# THE HISTORY, CUSTOMS, AND TRADITIONS
## OF THE
# 3d CAVALRY REGIMENT

# *BLOOD AND STEEL!*

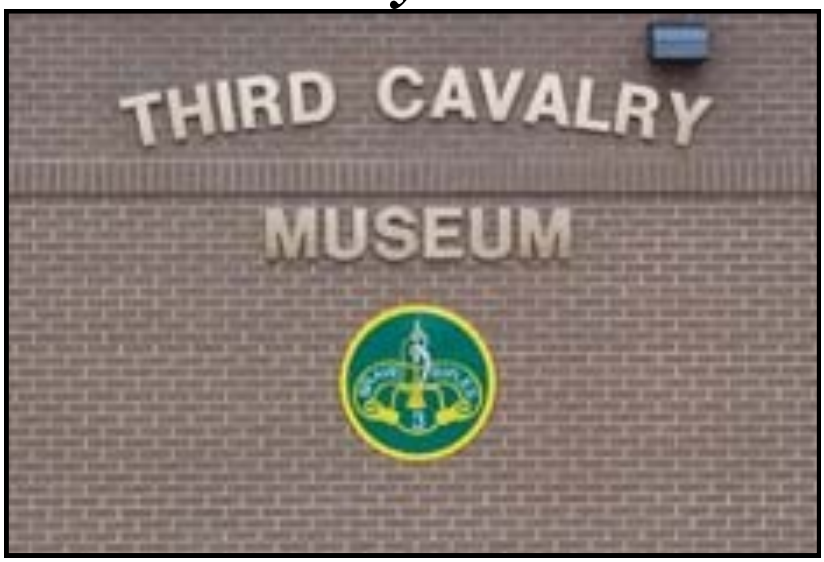
**Published by 3d Cavalry Public Affairs**
**in collaboration with the Third Cavalry Museum**
**Fort Hood, Texas**
***2012 Edition***

# *3d Cavalry Regiment*
# *Global War on Terror Memorial*

3d Cavalry Regiment Global War on Terror Memorial, located on Fort Hood at the intersection of 52nd Street and 761st Tank Battalion Avenue. The monument pays tribute to our fallen heroes from the Regiment's four deployments to Iraq since 2003.

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

# *3d Cavalry Museum*




3d Cavalry Regiment Museum, located at Building 409, 761st Tank Battalion Avenue, near the intersection with 27th Street. Museum hours are Monday to Friday, 0900-1600.

## FOREWORD

This publication has been prepared to familiarize you, the *Trooper,* with the history, customs, and traditions of the 3d Cavalry Regiment. For more than 165 years, the Brave Rifles have served on the frontiers of freedom, defending the national interests of the United States.

Soldiers may serve with a unit and then move on, but the history, customs and traditions of that unit remain in place to form a legacy that is passed on from one generation to the next. These customs and traditions define that unit. Due to its origin as the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen - the *only* Regiment of Mounted Riflemen - this Regiment has a unique place in the history of the U.S. Army.

Over the years many customs and traditions have evolved, some of which may also be found in other units. Many of them, however, are unique to this Regiment. You may take an active part in them, such as The Order of the Spur or at Regimental functions, or you might contribute to the adoption of new customs or traditions. In any case, they will become part of your life in the Regiment, and you will be required to know and use them.

At the Third Cavalry Museum you can see the objects that embody the history of the Regiment. It is *your* museum and you are encouraged to visit with your family or friends and experience this legacy. Never forget what the museum artifacts represent—the service and sacrifices of your predecessors. The recent reorganization as a Stryker Cavalry Regiment is only the latest transition in an organization that has embraced change for more than a century. No matter what platform you ride on, no matter what your MOS is, no matter what the Regiment is called, *you* will write the next chapter in its history!

