

INFANTRY ★BUGLER★

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL INFANTRY ASSOCIATION

URBAN BATTLE
EARLY LESSONS AT MOGADISHU

LETHAL ON DAY ONE
REVOLUTIONARY TECH TO QUICKLY
ENHANCE VISUAL CAPABILITIES, WEAPONS

**AIRBORNE TANK
BATTALION RETURNS**



SPRING 2019

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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**

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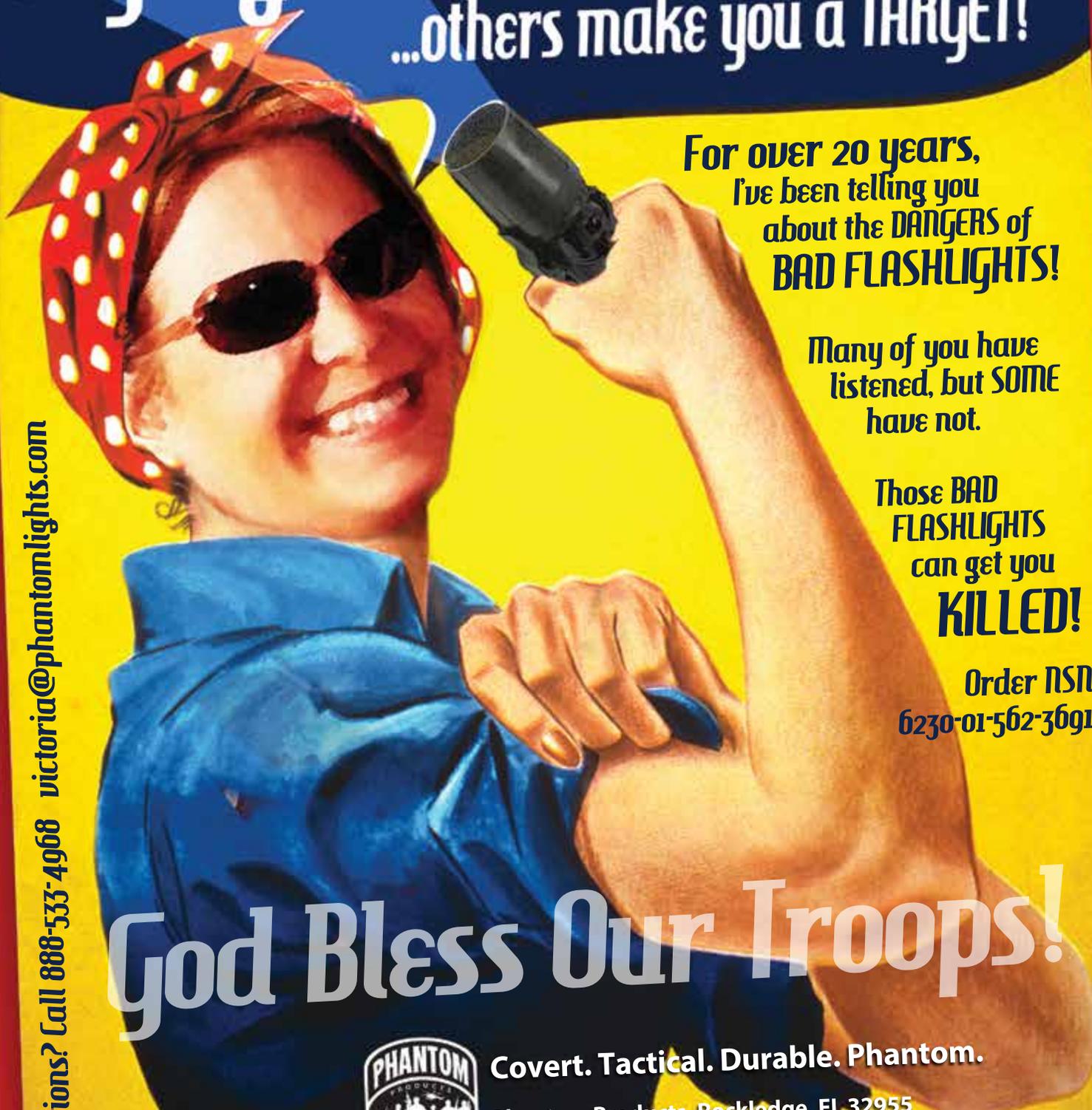
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PERSONAL, VEHICULAR, EQUIPMENT, MOVEMENT, SPECIALTY, and LAW ENFORCEMENT LIGHTING

From the Chairman



LTG (Ret) Thomas F. Metz

In late August '18, I received an invitation to participate in the United States Naval Academy's Leadership Conference scheduled for 21-24 January 2019. The theme of the conference was "Inside Out Leadership – Know Yourself First"—a theme I could strongly support.

The conference was kicked off by an excellent presentation from COL Arthur Athens, USMC (Ret), former Director of the Vice Admiral James B. Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership at USNA. To the almost 500 delegates from 120 colleges and universities, many of whom are ROTC students, COL Athens was very convincing with his words about selfish and selfless leadership stressing that great leaders are selfless leaders.

In small groups and as a panelist, I was able to establish why I believe that as a selfless leader the more credit you give up, the more you receive. If you use the pronoun "we" instead of "I" and give the credit for your unit's success to its members, they will in turn work harder for your unit to be more successful.

The conference theme was supported not only by an impressive array of speakers, but also the following three panels:

- **Bring Out the Best in People:** Relationships among the team require a base understanding of one's self first and being able to evaluate how one interacts with others. As a leader, it is essential to understand how to work together effectively. This panel focused on developing empathy and compassion in order to best encourage teamwork and a positive environment where everyone feels comfortable working together.
- **Leading Beyond Self:** Our responsibility as leaders is truly all about other people. As leaders, we can often get caught up in WHAT we're responsible FOR rather than for WHOM we're responsible. Our fundamental responsibility as leaders, however, is serving others.
- **Leading from Within:** Leaders work to gain a better understanding of themselves to lead more effectively. An essential skill for leaders is being able to understand how and why one acts a certain way, and this process begins with looking within. Leaders know and draw on one's own core values with confidence.

