



# 2nd Battalion 1st Infantry Chapter, Americal Division Veterans Association (ADVA)



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Volume 13

“A Soldier Once And Always”

February 2023

**Commanders Corner:** Greetings to all my Brothers and Sisters and Families of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> 196 infantry Brigade. I also send greetings to all the brothers and families and Friends of our Sister units that participate with our Organization. I hope everyone is doing well and that you all had a wonderful Holiday season with your Families and Friends. 2023 is a new year and lets all hope it's a much better year than 2022 in many ways.



Unfortunately, we do have some brothers and families that are experiencing health challenges. Ronnie Petitt and his wife Linda are dealing with Ronnie's illness and Eileen Boney is also dealing with health issues and her Partner Jesse Mendoza is by her side as she deals with her illness. Let's all keep them in our prayers and I know if Linda and Jesse need any help and encouragement that we are all here to support them in these times of need. If there are others in our family that need support, please don't hesitate to let us know and reach out.

In our last Newsletter I communicated that our project being headed up by John Woyansky to establish a monument for the first Infantry Regiment. We also included a report in the last Newsletter from John on the status and action items. We also solicited volunteers to support John and moving this significant project forward. At our Reunion in DC, we had several members say they wanted to volunteer to assist. Unfortunately, we have not had follow up with the volunteer support and we have not had any volunteering from members that did not attend the Reunion. We also laid out the need for financial donations since this project need to be paid for by donations from our members. I know that the economy has been bad for some time and we all are dealing with inflation but I would like to ask again that everyone look at your financial situation and provide a donation that you can afford. As none of us are getting younger we need to move along on this project with some urgency. We are providing an update in another section of this newsletter and how members can volunteer and how donations can be made. Again, we are asking everyone to pitch in in any way you can so that we move this project forward.

Since our next Reunion in Reno is five months away, I encourage everyone that can please attend and if you have already decided to attend but have not signed up you need to do this soon. We are hoping for a great turn out and hopefully we will have made significant progress on the project above.

I hope everyone is making it through the winter and Spring is not far away. Again, pray for our members and their families that are struggling with health issues.

Best Keep safe and may the bond of battle never be broken!

Dwight Sybolt  
Commander

**From H Duckworth O'Brien's "A Grunt's Life":** From the World: *"Hanoi Jane"*, Every Vietnam combat grunt is aware of Jane Fonda sitting at an Anti-Aircraft gun used to shoot down American aircraft during her visit to North Vietnam while the war was going full force. She met with several American POWs at the infamous Hanoi Hilton prison camp and asked them, among other things, how they felt about killing innocent babies, children and women with their bombs. Then she asked weren't they grateful for the *benevolent* way their North Vietnamese captors were treating them. We grunts can forgive her actions but we will never forget them. How she avoided being tried for treason against America is still a mystery to us.

**Veterans Unemployment under 3% for Seventh Month in a row:** The veterans unemployment rate stayed below 3% for the seventh consecutive month in September, continuing the best stretch for veterans job prospects in America in more than 20 years. Officials from the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced recently that an estimated 2.6% of veterans seeking steady employment were unable to find jobs last month. That translates into about 229,000 veterans across the country. The figure was up slightly from August (2.4%) but was still the third-lowest monthly figure for veterans unemployment in the last three years. The figure had peaked as high as 11.7% at the start of the Covid-19 pandemic in America in spring 2020. The last time the veterans community saw comparably low unemployment estimates was in 2000, when BLS reported the rate was below 3% for eight out of nine consecutive months. Economic experts have warned about drawing conclusions from a single month of veterans employment data because of potential volatility in how BLS samples the population in their research and calculates their estimates.

