

BLACK JACK ROUND UP

April 2010

**2nd BCT
Transitions**

Slaying the dragon: Cavalry "knights" join

The Order of St. George

A night of Sparkles and Spurs for cavalry families

ADOPTED UNIT RETURNS HOME

INSIDE.....



Table of Contents

Pg. 1 - Commander's comments

Pg. 2 - 'Black Jack' Soldiers get to eat steak and have it, too

Pg. 4 - Slaying the dragon: cavalry knights join The Order of St. George

Pg. 6 - Adopted unit returns home

Pg. 8 - A night of sparkles and spurs for cavalry families

Pg. 10 - Shuffling the deck

Pg. 12 - Unit helps build stronger marriages one couple at a time

Pg. 14 - Mentoring young motorists

Pg. 16 - 2BCT says farewell

Pg. 20 - A new chapter in "Black Jack" history

Pg. 22 - Medal of Honor

Black Jack Round Up

2nd Brigade Commanding Officer

Col. Ryan Gonsalves

2nd Brigade Deputy CO

Lt. Col. Hugh McNeely

2nd Brigade XO

Lt. Col. Lance Moore

2nd Brigade Command Sgt. Maj.

2nd Brigade Public Affairs Officer

Maj. James Rawlinson

2nd Brigade Public Affairs NGOIC

Staff Sgt. Jason Douglas

Round Up Staff Writer

Spc. Justin Naylor

Round Up Broadcaster

Spc. Jessica Hayes



Change is inevitable. What makes change easier to endure is being able to look back and be proud of what you have done, and the best legacy you can leave on an organization is making it better.

I firmly believe we all came together and made the Black Jack brigade better. The leaders and Soldiers throughout the brigade made extraordinary strides in improving the operational environment in Kirkuk and Baghdad, and that has helped make Iraq a better place.

On March 7, Iraq held parliamentary elections, which included Kirkuk, for the first time. Record numbers of voters turned out, and in Kirkuk there were no reports of violence against polling sites. When we arrived there last year, the tension in the province was so severe many believed open conflict was a very real possibility.

The reason is simple: leadership and vision. This brigade pulled together and faced each challenge head-on, and sustained the maturity to adapt to a rapidly-changing environment. We followed the same azimuth, even though we operated across a wide geographic area and had a very diverse environment. The leaders of this



brigade have proven themselves capable of enormous creativity and drive.

My staff is without a doubt one of the greatest collections of talent I have ever seen. From adapting to a changing location and mission, they also adapted to a pretty significant change in structure. They reorganized for the fight in a way that allowed them to move out with my intent, keeping me, the battalions and our higher headquarters informed along the way.

And the successes of our battalions are many

and very diverse. From 1-5's counterinsurgency operations in northeast Baghdad, to 1-8's successes in seeking out and disrupting the very active insurgent threats in the Mahuz triangle, to 4-9's quick and decisive response to the worst bombing Kirkuk has seen for years in Taza, to 3-82 effectively pulling together communities throughout the city, to 2nd STB's support to the highly successful KRG elections, to the extremely successful partnership between the 15th BSB and the 12th Motorized Transport Regiment. I could spend all day listing the achievements of some of the best commanders in the Army.

And our families and friends kept pace with us the whole way. It's never easy to be away from home, but your sacrifices gave this brigade the chance to be at the right place and right time to make a meaningful impact throughout Iraq.

And while change is inevitable, it should also be embraced. We turn over the Black Jack legacy to a new generation of leaders and Soldiers, who will come to love it as much as we do. I know they will build on your successes in the challenges that lay ahead of them to make the brigade even better than it is now.

God Bless You All!



“BLACK JACK” SOLDIERS GET TO EAT STEAK AND HAVE IT, TOO



Story and photos by Spc. Justin Naylor



Col. Ryan Gonsalves stands with volunteers from the All American Beef Battalion.

There are multiple stresses that come from a long deployment, not the least of which is the palpable absence of family and friends.

For the families and Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, a day of big steaks and fun at Belton Lake March 7 was just what they needed after their 12-month deployment.

