



14th Cavalry Association SUIVEZ MOI



Volume 9, Issue 2

June 2009

Frank Varljen and Max Whipps, Acting Editors

From the Turret...



It's that time of year – our Regiment is on the move. On 12 March CSM Ray Egan and I were on hand to welcome the 2nd Squadron back to Hawaii from their second tour in Iraq. On 8 June LTC Tom Mackey turned the 2nd Squadron over to LTC Jim Isenhower. Jim had previously served as the 2nd Squadron S3. Tom will be assigned to the National Training Center where he will be preparing other units for combat in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The 1st Squadron finished their training at the National Training Center, has shipped their equipment, and after block leave in July will depart for their third tour in Iraq under the command of LTC Joe Davidson. Joe is no stranger to the Regiment. He served as both the 1st Squadron S3 and Squadron Executive Officer on their first tour in Iraq, their Brigade Executive Officer on their second tour, and now the 1st Squadron Commander on their third tour.

We are prepared for a great Regimental reunion this September in San Antonio, Texas, where we will have the opportunity to visit the location where early in its history the 14th Cavalry Regiment once proudly served. I genuinely look forward to seeing you there.

May God continue to bless and protect our great Troopers, our Army, and the United States of America.

SUIVEZ MOI

Tom Cole

MG, USA (Ret)

President, 14th Cavalry Association and
Honorary Colonel of the Regiment

Secretary Sector

By Max Whipps (opcen@14cav.org)

During the first half of 2009, the Association made significant improvements to its online presence (www.14cav.org), although they are mostly invisible to anyone viewing the site. First, we changed the host for our webpage to Par-

com.net which resulted in a monthly savings of \$13.77 and at the same time gave us considerably more capacity and capability. We also reregistered our domain (14cav.org) with Parcom, saving us an additional \$25.00 per year. What all this means to our members is that we will be adding a lot of

(Continued on page 7 Secretary)

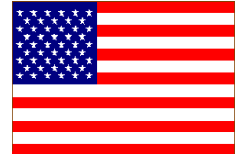
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SITREP: 1ST Squadron — Warhorse



Greetings from beautiful Fort Lewis, WA! I hope this finds the members of the 14th Cavalry Association in good health and great spirits. Since our last update the Warhorse Squadron has been extremely busy training for its upcoming deployment to OIF.

terinsurgency operations as well as work on our urban operations through northern Oregon. After completing a 350 mile road march through hail, snow and rain the troopers of Warhorse excelled during all three missions they were given enabling the squadron to stay on glide path for our training readiness.

In February 2009 the Squadron executed a series of Platoon and Troop Live Fire Exercises at Yakima Training Center during a series of intelligence driven counterinsurgency operations. In March the squadron heading back to Yakima Training Center for the Brigade FTX. Due to severe weather in the Cascade Mountain passes we utilized an alternate infiltration route through northern Oregon. After the force on force portion of the FTX all the Troops rotated through a Troop level Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise. The

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ROLL OF TROOPERS LOST IN IRAQ

See <http://www.14cav.org/rsta-1a.html>

Remember and honor your fellow troopers.

DON'T MISS OUR 2009 REUNION!

By Frank Varljen, Executive VP

Details are being finalized for the annual regimental reunion and general membership meeting of the 14th Cavalry Association in San Antonio, Texas on September 9-13. The historic Menger Hotel is a great location for this year's reunion. Although folks travel from all over the country to attend our reunions, this is an excellent opportunity for those who live in Texas and the central part of our great country to attend. All 14th Cavalry troopers, their families and guests are encouraged to attend.

A tentative reunion schedule is printed in this issue of the SUIVEZ MOI. We are seeing more people arriving at the reunion a day or so early, so we have arranged optional daytime activities for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday to give attendees an opportunity to take advantage of some of the local sights and attractions. San Antonio, home to the Alamo and the Riverwalk – both right next to the Menger Hotel – hosts a vibrant mix of culture, cuisine, archi-

tecture, history, music, fun places, and patriotism.

