



Thunder Run

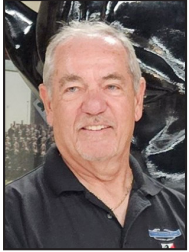
Vol 40-No. 2

“Together Then - Together Again”

2nd Edition, 2026

The 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia

President's Message **Frank Church**



Part of the Presidents responsibilities are to keep the membership updated on the activities and status of our organization. We keep accurate and updated numbers on all finances and membership, but they are fluid and will be outdated by the time you read this. It is also the position of the Officers that detailed financial reports be shared only in a person to person setting and upon request. Our membership numbers are in constant flux due to the rate and number of members that pass away and the rare occasions we find new members, or they find us.

Any figures I offer will be based on the latest reports submitted

by the respective committees before publication of this issue. It is meant to be an overview of the health of the 11thACVVC. More detailed information can be in the articles submitted in this issue by the chairmen of their respective areas of responsibility.

The finances of the organization are healthy. We have approximately \$600,000 in net worth. This will provide enough funds to last another 6-7 years or until we decide to end the organization. This is a sensitive subject for all of us but at the same time is realistic. The membership is getting older and our numbers are dwindling at a steady pace, but we will keep going until it is no longer feasible.

Over the years we have located 20,000 of the 25,000 that served in Vietnam with the 11th Cav between 1966 and 1972 and currently we have 5800 members on our roles. Our membership numbers do not include the approximately 500 family members and the 340 next of kin of our 730 KIA's in Vietnam that we keep in contact with, many of them attend our reunions and are very much part of our greater Blackhorse family. All 730 of those KIA's are forever remembered and honored by having their names engraved on bronze plaques attached to our memorial at Ft. Benning Ga. We also honor those of us who pass away each year by reading their names during our memorial services at our annual reunions. The list of passed Troopers is compiled by our Chaplin and Honor Guard Chairman through daily scans of national obituaries postings and notifications from friends and family. Fellow Troopers who live in proximity of the fallen brother are notified and ask to attend the services. This has a lasting impact on the family and friends in knowing we care about them and always remember our own. Our Chaplain also sends letters of condolence to the families, to date that number is approaching the 750 mark.

Thanks to our members we have a fund for the ongoing maintenance of our Memorial in Ft. Benning to ensure that it is always in the best repair possible. The Georgia sun is not friendly and creates issues that need to be addressed on a regular basis. In addition to that we have a Trust fund to be used for needed upkeep to be used after our organization is no longer here to guarantee its wellbeing and the history of the 11th Armored Cavalry and its Troopers will never be forgotten. In addition to the Ft. Benning memorial another memorial is in the process of being built at the current home of the 11th ACR in Ft. Irwin California. It is being built to also honor all past and present 11th Cav troopers but also to be a link for current troopers to the storied accomplishments of the past and instill the pride of being a Blackhorse

Please turn to “President's Message” on page 3

2026 Elections

By Greg Mason, Secretary, 11th ACVVC

Three positions will be up for election this year during the General Membership Meeting to be held Saturday morning, September 5th, during the 2026 Reunion. The three positions are President, Secretary and one Director.

The President and Secretary will serve two-year terms beginning January 1, 2027, and ending December 31, 2028. The Director will serve a three-year term beginning January 1, 2027, and ending December 31, 2029.

All candidates must be Life Members of the 11th ACVVC. Candidates will have an equal opportunity to state their qualifications at the General Membership Meeting. The elected candidates should be able to attend the annual reunion and participate in Board Meetings during their elected term that are generally held by conference call.

The elected candidates must be able to communicate by e-mail with the other Board members and be able to help the Board make decisions on a variety of organizational matters. Each candidate must be highly organized and be able to commit time and energy to a specific project or committee as directed by the President. Excellent skills in using Microsoft Word and Excel are required in order to prepare reports and other documents required of all positions.

The position of President requires considerable time and superb organizational skills. The President needs to frequently multi-task in his responsibility to oversee all projects, programs, and activities of the organization.

Candidates for Secretary should be able to intently follow and record organized minutes, summarize reports, actions, and decisions from official meetings, and maintain records of the 11th ACVVC and its numerous projects. He should have strong language and writing skills and know basic Robert's Rules of Order. Information management skills on a computer are required.

The Directors are expected to commit themselves to a specific area of interest within the 11th ACVVC or as directed by the President.

Nominations for these positions should be submitted in writing to the Secretary or submitted from the floor at the General Membership meeting. Please consider participating on the Board of Directors serving the 11th ACVVC.





11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia (11ACVVC)

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Thunder Run covers present and future interests of the organization that includes membership and reunion information, various fund raising activities, and other items relative to the membership. Submissions are welcome and encouraged. Correspondence and inquiries concerning Thunder Run should be made in writing to: Editor, "Thunder Run," Peter L. Walter, 8 Tallowood Dr., Westampton, NJ 08060-3721.

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President's Message Continued

Trooper. This is an ongoing project headed by the BHA and the current Regiment and needs the support of the 11th ACVVC as we are the ones who made a major contribution to the legacy and fame of the 11th Cav. We are the ones looked up to by today's troopers and respected for what we have accomplished. I encourage our members to support this project. This edition of Thunder Run has info on how to contribute and ensure this endeavor is successful.

Another memorial that has not gotten a lot of attention is the M60 Tank located at the Shrine of Remembrance in Colorado Springs. It is dedicated to honor the 11th Cav's service in Vietnam and has been maintained by a group of Veterans that include 11th ACVVC members from the area. Because of the limited future of the 11th ACVVC our officers decided to find another organization to assume responsibility for ongoing maintenance and required the required documents. Several organizations were solicited before the local VFW chapter stepped up to accept our request. It is now in their good hands.

Members of 11th ACVVC meet in Washington DC every year on November 11, Veterans Day and Memorial Day at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to remember our KIA's and lay a wreath in their memory. The Blackhorse Association and the current Regiment lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and on February 2nd to celebrate the birthday of the of the formation of the regiment in 1901.

This message is for all members but especially for those who may not be able to attend our reunions. All info presented here is shared with all the attendees at our annual membership meeting. We encourage members to voice their opinions and ideas. Healthy discussion is a good thing as long as it is respectful and follows established rules of order and the standing agenda. Our reunions are the main event for our members and are well attended. It is an event that should not be missed. The shared memories and stories are non-stop, and they can be emotional as well as healing. At our peak we had as many as 2,000 Troopers and guests. In recent years those numbers are less than half of that... a telling number of our declining membership.

Many years ago, the wives of our Troopers started to meet during the men's business meeting to have something to do. That evolved into sight-seeing trips and lunches. They also started quilting and crafting, this led to a very thoughtful and much appreciated prayer shawl project to recognize the loss experienced by our Troopers' wives when a Trooper passes. We sometimes don't give proper credit for the impact and contributions they make to the 11th ACVVC and our scholarship program. Many of our members could not attend reunions if it were not for their wives by their side to care for and support them. This is evident in the fact that families now outnumber troopers in reunion attendance.

Another marker in the decline of our numbers is going from four editions of Thunder Run to three per year. We no longer have the input of articles to support four editions. Thunder Run is the most anticipated publication of current information about our organization with stories written by our Troopers recounting the daily life in Vietnam and is sent to approximately 7,000 Troopers and families of Troopers. It is a must read for us all. We also publish an annual calendar with pictures submitted by our members. It may be more anticipated than Thunder Run and is a primary source of funds for our scholarship program. We get plenty of calls if it's late hitting mailboxes. Another source of info is to go on line and search for www.11thCavNam.com and visit our newly upgraded web site for the latest info. While there be sure to visit the Quartermaster store to shop for new and expanded selections of Blackhorse and Vietnam specific items. There are many sites for the 11th ACVVC but this is the only official one.

The success of 11th ACVVC would not be possible without the support of our members and the dedication of its officers. We will continue to meet at our reunions and manage our organization at the same level of dedication for as long as there are enough of us to continue.

Thank you all for all you do and, "welcome home".

Allons, Frank

*"We were, we are, we will always be,
proud Blackhorse Troopers"*



Membership is Our Strength

It's not the price you pay to belong, it's the price you paid to become eligible to join



REUNION REGISTRATION

With less than three months until our forty-first reunion in Orlando, please make sure your hotel reservation is booked and your completed registration form is submitted online or mailed to Ollie. I know many of you make a packing list before traveling. Before I started using one, I often forgot things like shoes, credit cards, maps, and other essentials. Now my son, Raleigh, makes sure we review the checklist more than once.

To prepare your name tag, I need five pieces of information: your full name, the one unit you served with in Vietnam (this is the unit where you and your guest will sit at the banquet), the year you were there (for example, 1968–1969) I only need one set of year/years, and your city and state. I also need everyone's banquet meal choice—beef, chicken, or vegetarian—so we can give the hotel an accurate count in advance. This helps the hotel order enough food and schedule enough staff for our Saturday meal. Your meal ticket will be behind your name tag. At the banquet, place your meal ticket in front of you on the table so the servers know which meal to serve you and your guest.

Please complete the registration form in full, as if this were your first reunion and I had no information on file. If you are mailing the form and have address labels, place one anywhere on it so I can confirm the correct spelling of your address. If you register online, no address label is needed. Please print clearly and send me the whole page, please do not trim the page. If any of your guests are attending the reunion for the first time, write [1st time] next to their name. If a guest is from a different city or state, note that next to their name as well so I can include it on their name tag. If you have any questions about registration, please call me at the number listed on page two of this Thunder Run. If there is no answer, please leave a message.

If you are a Star Family member - that's someone who lost a trooper serving in Vietnam - please indicate that on the registration form. I need your relationship and your guest's relationship with the trooper, some examples are wife, brother, sister, father, grandson, or friend. I also need the trooper's name and the date of passing. This information will appear on your star family name tag. If you are a next of kin family member - that's anyone who lost their trooper after Vietnam - I will need the same information to complete yours and your guests next of kin name tag.

Please consider bringing an item with you to donate to the silent auction when you attend the reunion. Keep donations tasteful and, if possible, military themed. All proceeds support the scholarship fund. The more items donated, the more scholarships we can award.

If you have already registered but can no longer attend the reunion, please call me or Ollie so we can remove your packet from the ones I have. Members will receive a full registration refund if our treasurer (Ollie) receives the cancellation by August 24, 2026. You may choose a full refund or donate the amount to the scholarship fund. Please remember to cancel your hotel reservation as well.

We have an assortment of reunion hat pins from past reunions available at the registration area for a donation of one dollar each. These pins would make great gifts for your grandchildren or friends. All donations go to the reunion fund. Pick up a Blackhorse hat at the quartermaster store and fill it with Blackhorse pins. These would make great Christmas presents.

I am going to need help at the registration desk this year so if you would like to help please see me at registration.

Thanks to all who help and attend our reunions. God bless and we will see you all at our next reunion in Orlando Florida.

Stay safe and healthy

“Allons”

Robert “BOB” Moreno
G trp 2/11th 12/68-12/6

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS TROOP
3D SQUADRON,
11TH ARMORED CAVALRY REGIMENT
APO San Francisco 96257

ACIV-ZN

15 February 1971

The following poems were written by Captain Bobbie R. Eubanks, a member of the Bandit Squadron of the Blackhorse Regiment (3d Sqdn, 11th ACR).

Captain Eubanks served as the S3 Air and as the Hq Hq Troop Commander while assigned to the 3d Sqdn, 11th ACR, and is presently assigned as a member of the Liaison Team to the Royal Thai Army element in Vietnam.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

WILLIAM M. REFFETT, CPT, Armor Adjutant

THE BLACKHORSE TROOPER

The lightning flashed, the thunder roared,
The earth stood still it seemed
and out of the fire and ashes
came the men in olive green

They mounted tracks, they started tanks,
their guns were oiled and hot
and then as if by signal
they moved out like a shot

The Devil with his gates swung wide
a smile of cold cement
released upon the battlefield
the Blackhorse Regiment

Never faltering, never slack
they moved into the lead
Wearing on their shoulder
the patch of the blackhorse steed

Moving through the rubber
or down a jungle trail
each man sent by the Devil
from the gates of Hell

Other men spoke of their valor
Charlie called it lust
Trooper with determination
doing what they must

So when you pass a Trooper
with the Blackhorse on the right
he's not a Saigon warrior
he's had his share of fight

And when his tour is over
he no longer wears the green
he'll tell of the Blackhorse Trooper
the best he's ever seen.

WHOP, WHOP, WHOP

By Robert "Bob" Kickenweitz

Whop, Whop, Whop, to many people this sound is just a background to modern industrial living which registers as nothing more than noise pollution. It is caused by the two blades of a helicopter as they start to spin. Both blades create a vortex, as the second blade hits the vortex of the first blade the Whop is created and the same thing happens as the first blade hits the vortex of the second blade. But what people don't realize is that to a veteran, it is much more than noise pollution. If you're in a crowd and can hear the faintest sound of whop, whop, whop, just look around and you'll be able to tell who veterans are, and who are not. The veterans will be looking up to the sky trying to find that helicopter.

So what does Whop, Whop, Whop, mean to a veteran? Many things:

It's the sound of a medevac coming in to pick up your wounded buddy, or your KIA buddy that you just lost.

Whop, Whop, Whop, means FNG coming in as replacements.

It means you're getting a bladder of fuel for your equipment,

Or it could mean you're getting munitions for your weapons.

It means maybe you'll have a hot meal today, or it means a resupply of C-rations and water.