It's important to bring the families together to welcome home the Soldiers coming back and saying thanks for all the hard work they've done," said Capt. Joseph Guzowski, a Buffalo, N.Y., native and commander of HHC.

The food was provided by the All American Beef Battalion's Steaks for Troops program, established by former service member Bill Broudy.

"We want to let them know Americans care about them," he said about the Soldiers and families. "They've all been apart so much. We hope can just make a fun family time for them to enjoy each other with no pressure and just have a good meal and fun and just be with each other and other families."

"They all gave us so much from each side; the spouses that stay behind and the Soldiers who are gone."

The Steaks for Troops program has served roughly 26,000 Soldiers since its

first unit function in 2008.

During the event, volunteers were also awarded for helping set up the event and for all the work they did for the unit while deployed.

“The volunteers are great; without them none of this could have happened,” said Guzowski.

Volunteers helped the families with issues that came up while the unit was deployed, explained Guzowski.

Volunteers and family readiness group also provided prizes that were handed out after the food was served.

Many of the Soldiers at the event are moving to new units soon, and this would be the final family outing for them with this unit.

Lots of people are leaving, according to Guzowski. “It’s important to get the whole team together for one last thank you.”



A group of children and parents wait in line for a balloon toy during a fun day at Belton Lake. The fun day was a chance for Soldiers and families to spend time together and have fun.



Soldiers and families wait in a serving line during a family fun day at Belton Lake March 7. The food was provided by the All American Beef Battalion’s Steaks for Troops program.

Slaying the Dragon: cavalry 'knights' join the Order of St. George

Story and photos by Pfc. Staff Sgt. Jason Douglas



For mounted Soldiers, there is hardly a more prestigious honor than to receive the medallion of the Order of St. George.

Since 1986, when the order was established, 6,195 awardees have been inducted, and the 4th Squadron, 9th U.S. Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, added 16 of its own to this number during a recent award ceremony on Fort Hood, Texas.

The order was named in honor of St. George, the only saint commonly portrayed as fighting mounted. St. George is depicted in Italian legend as having defeated a dragon, saving a princess and preserving the livelihood of a city; and his memory is celebrated annually by the Italian Armor Force.

“He a common thread among the Armor and Cavalry forces of most NATO nations,” said Lt. Col. Andy Shoffner, the commanding officer of 4th Sqdn, 9th Cav. Regt. “His memory lives on today in the spirit of the armored knight who helps Soldiers in need, who is the epitome of selfless service, and who is the archetypal mounted warrior.”

There are two medallions awarded to servicemembers serving in mounted branches, and one award given out to non-service members who support mounted Soldiers.

According to Shoffner, the bronze medallion is reserved for armor branch officers who demonstrate successful command of cavalry Soldiers in an armor, cavalry, or



Capt. Nathan Jennings kneels before Col. Ryan Gonsalves, the commander of 2nd BCT, inducts him into the Order of St. George with sword in hand during a ceremony on Fort Hood, Texas.



Individuals from 4-9 stand in line with the Medallions and awards of the Order of St. George after they were inducted into the organization during a ceremony on Fort Hood, Texas.

reconnaissance unit, and enlisted Soldiers who have been successfully served as a platoon sergeant, first sergeant, or command sergeant major and have led cavalry Soldiers. All nominees must demonstrate tactical and technical competence at both their current levels of service and those of their subordinates.

Soldiers can also qualify for a black medallion if they are lieutenants or junior enlisted tankers and cavalymen and have demonstrated outstanding leadership and exceptional teamwork as part of an armor or cavalry unit; and must demonstrate tactical competence as a crewman, vehicle commander, or section or squad leader.

For deserving non-service members, there is a Noble Patron of Armor Award, which recognizes individuals who have significantly contributed to the operational success, or the morale and welfare, or armor and cavalry organizations.

During the award ceremony, awardees were called forward and kneeled in the tradition of the horse-mounted knights, and were inducted into the Order of St. George by the senior armored officer in the 2nd BCT, Col. Ryan Gonsalves, himself a patron of the order.