The Staff of the Third Cavalry Museum

***STAY CAV!!***

CAVALRY!
TO THE FIELD!
BRAVE RIFLES 3
BRAVE RIFLES 3
THE 74TH COLONEL OF THE
3d U.S. CAVALRY REGIMENT
IS LOOKING FOR
4,200 CAVALRYMEN
WITH SKILL, CUNNING, & COURAGE
TO SERVE IN
THE NATION'S ONLY
REGIMENT OF MOUNTED RIFLEMEN
STAND WITH THE BRAVE RIFLES
TO PROTECT THE NATION

## LETTER FROM THE REGIMENTAL COMMANDER

To the Troopers and Friends of the Regiment,

**Baptized in fire and blood in 1847 during the War with Mexico, the Regiment returns from its fourth combat tour in Iraq hard as steel.** For 166 years, the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen has served this Nation with strength, courage and honor. Sacrifice is no stranger to the Regiment, with 47 campaign streamers, representing hundreds of battles and skirmishes, that adorn the Regimental Standard (Colors). In fact, no brigade-size element has deployed more and sacrificed more during the current fight against terrorism than the 3d Cavalry Regiment. The 149 officers and Troopers who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our great Regiment and the Nation are a testament to this fact.

Change and adaptability is also no stranger to this proud outfit. Originally constituted in 1846 as nation's only Regiment of Mounted Riflemen, the Regiment converted to cavalry at the outbreak of the Civil War, becoming the 3d Cavalry Regiment in 1861. It remained a horse-mounted cavalry regiment until 1942, when the operating environment of the mechanized battlefield during World War II required the Troopers to retired their horses and draw armored scout cars, jeeps, and tanks as the Regiment converted to *mechanized* cavalry. After World War II, the threat of Soviet aggression resulted in the Regiment converting from mechanized cavalry to an Armored Cavalry Regiment, responsible for reconnaissance and security for a U.S. Corps. For more than 60 years it remained an ACR, the Army's premier combined arms armored organization. The current operating environment requires the Regiment to transform yet again. These are exciting times for the Regiment as it converts from a reconnaissance and security outfit to the Army's premier combined arms combat team, mounted on the Army's most versatile and technologically advanced platform: the Stryker. Today you join the Regiment as it returns to its 1846 roots as a Regiment of Mounted Riflemen. We embrace this latest conversion of the Regiment, knowing that the equipment and mission may change as the Regiment becomes a Stryker-based unit, but we will continue to teach, foster, and build the history, lineage, and traditions as the 3d United States Cavalry.

As you don the Regimental patch and distinctive unit insignia affectionately known as "the Bug" on your uniforms, remember that those symbols represent a long, straight line of Troopers who came before you, who served this Regiment to preserve peace and defend our Constitution. As members of this historic unit, you will also wear the Nation's highest unit award, the Presidential Unit Citation, earned at Bastogne, in addition to two Valorous Unit Awards earned by the Regiment during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Your predecessors have fought valiantly and won lopsided victories against numerically superior forces during the Mexican War; routed Confederate forces at the battles of Val Verde and Glorieta Pass during the Civil War; defeated the enemy on the Rosebud in the largest battle of the Indian Wars; seized San Juan Hill in Cuba during the Spanish American War; conducted counter-insurgency operations in the Philippines; led General Patton's Third Army across Europe during World War II; played a critical role in the successful conclusion of the Cold War from 1946-90; fought with distinction as the reconnaissance and security force for XVIII Airborne Corps during Operation Desert Storm; enforced peace in Bosnia and; most recently, conducted extremely effective counter-insurgency operations during Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn.

You have joined an elite organization and are now part of the history of the Regiment. Learn the customs and traditions of this great Regiment and of the U.S. Cavalry. Visit your Regiment's museum, and bring your Families in as well to share in our proud history. Finally, make a point to visit the Regiment's Global War on Terror Memorial located on Fort Hood at the intersection of 52nd Street and 761st Tank Battalion Avenue, where we honor the members of the Regiment that made the ultimate sacrifice in the fight against the enemies of freedom around the world.

BRAVE RIFLES!

