

# SECOND INFANTRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

Volume  
One  
2007



2006 Phoenix Reunion featuring Bob Douglass and "Danger 6" MG Ken Hunzacker

From: Honorary Colonel Rick Anson and Honorary CSM Larry Dahle:

As I was writing a short report to our Association members on the status of our 2-2 Stryker Battalion, which did not contain much good news, new information was brought to my attention which is cause for rejoicing. It regarded the future of the Regiment and was provided by LTG (R) Tom Rhame, President of our 1st Infantry Division Association and supported by an article in the January 1st copy of the Army Times. It seems highly probable now that the 2-2 will be reactivated in April or May 2007 at Fort Hood, Texas as part of the 3rd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division. Following early deployment to Iraq, the 2-2 will return to Fort Knox, KY where it will be permanently stationed as part of the 1st Infantry Division.

This is very good news indeed as it reactivates the 2-2 much earlier than we anticipated. Apparently the announcement by President Bush that he is requesting Congress increase the end strengths of the Army and Marine Corps as well as the necessary funds to support such an increase has had a positive affect. I will keep Gary Tucker, our President, informed of any new news. I intend to make contact with the new Big Red One Division Commander, MG Carter Ham, early in 2007.

I hope the planning by the 1st Division for a "Veterans Reunion" this year at Fort Riley comes to pass and I certainly encourage attendance by all of us if

at all possible. What a great opportunity to visit our Division at its home base even if our Battalion is in Iraq.

CSM (R) Larry Dahle and I send our sincerest best wishes to each and every one of you for a healthy and prosperous new year.

Rick Anson, Maj Gen (R)  
Honorary Colonel, 2nd INF Regt  
Larry Dahle, CSM (R)  
Honorary CSM, 2<sup>nd</sup> INF Regt

From Gary Tucker: Bravo, Recon 2/2

General Anson's news is very good indeed. The legacy of the 2<sup>nd</sup> US Infantry Regiment lives on. As LTG Rhame put it "2-2 at Ft Hood is better than no 2 INF". It is our collective intention to continue lobbying for the activation of the 1-2 INF as well.

Several Association members have expressed intentions to attend the reactivation at Fort Hood when the date is announced. I will let all of you know any new information as General Anson or I receive it. I hope to see you at the reactivation!

I wish all of you the very best for a good and prosperous 2007. Our reunions continue to be a great experience and the socializing and camaraderie. As your Association President, I express my profound appreciation for your continued support of our worthwhile cause. Your generous support was instrumental in the purchase of our Regiment's Campaign and Battle streamers and generic Company

guidons. The intent is to provide for all of you and our guests a first class presentation of whom we are and the Regiment's great legacy. Since 1808 the Second Infantry Regiment has proudly served when called to arms. Our legacy spans the War of 1812 to today's War on Terror. The latest Battle Streamer is from Fallujah. We all should stand tall and be proud of whom we are and what we are: American warriors.

At the Association's business meeting elections were conducted for Association officers, to run through 2008. It was much more civilized than the 7 November national elections. Gary Tucker was elected President, Bob Douglass is Vice President, and Doug Tabb is our treasurer. The Secretary position is currently vacant. Anyone interested in serving should contact Gary, Bob, or Doug. Their contact information is at the end of the newsletter. The state of the Association's finances, reunion information and my promise of a newsletter and updating the Association contact roster were discussed at the open meeting.

A great time was had at the BRO Society reunion this past summer. The Second Infantry Regiment Association managed to set a great precedent by providing members and anyone else who showed up, including the Commanding General, an absolutely great barbequed dinner of pork ribs and chicken. The meal was the brainchild of our resident barbeque champion, Bob (FO) Douglass, and Don Olmstead (Top 6), and ably supported by Frank Alessio, Jim Leslie et. al. A good time was had by all and the Regimental ladies were beautiful. The Biltmore Spa and Resort provided a wonderful and comfortable backdrop for the get together. The hotel staff even provided a large platter of butter for the barbeque dinner.

There were several other notable events that took place during the reunion. One of our brave soldiers from Iraq was our special guest, SP/4 Manny Diaz. He was sponsored by the Association and escorted by Juan and Carmen Santiago. Manny continues to undergo treatment at Walter Reed and his attendance was very meaningful. Juan and Carmen, as well as our Honorary CSM, Larry Dahle received

well-deserved awards and kudos for their works within our community. Hats off to them. There were several memorable tours of the local area, including an awe-inspiring trip to the Grand Canyon. If you have not visited the site, it is highly recommended.

May 2006, marked the first annual Ramrods reunion, hosted by Don Rochat (HHC 1-2) at Pigeon Forge, TN. From all accounts it was a very enjoyable soiree. In August I attended the 2-2 reunion at Owensboro, KY. Bob Fulps and George Garrison were gracious hosts. I encourage you to attend the Pigeon Forge and Owensboro reunions if at all possible. It is great for renewal.