The men receiving this award are the very best this profession has to offer, and therefore it is right to recognize their dedicated service and professionalism both on and off the battlefield, explained Shoffner.

“It’s an honor and a privilege and a career achievement,” said Capt. Nathan Jennings, who received the black medallion for leading Charlie Troop, 4th Sqdn., 9th U.S. Cav. Regt. during a 2009 tour to Iraq. “It’s a rare privilege to be recognized with my peers and to be inducted into the Order with men I served in combat with.”

“I’m immensely appreciative that my Squadron commander and Brigade commander consider me worthy of this award,” he said. “It’s a testimony to the cavalry Soldiers and officers who supported me.”

Jennings highly recommended any Cavalry or Armored Soldier to aspire to receive this award, and had some advice for them.

“Earn the support of your subordinates, peers and superiors, and through hard work and dedication, the award will take care of itself,” he said.

Adopted unit returns home



Story and photos by Spc. Justin Naglor



Congressman Dan Carter is presented a flag by Lt. Col. Shoffner during a ceremony in Williamson County. The flag was flown over the Squadron's headquarters during their most recent deployment to Kirkuk, Iraq.

For Soldiers serving in combat, there is hardly a more pleasant way to end the day than by opening up a box of goodies sent from fans and friends in the States. And for the lucky units associated with the adopt-a-unit program, these boxes come with regularity.

In recognition of support received through the adopt-a-unit program from Congressman John Carter and county judge Dan Gattis, the commander of 4th Squadron, 9th U.S. Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division recently presented two flags to them as a gesture of thanks.

“On behalf of all the support that they provided us and the adopt-a-unit program, we presented them with flags we flew over our squadron headquarters during combat operations,” said the squadron’s commander, Lt Col. Andy Shoffner.

According to Shoffner, Carter and Gattis have been instrumental in getting Williamson county, which is just south of Fort Hood, involved with the adopt-a-unit program.

The congressman explained that while driving past Fort Hood toward Williamson county he pondered on how the people in this county didn’t know about all the good people serving at Fort Hood. This gave him the idea of getting the community involved with the adopt-a-unit program, which he brought to his staff, who then be-

gan talking to local businesses about it.

“Our cities and our county are proud we’re involved,” he said. “It’s a pride thing. We’re glad we’ve got these relationships going.”

Both he and the judge continue to encourage others to join the program.

Also honored during the ceremony was the Texas-based Union State Bank, which has been the adopting company of 4th Sqdn., 9th U.S. Cav. Regt. since 2005.

“The adopt-a-unit program is set up under the Association of the United States Army,” said Colleen Beck, the CEO of Union State Bank.

The goal of the programs is to have businesses, individuals or chambers of commerce adopt units and help support them while deployed and while stateside, she explained.

“We do anything from sending a Soldier a letter to sending them girl scout cookies or stuffed animals and toys to hand out to the Iraqi or Afghan children,” she said.

“The support has been overwhelming,” said Shoffner.

This support came in both in the form of money and in time spent by volunteers ensuring Soldiers were well taken care of both while in Iraq and after returning home.

“They have helped participate and fund unit organization days, farewell ceremonies, and welcome home ceremonies,” said Shoffner.

The unit also saw the benefit of the program when they started having wounded warriors coming home.

The returning warriors would receive welcome home baskets with food and sundry items that would keep them going until personal bags could catch up with them from theater, explained Shoffner.

“We appreciate them,” said Beck. “It’s such a privilege to associate with the Army and all the people in the Army.”



Lt. Col. Shoffner presents a flag to representatives from Williamson County during a ceremony at the county's courthouse. The flags were flown over Iraq while Shoffner's unit was deployed there last year.

A night of sparkles and spurs for cavarly families

Story and photos by Spc. Justin Naylor



Spouses from the squadron break out into dance for a country song during the Sparkles and Spurs event.

There is nothing quite as Texan as eating big steaks and riding mechanical bulls.

For Soldiers and families of the 4th Squadron, 9th U.S. Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, March 6 was a chance to honor their state of residence, their cavalry heritage, an outstanding group of volunteers and enjoy a night together during the Sparkles and Spurs event on Fort Hood, Texas.