These panels were followed by breakout sessions of about a dozen delegates per group. I enjoyed spending time with these small groups with whom I shared my experiences as a U.S. Army leader. In this column a few years ago, I shared the discussion about good leaders who are always on SCAN (the discipline to know what's happening or not happening around them), who take advantage of their education, training and experiences to FOCUS on what is right and what is wrong; and who have the fortitude to ACT (always taking the initiative when something needs to be done!).

Reflecting on my first trip to the U.S. Naval Academy, I was encouraged by the consistency of the leadership traits and principles shared by the speakers and panelists. This year's United States Naval Academy's Leadership Conference was a success by any measure. As an Infantry leader, I believe that good leadership is a combat multiplier, and as a leader who fought at the "Joint" level, it was encouraging that good leadership traits and principles are commonly practiced by Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines.

From the President



COL (Ret) Robert E. Choppa

Greetings, Infantrymen, families of Infantrymen and future Infantrymen. We received terrific feedback on our Security Forces Assistance Brigade article in our Winter 2018 *Bugler*. Thanks to BG Mark Landes and his SFAC team for their contribution. This Spring issue highlights the Soldier Lethality Cross Functional Team (CFT) efforts and BG David Hodne and his Office of the

Chief of Infantry team have been generous with their time, direction and effort. The aim of the CFT is to ensure that the U.S. Army Infantry never have a fair fight in the future.

Concerning never having a fair fight, I want to share with you the Infantry officer perspective from the past. The information below comes from *The 1923 Doughboy*, a yearbook of the Infantry School. The author was a World War I veteran who shares his thoughts about his branch.

Not in any one battle, nor in one campaign, nor even any century, did the Infantry win the crown of "Queen of Battles." Enthroned with this title, over two thousand years ago, the Infantry's royal place, through the succeeding ages, has become more surely fixed including our fighting in the current combat! Only by blood, sweat, privation and hardship, only by perseverance and hardihood, by sheer heart and soul has its position been won. . . . The Infantry is the heart of the Army. The Infantry owes its place to the fact that it is the people. The Infantryman is the fighting machine with a soul. He is an instrument of war, created by God, and with no man-made machine equal or to excel above him. The Infantryman is not made in a day. Because he marches against the enemy by the aid of his own legs, to grapple with the enemy with his own hands, because of the iron discipline he must acquire, because of the versatility which must be his, because his very individuality which is his strength, when trained, and his undoing when untrained. The Infantryman may only attain the condition of a good Infantryman after long, unremitting, arduous and thorough training. The prowess of the Infantryman, and his influence on man and his affairs, stands out dramatically in the pages of history. Neither bombs, bullets, shells, flames nor poison gases could daunt the will of the Infantry. Whether armed with club, knife, sling, sword, pike, javelin, dagger, mace, spear, long bow, cross bow, tomahawk, hatchet, machete, arquebus, musket, rifle, shotgun, machine-gun, mortar, cannon or tank, the Infantry has been ready to turn the battle and achieve victory. The Infantry stands ready as it has stood down through the ages—stout hearted, undaunted, ever ready to take one more step toward the enemy, ever ready to strike him one more blow.

That is how a U.S. Infantrymen just back from the Great War expressed himself. Is this how our Infantry officer corps feels today? At the NIA we are so proud of the Infantry and all you have accomplished since 1923. We are confident and competent in the courage of our Infantrymen in winning any battle of the future.

Enjoy this issue and please provide feedback on all of our NIA events and *Infantry Bugler* editions.

From the Chief of Infantry



BG David M. Hodne

In late 2018, the Army released our new operational concept, Multi-Domain Operations. Fundamental to Multi-Domain Operations, or MDO, is our Army's ability to compete, penetrate, disintegrate and exploit successes in future armed conflict. These actions must occur in the context of reemerging nation-state-level competition and consider new, emerging and disruptive technologies that will change the nature of warfare. The Army's Field Manual (FM) 3-0, Operations,

defines the Army's role in shaping the security environment, preventing conflict, and when necessary, prevailing in large-scale combat operations. With our recent 100th Anniversary of Fort Benning behind us, this renewed emphasis on large-scale combat operations focuses the U.S. Army Infantry School as we step off into our next 100 years.

Fundamental to winning in combat is achieving overmatch even before battles begin. Improved lethality, proficiency and expertise in our entry-level Soldiers establish an important foundation for large-scale ground combat operations (LSGCO). We proudly concluded 2018 with the most comprehensive transformation to Infantry One Station Unit Training (OSUT) since 1978. Increasing the course by eight additional weeks and increasing training repetitions towards improving marksmanship, physical fitness, fieldcraft and land navigation skills resulted in 361 new Infantrymen heading out to their units in 2019. This newest Infantry cohort will also arrive certified in Combatives and Combat Lifesaver removing this burden from their busy gaining units. Of note, we already received feedback from one Brigade Combat Team that their newly arriving Soldiers from this cohort all qualified expert on their rifles and achieved 290 or more points (out of 300) on their fitness tests. I recognize this is anecdotal, but it is a very powerful vignette, nonetheless.

In order to continue to field the 20,000 Infantry Soldiers the force requires annually, the extension of OSUT necessitates the growth of three battalions, 15 companies and 180 Drill Sergeants within the 198th Infantry Brigade. All led by motivated and talented officers, this personnel growth is an investment in the future of our Infantry and will go a long way towards ensuring improved readiness in our Army.