The picture below is MG Anson and SP/4 Manny Diaz (OIF). The Association assisted Manny's attendance at the reunion.



From Jim Holland: Charlie 1/2

I think you know that I have been heavily involved, along with Johnny Johnson, in gathering together men from C Company who served between 65-67, with emphasis on March through August of 67. Our quest began with two company rosters that BG Bill Mullen, Charlie Company CO, had maintained. One from July 66 and the other from September 66.

For years I had not participated in reunions, division or others. In 2000 I looked for, Ted Banta, who I replaced as platoon leader with 1st Platoon, C Company on August 21, 1966. Researching the Division website, I learned he had died the year before. Continuing my search, I discovered that LTC Prillaman, my first battalion commander, to find he had also died. Continuing, I checked to see if LTC Simpson was listed, and it was

revealed that he too had passed. It became obvious that the days of delaying getting back together with the soldiers with whom I had served had come and gone. Using the Internet, I continued looking for C Company soldiers. I found Johnny and Lou Ramirez, who had served in the 69-70 timeframe. Johnny and I started piecing things together and located eight or nine soldiers between us. Lou sent me a picture that had been taken at the previous year's reunion. There were three guys in the picture. A company commander from 68, Lou, and Israel Tames my platoon sergeant from 66-67. Things were looking up. My search for soldiers from the 1st Platoon now started in earnest. At the New Orleans reunion Israel and I got together and I obtained copies of the two rosters Bill Mullen had kept and a copy of the C Company Casualty Report (DA 1154) with all the casualties the company had taken between 26 Oct 65 (the first) and 30 April 68. With these tools Johnny and I got to work in earnest. We now have 65 names of C Co men and next of kin on the roster. There have been many great exchanges between these folks: comrades reunited, stories confirmed, relatives have gained much information about their loved ones from the men who served with them, and many of us now get together at the division and battalion reunions each year.

As I said earlier one of the people I first made contact with was my Platoon Sergeant, Israel Tames. Israel and I served together through all of the operations the battalion participated in during August 66 and through March 67. I had always held Israel in exceptionally high regard. He was an exceptional troop leader and an infantryman with Korean War experience and several months in Vietnam before we joined forces. What I have not mentioned is that on my 2d day in the field C Company took on the Phu Loi Battalion in what we called for years 25 August but which is now known as the Battle of Bong Trang. In this fight the 1st platoon hit the field with 21 soldiers on the morning of 25 August. By 11:00 there were 7 of us who had managed to capture a piece of trench. By 11:30 one more man, my platoon sergeant Adrian J Anglim, had been killed and I had to send my

RTO who had been wounded on two occasions to the rear. The 5 of us remaining held the trench until late in the afternoon when we picked up some survivors of A Co 1/16 after the company had attempted to attack to the front of our location. All of this is important to me for several reasons.

SSG "Tiny" Anglim and I were both from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan (Uppers) and we both had children about the same age. We had established an instant rapport and as this was my first time in the field and he, along with my RTO, were my anchors. He was shot twice in the head in that trench line only about 20 feet from me. The Phu Loi boys were good. I always picture Sgt Ngyuen telling Pvt Ngyuen 1 to take the guy on the left and Pvt Ngyuen 2 to take the guy on the right. However it happened I was alive and I vowed that I would contact Anglim's family. Years went by and I looked for the family when I was in Michigan and even had my cousins try to find them. One problem is that I was looking in Marquette where we both had been born when he had been living in Gladstone. A trip to the Virtual Wall eventually solved my dilemma. A student of SSG Anglim's wife had left a memorial to him. I contacted her and through her got in contact with the family. Since then, with the help of Bill Mullen and Sid Berry, I have been able to see that his family received the awards for which he had been recommended but which had somehow fallen through the cracks. His sons have been in contact with many soldiers who served with their Dad and have learned many things about their dad they did not know. Both of his sons have attended division reunions. In addition to this I have been able to make contact with all of the men who were in the trench with me on 25 August and survived their tours. Three of the five have now attended a division reunion, with the rule being two + apiece. I have had a chance to ask my RTO, Roger Temples, who was evacuated out of country after the fight if he resented me dragging him along after he was wounded the first time and again after he was wounded the second time. Roger told me that he did not resent having been drug along as there was no safe place to be that day! The communications

between us all has been a wonderful thing.

It is impossible for me to explain how much it has meant to all of us.

