



# THE BLADE



A Newsletter of the 63d Infantry Division Association, USAR

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## Presidents Message

### PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Well it's Ground Hog's Day again. I don't know about you but every year on this date I think about the movie "Ground Hog's Day" and for me being deployed to Tazar Hungary. For this deployment I was assigned as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics (DCSLOG) with what was called the National Support Element (NSE). This was an organization that was created by Central Command (EUCOM) to allow the 21<sup>st</sup> Theater Support Command to get back to supporting our troops in Europe, not just those who doing the peace keeping mission in Bosnia. All this was before 9/11 and the war on terror.

When I was there the leadership was very concerned about troop safety, so even though we were stationed in Hungary we had the same force protection measures as our Soldiers in Bosnia. We lived in a compound (it was a former Soviet air base) and we were allowed to go into the local town, provided we went in groups of 10, wore our uniforms and had one armed soldier in the group. The result was we seldom left our base, even though Hungary was safer than Germany.

If you have been deployed you know that it doesn't take long for every day to start to be the same and the "Ground Hog Day" effect takes over. In my case it was up at 0600, a short walk from my billets to the DFAC past the MIG 17 on display for breakfast, often passing the same people each morning. Then to the office for the shift change briefing and the staff meeting at 0815. When I was with the NSE things had become very routine, a big event was when the weather turned unexpectedly cold and there were reports of black ice on the

MSR's to Croatia and Bosnia, or some convoy was late. Everyone thinks deployments are filled with a lot of action, but really it's a whole lot of routine, doing important tasks needed to insure that our Soldiers had what they needed to be successful. The hard part is after a while nothing seems different.

So what's this got to do with the 63 Infantry Division Association (USAR)? Well our Annual Meeting is an opportunity to do something different on a Sunday in April, a chance to see old friends and perhaps learn something too. This year we have asked CSM Robert Roberson to be our speaker. CSM Roberson is completing his assignment as the CSM for the 79<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Support Command. He is a Soldiers Soldier and has a current perspective on what life is like in today's reserve units.

Remember, Sunday 19 April, 2015 is the date of our Annual Meeting, be there to tell your stories about how you fought off the effects of Ground Hog Day when you were deployed.

Chuck Ebner BG (USA Retired)

ONCE A SOLDIER, ALWAYS A SOLDIER . . .  
A SOLDIER FOR LIFE

### **Our e-mail list is out of date!**

We need everyone to send your current e-mail address to LTC Don Wirth at [dlw4@juno.com](mailto:dlw4@juno.com) so we can rebuild our e-mail List.

### IN MEMORIAM

(For full obituary, go to [ww.63rdinfdivusar.com](http://ww.63rdinfdivusar.com) Announcements of death and obituaries of are posted as their received. For the latest information on a member's passing, check the website often.)

**COL TERRY STACY**



STACY, Terry Lee (Ret. Col.), 84, of North Chesterfield, died November 10, 2014, after a short illness. He was preceded in death by his son, Thomas Stacy. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Margaret Stacy; 10 children, 21 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren. He was a father, grandfather and great-grandfather, a member of the U.S. Army Retired and St. Joseph's Catholic Church. A Funeral Requiem Mass was celebrated 10 a.m. Wednesday at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Interment followed in Dale Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Francis Home, 65 W. Clopton St., Richmond, Va. 23225, or St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 828 Buford Rd., Richmond, Va. 23235. "If you have the grace of God in your family, you have everything."

COL Terry Stacy joined the Association in 1969 and became a Life Member in December 1980. He served on the Board of Governors 1970 to 1971.

***The 49th Annual 19 April,  
2015***

63rd Infantry Division Association  
(USAR)  
invites you to attend  
The 49th Annual Sunday Brunch  
of the 63d Infantry Division Association  
(USAR)

Place: **The Hotel Fullerton**, (formerly Crowne Plaza Hotel), 1500 South Raymond Ave. Fullerton, CA 92831 (Raymond off-ramp from the Riverside (91) Freeway in either direction [the hotel is visible from the freeway]. Turn north on Raymond. Turn right into the hotel just before the railroad tracks.)

