

*Excerpts From Our March 2003 Newsletter*

# MACKENZIE'S RAIDERS



## 3/4 CAV NEWSLETTER

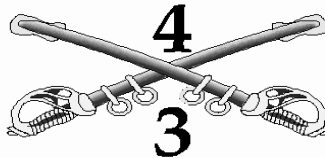


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MACKENZIE'S RAIDERS



3/4 CAVALRY

## 2004 REUNION PLANNING PROGRESS

Yes, I know our reunion is 15 months away but time flies when you're having fun. We have been working on the 2004 reunion since our reunion in Chattanooga, TN in September 2002 and I just want to give you an update on where we are.

The hotel has been selected. It is the Holiday Inn Lakeview and is just across the Ohio River from Louisville, KY in Clarksville, IN. We got a special rate of \$65.00

Tours and special events. On Friday, June 25, 2004, we'll go to Fort Knox, KY. We'll conduct our memorial service at our monument, which is adjacent to the Patton Museum. Following the service, we'll tour the Patton Museum and then proceed to the Leader's Club for lunch. Depending on whatever restrictions are in place, we'll see the U.S. Gold Vault Depository and visit a training site. Be sure to bring a photo I.D. Friday evening we'll be at the Derby Dinner Playhouse for either a musical or comedy and a superb buffet dinner. Yours are being looked into for Saturday at the Louisville Slugger Museum and Glass Works. Or if you prefer to visit Churchill Downs, you can have a day at the races and the Kentucky Derby Museum. Saturday evening will be our banquet followed by a raffle.

**There is plenty to see and do in the Louisville area and some of the sites will be in future newsletters. Plan on making a vacation for the reunion.**

## **ATTA BOY**

**Atta Boy" to the below for donations to the chapter. Your tax deductible donations and dues keep our Chapter running.**

**Joe Owen**

**Please send your tax-deductible donations to Bob Bingham, treasurer.**

## **PURPLE HEART POSTAGE STAMP**

**A postage stamp honoring Purple Heart recipients will soon be available for purchase. The proposed issue of the Purple Heart stamp will be sometime in 2003. The exact date of issue has not been determined. The stamp will be issued as a "definitive" stamp and not a commemorative stamp. Definitive implies the stamp will be available for purchase indefinitely.**

## **16th ANNUAL VIETNAM VETERANS REUNION IN MELBOURNE, FL**

**The 16th annual Vietnam Veterans reunion will be held in Whickam Park, Melbourne, FL on May 2-4, 2003. The Moving Wall will be there from April 27 through May 4. If you have questions call 321-255-4307. There's always a large turnout on 25th Division veterans.**

## **CHAPTER NEEDS YOUR HELP**

**At our reunion in September, it was pointed out the importance of paying your dues. Either life or annual.**

**Your dues help pay for the printing and mailing of the quarterly newsletter. Costs quarterly are \$600.00 +.**

Currently there are 212 life members and 26 members paid through 2003 or beyond. There are 54 members whose membership ran out at the end of December. So 78% of you are letting the remainder pay for your newsletter. That's not the CAV way. Thanks to those that make donations to the chapter, which allows us to continue to send the newsletter to everyone.

Please pay your \$10.00 annual dues. I do not want to remove you from the mailing list but the chapter cannot continue to have the newsletter printed unless we have the money to cover costs.

### **3rd SQUADRON, 4TH CAVALRY UNIT AWARDS**

Recently I have been asked about what unit awards did the 3/4 CAV receive in Vietnam. While stationed at the Pentagon, I researched this in the Pentagon Library. The unit citations found follows.

**3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry**

**Presidential Unit Citation**

**Valorous Unit Award**

**RVN Cross of Gallantry w/Palm**

**Troop A**

**Valorous Unit Award**

**1st Platoon, Troop A**

**Presidential Unit Citation**

**Troop C**

**Valorous Unit Award**

**RVN Gallantry Cross w/Palm**

**Troop D**

**Presidential Unit Citation**

**Troop F**

**RVN Gallantry Cross w/Palm**

## **IN SEARCH OF...**

Caroline Haigler is looking for anyone who may remember her Uncle Raymond Pope. Ray served in the 3/4 from 66-68. She thinks in HHT. He was wounded and sent home. He had a bullet lodged in his chest and was home about one month when the bullet moved and he died instantly. If you remember Trooper Pope, please contact his niece Caroline at (704) 888-3846 or email [Paradox1965@aol.com](mailto:Paradox1965@aol.com) or you may write to 5479 McGinnis Lane, Stanfield, NC 28163.