“We wanted everyone to come out in a relaxed, comfortable atmosphere and spend a fun evening together with their battle buddies and brothers and sisters-in-arms before the team starts to break up as many take off for their next duty station,” said Kim Shoffner, a volunteer who has worked closely with the unit since before it deployed to Kirkuk, Iraq in January 2009. “It was one last night to raise a glass in each other’s honor and create a few more memories...but mostly to just enjoy a casual evening together.”

A portion of the night was spent honoring the volunteers that made a difference to the unit while it was deployed.

“Everyone did an outstanding job during this deployment, both downrange and back here on the home front,” said Shoffner. “It’s a team effort on both sides. The Soldiers focus on the mission, and we focus on supporting them and each other.”

Shoffner was awarded with the Yellow Rose of Texas award, which is an award given by the governor of Texas to Texas women in recognition of their lengthy com-

munity involvement and accomplishments

“I’ve seen the difference one person can make when they stop to help someone else, to help them find a needed resource, or just take time to say ‘I care and understand,’” she said.

Shoffner also helped mentor younger volunteers.

“I’ve seen these young spouses grow and become leaders, and in turn help others,” she said. “Volunteers can make all the difference in the world during deployments.”

Volunteers spent time checking on families to see how they were coping.

“Sometimes that one phone call made the difference to a spouse who was barely keeping it together.”

Besides spending time honoring the volunteers, the Troopers’ night was spent eating steak and sides provided by the All American Beef Battalion’s Steaks for Troops program.

“This is just a small way we can say thank you to you,” said the company’s president, Bill Broadie, to the Soldiers. “God Bless you and thank you, ‘cause you’re the bravest and greatest people in the world.”

Bill Broadie offered characteristically Texan advice to the Soldiers and their families. “Just say ‘no’ to chicken!”

As a final test of cavalry skill and audacity, some families and troopers tested their riding skills on a mechanical bull.

Spc. Thaddeus Hewitt from Bravo Troop was one of the first to try his hand at it....for about five seconds.

“This was my first time,” he said. “I’m going to try it again.”

Following his bull-riding experience, he had nothing but good things to say about the night.

“It’s nice to get everyone together,” he said. “It’s nice to see everyone out of uniform for change. It was fun, the food was delicious and everything was nice.”



Spc. Thaddeus Hewitt tests his cavalry skills on a mechanical bull during a Sparkles and Spurs family night on Fort Hood, Texas, March 6.

Shuffling the deck

Story and photos by Spc. Justin Naylor



Capt. Stevens unfurls his brand new company guidon during the a standing-up ceremony for his unit.

As the Army continues to change and evolve, engineers, as usual, are on the forefront.

For the engineers of 2nd “Black Jack” Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, March 12 was a day of mixed emotions, as two existing engineer units furl their guidons for the last time and merged together to form the new engineer backbone for 2nd BCT.

The new engineer company, Charlie Company, 2nd Special Troops Battalion, 2nd BCT, was formed from the merger of two engineer companies, one from the 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment “Black Knights”, 2nd BCT, and the other from 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment “Mustangs”, 2nd BCT.

Lt. Col. Edward Repetski, the commander of 2nd STB, himself a career engineer, was present to welcome the new engineers, and to console the units who lost the engineer components they had grown so accustomed to over the last year in Iraq.

“That part of change provides an inevitable sense of loss—a hole in the family and the disappearance of a trusted portion of the team,” he said. “We all know it, and it is important to pause a moment to reflect on those changes to our formations.”

According to Repetski, the benefit of combining the two companies is in centralizing this critical, low-density asset to allow the brigade commander to more easily prioritize and focus engineer efforts.

“We appreciate the trust given in the 2nd STB in sending your treasured ‘Black

Knight' and 'Mustangs' down the road to us.”

Repetski firmly believed this new infusion of Soldiers will be nothing but positive for his unit.

Despite the relative youth of even the STB concept, Repetski had served in an STB before commanding one. An STB commander could be commanded by engineers, signal, military intelligence or other low-density basic branch officers. Repetski says any officer with diverse experience and time in maneuver brigades can do this job.