JOHN B. RICHARDSON IV
74th Colonel of the Regiment

## LETTER FROM THE HONORARY (70th) COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT

It is a great honor to ride with the 3d U. S. Cavalry. The Regiment's long and storied history is marked by acts of courage and selfless service. In every theater of war, from Mexico to Iraq, the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen displayed heroism and valor. History informs us that the officers, non-commissioned officers, and Troopers of the 3d Cavalry Regiment always made a difference, no matter how difficult their task. Many times the Regiment was called upon for service in unique and dangerous missions. Always the Regiment answered the call. Tough training and thorough knowledge of men and equipment gave our Regiment the edge in every situation. Today our Regiment faces new challenges and will undoubtedly receive unique and difficult missions. You are the link with the Troopers of our past. Your contributions as a Soldier, your devotion to duty, will perpetuate the rich history of our Regiment. Make a difference, and make history with the Brave Rifles!

AI-EE-YAH!

DAVID A. TEEPLES
Honorary Colonel of the Regiment

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I: THE STORY OF THE REGIMENT OF MOUNTED RIFLEMEN ..... 1

The Mexican War ..... 3
On to Oregon ..... 7
The Civil War ..... 8
Back to the Frontier ..... 12
Fiddler's Green ..... 14
Regular Army, O! ..... 15
The Spanish American War ..... 16
Old Bill ..... 17
Philippine Insurrection ..... 18
World War I ..... 19
Between the Wars ..... 20
World War II ..... 22
The 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment ..... 25
Operation Gyroscope ..... 26
Seventh Army ..... 27
Fort Lewis, Washington ..... 28
Fort Bliss, Texas ..... 29
The Persian Gulf War ..... 30
Fort Carson, Colorado ..... 31
Bosnia ..... 32
Bright Star ..... 33
Operation Iraqi Freedom I ..... 34
Operation Iraqi Freedom III ..... 37
Fort Hood, Texas ..... 39
Operation Iraqi Freedom 07-09 ..... 40
Operation New Dawn ..... 43
Stryker Conversion ..... 45

PART II: REGIMENTAL CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS ..... 47

Regimental Insignia ..... 48
Stetsons & Spurs ..... 54
Other Customs and Traditions ..... 61
Appendix A The Act of Congress Establishing the Regiment ..... 69
Appendix B Certificates of Lineage and Honors ..... 71
Appendix C Campaign Participation Credits ..... 73
Appendix D Regimental Medal of Honor Recipients ..... 83
Appendix E Regimental Commanders ..... 87
Appendix F Regimental Command Sergeants Major ..... 91
Appendix G General Scott's Remarks to the Regiment at Contreras ..... 92
Appendix H The Fallen from Operation Iraqi Freedom I ..... 93
Appendix I The Fallen from Operation Iraqi Freedom III ..... 95
Appendix J The Fallen from Operation Iraqi Freedom 07-09 ..... 97
Appendix K The Fallen from Operation New Dawn ..... 99
Appendix L Organization of the Regiment ..... 100

# CAMPAIGNS OF THE 3d CAVALRY

**Mexican War**
Vera Cruz
Cerro Gordo
Contreras
Churubusco
Chapultepec
Vera Cruz 1847

**Indian Wars**
Comanches
Cheyennes
Utes
Little Big Horn
Texas 1856
New Mexico 1857
New Mexico 1858
New Mexico 1860
New Mexico 1861
New Mexico 1867
New Mexico 1869
Oklahoma 1868
Arizona 1870
Arizona 1871
Arizona 1882

**Civil War**
Chattanooga
New Mexico 1861
New Mexico 1862
Alabama 1863
Tennessee 1863
Arkansas 1864

**War With Spain**
Santiago

**Philippine Insurrection**
Luzon 1899
Luzon 1900
San Fabian
San Isidro

**World War I**
Without inscription

**World War II**
Northern France
Rhineland
Ardennes-Alsace
Central Europe

**Southwest Asia (Gulf War)**
Defense of Saudi Arabia
Liberation and Defense of Kuwait

**Global War on Terror**
Liberation of Iraq
Transition of Iraq
Iraqi Governance
National Resolution
The Surge
Iraqi Sovereignty
Operation New Dawn