**PACT Act Processing set to start Jan. 1:** Last summer, Congress passed legislation that could provide new health care options and disability payouts to as many as one in every five living American veterans. Now, the Department of Veterans Affairs has to deliver on that promise. Jan. 1, marks the first day VA officials can officially begin processing claims related to the Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act — better known as the PACT Act. More than 176,000 veterans have submitted paperwork related to military toxic exposure issues covered in the measure. The legislation provides for presumptive benefit status for 12 types of cancer and 12 other respiratory illnesses linked to burn pit exposure in the Gulf War, the War in Afghanistan and the War in Iraq. Advocates have fought for years for better coverage of those illnesses, saying that inflexible VA rules blocked tens of thousands of suffering veterans from getting the care and compensation they deserve. The new law also provides presumptive benefit status for hypertension and monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS) among veterans who served in Vietnam and radiation-related illnesses for veterans who served in several new locations in the 1960s and early 1970s.

**First Infantry Regiment Monument:** First a little background. Rich Heroux and John Woyansky, members of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Chapter, Americal Division Veterans Assoc. (ADVA) attended the dedication of the 196<sup>th</sup> LIB Monument on the “National Infantry Museum’s Walk of Honor” at the home of the U.S. Army Infantry at Fort Benning, Georgia. While observing the monuments of all units on the Walk of Honor, it became clear that the place of honor for the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiments were proudly displayed. However, Absent from this hallowed location was the monument representing the 1st Infantry Regiment. The 1st, 2nd & 3rd Infantry Regiments trace their lineage to 1791 following the Revolution War, They are the oldest Infantry units in the Army. After some preliminary discussion and research the Chapter members decided to initiate a plan of action be developed and presented at the Chapter’s annual membership meeting in August 2022. The initial plan was developed and the members attending the meeting voted to start working toward raising funds in support of acquiring a monument to be erected on the ground of the Infantry Museum. A three-member team were selected to start the research and development of the details of how we were to attack this project that would include all soldiers who are (were) assigned to the 1st Regiment. There are three battalions of Infantry currently in the U.S. Army inventory stationed throughout the U. S. Army. We would require their support to help raise funds, approve the monuments design, and placement. The three members have drafted the supporting documents and plans that will be presented to all of you as they are prepared. I have included in this months Newsletter the January 2023 Status Report, by John Woyansky. We are looking for suggestions and volunteers to move this project forward to completion. At the end of this Newsletter please find the latest information prepared by John Woyansky identifying action required and assistance necessary to see this important and long over due tribute to the numerous American soldiers who sacrificed preserving freedom.

**New in 2023: A Woman-led Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon:** When the Marine Corps’ elite Silent Drill Platoon begins its busy parade season in late spring 2023, a woman will be in charge for the first time. Capt. Kelsey M. Hastings assumed command of the 24-person platoon, one of the Marine Corps’ most prestigious ceremonial units, on Nov. 21. Marines in the platoon perform precision drills while carrying 10.5-pound M1 rifles with fixed bayonets, and they maintain tight pacing without verbal cadence or commands. During the summer parade season, they regularly perform at ceremonies around Washington, D.C.



**Sometimes you have to: Eat your words, Chew your ego, swallow your pride, and accept that you’re wrong. It’s not giving up it’s called growing up.**

**New The Army’s 11<sup>th</sup> Airborne Division is flying again.** This time, the 11<sup>th</sup> will be operating on the Arctic ice, rather than making jungle rescues as the paratrooper and glider group of the same name did while playing pivotal roles in the Pacific theater of World War II and the Korean War. The newly reactivated 11<sup>th</sup> Airborne Division has airborne and Air assault capabilities, it’s mission is to become the Army’s preeminent Arctic force, prepared to combat enemies in extreme environments. The 11<sup>th</sup> Airborne was activated on June 6, 2022, the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day. The 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade Combat Team’s home is Fort Wainwright and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Combat Team’s home base is Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska. Alaska has renowned strategic importance for U.S. military, as the Russia reinforces its military presence in the Arctic due the impact of global climate change and China expands as a military powerhouse in the Pacific region and beyond. During the Cold War, Alaska was a strategic missile site for the Air Force and Army, serving as a deterrent to aggression by the former Soviet Union with its stockpile of nuclear weapons. The military in Alaska regularly conducted extreme cold weather training in anticipation of potentially fighting in Alaska or similar extreme environments. The Army saw it was time to expand its presence and stand up a unit in Alaska whose soldiers were trained to conduct a broad range of missions in cold-weather and high-latitude environments. The original 11<sup>th</sup> Airborne – comprising parachute infantry, glider infantry, parachute artillery and glider field artillery – was renowned for helping free thousands of prisoners of war from Japanese interment camp in the Philippines in 1945. After serving valiantly in the Korean War, the 11<sup>th</sup> was converted to an air assault training division stateside before becoming the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division (Airmobile) during the Vietnam War. “A lot of people don’t know about the great, amazing history of the 11th, said MG Brian Eifler, Commander of the 11<sup>th</sup> Airborne Division. “The veterans’ association group for the 11<sup>th</sup> has new life. They are so excited that they can now relive their history, and it’s very important to communicate that to our soldiers.”



