



FROM: BOB "FO" DOUGLASS

Bob Douglass, President, Second Infantry Regiment Association

Fellow Ramrods,

These past months have been a very busy one for the Association. With the 2/2 doing their tour in Afghanistan, and the 1/2 doing their tour in Iraq. We now have lost 8 fellow Ramrods. Four in 2/2 and four in 1/2, but I want to let everyone of you know that someone from the Association was at each and every burial.

I want to thank Tom Sommerhauser, James Stephens, Doug Tabb and Emmanuel Melendez-Diaz (many of us know him as Manny) for representing the Association. Also I would like to give a very special thanks to Tom Copeland our Vice-president, who attended one of the funerals and Larry Grzywinski who made sure we had representation at every funeral.

The 2/2 returned from Afghanistan in

late June and early July. My daughter and I along with General Anson and his lovely wife Mary had the privilege to attend the Military Ball at Fort Hood. Also, General Anson and I had some time to visit with the troops. And let me tell you, I was proud just to be in the same room with them.

These soldiers are carrying on our tradition of kicking ass and taking names.

When I spoke with Col. Spitzer, the commander of the 3rd Brigade, he told me that 2/2 was sent into a part of Afghanistan called IED haven. After their tour of duty was finished, they had killed, captured or just scared every one of the suicide bombers away. Now it's one of the safest places in Afghanistan.

At the Division Reunion in Dearborn, Michigan we had the pleasure of meeting our

Continued on next page

INSIDE THIS ISSUE . . .

Change of Command
Dearborn, MI Reunion Pics
Pigeon Forge Reunion Notes

Plus Articles From:

MAJ GEN Anson
MAJ Best
Tom Copeland
Barbara Douglass
Bob Douglass
Larry Grzywinski
David May
Dominic Mish
LTC Streeter
Doug Tabb
Rebecca Tharp

FROM: HONORARY COLONEL RICHARD ANSON

Richard Wm. Anson, Maj Gen, US Army (Ret)

Honorary Colonel, Second Infantry Regiment Association

I regard the Homecoming Ball of the 2-2 Ramrods in June to have been a great success. Both Mary and I thoroughly enjoyed our trip to Fort Hood, and our attendance at the ball was a major highlight of our summer.

The Ramrods we met during that visit were very impressive and deeply committed to serving their country and the cause of freedom. They exhibited the same traits of duty, honor and dedication to service that I remember of our troops in Vietnam. Commitment of our service men and women to a just cause obviously does not diminish over time. Well, the "Black Scarves" are returning

to Germany and the "Ramrods" are moving to Fort Knox with a new Commander, LTC Bill Streeter. TF 1-2 will hold their Homecoming Ball in February 2010 at Bamberg, Germany. Regrettably, neither Mary nor I will be able to attend, although the Doctors tell me that I am doing just fine. Believe we will try to hang around the flagpole for the near future and just rest.

To all our Regimental members, Mary and I send our very best wishes for another year of good health and security.

God Bless you all. We hope to see you again soon.





Article One (continued from page 1)

new 2/2 Commander LTC Alan Streeter. I can't tell you how we first met him; that is a tactical secret, (Frank Alessio and me were on a Secret Recon Mission) but he spent the entire day with all the members on Saturday and joined us at the banquet. Then, as we usually do, we adjourned from the banquet to our CP and LTC spent more time meeting and greeting everyone.

2/2 will be moving to Fort Knox and LTC Streeter is already there with some of the advanced party. The change of command from LTC Hurlbut to LTC Streeter was made on September 10, 2009. I would like to personally thank LTC Hurlbut on the

outstanding job he did, and I want to wish LTC Streeter good luck on taking command of one of the very best units in the United States Military.

1/2 is still working diligently in Iraq. LTC Miska and his troopers are also in the thick of things with well over half of their tour complete. They are planning to have a return celebration on the 4th of February 2010. And if anyone wishes to fly to Germany, I bet you will have a great time.