“The fresh newness of standing up Charlie Company is great for the Company and the Battalion,” he said. The creation of the new unit is an opportunity to develop good habits early.

Even the company’s nickname, “Derecho,” named for a destructive wind, is new.

“They must build a new unit,” said Repetski. “You will have many firsts over the next year; seize the moments to do those things right the first time, building important muscle memory in the fiber of this new outfit as you go.”

“Being an engineer is a mindset, a way of life, an ethos, just like so many of our wonderful pantheons of branches have unique characters,” he said.

In closing, Repetski captured what it means to be an engineer by reciting a poem by Rudyard Kipling in *The Sons of Martha*.

“Raise ye the stone or cleave the wood to make a path more fair or flat – Lo, it is black already with blood some Son of Martha spilled for that!”

“My fellow Sons of Martha, welcome to this formation,” he said. “You will continue to serve ‘Black Jack’ well.”



Lt. Col. Repetski greets the new troopers of Charlie 2STB into his battalion during the standing-up ceremony of the unit. Repetski is himself a career engineer and was happy to see this important asset join his battalion. The majority of the Soldiers in this unit come from 1-5 and 1-8, both of which lost their engineer elements.

UNIT HELPS BUILD STRONGER MARRIAGES ONE COUPLE AT A TIME

Story and photos by Spc. Justin Naylor



Building strong marital bonds isn't always easy. Hectic training schedules, increased deployment tempo and heavy workloads all must be weighed against the effort to spend quality time with the family.

To help military couples strengthen their bonds and increase the number of tools they have to deal marital issues, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division—through the Army's Strong Bonds Program—has sponsored a number of marriage retreats for the Soldiers of the brigade.

According to Chaplain (Maj.) Joshua Pair, the Brigade's chaplain, the brigade will host multiple events throughout the year in order to help strengthen the quality of life for families and Soldiers.

Pair explained that the couples participate in a 12 hour, three day/two night seminar. The seminar is designed to enhance the couples' ability to communicate with one another.

According to Pair, participation will enable the couples to acquire positive communication and relationship skills that will ultimately strengthen family and marital cohesion. "The seminar will help Soldiers and spouses avoid, reduce, and stop negative patterns of communication in relationships."

"This program helps us build couples build stronger relationships with one another," he said.



Chaplain (Cpt.) Jay Hudson, the chaplain for 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, demonstrates to a group of married couples how to use an "argument card" during a marriage retreat near Austin, Texas, March 30. Hudson said the cards help ease tension and ensure that both individuals have a chance to speak their minds.



Sara Borgonovo corrects her husband John's answers to a questionnaire he filled out about her during a marriage retreat in Austin, Texas, March 30. John and Sara, along with a large group of other couples from 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, took part in various marriage building activities during the two day retreat.

While at the event, the couples take part in numerous skill-building activities, which help them learn more about one another, enhance communications and provide the skills necessary to diffuse arguments and improve the time that the couples get to spend together, explained Pair.

During a recent couples retreat, Spc. John Borgonovo and wife, Sara, learned some valuable tips to enhance their marriage.

John and Sara married while John was home on mid-tour leave from Iraq last year.

"This retreat has helped improve our communication and learn new things about one another."

Both John and Sara felt like they learned new things about one another over the short few days, and they also enjoyed having a babysitter who could watch their nine-month old daughter.

Because of the location of the retreat, the couple also had to the chance to spend some time sunbathing and riding boats on a lake near Austin.

All the costs of the retreat were paid for by the Department of the Army.

"These retreats have really worked out well," said Pair.

Pair met one couple in particular during his last retreat that was on the verge of breaking up, but who after the weekend were both excited about their marriage and ready to give it another try.

"This helped their relationship," he said.

With the success of the retreats that have been hosted so far, Pair is confident that future retreats will turn out positively, continuing to give back to the Soldiers and military spouses who give so much.

Mentoring young motorists

Story and photos by Spc. Justin Naylor



A group of riders make a quick survey of an intersection before taking a right during a safety ride on Fort Hood, Texas, March 29. The riders were part of 4th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, and are a mixed group of novice and experienced riders.