Perhaps it means you'll get mail today from your girlfriend, wife, family, or if you're really fortunate, you'll receive a care package from mom to share with you buddies.

But Whop, Whop, Whop, for doctors and nurses, means incoming of wounded.

It could mean, maybe you're being pulled out of this hell hole in the jungle to return to base camp.

These are the things that are in a veteran's mind when he hears the whop, whop, whop of a helicopter. It is so ingrained, or should I say deeply embedded in his or her mind over the course of a year, that anytime they hear whop, whop, whop, they can't help but look up.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

11th ARMORED CAVALRY'S VETERANS OF VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA

Membership is open to all troopers who served with or were attached to the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment while in the countries of Vietnam or Cambodia from August 1966 thru March 1972. Membership is also open to the wives, parents and children of our Troopers killed in action.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

UNIT _____ DATES: FROM _____ TO _____
(Troop, Sqdn) (Mo/Yr) (Mo/Yr)

RANK (during tour) _____ EMAIL _____

OTHER INFORMATION _____

TYPE MEMBERSHIP: NEW RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP NUMBER _____
 LIFE (\$50)

IN ADDITION, PLEASE ACCEPT MY TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION FOR \$ _____

I authorize the release of my address/phone number to other Troopers who served with the 11th ACR
(Sign) _____

Visa Mastercard Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Please make checks/money orders payable to: **11th ACVVC**. Mail this form with your check or money order (no cash) to: **11th ACVVC Membership, Ollie Pickral, 571 Ditchley Rd., Kilmarnock, VA 22482.**



11th ACVVC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE



by Mike "Doc" Rafferty, Scholarship Committee Chairman
E mail address: platoonmedic36@gmail.com

I have received a total of 91 scholarship applications this year. All but one of the applicants are grandchildren of our membership. As in past years, most of the applicants are high school seniors.

The 11th ACVVC Board of Directors are pleased to be able to award 54 scholarships for a total of \$164,000 this year. Since the establishment of our scholarship program in 1996, counting the scholarships we will award this year, we have issued or will issue 886 scholarships totaling \$2,780,500! This is a tremendous accomplishment for an organization of our size and is only possible because of the generosity of hundreds of our members who support the Calendar, Raffle, and Silent Auction fund raisers every year.

Each of the scholarship recipients will receive a \$3000 award except for the winner of the Colonel Charles L. Schmidt Leadership Award scholarship who will receive \$5000. The winner of this scholarship will be chosen by Bonnie Schmidt, Colonel Schmidt's widow.

All of this year's applicants will be notified that they have or have not qualified for a scholarship by June 30th. The determining factor for evaluating applicants is their unweighted Grade Point Average for their most recent two years of education. Additionally, Bonnie Schmidt will evaluate the extra-curricular and volunteer activities of applicants to determine the winner of the Colonel Charles L. Schmidt Leadership Award scholarship.



"I'M GOING WHERE THE ACTION IS"

James Prince of Vincennes, Indiana, arrived in Vietnam in late January 1968 – just before the Tet '68 attacks that swept the country. Assigned to the 409th Radio Research Detachment, he wrote the following letter to his parents back home. His hometown newspaper, the Vincennes Sun-Commercial, published it on 8 February:

"I guess that if you've been watching T.V. you know that things around here have changed!! At 3:00 a.m. yesterday the first mortar hit. I truly believe that I was hugging the ground before the second one hit but at any rate they 'rained' on us for 55 minutes, the radio says. They were coming in so fast that the explosions sounded like a giant machine gun. The ground shook so bad that we thought it would bounce completely out from under us. The choppers and Air Force came to the scene almost immediately and rained pure death on Charlie. If it hadn't been for them Charlie's human wave would have completely over run – they really caught us with our pants down. At 5:30 ... I was out on the perimeter now and armed with an M60 machine gun and 2000 rounds. I saw what must have been a squad try to move across my sector of fire (the only Charlies that I actually saw in the open) and I dropped five of them in one burst. I guess all that practice to qualify expert with the machine gun paid off! It gave me sort of a strange feeling when I watched them drop to the ground squirming around but it didn't last long because now their buddies were firing on 'the kid' but I took care of that pretty quick! After the firefight was over and we moved out of the perimeter to see what we'd done some officer who'd been in a bunker right behind my position came up, gave me a pat on the back, and told me I'd done some real fine shooting. I smiled and shuddered all in one movement."



NOTICE! NEW DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THUNDER RUN!

At our 39th annual reunion in Omaha, Nebraska, the motion was made and passed to:
"Reduce the number of issues to three per year."

New Deadlines- Due dates to submit articles for Thunder Run

- 1st ThirdFebruary 1
- 2nd ThirdJune 1
- 3rd ThirdOctober 1

All submissions for publication must be sent to: Peter L. Walter, 8 Tallowood Drive, Westampton, NJ 08060-3721; or email to: basepiece70@verizon.net.

Fire Missions – Today

(A companion article to

Bryant Nelsons's "Fire Mission!" in the 1st issue of 2026)

Fire Support Chain

Fire Missions are initiated by Forward Observers attached to maneuver platoons. The mission will be sent to the Company Fire Support Team (FIST), Battalion FIST, and Finaly Brigade Fires Cell for deconfliction and approved. Once approved, the mission will be sent to the Field Artillery Battalion who will decide on a Battery to fire. The battery will receive the mission and compute firing data before sending to the gun section for prosecution. This can all be done digitally to expedite mission processing times. The Primary tool used is the Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System (AFATDS) which can recommend a firing solution while considering location of weapons, ammunition available, target description, and Fire Support Coordination Measures (FSCMs) to deconflict with other maneuver units.

Clearance of Air and Ground

Within a Brigade, the Brigade Fires Cell in conjunction with the Brigade Air Defence and Airspace Management (ADAM) Cell and Brigade Operations Officer are responsible for deconfliction of surface to surface fires. The Brigade Fires Cell will ensure fire missions do not conflict with existing Fire Support Coordination Measures to ensure there is no risk of fratricide. The ADAM cell is responsible for understanding what is in the airspace within the Brigade's Area of Operations and will ensure a fire mission has no risk of being fired towards friendly aircraft (rotary wing, fixed wing, and UAS). The Brigade Operations Officer maintains situational awareness of fire missions and the locations of friendly units.

Time to process a mission

Faster is better. Mission processing time will be dependent on a unit's level of training. This depends less on the speed of the howitzer sections and more on the time it takes for a fire mission to be communicated from the observer to the brigade for deconfliction, then to the gunline. I have seen this take as long as 30 minutes due to communication issues and lacking a robust Fire Support plan to as little as 3 minutes with all digital systems working.

Modular Charges and how they work

155mm howitzer sections (M777A2 and M109A7) today use the Modular Artillery Charge Systems (MACS) instead of bag charges. 105mm howitzers (M119A3) still use bag charges. The Fire Direction Center (FDC) will calculate the number of required charges, then announce (or send digitally) to the howitzer section. MACS charges do not require cutting bags and are very simple to work with. Of note, there are two categories of MACS charges, Low (L) and High (H). So, a FDC will need to specify High or Low charge, then the number of charges (up to 2L and 5H).

Base piece and how it works

The base piece is the howitzer that will fire Adjust Fire mission to bracket a target before calling Fire For Effect. This is usually a gun in the middle of the Battery (typically gun 3).

Terminology

I don't believe there has been much change to terminology. Some examples are below.

Adjust Fire - Fire For Effect - At My Command - Time on Target - Check Fire - Repeat - Do Not Load

Shells and Fuzes

Common Shells we use are High Explosive (HE), Dual-Purpose Improved Conventional Munition (DPICM), White Phosphorous (WP), Illumination (Illum)

HE: Steel shell casing filled with an explosive that causes the shell to fragment

DPICM: Shell filled with small grenades that are capable of penetrating armor

WP: Shell filled with phosphorous that can obscure enemy vision or act as an incendiary to destroy equipment or fuel

ILLUM: Shell Filled with an illuminating canister and parachute that can fill an area with visible or infrared light.

Common Fuzes: Point Detonating (PD), Delay (DLY), Time, Variable Time (VT)

PD: Fuze functions when it impacts the ground

DLY: Fuze functions after it impacts the ground, useful for causing craters in roads or airfields

Time: Fuze functions after a computed time to achieve a 20m height of burst above the target

VT: Fuze uses a radar to determine its height above the ground and functions 7m above the target

Fire Direction Process

Once the FDC receives a fire mission, they will compute firing data using two independent methods to calculate firing data. This can be digital, manual, or both. AFATDS is typically the primary method of computing firing data. Each howitzer is also capable of computing firing data which can be compared to AFATDS to verify the data.

GPS Use

Most systems in the Army have some GPS capability to self-locate or locate a target. Howitzers have a GPS that can determine location that is then reported to the FDC for an accurate gun location. Observers will have a GPS they can use with laser range finders to accurately determine target location.

Excalibur Rounds

Excalibur is a precision munition that uses GPS and inertial guidance to determine its location, then uses canards to 'glide' to the target location.

Additional Resources

Army Doctrine (<https://armypubs.army.mil/default.aspx>)
TC 3-09.81 Field Artillery Manual Cannon Gunnery (https://armypubs.army.mil/ProductMaps/PubForm/Details.aspx?PUB_ID=106014)

ATP 3-09.30 Observed Fires (https://armypubs.army.mil/ProductMaps/PubForm/Details.aspx?PUB_ID=1003069)

The information above was provided courtesy of:

Christopher M. Gause, CPT,
FA, Fire Support Officer
11th Armored Cavalry Regiment
National Training Center

THE MISFIT

Have you ever felt like a misfit for no apparent reason? No one wants you. If they do, you do not feel safe? That is how I felt the first few months in Viet Nam.

Not that I expected to be welcomed with open arms (no pun intended) but my MOS in Fire Directional Control (FDC) was critical for any artillery fire-support mission. The FDC functions as the brains, more or less, of the mission. When the Forward Observer (FO) calls in the coordinates for a strike, he speaks to the FDC personnel. Based on the coordinates and the location of the Howitzers (guns), the FDC calculate how to aim the guns, select the shells, set the fuses, determine the number of powder bags needed, etc., in order hit the target. The FDC then relays this information to the guns for firing. In 1969-1970, before the wide use of computers, all calculations were made by hand.

I was assigned to the How Battery 3/11 Blackhorse. The fire base was located in the Loc Ninh-An Loc area. As I approached the FDC tent, the personnel quickly dismissed me. Evidently, they had been asking for an FDC person for months. In desperation, they took a gentleman off the guns and trained him for the position. I was not wanted or needed. They appeared to vent their prior frustrations on me.

I expected them to contact other bases to see if they needed someone with my skills. Instead, they gave me two options. I could work on the landing zone (LZ) or drive the armored personal carrier (APC) (sometimes called the track or ACAV) for the FO in Alpha Troop 3/11. I chose the LZ. How bad could that be?

The Chinook Helicopter served as the work horse for moving men and supplies in the field. Men rode inside the 25-ton craft. Supplies rode outside in a net hooked to the belly. To prepare the supplies for transport, they spread the net on the ground and placed the supplies in the center. They brought the corners of the net to the middle and fastened them to a two-foot ring. Then someone connected the ring to the belly hook on the Chinook.

I was the designated "ring bearer." I stood on the net with the ring in my hands waiting for the chopper to get in position to make the hookup. The two pilots, located at the front of the 100-foot aircraft, could not see the hook located 50 foot behind them. They depended on a third individual lying on the floor looking through a small opening with a radio telling them how to maneuver.

Can you imagine how it felt with a 50,000-pound chopper hovering two foot above your head to get in position so you could do your thing with the ring? The noise is deafening; the dirt and debris kicked up by the 80-mile-an-hour downdraft generated by the two rotors is blinding.

Any error in transmitting directions, a mechanical failure or enemy fire hitting the aircraft would squash me like a pancake.

There was no room for error and no room to run. They needed to double my hazardous duty pay for this task. Inmates from Long Binh Jail (LBJ) should be recruited for the job. I did not wait for Murphy's Law to take effect. Three days later, I volunteered to drive the ACAV.

The next job suited me much better. A diesel engine powered the ACAV. I worked around diesel tractors on the farm most of my life. I understood the mechanics and the required maintenance. I did need to learn how to maintain the two tracks and drive using levers.

I enjoyed being outside the berm seeing the countryside the tourists miss. All went well for the first two weeks, then my first firefight. A piece of shrapnel struck me in the forehead earning me my first purple heart.

So, in less than three weeks, I had been assigned or taken three jobs or tasks and received a purple heart. I had only eleven months one week left.

The Lt serving as FO for Alpha Troop and I became friends. We were both Texas farm boys with college degrees. We were about the same age. The Army drafted me when I was 24. I observed his work and he gave me occasional instructions on how to be an FO. Having been trained in FDC, I probably understood the intricacies of a fire mission better than he did. However, I needed to learn how to use a map and a compass to find locations and coordinates.

Occasionally, he let me call in noncombat missions for practice. I substituted for him when he went to the rear or on R&R. Months later, Bravo Troop needed a full-time FO. Guess who got the assignment? I went from being the brains for a fire mission to being the eyes.

April 1, 1970, April Fool's Day, we worked an area north of Tay Ninh known as the Parrot's Beak. Intelligence located an active NVA bunker complex in the area. We were sent to check it out. It was active. We quickly engaged in a firefight.