Keep your head down and your powder dry.



LTC Dan Hurlbut, LTC Alan Streeter

CHANGE OF COMMAND

by LTC Alan Streeter

On 10 September 2009 at Fort Hood, Texas, 2-2 IN conducted a Change of Command from LTC Dan Hurlbut to LTC Alan Streeter. MG Brooks, Commander of the 1st Infantry Division, presided over the ceremony which included changes of command for all the battalions in the brigade as well as the change of command of 3rd Brigade itself. The ceremony also included a casing of the colors for their move to Fort Knox, KY.

LTC Hurlbut and CSM Overstreet have expertly trained and led the Ramrods, standing the unit up at Fort Hood beginning in May 2007, and culminating with a year-long deployment to the Maywand District of Afghanistan's Kandahar Province. While deployed, the Battalion played a fundamental role in allowing the Afghan people to establish their own political and security systems and in denying Anti-Afghan Forces a key supply line and sustainment sanctuary.

LTC Alan Streeter formerly served as the 3rd Brigade Combat Team's Executive Officer for two years before being selected to command the Battalion. He is joined by

CSM William Mitchell coming from Fort Benning, GA where he was the CSM for 2-54 IN.

The Ramrods are in the process of moving from Fort Hood, TX to their permanent home at Fort Knox, KY where they are rapidly converting the "Home of the Armor" to an infantry post. 2-2 will remain a subordinate battalion to 3rd BCT, 1st ID.

The Ramrods currently have 149 soldiers assigned as of 20 September, but expect to grow to 500 soldiers by its Activation Ceremony on 16 October 09 at Fort Knox. The Battalion has just named its company commanders: A Co – CPT Ben Nicholas, B Co – CPT Tom Church, C Co – Mike Carrion, D Co – CPT Ben Daughters, and HHC CPT Brian Ike. Only two 1SGs are currently assigned: A Co - 1SG Shane LeMaster and D Co - 1SG James Hassall, although we look forward to getting the rest assigned to fill these key positions.

RAMRODS!



LTC Hurlbut prior to the Change of Command



LTC Streeter receives the Colors

FROM: TOM COPELAND

Tom Copeland, Vice President, Second Infantry Regiment Association

The reunion in Dearborn, MI was well attended. The 2nd Infantry Regiment had a few first timers attending this year who, along with others in attendance, are looking forward to attending next year's reunion in San Antonio, TX in August 2010.

We had our first Memorial Service in the CP this year. The seven young soldiers who died during their service in Afghanistan and Iraq were remembered. Their names are as follows; from the 1st Battalion, currently still in Iraq, SPC Israel Candelaria-Mejias, SGT Jose Escobedo and SPC David Schaefer. The four soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, which returned to Fort Hood in June, are SPC Keith Essary, PVT Colman Meadows, SGT Joshua Rath and PVT Vincent Winston.

We also saluted the Association members who took the time to attend the services of each of the fallen soldiers. Jim Leslie brought in a beautiful display for the service; complete with M-16, boots, helmets, Purple Heart medal, dog tags, and past and present 1st Division shoulder patches. Bob Douglass made opening remarks; Tom Copeland read the names and information of each of the fallen soldiers, as well as the name of the Association member attending the services.

General Richard Anson spoke about each of the families he had sent letters of condolence. General William Mullen read a letter from a family member of an association member who had passed away. The family member talked about the pride the soldier had in being a member of the 2nd Infantry Regiment. This was followed by selected scripture. Bob Douglass read a letter from Doug Tabb, who had attended one of the services, and Larry Grzywinski read a very moving letter from Tom Sommerhauser, who had attended the services of two of our fallen warriors. Tom's letter was published in the Bridgehead Sentinel. Jim Stephens and I also gave some background to those in attendance about the services we ourselves

had attended.

The memorial service was concluded with a moment of silence and the playing of Taps by Jim Leslie. During the service we were honored to have as our guests 10 active duty soldiers now stationed at Ft. Riley, Kansas.