Consistent with achieving overmatch necessary to prevail in LSGCO, the Infantry School also initiated a review all of our programs of instruction (POIs). Vestiges of

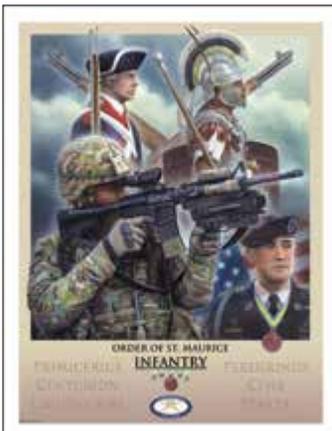
counterinsurgency (COIN) doctrine and the associated COIN approaches to training remain embedded in some of our POIs. While the wisdom gained, and agility demonstrated, in Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom is vitally important, we must revise our current curricula consistent with the hyperactive and increasingly lethal battlefield expected in LSGCO. GEN Milley's guidance for modernizing our Army and achieving readiness remains clear: "Army collective training is now focused on high-intensity conflict, with an emphasis on operating in complex terrain, urban terrain, electronically degraded environments, under constant surveillance and under attack..." The Infantry School will prepare our entry-level Soldiers and our leaders at every echelon to fight and win in this environment.

In addition to accelerating the implementation of the 22-week OSUT with eight classes in 2019, we will revise the Infantry Basic Officer Leader Course (IBOLC) POI necessary to achieve the requisite expertise and "muscle memory" in the core battle drills necessary to win on the battlefield. We've also firmed up our process to routinely examine the remainder of our Infantry School POIs, and recently conducted a Selection Board comprised of leaders from across the force to reexamine and define the critical tasks expected of young Infantry captains and lieutenants today.

Concurrent with developing leaders in the Infantry School, our Soldier Lethality Cross Functional Team invests in fielding capabilities to achieve decisive overmatch. This year, as part of Army Futures Command (AFC), we will field AFC's first piece of equipment to the force. The Enhanced Night Vision Goggle-Binocular (ENVG-B) will provide exceptional day and night enhanced situational awareness and target acquisition capability to the Rifle Squad. The ENVG-B will also provide augmented reality to the individual Soldier that, for the first time, will provide true "heads up" displays allowing our Infantry to focus on closing with and destroying the enemy. In addition to fielding the ENVG-B in late 2019, this summer we will fire ARDEC's initial experimental prototype of the Next Generation Squad Weapons (NGSW) program. We expect to field both the NGSW in both an Automatic Rifle and Rifle to Infantry Soldiers as early as 2022.

One hundred years ago, this school trained and hardened Infantrymen to fight, survive and win in large-scale combat in the trenches of World War I. Today, as our Army urgently modernizes and adapts to meet contemporary and future challenges, this is an exciting and important time for our Infantry. I am proud of the hard work and dedication of everyone at the U.S. Army Infantry School committed to training and developing the Infantry of tomorrow.

I am the Infantry! Follow Me!



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A child walks down the blade of a destroyed helicopter.

DID MOGADISHU MATTER?

A quarter century ago last 3 October, Task Force Ranger (TFR) was engaged in one of the fiercest battles post Vietnam. That bloody battle left 19 Americans dead and changed foreign policy almost overnight. With 25 years to think about it, there is no concise answer to the question, but there are some thoughts that have continually bubbled up which I am hopeful may be of some use down the road. “Study history or we are doomed to repeat it,” I heard somewhere.

In 1993 I was a young staff sergeant assigned to Bravo Company, 3/75 Ranger Regiment. At the time, you could write what I knew about urban battle on the head of a pin. Reasonably though, I had significantly more Military Operations in Urban Terrain [MOUT] training at that point in the Regiment than I had when I served in the 10th Mountain Division. Big Army versus Small Operations Force [SOF]. When the alert for a real world mission was issued, the thought of deploying to combat was pretty exciting. And, the thought of a potential fight in the streets of this distant country did not faze

me one way or the other. Certainly the nervousness, fear and uncertainty of combat was always there, but I was very confident heading to the Horn of Africa.

If you’ve read Mark Bowden’s book *Black Hawk Down*, or seen the movie, you know the story well enough. It is a powerful one from every lens. Can we have a strategic failure and a tactical victory? I still cringe when I hear someone mention “the disaster in Mogadishu” or “...avoid another Black Hawk Down.” In my mind, however, I look back at that deployment and I know that we/I made a lot of mistakes, but we did some extraordinary things, individually and collectively, that made our abrupt departure from Mogadishu so troubling, to this day.

What did we do well? From my vantage point as a chalk leader, there are five things I thought noteworthy, but please keep in mind it’s hard to be completely objective:

1. We executed our blocking position battle drill to standard. None of the members of Chalk Four had any prior combat experience so not only was

the experience a first, there was no doctrine that I knew of that provided task, conditions and standards for this action. The drill was developed as we prepared for deployment and refined as we went. On 3 October, Chalk Four was inserted short of our planned position. We had an immediate litter-urgent casualty during the fast rope operation and were almost immediately in contact with the enemy. Despite the chaos and intensity, I watched my two young team leaders, SGT Casey Joyce and SGT Jim Telscher execute the battle drill. I saw them leading in every sense of the word—in battle and under fire. These two warriors established the blocking position and fought an enemy engaging us from three directions—all without a word or signal from me. I didn’t have to. They did it in the most trying circumstance.

2. We validated the need for non-standard marksmanship training. Before I arrived at 3/75, my marksmanship was limited to the prone and the foxhole. Big

Army vs. SOF. It wasn't wrong, but it wasn't realistic. We shot a lot of rounds in training way before Somalia came into our lives. Shooting on the move, shooting over obstacles, shooting in close proximity to our Ranger buddies, we pushed the boundary. Once the task force was alerted, we had the opportunity to learn more from our Special Missions Unit [SMU] peers, especially in country. I recall that one member of armor at Fort Bragg, helped my Squad Automatic Weapon [SAW] gunner modify the weapon with a collapsible stock and a pistol grip (revolutionary at the time!). We had never shot from a moving helicopter before but it seemed likely we might need to once we deployed. The city was a new battlefield and while the principals of marksmanship never change, the necessity of applying them in the urban battlefield was a skill that needed to be learned. Engaging the enemy from vehicles, or fighting while using every bit of urban cover for protection is critical. I watched Rangers literally on the run shooting the enemy that day.