We were taking significant fire from a bunker. We kept an eye on it. Suddenly, from the rear, appeared one of the largest American tanks I have ever seen. I think it was a M48 Patton. We worked exclusively with the newer, smaller, and lighter Sheridan's.

The monster lumbered passed us, stopped with its left track on top of the bunker and did a 360-degree counter-clockwise spin. The bunker collapsed. The firing ceased. The tank rolled to the next bunker, repeated the process, and continued throughout the complex. The firefight soon ended. The shortest I can remember.

In the aftermath, men dismounted their tanks and tracks to inspect the area. I wondered if the men in the collapsed bunker survived. I grabbed a shovel and asked a buddy for assistance.

I received a very negative reply with several expletives added. I asked him to at least grab an M16 and cover me. I did not know what to expect. He took his position. I began digging. A crowd of curious onlookers gathered to “jeer” me on.

My traditional method of digging came from the farm. I positioned the shovel in a near-vertical position, placed my right foot on the back of the blade, and pressed down with my weight. A satirical voice echoed from the crowd, “If you keep that up, you are liable to hurt someone.” I do not know if he was serious, but it was good advice. I stopped digging and started scooping.

Minutes later, I uncovered what appeared to be a miniature, black mop. That was impossible. I bent down to scrape away the dirt and debris with my hand for a closer look.

Then it happened. An event forever etched in my brain. A human head shot out of the ground with my hand on top of it! I was touching it!

I reacted as the cool, brave, highly trained, American soldier that I was. I threw the shovel one direction and ran for my life in the other. I envisioned that NVA soldier leaping out of the bunker with his AK47 blazing ready to shoot me in the back (or butt) depending on his aim. All I could do was yell “shoot him” to my guardian with the M16.

No shots rang out, only laughter, hilarious laughter! My guardian and the peanut gallery, standing at a safe distance, beheld the bigger picture.

Unknowing, I began digging (then scooping) immediately above a buried NVA soldier with his head pressed forward and downward by the cave-in. Amazingly, I barely grazed the back of his skull with the shovel revealing his black hair. Hence, the miniature, black mop I perceived. With the weight of the dirt and debris removed, he jerked his head upward gasping for air. A perfect Halloween prank, had it been Halloween and in America.

As for his ability to leap out of the bunker, he was going nowhere. The collapse pinned him firmly in the ground. He could not move except for his head.

Once the laughter subsided and I regained my composure, I retrieved the shovel and freed the soldier from his would-be grave. Afterwards, I prevailed on our Kit Carson Scout to act as an interpreter. I wanted to know if more soldiers were buried in the bunker and their approximate locations. With his assistance, I freed two or three more men from their pending doom. All were alive except one. He was clutching an RPG launcher. Evidently, he attempted to pop out of the bunker and fire at a tank or track. He was killed instantly.

With all the men now removed from the bunker, I faced another challenge, how to restrain them?

With a little help from my friends, we improvised by raiding our Supplement Packs for boot strings. We used them to tie their hands behind their back. Each man then sat down in the classic “gook squat” position so common in Viet Nam. The Kit Carson Scout offered each a drink of water. I should have done that.

Later, we transported them back to our Night Defensive Position (NDP). They were immediately flown to the rear, never to be seen or heard from again. I hope they survived the war.

Thinking back, was the rescue worth the risk? It could have turned deadly if one of the soldiers possessed a hidden grenade, knife, or other weapon.

The risk was worth the rescue for several reasons.

First, I hated to see the needless, senseless waste of human life, especially in a combat zone. There was no reason to let those soldiers die.

Secondly, I harbored no personal grudge against these men even though we were trying to kill each other earlier in the day. The place of our birth determined the uniform we wore. If I had been born in North Vietnam, I could have been one of those soldiers buried in that bunker.

Thirdly, and probably the most important reason, I recalled some of the Biblical scriptures and commandments addressing our attitude toward and treatment of our enemies.

As to the attitude, Jesus, in the Sermon on the Mount, commanded us to “love your enemies” Matthew 5:44. Love is the opposite of hate. The military attempts to vilify and dehumanize the enemy. It is easier to kill someone you hate.

Romans 12:20 addresses how we should satisfy our enemies’ basic needs. “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.” (I failed the second part.)

Finally, the Golden Rule provides a guideline on how to treat everyone, including our enemies. “So, in everything, do to others what you would have them do unto you” Luke 6:31.

Bottom line, I saved the POWs’ lives. I now pray these men will have the opportunity to ask Christ to save their souls.

You may imagine I am a pacifist or an anti-war activist. Absolutely not!

I believe war has a component other than killing.

To use the format found in Ecclesiastes, “there is a time to kill and a time to show mercy and refrain from killing.”

Ecclesiastes 3:1-3 says it this way “...there is a time for every purpose under heaven... a time to kill and a time to heal...” I believe showing mercy may be part of healing. Showing mercy is certainly an important component of “loving your enemies.”

To determine which standard applies and when, a Higher Power must provide discernment as to what the moment requires.

In closing, let me ask you a quick, hypothetical question. Suppose you were with me on April Fool’s Day 1970. I ask you, not my buddy, for assistance. Without knowing the outcome, would you grab the M16 or a shovel?

William Fambrough, B Troop, 69-79

2026 Silent Auction

By Greg Mason And Mike Rafferty

The 2025 Silent Auction raised \$6,955 for the **11th ACVVC Scholarship Fund** with 152 items donated and available for bid. The donated items included many hand-crafted items and one of a kind items with a Blackhorse theme. We are not allowed to have alcoholic beverages or firearms in the auction as many state laws prohibit it. We look forward to another successful auction.

The auction process will be as follows:

1. Items are needed for the Silent Auction to be conducted during our 41st Annual Reunion in Orlando, Florida. Items peculiar to the 11th Cavalry are always favorites, and any item of value is welcome, Cavalry related or not.
2. We will have a collection site set-up in the registration area to collect donated items brought to the reunion beginning on **Thursday from 1pm to 5pm, and Friday from 9am to Noon.**
3. You can ship items to **Joseph Gehring, 2665 Day Lily Run, The Villages, FL 32162 after April 1,** to collect, hold and bring the items to the reunion for display. If you plan to ship items, please use the convenient Silent Auction Donor Form printed in this issue. If you bring the items to the reunion, also complete the donation form and include it with the item.
4. The auction will be from **2pm to 4pm on Friday Afternoon** with the bidding ending precisely at 4pm. Those in wheelchairs or motorized chairs may be allowed in at 1:45 to allow them a little time to view the items before the crowds enter if our space in the rooms is tight.
5. Winning bidders must be present, pick up their items and pay for them between 4pm and 4:30pm after the bidding is closed.
6. If the item is not picked up, the item will be awarded to the next highest bid at 4:30pm or auctioned off at 4:45pm Friday afternoon. The bid form will have a place for you to leave a cell phone number in case we need to call you to let you know to pick up your item.
7. We will be able to accept cash, checks, Visa or MasterCard for payment.

We do need volunteers to work at the collection site and on the night of the auction. We are setting up the collection site schedule in 2-hour shifts and if you would like to volunteer, please contact me at gregmason311@gmail.com or 813-220-9027. I will respond to your email as I receive them.

Our reason for requiring items to be picked up and paid for the evening of the auction is because of the difficulties we have had in prior years getting all the items delivered and paid for. We appreciate your understanding.

We look forward to seeing you in Orlando and thanks in advance to all the donors!



11th ACVVC Silent Auction

Donated Items Information Form

Please provide the following information with your donated item. If you wish to donate anonymously, please check the box below.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Description of Item donated: _____

Name of Donor: _____

Address of Donor: _____

Phone number of Donor: _____

Value of Item Donated \$ _____ I wish to remain Anonymous (Check here) ____

Mail Silent Auction Items After April 1 to:

**11th ACVVC
C/O Joseph Gehring
2665 Day Lily Run
The Villages, FL 32162**

THE MIRACLE OF SHERIDAN

G-38...Was GOD Involved?

BY CPT MIKE THOMPSON, USAF (RET)
SHERIDAN TANK DRIVER

I arrived in Vietnam on the exact same day Neil Armstrong walked on the moon: 20 July 1969. By pure luck I was assigned to the finest unit in Vietnam, the 1th Armored Cavalry Regiment. At the time, I didn't know this assignment was planned because the 11th ACR was about to swap out two ACAVS for three Sheridans in each Cavalry platoon. I was MOS trained and qualified on the Sheridan at Fort Knox after armor crew school training.

For my first few months with Blackhorse I served as the left gunner on Sgt Bob Moreno's ACAV. Yep, that Bob, the same one who is our 11th ACVVC reunion registration chairman.

Sgt Bailey and I, were tasked to go pick up our Sheridan at the Bien Hoa repo depot. We had to spray off globs of cosmoline from G-38. I immediately formed a bond with that tank. This is not something that can be explained by logic. It's like the car mechanic who builds his own car from scratch, then falls in love with it. It's his baby. Right away I started talking to this killing machine and I promised to this bucket of bolts that we would both make it out of here in one piece.

We drove G-38 out to Blackhorse basecamp and more Sheridans quickly arrived. The Cav platoons replaced two worn and scarred ACAVS for three shiny new OD colored Sheridans with greater firepower and more crew protection. We spent about a week in gunnery training during the miserable Monsoon season. After which we joined our respective platoons to begin our mission of hunting Charlie.

Our third platoon leader was 1Lt John Ryan, an Irishman from New York City. Many years later in 1993, I was hired as a USAF Junior ROTC teacher in Long Island NYC. I lived with him and his wife Mary until I found a place to rent in Point Lookout, NY and bring my wife Louise out from California.

In 1968 Richard Nixon was elected President on the promise he would pull us out of this war. John Ryan agreed with that premise, so he came up with ingenious ways to prevent casualties in his 3rd platoon. He was a master at military map reading. He was adept at finding a nice rubber tree plantation, like the one outside of Loc Ninh on Hwy QL 13. Then he would radio in that 3rd platoon was in deep enemy jungle near the Cambodia border. We never lost a single man in his 6 months.

Our next assignment was the clearing of Hwy QL 13 from Loc Ninh to the Cambodia border. Lots of Rome Plows and the 919th Engineers helping clear the road of mines. Lots of Agent Orange sprayed on the jungle. I remember sitting on an empty barrel of the stuff. I am still on the Agent Orange registry today. I remember lots of days of rain. As I remember it rained about 8 times a day and usually all night every night. This was also the time of the automatic ambush. What an ingenious weapon that

was. It was the brainchild of one of our guys we called "Super Grunt". We set up 3 or 4 automatic ambushes (AAs) every day. You know, Claymore mines camouflaged while daisy chained together, triggered by a trip wire and a hidden battery pack. Then we found an NDP to circle the wagons like in the old cavalry days against Indians. Then guard duty started. You remember how that worked. 2 hour shifts: usually 10pm to 12, 12 to 2 AM, 2am to 4am and 4am to 6am. And throughout the night, we sat waiting for the inevitable explosions as the automatic ambushes (AA) worked their magic: 0100 Boom, 0330 Boom, 0530, Boom. Next day we would go out and count the bodies. Usually two – six bodies in each AA, mangled beyond description. In many cases the only way to calculate how many you got was to toss legs into a pile and divide by two. I went out on one such body count and then decided I was going to honor the rule about the driver and the track commander will always remain on their tracks.

Lt Frank Cambria was now the Platoon leader, as he replaced John Ryan. He was a fantastic Leader and became my most admired friend after meeting him at the first reunion of the 11th ACVVC in 1986. He remains my #1 battle buddy even now. His story of 01 May 1970 during the Cambodia invasion is legendary. He spotted an ambush by the NVA about to happen. He put our Platoon online and we chased the running NVA through second growth saplings towards a solid green wall of jungle and old growth forest.

Captain Menzel would not allow us to fire because he feared a friendly fire incident with H Company that was attempting a flanking movement. Lt. Cambria shouted over the radio to CPT Menzel that he had to fire because the fleeing NVA soldiers were NVA "bait". As our line neared the green wall of foliage and the NVA disappeared, the RPGs suddenly streaked in and the enemy trench line opened up with all they had.

The day before on 30 April 1970, Lt Cambria announced we would be going into Cambodia tomorrow for 60 days for limited incursion under the authorization of President Nixon. I only had 2 months left on my one-year tour, so I was not very enthusiastic about this. Our new Platoon Sergeant switched me off of driving G-38 and put me on his Sheridan G-37, as his driver. He did so because he knew I was the #1 best driver in all of 3rd platoon. . In one year the other nine tracks ran over a total of 17 land mines and G-38 NEVER ran over one. I kept a log book of everyone who served on each track in my year there. I also kept a logbook of every track that hit a land mine. If the driver stays in the exact track marks of the vehicle ahead of him, and they will hit the mine, not you. The problem with that was the Sheridan's width was wider than the ACAV. However, due to the fact that every few days or so, the Platoon Leader or Platoon Sergeant would change the leading or point track in column movements. When G-38 rotated to point, it was only pure stupid luck that we didn't hit a mine. One of the tracks under Sgt Belton actually ran over 5 mines. He was given a new nickname: "Magnet Ass Belton."

When the ambush hit, I sensed immediately that two RPGs hit our line. And I was right. Almost at the exact same time, one RPG hit G-36, Franks ACAV, and another RPG hit my beloved G-38.

