FIRE AND MANEUVER

THE US INFANTRY REVOLUTION OF 1918

2018 DOUGHBOY AWARDS
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Call for Submissions

Do you have an opinion concerning one of the stories in this issue? We would like to print your responses in our Letters to the Editor column. Have you researched a topic that is of interest to Infantry Soldiers? Submit it to us as an article for the Infantry Bugler. Do you have personal experiences or valuable lessons learned that would benefit other readers? Let us be your vehicle for delivering those thoughts. Send your submissions to bugler@infantryassn.com.
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In my previous column, I mentioned that I was serving as a mentor to the Unified Quest ‘18 Deep Futures Wargame. Those mentoring days allowed me, or in some situations forced me, to think about warfighting as it might be conducted in the decades ahead. Our subject matter experts enjoyed using the predicted improvements and probable innovations, but so did our enemy. I could not help but wonder how much our technology over-match would be reduced as our adversaries continue to use (or steal) our intellectual capital. Ironically, weapons of the past (e.g. napalm and cluster bombs) proved good solutions to some tactical situations. As is discussed often in military circles, the urban fight of the future will be very challenging and unavoidable especially for Infantry formations. Preparing for warfare in mega urban cities will be a daunting challenge for our Infantry Soldiers and Leaders.

Although I’ve kept the thoughts of the Unified Quest ‘18 Deep Futures Wargame in mind over the last quarter, I’ve also spent time reading about GEN Grant who understood how war would be fought in the Industrial Age and about the Vietnam Conflict where air power was often the “solution.” Some authors would suggest that we used our Infantry to bat the regular North Vietnam Army units so that airpower could be used more effectively against them. Regardless, the Vietnam environment was challenging to Infantryman.

Each week the Association of the U.S. Army’s “World War I Reminders” would also trigger thoughts about the challenges facing and to be faced by Infantry Soldiers and their leaders. I have often said that the leaders in First World War could have learned valuable lessons from our Civil War and how GEN Grant brought it to an end. All in all, my thoughts this quarter continued to focus on the challenges facing today’s Infantry Soldiers and Leaders and how they might overcome them.

Certainly, adhering to the Army’s Values (Leadership, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity and Personal Courage) would be a great start and superb foundation to build upon. A very good friend for over 52 years (we were 17-year-old young men) who is now serving as a mentor to the Unified Quest and our Infantry Soldiers and Leaders.

That’s not to say you must be a workaholic. We need Infantry Soldiers and leaders who understand the need to balance mental and physical, strength and stamina. Today, science informs us of the need for and value of adequate sleep, good nutrition and exercise (strength and stamina). Our military training (for the expected) and education (for the unexpected) continue to be the best in the world. I have also found taking time to listen hard and to think are very valuable to today’s leaders. To develop the right solutions to today and tomorrow’s challenges facing our Infantry Soldiers and formations, leaders must continue our culture of self-criticism. Our traditional after action review must continue to be well embedded in our Army’s culture. Being a dedicated Infantry Soldier and Leader in the future will not be easy, but our great Nation will continue to call upon them to protect our way of life.

I am the Infantry! Follow me! This statement, one of the first I heard upon arriving in the Army— at Fort Benning in 1983—is essential to America’s freedom and our way of life. The Infantry is the most important branch in the Army. I want to thank all Infantrymen, past, present and future for your selfless service. The National Infantry Association (NIA) supports the Chief of Infantry, promotes the Infantry ideals, assists Infantrymen (past, present and future) as well as bears the virtue of the Queen of Battle. I am proud to be the President of the NIA, continuing to work with the Infantry and the Army. Being an NIA life member, an NIA board member and a former Chief of Infantry, I am confident that our future will be both significant and successful.

To be successful in a new career, one must rely on a stellar team. I am excited to work with the All-Star staff consisting of Stephanie Haveron, Armanda Banta, Raven Wilson and Jill Tigner who professionally execute the key operations of the NIA. Additionally, I find myself fortunate to work for our National Infantry Association and Foundation CEO LTG (Ret) Tom Metz and the immediate past Chairman MG William B. Steele.

The NIA is a phenomenal organization, one that is successful in developing partnerships, increasing membership and integrating programs with the Chief of Infantry and the National Infantry Museum. Working with the Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCOE) leadership and the Chief of Infantry’s team will be terrific.

The NIA Board of Directors features both retired Infantry and Chattahoochee Valley leaders whose combined experience and breadth of expertise keeps the NIA mission focused and successful. I am honored to work for them and anxiously await their future direction and assistance. I thank the Infantry Advisory Board comprised of retired Army Infantry generals and I look forward to their mentoring and direction.

I want to pass my well wishes to all of the NIA Members. Please continue to encourage new membership and support those in the Infantry. I look forward to being in your fire team.

Our integral partners within the National Infantry Museum Foundation are tremendous. I look forward to working with BG (Ret) Pete Jones, USAF COL (Retired) Andy Redmond, CSM (Ret) Steven Mclaflin and their team at the Foundation. Their organization will support the NIA to overcome any challenges and exceed any expectations. It is the volunteers, visitors, patrons and donors that are critical to the NIM success making the NIM the Top Free Museum in the United States by USA Today.

I also want to thank my family for their support. My wife, Mindy, who is my best friend and partner, has supported me for over 30 years as an Infantry officer. She continues to do so, while she also supports our oldest son, John, who is attending the Infantry Basic Officer Leader Course and our youngest son, Jake, who is a rising junior at The Citadel. Our team supports the NIA.

I am excited to build on the foundation that COL (Retired) Dick Nurnberg developed over the last 18+ years. Dick is the NIA. He has built it, pulled it, pushed it, carried it and made it what it is. He is the cornerstone of the NIA! He will forever be remembered for his leadership, team building and passion for the Infantry. There are not enough words to thank him for his efforts. I wish him the best in all future endeavors.

I am pleased to be able to recognize our Official Sponsor of the National Infantry Association, Phantom Products. I encourage all of our members to reciprocate by supporting them and their products.

