

SITREP: 1ST Squadron — Warhorse



Greetings from the dusty desert of Diyala Province, Iraq! 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 deployed for its third tour of duty in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF).

During the first part of July the Squadron went on a much deserved block leave period then returned and prepared for its deployment. The squadron's quartering party of four personnel led by the Logistics Officer, CPT Dave Von Bargen flew out in mid-July. A week later the Advanced Party of forty personnel led by the Squadron Executive Officer, MAJ J.R. Deimel deployed to Kuwait in order to prepare for the squadron's equipment and personnel to arrive. Immediately, MAJ Deimel's organizational as well as team building skills were put to a test in the 130 degrees scorching desert summer sun. The troopers on the advance party performed in grand fashion and with no surprise the squadron's troopers not only received and prepared our equipment quickly and efficiently but a good portion of the brigade's other units as well.

In early August the squadron deployed on three separate flights with D Troop and the 209th Military Intelligence Company leading the way. Three days later A and Headquarters Troops flew and then finally B & C Troops the next day. For the better part of August the troopers of the squadron worked diligently preparing our equipment for combat operations after its month long sea journey as well as conducting a series of training exercises. The Troop and Squadron Commanders attended the Counter-Insurgency Academy in Taji, Iraq while the Executive Officers and First Sergeants prepared the squadron for combat operations. Simultaneously, Advanced Parties of Supply Sergeants and Intelligence Analysts from every Troop and the squadron staff de-

ployed to Iraq to start the lengthy Relief in Place (RIP) process with the unit we were replacing.

By the end of August the squadron had all of its personnel and equipment deployed to a variety of bases throughout Diyala Province, Iraq. Dakota Troop and the 209th Military Intelligence Company were detached from the squadron and attached to the brigade's headquarters based at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Warhorse, Baqubah, Iraq. The majority of Headquarters Troop and all of A Troop moved to FOB Caldwell to start their respective RIP with their counterpart units from the 5th Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment. B & C Troops moved to Combat Out-Post (COP) Cobra to start their respective RIP with their counterpart.

On 7 September 2009 after a two week handover process the squadron assumed control of the northeast portion of Diyala Province, Iraq from the 5th Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment. The squadron's mission is to conduct full spectrum operations in support of our Iraqi Security Force partners, the local Government of Iraq and US Department of State Provincial Recovery Team members in both Qa'da Khanaqin and northern Balad Ruz (a Qa'da is an Iraqi district). The area the squadron is responsible for has historically been one of Al Qaeda's strongest support zones. It also has the southern portion of the Kurdish – Arab disputed area that runs along northern Iraq. So in addition to routine Counter-Insurgency operation the squadron has an added responsibility to improve Arab-Kurd relations.

With the Iraqi-US Security Agreement going into full effect on 30 June all US units must conduct all operations (there are a few exceptions) by, with and through Iraqi Security Force partners. The squadron is partnered with five Iraqi brigade sized units – the 2nd and 4th Brigades of the 1st Iraqi

Army Division, the 8th Brigade of the 3rd Border Region, as well as two Kurdish units – the 34th Peshmerga Brigade and the Garmien Police. Add the three Iraqi Police districts and the squadron has three times as many security partners as any other battalion in our brigade which is both a challenge and a great fortune.

Immediately upon its Transfer of Authority the squadron went on the offensive conducting a precision raid in conjunction with one of our partner units the 4th Brigade, 1st Iraqi Army Division which enabled the capture of one of our top ten most wanted individuals. A great precedent was established and both our Iraqi partners and the various insurgent groups took notice. Throughout September the squadron's main priority was to build relations with our new Iraqi partnered units. Each Troop quickly built a good rapport with the host of Iraqi Army battalions and Police stations each was partnered with which enabled us to conduct routine US-Iraqi combined operations.