Please turn to "Miracle" on page 26

Blackhorse Hoofbeats

Echoes from the Regiment's Service in Vietnam 1966-1972

Don Snedeker, 11th ACVVC Historian

QUOTES FROM OUT OF THE PAST

1966 Colonel William Cobb Organization Day speech, 5 May 1966:

"Since its birth in February 1901, the Blackhorse Regiment has always served with distinction. Only 9 short months after being organized, the 11th Cavalry was shipped to the Philippines to fight a completely unfamiliar type of war. The officers and men of the 11th quickly mastered the art of irregular warfare in action against the savage Moros ... With the world situation as it is today, it is quite possible that the Blackhorse Regiment may again find itself in an irregular war just as it did in its infancy."

The rest of the story: Colonel Cobb had already been officially notified that the Blackhorse was headed to Vietnam in September. But the orders were classified, and only a small number of senior officers and non-commissioned officers could be told. But most people who read the newspaper or watched TV understood that the plus-up in personnel, hard training, and new equipment meant only one thing. We're going to WAR! And soon. Three months later, Troopers boarded the ships headed for Vietnam.

1967 Pacific Stars & Stripes, 19 February 1967:

"Three Vietnamese Red Cross workers and their patient recently stumbled into elements of 3d Sq., 11th Armored Cav. Regt., after being held captive by the Viet Cong for seven days. Before being evacuated, they told the Cav. troops of walking through the jungle for six days, blindfolded and carrying the patient on a stretcher. It started Feb. 2 when the Red Cross workers picked up the patient from the German hospital ship Helgoland in Saigon, where he was being treated for a paralyzed leg. They started [in an ambulance] for Xuan Loc ... The group accidentally went southeast to the coastal town of Ba Ria ... Near the town of Cam My, the Viet Cong stopped them and confiscated the ambulance. The Red Cross workers were blindfolded and forced to carry their patient on a stretcher for six days."

The rest of the story. Still blindfolded, the group didn't realize that the VC had abandoned them during the night. The three Red Cross workers carried the patient on the stretcher for the better part of a day before the Blackhorse Troopers spotted them. The patient was quickly whisked away to the hospital in Xuan Loc, and the Red Cross workers "showed no signs of injury and said they were not mistreated."

1967 New York Times, 26 February 1967, Tom Buckly reporting:

"The snorting 52-ton tanks and personnel carriers of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment linked up today with patrols of the First Infantry Division in northwestern Tay Ninh Province [on Operation Junction City], a few miles from the Cambodian border, and began a foot-by-foot search for the secret headquarters of the Vietcong. They found concealed in tangled scrub concrete-

reinforced bunkers and equipment and documents indicating that a guerrilla signal center and a propaganda school has been based there. The bunkers were deserted, but Lieut. Col. Martin [Tiger] Howell, a star tackle on the West Point football team in the late nineteen-forties and commander of one of the regiment's squadrons [1st Squadron], said he was not convinced that the enemy had left the vicinity."

The rest of the story: Bengal Squadron found two huge printing presses used by the Viet Cong headquarters for reproducing psyops pamphlets and leaflets, but, alas, all of the VC had, indeed, boogied across the border into Cambodia.

1967-1968 Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 January 1968, 13 May 1968:

"Mail delivery was particularly difficult during the holiday [Christmas] season. Although the mail came to Blackhorse [Base Camp] by convoy, it was not feasible to deliver it from Blackhorse to such locations as Loc Ninh [2nd Squadron] and Lai Khe [Regimental Headquarters and 1st Squadron] by convoy. The weight of the mail handled daily varied from a norm of 3,000 pounds to a high of 10,000 pounds per day during the holiday season. Timely transportation of mail to the troops in the field required from 1 to 2 flights daily and the 24 hour operation of the 7th Army Postal Unit [APU]."

The rest of the story: For its first four years in country, the 7th APU had a morning report strength that averaged about 16 Troopers (one officer and 15 Enlisted Personnel). But Bruce Miller, who joined the 7th APU in January 1967, remembers there was a sergeant in charge and only he and six other EM to handle the mail. One of the things that made the 7th APU unique was its approach to taking care of the Blackhorse Troopers. Typical of this attitude was the fact that they were the only such unit that routinely sent postal clerks to the field on paydays so that Troopers could buy money orders to send home. Even when the Regiment was deep inside Cambodia on 31 May 1970, the 7th APU's money order clerks made the trek to the area around Snuol to take care of their postal patrons.

1967-1968 CBS Television Morning News, 2 January, 1968, Igor Oganessoff reporting:

"The 11th Cav Regiment is the first major American unit to move up to the [Cambodian] border and set up operations to sweep the frontier ... The men of the 11th Cav patrol the jungles regularly, but the VC show no willingness to take them on ... One day, a frustrated squad like this, or a battalion, will face the decision [to cross the border] in hot pursuit or stop at the frontier and watch them disappear. As the communist forces continue to use Cambodia as a supply and staging area, the temptation to attack them is almost irresistible."

The rest of the story: The temptation proved irresistible two and

a half years later in May 1970 when the Blackhorse led U.S. forces into southern Cambodia to destroy the communist supply bases there.

1968 In March 1968, Neal Creighton and John Getgood returned to Vietnam to visit the battlefields where 3rd Squadron had fought 30 years earlier in Hau Nghia Province. Creighton was then the Bandit Squadron Commander and Getgood the S3 Operations Officer. They were escorted by the commander of the 9th Viet Cong Division, their battlefield opponent back in 1968. This is from their trip report.

“We went to the village of Xom Giong Sen, where we had fought on the afternoon of March 17, 1968 ... Here, they escorted us to a monument in a field they said would commemorate our battle. When we got there, we found that the monument had nothing to do with our action nor did it have much to do with reality. It commemorated an action which supposedly took place on May 8-9, 1968 in which the VC killed 300 Americans and destroyed 96 tanks. Getgood remarked that there probably weren't that many tanks in II Field Force [the Headquarters for all of II Corps Tactical Zone] but the remark did not get translated ... From the conversations with former VC officers who were with us, they fully believed what was on the monument.”

The rest of the story: During the entire month of March 1968 during its operation in Hau Nghia Province, 3rd Squadron suffered 7 killed in action and the loss of 3 armored vehicles. The US Military Assistance Command Vietnam (MACV) reported no major battles in Hau Nghia Province in the period 8-9 May.

1968 ABC Television Evening News, 1 August 1968, Don Baker reporting:

“Most of the men of the US 11th Armored Cavalry are too young to remember George S. Patton, Sr., the colorful general who cut a swath across Europe in World War II. These soldiers do know, however, that the Patton tanks they drive are named for their commanding officer's father ... [Baker] Colonel, you bear a proud name in American military history, particularly in armor. Is that sometimes a handicap? [Patton] I've never figured it was a handicap ... I have to always be myself, but I'm honored to bear the name and I've spent 22 years in the Army trying to do my part ... There was kind of a sobering thing last night – a memorial service for four men in the 2nd Squadron who were killed the other day, one of them being a medic, and the place was just packed. We sang 5 hymns and a nice prayer. I turned around and looked at their faces and they were just proud. They looked determined and reverent at the same time, but still they're a bloody good bunch of killers.”

The rest of the story: The medic Colonel Patton referred to was Specialist 4 Sam Allison, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 2nd Squadron, killed in action while attached to E Troop on 9 July 1968. Sam was posthumously awarded a Bronze Star with “V” for Valor for his actions on that day.

1968 Pacific Stars & Stripes, 15 November 1968:

“Thirty Vietnamese orphans now have proud parents and new

homes in the far off country of Norway, thanks to the efforts of the Vietnamese government, the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment and a Norwegian family. The children left Tan Son Nhut airport in a special aircraft designed to provide the maximum in comfort for the orphans. A doctor and seven nurses accompanied the children to Oslo, Norway. The project began with the arrival in Vietnam of Torbjorn Jelstad and his wife, Eva, members of the Norwegian Committee for Southeast Asia ... Captain Lemos L. Fulmer, Baton Rouge, La., Civil Affairs Officer for the 11th Armored Cav Regiment met the couple in Saigon. They told me their story ... He [Fulmer] introduced the Norwegians to Vietnamese officials and provided transportation to orphanages in the Bien Hoa Province ... With paperwork completed Fulmer managed to have an Army bus to take the happy group to the airport, headed for their new homes.”

1968 New York Times, 15 November 1968, B. Drummond Ayers, Jr. reporting:

“For almost two weeks, the airmobile troops [of the 1st Air Cav Division] have been operating out of landing zones such as this one ... But the airmobile troops have seldom been able to find an enemy unit larger than a platoon. The division's officers—even some of its rank and file—are frustrated. ‘Find the bastards and pile on’ is one of the division's mottoes.”

The rest of the story: SAY WHAT? Not a 1st Cav Division motto. The Blackhorse motto.

1969 Commander's Note #29, 21 July 1969, Colonel James Leach:

“The Regimental Surgeon has reported that members of the Regiment are using C-4 Explosive as a cooking fuel in the field. When ignited and used as a cooking fuel, C-4 Explosive releases toxic byproducts which, if inhaled or digested, can cause grand mal seizures and permanent kidney damage. Consumption of alcoholic beverages such as beer greatly enhance the effects of the toxic C-4 by products by facilitating greater absorption into the blood stream ... Commanders at all levels will insure that personnel are aware of the health hazards involved in the use of C-4 Explosive as a cooking fuel and that it's use is discontinued immediately.”

The rest of the story: But C-4 was SO much quicker at heating your coffee than those oh-so-slow heat tabs. You just had to make sure you remembered which Claymore you pinched the C-4 from – and washed your hands before eating anything. Otherwise, you got the “C-4 shakes” – a VERY serious side effect. And your Claymore wouldn't blow up when you needed it.

1969 ABC Television Evening News, 17 December 1969, Don Baker reporting:

“For some two months now, the special forces camp at Bu Dop has been virtually surrounded. The only way in or out of Bu Dop is by air. Now, nearly two hundred tanks, armored personnel carriers and bulldozers are cutting through the jungle along the road in an operation called Long Reach. Long Reach is based on a simple premise. If the jungle is in the way, move it. In just five days, the tanks of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment have pushed five miles up the road, leaving behind a cleared swath more than 100

Please turn to “Hoofbeats” on page 14

yards wide ... In just a few days the tanks and Sheridans of the 11th Armored Cavalry will be pushing into Bu Dop, moving the jungle aside and bringing their mobile firepower to bear on an estimated NVA [North Vietnamese Army] Regiment. It will be an early Christmas gift for the men at that isolated outpost.”

The rest of the story: *Between 5 and 26 December 1969, Battle Squadron, reinforced with two airmobile infantry companies from 1/12 Infantry, 1st Air Cav, the 919th Engineer Company, Light Fire Teams from Air Cav Troop, and Rome Plows from the 984th Land Clearing Company (Rome Plow), cleared 200 meters of jungle on each side of Highway 14A, opening a land route to the Bu Dop Special Forces Camp and Bo Duc District capital for the first time since the French left Indochina in 1954. In those 21 days, the team cleared 6,000 acres of dense jungle, making sure that Charlie couldn't ambush the much-needed resupply convoys to Bu Dop.*

1970 8 May 1970, interview with Colonel Donn Starry:

“I was first notified that there would be an operation into Cambodia on 28 or 29 April [the Blackhorse crossed the border on 1 May 1970] ... During the briefing sessions, I was told only the mission of the regiment. I was not informed why American forces were going into Cambodia ... The operation did go better than I had expected. I was apprehensive because we were going into an unknown area and were fearful of taking heavy casualties. But I welcomed the opportunity to demonstrate the armor scheme. However, I was somewhat apprehensive about the fact that there might be some pressure to make a cavalry dash into Cambodia. But you don't make dashes into the jungle without getting equipment bogged down and people killed unnecessarily.”

The rest of the story: Colonel Starry, 41st Colonel of the Regiment, was wounded in action by a North Vietnamese hand grenade during the liberation of the Cambodian crossroads town of Snuol on 5 May. He gave this interview from his hospital bed. He returned to duty two days later, against his doctor's orders.

1970 New York Times, 14 June 1970, James Sterba reporting:

“The war is quieter when it rains. Tanks, their bottoms encased in mud, gradually succumb to it like prehistoric beasts in a tar pit, roaring and straining at first, then falling silent as afternoon monsoon showers drip off their steel hulks. These monsters, given such names as ‘Proud Mary,’ ‘Rosemary's Baby,’ ‘Chitty Chitty Bang Bang,’ and ‘Evil’ are pronounced unfit for action and are generally exiled to road or base-defense duty.”

The rest of the story: *Except in the Blackhorse!*

1970-1971 541st MI [Military Intelligence] Detachment History: 1 January 1970-3 March 1971, Chief Warrant Officer Clarence Campbell author:

“For those that were in Cambodia ... it was a rewarding and never to be forgotten experience. Although the political and strategic

aspects may long be argued, those who were there and came after saw the results. From then until standdown [March 1971] the enemy no longer had the means to fight nor even the bare necessities of life. An already harsh life became cruel and hard for the enemy. We recall the rallier who crawled into a 3d Squadron NDP [Night Defensive Position] and died of malnutrition before our interrogators could get to him and the NVA [North Vietnamese Army soldier] from the 274th Regt [Regiment] who rallied because the food situation was so bad that his sole rations consisted of ten bananas a day.”