To all of our members, you are the spirit of the bayonet, the grunts, the foot Soldiers, the queen of battle, the riflemen. You have my word, that I will support you, and the NIA, to accomplish any mission. I am the Infantry! Follow me!
From the Chief of Infantry

BG David M Hodne

The National Infantry Association welcomes BG David M. Hodne to Fort Benning as Chief of Infantry.

Hodne assumed those duties on 16 July 2018. He most recently served as the Deputy Commanding General for Maneuver of the 4th Infantry Division and Fort Carson.

Commissioned in the Infantry from the U.S. Military Academy in 1991, Hodne holds a Bachelor of Science degree majoring in Aerospace Engineering and a Master of Arts in Military Studies in Unconventional Warfare from American Military University. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and completed a U.S. Army War College Fellowship at Georgetown University.

Hodne served in Ranger, Stryker, Cavalry, Mechanized and Light Infantry formations and has extensive experience in both conventional and special operations. His command assignments at every echelon from Company through Brigade include command of two battalions in combat: 3rd Squadron, 4th U.S Cavalry in Iraq and 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment in Afghanistan. While a Brigade Commander, Hodne built the Army’s newest Stryker Brigade Combat Team (1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division) at Fort Carson, Colorado. Following command of his Stryker Brigade, he served as the Executive Officer to the Commanding General of U.S. Central Command (USCENTCOM).

Hodne’s awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal; three Legions of Merit; four Bronze Star Medals; the Purple Heart; four Meritorious Service Medals; the Joint Service Commendation Medal; three Army Commendation Medals; the Air Force Commendation Medal; the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal; the Ranger Tab; the Combat and Expert Infantryman’s Badge; the Master Parachutist Badge (with Bronze star); the Air Assault Badge; and Israeli, Canadian, Australian and Brazilian Parachutist Badges. His units earned two Valorous Unit Awards, two Joint Meritorious Unit Awards and the Meritorious Unit Commendation for actions in combat. Lastly, Hodne is also a Distinguished Member of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

He is proud to claim Seeley Lake, Montana as home.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Infantry Bugler editor,

I was pleased to see “Infantry Bugler’s” attractive cover photo and accompanying story, “The Army Rangers: Missions and History,” for the summer 2018 issue. As Merrill’s Marauder liaison officer, I often include copies of “Infantry Bugler” in periodic mailings sent to the surviving original Merrill’s Marauders, all in their 90s. Only 13 original Merrill’s Marauders are still alive from the almost 3,000 “expendable” men who answered President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s 1943 call and volunteered for a “dangerous and hazardous” mission.

Those elderly jungle fighters from the China Burma India Theater, today called the “forgotten theater” of WWII, are hungry for anything mentioning or focusing on their unit. A paragraph about Merrill’s Marauders is included in “Infantry Bugler’s” Ranger article provided by the Army News Service. Unfortunately, that paragraph is inaccurate and misleading in several important respects relating to the history of the unit and how it was officially known. In particular, it was not known as the 75th Ranger Regiment at the time it was active. It was deactivated August 10, 1944. It was not ever known as “Task Force Galahad.”

The top-secret, long-range penetration unit known as Merrill’s Marauders was “code-named Galahad.” Articles and books have called Merrill’s Marauders the “Galahad force” or simply “Galahad,” but not ever “Task Force Galahad,” which indicates an official Army designation like Task Force Kean in Korea.

Merrill’s Marauder history can be confusing and difficult to write for a variety of reasons. Those of us who continue to honor and preserve Merrill’s Marauder history strive to accurately tell their unusual and dramatic story. It is particularly important right now since there are bills in both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives seeking to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Merrill’s Marauders. We appreciate any effort, large or small, to promote their legacy.

Jonnie Melillo Clasen, former AP newswoman
Daughter, Merrill’s Marauder & Ranger
Hall of Fame member Vincent Melillo

It has been a privilege and honor for me to serve the NIA for the past 17½ years, but the time has come for me to pass the baton. The NIA Board of Directors approved my retirement effective 1 August. My replacement is supremely qualified and I truly believe he will bring improvements to the Association. COL (Ret) Robert E. Choppa is a combat Infantryman who commanded at every level, up to becoming the Chief of Infantry in 2013. The NIA is fortunate to have him willing and available to succeed me.

During my term, but through your support and efforts, our Association has grown almost fivefold, but in the end it has been I who has benefitted most from the experience. It has enabled me to maintain my association with Soldiers and to make friends and acquaintances that would not otherwise have been possible. Through no prior planning of my own, I have been extremely fortunate to spend about 53 years either in the Army or in organizations supporting it, and I can think of no better way to have lived. I will continue to provide that support in whatever way I can. My sincere thanks to you and everyone who has made that happen.
The greatest revolution in United States Infantry tactics and organization occurred in 1918 in preparation for combat on the Western Front in World War I. The Army and the U. S. Marine Corps finally transformed from earlier reliance on linear and skirmishing tactics, evolved into the tactics and weapons for fire and maneuver that Infantrymen would recognize today.

When the United States declared war upon the Central Powers and joined the Allies on 6 April 1917, its Army numbered only 126,000 men on active duty and most of that strength was backed up by the entire National Guard of almost 100,000 troops—originally federalized for serving on the Mexican border during the Punitive Expedition of 1916. The size and leadership structure of the Infantry company was still the same as when first formally organized by MG Wilhelm von Steuben at Valley Forge in 1778. In 1917, a full strength Infantry company consisted of 99 privates, corporals, sergeants and lieutenants armed with rifles and bayonets and a captain as company commander armed with a pistol. Two information collection teams sent by the War Department to tour the front in early 1917 upon the declaration of war by the United States observed the training and combat of the French and British forces. They recommended that the Army reorganize the entire field army and logistics to support the anticipated trench warfare and an anticipated return to open warfare after a breakthrough. Taking the best formations, tactics, and even weapons from our allies, the result completely changed the role and use of the Infantry for modern machine war.

