithorn, Lt Dower, and Pvt Chase moved in to cut away restraints, cut off clothing to expose the injuries, and thereafter comforted the injured aviators. The medical team consisted of Pfc Italiano, a medic, and two trained combat lifesavers – Lt Tatum and Specialist Hooper. The lead pilot was grievously injured, and is only alive today because of their efforts. Among other things, they stopped extreme bleeding, cleared a blocked airway, stabilized a fractured neck, assessed internal injuries, treated for shock, and yes – restored fluids by IV. These men took the initiative and did a dangerous and complex job with courage and skill. Opportunity training is not always popular with the troops, but vital to success in combat.

Ltc Petery reported that the troops are in good spirits, tackling the missions with discipline, and are doing very well. 5/7th Cav began moving north sometime after the 25th. The tracks went on tank carrier trucks in convoy, while most of the troops went by air to their main division base in Balad, north of Baghdad.

As expected, there has been little information flow while they have been heading out for Indian Country. The S-3 did find the time to e-mail about election day, in which about 30,000 people in the city of Balad turned out to vote. On that day many of the Iraqi citizens were very helpful to their Iraqi soldiers protecting the polling areas, advising them on where best to set up control points. It was also a day with the second highest number of enemy mortar rounds in Balad, most being directed at the polling places. The main mission of the battalion is going to involve training Iraqi Army forces, and they will be pairing up Iraqi squads with our sections (squads). Shades of Korea, but on a unit rather than individual level. But they have a bodacious task. They are dealing with finding the insurgents with their mortars, rockets and IED teams, which really calls for a lot of night operations, and at the same time they are helping to build local government infra-structure, schools, transportation, police, and fire departments. Twenty four hours in a day - the officers and senior NCOs are busy lads.

The mailing address of the battalion has been established. Regardless of how the battalion is disposed, mail will get to the soldiers by this address:

Name
Troop
5th Bn, 7th Cav
1st Bde, 3rd ID
APO AE 09391

In this regard, if you know what Forward Operating Base your particular addressee is at, you can add that to the address. For the moment, the troops are disposed as follows:

FOB Paliwoda – HHT (-)

B Troop
C Troop
Part of D Troop

FOB Anaconda – HHT (-)

A Troop
Part of D Troop



DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
Building Better Lives for America's
Disabled Veterans

CONTACT INFORMATION

Disabled American Veterans
National Headquarters
3725 Alexandria Pike
Cold Spring, KY 41076
Phone: 859-441-7300

Denvel D. Adams
National Service
&
Legislative Headquarters
807 Maine Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024
Phone: 202-554-3501

Web Site
<http://www.dav.org/>

SPONSOR A 5/7 CAV TROOPER IN IRAQ

What is a Sponsor? A Member of the 5th Battalion 7th Cavalry Association who develops a one on one relationship with a Trooper through e-mail and regular mail. Sponsors get to know the soldier, serve as someone to talk to, send cards and letters, and if desired, send occasional care packages.

Do all the Troopers in 5/7 Cav want or need a sponsor? So far 138 troopers, ranging from Private E2 to Captain, have requested to be included in the Sponsorship Program.

How do I become a Sponsor? Don Quick is the Association's coordinator for the sponsorship program. Contact Don at:

E-Mail: dquick@communicomm.com
Telephone: 334-863-4419

Alternatively, you can contact Krazy Karl at cav571vpkk@adelphia.net or Don Shipley at Donshipley@aol.com

What do Soldiers need in care packages?

Don Quick will send you a list of ideas based on past experience of other units with similar programs.