3. We did first aid well. SPC Mark Good was my medic. Except he wasn't a medic, he was an 11B that we sent to some advanced medical training prior to deployment. He had the aid bag on 3 October. We had our first casualty on insertion. One of our Rangers slipped off the fast rope and fell about 50 feet. When I finally slid to the ground, Good and another member of TFR were already applying every bit

of their medical talent to this bleeding and unconscious casualty. They saved his life, but unfortunately it was a day filled with trauma. We sustained a gunshot wound to the hand; we had another with a gunshot wound to the arm and another to the leg. All were treated on the spot by buddy aid. I saw some gruesome sights that day and watched young men save a lot of lives. It is a testament to the focus on first aid that allowed us to continue the fight.

4. OJT - Problem Solving. Chalk Four was inserted into the wrong spot, with a litter-urgent casualty, in contact with the enemy and without a communications officer. Murphy's Law in spades. During that battle we all were forced to "figure it out." It applied to everything we did. How do I get from A to B? How do I evacuate a casualty when air isn't available? How do we maneuver without comms? How do I maintain accountability of my men as we are cross loading on multiple vehicles trying to find the crash site? These were some of the obvious problems we needed to solve during the fight. I realized in about two seconds that I could do none of it alone. I had to rely on and trust the judgment of whoever was in proximity at any given time. High standards, attention to detail and commitment to the mission and unit were the ingredients I saw in this team. In the crucible these men figured it out. They were confident in execution despite the reality of battle all around them.



Soldiers of B Company, 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, watch helicopter activity over Mogadishu, Somalia, 3 October 1993. Later the same day and throughout the night, the battalion's A and C companies were part of a rescue convoy assembled for nearly 100 Rangers who had become trapped in the city after two Black Hawks were shot down.

5. Rules of Engagement. When I heard them for the first time I was confused. When I discussed it with the men I was even more confused. It was another of those "first" moments. Some Somalis were allowed to have guns, but others obviously were not. How do you know who's who? How will I/we react if there is a crowd of presumably unarmed Somalis and we take incoming? How do you live with yourself if you shot the wrong person? This was a huge concern of mine. There were so many legitimate "what-ifs" that the more I tried to discuss them, the more anxious and confused I became. Two things I remember completely opened my eyes and it was so simple. The first was when one of the operators told me, "Just look at their hands." Plain and simple. No matter what, if they don't have anything in their hands find another target, they aren't the one. The second bit of guidance I remember was from one of the commanders who told us that if we felt that our life or the life of our Ranger buddy was in mortal danger, take the shot. He said that there were only two people who would look through the sites, you and God. I'm probably not conveying the wisdom as well as I could but those two same pieces of guidance made target discrimination on the battlefield a hell of a lot easier. I watched a lot of gunfights and watched a lot of Rangers not take the shot because of they didn't see a weapon.



U. S. Army machine gunner from the 10th Mountain Division in Somalia.

BY LTC STEPHEN MAGENNIS

Soldier Lethality CFT Focuses on Future Technologies



“Rising near-peer competitors threaten America’s interests. The forces they are building often match, and in a few cases exceed, our own capabilities . . . our failure to modernize as quickly as possible will most likely exacerbate the significant risks the Total Army now faces. This makes reform of our industrial-age Acquisition system a strategic imperative.”

– Secretary of the Army Mark T. Esper

In October 2017, Army senior leaders announced the creation of Army Futures Command. Its mission is to lead the Army’s future force modernization enterprise by assessing the future operational environment, emerging threats and new technologies to develop and deliver concepts, requirements,

future force designs and modern materiel solutions to meet Soldiers’ wartime needs.

At the same time, to address the Army’s highest priority modernization needs, the Army Chief of Staff GEN Mark Milley established six Cross Functional Teams (CFT) to rapidly close the gap with near peer competitors. The teams address Long Range Precision Fires, Next Generation Combat Vehicle, Future Vertical Lift, Army Network, Air and Missile Defense and Soldier Lethality. Later, two additional teams formed to address gaps in Precision Navigation and Timing and the Synthetic Training Environment.

The Soldier Lethality CFT Director is BG David Hodne, who also serves as the Chief of Infantry, Infantry Commandant

and the Deputy Commanding General for the Maneuver Center of Excellence. All these roles combine to put Hodne at the nexus of lethality for the Infantry.

“As the CFT Director, I want to make sure our science and technology partners are focusing on future technologies which enhance lethality, mobility, survivability and situational awareness for our Soldiers,” said Hodne. “Our team ensures these capabilities are transitioned to the acquisition community to get revolutionary technology into Soldiers’ hands quickly.

“And as the Infantry Commandant, I want to make sure we are training, developing and producing Infantry Soldiers who can join their unit and be lethal on day one,” he added.

Soldier Lethality efforts support increased capabilities to the “Close Combat 100,000” force, encompassing Soldiers and Marines serving in Infantry, Cavalry Scout, Combat Engineer, Forward Observer and Combat Medic occupational specialties. Since World War II, 90 percent of wartime casualties are from this small population. Historically, only about four percent of the defense budget supports those who directly close with and destroy the enemy. Senior Army leaders want to change that dynamic.

To affect change, the Soldier Lethality CFT maintains a broad portfolio but is focused on three near-term efforts: Enhanced Night Vision Goggles-Binocular (ENVG-B), Integrated Visual Augmentation System (IVAS) and Next Generation Squad Weapons – Automatic Rifle (NGSW-AR) and Next Generation Squad Weapons – Rifle (NGSW-R).

Enhanced Night Vision Goggles-Binocular

Of the six modernization efforts, Soldier Lethality will be first to deliver

capabilities to the force. Starting this fall, the Army will field the ENVG-B to designated units.

The Enhanced Night Vision Goggles-Binocular provides the Warfighter increased lethality, mobility and greater situational awareness (SA) with an improved capability to visualize terrain features, obstacles and other objects that routinely hinder the Warfighter's ability to maneuver during limited visibility, low-light or no-light conditions.