COMMUNICATION WITH ALL ASSOCIATION

MEMBERS continues to be a challenge. The association provides a yearly newsletter and maintains a Website and Message Board, but we know we are not reaching all the present and prospective members. I am working on an email list taken from the current roster. A few test messages have been sent. If you have received one or more of these messages it is not necessary to respond unless you have been instructed to do so. If you have not received one of these test messages, please email me at ttcb@att.net so I can update your information.

DUES NOTIFICATION is another concern we are working on. Several members have asked to receive an annual reminder that their membership dues are due. This is a volunteer organization and we do not currently have a system in place that will allow us to do that. Until which time we can send electronic or mail reminders, we ask you when you get this newsletter; please check your membership status. If you are due, please send your membership renewal fees to Doug Tabb. Fees and payment information can be found on the Association Web Site at www.secinfreg.org. Click the **Administration** button and look for the Membership Form.

MAKE CHECKS OUT TO: 2nd Infantry Regiment

SEND CHECKS TO: DOUG TABB

c/o AIA/Tabb Promotions
2095 Exeter Road, Suite 80
Germantown, TN 38138



FROM: BARBARA DOUGLASS

Daughter of 2nd Inf Regt Pres, Bob Douglass

As the daughter of a Vietnam veteran, I can say I've been exposed to the military culture. Growing up, my family and I frequently visited The Wall and gave respect to the memorialized soldiers, leaving flowers and touching the chiseled names. We attended community parades and ceremonies honoring the lives of those who died during war and those who made it through. Additionally, my Dad often hosted barbecues and social gatherings where veterans were present.

Throughout my life, I've seen the tight bonds veterans share and I've witnessed the high level of respect those in the military have for America, our way of life, democracy and fellow veterans.

I recently had the opportunity to attend the military ball at Fort Hood with my father. All the pride and camaraderie I saw at the parades and ceremonies growing up, I saw again; but this time, those veterans slapping each other on the back exchanging stories were people my age. Instead of my Dad introducing me to 60-year-old Vietnam vets, he was presenting me to men and women who could have been my high school peers.

While it was rewarding to see the young men and women celebrate their return with a party (seeing people drink from the "diversified" punchbowl of liquor was a sight in itself), what really struck me was the reality that people so young and in the beginning of their lives are doing a service so selfless and altruistic.

Congratulations to everyone on a safe return home and thank you for your honorable pursuits.

CHANGE OF COMMAND

by David May "Panhandle"

On 10 September 2009, my wife Donna and I entered the South gate of Ft. Hood, Texas. We were there to witness the change of command for several units of the 1st Infantry Division, most especially, the 2nd and 2nd Infantry. I had been a member of Charlie Company of the 2nd and 2nd when they were a Mechanized Infantry unit in Vietnam in 1968. Additionally, other units were involved as well. As listed in the program they, along with outgoing and incoming commanders were as follows:

2nd and 2nd Infantry:

Outgoing Commander	LTC Daniel Hurlbut
Outgoing Command Sergeant Major	CSM Antoine Overstreet
Incoming Commander	LTC Alan Streeter
Incoming Command Sergeant Major	CSM William Mitchell

Entry through the South gate of Ft Hood brought back a flood of memories for me. I entered that gate in August 1968. And I was stationed there after my return from Vietnam. As we entered this past September, we heard what sounded like musket rifle fire. Sure enough about 500 yards east of the entry gate there were Horse Soldiers, mounted on horseback, practicing for a future engagement. They were charging across the field, almost ghostlike, in a haze of smoke firing black powder rifles. I told Donna it was tempting to turn aside and watch but we were here for another purpose.

From the gate to the parade ground, it was as I remembered. Everyone we met was very polite, respectful, and above all else, helpful to this old soldier as I tried to find my way around Ft Hood again. Once on location, the same was true. We were taken in tow to our seats. Several people came by to make sure we were comfortable and that we had water to drink as it can get extremely hot at Ft. Hood. The weather cooperated and though it looked like rain, it held off until after the ceremony.