**Crossing America one step at a time:** It was inevitable that folks compared Army combat veteran Kenny Mintz to Forrest Gump when Mintz traversed U.S. back roads from coast to coast. But there are major differences. Gump embarked to find himself. Mintz had a specific mission — raising money for three charities: two serving military-related causes and a third for pancreatic cancer as a tribute of his late mother. Gump ran mostly in silence, while Mintz’s battle cry was “Come walk with me.” His journey was to meet the American people he had served. Gump ran. Mintz walked, savoring unexpected encounters with a mountain lion and her cub, antelope, elk, mule deer and a mountain goat near Borrego Springs as he neared his final destination in Encinitas on Oct. 22. He trudged through a Pennsylvania snowstorm, freezing rain, swirling dust storms, thundershowers and 100-plus-degree heat. “I got to appreciate the life around me. I was able to slow my life down and really live each day. I was pleasantly surprised almost every day.” Not once — despite swollen, sore and blistered feet — has he regretted taking this journey. Mintz started his trek in Washington, D.C. near the Lincoln Monument on April 1, along the Potomac River. He ended by wading into the Pacific Ocean at Swami’s Beach in Encinitas. He averaged 19 miles a day and took a day off every week or so to do his laundry, plan and rest. Mintz spent two hours daily writing his travelogue, which he posted with his photos on his Kenny Walks Across America Facebook page; 174 walking-days.

**National Guard Struggles as Troops Leave at Faster Pace:** Soldiers are leaving the Army National Guard at a faster rate than they are enlisting, fueling concerns that units around the country may not meet military requirements for overseas and other deployments. For individual states, which rely on their Guard members for a wide range of missions, it means some are falling short of their troop totals this year, while others may fare better. But the losses come as many are facing an active hurricane season, fires in the West and continued demand for units overseas, including combat tours in Syria and training missions in Europe for nations worried about threats from Russia. According to officials, the number of soldiers retiring or leaving the Guard each month in the past year has exceeded those coming in, for a total annual loss of about 7,500 service members. The problem is a combination of recruiting shortfalls and an increase in the number of soldiers who are opting not to reenlist when their tour is up. The losses reflect a broader personnel predicament across the U.S. military, as all the armed services struggled this year to meet recruiting goals.

**Army's Long-Awaited New Pay and HR System Is Here:** The U.S. Army recently launched its long-awaited new human resources platform service-wide after spending more than half a billion dollars to create the system and facing years of delays. The Integrated Personnel and Pay System-Army, or IPPS-A, is now live across the entire service, according to a spokesperson, though some soldiers are seemingly experiencing connectivity and other technical issues. Some records might also not be fully updated, and soldiers are encouraged to review their personnel files for discrepancies or missing information, according to an internal memo reviewed by Military.com. IPPS-A has effectively been in development for roughly a decade and has cost nearly \$600 million to develop. The system consolidates key personnel records for a soldier and their unit to access and aims to modernize the Army's aging online infrastructure. "This is their pay; this is their promotion," Lt. Gen. Douglas Stitt, who oversees Army personnel policy, told reporters during a press conference. "Those are huge, and we don't want to screw this up." One goal of the new system is to try to overcome the Army's heavy reliance on paper forms for administration work. The new platform allows soldiers to file certain forms electronically and track where they are in approval processes. "Why can't I just do my leave form on my phone and send it to my supervisor? There shouldn't be any more of this, 'Well, I don't know where my paper is, it's lost,'" Sergeant Major of the Army Michael Grinston, the service's top enlisted leader, said in a message to the force in December.