The Army is pursuing the ENVG-B to increase Soldier readiness to fight tonight. Soldiers must possess the capabilities—and be prepared to fight across multiple domains and through contested areas—to deter potential adversaries and rapidly defeat them if deterrence fails.

ENVG-B exploits the benefits of Image Intensification (I2) technology as well as fusing a digital thermal sensor in the same display. It leverages two systems within the squad by integrating Rapid Target Acquisition (RTA) and Augmented Reality (AR). These capabilities transition the night vision goggle to a Heads Up Display (HUD). RTA wirelessly links the weapon sensor to the ENVG-B through a micro wireless radio in the helmet-mounted battery pack.

The system also integrates with the Family of Weapon Sights-Individual (FWS-I). These weapon mounted sights are capable of wirelessly projecting the weapon reticle and point of view to the Soldier's goggles. In close combat, Soldiers equipped with these systems will be able to see and rapidly engage targets without bringing the weapon to their eyes. It will also mean Soldiers can engage from cover without exposing their head and torso to enemy fire. Limited operational testing and Soldier excursions have seen an increase



of 100 percent in M4 qualification scores and decreased engagement times by 30 to 50 percent.

The binocular configuration increases depth perception and field of view, substantially increasing Soldiers' mobility and situational awareness. Through seven Soldier Touch Points, organic Infantry squads from the operating force put ENVG-Bs through realistic training scenarios. Feedback was

overwhelmingly positive.

When comparing the ENVG-B to current systems, one Non-Commissioned Officer from the 82nd Airborne Division remarked: "This system is a game-changer. The NVG/thermal/white phosphor technology fused in a dual-tube housing provides ground elements an unparalleled advantage. It makes our current PVS-14s feel as if they were from the Stone Age." While ENVG-B shows great promise, the Soldier Lethality effort has more revolutionary efforts underway to enhance battlefield situational awareness and lethality.



Integrated Visual Augmentation System

Capitalizing on rapid growth in augmented reality, digital sensors and computing technologies, Integrated Visual Augmentation System (IVAS) provides a capability for current and future battlefields that will be increasingly fought in distributed urban and subterranean environments where our current capabilities



are not sufficient. IVAS will consist of a Heads Up Display that will allow Soldiers to experience augmented reality, enabling them to train in synthetic environments.

IVAS will have a massive impact on how the close combat units fight, rehearse and train. It will incorporate all the technology from the ENVG-B—fused low-light/thermal sensing and rapid target acquisition—inside of a low profile, conformal, day/night headset with nearly twice the field of view.

Most significantly, IVAS will employ augmented reality to give Soldiers the ability to clearly observe their surroundings while overlaying a range of navigation, intelligence, or friendly force data on demand.

For the first time,

Soldiers will be able to see data important to their decision making overlaid on the real world while on the move, not on a map while taking a knee. The system's potential to increase the speed and quality of small unit actions is a key component to enemy overmatch.

Former Secretary of Defense James Mattis said he wants Soldiers and Marines to fight "25 bloodless battles before going into a live fight." In partnership with the Synthetic Training Environment CFT, this system will allow incorporation of a squad-level combat simulator, which is vital for the repeated iterations of training and rehearsals needed to ensure future battlefield success.

Future versions of IVAS will incorporate artificial intelligence and machine learning tools, both in combat and in training. These may allow rendering of "thinking" digital opposing force (OPFOR) or machine-aided terrain analysis. Additionally, IVAS will also seek to link biological and performance feedback on the wearer to inform smarter training and real-time leader decisions.

Prototypes are in development now and are expected to be ready within the next month and into the hands of our Soldiers for testing shortly after. This spring, the first IVAS Soldier Touch Point will be conducted as a joint effort with Army Soldiers, Marines and members of special operations units. These Infantry squads, Marines and Special Operators will be evaluating IVAS prototypes and providing valuable feedback to engineers.

Next Generation Squad Weapons – Automatic Rifle and Rifle

This program replaces the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon (SAW) and the M4 rifle with the Next Generation Squad Weapon—Automatic Rifle (NGSW-AR) and Next Generation Squad Weapon—Rifle (NGSW-R). The program leverages advances in technologies to provide increased performance at range, integrates a Squad-Fire Control system, improves ergonomics and utilizes signature suppression to make the user more lethal with greater survivability.

The program manager is leveraging a rapid prototyping and rapid fielding acquisition approach to increase the lethality of the squad’s firearms simultaneously. Instead of updating the ammo, optics, automatic rifle and rifle in a stove-piped, sequential manner, the Army is using an integrated systems approach amongst all. This is being done in partnership with industry and the science and technology community. The approach affords all the stakeholders an ability to make trades over time to deliver the best, most capable weapon system to defeat current and future threats.

For ammunition, the Army chose to proceed with a 6.8mm bullet informed by the results from a classified Small Arms Ammunition Configuration study. However, the Army is looking to Industry to develop cartridge solutions. In an area where the CFT is already seeing trades, multiple vendors are demonstrating different approaches to solving the same problem. Some keep the traditional bottleneck design with weight-saving metals and polymers while others are developing a whole new cartridge design. All are in pursuit of higher velocity at the least amount of weight feasible.

Soldiers and Marines will fire the first prototypes of the NGSW-AR prototypes this summer. Additionally, another 300 Soldiers from a cross section of unit types—light and vehicular—will test the ergonomics of industry prototypes through a series of physical events to replicate common movements Soldiers do with their weapons while on missions.

User acceptance is a high priority requirement and Soldiers and Marines will have many opportunities to provide feedback through Soldier Touch Points in the coming years.

The Close Combat 100,000 force can expect to start seeing these weapons in their arms rooms in 2022, a full five years sooner than previous project timelines. ★

LTC Stephen Magennis currently serves as the Deputy for Operations on the Soldier Lethality Cross Functional Team.