October saw a continuation of our partnered operations throughout our Operating Environment. Virtually every week another top insurgent operative is caught by members of the squadron working in conjunction with their Iraqi partner. By mid-October attacks against US or ISF are down considerably which enables us to work on essential services that are badly in need of repair or being started. The squadron got Headquarters and Service Battery, 1st Battalion, 37th Field Artillery attached to work Governance and Civil Capacity. Given the moniker 'F Troop' by the squadron (Rear Detachment is E Troop) the artilleryman of HSB have proven to be a great asset allowing the Recce Troops to concentrate on security issues while F Troop hones in on governance and essential ser-

(Warhorse Continued on page 3)

(Warhorse continued from page 2)

vices. The squadron's top priority in this regard is to fix/improve the water distribution for both agricultural needs as well as public distribution in the major towns of our area. F Troop worked diligently in conjunction with the PRT throughout the month to make its initial assessments on the water infrastructure in Qada Khanaqin for future projects.

November brought continued success with our ISF partners capturing two top ten high valued individuals as well as continued essential service projects throughout the squadron's area. Thanksgiving was celebrated in grand style in both of the squadron's bases. Headquarters Troop as FOB Caldwell's mayor cell set up and executed both Turkey day celebrations at Cladwell and Cobra. As usual the cooks out did themselves with both the food and décor of the chow halls. The annual squadron Turkey bowl flag football was played by all units except D Troop who could not break away from operational support mis-

sions at FOB Warhorse. Some of the squadron's attachments also fielded teams with a total of seven teams battling it out for the championship. Because of our geographical separation two divisions were set up, one at FOB Caldwell and the other at COP Cobra. In the northern division B Troop prevailed beating C Troop in the division final. A Troop won a hard fought battle against Headquarters to win the southern division. The Championship game was played two days after Thanksgiving in the city of Khanaqin, Iraq. It was the first time that a US sporting event was staged off of a US base yet another sign of the improved security in Iraq. In a hard fought game B Troop prevailed 13 to 12 over A Troop for the championship.

December brings more security operations as the squadron prepares for the upcoming Iraqi national elections in January (if the election law is ever passed). The squadron is hard at work assessing the security at voting stations and drafting specific security plans with our ISF partners. Of course Christmas holiday plans are

being formulated so that all troopers can enjoy the holiday season away from home.

I'm delighted to report that the Warhorse Squadron is meeting all of its missions head on. Although the security situation has improved there still is a constant threat from insurgents. The challenges associated with working all of our missions with our ISF partners is taxing to say the least. Luckily the squadron is blessed with outstanding leaders that are up to this challenge. Through it all I am proud to report that the squadron is upholding the great traditions of excellence of the 14th Cavalry Regiment.

Warhorse!

"SUIVEZ MOI"

Joseph D. Davidson
LTC, AR
Commanding



(Reunion continued from page 1)

regiment and divisional squadron that ever performed border duty in Germany.

Also, past and present members of all Cav and Armor units are invited to attend the Armor Warfighting Conference (AWC) May 17-20, and to participate in the commemoration of the 125th anniversary of the Armor and Cavalry Association on the 19th.

The schedule for our reunion and the other events, as of press time in mid-December, is on page 6.

REUNION ARRANGEMENTS, DETAILS, COSTS, REGISTRATION

Complete and send in the advance registration form to the address shown on the form as soon as possible. Fill in, print, and mail the Online form found at <http://www.14cav.org/2010%20Reunion%20Registration-Proxy%20Forms.pdf> to the address shown on the form or, if you cannot open the PDF form, send an e-mail to 2010reunion@14cav.org requesting a paper copy be mailed to you.

The Country Hearth Inn (the former Holiday Inn Elizabethtown) will host our 2010 reunion as it did in 2004. It offers the full service Coffee Tree Restaurant and Lounge; 146 rooms with double beds or king beds); complimentary "Inn-credible" breakfast; large outdoor pool; free local calls; high speed wireless internet; cable TV; and a hospitality area next to the bar.