*Have you changed your mailing address recently? Remember to send your change of address to:
VP Operations, 5th Battalion 7th Cavalry Association, 1149 Southwood Ct., Ann Arbor, MI 48103*

5/7Cav PX

Baseball Cap 5/7 embroidered	\$10.
Miniature Garry Owen Crest pin	3
1st CAV cloth shoulder patch	5
1st CAV window sticker (no Vietnam)	3
1st CAV Div. challenge Coin	10
Full size CIB	4
1st CAV Hat pin (1")	3
Combat Medic pin (new)	3
Air Medal Pin (new)	3
M16-A-1 Hat pin (new)	4
Combat Cavalry pin (gold wreath - new)	4
5/7 Guidon bumper sticker (new)	2
Garry Owen/American flag pin (new)	4
7th CAV Crossed Sabers (no 5)	3
Reg. Garry Owen Crest Pin	3
Miniature CIB pin	3
AnKhe Hat pin	3
5/7 porcelain tie bar pin	5
1st CAV Div. Flag 3x5"	15
Raised letter CAVALRY pin (new)	3
1st Cav Hat pin (5/8") (new)	3
UHI Huey pin (new)	3
Miniature Purple Heart pin	3
M60 Machinegun pin (new)	4
Huey Hat pin (black/gold)	4
5/7 Crossed Sabers lg. pin (new)	4
Claymore Mine Pin (new)	4
Garry Owen Canvas Tote Bag -- Great Xmas Gift	7.50
White Polo shirts button-up with collar Embroidered 5/7 Cav. and Garry Owen Crest all short sleeved, order by size	23
5/7 Cav Denim Shirts Embroidered with Garry Owen Crest. Order by size, colors are Blue, Khaki, Green; Men or Ladies; Short Sleeves or Long Sleeves	25
Irish Green Golf Shirt with Embroidered Garry Owen Crest. Black Cav 5/7 Lettering under Crest. Quality Jerzee Brand. M, L, XL, XXL	25
New Adult T-Shirt with large Carry Owen Crest screen print on front. M, L, XL	10
New Child's T-Shirt w/silk screen 1st Cav patch on left chest & "Cav Kid" lettering under patch. Sizes: 2-4, 4-6, 6-8, 10-12, 14-16.	9
Baby Brutus the Bear dressed in Army green sweater w/Garry Owen crest and 1st Cav patch. Pocket in front for favorite soldier's picture.	20

PLEASE ALLOW THREE WEEKS ON SHIRT DELIVERY.

PLEASE INCLUDE \$2.00 POSTAGE ON HATS & SMALL ITEM ORDERS AND \$3.00 ON ALL SHIRT AND BEAR ORDERS.

SEND ORDERS TO:

JOHN GOODPASTER

303 CORA DRIVE

CARLISLE, OHIO 45005-3268

PHONE #937-855-7475

EMAIL: goody@infinet.com

SPONSOR PROGRAM

By Don Quick

The Sponsor Program began in mid-December of 2004 with 138 Troopers who asked for a Sponsor. We received the Soldier Information Roster with names and email addresses from the commander LTC Jody L. Petery. Over the past 2 months we have received between 30 and 40 more Troopers who have requested a sponsor thru other Troopers in the field.

We spent the day after Christmas with my Trooper and his Family in Scottsboro, AL. after his father died with a heart attack. The Trooper Jason Gamble asked his platoon leader if he could tell them about what our association did for him. Jason's Troop Commander came to the Days Inn in Savannah and wanted to shake my hand and thank me for taking care of his Trooper.

There have been a couple of families of Troopers who wanted a sponsor to contact them and several members called the families and the families were very appreciative. We had one Sponsor who went to the Funeral of Sgt Chad Lake, one of the three troopers who was killed in an accident while on patrol in Iraq.

I was able to contact Lt. Lipscomb, the XO with C. Troop, who lost the 3 troopers and send our condolences to the Troops in the field. Lt Lipscomb sent a very nice "Thank You" note back and said he would relay our condolences to the Troops.

Eddie Ratcliffe is sponsoring 12 Troopers with the help of friends and to date I know that Eddie has sent 16 care packages. We have one Sponsor who has terminal cancer who is sponsoring two Troopers. We have Generals who are also sponsoring Troopers! Allen, you, yourself got together with other Sponsors and provided a computer for one of the platoon Sgt. for communication with us. There are so many examples of this nature that are so supportive of our troops. Keep up the good work!

There are still 37 Troopers who need sponsors. There are Sponsors who have not made contact with their Trooper yet, please remember that the Troopers have limited time on computers and are very busy. We now have U.S. Mail addresses, so please, if you have not made contact try with a card or letter thru the mail system.

I receive letters from Sponsors and Troopers in the field in Iraq every day and the Troops say "thank you" again for all the support.