Driving dangerously—whether on a motorcycle or a Mine-Resistant Ambush protected armored vehicle—can be catastrophic.

To help ensure that Soldiers take the same precautions on a motorcycle that they would on a tank or a Bradley, motorcycle mentors from 4th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, lead about 15 riders on a safety ride through Fort Hood, Texas, March 29.

“What we are trying to do is teach safety,” said Sgt. 1st Class Baldomero Moreno, a San Antonio native and a Soldier from 4th Sqdn., 9th Cav. Regt. “Safety not only on post, but off post as well, so we can prevent accidents.”

Although taking part in safety rides at least once every quarter is mandatory for Soldiers wishing to ride motorcycles on post, this ride was about more than just filling the requirements; it was about training young riders and building a team spirit, according to Baldomero.

“This is Fort Hood policy,” said Cpt. Eric Dunkley, a Spokane, Wash., who, along with Moreno, helped plan the ride. “We found out about it downrange.”

This gave Dunkley and Moreno time to plan the ride and write a standard operating procedure for motorcyclists within the unit, he said.

This operating procedure covers riding, and safety, as well as purchasing a motorcycle and maintaining it.

“We went pretty in-depth with this,” he said.

The operating procedure is meant to address both novice riders who have never purchased a bike and experienced riders.

And now that the squadron’s riders have had a chance to read over the procedures, the riders are getting a chance to put them into practice during the safety rides.

“The primary focus of this is to take the more experienced riders and have them help train the novice riders to help reduce the number of accidents,” said Dunkley.

Following the ride, the riders had the opportunity to tell Moreno and Dunkley what they liked about the ride and what needs improvement for future sessions.

“We want to improve ourselves,” he said about the riders. “We gain experience and become safer riders and we can also give back to...younger, inexperienced riders who are joining the program,” said Dunkley.

Both Dunkley and Moreno hope to make these rides a monthly event, giving the busy Soldiers in the Squadron plenty of opportunities to hop on their bikes, enjoy a ride in the sun, and even learn a thing or two from other riders.



Cpt. Eric Dunkley, a Spokane, Wash., native with 4th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, inspects his motorcycle’s headlights with the help of Sgt. 1st Class Baldomero Moreno, a San Antonio native with 4th Sqdn., 9th Cav. Regt. before going on a safety ride around Fort Hood, Texas, March 29.

2 BCT says



Soldiers and families from 1-8 listen as a speech is given during the formal ball ceremony on Fort Hood.



Capt. Guzowski, Col. Gonsalves and Capt. Goddard bow their heads during a prayer at HHC's change of command ceremony.

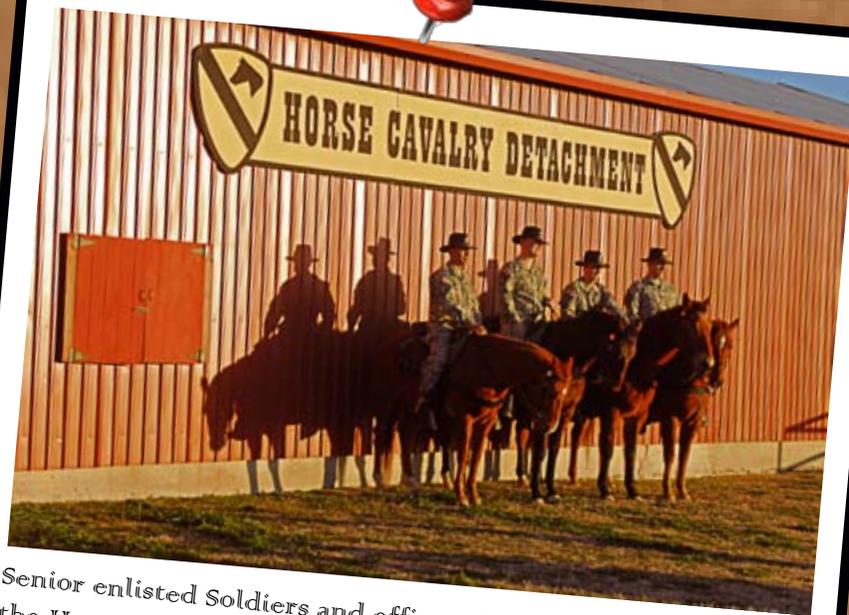
farewell....