On 13 January 1918, the United States Army Infantry Company was enlarged from 100 to 256 Soldiers. For the first time, permanent numbered platoons were created within the company as units that could maneuver and fight separately. Each company now had four rifle platoons of 59 men and a headquarters platoon of 20. The assigned lieutenants were formally named as platoon leaders and the senior sergeant assistant eventually was called the platoon sergeant. While
the rifle squads of eight men in each rifle platoon were led by a corporal, there were only two of these pure “rifle and bayonet” squads of Soldiers totaling 16 men in each line platoon. The other troops were considered specialists in teams or groups and trained to become automatic riflemen, rifle grenadiers and hand bombers. The U.S. 4th Marine brigade attached to the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) was also organized in this fashion.

Each noncommissioned officer and lieutenant carried a pistol in addition to a rifle and the privates also were issued a trench knife. All carried two types of gas masks anywhere near the trenches and wore a steel helmet. Add an entrenching tool for each Soldier, a first aid dressing, barbed wire cutters in each squad or team and the individual skills of each Soldier and the responsibilities for junior leaders multiplied to better fight on the modern battlefield. With the support weapons specialists concentrated in the 1st Half Platoon on the right, and the pure rifle squads on the left in the 2nd Half Platoon, these units were now organized as a “machinegun killing machine.” Each platoon was expected to maneuver using cover through fire and maneuver towards a flank of an enemy machinegun or strongpoint. When advancing, the 1st Half Platoon would keep the enemy position busy with supporting weapons fire while the 2nd Half Platoon would maneuver to a flank, or rear, and roll up the threat. The Doughboy Infantryman of 1918 would grasp immediately the role of a modern team, squad and platoon.

After the first AEF battles of 1918 at Cantigny, Chateau-Thierry, Belleau Wood, the Marne and the reduction of the St. Mihiel Salient, the half platoon structure was modified. Casualties and other losses lowered the numbers of the average rifle companies from 259 to 200, and the rifle platoons from 59 to 50. In some divisions, the half platoons were reorganized into identical formations with the same numbers of weapons and specialties assigned to each. It had proven difficult for inexperienced Soldiers in the first battles to maneuver as two uniquely organized half platoons. As fresh divisions filled with inexperienced Doughboys arrived in France each month, training was shortened as the numbers of combat troops arriving in France quickly doubled.

The Hand Bomber, or hand grenade group, was omitted entirely from the new platoon organization as all members of the rifle platoon were issued at least two grenades each for close combat. Each half platoon was composed of three unique seven or eight man squads—Rifle Grenadiers, Autoriflemen or Riflemen. Both half platoons were now equally capable of support by fire or maneuver. A rifle battalion commander in the 80th
Division MAJ Henry H. Burdick published an article “Development of the Half-Platoon as an Elementary Unit” in the Infantry Journal in early 1919. In it, he described the evolution of the half platoon:

Waves were too close together and individuals therein had too little interval, columns were too long, formations were lacking in elasticity and little attempt was made to maneuver. A close study of the best means to correct these faults led to greater emphasis being placed on the half-platoon as an elementary unit. Experiments conducted in rear areas developed the formations illustrated which were utilized in the last Argonne offensive and thoroughly justified their adoption and demonstrated their efficacy by greater maneuver power, better control, rapidity of deployment and conservation of life.

On 4 September 1918, the 42nd Division headquarters took advantage of the experience of recent operations and distributed SECRET memorandum No. 296 to all leaders with instructions for ongoing combat:

The foregoing phase of the operation (“2. PENETRATION OF FORWARD ZONE. (Trench Warfare).”) which depends upon individual initiative, rapidity of decision, resolute daring and driving
power, should afford the American officer and soldier the opportunity to display his best known national characteristics to their greatest advantage; provided he does not blindly rush against hostile strong points, ignoring the weak points and the tactical application of fire superiority combined with manoeuvre (sic).

(c) Formations.

For this phase of the combat the formations applicable to open warfare must be largely employed. Constantly seek to hold the men in formations which simplify control (i.e., column formations, lines or staggered lines of squad or platoon columns, etc.) without exposing them to heavy losses from artillery or machine gun fire.

By the time that the (AEF) pressed itself into a dedicated U.S. sector beginning in the summer of 1918, the static trench warfare of the past three and a half years had ended and the final phase of open warfare began. Advancing in huge divisions of 28,000 troops that fielded three times the number of troops of veteran Allied divisions, the Doughboys of the AEF learned on the run how to conduct combined arms warfare as their numbers and morale helped make up for their inexperience. Upon witnessing a quarter of a million fresh Americans arrive by troopship each month beginning in February 1918, the Germans discovered that the rookies were getting better each day at modern maneuver warfare and decided to ask for a ceasefire before being pushed all the way back to their national border. The money, factories and fresh brawn of the American military made the difference across the battlefield and resulted in the Armistice of 11 November 1918.

After marching across the border to the banks of the Rhine River to occupy a defeated Germany, the troops of the AEF distilled the recent lessons learned the hard way along the Meuse River and deep in the Argonne Forest during the next year of static occupation duty. Each rifle platoon was reorganized into identical rifle squads of eight men with the Automatic Rifle Teams armed with the Browning automatic rifle (BAR), a rifle grenadier and all other Soldiers became both riflemen and hand bombers with grenades. This identical squad approach served the U.S. Army Infantry well until reorganization on the eve of entering combat in World War II.

Today, the nine Soldier Infantry Squad is composed of ground combat specialists with an Automatic Rifleman and rifle grenadier in each of the two fire teams still able to defeat an enemy through fire and maneuver. While the tools and skills of the trade have evolved with advances in technology, the overall mission of the Infantry squad to close with the enemy to kill or capture them, and to take and hold ground, through fire and maneuver dates back to the U.S. Infantry Revolution of 1918.