I would like to say to each Sponsor that you are doing a great job and the Troops thank each of you for the care packages, emails, letters, cards and most of all, your prayers.

If you have suggestions or want to be a Sponsor, please contact Don Quick at dquick@communicomm.com or call 334-863-4419

MEMORIAL DAY IN WASHINGTON, DC

Garry Owen to all,

This is just a reminder that we will again lay a wreath at The Wall in Washington on Memorial Day, May 30th.

Ted Swett and I intend to be there, as will a couple of others I believe. If any of you are in the area and can join us, we will gather around 11 AM near the Kiosk as we always do.

I know that several Association members plan to gather at Branson, MO in June and won't be able to be in Washington; I just wanted to let you know.

On other subjects:

My thanks to all who helped with the School Supplies Project for Iraqi children in the 5/7th area. I'm told that a lot of "stuff" is coming in.

Appreciate all each of you is doing to bring other Cav "brothers" into our fold. As you know, it's good for them and for us.

Please talk up attendance at next year's reunion. It'll be a great time in Colorado Springs.

Norman Lloyd tells me he's about to wrap up the interviews and film collection for the Documentary. He just got back from Iraq where he participated in, and filmed, operations with the Battalion and did a number of interviews with the troops. He sings their praises. He expects the documentary to be finished sometime late summer.

And many thanks, as well, to Don Quick for managing our very successful Sponsorship Program; and to those of you who sponsor one or more of the troopers in the Battalion in Iraq. Your support to them does make a difference.

All the best to each one of you and your families; I look forward to seeing you at the next gathering you can attend.

God Bless You and Garry Owen, Maury

5/7 CAV Jackets

Many of you that attended Reunion VII in northern Kentucky requested information on how to order a Cav 5/7 jacket like the ones worn by our Honor Guard at the memorial service on Saturday morning.

The Jackets are made up on a special order basis by our supplier in Portage, Indiana. The contact information is shown below:

T-Shirts America
2536 Portage Mall
Portage, Indiana 46368
Telephone #219-763-1880
Bill or Jane are the owners

Checks, Money Orders or Credit Card are accepted methods of payment.

When ordering make sure you tell them you want the 5/7 Cav traditional lined jacket. You also need to provide them with the years you served in Vietnam, your name and rank, if you choose. They will also want to know if you want the GarryOwen crest and/or the 1st Cav patch on the jacket and if you want any other insignias or patches included.

They do not have an e-mail address or web site so ordering by phone is the best method.

(This info is provided by John "Goody" Goodpaster --- the official 5/7 Cav Association PX Man)

LETTERS

Dear 5/7 Veterans,

My husband and I want to thank you for your generous donations and support of our 5/7 CAV FRG fundraising Golf Tournament on April 30, 2005. Your donations enabled us to have a special "5/7 CAV Veterans Assoc. Hole" at the tournament and added some badly needed funds into our account. A special thanks to Maury Edmonds and Eddie Ratcliffe for their generous donations.

We had a big downpour but continued on and had a great time. It is important to mention that John Hummer graciously invited us to be part of the fundraising Tournament. John coordinated the whole event and worked endlessly to make it a success. We are very grateful and proud to be included. John always has the soldiers welfare at heart and works hard to make things happen to benefit them. Thank you John!

Our thanks to each of you who donated to a great cause. We will use the money donated to our Family Readiness Group (FRG) Fund to help with costs incurred by families of KIA, flowers, travel expenses, etc. and to help WIA soldiers with misc. expenses.

Any monies left over will go toward our Welcome Home Party for our soldiers returning from OIFIII next year, to which you are all invited.

Thanks so much for your help. Having a bond with the 5/7 Cav veterans group means so much to all of us and we are so grateful for everything you have done to show your support! From coming to the Change of Command and other events important to us, to coming to the Memorial, we are so thankful for you. I promise that I will never forget those of you who were able to come to the Memorial for our soldiers in March. It meant so much to me having you there, especially since my husband couldn't be there - your presence gave me strength. I think it meant a lot to those families as well.