# PART I

## THE STORY OF
## THE REGIMENT OF MOUNTED RIFLEMEN

Branch insignia of the Mounted Riflemen, 1846

***Brave Rifles!*** *You have been baptized in fire and blood and come out steel!*

General Winfield Scott
Mexico, 1847

## PART I: THE STORY OF THE REGIMENT OF MOUNTED RIFLEMEN

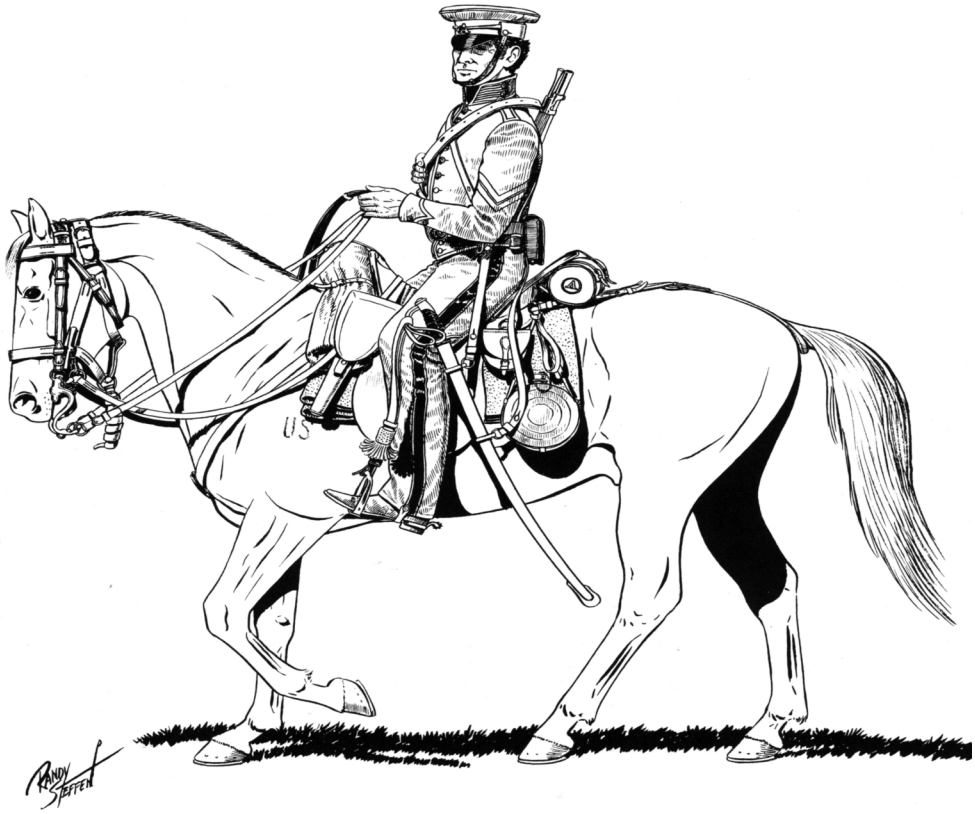
**AUTHORIZED: 1 DEC 1845 CONSTITUTED: 19 MAY 1846**

**ORGANIZED: 12 OCT 1846**

The Regiment of Mounted Riflemen was authorized by an Act of Congress on Dec. 1, 1845 and was subsequently formed at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri in October 1846 under the command of the 1st Colonel of the Regiment, Colonel P.F. Smith. This brought into existence a new organization in the United States Army: a regiment of riflemen, mounted to create greater mobility than the infantry, and equipped with Model 1841 percussion rifles to provide greater range and accuracy than the muskets of the infantry or the dragoon's smooth bore carbines. The initial charter of the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen was to protect the western expansion of settlers, providing security on the Oregon Trail.

From the beginning, the Mounted Rifles were considered a separate branch of the service and were outfitted with distinctive uniforms adorned with green piping as well as the branch insignia of the trumpet, borrowed from the rifle infantry roots of many of the Regiment's first Troopers.

Companies C and F were recruited in the mountain regions of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina while the rest came from Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Company I was not formed until October, at New Orleans, because the commanding officer, Captain Charles F. Ruff, was on detached service.