The period photograph shows a Doughboy platoon training in extended order formation outside a French village. The close pairs are the Autoriflemen and their 1st Assistants.

David S. Stieghan is a former Captain in the U.S. Army. He serves as the U.S Army Infantry Branch Historian.
On the Move
Back-packable Robots Are Infantry Force Multipliers

It’s no secret that Infantry Soldiers carry too much on their backs. So when a new technology is introduced to address the range of threats they face, “the juice must be worth the squeeze” before adding it to the load out. Endeavor Robotics didn’t lose sight of this reality for its latest small robot designs. Endeavor’s newest creations are built not only to be lightweight, rugged and easily carried, but also to address the range of threats the Infantry faces—from conventional IEDs to chemical or biological agents to subterranean enemy forces.

From its back-packable, rugged Scorpion® robot now being developed for the U.S. Army to its ultra-lightweight, throwable and battle-proven FirstLook® system, Endeavor offers a wide range of technology tools to boost Infantry capabilities.

**Common Robotic System—Individual (CRS-I)**

In April, the Army selected Endeavor as a finalist for the Common Robotic System—Individual (CRS-I) program. Conceptualized by Fort Benning’s Capabilities Development and Integration Directorate, the CRS-I requirement is one of the new programs of record the Army is funding to acquire the latest in unmanned ground vehicle (UGV) technologies. Endeavor is one of two companies competing to produce more than 3,000 state-of-the-art CRS-I robots for Infantry and EOD forces. Run-offs are planned throughout the fall, with a winner scheduled to be announced in early 2019.

CRS-I is designed to be a “back-packable” robot weighing less than 25 pounds. When completed, it will

Endeavor Robotics’ throwable FirstLook robot can be dropped roughly 20 feet onto concrete without sustaining damage. It’s often used to clear buildings and detect IEDs, and is a top choice for confined spaces like culverts, tunnels and crawl spaces.
feature a common chassis, so Soldiers in the field can quickly reconfigure it for various missions by adding or removing different modules and payloads.

Endeavor’s CRS-I robot, which it has dubbed Scorpion, will provide increased stand-off capability for soldiers. Using high-resolution cameras and the latest radio technology, the Infantry will be able to deploy the system into tunnels and buildings to detect enemy forces, to remotely conduct Traffic Control Point operations and keep Soldiers out of harm’s way, or as an LP/OP near his patrol base. With the addition of sensors, the Scorpion also can be used to detect IEDs and chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) threats.

“The CRS-I program helps our military take another step forward in bringing interoperable architectures to the field,” says Endeavor Robotics President Tom Frost. “We need to make sure our latest robots not only perform the mission, but are easy for users to control and adapt rapidly to changing needs.”

**FirstLook**

The company’s five-pound FirstLook robot is already in the Army’s inventory. It can be dropped roughly 20 feet onto concrete without sustaining damage. Called a “throwable robot,” FirstLook is often used to clear buildings and detect IEDs, and is a top choice for confined spaces like culverts, tunnels and crawl spaces. Day/night cameras and two-way audio allow the FirstLook to act as a mobile sensor node, giving Soldiers greater stand-off distance from potential threats.

FirstLook also can climb over 7-inch obstacles and automatically rights itself when flipped over. Since Endeavor doesn’t believe in single mission robots, a number of payloads can be added to the FirstLook for different missions. These include manipulator arms, disruptors for EOD, infrared cameras and even a device designed to drop counter-IED charges.

“FirstLook is a small robot that packs a big technology punch,” says Frost. “It gives the warfighter an advanced robot that’s tough, easy to carry, and offers greater communications range through superior networked radios.”

The latest FirstLook comes equipped with the advanced uPoint® Multi-Robot Control System. uPoint sharply reduces training time by using a familiar, commercial tablet user-interface. By integrating MPU5 mesh networked radios built by Persistent Systems LLC and uPoint controllers, the Infantry soldier is now able to control and observe multiple robots simultaneously at far greater range, while extending their range in complex environments like caves by wirelessly linking robots together.

Endeavor has supplied more than 1,000 FirstLooks to customers around the globe, including the Army and U.S. Marine Corps.

“We listen closely to what customers tell us they want in a ground robot,” explains Endeavor Robotics CEO Sean Bielat. “With our focus on modular, adaptable and interoperable components, we can tailor all our products specifically to a user’s needs.”

“Our global customers have a wide variety of missions—from the Infantry’s and SOF ISR needs, to EOD, CBRN, and route clearance operations,” Bielat adds.

“And we have robots that can help them get the job done every time.”

*Article submitted by Endeavor Robotics, EndeavorRobotics.com*
Larger than life...

Grippable, non-rolling case

Shockproof
Waterproof to 200'
Temperature proof

Uses 4-AA batteries, available worldwide

The Phantom Warrior TLS™ uses solid-state bulbs for 100 lumen output on common AA batteries. This fully-adjustable light gives you enough light to do your job, while keeping your location secure.

Phantom offers a universal mounting bracket (UMB), a pocket clip, and lanyard for the TLS™ as well as our new ResQ™ lens which converts this covert, tactical light into a superior rescue beacon!

Visit www.phantomlights.com to choose colors and accessories.
to help protect yours.

To incorporate features like these, your ordinary flashlight could be as big as the photo below. Lucky for you, the Phantom Warrior TLS™ - a flashlight AND a beacon - measures only 6.3” x 1.8” x 1.5”!

- Locking thumb switch selects 4 flash modes
- Bezel rotates to select color
- Hooded, covert light source

China might be good for take-out, but not for saving your life. We make your light in Rockledge, Florida, U.S.A.
Innovation in Soldier Worn Power and Data

Soldier technology is not a new concept; indeed, we have been providing our Soldiers with “technology” since man first understood the need for defense. Early commanders on medieval battlefields had at their disposal a flag bearer who would communicate across the battlefield via a series of coloured and marked flags, a very basic and early precursor to today’s modern battlefield radios which are issued to almost every Soldier.