Your response to our call for support in sending school supplies has been tremendous! Thank you so much for your generosity in this area! Additionally and very importantly, your prayers, care packages and letters sent to our soldiers are a wonderful way to continue to sponsor and support our Unit as well - these have been great gifts from all of you and many soldiers have made comments about their great sponsors.

We will continue trying to raise money for our FRG throughout the year, any amount is very appreciated. For those of you that would like to donate to our fund, you may send a check made to 5/7 CAV FRG Fund.

Mail to :
5/7 CAV FRG
c/o Clarissa Petery
7 Wynn Place
Ft. Stewart, GA 31315

At the time of writing this letter I received a call from my husband who told me that they had

an incident with an IBED. Two of our soldiers were injured, one with burns on his hands and face and another soldier with more severe injuries. I was told that one of our fine young lieutenants 1LT Ryan Hollin from Delta Troop has "had his boot knocked off with his ankle and foot still in it". I know you all join us in our prayers for their recovery. PFC Marvin Hall was burned from the initial blast on his face and sustained more severe burns on his hands tying the tourniquets on Ryan's leg.

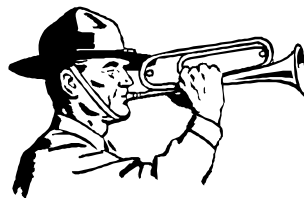
My husband said "I went to visit them in ICU and was very surprised to see that they were doing so well. I gave them both coins and spurs and Ryan displaying a sense of humor handed me one of the spurs back.....I asked him how we was doing and he said "I'm a little lighter."

These boys and others like them are exactly the reason that we will continue to work hard to raise funds for our FRG. Ryan will be fighting his next battle at home in California learning to walk again. Whatever support we will be able to give him through this fund will be helpful.

Ryan will be at Walter Reed soon, and if any of you are in the area, I know he would appreciate a visit. At this time I am it is unknown if PFC Hall will stay or go home.

Thanks very much for your love and support.

God bless, GarryOwen!
LTC Petery and Clarissa



Eddie Ratcliff,

I just want to let you know that we all are thankful for the support that you and the 5/7 CAV Association has shown. It motivates me to keep on pushing when I know that somebody is in my corner. I know that you are tracking our progress here. I will keep you updated on any changes. Whenever my R&R comes up, I will be sure to pay you a visit. The road has not been easy, but I did not expect it to be. Everyday brings another lesson in the education that I am receiving here. It is a lot more to learn and time is not a luxury. I will drive on no matter how difficult it gets. Your concern for the soldiers here is enough in itself to keep me motivated. Thanks for everything.

Lamarius Workman

Jim Thomas writes:

Bill (Greek) Koutrouba successfully came through a five hour surgery in April. He was recently confronted with some major swelling on the right side of his face, slightly below the ear and under the jaw. Needless to say, everyone was very concerned. The doctors had to remove what later turned out to be the Pirata gland. Bill's wife informed me that this gland is a saliva gland, and for reasons unknown, it would not drain and therefore had to be surgically removed. A follow up biopsy has determined that the gland was benign, and so once again the Greek has walked away from yet another battle victorious. Suffering from Agent Orange, and being a diabetic, this is only half the battle. Now he needs to heal.

Bill's wife, Bernice, is spending most of her time at the hospital, it would be best if calls were avoided for the time being. I will be in regular contact with Bernice and will be happy to convey everyone's wishes. The family would also like to thank everyone for their prayers.



To: Mr. Eddie Ratcliffe
From: SPC Armstrong
Time: 10/33/3-1-2005
Place: Balad, Iraq

Dear Mr. Eddie Ratcliffe,

THANKS
SO MUCH!!!

The care packages came right on time from someone that I have never met before. You just don't know how special that makes me feel I just wanted to thank you for your consideration + choice of snacks!!! Please continue to let the lord work through you. Your thought means so much to us.

THANK YOU!!!

SPC. Armstrong

TREASURER'S REPORT by Royce Vick

It is difficult to believe that all of this started some 39 years ago. Who can forget that cold Saturday morning at Fort Carson when Col. Swett "invited" several of us to attend a briefing at Division Headquarters?

You have honored me by allowing me to serve as your treasurer. In my first report to you I am pleased to announce that the organization is in an excellent financial condition.

