



SECOND INFANTRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION RAMROD NEWS

2008 FALL-WINTER ISSUE

1ST BATTALION ACTIVATED

On March 17th 2008 after 24 years and 5 months of being inactive, the 1st Battalion, 2nd Infantry was activated in Schweinfurt, Germany with the reflagging of the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry. 1-18 was a part of 2nd "Dagger" Brigade, 1st Infantry Division which was also reflagged as the 172nd Infantry Brigade (Separate). The 1st Battalion, 2nd Infantry is assigned to 172nd Infantry Brigade and is at present a mechanized infantry battalion. The battalion has adopted the motto "BACK IN BLACK" in recognition of the battalion's service in Vietnam and the wearing of a Black Scarf.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

New officers were elected at the annual meeting held in August at the Society of the 1st Infantry Division reunion in Colorado Springs. They are as follows; President, Bob Douglass, Vice-President, Tom Copeland, Secretary, Gary Tucker and Treasurer, Doug Tabb. Larry Grzywinski was appointed Historian. The association presented Tom Copeland and Larry Grzywinski with plaques of appreciation. Tom for his outstanding work on the anniversary challenge coin and Larry for his on going work on the regiment's history. General (retired) William Mullen gave the members attending the meeting an explanation of the digital history project of the 1st Battalion in Vietnam that he is working on. It looks and sounds quite interesting.



BRO REUNION 2008

As far as the reunion itself, it was well attended and everyone seemed to have a good time and look forward to the next one. There were quite a few active 1st Division personal there as well and they were well received. Bob Douglass did not BBQ this year and you better believe there were quite a few disappointed folks. Bob has done an outstanding job in the past but it was getting a bit much so he has put it on hold for now.



2ND BATTALION DEPLOYS

In June the 2nd Battalion along with the entire 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team deployed to Afghanistan. Their A O is in Kandahar Province. On September 4th, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry suffered its first casualties when a Humvee was struck by an I E D. PVT Vincent Winston Jr. was killed and four were wounded. PVT Winston was from St Louis and association member, Tom Sommerhauser, who lives in St Louis, represented the association by attending the wake and burial. Our thanks to Tom.

PIGEON FORGE REUNION

The May 2008 reunion at Pigeon Forge, which was run by Don Rochat, and was combined with the reunion that Bob Fulps holds in Owensboro KY got off to a very bad start. Shortly before the reunion Don suffered a stroke and subsequently died. Juan Santiago stepped in to help Bob to keep there union alive but due to numerous circumstances it had to be canceled. Not to be deterred, Bob and Juan rescheduled the reunion for October and it went off very well. The attendance was very good, 83 counting wives and friends.

There were 2 World War II 2nd Infantry veterans there, Mr. Ausby Clements and Mr. Harry J Paylor, who both served with Company K. 1st Battalion Commander LTC Steven Miska and CSM Noe Salinas also attended the reunion, coming all the way from Germany. They told us what is going on with the battalion and of their not very far off deployment to Iraq. This will be the third deployment for them both and quite a few

others of the battalion. They are two very capable men and our troops are under great leadership. We wish them well and God's Speed! Also in attendance were Manny Melendez-Diaz and Mathew Hayes, they both served with the 2nd in Iraq. Manny is the young man who was severely wounded in Iraq, it was good to see him up and about.



LTC Steve Miska and CSM Noe Salinas



Mathew Hayes, Harry Paylor and Manny Melendez-Diaz



Juan makes a great wine steward

After doing reunions for 16 years Bob Fulps is stepping aside and was looking for someone to take over. Dominic Mish, Recon, 2/2, 66-67 raised his hand. There will no longer be a reunion at Owensboro and plans are already in the works to hold next year's reunion on May 15-16-17, 2009, at the same location in Pigeon Force. Bob, Juan and several others have committed to helping Dominic. Thank you to Bob, Juan, their wives and also Dominic for stepping up to the plate.

More information about the next reunion can be found on the association message board at secinfrag.org under 2009 Ramrod Reunion. Or contact Dominic Mish at domino165@juno.com or call 864-225-9562.

BRO REUNION 2009

The Society of the 1st Infantry Division reunion is scheduled for August 5-9, 2009 in Dearborn, Michigan. "Looking forward to seeing you all there"

NATIONAL INFANTRY MUSEUM

The following information has been obtained from "The Infantry Heritage Letter". It is a publication from the National Infantry Museum which is being built in Columbus, Georgia by Fort Benning. Harry Gray, who is 88 years old and is still a soldier at heart is the retired Chairman and CEO of United Technologies pledged \$2.5 million to the museum. Mr. Gray served the 2nd Infantry during W W II and his gift is to be used to honor the 2nd. The mezzanine overlooking the museum floor will be named for the unit. The area could be used for parties and receptions. Mr. Gray was awarded a Bronze Star and a Silver Star for his courage during W W II. There will be more on this as the museum construction progresses.