As the technology has grown, the need to understand better how to integrate it and how to use it to better interoperate with partners and allies has grown significantly. In those more simple times of sword and shield, the battle space was more often than not a muddy field somewhere in northern Europe and the day’s work was likely over and done within a matter of hours. Today’s operational space is much vaster and the burden we place upon our Soldiers is a great deal more complicated than waving a flag while chasing someone around a field with a sword.

As we continue to load our Soldiers with more and more technology in an effort to decrease the physical and cognitive burden; something it has arguably begun to achieve well, it has also begun to create a potentially more complicated challenge, namely how to support it.

The need to continually integrate will always be present. Utilizing current “dumb” hub technology has achieved much of the basic technical integration and allowing devices to share power and data. Dumb being defined as routing power and data only, and requiring a high degree of technical input via the EUD from the user to configure individual ports, assign IP addresses and generally maintain a network. However, it has done little for the physical integration, often requiring users to route cable upon cable though their carriage solutions which in turn limits their freedom of movement and increases the weight of their overall load significantly.

A new generation of hubs, (both dumb and smart) are emerging that allow for many of these cables to be routed inside load carriage solutions, significantly reducing the amount of weight and sheer bulk being experienced by many users currently.

When it comes to load carriage and putting equipment on the Soldier, you are entering into a deeply personal realm. Each user has different needs, different body shapes and different requirements of their load carriage and associated technology.

Ultra Electronics have taken steps to tackle these challenges head on and early in the development of the UltraLYNX Smart Hub.

UltraLYNX represents an evolutional change in the development of smart, scalable, Soldier-worn technology. Not only is the hub smart and allows for the simple plug and play of a range of common (and some not so common) bearer and end user devices; the hub itself can be employed in multiple roles, configurations and carriage solutions each as the user requires.
By empowering the user to employ the UltraLYNX hub and cable harness as they need—and dependent upon their role and/or mission—the system becomes a great deal more personal and can adapt and evolve with the changing situation on a modern battlefield. The user is free to utilize the capability provided by UltraLYNX regardless of the threat level posed, whether in full, high threat body armour, a simple pouch attached via modular lightweight load-carrying equipment (MOLLE) to belt kit or light tactical vest or as part of a wider communications fit inside a patrol pack.

By making the system fully adaptable, UltraLYNX tackles head on one the chief problems with Soldier worn systems, namely forcing the Soldiers to employ the systems only one way. UltraLYNX puts that power very much back into the users' own hands. Addressing the issues of logistics was one of the key design drivers for the UltraLYNX Hub. It is no good having a game changing solution that has to go back to base if a connector fails. First line repair was a key design requirement; to ensure system availability was built into its design. Allowing the hub and harness to be removed from body armour and load carriage as the carriers reach end of life, allows for storage, maintenance, software updates and data interrogation to be handled much more efficiently and cost effectively. It also enables managing any data at rest issues by bringing each hub back into a secure environment after use.

By giving the Soldier the flexibility to employ smart Soldier Worn Power and Data (SWPD) technology as they need it, coupled with the ability to field repair the hub, connectors and harness cables by a simple mechanical release within the vest, UltraLYNX has taken SWPD to a new level of scalability, dependability and flexibility.

★ Article submitted by Ultra Electronics, Ultra-PCS.com
This year, the National Infantry Association will host the Doughboy Award Dinner at the National Infantry Museum on 11 September, during the Maneuver Warfighter Conference. Each year, the Chief of Infantry presents the Doughboy Awards to recognize individuals for outstanding contributions to the United States Army Infantry. The award is presented on behalf of all Infantrymen—past and present. The award is a chrome replica of a helmet worn by American Expeditionary Soldiers during World War I (WWI) and the early days of World War II.

The term doughboy originated in Texas where soldiers trained along the Rio Grande in preparation for WWI. The Soldiers became covered in the dusty, white adobe soil and were called “adobes” by mounted troops. Over time this term transitioned to become doughboys. The Doughboy Award is the highest honor the Chief of Infantry can bestow on any Infantryman. This year’s recipients are: LTC (Ret) Robert L. “Sam” Wetzel, CSM (Ret) Autrail Cobb and Gary L. Fox.

LTG (Ret) Robert L. “Sam” Wetzel

Robert Lewis “Sam” Wetzel, of Clarksburg, West Virginia, graduated high school in 1948 and was planning to attend Purdue University and pursue a career as an engineer. A newly-approved candidate for the United States Military Academy at West Point dropped out and Wetzel ended up being his replacement. He graduated from West Point in 1952 as an Infantry officer and was immediately deployed to the Korean War where he was a company commander.

In 1961, CPT Wetzel was the aide of MG William Westmoreland—then Superintendent of the United States Military Academy. He also commanded a mechanized Infantry company in Germany.

LTC Wetzel was deployed to Vietnam in 1968 as the commander of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment—the “Polar Bears.” After an enemy bullet nicked him on the forehead, he declined a Purple Heart, judging the wound too insignificant to mention, despite the fact that it left him with a permanent scar.

Returning from the front, he was promoted to colonel and soon assumed command of a brigade in Fort Carson, Colorado. In 1975, he was promoted to brigadier general and sent to West Germany where he commanded the First Infantry Division (forward). At the conclusion of this command, GEN Alexander Haig personally pinned Wetzel’s second star on him.

From 1978-79, Wetzel served as Haig’s chief-of-staff in Belgium. Just before this assignment, the Soviets had deployed their SS-20 theater nuclear missiles in Europe, which upset the entire balance of NATO deterrence and Western security. During this year together, Haig, Wetzel and the rest of the staff crafted what became the West’s strategic response—deployment in Europe of the Pershing II missiles, which could hit Moscow in the event of war, allowing only minutes for the Soviets to react. After serving as Haig’s Chief of Staff, Wetzel commanded the Third Infantry Division in Würzburg.