## ***SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM***

The 25th Division Association awards scholarships to all sons/step-sons, daughters/step-daughters, and grandchildren of ELIGIBLE 25th veterans. To be ELIGIBLE, you MUST BELONG to the 25th Infantry Division Association. If you haven't joined yet you need to do so. See DUES for information.

The 3/4 CAV Chapter annually donates \$1,000. This is awarded to an ELIGIBLE child of a 3/4 Cavalry veteran. There were four children of 3/4 CAV veterans who received 1,000.00 scholarships in 2002. You can continue to make Tax deductible donations. Send your donation to our treasurer, Bob Bingham.

## **NEW MEMBERS FOUND**

Robert Brooks, D Troop (Air), 69-70, Carthage, TX

Eddie Cooksey, D Troop (Air), 70, Fayetteville, AR

Robert Holtzman, D Troop (Air), 69-70, Cedarburg, WI

Floyd Hughbanks, D Troop (Air), 69-70, Hot Springs, AR

***Current number of former 3/4 Cavalry troopers found – 1,220. NOTE: 1,070 are on the mailing list. Keep searching for former troopers.***

## **MEMBERS LOST**

The following members have been lost since the last newsletter. Please help in locating them.

**Richard Johns, Grand Rapids, MI**

**Alfred Smith, Mobile, AL**

## **GULF WAR VETERANS HEALTH STUDY**

Dan (1968, B Troop) and Lynda King, from the National Center for PTSD and Boston University, will be participating in Force Health Protection Research Program (FHPRP) scientific review on 25-26 February, 2003, at the Naval Health Research Center (NHRC), San Diego, CA. They will be presenting the results of their Department of Defense-funded project titled "Measurement and Validation of Psychological Risk and Resilience Factors Accounting for Physical and Mental Health and Health-Related Quality of Life among GWVs". GEN (Ret) Glenn Otis was a consultant for this project. It was a part of the US Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, Military Operational Medicine Research Program (MOMRP). The research project had two main products: (1) the development of a survey to assess characteristics of individuals that might place them at more risk for stress-related health outcomes following deployments to regions of potential military conflict, and (2) documentation of the health status of a national sample of Gulf War veterans 10 years after the close of that conflict, and the relationships of risk and resilience factors to their current health status. A summary of findings from the project will be presented in a future issue of Mackenzie's Raiders.

## **ASSOCIATION REUNION HAMPTON VIRGINIA 16-21 SEP 2003**

The 25th Infantry Division Association will hold its annual reunion in Hampton, VA 16-21 September 2003. The reunion hotel is the Holiday Inn Hampton Hotel & Conference Center and is located on West Mercury Blvd. Room rates are \$79.00.

There is plenty to see and do in the tidewater area. Tours have been set up for the Virginia Air & Space Center, Fort Monroe Casemate Museum, Colonial Williamsburg & Jamestown Island, "Dinnertainment" at Boxwood Inn, Norfolk Naval Base Tour, Spirit of Norfolk Lunch cruise, MacArthur Memorial, Fort Eustis Army Transportation Museum & War Museum of Virginia with lunch at the Fort Eustis Club, and the Mariner's Museum

David Garrod, Association President, served in B Troop, 67-68. Let's show Dave our chapter support by having a large 3/4 CAV turnout!

Detailed information on tours, meals, and registration can be found in the association magazine FLASHES. If you haven't joined the association yet, go to their web at [www.25thida.com](http://www.25thida.com).

## BRING BACK THE DRAFT!

By Carl Quickmire

The article I am quoting below is what prompted me to write this article. This appeared in my local paper, The State, Columbia, SC in January 2003. At this writing in early February, we are not at war with Iraq or North Korea and you see my thoughts on this subject are not related to any possible or future wars.