Date: **Sunday, 19 April, 2015**

Time: **Social Hour – 1100, Buffet – 1200** hours

Attire: **Dress blues with white shirt and four-in-hand tie, or business suit**

Speaker: CSM Robert N Roberson, Jr.  
Recently Retired Command  
Sergeant Major of the 79th  
Sustainment Support Command

Subject: "Being a Serving Reservist"

1. Complete the attached Reservation Form (on Last Page) and mail it to the Treasurer, **LTC Beverley A. Houghton, 11307 Martha Ann Drive, Los Alamitos, CA 90720**. The price is **\$45.00 per person**. Please send your reservation in by Saturday, **11 April 2014**. You can help us keep the 63rd Inf Div Assn going by adding a tax deductible contribution.
2. Tell your "Whooze Nuze" story on the separate sheet of paper and Mail it to LTC Donald Wirth, 4554 Cordoba Way, Oceanside, CA 92056 or e-mail it to [dlw4@juno.com](mailto:dlw4@juno.com). Please send as much information as you can. This is one way to preserve the history of our membership. The SUSPENSE DATE for "Whooze Nuze" is 1 May – After that date it will be pure luck to get your story in.
3. Join us Saturday evening, 18 April 2015 at The Hotel Fullerton, formerly the Crowne Plaza Hotel. It's an opportunity to visit together in a relaxed atmosphere, dine together, and sleep in late Sunday morning.

Rooms are available at The Hotel Fullerton The best rate is AAA members, AARP members, senior citizens(age 50 or more), etc. Early reservations are suggested to obtain reasonable discount rates. Last-minute reservations will be rack rates for whatever rooms or suites remain available. All rates are plus taxes and subject to change. If you use the hotel's internet website, [www.hfullerton.com](http://www.hfullerton.com), indicate your check-in date, number of nights, and number of guests, then click on "Book Now," and on the next screen click on "View More Room Only Rates." Or call the hotel directly at (714) 635-9000 and ask for Reservations.

## Names of Fallen Service Members to be Added to California Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Sacramento – The California Vietnam Memorial Name Committee agreed to add the names of 31 California Veterans who died while serving our country in the Vietnam War. The 31 names are scheduled to be added to the California Vietnam Veterans Memorial and then unveiled during a ceremony in Capitol Park on March 29, 2015.

“We are honored to formally recognize the service and sacrifice of our brave men in uniform,” said Peter Gravett, Secretary, California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet).

“Although our recognition is decades late, California’s salute is equally heartfelt and deserved for all of our fallen service members and their families.”

### **A True Story**

Military History teacher at Robinson High School in Little Rock, did something not to be forgotten.

On the first day of school, with the permission of the school superintendent, the principal and the building supervisor, she removed all of the desks in her classroom. When the first period kids entered the room they discovered that there were no desks.

'Ms. Cothren, where are our desks?' She replied, 'You can't have a desk until you tell me how you earn the right to sit at a desk.' They thought, 'Well, maybe it's our grades. 'No,' she said. 'Maybe it's our behavior.' She told them, 'No, it's not even your behavior.'

And so, they came and went, the first period,

second period, third period, still no desks in the classroom. Kids called their parents to tell by early afternoon television news crews had started gathering at the school to report about this crazy teacher who had taken all the desks out of her room.

The final period of the day came and as the puzzled students found seats on the floor of the desk-less classroom, Martha Cothren said, 'Throughout the day no one has been able to tell me just what he or she has done to earn the right to sit at the desks that are ordinarily found in this classroom. Now I am going to tell you.'

At this point, Martha Cothren went over to the door of her classroom and opened it. Twenty-seven (27) U.S. Veterans, all in uniform, walked into that classroom, each one carrying a school desk. The Vets began placing the school desks in rows, and then they would walk over and stand alongside the wall. By the time the last soldier had set the final desk in place those kids started to understand, perhaps for the first time in their lives, just how the right to sit at those desks had been earned.

Martha said, 'You didn't earn the right to sit at these desks. These heroes did it for you. they placed the desks here for you. They went halfway around the world, giving up their education and interrupting their careers and families so you could have the freedom you have. Now, it's up to you to sit in them. It is your responsibility to learn, to be good students, to be good citizens. They paid the price so that you could have the freedom to get an education. Don't ever forget it.'

By the way, this is a true story. And this teacher was awarded Veterans of Foreign Wars Teacher of the Year for the State of Arkansas in 2006. She is the daughter of a WWII POW.



**63d Infantry Division, USAR  
49th Annual Meeting -- 19 April 2015**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places @ \$45.00 (deadline 11 April 2015) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**My contribution to keep the 63d Inf. Div. Assn. going** .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to: 63d Infantry Division Association, USAR Total Remitted \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to , LTC Beverley A. Houghton, 11307 Martha Ann Drive, Los Alamitos, CA 90720.**

**Will join the group gathering on Saturday evening, 18 April 2015, at the hotel? YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_**

**Address Service Requested**

NON-PROFIT  
UNITED STATES  
POSTAGE PAID  
ANAHEIM, CA  
PERMIT # 6010

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