In 1981, Wetzel was diagnosed with terminal melanoma cancer. He was given less than a year to live, but he refused a full medical disability in exchange for retirement. The Army reluctantly permitted him to stay on, but only after he signed a full waiver. Judging Wetzel to be at death’s door, the Army sent him back to the United States, but he made a full recovery. He was soon placed in command of the Infantry Center. In 1983, Wetzel was promoted to lieutenant general and he returned Germany as Deputy Commander in Chief of U.S. Forces in Europe, where his job was to receive and deploy the Pershing II missiles in the midst of anti-war demonstrations all over Europe. Today, Cold War historians (relying on the candid confessions of defeated Russian leaders) credit the deployment of the Pershing II missiles as one of three key factors that broke the Soviets’ back and ended the Cold War (the other two being the Reagan defense build-up and SDI specifically). In 1986, Colin Powell succeeded him in command of V Corps in Frankfurt, Germany, which was his last assignment before retirement.

Wetzel’s awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Bronze Star, two Legion of Merits, six Air Medals, Joint Superior Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal and Combat Infantryman’s Badge with Star.

Wetzel served on a number of boards of directors including the national board of The Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company (A&P). Local boards include the Columbus Bank and Trust Company, United Way, American Cancer Society, Boy Scouts, Green Island Country Club, National Infantry Foundation and the Columbus Civic Center. Wetzel was the National Commander of the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW), and is currently the Honorary Colonel of the 31st Infantry Regiment. Sam and Eilene Wetzel reside in Columbus, Georgia. They have been married for 44 years and have seven children, 11 grandchildren and three great-grandsons.
Coom: Atraii Cobb
CSM Atraii Cobb was born in Lepanto, Arkansas and entered the Army in August 1962. Cobb is a graduate of the U. S. Army Sergeants Major Academy, Jumpmaster, Pathfinder, Basic Airborne, and Ranger Schools.

Cobb’s assignments include: CSM Joint Readiness Training Center; CSM United States Army Infantry Center, Fort Benning; Regimental Sergeant Major, 75th Ranger Regiment; CSM 3rd Battalion (RGR) 75th INF and CSM 5th Battalion, 327th Infantry (Bastogne), 101st Airborne Division. He also served as Senior Advisor 35th Vietnam Ranger Battalion and Senior Staff Advisor, 6th Ranger Group. Cobb retired March 1, 1995 after serving as the Command Sergeant Major of the Joint Readiness Training Center and Ft. Polk, Louisiana.

Cobb’s awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit with one Oak Leaf Cluster, the Bronze Star with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Medal with “V” device, 21st Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Commendation Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Medal with “V” device, 21st Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Commendation Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, numerous campaign and service medals, Combat Infantryman’s Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Crew Member Badge, Ranger Tab, BDQ Badge (Republic of Vietnam) and the Pathfinder Badge.

Gary L. Fox
Fox grew up on the Colorado River Indian Tribes Reservation, in Parker Arizona where he was outstanding senior male student and graduated with honors from Parker High School. He then attended the University of Arizona majoring in plant pathology and genetics. After college, Fox worked as an entomologist, first developing applications for the use of synthetic pheromones to control pests in both the farming and timber industries and later conducting efficacy studies for the DuPont Company. Many of the products he assisted in the development and application of continue to allow farmers to grow healthy, sustainable food sources worldwide.

Fox answered a personal call to serve and joined the Army in 1982, choosing to serve as an Infantryman. Over his two plus decade career, Fox served in every type of Infantry unit in the pre-modular Army both in the United States and outside the Continental United States. He successfully served in every leadership position from Rifle Squad Leader to First Sergeant as well as numerous staff positions from battalion level through Division and higher.

Fox earned numerous awards for service and valor and qualified for numerous badges. In his own words, “there are only two that really matter and those are earning the Expert Infantryman Badge, and being awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge. One tells the world you are an expert in your chosen profession and the other says you are willing to prove it.”

Fox finished his uniformed career assigned to the Office of Infantry Proponency, later renamed, the Officer of the Chief of Infantry (OCOI). OCOI has the singular, unique and focused mission to develop and monitor all accession, training, development and assignment policies to manage and ensure the health and viability of the Infantry Branch and Career Management Field.

When an opportunity to serve in the proponent office came up, Fox retired from active duty and became the Deputy Director of OCOI as a DA Civilian. Ten years later, Fox now serves as the director of the proponent office and serves as the primary advisor on all Infantry branch and career field specific issues.

Fox willingly shares his knowledge, experience and expertise in the area of branch propendency with leaders of other branches and career field proponents across the Army. Leaders and staffs from routinely solicit his analytics, opinions and recommendations across the Army.

Through all endeavors, Fox remains committed to the Infantry Branch, Career Management Field and the dedicated young men and women that have earned the right to call themselves Infantry Soldiers—those who are willing to put their lives at risk across the world to protect the rights of the oppressed and keep this nation free. He is married to the former Judy Pate Posey and they have three children, seven grandchildren and one great grandchild.

PREVIOUS DOUGHOBY AWARD RECIPIENTS

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GEN (Ret) William V. Harshog
CSM (Ret) Gary R. Carpenter