***"Military Draft Coming as it does from a couple of Democratic congressmen, a proposal to revive the military draft is likely to go nowhere. Its most vocal opponent is none other than Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and it isn't because Rumsfeld is a Republican. It's because our all-volunteer armed services are vastly better than they were when conscripts were dragged kicking and screaming into the Army, or hastily enlisted in the Navy or the Air Force as less-onerous alternatives. But Reps. Charles Rangel of New York and John Conyers of Michigan are concerned a disproportionate number of minority youngsters constitute the cannon-fodder which soon may be marching into Baghdad. It's a legitimate concern: They're not exactly being forced into the armed forces, but minority kids don't have all the college opportunities young whites do. In greater proportions than gringos do, they join the service for job training or for tuition money. The Santa Fe Mexican"***

I am sure you are happy to note that today's' volunteer Army is "vastly better" than you and I were when we were dragged kicking and screaming to serve in Korea and Vietnam. I guess a new definition of volunteer is: "not exactly being forced into the armed forces". I am troubled by the Congressmen's reasoning about reviving the draft. As I recall you registered when you were 18, were classified 1A unless you had a medical problem or were in college. Those still in high school were not subject to be drafted until they graduated or dropped out of high school. Those in college with a 1S were exempt as long as they were in college. Once out of college they reverted to 1A and were subject to be drafted. So, back in the "rown Boot Army", if you were not rich or had political connections or in college, you got drafted. Only thing different today – if you are not rich, in college or can't get a job, you volunteer for the armed forces!! The above Congressmen apparently do not understand the difference between being drafted and volunteering. As all of us know from first hand experience, war is hell, and lots of people get killed. In my opinion, reviving the draft as proposed by these Congressmen, will not prevent loss of life in war for their select group of constituents.

I have always believed that the draft should never have been eliminated. No doubt the high casualty rate in Vietnam was instrumental politically in doing away with the draft. For the most part the draft was fair since it brought in the rich and the poor. During the draft we had excellent medical and dental care, provided primarily by doctors serving out their medical commitments and draft obligations. In my enlisted and commissioned service I served with many "rich kids" and "poor kids". Whether in peacetime or combat we were bound together in our unit and the accomplishment of the mission.

I believe all of us should give two years of service to our country. This can be in the military service, Peace Corps, City Year or in a multitude of federal programs. These programs provide training, money for college upon completion and training in job skills. The DRAFT should be two years of service to our country, not necessarily in the armed forces.

Like many of you I have attended many military reunions of the 25th Infantry Division Association, the 3/4 Cavalry and other units that I have served with. Most of these reunions are attended by combat veterans of WWII, Korea or Vietnam. An underlying theme is always prevalent – "those were the best years of my life". Those best years were invariably service in combat.

Let us encourage our elected national representatives to bring back the draft to enable our young people to serve our country in a variety of ways for two years, not to attempt to avoid being a casualty in a possible forthcoming war.

Over forty years ago, President John F. Kennedy had it right then and now: "Ask not what your country can do for you, but, what can you do for your country?"

## **HOW TO GET MILITARY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS FROM THE NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER, ST. LOUIS, MO**

*The following information, in part, is from the winter issue of FLASHES. Those of you who belong to the association will see this; however, I am reprinting it here for the benefit of those who have not yet joined.*

Requests for the issuance or replacement of military service medals, decorations, and awards should be directed to the specific branch of the military in which the veteran served.

The Standard Form (SF 180), Request Pertaining to Military Records, is recommended for requesting medals and awards. This form may be obtained from most VA regional Offices, Veterans Service Officers (VFW, American Legion, MOPH, VVA, etc) or by downloading from the Internet: (<http://www.archives.gov/research> room/ obtain copies/standard form 180.pdf) Provide as much information as possible and send the form to:

National Personnel Records Center

Medals Section (NRPMA-M)

**9700 Page Avenue**

**St. Louis, MO 63132-5100**

**Medals are mailed from:**

**U.S. Army Soldier & Biological Command**

**Soldier Systems Directorate**

**700 Robbins Avenue**

**P.O. Box 57997**

**Philadelphia, PA 19111-7997**

**In case of a problem or appeal write:**

**Commander PERSCOM**

**Attn: TAPC-PDO-PA**

**200 Stovall Street**

**Alexandria, VA 22332-0471**

## **DUES**

### ***3/4 CAV Dues***

**Send your dues (\$10 Annual/\$75 Life) payable to 3/4 CAV Chapter to P.O. Box 23678 Lexington KY 40523-3678. Your dues pay for the publication and mailing of your *MacKENZIE'S RAIDERS* newsletter.**

### ***25th Infantry Division Dues***

**Send your 25th Infantry Division Association dues (\$15 Annual/ \$150 Life) to P.O. Box 7, Flour Town, PA**

19031-0007.