The Hospitality Room and Supply Room – always the focal points for linking up with old and new friends and for great camaraderie -- will be open many hours.

On Friday, we have arranged for a guided bus tour of the city area and Fort Sam Houston which was the home of the 14th Cavalry Regiment (Horse) for many years. This tour will include downtown San Antonio; the Old Post Museum and the US Army Medical Museum lunch at a dining facility (mess hall), and some former locations of the regiment. We'll also visit a San Antonio 1910 general store full of antiques, a car collection, and an old time soda fountain. The next stop is the Mission Concepcion, one of 5 historic missions, that holds historic art and a wonderful story of Colonial Spain. Sign up in advance since space is limited.

The Annual Membership Meeting is scheduled for Saturday afternoon and we will top off the day with

(Continued on page 3 **Reunion**)

(Warhorse Continued from page 2)

highlight of this exercise was the ability to control and integrate OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopters from 4-6 Air Cav Squadron into the LFX. The final training mission for the Brigade FTX was a Troop Air Assault mission that again allowed the Troops to plan for and execute UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters for an urban raid mission. The Squadron left Yakima Training Center confident in its abilities to conduct most Counter Insurgency missions it would likely see during the Mission Rehearsal Exercise.

In Mid-April through Mid-May the Squadron was deployed to the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, CA for our Mission Rehearsal Exercise (MRE). As the last collective training event before our deployment making sure we developed good tactics, techniques and procedures as well as refined our Standard Operating Procedures were the goals. The 30 day exercise was divided into two training modules. During the first each Troop conducted a series of Situational Training Exercises (STXs) working on everything from Urban dismounted patrolling to Mass Casualty Evacuation. Each

lane was a challenge but every platoon and Troop rose to the occasion and by the end of the phase all were better trained. The last phase was Full Spectrum Operations which found the Squadron in charge of the fictional Iraqi Laylan Provence. The Squadron Task Force worked through the full spectrum of Counter Insurgency operations possible in Iraq. The constant throughout each operation was the standards and discipline the Squadron displayed as it prevailed over the insurgency. At the end of the rotation the Observer Controllers had nothing but high praise for the performance of the Squadron even stating that we were the best unit they have seen in years.

During June the Squadron was focused on maintaining our individual skills proficiencies especially medical and marksmanship as well as physical fitness before our deployment. The first Warhorse Physical Fitness Challenge was held which tested each platoon on a compilation of endurance and strength events - a 3 mile run, followed by rope climbs, a series of agility exercises, then buddy carries, a 100 yard litter carry and finally climbing an 8 foot wall. The grueling event was

pretty tight with the top three platoons finishing within a minute of each other. In the end 1st Platoon, C Troop edged out Headquarters Platoon, A Troop for the top spot. The last event of the day pitted the Officers vs. the NCOs in a Flag Football game. The tightly contested game was played with great skill and athleticism by both sides ending with the Officers winning in Overtime.

During the first part of July the Squadron will go on a much deserved block leave period then will return and prep for its deployment.

I'm delighted to report that the Warhorse Squadron is trained and ready to meet all potential mission required during our deployment in support of OIF. We will uphold the great tradition of excellence of the 14th Cavalry Regiment and look forward to add to its illustrious history and honors.

Warhorse!

"Suivez Moi"

Joseph D. Davidson
LTC, AR
Commanding

(Reunion Continued from page 2)

our Saturday evening banquet, program and the Memorial to Fallen Troopers.

As of this writing (mid June), some airlines are offering great airfares and the San Antonio airport is not far from the Menger Hotel.

You can help make this another successful reunion by keeping a few things in mind: Mail your registration early and avoid the late registration fee. Reserve your hotel room early. Finally, contact old friends early giving them plenty of time to make their plans to attend. Come prepared to enjoy yourself! See you in San Antonio!