Make your reservations before May 1 to get our special rate. Call 270-769-2344 to make your reservations. Do NOT make your reservations with the 800 number. Be sure to ask for the 14th Cavalry rate of \$70 plus taxes

The hotel is at 1058 N. Mulberry St, just off of the Kentucky Turnpike (I-65). , 35 miles south of Louisville.

The nearest commercial airport is Louisville International – Standiford Field, Louisville.

Bus transportation between reunion hotel and Ft. Knox will be arranged by the reunion committee on Saturday and Monday.

Group meals (e.g., lunches at Knox and the banquet) will be arranged by the reunion committee. All other meals are individual responsibility.

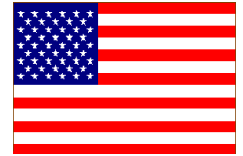
Costs of bus transportation to and from Ft. Knox, group meals and banquet, entertainment and other miscellaneous costs are included in the registration fee.

(Reunion Continued on page 7)





SITREP: 2nd Squadron —“Strykehorse”



“ALOHA” from beautiful Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Since our last update the Squadron has been extremely busy here at home and in India.

From late summer to early fall the 2-14 underwent a significant transition as the final wave of Troopers left the Squadron



and new Troopers arrived to fill newly vacant slots. During August and September we fully engaged classroom, firing range and field training to prepare the Squadron for our unprecedented international exercise in India: Yudh Abhyas 09.

In the first week of October we flew from Oahu to Agra, India, stopping for layovers in Guam and Thailand. Upon arrival we passed through Indian customs and began a 10-hour bus ride to Babina, the Indian Army installation where we lived and trained. The bus ride was rough: lots of very narrow roads, some of them dirt, crowded with people and animals. It was a trip our Troopers will not soon forget.



Our days were packed. They began with PT (which included each Trooper participating in Indian led Yoga workouts), then transitioned to field training, and ended with professional exchanges and lectures, sporting events (to include cricket and cycle polo) and a few cultural exchanges. During the last two weeks of October, we

conducted three complex Squadron-level exercises. The level of combined integration (mixing Indian and US units under a single command) was unprecedented. In each case, every troop-level unit had a combination of Indian and U.S. soldiers who worked side-by-side conducting both day and night operations. We executed a day-long route reconnaissance and clearance mission, an extensive area reconnaissance mission much like those that we executed in Iraq, and a large cordon and search mission then transitioned to a raid



and finally to a deliberate attack. In each exercise, we conducted live fire operations with our Indian partners. Our final collective live-fire exercise integrated almost every system and weapon we have in the Squadron, from our C2 platforms to the Javelin missile, from our Strykers and their weapons to the Raven Unmanned Aerial System, and from our organic communication systems to our maintenance and sus-



tainment teams. In several cases, we even integrated Indian Army helicopters, conducting notional medical evacuations, sling-load re-supply missions, and air assault operations. Before returning home in the last week of October we went to see the Taj Mahal.

In November the squadron recovered from

the month-long exercise in India and a made final preparations for our Squadron Spur Ride during the first week of December. The Spur Ride consisted of three components, a 4-mile road march to a stress shoot, a 2-mile run to our Air Assault obstacle course, and an 8-mile road march from the base to the top of Mt. Ka'ala. Mt. Ka'ala is the highest point on Oahu, from base to top it is a 4,020 ft vertical rise. As Troopers ascended Mt. Ka'ala, they were challenged at 14 stations, each of which required them to complete tasks related to a Cavalry Scout.

The Squadron [is now on block leave (in December), but in January we'll "saddle up" and prepare for our NTC rotation in mid February. There we will validate and refine our Standard Operating Procedures. Our NTC training will be followed by our deployment to Iraq as part of an Advise and Assist Brigade, though we haven't received any orders to date.

Our best to all the members of the Regiment and its Association. Come see us in Hawaii.

STRYKEHORSE!

“Suivez Moi”

James P. Eisenhower III

LTC, AR

Commanding

ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

Arrangements are being made to interview and record the stories of the troopers who served in the cavalry regiments and squadrons that performed border duty during the Cold War.