The rest of the story: *“For those of us who were here, the memories will last for a long time. The heroes will become braver, the beer colder [or warmer], the girls prettier, the times better and the friends everlasting.”*

1971 Recommendation for Award of the Presidential Unit Citation, Headquarters, Second Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, 1971:

On 19 May 1971, two platoons of G Troop, reinforced with a South Vietnamese Regional Force (RF) infantry company, were involved in a major firefight one kilometer north of Trang Bang in Hau Nghia Province. From the beginning of the contact, it was clear that the enemy was defending a major base camp – 100 RPGs were fired in the first volley alone, another 200 in the following three minutes. Second Squadron countered with 250 rounds of 155mm and another 50 rounds of 8-inch artillery. These rounds were followed by seven air strikes, using 750-pound bombs and napalm. When the Armored Cavalry Assault Vehicles (ACAVs) and Sheridans were finally able to sweep through the base camp, they found what the North Vietnamese Army had so strongly defended for nine hours – a 200-bunker complex and a cache of almost 150 command-detonated mines. In the center of the complex, where the initial contact was made, the Blackhorse Troopers and RF Grunts found the command bunker, described in the after-action report as consisting of “four levels of chambers below ground, protected by 18-feet of overhead cover – sandbags, logs and hard-packed earth. Radiating outward in all directions from the command bunker were tunnels leading to other bunkers ... Telephone wire connected the bunkers, indicating that the enemy had extensive communications capability within this complex.”

The rest of the story: *Two months later, the Communist Liberation Radio claimed a “great victory” was achieved by its forces on 19 May. “They gutted 54 tanks, armored cars [ACAVs] and bulldozers [Rome plows], and wiped out 205 GIs ...” In fact, six Blackhorse Troopers and 16 RF soldiers were wounded in action on 19 May, but none were killed. One ACAV was a combat loss and six others were damaged.*

1861-1928 Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig: “Infantry and Artillery can win battles, but Cavalry can make them worth winning!”

That IS the rest of the story!

FROM ACAVs TO ICBMs By Mike Thompson CPT USAF (RET)

Former Blackhorse 1LT John Ryan was a high-ranking commercial lawyer in 1993 for the NYC District Attorney's. While I was an AirForce ROTC instructor in NYC, John attended several of our high school military banquets and award ceremonies and gave amazingly appropriate and motivational speeches.

While interviewing for my teaching position at New York City's Roosevelt JR-SR High School, I visited the Ellis Island NY immigration processing center, where my own German relatives arrived in America in the 1890's. As I got off the boat in 1993 at the Ellis Island visitor's center, I was intercepted by a park ranger. As this was just after the first world trade center terrorist attack, which resulted in three dead in the parking lot bombing, all police forces were on high alert and on the lookout. A ranger came up to me because he saw my 11th Cav hat and I was wearing a fanny pack. He asked if I was police. I said yes, as I was a California park ranger after retiring, with a CCW permit. He arrested me immediately because my permit was not good in NY. I was "stuffed and cuffed" right in front of the statue of Liberty and then perp walked past a boy scout troop pointing at me with handcuffs on and wandering what kind of criminal I was.

Next was a boat which took me to the police processing center for the Southern District of New York. Then I was tossed into lockup. The officers who processed me were quite upset that an overzealous NY park ranger arrested a California park ranger with a CCW carry license to begin with at all. At that time, I thought about the irony of all this: I was entrusted for 5 years with the largest nuclear weapon in US history. Now I have been arrested for carrying a .38 caliber pea shooter pistol revolver!

I retired from the USAF at Castle AFB CA where I was in charge of base security in Oct 1992 after 7 years being an Army Sgt and 13 years as a USAF officer, retiring as a Captain. From 1980 to 1985, I served in a combat crew as an ICBM nuclear missile launch Officer in the Titan II silos at McConnell AFB, Kansas. I was in charge of the largest nuclear missile ever deployed by the USAF. It held a 9.5 Megaton nuclear bomb. By the way, the bomb, was stamped at the top with the corporate symbol of General Electric (GE). At the time GE was airing commercials on TV in which their slogan was "We bring good things to life." I always found that amusing, especially when I pointed out the GE symbol to missile silo visitors. For comparison, the

Hiroshima bomb was only 120 kilotons. The Titan was more powerful than the entire total of ALL bombs dropped in WW II. Serving those five years was the most technically challenging job and the most stressful ever in my entire career, other than combat in Vietnam.

My silo crew and I in the underground quarters were constantly being medically examined and tested. We could not even take an Aspirin without medical approval. For five years, I served 24-hour shifts. Our underground silo crews consisted of two USAF officers and two enlisted technicians. It was normally one day on and two or three days off, which were filled with simulator training, top secret decoding training and surprise evaluations.

I called John Ryan for possible help from the police processing center. He showed up and had to put up his entire house in New Jersey as collateral to bail me out. Who could ever believe someone would risk his entire house on behalf of a former Spec 4 who got himself arrested under such stupid premise.

This incident showed the true character and leadership of former Blackhorse 1st Lieutenant John Ryan.

John had a stroke and later died of heart failure. His wife Mary is still alive but blind. Her family helps take care of her now. He finished his year & returned home to NYC & then NJ. Three of us from 3rd platoon attended his birthday several years ago. It was the last time I saw him alive. I will treasure his memory and Mary's help forever.

For the next 2 years I taught air Force Junior ROTC at the high school in Roosevelt NY. I was always extremely appreciative of John and Mary for this act of kindness. I had to behave for 6 months, because my lawyer convinced them (at a cost of several thousand dollars) of my past honorable military service and responsibilities. So, they put me on what's called a deferred prosecution. I had to report to the court in NYC once a month where the lady in charge kept reminding me, I was not allowed to own a gun but she could. Talk about rubbing it in. One day some crazy bastard shot up the subway train that I used to go downtown on because he was pissed off that Mayor Dinkins was not reelected. By luck I was not on that train that day. As I was not allowed my 2nd Amendment rights, I couldn't have done anything anyway.



A L L O N S



By SP4 Ray Wolf

The morning had started quietly enough. Blackhorse tankers cranked up their engines, anticipating a routine run through the Hobo Woods near Ben Cat. Yesterday, January 30th, Viet Cong offensives had ended the Tet holiday truce, but today things seemed normal in the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment Area of Operations.

The day had started quietly enough. But a radio message changed that.

Lieutenant Colonel Jack W. Nielsen, commander of the First Squadron, listened to the words carefully, eyes squinting, face drawn grimly tight. Then he relayed the command over to his squadron radio net. "Current operation is canceled. Turn 90 degrees and head south."

The Vietnamese Tet holiday had erupted into bitter fighting. Even Long Binh and Bien Hoa were under heavy attack. It was time for the Blackhorse cavalrymen to saddle up and move out.

At the time the regiment was stretched out in defensive blacking positions along the Cambodian border about 70 miles northwest of Ben Cat.

The 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment had finished opening Route 13 from An Loc north to Loc Ninh in recent operations. When notified of the attack they were some 80 miles from the Long Binh-Bien Hoa Area.

Third Squadron, the northernmost, moved out first, heading south. The Second Squadron continued sweeping the road for miles, a process begun days before.

But meanwhile the First Squadron had shifted direction. They started southeast on a trail they had cut through the thick jungle just four days before. Suddenly an explosion ripped through the rubber trees and bamboo or Hobo Woods. The lead tank had hit a mine and was receiving sniper fire.

Immediately the tankers traversed their big guns and tore apart the trees on both sides of the trail with canister rounds. But First Squadron kept moving.

Hovering above the Hobo Woods in his CH-23 "bubble" helicopter, Lieutenant Colonel Nielsen radioed his men to leave the trail and break jungle to the right of it. In single file, the tanks, armored cavalry assault vehicles, and self propelled

howitzers cut out a new trail through the jungle. They had no time for mines.

Tanks ground over the brush and the other heavy armor crashed through the trees. The gunners reconned by fire, branches and leaves falling as M-60 and caliber .50 machine guns cracked through the foliage. In four hours the First Squadron had busted through eight miles of jungle to Ben

Cat. Meanwhile, Second Squadron was finishing their mine sweep and moving out to Route 13. Third Squadron met several roadblocks below Loc Ninh. They crashed through the log and wrecked vehicle barriers and kept moving.

By afternoon, the Regiment had assembled at the Ben Cat junction. There, Regimental Commander Jack MacFarlane broke down the move for his squadron commanders. He

gave them their southbound destinations, and they moved out.

They left the wheeled vehicles in Lai Khe and kept moving south. The track convoy kicked up dust as they snaked along the winding road through Dian. Then they were on black top and by midnight they were through Long Binh gates.

Second and Third Squadrons moved into Bien Hoa to guard the Prisoner of War Compound, the Honor Smith Compound for helicopter pilots, the Bien Hoa Air Strip, and the III Corps ARVN Headquarters.

First Squadron went to II Field Force Headquarters. When they pulled into the gates they heard cheers from some of

“LET’S GO”



Photo by PFC William Leverington

the sandbagged bunkers over the roar of their engines.

Two troops crossed Route 1 into Widow's Village and outposted its perimeter. The rest of the First Squadron and Regimental Headquarters unloaded their communication tracks and set up their Tactical Operations Centers near II Field Force Headquarters.

A sergeant from the TOC walked down to inspect the perimeter. Someone wearing Master Sergeant stripes came up to him in the dark.

"You from the 11th Cav?"

"Yeah."

"Glad to see you here", said the Master Sergeant.

After daybreak the next morning, the 11th Cavalry's "I" Troop searched the village across from the ARVN III Corps Headquarters, along with elements of the 101st Airborne Division.

Soon they received heavy automatic weapons fire from the main part of the village. The Cavalry turned their guns on the buildings to suppress enemy fire.

Captain Donald Derrah, "L" Troop Commander, opened up with an M-60 chine gun on Viet Cong positions, killing seven enemy. When the infantrymen had abandoned the buildings, he instructed the Armored Cavalry Assault Vehicles and a tank platoon to fire, then withdrew the Troop into the III Corps compound.

Gunships strafed enemy positions, and Captain Derrah joined a 10 man patrol that returned to the scene of the firefight to extract two men pinned down by enemy fire. When the battle ended, 46 enemy had died at the hands of the combined force.

Two days later, Second Squadron's "E" Troop moved into a section north of Bien Hoa along with a platoon of the 101st Airborne Division. When they arrived at Tan Phu they were told to wait for a psychological warfare team.

A platoon of Viet Cong was reported ready to surrender under the Chieu Hoi Program. When the Psyops team arrived, "E" Troop moved into the village. The loudspeakers appeal was answered by small arms and RPG fire.

Captain Robert C. Palmer, "E" Troop Commander, sent one of his ACAV platoons racing to the far end of the village. Then the Psyops team broadcast another message. The reply was the same. Another platoon of infantrymen arrived, so Captain Palmer and the commander of the 101st element sent teams of armor and infantry to search the village house to house.

For a while everything was quiet, then an RPG round tore into an ACAV and the heaviest fighting broke out. The infantry and cavalrymen pulled back so gunships and boomers could blast the still-hostile part of the village. The battle lasted four hours. The alleged platoon that had claimed to want to surrender was actually two companies who wanted very much to fight. Seventy-Five enemy died in the fighting at the hands of the combined fighting forces.

Days after the battle, Major General O.M. Barsanti presented awards to 22 Blackhorse Cavalrymen, including Regimental Commander Colonel Jack MacFarlane, for their actions during the Long Binh-Bien Hoa fighting.

In 14 hours the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment had saddled up and moved out, some 80 miles to where they were needed. They lived up to their motto, ***"Allons:" : "Let's Go!"***



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In the Spirit of America

I hope you enjoyed the celebration of the 250th birthday of our nation this past 4th of July.

You may have watched or participated in a number of events and listened to endless speeches as almost every orator tried to define the American Spirit or Americanism. In fact, over the last many years, numerous political pundits have claimed they understand the Spirit of America. Some of those orations make you proud and others make you depressed and you wonder as to what is the true definition of Americanism or the Spirit of America.

I too struggle with that definition. Breaking away from sporting events, I either go to the weather channel or watch a re-run of the Andy Griffin Show as the news channels can't provide a brighter smile than Barney Fife does in *Mayberry*. Yet, we still have to watch the news, which even when good is suspiciously labeled as having a hidden meaning. More often it is contrarian and discouraging. But we are inclined to listen and though facts shouldn't change, the way they are interpreted differ from channel to channel. What is the Spirit of America? After listening to news casters and so-called expert senior analyst (mostly beautiful young women with long flowing hair and eye-lashes thicker than Allen Hathaway's mustache), retired generals and washed-up politicians, I still don't understand the spirit of America.

I have lived a long and comfortable life: actually, I have lived through one-third of the history of this country; a country we normally call America. The United States is only one of the many nations on the American continent, but for most of us, we equate it as the only America. And each of us feel that we know the Spirit of America. But who among us can define that Spirit - can we write or articulate a definition? I can't. I've tried. I have searched and I have asked so many others smarter than me to define the Spirit of America. That task of writing a definition is beyond me.

So, after 89 years I have decided that it (the Spirit of America), cannot be explained in writing, but it most certainly can in recall. The explanation of the Spirit of America can only be explained in the eyes and words, the hugs and the smiles of the people we meet or have met along life's journey.