How to Obtain Copies of DD-214.

The National Archives has a website that allows individuals to request a DD-214 online. The DD-214 is the Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty/Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer of Discharge. You may use this archives system if you are: A military veteran or next of kin of a deceased, former member of the military. The next-of-kin can be any of the following: surviving spouse that has not remarried, father, mother, son, daughter, sister or brother.

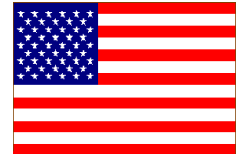
The website is: www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs

The National Archives can be reached at (866) 272-6272. TDD lines for College Park, MD: (301) 837-0482.

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SITREP: 2nd Squadron —“Strykehorse”



19 June 2009

“ALOHA” from sunny Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. I hope this finds my fellow 14th Cavalry members in good health and high spirits. Since our last update the Squadron has experienced some significant changes among its ranks!

In January and February, the Squadron completed our successful 15-month deployment to Iraq with two significant capstone events, the support of the Iraqi Provincial Elections and our transition of authority to a fellow Cavalry Squadron, 2-104 Cavalry, of the 56th Stryker Brigade Combat Team from Pennsylvania. With the Iraqi security forces in the lead providing a safe and secure environment, the Taji area saw an exceptional voter turnout over a three-day period that could easily be categorized as calm, with no significant threat activity across the battle space that we shared with our Iraqi Army and Iraqi Police counterparts. Shortly after the elections, the ADVON party



for 2-104 CAV arrived at Camp Taji as both the Squadron and Brigade began its relief in place and transitions of authority. During a three-week period the Cavalry ranks of Camp Taji swelled as

the Soldiers, NCOs and Officers of the Squadron welcomed their counterparts. By the close of February, the Squadron and all our ranks had returned to Hawaii to begin our reintegration and reset and prepare for future operations.

The first two weeks in March were spent unpacking, updating records and beginning our re-integration process with our families as we settled back into historic B-Quad and Schofield Barracks. We closed out March and began April with some well deserved and greatly appreciated 30 days of block leave. In April we de-activated our Rear Detachment command team and prepared to enter a two month period characterized by one word: change.

From the beginning of May through the second week of June, the Squadron rehearsed and conducted three Troop/Company changes of command as well as four changes of responsibility as new Commanders and First Sergeants took the reins at the Troop or Company level. We also changed the mantle of leadership at the Squadron

level with the Change of Responsibility between CSM Cook (outgoing) and CSM Torres (incoming) on 28 May and the 2nd Squadron Change of Command on 8 June from LTC Mackey to LTC

Isenhower. The other significant change was the departure of approx. 40% of our Officers, NCOs, and Soldiers from the Squadron for their next assignments.



As we enter into the summer months the Squadron continues to farewell members of the Squadron and welcome new Soldiers and families to the Strykehorse Team. We continue to focus on resetting the Squadron's equipment and training new leaders, Soldiers and Teams in preparation for a major training event in India in October, a trip to the National Training Center in February and a follow-on deployment, though we haven't received any orders to date. deployment in the next 14 to 16 months. Our best to all members of the Regiment and its Association. Come see us in Hawaii!

STRYKEHORSE!

Suivez Moi”

James P. Isenhower III
LTC, AR
Commanding

14th Cavalry Association Financial Report: 21 June 2009

ASSETS:

Demand Accounts

Checking - as of 5/26/09 \$13,814.96

Money Market acct. as of 3/31/09 \$3,692.49

Subtotal \$17,507.45

Certificates of Deposit (FDIC insured):

Six CDs maturing 2010 thru 2014 \$30,629.91

Subtotal \$30,629.91

Supply Room Inventory, valued at cost, 12/31/08

\$6,337.54

Total Assets \$54,474.90

LIABILITIES:

Suivez Moi Memorial Funds in Association
checking account \$759.21

NET WORTH¹

\$53,715.69

¹ Includes \$3162.95 contribution from Supply Room as of 4/15/09

VA's Office of Survivor Assistance.

This Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Survivor Assistance has just been established under Public Law in December 2008. This office will advise The Secretary of Veterans Affairs on all matters pertaining to policies, programs, legislation and issues affecting the survivors of veterans. The office will serve as an advocate for survivors, develop outreach programs to keep them informed and serve as VA Liaison with agencies inside and outside of government on survivor issues. Though the office will not process or handle individual claims inquiries, the new office will regularly monitor the delivery of benefits and services of the Department of Veterans Affairs. For more information the VA Office of Survivor Assistance may be reached at (202) 461-5159.

14TH CAVALRY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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VP, 2-14 Cav – MAJ Tom Anderson, E-mail: thomas.anderson9@us.army.mil

Secretary – Max Whipps, Tel: 503-954-1864, E-mail: opcen@14cav.org or max@orfmax.net

Treasurer – Jim Vahle, Tel: 630-864-7183, E-mail: vahlej@comcast.net

Delegate, 14th Cav Regt (Horse) – Gene Sidwell Tel: 770-436-2074, E-mail: sdwl47@aol.com

Delegate, 14th Cav Group – Seymour Lederman Tel 631-360-2213, E-mail 14tank@optonline.net

Delegate, 14th Constabulary Regt – Bill Tevington Tel: 785-843-8125, E-mail: kutev@sbcglobal.net

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Delegate, 1-14 Cav – CSM Andrew Connette E-mail: andrew.connette@us.army.mil

Delegate, 2-14 Cav – CSM Ruben Torres E-mail: Ruben.Torresjr@us.army.mil

**TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR 2009 14TH CAVALRY REGIMENT'S REUNION
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 9 – 13 SEPTEMBER 2009**

You are encouraged to come early to take advantage of all that this wonderful city has to offer.

Wednesday, Sep 9

- Arrivals and Registration
- Opportunities for individual sightseeing
- Hospitality Room opens early evening

Thursday, Sep 10:

- Breakfast available in Colonial Room
- Arrivals and Registrations continue
- Executive Council and Board of Governors meeting
- Hospitality Room open
- Opportunities for individual sightseeing
- 7:00 p.m. Icebreaker / Information Meeting / Cavalry Camaraderie

Friday, Sep 11:

- Breakfast available in Colonial Room
- Coach sightseeing group tour of San Antonio, visit to Fort Sam Houston and lunch
- Hospitality Room open
- Opportunities for individual sightseeing

Saturday, Sep 12:

- Breakfast available in Colonial Room
- General Membership Meeting: Guest Speaker to be announced
- Hospitality Room open
- Opportunities for individual sightseeing
- 14th Cavalry Banquet: Guest Speaker to be announced

Sunday, Sep 13:

- Breakfast or 14th Cav Brunch in Colonial Room
- Church Services
- Opportunities for individual sightseeing
- Departures

SUPPLY ROOM HOURS

The hours for the Supply Room at the Reunion are; Thurs 5-8pm, Friday 1-8pm, Sat 3-5pm and after the Banquet.

Hotel Registration Information

Reunion Hotel: Menger Hotel, 204 Alamo Plaza, San Antonio, Texas 78205

Reservation Phone Numbers: 800-345-9285 or 210-223-4361

Web Site: <http://www.mengerhotel.com/>

Special 14th Cavalry Reunion room rates are: \$100 + 16.75% tax per night*

* In order to get these discounted rates you must tell the reservation clerk that you are part of the 14th Cavalry Regimental Reunion. Rates will apply up to 3 days before and 3 days after reunion dates, subject to availability.