This is your opportunity to be a part of the history of the “Border Legion.”

The Armor Center/School and Armor and Cavalry Association will coordinate this program. The interviews will be done May 15th and 17th by trained historians/interviewers on the basis of a general outline and a series of specific questions.

We encourage 14th Cav troopers of all ranks, duties, units and periods of border duty

(Oral Histories Continued on page 5)

14th Cavalry Association Financial Report: Newsletter - December 2009

ASSETS:

Demand Accounts

Checking - statement 11/25/09¹ \$11,049.02

\$ Market acct. statement 11/30/09 \$3,715.69

Subtotal **\$14,764.71**

Certificates of Deposit (FDIC insured):

Six CD maturing 2010 thru 2014 \$31,099.90

Subtotal **\$31,099.90**

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

\$6,337.54

Total Assets **\$52,202.15**

LIABILITIES:

Suivez Moi Memorial Funds in Association
checking account \$759.21

NET WORTH

\$51,442.94

¹ Includes \$3860.48 of cumulative earnings from Supply Room as of 8/25/09

(Oral History Program) *Continued from page 4)*

to participate; our Regiment needs to be well represented in this legacy program. To sign-up, please put a check beside "Oral History Program" on the Registration Form" and return it to Secretary, 14th Cavalry Association along with your check for reunion registration.

It is suggested you bring an outline of your memories with you as an aid to the recording of the histories. The

outline should include:

- Unit you served in during border duty
- Start & end dates of border duty
- Rank or ranks during on Border Duty
- Positions/Jobs held while on Border Duty
- Pertinent experiences and interesting information

14TH CAVALRY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF GOVERNORS

President – Tom Cole, Tel: 360-456-8005, E-mail: colet@comcast.net

Executive Vice President – Frank Varljen, Tel: 770-516-0451, E-mail: varljenf@bellsouth.net

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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

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

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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

Delegate, 14th Armored Cav Regt – Ray Teel Tel: 717-267-1324, E-mail: raylteel@embarqmail.com

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

2010 14th Cavalry Regimental Reunion Agenda

Thursday, May 13 (14th Cavalry Reunion — Country Hearth Inn, Elizabethtown KY)

- Arrivals and Registration
- Hospitality Room open in evening

Friday, May 14 (14th Cavalry Reunion — Country Hearth Inn, Elizabethtown KY)

- Registration continues
- Association Board of Governors Annual Meeting
- Hospitality Room and Supply Room open
- Sightseeing
- Cavalry Camaraderie Icebreaker and Information meeting — an important meeting!

Saturday, May 15 (14th Cavalry Reunion and Super Border Legion Reunion)

- Bus tour of Ft. Knox, Lunch at a Mess Hall/Dining Facility, Visit Patton Museum, etc.
- Oral History program (See page 4)
- Armed Forces Day “Hooray for Heroes” celebration (parade and carnival), Radcliff, KY

Sunday, May 16 (14th Cavalry Reunion)

- Church services
- Sightseeing
- Association Membership Annual Meeting
- Fallen Trooper Memorial Ceremony
- 14th Cavalry Banquet
- Supply Room and Hospitality Room open
- Entertainment (Sam Brown, guitarist, plays and sings country western, oldies, and patriotic music)

Monday, May 17 (14th Cavalry Reunion, SBLR, and AWC, Ft. Knox)

- Armor School Welcome and Briefings on “State of Armor and Cavalry”
- Bar B Q lunch, Patton Museum area
- Oral History program
- Golf Scramble
- Simulation-based Warfighting Training
- Vehicle and Equipment displays
- Skeet Shoot
- Stable Call at Patton Museum with Regimental Punch Bowl Ceremony
- End of 14th Cavalry Reunion; you are encouraged to remain for the AWC activities; departures as desired.