2016
GEN David A. Bramlett
CSM Kenneth L. "Rock" Merritt
Mr. Ben F. Williams, Jr.

2015
GEN Barry R. McCaffrey
CSM Jeffrey J. Mollover
Mr. Gary Sense

2014
GEN Carl W. Stiner
CSM Steven R. England

2013
GEN William F. Kenan
CSM George D. Couillard
The Honorable Jim Skelton

2012
LTG Robert F. Foley
CSM Alfonso Gamboa
The Honorable Les Brownlee

2011
GEN Edward C. Meyer
CSM William H. Hobbs
Mr. J. L. Galloway

2010
Maj. Jerry A. White
CSM Andrew McFowler

2009
GEN John W. Foss
SGM James W. Spencer

2008
GEN Henry H. Shelton
SGM Gary L. Littrell

2007
COL Ralph Puckett
SGM Robert F. Hall

2006
GEN John A. Wildham, Jr.
SGM Richard A. Kidd

2005
GEN Gary E. Luck
SGM Julius W. Gons

2004
LTG John Norton
SGM William A. Connelly

2003
GEN Edwin H. Barha
SGM Glenn E. Morris

2002
Sen. Daniel Inouye
GM John Pence

2001
GEN Paul F. Germain
SGM George W. Dunaway

2000
LTG Harold G. Moore
SGM William T. Moxon

1999
GEN William H. Richardson
SGM Basil L. Plumley

1998
GEN Fred C. Weyand
SGM William Banbridge

1997
GEN William H. Rosson
SGM Frank C. Pluss

1996
GEN James L. Lindsay
SGM Theodore L. Dobol

1995
LTG Harry W.O. Kinnard

1994
GEN Colin L. Powell

1993
LTG Dave E. Grange, Jr.

1992
Sen. Warren B. Rudman

1991
GEN Richard E. Cavazos

1989
GEN William E. Depuy

1988
GEN Frederick Kneese, Jr.

1987
The Honorable John O. Marsh, Jr.

1986
Sen. Robert Dole

1985
GEN Matthew Ridgway

1984
Sen. John Tower

1983
Mr. H. Ross Perot

1982
Mr. William Mauldin

1981
Mr. H. Ross Perot

1980
Mr. Bob Hope
Harlem Hellfighter posthumously awarded MOH

William Henry Johnson was born in Winston-Salem, North Carolina in 1892 and moved to Albany, New York in his early teens. He worked as a redcap porter at the Albany Union Station on Broadway prior to joining the Army. Johnson enlisted in the United States Military on 5 June 1917, joining the all-black New York National Guard 15th Infantry Regiment, which, when mustered into Federal service, was redesignated as the 369th Infantry Regiment based in Harlem.

The 369th Infantry joined the 185th Infantry Brigade upon arrival in France, but the unit was relegated to labor service duties instead of combat training. The 185th Infantry Brigade was in turn assigned on 5 January 1918, to the 93rd Infantry Division.

Although GEN John J. Pershing wished to keep the U.S. Army autonomous, he “loaned” the 369th to the 161st Division of the French Army. There was speculation that he was willing to detach the African-American regiments from U.S. command because vocal white U.S. soldiers refused to fight alongside black troops.

The French Army and people had no such problem and were happy to have the reinforcements. Among the first regiments to arrive in France, and among the most highly decorated when it returned, was this 369th Infantry, which later became famous as the “Harlem Hellfighters.” The 369th was under the command of mostly white officers including their commander, COL William Hayward.

The French Army assigned Johnson’s regiment to Outpost 20 on the edge of the Argonne Forest in the Champagne region of France and equipped them with French rifles and helmets. [While on observation post duty on the night of 14 May 1918, PVT Johnson came under attack by a large German raiding party, which was estimated at 24 German soldiers. Johnson displayed uncommon heroism when using grenades, the butt of his rifle, a bolo knife and his bare fists, he repelled the Germans, thereby rescuing a fellow Soldier from capture and saving the lives of others. Johnson suffered 21 wounds during this ordeal. This act of valor earned him the nickname of “Black Death,” as a sign of respect for his prowess in combat. The story of Johnson’s exploits first came to national attention in an article entitled “Young Black Joe” published in the Saturday Evening Post later that year.

The French government awarded Johnson the Croix de Guerre with a special citation and a golden palm. This was France’s highest award for bravery and he was the first American to receive it.

In June 1996, Johnson was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart by President Bill Clinton. In February 2003, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Army’s second highest award, was presented to Herman A. Johnson, one of the Tuskegee Airmen, on behalf of his father. John Howe, a Vietnam War veteran who had campaigned tirelessly for recognition for Johnson, and U.S. Army MG Nathaniel James, president of the 369th Veterans’ Association, were present at the ceremony in Albany.

On 2 June 2015, President Barack Obama awarded Johnson the Medal of Honor posthumously. CSM Louis Wilson of the New York National Guard received the medal on his behalf.

The citation reads: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty: Private Johnson distinguished himself by acts of gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a member of Company C, 369th Infantry Regiment, 93rd Division, American Expeditionary Forces, during combat operations against the enemy on the front lines of the Western Front in France on May 15, 1918. Private Johnson and another soldier were on sentry duty at a forward outpost when they received a surprise attack from a German raiding party consisting of at least 12 soldiers. While under intense enemy fire and despite receiving significant wounds, Private Johnson mounted a brave retaliation, resulting in several enemy casualties. When his fellow soldier was badly wounded, Private Johnson prevented him from being taken prisoner by German forces. Private Johnson exposed himself to grave danger by advancing from his position to engage an enemy soldier in hand-to-hand combat. Wielding only a knife and gravely wounded himself, Private Johnson continued fighting and took his Bolo knife and stabbed it through an enemy soldier’s head. Displaying great courage, Private Johnson held back the enemy force until they retreated. Private Johnson’s extraordinary heroism and selflessness above and beyond the call of duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

Johnson contracted tuberculosis and was released from the Army as totally disabled in 1927. He died in 1929 and is buried in Arlington Cemetery.

Since the 1990s, several buildings, a street and a monument were named for Johnson in his hometown of Albany.
National Infantry Museum Welcomes New Director

“I have been training for this position since a year before the museum opened.”
Scott Daubert is talking about the National Infantry Museum, where he has just begun his dream job of Museum Director.

“I’ve always wanted to get here. At one point in my career, I thought West Point was the Valhalla of military history, but it’s not. I wanted to work at the National Infantry Museum, at the tip of the spear.”

Daubert is taking the reins from Frank Hanner, who managed the museum’s collection for 37 years before retiring in January. It’s a big job, but one that Daubert is eager to tackle.

One of the things high on his To Do list is renovation of the Sole Superpower gallery, which tells the story of the American Infantry from the Gulf War to the Global War on Terrorism. The gallery has seen minor updates since the museum’s opening in 2009, but will undergo a major overhaul to reflect all that’s happened since then.