As a youth, I was guided by men who carried a paper lunch bag as they walked to their jobs in the steel mills, railroad yards, Westinghouse Electric plants and coal mines during the years of the Second World War. As I grew older, it was defined in my Scout training or by sports coaches who had fought in the Pacific theater or walked across Europe wearing steel pots and carrying a heavy Garand rifle - some of them with a limp, others with a piece of metal still in their bodies. *They were the Spirit of America.*

So too, were Jimmy Stewart and John Wayne, and not just in their war movies; or Yogi Berra, Ted Williams, Umpire Augie Donatelli and Stan Musial on the Baseball fields, all veterans of WW II. The Korean War started while I was in the 8th grade and we followed it daily looking at maps printed in the daily papers and explained in school by my teacher, Sister Clementine. I was so taken with the Spirit of America, I wanted to enlist at 13. (By the way, that's is still my favorite song: Oh My Darling, Clementine.)

As best selling author David Baldacci writes in his book, *Strangers in Time*: "Sometimes it simply comes down to the serendipity of whom one meets and when." Certainly, that has been true for me, I can only define the Spirit of America in those whom I met along the way. But it didn't end there. No, I continued to build a stone bastion around that monumental Spirit. The bricks, no the large boulders I used still came from the important relationships I have of great men and women encountered along my path through the history of my life.

Jumping ahead to my military years, I became a part of the definition through my service to my country, not because of any special deed of my own but because of the shoulder-to-shoulder contact I had with great Americans. It began for me at Fort Knox. Here I was in an Army post named after a great American hero-general. [How in the hell did he drag those massive cannons and ordnance from Fort Ticonderoga to Boston in the depth of winter? No big trucks of cranes; not even an Interstate highway.] My Post Commander at Fort Knox was General Desobry. Wow! A hero of the Battle of the Bulge, the commander of Task Force Desobry that suicidally raced into Bastogne to rescue his brothers-in-arms. My Brigade Commander, Colonel Buck Buchannon, a Marine that survived island hopping amphibious landings in the Pacific, who as a mustang when he joined the Army, rose to the rank of a gray-haired Colonel that commanded more respect than the legendary George Patton IV, who was then the Commandant General of the Armor School. Shoulder-to-shoulder with these men; I lived the Spirit of America.

Then off to Vietnam and watching my starved fatigues fade to a muddy dull and dirty green while riding on the back of LT Bill Knowlton's truck, sharing an ammo can hot meal with "Spaghetti" (Jim Stafferi) and "Fat-belly" and "Short Round." Sorry, I can't recall their last names. They, often shirtless and sweaty, taught me about the Spirit of America. Hitching helicopter taxi-rides from troop to troop with Colonel Bill Stokes, the real last commander of the Regiment's Squadron in Vietnam, who was severely wounded as a Special Forces hero in his first tour and so desired and worked to bring his boys home intact. Even when I was getting chewed out by my (now) good friend, Monk Foley because of my slovenly

appearance and muddy boots. I was protected by First Sergeants at every laager or firebase – and so, I could smile because I was living the Spirit of America. I so admired Troop Commanders and Platoon Leaders, like Bill Bachman, Joe Shogan and John Hrom, Clint Ancker and Tom Meriwether; Squadron XO's that included Wayne Glass, Joe Flanders and John Willut and Chiefs Davis and Soule. And then again, the inspirational Doc Nick Cifelli and his unafraid MedCap visits into hostile and primitive villages – there I learned too of the Spirit of America in the grad school environment of the dusty fields, steaming jungles, rice paddies and elephant grass plains of that fiery crucible we knew as Vietnam.

My education was not complete. I should have been satisfied that I was an expert and could easily define the Spirit of America when I got off the plane in Oakland, but I needed to learn more and my future jobs sat me beside President Reagan when he dedicated the statue of the Three Soldiers at our Vietnam Memorial, let me brief congressmen and co-teach with Speaker Gingrich and be mentored by a retired Navy Captain, Dave Barry, whose funeral at Arlington I was honored to give the eulogy. So, though I still cannot write a paragraph to define the Spirit of America, I continued to live in its atmosphere.

In time, still looking for the definition of that Spirit, I found many veterans of my unit in Vietnam, still serving with the 11th Armored Cavalry Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia, that was in 2007 at the Louisville Reunion and a return trip to Fort Knox. I floated in the "Spirit" of camaraderie and - of America. I began to learn from the members of the 11th ACVVC an even higher and personal understanding of the Spirit of America. I was honored to stand at The Wall over these last two decades with Blackhorse veterans on Memorial Days and Veterans Days: and on cold February mornings at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier with great America heroes like Allen Hathaway and Glenn Snodgrass, both of whom never missed honoring the regiment's birthday even with the bitter howling wind and sub-zero cold. We had over the years so many other troopers come from as far away as Florida or California who joined us: American heroes all: add Lieutenant General Guy Swan III and the contingents of active duty Troopers from Fort Irwin along with the last four Sergeants Major, the retired Sergeant Major of the Army, Ken Preston, and the last five Colonels of the Regiment.

On those cold days in February or on the bright and sunny mornings in May or November, I would see that Spirit of America glaring back at me from under Stetson hats in the faces of young troopers in dress blues, ever standing tall.



11th ACR CSM Burg at The Tomb of the Unknowns

Now, I realize that even though my service seemingly ended when I left the Army in 1973, that it really did not end. All of us may have taken off the uniform, but we continued to serve America. You, and so many of your class of 1966-72 taught me how important it was to continue to serve. What a great blessing you have all been for me; for our country, for the children and grandchildren of our members, for your fellow Americans.

So, even though I still can't write that definition of the Spirit of America, anymore than I can remember all of your names or list all of your awards, I rejoice that I live in your company, the company of men and women who are the Spirit of America.

It has been almost 20 years since I started hanging out with your crowd and near 55 years since I served with some of you and I still feel that Spirit in my heart. As I read too many obituaries trying to find the right words before I write a condolence letter to a surviving spouse or a son or daughter, I am "blown-away" as to how many of you continued to serve after your military service ended. Not only to your country but to your communities, your churches, your families. Membership in fraternal organizations like the VFW and the American Legion only highlight the number of years of coaching, teaching, umpiring, scouting, directing and ever building – always raising up your communities, our youth and your fellow Americans. You are so unselfish, so giving, so compassionate, so intuitive and so forward looking.

Thanks again. We have endured and prospered for 250 years, mostly because of our veterans from all the wars, and from what I have learned about the Spirit of America from all of you, my brother Blackhorse Troopers, I expect that Spirit will continue for myriad generations to come.

Chaplain Bill



Fiddler's Green

We are sorry to report that the following Troopers have taken the journey to Fiddler's Green. We send our heartfelt sympathy and sincere condolences to their families and friends. We honor their service to our country and to our regiment by posting their names.

Over 500 U.S. newspapers are checked daily for the keywords "11th Cavalry" or "11th Armored Cavalry". Information is then posted on our website to allow us to post notices.

Please check the "Funeral Honor Guard, Please check daily" at www.11thcavnam.com

Name	Unit / Dates	Fiddler's Green	Home Town
Aiken, Gerry G.	A Troop 1/11, 66-67	April 7, 2026	Spring City, UT
Alter, Philip P.	409th Radio Research Det., 69-70	April 1, 2026	Bluffton, SC
Andracchio, Eugene E.	Howitzer Btry 3/11, 67-68	November 2, 2023	Philadelphia, PA
Baird, Roland R.	L Troop 3/11, 69-70	March 29, 2026	Edwardsville, IL
Baker, Edward E.	Howitzer Btry 3/11, 70-71	April 9, 2026	Minneapolis, MN
Barta, Andrew A. JR	G Troop 2/11, 67-68 & HHT 2/11, 67-68	November 20, 2021	Boca Raton, FL
Beaven, Barry B.	C Troop 1/11, 68-69	February 21, 2026	Los Lunas, NM
Beckom, Danny D.	HHT 1/11, 68-69	January 16, 2020	Newnan, GA
Bell, Charles C.	F Troop 2/11, 70-71	November 8, 2022	Portage, MI
Bellamy, Moses M. JR	I Troop 3/11, 68-69	April 17, 2020	Denver, CO
Berg, Steven S.	C Troop 1/11, 70-70	February 10, 2026	Amarillo, TX
Besser, Harry H.	Howitzer Btry 2/11, 68-69 & E Troop 2/11, 68-69	February 6, 2022	Albany, IN
Biddle, Steven S.	K Troop 3/11, 69-70	August 31, 2021	Franklin, IN
Bourdess, Andrew A. JR	541st Military Intelligence Det., 68-69	October 30, 2024	Bridgeton, NJ
Bower, Robert R.	L Troop 3/11, 67-68	February 12, 2020	Islesboro, ME
Brewer, James J. SR	C Troop 1/11, 67-68	March 17, 2026	New Llano, LA
Brey, Roger R.	Air Cavalry Troop, 69-70	July 26, 2025	Oshkosh, WI
Briscoe, Robert R.	HHT REGT, 69-70	November 27, 2023	Christiansted, VI
Brown, Robert R.	HHT REGT, 69-70	February 16, 2022	Coeur D Alene, ID
Brown, Steven S.	L Troop 3/11, 70-71	September 20, 2022	Rising Sun, IN
Campione, Jack J.	F Troop 2/11, 70-71	November 23, 2025	Tinley Park, IL
Carr, Hoye H.	398th Transportation Det., 71-72	April 22, 2026	Parsons, WV
Carraher, Joseph J.	F Troop 2/11, 68-69	March 4, 2026	West Islip, NY
Clack, Ronnie R.	D Company 1/11, 67-68	August 27, 2022	Blackstock, SC
Cline, Kenneth K.	398th Transportation Det., 70-71	January 8, 2021	Highland, IL
Covington, Johnnie J. JR	HHT REGT, 70-71 & B Troop 1/11, 70	July 18, 2025	New Braunfels, TX
Coy, Phillip P.	G Troop 2/11, 68-69 & D Company 1/11, 68-69	October 29, 2020	Goshen, IN
Daily, Fred F. III	Air Cavalry Troop, 69-70	June 7, 2021	Metter, GA
Davison, William W.	A Troop 1/11, 67-68	August 24, 2021	Campbell, MN
Delk, Daniel D. SR	2/11, 71-72	March 5, 2021	Atlanta, GA
Dirck, Charles C.	919th Engineer Co., 68-68	January 9, 2022	Haysville, KS
Doerr, Marvin M.	HHT REGT, 66-67	February 19, 2021	Fort Wayne, IN
Drescher, Gerald G.	C Troop 1/11, 70-70	March 20, 2020	Boise, ID
Dunn, Marshall M.	HHT 3/11, 69-70	February 14, 2025	Peterstown, WV

Name	Unit / Dates	Fiddler's Green	Home Town
Dutcher, James J.	Howitzer Btry 1/11, 67-68	April 30, 2026	Mount Pleasant, MI
Elliott, Billy B.	K Troop 3/11, 68-69	November 1, 2021	Lenoir City, TN
Ellis, Russell R.	K Troop 3/11, 67-67	July 31, 2021	Bertha, MN
Emerson, Ralph R. II	409th Radio Research Det., 67-68	February 19, 2026	Tell City, IN
Endres, Bradley B.	G Troop 2/11, 69-70	December 27, 2025	Freeport, MI
English, Alvin A.	HHT REGT, 69-70	October 17, 2023	Ona, FL
Estep, Paul P.	I Troop 3/11, 70-71	February 2, 2026	Dayton, OH
Falkowski, Charles C.	F Troop 2/11, 70-71	February 18, 2025	Kenosha, WI
Feagin, Carroll C.	F Troop 2/11, 71-72	November 6, 2021	Scranton, SC
Feliciano, Pedro P. SR	Howitzer Btry 3/11, 70-71	April 15, 2021	Lacey, WA
Foceri, Joseph J.	G Troop 2/11, 67-68	July 8, 2021	Trinity, FL
Fritz, Michael M.	HHT REGT, 67-68	February 21, 2022	London, TX
Frutos, Reynaldo R.	Air Cavalry Troop, 70-71 & A Troop 1/11, 70-71	February 28, 2026	Santa Paula, CA
Geerdes, Clifton C.	A Troop 1/11, 70-71	April 7, 2021	Ledbetter, KY
Halstead, Babe B.	A Troop 1/11, 68-69	April 6, 2026	Foster, WV
Hamlett, Jeffory J.	B Troop 1/11, 68-68	May 4, 2021	West Des Moines, IA
Harrison, Allen A.	C Troop 1/11, 67-68	January 21, 2026	Bonner Springs, KS
Hartwig, Gary G.	HHT 3/11, 70-71	May 17, 2025	Cockeysville, MD
Higdon, John J.	HHT 3/11, 69-70	December 23, 2021	Boca Raton, FL
Isaman, Gary G.	HHT 2/11, 69-70	February 14, 2023	Shelby Township, MI
Ivey, Walker W.	B Troop 1/11, 67-68	March 21, 2026	San Angelo, TX
Johnson, Larry L.	Howitzer Btry 1/11, 70-70	September 11, 2022	Summerfield, FL
Jones, Henry H.	919th Engineer Co., 66-67	December 28, 2020	Paragould, AR
Kelch, Robert R.	L Troop 3/11, 67-68	September 22, 2023	Loudon, TN
Kelley, Michael M.	HHT 3/11, 67-68	February 6, 2025	Ventura, CA
Kester, William W.	398th Transportation Det., 67-68	December 9, 2020	Glen Allen, VA
Ketterman, Charles C.	Howitzer Btry 3/11, 67-68	April 1, 2021	Maurertown, VA
Kiehl, Ronald R.	Howitzer Btry 1/11, 69-70	May 5, 2026	Burnsville, MN
Kopec, Joseph J.	541st Military Intelligence Det., 70-71	December 20, 2020	Kenner, LA
Kozarski, Ronald R.	HHT REGT, 66-67	September 24, 2023	Claymont, DE
Lauterbach, George G.	G Troop 2/11, 68-68	November 10, 2021	Death Valley, CA
Lowe, Harvey H. JR	C Troop 1/11, 68-69	May 27, 2022	New Lexington, OH
Manley, Clyde C.	G Troop 2/11, 66-68	01/32/2025	La Fayette, GA
Matzke, Kenneth K.	D Company 1/11, 67-68	September 13, 2021	Hillsdale, MI
McClellan, Curtis C.	D Company 1/11, 67-68	January 9, 2026	Saint Louis, MO
Mcclurkin, Paul P.	E Troop 2/11, 67-68	November 16, 2020	Hastings, MI
Mcgann, Timothy T.	Howitzer Btry 2/11, 68-68	July 1, 2023	Pisgah Forest, NC
Moncrief, Joshua J. JR	E Troop 2/11, 71-72	October 2, 2021	Jacksonville, FL
Moore, Robert R.	HHT 2/11, 66-67	January 1, 2020	Dayton, OH
Moore, William W. JR	HHT REGT, 69-70	January 6, 2022	Rockwall, TX
Mustoe, Victor V. JR	Air Cavalry Troop, 67-68 & HHT REGT, 68	February 18, 2023	Lebanon, TN