Tuesday, May 18 (Events combined with AWC)

- AWC program: several prominent speakers (e.g, Sec. of the Army, Sgt. Maj. of the Army, 4-star commanders, Armor/Cavalry leaders) plus contractor displays, etc)
- Garden Party, Commanding General’s quarters
- Wednesday, May 19
- AWC program: Breakout sessions, historical excerpts, update briefings, contractor vehicle and equipment displays
- Armor and Cavalry Association Banquet

Thursday, May 20

- AWC program concludes

The Armor Center/School and the Armor and Cavalry Association are coordinating and hosting the overall program

Sergeant Major's Corner

By Ray Egan, HSMOR



As we celebrate the holidays, I ask all to keep their thoughts and prayers with the Warhorse Troopers as they execute OIF Drawdown missions in Iraq and with our Strykehorse Troopers in Hawaii as they ramp up their training to prepare for their impending deployment. Keeping this thought in mind, I recently called CSM Andy Connette in Contingency Operating Base (COB) Cobra, Iraq asking how Warhorse was doing and what things could association members could send forward that would enhance morale. CSM Connette explained that his Troopers were in good spirits, morale was good, and that they have been receiving a constant flow of sundry packages containing cookies, candy, books and the like. He suggested for those who would like to send a package forward, his Troopers would enjoy receiving DVD movies, good coffee such as Star-

bucks, and magazines like Men's Fitness, Men's Health, Cycle World, Motorcyclist, Hot Rod, Maxim, FHM,...you get the idea. I told CSM Andrews I would pass the message along. So, as we all spend time with our families over the holidays, let us also keep our Suivez Moi family (active and veteran alike) in our hearts; and if the feeling hits you, send something forward to the following address:

HHT, 1-14 CAV, 3/2 SBCT
ATTN: CSM Connette
FOB Caldwell , Iraq
APO AE 09324

Happy Holidays and Suivez Moi!

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



Secretary Sector

By Max Whipps



I have posted all the pictures I can find from our 2005 – 2009 reunions, but I'm sure some of you still have some good pictures that ought to be included. Don't be shy, send them in.

regiment, but could always use more. I have virtually no pictures from the 14th Cavalry Group or the 14th Constabulary Regiment. Check your scrapbooks, picture albums, shoeboxes, and any other place these pictures may be and send them in. I prefer scanned pictures or copies, so I don't have to worry about them getting damaged.

This coming year, I plan on expanding our collection of our pictures, with separate pages for the 14th Cavalry (horse), 14th Cavalry Group, 14th Constabulary Regiment, the battalion/squadrons and separate companies/troops of the 14th Armored Cavalry Regiment, and the present 1st and 2nd Squadrons, 14th Cavalry.

Finally, we will have the election of the Association officers at the 2010 annual membership meeting. Our executive vice president, Frank Varljen, has announced he will not accept reelection, otherwise, you are encouraged to send your suggested candidates to Mack VanHook – 14acr@14cav.org for consideration by the nominating committee. Of course, nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

I have a good collection of the horse-mounted

Chinese Proverbs

- Man who run in front of car get tired.
- Man who run behind car gets exhausted.
- Man with one chopstick goes hungry.
- Man who eats many prunes get good run for money.
- Underwear not best thing on earth, but next to best thing on earth.

- War does not determine who is right; war determines who is left.
- Man who drive like hell, bound to get there.
- Man who live in glass house should change clothes in basement.
- Crowded elevator smells different to midget.



(Reunion Continued from page 3)

If you wish to play golf or shoot skeet, please so indicate on the advance registration form.

If you cannot attend and wish to appoint a proxy for voting at the Association general membership meeting, please complete and send in the voting proxy at:

<http://www.14cav.org/2010%20Reunion%20Registration-Proxy%20Forms.pdf>.

Spouses, Significant Others, Family Members, and Guests are welcome to participate in the agenda (except for the Armor and Cavalry Association Banquet).



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.*

ROLL OF TROOPERS LOST IN IRAQ

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

***Remember and honor
your fellow troopers.***

Suivez Moi

14TH CAVALRY ASSOCIATION
PO Box 56281
Portland, OR 97238-6281



E-mail: opcen@14cav.org



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