If you can't think of a word, say "I forgot the English word for it". That way people will think your bilingual instead of an idiot.

**Fighter Pilot to receive Navy Cross more than 70 years after classified dogfight with 7 Soviet Jets:**

More than 70 years ago, Navy Capt. Royce Williams flew in one of the greatest dogfights of all time, taking on seven Soviet jets alone in an engagement that remained classified for decades. This Friday, Williams will receive the Navy Cross — the service's second-highest award for valor — for his heroic actions. "The heroism and valor he demonstrated for 35 harrowing minutes 70 years ago in the skies over the North Pacific and the coast of North Korea saved the lives of his fellow pilots, shipmates, and crew." said Rep. Darrell Issa (R-Cal.), who has previously advocated to have Williams receive the Medal of Honor for his action, in a statement on Jan. 13. "His story is one for the ages, but now is being fully told." While Williams proceeded along with his career — another 23 years that included 110 missions flown over Vietnam — the incident became a bit of Navy legend. With the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, records began to emerge confirming Williams' accomplishment. The Navy Cross is awarded for "extraordinary heroism or distinguished service in the line of his profession, such heroism or service not being sufficient to justify the award of a medal of honor or a distinguished service medal."

**New Life Insurance Program for Disabled Vets to Launch in January, 2023:**

A new Veterans Affairs program, available starting in early 2023, will provide guaranteed access to life insurance policies for disabled veterans. The move opens up basic coverage for a population of roughly 4 million individuals who in the past have struggled to qualify for life insurance plans because of their injuries and illnesses. VA officials said the new program will be open to any disabled veterans age 80 and under with no disqualifications for medical reasons. "This is going to create more access to life insurance than ever before," said Dan Keenaghan, executive director of the Veterans Benefits Administration's Insurance Service. "And we are really, really excited about getting our veterans all the benefits that they've earned." VA currently operates the Service-Disabled Veterans Life Insurance program for individuals whose military injuries make eligibility for other life insurance offers difficult. But veterans must apply for that program within two years of receiving a disability rating and cannot enroll later. The new Veterans Affairs Life Insurance (VALife) program will eliminate that timeline and sunset the S-DVI program. Officials will close enrollment into the S-DVI program on Jan. 1, 2023. The changes were mandated by Congress in legislation passed last year. Veterans will be able to buy up to \$40,000 in coverage at "competitive" rates, according to Keenaghan.

**Service dog changes life of Air Force veteran:**

Eric Dudash, an Air Force veteran and retired Chief Master Sergeant, dealt with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder after being deployed 17 times, including during the Gulf War in Operation Desert Storm. "It's a daily battle," the 30-year veteran said. However, Dudash's life was changed "forever" after he got a pet named Phantom through Warrior Freedom Service Dogs. Warrior Freedom is a non-profit organization dedicated to connecting combat veterans suffering from PTSD to trained service dogs. "Phantom actually saved my life," Dudash said on "[Morning in America](#)."



Anger is a punishment we give ourselves for someone else's mistake.

**Puff the Magic Dragon (AC-47):** When I saw this on Puff, I just had to share. In 1969 at Hiep Duc we had Puff come in and save our behinds! I knew Puff put one heck of firepower on the ground. I found some information on Puff that is so impressive. Puff put's 2,000 rounds per minute on the ground. It must carry one heck of a payload to supply that much ammunition. It seems as though Puff stayed in the air above us for what seemed hours hammering our outside perimeter. Known variously as Puff the Magic Dragon, Dragonships or just Spooky, the AC-47 gunship, with its broadside battery of GE miniguns, was a sight to behold. In 1965 with the grunts on the ground needing as much persistent close in air support as could be spared, the Air Force went about converting a handful of World War II-era C-47 transports into lead slinging death dealers by attaching a number of General Electric GAU-2/M134 miniguns arranged to fire through the left-hand side of the plane at a target below. By going into a pylon turn, which pointed the wingtip towards the target, the crew could circle a kill zone below while its three miniguns zipped 2,000 rounds per minute of 7.62 mm NATO (each) into the hapless enemy contact. To maximize effectiveness and minimize risk to the gunships, they typically flew at night with call signs Spooky and Puff, each for obvious reasons. Only about 50 aircraft were converted and a dozen of these, as a testament to their hard use, were lost in combat. The rest were largely turned over to the Royal Laotian and South Vietnamese Air Forces, replaced in U.S. service by the much larger and even scarier AC-130 which is still in use today, though much upgraded. It was said that no village or hamlet under Spooky's protection was ever lost to the enemy.