Also high on the list is the reopening of the Family Gallery, which honors all those who love an Infantry member for their sacrifices and support. Chief of Staff of the Army General Mark Milley has been supporting efforts to redesign the space, asking Army families to weigh in on what ought to be represented there.

Daubert also plans to spend time “right-sizing” the collection. Of the 30,000+ artifacts in the collection, only about 10 percent are actually on display in the museum. That’s not unusual. But without constant attention, collections can get weighed down with items that will never see the light of day. Daubert says there’s a better use for those items.

“We’re going to keep the stuff that’s significant to the Infantry, to the Army, and to the American people, but the extra stuff we’re going to distribute to the field, to the collections. If it’s in storage, let’s get it on exhibit somewhere that our Soldiers can enjoy and appreciate it.”

Another of Daubert’s goals is to earn American Association of Museums accreditation for the NIM, a move that will cement the museum’s reputation for being world-class.

“We’re already counted among the top 12 military museums in the world,” he said. “I want to be rated one of the top 5. I want to be the #1 military museum in the country, and that’s easily achievable.”

Daubert says he’ll always be asking himself “what’s next?” to make sure the museum remains on the leading edge.

And he wants to make sure that no visitor leaves the museum without understanding the price we pay for our freedom.

“These men and women are the heroes, not the actors, not the athletes who get paid millions of dollars for 11 minutes on the field. I want them to want their kids to grow up like them. The world is a safer, freer place because of these men and women. We may not understand exactly what they do downrange, but I want visitors to walk out of here with a sense of security.”

Daubert grew up in a military family, and served in the Air Force and National Guard. But he says the Infantry wins his highest level of respect. “The only thing that stands between them and the enemy is the rifle. Not armor, not an airplane, just them and their skills. I call this the Hooah Army. The men and women are still 10 feet tall and bulletproof and they love wearing the uniform. They love their country and they’re ready to go. I want to end my career as fired up every day.”
On 18 June 2018, Vietnam veterans LT J.L. “Bud” Alley Jr. (left) and COL (Ret) Larry J. Stovall (right) presented the Order of St. Maurice to LTC Benny Ray Adkins at the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 203 meeting in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

On 16 June 2018, 1SG Ron Palma presented the Order of St. Maurice to 1SG (Ret) Robert Andrade at Corvallis Armory, Oregon.

On 9 June 2018 during the 1-175th Infantry Battalion’s Change of Command Ceremony at the Dundalk Readiness Center, SGM Ralph Davis was awarded the Order of Saint Maurice, along with the Legion of Merit for his dedication and commitment to the Infantry Corps on the commencement of his retirement. (Left to right) 1-175th Infantry Battalion Commander LTC John McDaniel, Davis and LTC (Ret) Gene Pulket, Honorary Regimental Colonel.

On 12 June 2018 in Kandahar, Afghanistan, CPT Austin E. Caroe (right), outgoing commander for Baker Company, 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, is presented the Order of St. Maurice by Lt. Col. Kirby R. Dennis (left), commander for 2nd Bn., 12th Inf. Reg., for his leadership and dedication to Baker Company.

On 8 June 2018 during the 1-175th Infantry Battalion’s Change of Command Ceremony at the Dundalk Readiness Center, the incoming Commander LTC Daniel Collins was awarded the Order of Saint Maurice for his dedication and commitment to the Infantry Corps. (Left to right) LTC (Ret) Gene Pulket, Honorary Regimental Colonel; Collins and the outgoing commander LTC John McDaniel.

On 31 May 2018, St. Mark Chapter President SFC Michael Atchison and SMA Daniel Dailey attended the 1/503rd BN Ball 173rd ABN BDE CBT, in Vicenza, Italy.

On 10 May 2018 at Camp Mabry, Texas, MG Robert J. Bodisch Sr. (center) was presented the Order of St. Maurice, Primicerius by (left to right) MG (Ret) Jerry D. Icenhower, LTG (Ret) Gerald R. “Jake” Betty, LTG (Ret) Bertus L. Sisco and LTG (Ret) Richard A. Box. Mrs. Charisse Bodisch was awarded the Shield of Sparta at the same event.

On 9 June 2018 during the 1-175th Infantry Battalion’s Change of Command Ceremony at the Dundalk Readiness Center, the incoming Commander LTC Daniel Collins was awarded the Order of Saint Maurice for his dedication and commitment to the Infantry Corps. (Left to right) LTC (Ret) Gene Pulket, Honorary Regimental Colonel; Collins and the outgoing commander LTC John McDaniel.

On 29 May 2018, 1SG (Ret) Levon Noid presented the Order of St. Maurice to SFC (Ret) Marvin Bettis at the National Infantry Museum. Bettis serves as a security guard at the NIM.

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On 27 April 2018, SFC Christopher Nemier received the Order of St. Maurice (Legionnaire) presented by CPT Steele of the Bradley Training Division 1-81 AR, 194th BDE. The group celebrated this memorable moment with a unit cookout at Fort Benning.

On 28 May in Bagram, Afghanistan, MAJ Jayson N. Williams (right), was presented the Order of St. Maurice by LTC Kirby R. Dennis for his leadership and dedication to the “Lethal Battalion.”

On 17 March 2018, LTG Daniel R. Hokanson presented the Order of St. Maurice and Shield of Sparta awards to: (1) 1SG Jack H. Martiotta; (2) SFC Dante Bello; (3) Mrs. Lliwelyn Cooley; and (4) Mrs. Ariana Bello. The presentations were made at The Great Hall in Cooper Union, New York City following the New York City St. Patrick’s Day Parade, which was led for the 167th year by the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry, New York Army National Guard (NIA 27th IBCT Chapter).

On 1 June 2018, CPT Corey Brawn presented the Order of St. Maurice to SSG Brent Brabant at Joint Base Lewis McChord.
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