At two minutes until 10:00 a.m. the announcer noted on the P. A. system that the ceremony would begin in two minutes. Right on the dot, it began. Interestingly, throughout the ceremony commands were given and a trumpeter sounded the proper notes. The troops then responded to the command given by the trumpet. All the pomp and pageantry from the formation of the troops till the conclusion was as it should be for an occasion such as this, and very fitting for the BIG RED ONE.

To tell the whole story would take pages. So let me conclude this way: I've said this before, but to see all those young men and women standing, tall, proud, and capable in the place I once occupied brought a tear to the eye of this old soldier. When THE BIG RED ONE Band along with the Stars and Stripes took the lead and the troop formations follow it was an emotional experience for me. I sometimes wonder how and where we get such fine young people to fill the ranks of our military when there are times they are not allowed to win. They are winners one and all in my book.



1ST AND 2ND BN, 2ND INFANTRY REGIMENT COMBINED REUNION!

by Rebecca Tharp and Larry Grzywinski

With the help of a few dedicated folk, the 1/2nd INF and 2/2nd INF have combined their reunions. For the past 16 years, Bob Fulps has orchestrating reunions for the 2/2nd INF in Owensboro, KY. A few years ago, Don Rochat also began a 1/2nd INF reunion in Pigeon Forge, TN. Though a reunion was originally planned for May 2008, Don became seriously ill and the reunion was cancelled.

Later that year Juan Santiago decided that the reunion still needed to happen and set the first combined reunion for October 2008. With a great deal of work, Juan and Carmen pulled it off, and at that reunion they decided to continue the combined reunion. With the help of Dominic Mish and his wife Diane, who volunteered to organize this year's reunion with Juan and Carmen, and the help of myself and my wife Kathy, the combined reunion was held on May 15-17 2009, in Pigeon Forge, TN.

The reunion was one of the best ever with a grand total of 101 attendees, including veterans and guests! Everyone present had such a fantastic time that it was decided an additional day would be added to next year's reunion to allow for additional events.

Special guests at this year's reunion included CPT Joshua Buchanan, D Co of 1/2nd Inf Rear Detachment in Schweinfurt, who came all the way from Germany with his wife, Angela. MG Richard Anson (Ret), Honorary Colonel of the 2nd INF and his wife Mary also attended.



FINANCE REPORT

by Doug Tabb, Treasurer Second Infantry Regiment Association

It's that time of year when your association dues for 2009-2010 are due and payable. We realize this has been a difficult year, financially for everyone. Keep in mind that your dues go toward keeping you informed of activities, maintaining the web site and supporting association reunions. Dues are \$10.00 for a yearly membership or \$100.00 for a life membership.

Association income dropped significantly this year from \$7,287.00 in 2008 to \$2,056.00 in 2009. This forces us to be more conservative in our expense allocation decisions, which of course impacts how we support our members' activities.

Thanks again to all those members who supported the association through their generous contributions throughout the year. The activity since our last report was as follows:

SECOND INFANTRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION FINANCE REPORT 2009

BALANCE	12/1/2008	\$	9,324.26
MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS	(DUES AND SALES)	\$	2,056.50
EXPENSES FOR PERIOD	(12/1/2008 THRU 8/31/2009)	\$	(739.42)
BANK BALANCE	8/31/2009	\$	10,641.34

PIGEON FORGE, TENNESSEE

This past year's reunion had **101 Ramrods, spouses and guest attend**. All had a great time in Pigeon Forge, near the Smokey Mountains. We had Ramrods representing 15 States. They came from places such as California, New York, Minnesota and New Mexico. General (retired) Anson was there along with LTC Wheatley. There was plenty of food and drinks to keep everyone happy.