**Finalists in \$20 Million VA Suicide Prevention Competition Showcase Proposals:** A website for Native American veterans to participate in traditional talking circles and storytelling with trusted elders. An app that locks a gun safe for a preset amount of time or requires a second person to approve opening it. A virtual reality headset for veterans on both sides of the justice system -- guards and inmates -- to use when they're stressed or depressed. Those are just a few of the 30 proposals for veteran suicide prevention that were on display in an office building in Washington, D.C., on Friday as the finalists in the Department of Veterans Affairs' Mission Daybreak competition made their case to judges in hopes of winning up to \$3 million and having their idea turned into reality. "There are none that have not impressed me, and there are several that really come at issues from a unique perspective," Matthew Miller, director of VA suicide prevention, said in an interview with Military.com at the Mission Daybreak Demo Day. "I've seen unique perspectives to lethal means safety and firearms. I've seen unique perspectives and plans applied to Navajo Nation and native veterans, unique applications of risk prediction and integration of biometrics. So exactly what this was intended to do, lots of ideas put together into plans that could be applicable to the VA."

**New Army Light Tank Under Construction:** General Dynamics Land Systems began assembling the Army's Mobile Protected Firepower system after being selected in June to build the light tank. The first new combat vehicle to join the force in nearly four decades, the MPF system is meant to improve mobility, protection and direct-fire capabilities on the battlefield. The system includes a new chassis – or base frame – design. The turret is new, said Kevin Vernagus, the GDLS director for the MPF system, while working to maintain an interior and controls like an Abrams tank. The service expects to spend about \$6 billion over the course of MPF's procurement process. Estimates suggest that the total life-cycle cost of the program will total around \$17 billion. The first production of MPF will be delivered to the service in late 2023, with an initial delivery of vehicles. However, the contract stipulates that the Army is allowed to purchase up to 70 more over the course of early production for a total of more than \$1.1 billion. Beating out competitor BAE Systems, GDLS delivered 12 prototypes to be evaluated by soldiers in the 82nd Airborne Division. Despite positive marks compared to its competitors, GDLS is coordinating with the Army to fix some issues with overheating experienced at Yuma Proving Ground, Arizona. Army leaders plan on buying 504 vehicles meant to be in the service's inventory for at least 30 years. Most of the procurement should be finished by 2035.



**Remain Vigilant of VA Caregiver Support Stipend Scams:** Caregivers and Veterans, about a month ago we learned of a potential e-mail scam about a VA Caregiver Stipend Recoupment. More recently we received details about a potential "text" scam. We reiterate, please do not respond to such requests, as VA will not email you a request for money nor will VA text you to ask for personal information or request to schedule an informal conference. If you receive a suspicious email or text from anyone representing the Department of Veterans Affairs, **DO NOT** respond to the text, **DO NOT** open the email or click on any attachments or links. VA does not send emails or texts asking for personal information. VA does not send threatening emails, or emails claiming to take adverse actions on claimants or beneficiaries (jail or lawsuits). If you receive any of these suspicious texts or emails, or are in doubt about any communications appearing to be from VA, please contact VA directly at 1 (800) 827-1000.

**Protect yourself against potential scams with these tips:**

- • Do not provide personal, benefits, medical or financial details online or over the phone. Federal agencies will not contact you unless you make a request.
- • Do not click on online ads or engage with social media that seem suspicious.
- • Check for https:// at the start of website addresses.
- • Enable multi-factor authentication on all accounts.
- • Do not respond to suspicious texts.
- • Work with Veteran service providers you already know.