Name	Unit / Dates	Fiddler's Green	Home Town
Nealis, Frederick F.	A Troop 1/11, 69-70	November 26, 2022	Bridgeport, WV
Nerkeliunas, Stanislavas S.	B Troop 1/11, 69-70	March 17, 2022	Lebanon, MO
Nicholson, Clyde C.	I Troop 3/11, 66-67 & L Troop 3/11, 65-66	April 5, 2026	Grottoes, VA
Norman, Thomas T.	I Troop 3/11, 68-69	September 18, 2023	Inman, SC
Ontko, David D.	HHT 1/11, 69-70	September 27, 2020	Oak Harbor, OH
Palmer, David D.	HHT REGT, 69-70	January 14, 2022	Albuquerque, NM
Pearcy, Robert R.	D Company 1/11, 71-71	May 14, 2021	Flat Rock, MI
Pedersen, Dennis D.	Howitzer Btry 3/11, 69-70	October 2, 2021	Clay Center, KS
Pippins, James J.	Howitzer Btry 2/11, 72-72	May 25, 2021	Columbus, MS
Powell, Christopher C.	H Company 2/11, 69-70	May 5, 2023	Kansas City, MO
Prestidge, Andrew A. JR	H Company 2/11, 69-70	April 25, 2026	Leeds, AL
Ratcliff, Elmer E.	37th Medical Co., 68-69	January 28, 2023	Bonnyman, KY
Rebeck, William W.	HHT 2/11, 66-67	November 2, 2020	Grovetown, GA
Roberts, Larry L.	E Troop 2/11, 69-75	December 18, 2022	Springfield, MO
Rodgers, Bobby B.	398th Transportation Det., 68-69	March 12, 2026	Lexington, TX
Rosenbaum, Howard H.	HHT 3/11, 70-71	February 26, 2026	Fleming Isle, FL
Rudisill, Gerald G. JR	E Troop 2/11, 67-68	April 2, 2026	Charlotte, NC
Runion, Jack J.	HHT 2/11, 68-69	February 16, 2026	Valparaiso, IN
Schamberger, William W.	HHT REGT, 70-70	December 30, 2025	Berwick, PA
Scott, Joe J.	F Troop 2/11, 71-72	April 16, 2026	Hinesville, GA
Sherwood, David D.	A Troop 1/11, 68-69	February 13, 2026	Grass Lake, MI
Slade, Lavarn L.	D Company 1/11, 69-70	March 10, 2023	Baltimore, MD
Slay, Donald D.	M Company 3/11, 66-67	January 6, 2023	Denver, CO
Smith, Sherman S.	K Troop 3/11, 66-67	March 17, 2026	Wimauma, FL
Smith, Wade W.	HHT 2/11, 68-68 & HHT REGT, 67-68	July 31, 2025	Blairsville, GA
Tinsley, Eddie E.	Howitzer Btry 1/11, 70-71	April 7, 2026	Amarillo, TX
Toler, Floyd F.	B Troop 1/11, 67-68	September 11, 2025	Bay Pines, FL
Vadnais, Patrick P.	HHT 2/11, 66-67 & F Troop 2/11, 66-67	February 26, 2026	Bellingham, WA
Valdez, Anthony A.	K Troop 3/11, 68-69	July 30, 2025	Amado, AZ
Vasquez, Robert R.	L Troop 3/11, 67-68 & M Company 3/11, 67-68	January 17, 2025	Boise, ID
Vaughan, Patrick P.	HHT REGT, 69-70	January 13, 2026	Ashburn, VA
Vega, Ramon R.	HHT 1/11, 69-70 & A Troop 1/11, 70-71	February 17, 2026	Safford, AZ
Welch, Ronald R.	I Troop 3/11, 68-69	March 22, 2025	Homer, GA
Wentz, Darrel D.	HHT REGT, 69-70	February 3, 2026	Elbert, CO
Westerberg, Victor V.	L Troop 3/11, 67-68	February 13, 2026	Fillmore, CA
Wheeler, Alan A.	HHT REGT, 67-68	November 4, 2022	Tustin, CA
Whitmill, Timothy T.	37th Medical Co., 69-70	December 10, 2022	Cleveland, TN
Wickham, Charles C.	A Troop 1/11, 68-68	May 22, 2023	Zanesville, OH
Williams, Keith K.	B Troop 1/11, 69-69	March 7, 2026	Gretna, NE
Woodward, Carl C.	HHT REGT, 70-71	December 27, 2021	Glendale, AZ
Youngblood, Robert R.	Howitzer Btry 3/11, 69-70	March 8, 2026	Graham, TX



Blackhorse Women's Group News

Sheryl Myers, Women's Group 2nd Edition 2026

Dear Ladies Of the Blackhorse,

We are looking forward to being with you in Orlando !

We will not be offering a Tour in Orlando, but there will be a couple of events that we hope you will attend. The first is our Fundraising Table where we need volunteers to help us raise funds for the 11th ACVVC Scholarship Fund, with the sale of our site specific Lanyards. This year the Lanyards will be adorned with a salute to our country's 250th Birthday !!! If you can volunteer at the Fundraising Table on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, please call or email me and we'll find a 2 hour slot of time convenient for you. Bring along a friend to join you!!

The second event we hope you will attend is our Blackhorse Women's Meeting on Saturday morning at 9:30 am. We are excited to announce that we will have two women veterans speaking about their "active duty service". They are members of "WoVeN" - Women Veterans Network. Established in 2017, WoVeN is a community of support for women veterans of all eras and branches of service. Orlando has one of the largest chapters of WoVeN. Please join us on Saturday morning while our Troopers attend their Business Meeting. Families of our Troopers that are attending the reunion are also welcome to attend our meeting.

Cherry's Prayer Shawl Project has sent 35 beautiful shawls of comfort to widows/families of 11th ACVVC Troopers who have passed since our last reunion.

Thank You to those who knit or crochet the beautiful shawls and to those who have donated funds to help with postage costs.

Be sure to check out our Blackhorse Women's Group site on the 11th ACVVC website - 11thcavnam.com for updates, pictures, etc.

Questions or Concerns? Please contact:

Sheryl Myers - sheryl.e.myers@gmail.com or 571-721-9189

Marguerite Austin - mardale@charter.net or 320-212-1068

See you in Orlando !!

THE MIRACLE OF SHERIDAN

G-38... continued

Our new platoon medic Paul Dailey, on his first mission with 3rd platoon was KIA from a direct hit with an RPG on G-36 and Keith Arneson on G-38 was hit in the face and beheaded. Frank's track was charged by the enemy. His right triceps was lacerated from the RPG shrapnel that hit Dailey. His M-16 was blown apart as well as his M-79 grenade launcher. All he had left was his .45 Colt pistol. As the NVA soldier approached his track, he aimed left-handed and emptied the entire 7 rounds at him, taking him down on the very last round. Thus, he survived and received a Purple Heart. Afterwards he was medevacked back to base camp, along with SGT Tanner who was also wounded on G-38. SGT Tanner lost his left eye and left arm.

So here is where part of the miracle comes in. G-38 was never hit by any enemy bullet in the entire year, while I was on it. G-38 was our only track to never run over a land mine. G-38 was never hit by an RPG WHILE I WAS ON IT! It was only AFTER I left 38 that Arneson died on G-38. In fact, Arneson and Dailey were the very first 2 US soldiers to die in the Cambodia invasion. So again G-38 and G-36 made history that day. Also, the only time any bullet ever hit G-38 was when our resident disaffected black panther radical, who actually told Lt Cambria he was thinking of defecting to the enemy, deliberately "misaimed" his M-60 machine gun during a daylight ambush and fired up the entire front slope of my G-38, while I was driving. I watched the bullets spark off of my front slope right in front of my face. To set the facts correct, the only racial problem in 3rd Platoon was that one trooper. Every other Black soldier in 3rd platoon admirably did his duty and all troopers, Black, White or Asian were Blackhorse Brothers and color did not matter. The one troublemaker finally went MIA in Cambodia. An Article 32 Investigation was conducted, and a thorough search was made for him on ground and air with no results. He was ultimately reclassified as KIA and listed on the Wall as such.

By the end of June 1970, My Sheridan and another ACAV needed to go back to Quan Loi for repairs. The platoon was uncovering a massive enemy base camp and supply dump covering several acres. Every man was needed for the job because of Nixon's deadline, Lt Cambria ordered us to take extra .50 Cal ammo each and with just the driver and track commander, and thunder run high speed alone from Cambodia back to Quan Loi base camp. This was about 30 miles. We made it there safely without being ambushed.

Two weeks later I walked up the ramps of the big bird going home. This was after I enjoyed 7 days of R&R in Sydney Australia, which I wont get into here. Lets just say it was very enjoyable! We were told that the area of Kings Cross was OFF LIMITS. So we all knew, like bugs attracted to a candle that that was going to be the first place to go if you wanted any action. Finally, as I walked up the ramp to the freedom bird that was going to take me home to the land of the big PX, one of my buddies going home behind me stopped me with a question. "Thompson, do you know why you survived all this shit?" I said, "Maybe because I was lucky, maybe because I was a good driver, maybe because I hid inside my driver's seat and didn't want to come out, and even slept in it on C-ration boxes?" He grinned at me and said "Nope, the reason why you survived was because you were so damn skinny, all you had to do was turn sideways and all the bullets missed you!"

Here is the next part of the miracle behind G-38. When I got back home to West Point, Georgia, I told my mother about the unbelievable luck for me and G-38, and that I really could not explain it. I can't explain it. My mom said I can tell you why. OK. She said: "It's because I went to the Catholic church every day you were gone and I lit a candle and prayed for you, that's why." They say there are no atheists in a foxhole. Now I can finally believe that!

In closing I am going to point out another stunning number: About 58,000 US troops died in the 16 years of the Vietnam War (1959 - 1975). Statistics also show that about 58,000 Amerasian babies were born to American men and Vietnamese women. Finally, I would not change the things I learned from being in combat with the best damn outfit in the war, the 11th Armored Cavalry Blackhorse Regiment. The #1 lesson I learned is summed up in one word: "Appreciation." Appreciate being alive, appreciate being in the USA, appreciate your God and your family. Appreciate pressing a button on a water cooler dispenser at the airport on the way home from Vietnam, and cold clean water comes out! Appreciate the service of all those who served after you, some of whom also made the ultimate sacrifice (in our platoon we had 5 KIA'S and 15 WIA's out of 40 in 1 year). Pray we never have to experience the trauma of war again, but history shows that the story of mankind seems to be nothing but war and more war. Perhaps that will change. Miracles do happen, and I certainly lived through one! Make up your own mind about whether GOD had anything to do with it!





MEMORIAL DAY AT THE WALL

***Veteran's Affairs - VSO Stuff* Chuck Bosko, F Troop, 69-70**

Recent VA information regarding disability claims.

VA initiates a program to determine fraudulent claims.

Here is what I know.

VA will begin to use AI technology to review the DBQ- Disability Benefits Questionnaires, which veterans include when submitting claims for compensation. These DBQ's are VA forms completed by medical personnel, usually Physicians, Nurse Practitioners or Physicians Assistants and mirror the exams which are scheduled and completed by VA medical personnel – often referred to as Compensation and Pension Exams.

Here is what I think.

During my years as a Veteran Service Officer for the IDVA, I have noticed many such DBQ's that I considered to be, "not quite completed or accurate" for VA purposes. I would then advise a veteran to return the DBQ to his/her medical provider to complete the questionnaire. Now before vets hit the panic button and raise concerns about current compensation, keep in mind that new claims will be scheduled for exams by VA medical personnel. IF and only IF, a disability claim is submitted with a DBQ completed by a non-VA medical provider, that claim and DBQ will be scanned by an AI review process.

Here is what I advocate. Comply with the VA exam process and do seek the assistance of an accredited Veteran Service Officer. Look, Uncle Sugar is really investigating fraud everywhere. DO the right process, work with a VSO.

Questions/concerns- call me. And please, if leaving a VM, include your name and why you are calling. I listen to some messages like, "Hey, it's Hank, trying to call ya". You know I am not returning that call.