WHY BELONG TO THE NIA?

- To support the work of the ONLY organization representing the entire Infantry and the Chief of Infantry. The combined strength of our membership ensures that the Infantry voice is heard by decision makers.
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82nd Airborne Adds Armored Component



PHOTO BY SGT JESSE LEDGERARMY

Paratroopers from 1st Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division celebrated the activation of Alpha Company, 4th Battalion, 68th Armor Regiment on Fort Bragg, N.C.

More than three decades after getting out of the armor business, soldiers with the 82nd Airborne Division have reactivated a company that will add Marine Corps armored vehicles to its formation.

Recently, the All American Division reactivated Alpha Company, 4th Battalion, 68th Armored Regiment at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. The unit transitioned in 1984 after having served as the United States' only "airborne tank battalion," according to the *Fayetteville Observer*. Following that shift it became the 3rd Battalion, 73rd Armor Regiment, continuing its armor mission until it was deactivated in 1997. The unit was active in the division since 1968 and served as an armored unit for airborne forces. It included the M551 Sheridan tank in its arsenal.

But this time around, soldiers will be driving a vehicle in the Marine Corps inventory, the Light Armored Vehicle [LAV]-25A2. Members of the division began training on and testing the LAVs in 2016, as reported by *Marine Corps Times*. Soldiers conducted

airdrop tests with the LAV and chose it over the Army's Stryker vehicle due to its lighter weight, portability and firepower, officials said at the time. Four LAVs can fit on a C-17, versus only three Strykers. The LAVs being

used by the division come equipped with a 25mm cannon.

Across the Army, units have shifted from lighter equipment to heavier, more robust and lethal equipment to counter what has been called a return to "great power competition" with Russia and China. In September, Army officials announced that it would convert one Stryker brigade combat team [SBCT] to an armored brigade combat team [ABCT] and an Infantry brigade combat team [IBCT] to an SBCT by 2020. That followed a 2017 announcement that the 3rd Infantry Division's 2nd IBCT would convert to an ABCT.

The changes give the Army a total of 31 BCTs in the regular Army—11 armored, 13 Infantry and seven Stryker. The Army National Guard will retain 27 BCTs—five armored, 20 Infantry and two Stryker.

At nearly the same time as these changes are taking effect, U.S. Army Europe is adding 1,500 soldiers to the current 33,000 troops in Germany. Those soldiers will add a field artillery brigade headquarters, two multiple-launch rocket system battalions, a short-range air defense battalion and support to the Army's footprint in Europe. The firepower upgrades provide tactical and operational benefits for the core mission of the 82nd Airborne Division's global response force, which includes providing a quick-reaction force anywhere around the world as needed. The global response force mission requires a battalion-sized element from the division to deploy within 18 hours anywhere in the world—a scenario experts think could be likely should Russia push into the Baltic states or into the Balkans.

CPT Aram Hatfield and 1SG James Grimes lead the newly reactivated Alpha Company. They'll now share a connection with Army Chief of Staff GEN Mark Milley, who the *Fayetteville*

Across the Army, units have shifted from lighter equipment to heavier, more robust and lethal equipment to counter what has been called a return to "great power competition" with Russia and China.

Observer reports started his career with A Company, 4th Battalion, 68th Armor Regiment as an assistant battalion maintenance officer and platoon leader.

The LAV is an eight-wheeled vehicle that weighs 31,000 to 38,000 pounds, depending its configuration. The vehicles also use a three-person crew and can carry an additional six troops, according to General Dynamics Land Systems. The *Observer* reported that airdrop tests had been conducted on the LAV back in the late 1980s and early 1990s. The 82nd also experimented

with the LAV-25s during Operation Desert Storm.

General Dynamics conducted its own airdrop tests on both the LAV and the Stryker in the early 2000s, said Michael Peck with General Dynamics. That required some minor chassis modifications to accommodate parachute rigging attachments. Marines most often deploy with the vehicles loaded aboard ship.

Last year, Marine officials said that the division was interested in obtaining as many as 60 LAVs. The Marine Corps is in a longterm process of developing a new

vehicle to replace the LAV but has not publicly divulged detailed work on the project by the Office of Naval Research.

★ *Reprinted with permission from Army Times.*

Todd South is a Marine veteran of the Iraq War. He has written about crime, courts, government and military issues for multiple publications for more than a decade. In 2014, he was named a Pulitzer finalist for local reporting on a project he co-wrote about witness problems in gang criminal cases. Todd covers ground combat for Military Times.



PHOTO BY 2ND LT. LARRY BOYD JR./MARINE CORPS

Marines conduct a bridge crossing simulation with Light Armor Vehicles. Soldiers with a recently-reactivated unit in the 82nd Airborne Division will use the Marine LAV for airdrop missions.

Gordon and Shughart:

Heroes from the Battle of Mogadishu

The first Soldiers to receive the Medal of Honor since the Vietnam War were honored for their actions 25 years ago in Mogadishu, Somalia. They are MSG Gary I. Gordon and SFC Randall D. Shughart. Their awards were made posthumously as both were killed in the conflict.