Visit the [Cybercrime Support Network](#) for additional [resources](#) to help Veterans, service members, and their families combat cybercrime.

[A Nation dies when its people are taught to hate their own history, heritage and culture.](#)

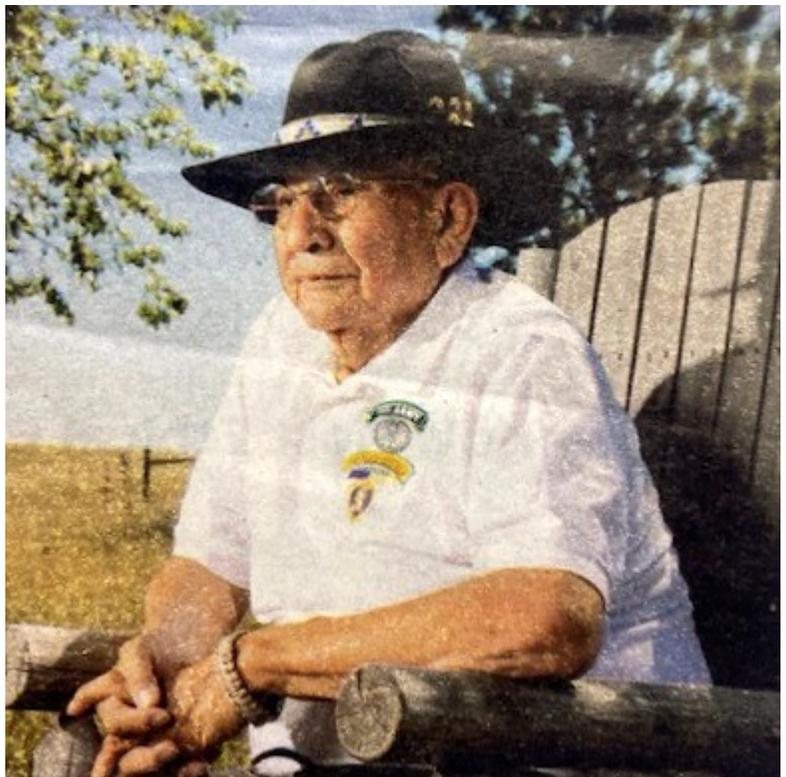
## **TALES OF HONOR, DUTY AND BRAVERY:**

**Reprinted from the AARP Bulletin**

They served in the valleys of Korea, the jungles of Vietnam and the deserts of the Middle East. For many, going to war is part of the family heritage that stretches back to the early days of America and ahead through their children, to the post – 9/11 conflicts. Their stories are unique – from firefights with invisible enemies to the dangerous helicopter missions into hostile territory. But their accounts have forged in the fire of combat, losses that can't be forgotten. Here are some of them.

I came from a warrior society. My great-grandfathers fought in the battle of the Rosebud in 1876 and the battle of Little Bighorn eight days later. My uncle fought in the trenches during World War I. My father was a Lakota code talker, and he fought in the Battle of the Bulge. He did not even tell me that he was a code talker until 1968. I graduated from South Dakota State University in 1967 and enlisted in the US Army that year. I wound up training as a medic. I landed in Vietnam on March 20, 1969. Before that, I had never flown on an airplane and I had never been to another country. I remember seeing a body bag for the first time. I didn't know what it was.

When someone gets wounded in battle and yells, "Medic," we have to go get that guy. When a medic starts running to help an infantryman, the other soldiers increase firepower while the medic drags that wounded person out of the line of fire. My job was to keep that guy alive until we could get him onto a helicopter. The casualty rate of medics in Vietnam was very high. We went through 27 medics the first nine months I was in Vietnam. I wouldn't say medics were fearless, but we hid our fear. There is an invisible bond between medics and the infantry. Men become brothers for life. We were in the mountains and in the jungle a lot, and while people think that medics don't carry guns, I did. I remember one time, we were trying to figure out our location. The jungle was so thick that we couldn't make out the terrain. Because, I was a medic, the guys all called me Doc. Someone said, "Ask Doc where we are. Indians never get lost." I said, "I come from the plains. I come from South Dakota. You can always see 10 miles all around you." I had no idea where we were.