Allons
Chuck Bosko

2026 STATE OF THE REUNION 41ST ANNUAL REUNION, ORLANDO, FLORIDA

The reunion site for 2026 will be at the Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando Fla. **Monday, August 31-September 6, 2026.** The hotel is located at 9840 International Dr. Orlando, Fla. 32819. There are 3 Rosen hotels in Orlando so be sure you are making reservations for the right one. **Hotel room reservations must be made by August 10, 2026.**

Hotel reservations can be made by phone: 407-996-9842, use code 11thACVVC.

On line: <http://www.rosencentre.com> Room rate is \$135+ tax

Reunion registration is \$140 check-\$144 for credit card per person

Scooter rentals at Scooter King, 407-504-7769

All registrations must be received by August 12, 2026. Registrations made after this date will be returned. If you need to cancel, registration refunds will be made in full if received by the Treasurer no later than August 24, 2026.

All planning has been done or in progress. There is much to do in Orlando so make it a family affair. More info to follow as we near the reunion dates. We are anticipating approximately 600 attendees, rooms go quickly so get your reservations made soon. Please reserve your rooms by the cutoff date or you will not get our reduced rate. Accurate numbers are a must for final preparations so please make all plans as soon as you can.

2026 11TH ACVVC REUNION SHIRT ORDER FORM

All pre-ordered shirts that are mailed in will be available for pick-up at the Quartermaster Store at the 2026 reunion in Orlando, Florida.
Orders must be received by August 1st, 2026.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Shirt info: Charcoal or Red with reunion logo embroidered on **left** chest. Name, troop, year on **right**

Adult Size: M, L, XL - \$38.00 each / 2XL - \$40.00 each / 3XL - \$42.00 each

Shipping: If you can't attend the reunion, add \$9.00 shipping and the shirts will be mailed to you.

Price includes up to 3 lines of 40 characters per line of personalized embroidery (Name, Unit, Dates, Etc.)

Line 1: _____

Line 2: _____

Line 3: _____

Card No. _____ CVC Code _____ Exp. Date _____ Zip _____

Signature (required for credit card) _____



Size: _____

Color: Grey _____

Color: Red _____

Pocket: Yes No

Make checks or money orders payable to **11th ACVVC, Finish Line Awards**

Mail form to **11th ACVVC Quartermaster, C/O Barbara Brown, PO BOX 475, Wellington, CO 80549**

The 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia QM Store



#1 Allons Patch -
3" x 2" inches
\$5.00



#2 11th Armored Cavalry Patch
3" x 2" \$5.00



#10 Small Blackhorse Magnet
\$6.00

#26 Large Blackhorse Magnet
7 X 8 1/2" \$12.00



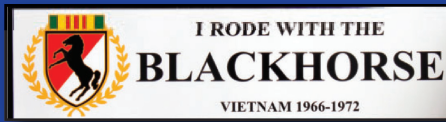
#28 Blackhorse Logo
Sticker 2" X 2.5" with
adhesive on back" \$2.00



#55 4" Vietnam
Cambodia Patch
\$5.00



#35 Allons
Decal \$3.00



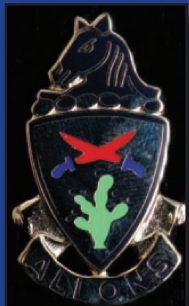
#3 Bumper Sticker \$3.00



#19 Blackhorse Cavalry Pin \$6.50



#4 Window
Sticker \$3.00



#18 11th ACR
Regimental Crest
\$7.00



#7 Blackhorse Patch
Colored \$5.00



#32 Coffee Mug
\$10.00



#17 Blackhorse Pin
\$5.00



#20 Vietnam
Blackhorse Pin,
Wreath \$5.00



#54 Flag Pin
\$6.50



#44 Vietnam Veteran
Cavalry Pin \$5.00



#63 Vietnam
Veteran Patch -
2.5 inches - \$4.00



#25 Blackhorse Coin \$15.00



#22 Shotgun
shot glass
\$4.00



#59. Subdued green
Blackhorse Patch -
\$5.00



#14 License Plate Frame,
Black w/white letters \$5.00



#11 Flag, Indoor/Outdoor \$60.00



#29 Travel Mug
\$20.00



#15 Leatherette
Coaster 4" Rawhide
Coaster \$4.00



#46 Blackhorse
Saber \$89.00



#8 Metal Crest on
Leather Key Tag
\$8.00



#52 BLACKHORSE
4" US Tracker Folder
Knife



#56 Leatherette
Koozie
(Black or Red)
\$7.00



#12 Vinage Blackhorse Coin
\$10.00



#62 Black
Leatherette
Coaster \$4.00

The Quartermaster Store is now on line at: 11thcavnam.com



#38 Poplin Hat \$18.00



#48 Bucket Boonie Hat \$18.00



#43 Outdoor Wide Brim Hat \$25.00



#23 Grey Vietnam Outdoor Cap \$18.00



#31 Blackhorse Pigment Print Camouflage Cap \$18.00



#47 11th Cavalry Cap \$18.50



#58 Distressed Military Cap \$18.50



#9 Trucker Cap Black and Charcoal \$18.00



#9 Trucker Cap Mesh Back, Black and Charcoal \$18.00



#30 Blackhorse ACR Cap \$18.00



#60 Tactical Multicam Cap - Camo \$20.00



#61 Khaki Cotton Twill Sandwich Bill Cap \$18.00



#34 Full Zip Sweat Shirt \$30.00



#49 Dry Zone Grid Polo \$30.00



#27 Eddie Bauer Polo \$32.00



#51 Lightweight Wind Jacket \$94.00



#33 Heavy Blend hooded sweatshirt \$28.00



#21 Port Authority Soft Shell Jacket \$52.00



#24 Blackhorse Fleece Vest \$29.00



#36 Black Cotton T-Shirt S-M-L-XL- \$20.00 2XL- \$22.00 3XL- \$23.00



#50 Ladies Jersey Knit Cardigan \$40.00



#37 Gray Cotton T-Shirt S-M-L-XL- \$20.00 2XL- \$22.00 3XL- \$23.00



#51 Lightweight Wind Jacket \$34.00



#39-#40 T-shirt, Light Gray and Green Gildan ultra cotton with full color insignia \$20.00



#5 Hoodie Sweat Shirt \$30.00



#41 & 42 Dark Denim Shirt Available in Long and Short Sleeve





Quartermaster

ORDER FORM | 2nd Edition 2026

ARMORED CAVALRY'S VETERANS OF VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA

Item No.	Product Description	\$ Amt	Size	Qty	\$ Total
1.	Allons Patch	5.00			
2.	11th Armored Cavalry Patch	5.00			
3.	Bumper Sticker "I Rode With the Blackhorse" w/ full color BH insignia	3.00			
4.	Window Sticker, full color BH insignia and Vietnam service ribbon	3.00			
5.	Full Zip Hooded Sweatshirt	30.00			
7.	Full Color Shoulder Patch	5.00			
8.	Metal Crest on Leather Key Tag	8.00			
9.	Trucker Cap Mesh Back, Black and Charcoal.....	18.00			
10.	Small Blackhorse Magnet	6.00			
11.	Flag, indoor/outdoor 3"x5" with color insignia	60.00			
12.	Vintage Blackhorse Coin 1966-1972.....	10.00			
14.	License Plate Frame, black w/Blackhorse 11th US Cavalry in white	5.00			
15.	Leatherette Coaster - 4".....	4.00			
17.	Blackhorse Pin.....	5.00			
18.	Allons Unit Crest	7.00			
19.	Blackhorse Regimental Pin - 11 over cross sabers.....	6.50			
20.	Vietnam Blackhorse Pin - With Vietnam Wreath	5.00			
21.	Port Authority Soft Shell Jacket	52.00			
22.	Shotgun Shot Glass	4.00			
23.	Grey Vietnam Outdoor Cap.....	18.00			
24.	Blackhorse Fleece Vest.....	29.00			
25.	Blackhorse Coin	15.00			
26.	Large Blackhorse Magnet (7" x 8.5")	12.00			
27.	Eddie Bauer Polo	32.00			
28.	Blackhorse Logo Sticker - 2" X 2.5" with adhesive on back	2.00			
29.	Travel Mug	20.00			
30.	Blackhorse ACR Cap.....	18.00			
31.	Blackhorse Pigment Print Camouflage Cap.....	18.00			
32.	Coffee Mug	10.00			
33.	Heavy Blend Hooded Sweatshirt	28.00			
34.	Full Zip Sweatshirt	30.00			
35.	Allons Decal	3.00			
36.	Black Cotton T-shirt.....S-XL- 20.00 2XL- 22.00 3XL- 23.00				
37.	Grey Cotton T-shirt.....S-XL- 20.00 2XL- 22.00 3XL- 23.00				
38.	Hat, Poplin adjustable.....	18.00			
39.	Blackhorse T-shirt, 100% cotton, preshrunk, full color BH insignia. GREEN.....	20.00			
40.	Blackhorse T-shirt, 100% cotton, preshrunk, full color BH insignia. GRAY.....	20.00			
41.	Dark denim shirt - men's short sleeve.....	35.00			
42.	Dark denim shirt- men's long sleeve.....	35.00			
43.	Outdoor Wide Brim Hat <input type="checkbox"/> S/M <input type="checkbox"/> L/XL.....	25.00			
44.	Vietnam Veteran Cavalry Pin.....	5.00			
46.	Blackhorse Saber.....	89.00			
47.	11th Calvary Cap	18.50			
48.	Bucket Boonie Hat (S/M or L/XL)	18.00			
49.	Dry Zone Grid Polo	30.00			
50.	Ladies Jersey Knit Cardigan	40.00			
51.	Lightweight Wind Jacket	34.00			
52.	BLACKHORSE 4" US Tracker Folder Knife.....	22.00			
54.	Flag pin.....	6.50			
55.	4" Vietnam Cambodia Patch.....	5.00			
56.	Leatherette Koozie (Black or Red).....	7.00			
58.	Distressed Military Cap.....	18.50			
59.	Subdued green Blackhorse Patch.....	5.00			
60.	Tactical Multicam Cap - Camo.....	20.00			
61.	Khaki Cotton Twill Sandwich Bill Cap.....	18.00			
62.	Black Leatherette Coaster.....	4.00			
63.	Vietnam Veteran Patch - 2.5 inches.....	4.00			

Note: unless otherwise noted, all clothing items are available in size medium through size 3XL. Specify size and color preference of item requested.

Shipping and Handling

Total

Shipping Costs: (Includes multiple items)

- A) \$3.00 — \$5.00 = \$3.00 C) \$10.00 — \$35.00 = \$15.00 Gear Bag Only = \$25.00
- B) \$6.00 — \$10.00 = \$9.00 D) \$36.00 and up = \$20.00 Gear Bags with other items = \$28.00

Visa Mastercard Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ CVC Code _____

Signature _____

*Name _____ Phone _____

*Address _____ Email _____

*City/State/Zip _____

Check if address change

Please include the largest of chosen items S/H costs with your order. Checks or Money Orders should be made payable to **Finish Line Awards**. **ALL PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE.** Previous price lists are invalid. Mail order to: **11th ACVVC QM, c/o Finish Line Awards, P.O. Box 475, Wellington, CO 80549**

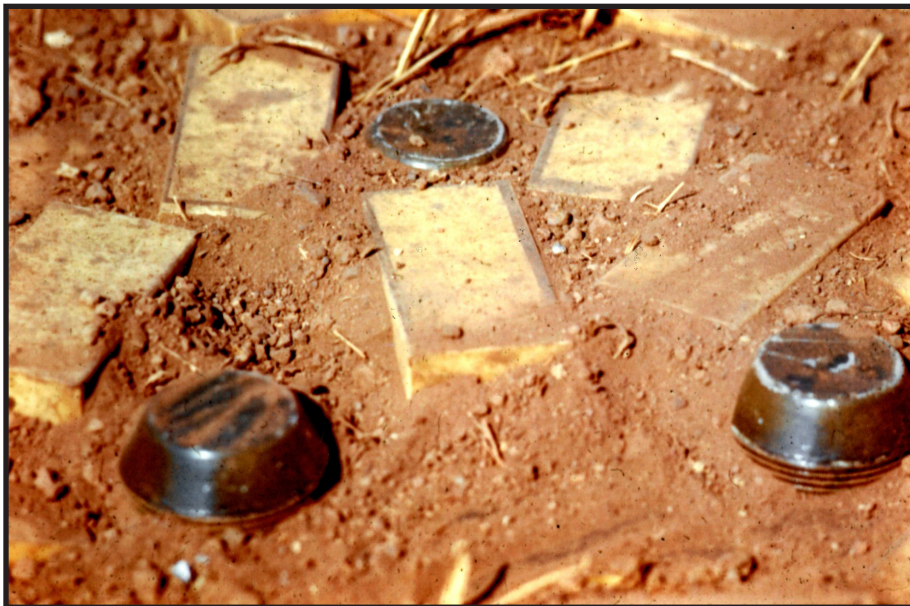
* Required info to process your order



11ACVVC
13194 Rettew Dr.
Manassas, VA 20112-7800

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NON-PROFIT
 U.S. POSTAGE
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 Cleveland, OH
 Permit No.1056



Mines Juiced Up With TNT
 (Photo Courtesy
 CPT Victor Gavin
 919th ENG CO, 1970)

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