Take care, Jim

From: Bob Douglass (FO): Alpha 2-2

I am proud to be a Veteran. Veteran's Day has passed, and I hope that all of you had as good of a Veteran's Day as I had. I was reminded of all of ya'll: those that I saw at the Reunion in Phoenix, those that I've seen in past reunions and those that I served with. But this Veteran's Day seemed to make me a little more proud than usual. The public has once again started to recognize its veterans and the sacrifices they have made for our country. My Veteran's Day started on Friday the 10th at two local high schools that held ceremonies. There was a beautiful celebration at a Catholic grade school. This one was very special. The children sang patriotic songs then passed out handmade thank you letters to all the veterans in attendance. In addition, they had an essay contest for the eighth graders; it was entitled: what is a veteran? The first place winner was a sweet young lady. When she read her essay to the crowd there were not many dry eyes. When you see someone like this young lady and her peers who distributed the letters, who show you respect and honor, it really makes your day. Then Saturday the 11th the city of Houston had its own program downtown. It was like the ones I used to attend when I was a child, that honored people like our parents and grandparents from WWI, WWII and Korea with speeches from local politicians, news people and VIP's. This was followed by a parade that had more than 200 entries. It was the largest crowd of spectators Houston had ever had. I, myself, marched with my DAV Chapter. People were lined up on the sidewalks three and four deep. All that you could hear other than applause was "thank you for your service." Even on Monday after everything was over, I was still swelled up with pride. My pride was struck once again when my 12-year-old niece asked me to come to her school and speak to her class next year for Veteran's day. I'll

definitely be there. Yes I'm damn proud to be a Veteran and an American, damn proud to have served with fellows like you and damn proud that it was with the 2nd Regiment of the 1st Infantry Division. I hope that these words mean something in your hearts and I hope to see all of you next year at the Reunion. Like the song goes MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS LOUIE. Let's change it to MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS IN AUGUST 2007.

Bob Douglass, Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> INF Assoc.

Rachel Krenek, an Eight Grade student from Rosenberg, Texas, wrote the following essay. Personally, it touched a nerve with me that a young student could be so insightful and patriotic.

What Veteran's Day Means to Me: A veteran's job can be great or small. One veteran gives his or her life while another works on tanks and aircraft guns. Both deserve equal respect for the part they play in serving their country. Veterans are important because without them, there would be never be cease-fire or peace. It also amazes me that veterans endure such harsh conditions such as concentration camps, starvation, injury, deaths of comrades, and many tortures in their time of service, and yet all love to tell their survival stories to loved ones with pride in their hearts.

I believe that we take veterans for granted, especially the young generation. We often think of veterans as old people who sit around and talk about their battle scars. Many go off to fight and die for their country, but others care less. Personally, I know that I am not brave enough to leave home to fight for my country, maybe never to return home again. Veterans do not receive enough respect for what they have done, for one day to honor them is not enough. Veterans are men and women who have done more than their part as a U.S. citizen to show patriotism to their country, and we should thank them. So, going forth, remember that a veteran can be old or young, male or female, black or white. We should show great honor on this day for what they have done

and are doing for their country.  
This is what Veterans' Day means to me.

From the Doug Tabb: Delta 1-2

SECOND INFANTRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION  
FINANCE REPORT 2006 ACTIVITY AMOUNT

Balance 1/6/2006-\$ 6,163.31.  
Member Dues Collected \$2,720.00  
Donations from Members at Reunion  
\$500.00  
Donations from Members for Streamers  
and Melendez-Diaz \$3,763.00.  
Melendez-Diaz Expense at Reunion  
(\$1,233.55)  
Newsletter Expense (\$1,082.30)  
Expenses for Regimental Streamers  
(\$4,616.51)  
Expenses for Unit Guidons and Colors  
(\$2,005.99).  
Administrative Expenses (Lifetime  
Certificates) (\$100.00)  
Current Balance 10/31/2006-\$  
4,107.96

Reunion Information

It's time to make plans for the 2007  
Ramrods Reunion in Pigeon Forge, TN,  
from May 3-6  
2007. Check: <http://hometown.aol.com/hclbn2inflid/myhomepage/military.htm>  
1  
Looking forward to seeing you there.  
POC Don Rochat  
865.688.5459

BRO Society Reunion, St. Louis, MO  
August 8-11, 2007. More 2<sup>nd</sup> INF  
Barbeque. The "Bridgehead Sentinel"  
will have application forms, or go  
online at "www.bigredone.org".

Owensboro, KY 20-23 September 2007  
POC Bob Fulps  
270.929.6955  
[bobfulps@adelphia.net](mailto:bobfulps@adelphia.net)



The Phoenix CP, before the BBQ feast. Note the Association's streamers in the center.

Association Officers Contact  
Information:

Please send any dues, contributions,  
address, and email or phone number  
changes to any of us listed below.

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Association dues are \$10.00 yearly  
or \$100.00 for a lifetime  
membership. Clearly, the best deal  
around. Old comrades all agree.  
Our Association depends on your  
generous and loyal support so we can  
continue to assist our active duty  
warriors and supporting you, our  
loyal members. Thank you.  
Noli Me Tangere



April 1969 near An Loc. A squad  
from A 2/2 prepares for a combat  
patrol. The Division's last MOH  
winner, SSG James Bondsteel, is  
drinking a soda. Duty First! (Taken  
by Gary Tucker, Recon 2/2).