MSG GARY I. GORDON

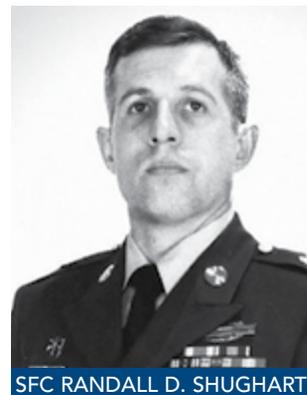
Gordon's citation reads:

Master Sergeant Gordon, United States Army, distinguished himself by actions above and beyond the call of duty on 3 October 1993, while serving as Sniper Team Leader, United States Army Special Operations Command with Task Force Ranger in Mogadishu, Somalia. Master Sergeant Gordon's sniper team provided precision fires from the lead helicopter during an assault and at two helicopter crash sites, while subjected to intense automatic weapons and rocket propelled grenade fires. When Master Sergeant Gordon learned that ground forces were not immediately available to secure the second crash site, he and another sniper unhesitatingly volunteered to be inserted to protect the four critically wounded personnel, despite being well aware of the growing number of enemy personnel closing in on the site. After his third request to be inserted, Master Sergeant Gordon received permission to perform his volunteer mission. When debris and enemy ground fires at the site caused them to abort the first attempt, Master Sergeant Gordon was inserted one hundred meters south of the crash site. Equipped with only his sniper rifle and a pistol, Master Sergeant Gordon and his fellow sniper, while under intense small arms fire from the enemy, fought their way through a dense maze of shanties and shacks to reach the critically injured crew members. Master Sergeant Gordon immediately pulled the pilot

and the other crew members from the aircraft, establishing a perimeter which placed him and his fellow sniper in the most vulnerable position. Master Sergeant Gordon used his long range rifle and side arm to kill an undetermined number of attackers until he depleted his ammunition. Master Sergeant Gordon then went back to the wreckage, recovering some of the crew's weapons and ammunition. Despite the fact that he was critically low on ammunition, he provided some of it to the dazed pilot and then radioed for help. Master Sergeant Gordon continued to travel the perimeter, protecting the downed crew. After his team member was fatally wounded and his own rifle ammunition exhausted, Master Sergeant Gordon returned to the wreckage, recovering a rifle with the last five rounds of ammunition and gave it to the pilot with the words, "good luck." Then, armed only with his pistol, Master Sergeant Gordon continued to fight until he was fatally wounded. His actions saved the pilot's life. Master Sergeant Gordon's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest standards of military service and reflect great credit upon him, his unit and the United States Army.

Shughart's citation read:

Sergeant First Class Shughart, United States Army, distinguished himself by actions above and beyond the call of duty on 3 October 1993, while serving as a Sniper Team Member, United States Army Special Operations Command with Task Force Ranger in Mogadishu, Somalia. Sergeant First Class Shughart provided precision sniper fires from the lead helicopter during an assault on a building and at two helicopter crash sites, while subjected to intense automatic weapons and rocket propelled grenade fires. While providing critical suppressive fires at the second crash site, Sergeant First Class Shughart and his team leader learned that ground forces were not immediately available to secure the site. Sergeant First Class Shughart and his team leader unhesitatingly volunteered to be inserted to protect the four critically wounded personnel, despite being well aware of the growing number of enemy personnel closing in on the site. After their third request to be inserted, Sergeant First Class Shughart and his team leader received permission to perform this volunteer mission. When debris and enemy ground fires at the site caused them to abort the first attempt, Sergeant First Class Shughart and his team leader were inserted one hundred meters south of the crash site. Equipped with only his sniper rifle and a pistol, Sergeant First Class Shughart and his team leader, while under intense small arms fire from the enemy, fought their way through a dense maze of shanties and shacks to reach the critically injured crew members. Sergeant First Class Shughart pulled the pilot and the other crew members from the aircraft, establishing a perimeter which placed him and his fellow sniper in the most vulnerable position. Sergeant First Class Shughart used his long range rifle and side arm to kill an undetermined number of attackers while traveling the perimeter, protecting the downed crew. Sergeant First Class Shughart continued his protective fire until he depleted his ammunition and was fatally wounded. His actions saved the pilot's life. Sergeant First Class Shughart's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest standards of military service and reflect great credit upon him, his unit and the United States Army.



SFC RANDALL D. SHUGHART

BY CYNDY CERBIN

NIM Celebrates 10th Anniversary



The opening of the National Infantry Museum in 2009 drew thousands.

On 19 June 2019, the National Infantry Museum will celebrate its 10th anniversary. By museum standards, the NIM is still very young. The Smithsonian Institution was founded in 1836, the American Museum of Natural History opened in 1869, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art dates back to 1902. But the NIM has made impressive strides in its youth, and is well positioned to grow even more over the next 10 years.

The museum's mission—to honor Soldiers past, present and future, and to educate the nation about service members' and families' legacy of valor and sacrifice—has not changed since GEN Colin Powell cut the ribbon on this world-class facility in 2009. But little else has remained static. We have converted our state-of-the-art giant screen theater to allow for presentations, ceremonies and performances, and we have constructed a courtyard for special events under the stars. We have added major galleries telling the stories of Armor and Cavalry warriors and those who won our nation's independence in the Revolutionary

War and Civil War. To honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice during the Vietnam War, we have permanently installed the Dignity Memorial Vietnam Wall—a traveling wall that visited more than 200 cities across the country before finding its forever home at the NIM. And to honor those who continue to serve in America's longest war, we have created one of the nation's most comprehensive memorials to the Global War on Terrorism. It pays special tribute to the nearly 7,000 Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines who have given their lives in the war. Given that we are still a nation at war, there will be annual rededications of this memorial to mark both the sacrifices and achievements of the prior year and to add the names of the recently fallen to the memorial's black granite panels.

Over the past 10 years, this 190,000-square-foot museum has welcomed close to 3 million visitors. More than 75,000 schoolchildren have discovered their nation's heritage from docents who thrive on bringing history to

life. And every young man or woman who trains at Fort Benning to become our nation's newest warriors spends hours in the museum learning about the brotherhood they've joined.

The National Infantry Museum has been hailed as the No. 1 free museum in America according to readers of *USA Today* and one of the 12 best military museums in the world, according to *CNN Travel*. It has earned the Themed Entertainment Industry's equivalent of an Oscar, and received a prestigious Arts and Humanities award by the State of Georgia. The NIM is one of the highest rated attractions in Georgia, with visitors giving it a score of 4.95 on TripAdvisor.

These accolades are icing on the cake. We know who the real heroes are, and they will be the ones we'll be celebrating during our 10-year anniversary.

Watch for celebrations of this milestone throughout the spring and summer months. We're planning a big event for June that will include a rededication of Inouye Field, which was seeded at its opening with soil from eight major Infantry battlefields throughout history. We'll salute the people whose immense generosity made this museum possible. And, of course, there'll be cake for everyone.