Your annual dues pays for the publication of the newsletter and permits the organization to participate in benevolent functions

	Amount		Amount
5/7 Cav Assoc. Account			
Balances as of Nov 30, 2004	\$24,674	<i>Dues Paid (cont'd)</i>	
INCOME 11/30/04 to 4/30/05		Nechanicky, Paul	\$30
<i>Interest earned on CDs</i>	\$82	Norman, Lloyd	\$30
<i>Interest earned on Savings</i>	\$3	Nowlan, Phillip	\$10
<i>PX Sales</i>	\$945	Oldson, Myles	\$50
<i>Contributions</i>		Peltier, Edward F	\$20
Splichal, Edward G	\$5	Ratcliffe, Eddie	\$10
<i>Dues Paid</i>		Sanchez, Jose	\$10
Bailey, Larry	\$20	Sanford, Terry	\$30
Bartell, Ted	\$30	Shaw, Robert	\$10
Bernier, Charles	\$10	Skipper, Charles L	\$10
Buzbee, Ted	\$10	Smiljanich, George	\$50
Cook, Harry (Al)	\$50	Sorrells, David	\$40
Cooper, Harvey	\$20	Splichal, Edwin G	\$20
Duncan, Donald R	\$10	Stotler, Stephen F	\$10
Fitch, John W	\$50	Tokarick, John	\$10
Garz, Ricardo	\$20	Turk, Fred	\$50
Gibbs, Wayne	\$20	Waddle, Richard	\$20
Gonzales, Juan G	\$60	Wagner, Harold	\$30
Goodpaster, John	\$20	West, Danny	\$100
Hansen, Robert	\$20	West, Robert D	\$30
Heard, Love J	\$10	Wissman, Robert	\$20
Howlett, Chris F	\$10	Woods, Larry	\$40
Ingram, George	\$20	Zastrow, Glen R	\$90
Islas, Daniel	\$50	Subtotal Dues Paid	\$1,410
Lee, Harry	\$50	TOTAL INCOME	\$2,445
Letts, Junior	\$10	EXPENSES	
Lewis, E.R. (Bob)	\$20	PX Inventory purchases	\$392
Lewis, Edd	\$50	Wreath for Veterans Day 2004	\$159
Lynch, Michael	\$50	Memorials: Flowers for Chad Lake and Rene Fox funerals	\$121
Mack, Bob	\$30	December Airmobile Newsletter	\$1,713
McCarthy, Timothy	\$30	Funeral Basket -- Ron Gow	\$50
Monahan, John P	\$20	State of Tennessee Non Profit Charter Renewal	\$20
		600 Custom Pins for 5/7 Active Duty	\$1,064
		Return Item but Reimbursed by member	\$25
		TOTAL EXPENSES Nov 30, 2004 to April 30, 2005	\$3,543
		ACCOUNT BALANCES APRIL 30, 2005	\$23,576

such as sending flower arrangements to the funerals of our active duty comrades that were KIA and to our deceased members as well as the wreaths used in the Veterans Day memorial service. Funds are also utilized to defray some of our reunion costs.

I would also recommend that you consider ordering the items you will need for the reunion from our hard working PX manager John Goodpaster at an early date.

GARRYOWEN, ROYCE

MORE LETTERS

Dear Editor,

My name is Kim Thomas I attended the reunion in Kentucky with my father-in-law Rich Rebholz. Two weeks ago my mother-in-law and I visited the bar in Savannah that has a wall dedicated to the 5th of the 7th. Letting you know it was nice to be there and see what they have. The whole room is filled with all memorabilia from all branches of the service. Here are a couple pictures of the wall, outside the bar and we had a great dinner at the bar.

Thanks for adding that to the news letter so we could see it for ourselves on our trip to Savannah...the girls week away. Oh and they have a Vietnam memorial on Bay Street also that we visited.

See you in another year.

Kim Thomas

Kim@ThomasConstructionco.net



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Ann Arbor, MI 48103

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5th Battalion
7th Cavalry

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**REUNION VIII --- COLORADO SPRINGS
JULY 30 - AUGUST 5, 2006**

**THE ACADEMY HOTEL
8110 N. ACADEMY BLVD.
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80920**