*Corporal, Regiment of Mounted Riflemen, ca.1846, courtesy of Randy Steffen/University of Oklahoma Press.*

**The Mexican War: 1847**

The Regiment was organized "for establishing military stations on route to Oregon," and it was under orders to proceed on its mission at the earliest practical date. However, the Mexican War ensued, and the Troopers found themselves diverted from the Oregon Trail mission to participate in the invasion of Mexico. As soon as horses and equipment were obtained, the Regiment began moving to New Orleans in detachments of one or two companies.

The Mounted Rifles lost most of their horses in a terrible storm during the voyage across the Gulf of Mexico, forcing them to fight dismounted during most of the Mexican War. This kept the Regiment from being left behind to escort wagon trains and chase guerrillas, allowing it to distinguish itself in six campaigns.

The Regiment landed at Vera Cruz on 9 March 1847 and participated in continuous fighting until 28 March. On 17 and 18 April, the Regiment found itself in fierce hand-to-hand combat at Cerro Gordo. After refitting at Puebla, the Riflemen fought at Contreras and Churubusco on 19 and 20 August. It was at Contreras that General Scott made the speech from which the Regiment took its Accolade, seen below (see Appendix G for General Scott's historic address).

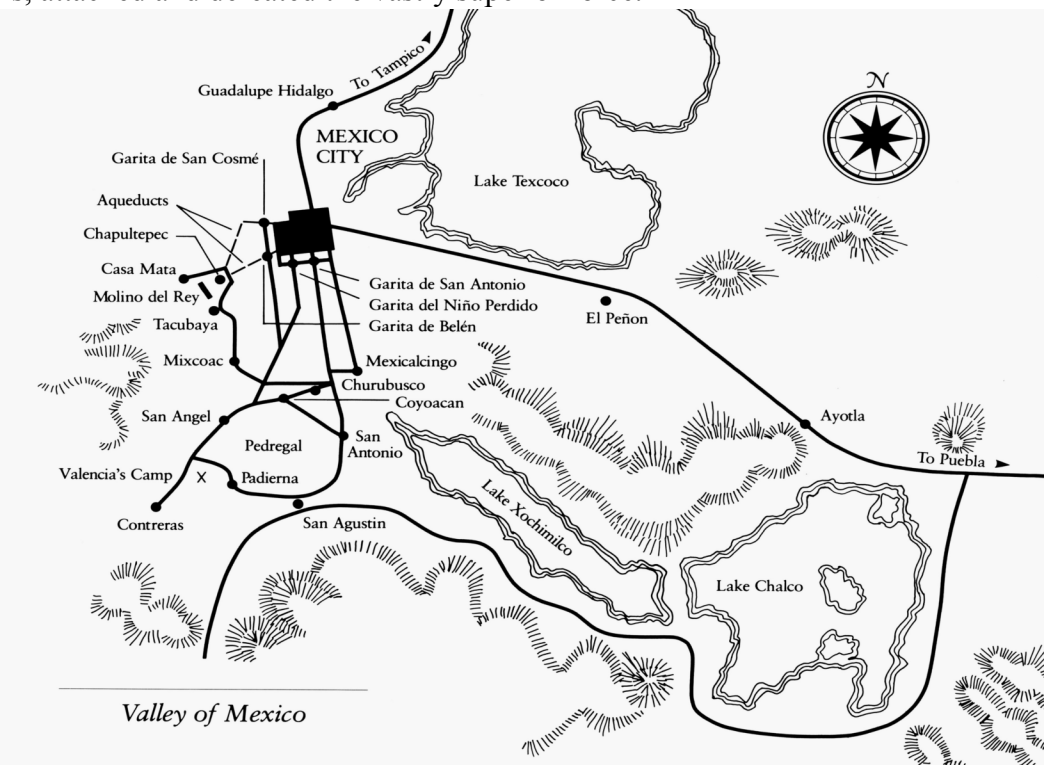
~

| | |
|---|---|
| Regimental, Squadron, or Troop Commander: | *"Prepare for the Regimental Accolade!"* |
| Squadron, Troop Commander or Platoon Leader: | *"Prepare to sound off!"* |
| Regimental, Squadron, or Troop Commander: | *"Brave Rifles!"* |
| All personnel respond: | *"Veterans!"* |
| Regimental, Squadron, or Troop Commander: | *"Blood and Steel!"* |
| All personnel respond: | *"AI-EE-YAH!"* |

*General Scott at Contreras, depicted in the painting, "Brave Rifles-Veterans" by Don Prechtel*

On 8 September, as the advance to Mexico City continued, General Scott learned that a large quantity of gun powder was stored at Molino del Rey (the "King's Mill"), which formed the western end of the park that included Chapultepec, about 1000 yards to the east. Church bells were reportedly being melted down and cast into cannons there. Scott ordered the facility seized.