We'll also commemorate the 75th anniversary of D-Day on June 6, one of the most significant dates in American history. There'll be a special ceremony and we'll unveil a new temporary exhibit gallery featuring rare and fascinating D-Day related artifacts not normally on display.

In April, during the Month of the Military Child, we plan to reopen one of the museum's most popular galleries, the Family Gallery. It will feature new displays and artifacts highlighting the impact military service has on a Soldier's loved ones. And there'll be new uniforms for kids to try on.

In August, our annual Salute to Soldiers gala will be the biggest birthday party in town. If you're not already a member of our 1775 Society, now's a great time to join. Your membership comes with at least two free tickets to the black-tie affair.

We have a lot to celebrate in 2019. We invite you to join us! ★

Save money on travel, shopping and more as an NIA/AUSA Member

The Association of the United States Army (AUSA) is excited to celebrate one year with the National Infantry Association in March. As an Association member, NIA members receive AUSA benefits, which include professional development opportunities, meetings and events, educational and news publications, exclusive scholarship access, member savings and more. Please visit www.ausa.org for the full range of our offerings. You can immediately access your member benefits at www.ausa.org/guide.

A quick way to access the Member Savings online is at www.ausa.org/savings. Comments, questions, or suggestions? Please contact me at AUSA, at srubel@ausa.org. Here are some highlights:

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Susan Rubel is the director of AUSA Affinity Programs.

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On 10 December 2018, CPT Jeremy Bishop presented the Order of St. Maurice to CPT Zachary Bennett at Fort Benning, Georgia. Pictured (left to right) 1SG Robert Landry, CPT Gabe Scott, Bennett, 1LT Jeremy Flint, CPT Jonathan Price and Bishop, kneeling.



On 9 February 2019, SFC Jay Arnold (left) presented the Order of St. Maurice to MSG Josh Carlile at the 129th Regional Training Institute Regimental Ball held in Springfield, Illinois. Carlile is a member of the Cold Steel Chapter of the NIA.



On 14 October 2018, 1LT Philip Bunker presented the Order of St. Maurice to SFC Alexander Foust at Moyer Reserve Center in Waterford, Michigan.



On 1 December 2018, (left to right) SFC Johnathan Embry and SFC Andrew Sivley were presented the Order of St. Maurice by 1SG Taylor Tahbo. The presentation was made at the 2-19 Infantry Battalion Ball held at the Columbus Convention and Trade Center, Columbus, Georgia.



On 07 Jan 2019, MG Brian Cummings presented the Order of Saint Maurice to LTC (Ret) Charles Kettles at his home in Ypsilanti, Michigan. Kettles, an aviator, was awarded the Medal of Honor on 18 July 2016 for his actions in Vietnam on 15 May 1967, where he saved the lives of multiple Infantry Soldiers from the 101st Airborne Division.



On 08 December 2018, Commander, 21BCT/281D COL Eric E. Zimmerman (right) presented the Order of St. Maurice to MAJ Stephen J. Klocko in Washington, Pennsylvania.



On 7 July 2018, MG Francis J. Evon, Adjutant General of Connecticut presented former Adjutant General Maj Gen Thaddeus J. Martin the Order of Saint Maurice for his contributions to the 1-102 Infantry Battalion over a period of 13 years and multiple deployments. The award was presented at the William A. O'Neill Armory in Hartford, Connecticut following the change of command for the Connecticut National Guard.



On 25 Feb 2019, CSM Michael Onstine (left) presented the Order of St. Maurice to SFC Maurice Novack at the 2-54 IN Regiment Room at Fort Benning, Georgia.



On 8 November 2018, LTC Matthew Lee presented the Order of Saint Maurice, Centurion level to CPT Daniel M. Reddy at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.



SFC (Ret) Class Fredrick L. Rhodes was presented the Order of St. Maurice, Civis by SGM (Ret) Christopher McLean Sr.



On 7 December 2018, COL Townley Hedrick and COL (Ret) Robert Choppa presented the Order of St. Maurice to Lisa J. Sankbeil at the Maneuver Center of Excellence HQ at Fort Benning, Georgia. Sankbeil retired after 34 years of civilian service.



LTC Wallace presented SFC Nila with the OSM for all his hard work and dedication to the Infantry, during the 1-19 Battalion Awards ceremony.



LTC Spencer Wallace presented SSG (P) Brandon Lopez with the Order of St. Maurice during the 1-19 Battalion Awards ceremony. From L to R: ISG Morton (Dco 1SG; SSG(P) Lopez (Dco - OSM); LTC Wallas (BN CDR)



On 8 Nov 2018, SFC Chad Sparks (left) and SSG Edmond Jasabe were presented the Order of St. Maurice at Fort Benning, Georgia.



On 7 September 2018, 1-50 Infantry held its monthly Battalion Awards Ceremony where the Order of Saint Maurice was awarded to SFC (P) Kent Condon (second from right). On hand to help present the awards was CPT(R) Jay Copley (right) Honorary Sergeant Major for the 50th Infantry Regiment and Distinguished Service Cross recipient while commanding C Co 1-50 Infantry in Vietnam. Others at the ceremony included (left to right) CSM Christopher G. Lewis, LTC Brendan R. Gallagher; SSG (P) Jonathan Whiting, SSG (P) Joshua Gaudette, SFC Richard McLean, SSG Ruz, Condon and Copley.



ATTENTION!

With PCS season coming up, please get your Order of Saint Maurice (OSM) and Shield of Sparta (SOS) nominations in early!

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Foundation President Harold Berkman is a World War II combat Infantryman who fought in the Battle of the Bulge, Ardennes Campaign, Rhineland Campaign and the Central Europe Campaign. He is a life member of the National Infantry Association and a recipient of the Order of Saint Maurice. He leads the foundation with a focus on charitable giving to Combat Infantrymen.

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