Reunion Registration Form and Fees are due NLT 9 August 2009 to avoid late charge. Please complete the Reunion Registration Form **or** the Proxy Form on Insert Page (or 14th Cavalry Association website) and mail to:

Secretary, 14th Cavalry Association
PO Box 56281
Portland, OR 97238-6281

Sergeant Major's Corner

By Ray Egan



As noted in *From the Turret*, Tom Cole and I, along with our spouses, recently attended our 2nd Squadron's Welcome Home ceremony at Schofield Barracks. As you might guess, getting a chance to welcome home our *Strykehorse* Troopers... in Hawaii... was... well... doubly gratifying.

We linked up with LTC Thomas H. Mackey and CSM Charles S. Cook at 0800 in the squadron's HQ. We then met some of the staff and conversed about Cavalry ways of past and present.

At 0830 we moved outdoors to where the formation was ready for the Squadron Awards Ceremony.



LTC Mackey gave us the opportunity to express how proud the Association was of Strykehorse and how happy we were to see them back home safe and sound. He then invited Tom to pin a Purple Heart on one of his troopers, SSG Joseph C. Ryker. Tom and I were a bit taken back by being offered such an honor but happily re-

sponded in fine fashion.

Congratulations and thanks to SSG Ryker who also just happen to be my escort...a fine trooper to say the least!

While it seemed it couldn't get any better, it did—we were both presented with the Honorary Order of the Combat Spur!

Moving on to the key event, we departed the squadron area and headed to the Welcome Home ceremony where the squadron was formed up in mass formation on the 25th Infantry Division's parade field with the rest of the 2d Stryker Brigade Combat Team (aka Warrior Brigade). As always, Strykehorse Squadron was looking sharp and standing tall.

The 2-14 CAV colors were waving proudly in the wind as keynote speaker, LTG Mixon (Commander of US Army Pacific), praised Strykehorse for their great success. It was a glorious moment indeed!

Later that evening, we attended Warrior Brigade's BBQ where we got the chance to socialize and eat with our Strykehorse Troopers and their families—another wonderful experience! Over the next two days, Tom and I spent time visiting with LTC Mackey and CSM Cook and their families--a great ending to a great mission.

Suivez Moi!

Ray Egan
CSM, USA (Ret)
Honorary Sergeant Major of the Regiment

(**Secretary** Continued from page 1)

new graphics and modernizing our site to include better navigation tools and dynamic content. As a start, we've updated the reunion page (<http://www.14cav.org/1e-reunions.html>) by adding photo albums to each of the last four reunions. If you have pictures from any of the reunions you'd like to see on our website, send them by mail or e-mail to me (addresses on page 8). Also, if you know some of the people in the pictures who are unidentified, please send me an e-mail or letter describing the picture and naming names.

Among other features envisioned for the website's future is a "blog" (short for weblog) — wherein members can look for old buddies, comment on current affairs, share memories, or whatever else you want to share with the world.

Besides pictures for our reunions, feel free to send in your pictures of your days in the 14th Cavalry. It doesn't matter whether they're black & white or color, or their size. I can edit them to fit.

We are always looking for articles, stories, historical notes, etc. for our newsletter. Please submit to:

**Mail: Max Whipps, Secretary
PO Box 56281
Portland, OR 97238-6281**

Email: opcen@14cav.org



Association Objectives

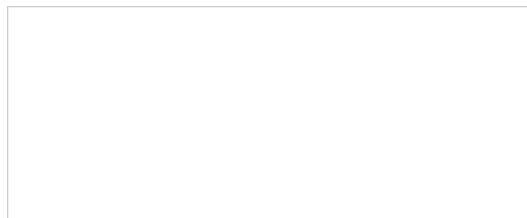
- ◆ *Honor comrades who gave their lives in the service of our country and the 14th Cavalry.*
- ◆ *Preserve and strengthen comradeships formed in the 14th Cavalry.*
- ◆ *Proclaim and publicize the achievements and traditions of the 14th Cavalry.*
- ◆ *Support troopers serving in active elements of the 14th Cavalry.*

Suivez Moi

14TH CAVALRY ASSOCIATION
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Portland, OR 97238-6281



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<http://www.14cav.org>