TRAINING FACILITY RENAMED

We have received word that the training facility at Fort A. P. Hill, Virginia will be named in honor of CSM Steven W. Faulkenburg. CSM Faulkenburg served as command sergeant major of the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry for several years and was killed in action on 9 November 2004 during the assault on Fallujah, Iraq. Prior to his serving with the 2nd Battalion, Faulkenburg was CSM at Fort A. P. Hill and worked at Range Control.

GREETINGS FROM HONORARY COLONEL RICHARD ANSON

"I hope this short message finds you all well this season. To all Association members, active duty warriors, retirees, veterans and families, Mary and I send our warmest best wishes and sincerest affection for your good health and well being during this trying holiday season. Both of our combat tested Battalions are again overseas in harms way fighting for our freedom and security. I wish them, as I know you do, health and prosperity and an early, safe return home.

I suggest each of you consider sending a card and small gift to our comrades at the front in both Iraq and Afghanistan. They need to know that we miss and appreciate them so very much. They are truly courageous, patriotic and dedicated to serving our country.

To the members of our Association, Mary and I say "thank you" for your service and past sacrifices.

We hope to see you at our next reunion and we encourage you all to attend.

God bless each of you and God Bless America."

Richard Wm. Anson, Maj Gen, US Army (Ret)
Honorary Colonel, 2d Inf Regt

FELLOW RAMRODS

First of all I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas plus a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

In 2009 we will be facing many new challenges. As we speak the 2nd of the 2nd is presently serving in Afghanistan, The 1st of the 2nd is preparing to deploy to Iraq. And in January we will have a new President of the United States.

As we go forward we must always keep in mind that it does not matter who our President is, it is our duty as Soldiers past and present to do everything in our power to assist and obey him. And it is because of this the United States has and will always be the most powerful country in the World.

So as we sit down with our families at Christmas time, I ask everyone to say a special prayer for all of our troops around the world, and to give our new President the wisdom, knowledge and courage to lead us through the hard times that we are facing ahead of us.

I have asked Tom Copeland to interface with both of the active Units. So, Tom has a contact person in each Battalion that he interfaces with. So if anyone would like any information on the two Battalions please contact Tom. His email is ttcb@att.net.

So as I sign off for now remember keep your powder dry and your head down.

Bob "FO" Douglass
Association President

A NOTE FROM TOM COPELAND, VICE PRESIDENT

One of the tasks I have been assigned as the new Vice President of the Association is to make all members aware of the need to keep current on their Association dues. I am working on a roster with over 600 names on it to identify and send out notices to members who have let their dues fall behind. The Regiment Association is currently working on projects in support on our active duty soldiers, regardless of where they are stationed and we need money to underwrite some of these projects. More information on these projects can be found on the 2nd Infantry Regiment web page or they will be posted in future newsletters.

If you have not paid your dues recently you need to in order to keep your membership in the association up to date. The months of August and September have normally been used for the payment of dues for the following year. The dues are \$10.00 yearly or \$100.00 for a life membership. If you know your membership has expired please make your check out to, Second Infantry Regiment and send it to;

2nd Infantry Regiment
Treasurer
C/O AIA/Promotions
2095 Exeter Road, Suite 80
Germantown, TN 38138

1ST BATTALION DEPLOYING

As you are reading this newsletter the 1st Battalion is deploying to Iraq. LTC Miska left Germany for Iraq on 29 November and as of 9 December the battalion is beginning to arrive at FOB Iskan, FOB Kalsu in Iraq and Kuwait. Please keep them and the 2nd Battalion in your prayers.

REMEMBER OUR TROOPS

Please remember we now have 2 active battalions, with one in Iraq and one in Afghanistan. You may send packages or cards to them even if you do not know anyone personally. For the 2nd Battalion address all packages to:

1LT Shane D. Foshee (ASP)
HHC (or whichever company), 2-2 IN
Kandahar, Afghanistan
APO, AE 09355

1st LT Foshee is in charge of the mail room so he will assure the packages get to the proper people.

- The (ASP) stands for "Any Soldier Package"
- Current Companies are, HHC, A, B, C, D, E

For more information check the association message board, Tom Copeland is keeping it updated as he receives new information.

FROM DOUG TABB, DELTA 1-2

Remember, your association dues for 2009 are due this time of the year. We have had an excellent 2008 year by collecting over \$7,287.79 in dues, contributions and sales of regimental coins and other items. We should continue to build our treasury in order to keep the Second Infantry Regiment Association viable and able to respond to the needs of members as the situation develops. The activity since our last report was as follows:

SECOND INFANTRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION FINANCE REPORT 2008

BANK BALANCE	7/31/2008	\$5,893.11
MEMBERS CONTRIBUTIONS	(DUES AND SALES)	\$3,672.52
EXPENSES FOR PERIOD	(7/31 THRU 11/30)	\$ 241.37
BANK BALANCE	11/30/2008	\$9,324.26



Happy Holidays from the Officers of the Association



SECOND INFANTRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION



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