A firefight could last for a couple hours or, like the Hiep Duc Valley battle, last for 13 straight days. That is where I was wounded by shrapnel. I still had work to do, and I had to keep going. There were lives to save. I earned a Purple Heart and I got out of the military in 1970. Three years later, I was accepted into Harvard, where I earned a graduate degree in education. I ended up having a successful career. But I also ended up with cancer (likely from Agent Orange). I tell my wife that Charlie didn't kill me. But cancer is killing me a little every day.

Two of my sons, Colin and Brandan Whitebird, have continued the tradition of service. Both were deployed to Iraq. One was wounded by a sniper in Baghdad. He recovered and returned to finish his tour. I am so proud of them, just as I am of all who have fought for this country.

Francis Whitebird;

Francis Whitebird is a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe and former South Dakota commissioner of Indian Affairs. He was a Medic during my service as Commander of Company B, 2<sup>nd</sup> battalion 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry, 196<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade, Americal Division Republic of Vietnam, 1969.



## 1st U.S. Infantry Regiment Association Project Status 25 January 2023

Since the last status report in December, 2022 we have made little progress for the 1<sup>st</sup> INF RGT Project. You might recall from the last status report and the Annual Meeting in August that the 2/1 INF Chapter of the ADVA approved funds (\$1000.00) to initiate action to establish the 1<sup>st</sup> US Infantry Regiment Association with the intent of putting a 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment memorial at the National Infantry Museum, Fort Benning, Ga. To date we have spent about \$400.00 on this project.

Our **website** managers WEGOTYOURBACK LLC purchased the Domain Name and built the initial 1<sup>st</sup> US INF RGT ASSOC site (<https://www.1stusinfregtassoc.org/>). Anyone have any experience with “**WordPress**,” a web tool? I will try to get a few pages constructed and link our 2-1 Inf site as well.

We signed a two-year Memorandum Of Understanding, (MOU), effective through 31 DEC 2024, with the **Americal Legacy Foundation (ALF)** to accept donations for funding the project. That is to purchase a plot, design, purchase and emplace a Monument/Memorial to the soldiers of the 1<sup>st</sup> INF REGT.

If you have the means, PLEASE donate to this project!

Donations should be **PAYABLE** to **ALF**, with a note **FOR 1stUSINFREGT Project**

**Send to: ALF, C/O Roger Gilmore, P.O. Box 830662, Richardson, TX 75080**

If the project is not completed, ALF will refund to the association any residual funds.

Contact was made with the US Army National Infantry Museum (**NIM**) to assign a coordinator for memorials on the *Walk of Honor* behind the museum. 1SG (RET) Michaela Tyndel, Manager of Unit and Family Relations, NIM, is our Point of Contact (POC). There were three available plots for a monument near the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Regiment memorials in late Sept 2022. The NIM *Monument Placement Policy* specifies an 18-month timeline from signing the agreement to placing the memorial. This poses a problem since we don't have funding. The entire project which might be from \$20-25,000. So we have consequently not signed the agreement with the NIM as of yet.

The following attendees signed up to help on the Regimental Project: Spencer Baba, Edward Benis, Young Ruff, Rich Rinaldo, Tom Ellis, and John Woyansky.

Started a **1<sup>st</sup> US Infantry Regiment Association** Group on Facebook on 20 November 2022, but as of 22 NOV no contacts.

Current balance in 1<sup>st</sup> US Infantry Regiment Assoc BOA account is \$100.00. A \$100 donation was sent to the ALF for the Regiment.

Current balance in 2-1INF ADVA Chapter BOA account is \$5,046.06.

Contacted Columbus Monument Company for an initial assessment of costs for the 1stUSINFREGT Project monument. Will look at two additional vendors for this type of action.

No commitments without consent of 2-1INF Assoc Officers and Members.

**IF you want to get involved in this Project, please contact John G. Woyansky, Secretary/ Treasurer 2-1INF CHAPTER of ADVA: Phone Cell: 804-301-7990 or email:**

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