Next year, the reunion will run from **13 May thru 16 May**. Since everyone enjoyed themselves thoroughly this past reunion, an extra day has been added to the event. The application forms are available on the Regiment web page under **events**. Also, you can contact me at 864-348-2057 for additional information. The reunion will once again be held at the Norma Dan Motel in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee.

Dominic Mish, Chairman

LATEST NEWS FROM THE FRONT

*by John Best MAJ, IN
Task Force 1-2 Executive Officer*

Every dog has its day. Mine lasted for three weekends while LTC Miska was enjoying his well deserved break scuba diving in the Maldives with his family. In his absence, however, we continued to ensure that his presence was known no matter regardless of the situation. Whether it was during a visit from GEN Odierno and LTG Jacoby, or during the TAC's time-off at Freedom Rest, LTC Miska never missed a beat.

We bid farewell to the 110th MP Company. The Hell Raisers spent 15 months deployed. We are humbled by their accomplishments. Their efforts and contributions to the security of Iraq will pay huge dividends in the years to come. Coming from New York, we hail the 543rd MP Company who hit the ground at a sprint. If my memory serves me well, I believe they were chasing mortars the day after they assumed their mission. So welcome aboard and hang on tight because you're with the Black Scarves.

Life on the FOB isn't without its challenges. For those that don't know, we have visits by General Officers about every two weeks. In the Commander's absence we were privileged with a visit by both the Multinational Forces – Iraq Commander, Lieutenant General Jacoby. Overall, the Regiment would be proud to know that Task Force 1-2 received laudatory comments. I remember phrases like “exceeding expectations” and “the model for coalition and PRT cooperation” as just a few of the comments reverberating from the post-meetings feedback.

As we end the month, we begin our downhill trek towards redeployment. Although “redeployment” is not the catch-phrase around here yet, we did spend a couple days conducting Pre-Deployment Site Survey with our incoming unit. For those not familiar, this is a site recon by the incoming unit's leadership.

During this event, we skipped the PowerPoint presentation and racked-up many miles foot-marching the incoming team around the FOBs highlighting the various offices, warehouses, and support agencies. In the end, we met our goal which was to provide the incoming team with enough information to facilitate a world-class Relief-In-Place when the time comes to redeploy.

So, I've had my run and the boss is back. We've not much longer until the desert sand and dust are replaced with Bavarian snow and falling leaves. Until then, we'll continue to press the fight and win.

SECOND INFANTRY REGIMENT TRIVIA

by Larry Grzywinski, Historian, Second Infantry Regiment Association

Do you know that the 2nd Infantry is a world-traveled organization? The Regiment has been on four of the five continents at one time or another. (The only exception being Australia.) Although it did not serve in South America the Regiment did stop in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and Santiago, Chile while sailing to California in 1848-49. In addition, the Regiment has served in 16 countries world wide, some of them more than once.

Back home in the United States, the Regiment has served in 38 states and Washington DC. It has been stationed in 99 installations in the U S and has either established or built at least 14 of them.

This year's reunion in Dearborn, Michigan recalls the 2nd Infantry history in Michigan. The Regiment first served at Fort Detroit from 1796 to 1803, and then again from 1827 to 1837. The Regiment built Fort Brady in Sault St Marie in 1822. It was also stationed at Forts Mackinac, Gratiot, Custer, Wayne (Detroit) and Wilkins and Detroit Barracks. The Regiment was last in the state in 1942 at Fort Custer.

OTHER INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE REGIMENT INCLUDE:

Hugh Brady was the Regiment's Colonel Commandant for 36 years from 1815 until 1851. No one has been with the Regiment longer. He is buried in at Elmwood Cemetery Detroit, Michigan.

The 2nd Infantry has 64 battle streamers on its standard and is the 3rd oldest regiment in the Army. Only the 3rd and 1st Infantries are older.

The Regiment has an impressive history and some notable firsts - not too bad for the best infantry regiment in the U S Army!