Lt. Col. Jackson and his wife shake hands with Soldiers from 1-5 during their formal ball ceremony. This will be Jackson's last ball with 1-5 before he moves on to his next assignment at division.



CSM Hof is presented an award by Maj. Gen. Bolger before he leaves for his next assignment as the JRTC Operations Group CSM.



Senior enlisted Soldiers and officers from 2STB stand next to the Horse Cavalry Detachment's big red barn for a photo op.



Staff Sgt. Nicholas Lombard from 4-9 is taken to the ground during a flag football event.



Soldiers from 3-82 crawl along the ground as an instructor watches during a spur ride event. After completing the ride, the Soldiers received Silver Spurs .



Capt. Cha from 4-9 putts around on the Fort Hood Golf Course during a golf scramble.

A NEW CHAPTER IN “BLACK JACK” HISTORY



Col. Gonsalves, along with some of his staff officers and the 1st Cavalry Division Honor Guard, stand on Cooper Field as they prepare to start 2nd BCT's change of command ceremony.



Col. Gonsalves and Col. Peeler inspect the ranks during a change of command ceremony on Cooper Field. Peeler is replacing Gonsalves as 2nd BCT's commander.

CHANGE
OF
COMMAND



Col. Peeler (left) and Maj. Gen. Allyn salute the flag during a change of command ceremony for 2nd BCT. Peeler is relieving Col. Gonsalves as the brigade's commander.



Col. Gonsalves hands 2nd BCT's colors to Maj. Gen. Allyn during the 2nd BCT change of command ceremony.



Col. Peeler stands alongside Maj. Gen. Allyn and Col. Gonsalves during the 2nd BCT change of command ceremony.



SGT DAVID CHARLES DOLBY

**B Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment
21 May 1966**

Rank and organization: Sergeant (then Sp4c.), U.S. Army, Company B, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). Place and date: Republic of Vietnam, 21 May 1966. Entered service at: Philadelphia, Pa. Born: 14 May 1946, Norristown, Pa. G.O. No.: 45, 20 October 1967. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty, when his platoon, while advancing tactically, suddenly came under intense fire from the enemy located on a ridge immediately to the front. Six members of the platoon were killed instantly and a number were wounded, including the platoon leader. SGT Dolby's every move brought fire from the enemy. However, aware that the platoon leader was critically wounded, and that the platoon was in a precarious situation, SGT Dolby moved the wounded men to safety and deployed the remainder of the platoon to engage the enemy. Subsequently, his dying platoon leader ordered SGT Dolby to withdraw the forward elements to rejoin the platoon. Despite the continuing intense enemy fire and with utter disregard for his own safety, SGT Dolby positioned able-bodied men to cover the withdrawal of the forward elements, assisted the wounded to the new position, and he, alone, attacked enemy positions until his ammunition was expended. Replenishing his ammunition, he returned to the area of most intense action, single-handedly killed 3 enemy machine gunners and neutralized the enemy fire, thus enabling friendly elements on the flank to advance on the enemy redoubt. He defied the enemy fire to personally carry a seriously wounded soldier to safety where he could be treated and, returning to the forward area, he crawled through withering fire to within 50 meters of the enemy bunkers and threw smoke grenades to mark them for air strikes. Although repeatedly under fire at close range from enemy snipers and automatic weapons, SGT Dolby directed artillery fire on the enemy and succeeded in silencing several enemy weapons. He remained in his exposed location until his comrades had displaced to more secure positions. His actions of unsurpassed valor during 4 hours of intense combat were a source of inspiration to his entire company, contributed significantly to the success of the overall assault on the enemy position, and were directly responsible for saving the lives of a number of his fellow soldiers. SGT Dolby's heroism was in the highest tradition of the U.S. Army.