***"It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly, who errs and comes short again and again; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spends himself in a worthy cause; who, at the best, knows in the end triumph of high achievement, and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat."***

***Theodore Roosevelt***

## ***WANT TO GO BACK TO NAM?***

Dave Devries, C & D Troops, 68-69, is making one more trip back to Vietnam, maybe his last. The dates are 19 June through 05 July. Cost is approximately \$2375.00.

You will visit Saigon, My Tho, Tay Ninh, Cu Chi, Dalat, Nha Trang, Hoi An, Long Co, and Hue.

Singles or couples are invited. More guys have been taking their wives and they love it!

Contact Dave at 616-669-6952 or [dgdvriea@msn.com](mailto:dgdvriea@msn.com) for more information.



## **ARTICLES NEEDED FOR NEWSLETTER**

Articles, tales, information, etc. are needed for the Mackenzie's Raiders newsletter. Sometimes it's quite difficult to find "stuff" to put in the newsletter. We must fill 8 pages for each issue to get a price break.

If you have anything stored away in your attic or basement or even your gray cells then why not submit them for publication?

Send them email to [jheadley@dcr.net](mailto:jheadley@dcr.net) or mail to Jerry Headley, 1234 Powell Taylor Rd., Lawrenceburg, KY 40342.

## **HISTORY PROJECT CAPTURES VETERANS' STORIES**

*From Army Echoes Issue 3, December 2002*

The Veterans' History Project is giving veterans a chance to share their stories. Project organizers are also looking for volunteers of all ages to help chronicle veterans' oral histories. These stories will become a collection in the Library of Congress' American Folklife Center, in Washington, D.C., and part of the national Veterans History Project Collection at the Library of Congress. Eventually, portions of the material will be available digitally on the Library of Congress web site.

Volunteers interview veterans, collect letters, photographs and journals from former service members of WWI, WWII, and the Korean, Vietnam and Persian Gulf wars, and the civilians who supported them.

Charlie Mendoza, vice president of membership and member services for the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), a founding sponsor of the project, said everyone, particularly youth, have a lot to benefit from the project. A Korean and Vietnam veteran, Mendoza was interviewed by his youngest

daughter.

Authorized by Congress through Public Law 106-380, the Veterans' History Project has chronicled histories of about 1,500 veterans to date.

Ellen McCulloch-Lovell, director of the Veterans' History Project at the Library of Congress, hopes to reach more people for the ongoing project.

Already, more than 420 organizations have partnered with the project, including veterans' service organizations, colleges, museums and libraries.

To become involved with the project, visit the Veterans' History Project web site at [www.loc.gov/veterans](http://www.loc.gov/veterans) or call the toll free number at 1-800-371-5848.

## CHEMICAL WEAPONS TEST INFO RELEASED

*From Army Echoes Issue 3, December 2002*

DoD has released data on biological and chemical weapons tests conducted aboard ships and at sites in the U.S., Canada and Great Britain. VA officials said they're trying to contact the service members involved in the tests.

DoD conducted the tests from 1962 through 1971. About 5,500 service members and civilians participated.

The tests examined how chemical and biological agents behave in different conditions. The code name for the land-based tests conducted by the Desert Test center was Project 112. During Project 112, DoD planned 134 tests and conducted 46 tests. DoD officials have confirmed that 62 tests were cancelled and are investigating the remaining 26 tests which may have been cancelled.

DoD has released information on 37 of the tests to the VA. Project 112 was conducted in remote areas of Alaska, California, Florida, Hawaii. Maryland, Puerto Rico and Utah. Further tests took place in the Marshall Islands, Baker Island and other Pacific Ocean locales.

Veterans who believe that they may have been part of these tests should call the VA's Helpline at (800)

**749-8387. All the Desert Test Center fact**

**sheets are available online at <http://deploymentlink.osd.mil/currentissues/shad/shadintronro.html>.**

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