Major Edwin V. Sumner, who would later become the 1st Colonel of the 4th Cavalry Regiment in 1855, and 270 Riflemen were tasked with screening the left flank of the assault on the Molino. Beyond a massive stone structure known as the "Casa Mata", 500 yards further west, 4000 Mexican cavalrymen waited to roll up the flank of the attacking Americans. Charging under heavy fire, the Mounted Riflemen crossed a deep ravine considered impassible by the Mexicans, attacked and defeated the vastly superior force.




**Chapultepec**

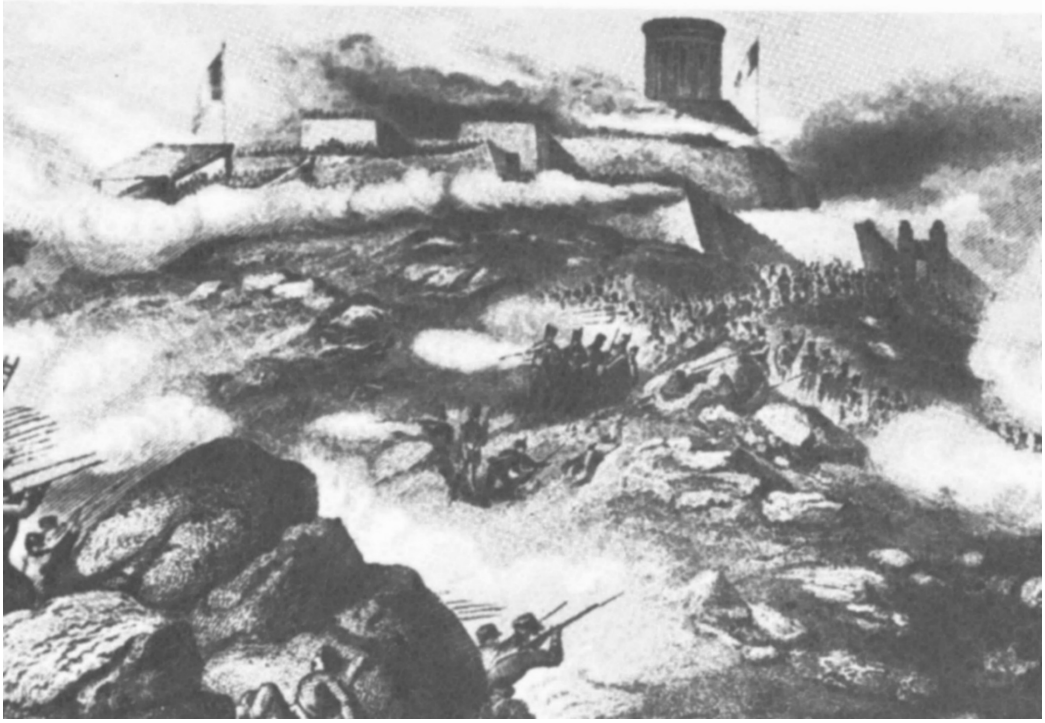
The most notable action during the Regiment's participation in the Mexican War came on 13 September 1847 when the Regiment participated in the assault on the fortress of Chapultepec. It was the site of the Mexican National Military Academy, and it is described in Steele's American Campaigns:

> *This stone castle stands on an isolated mound rising 150 feet above the valley; nearly precipitous on the northern, eastern, and part of the southern side, it declines gradually on the east to a cypress grove separating it from Molino del Rey. The grounds were enclosed by a high wall on the southern side and on the northern side by the San Cosme Aqueduct. The castle commanded two of the causeways leading into the City of Mexico, about two miles east of it. The position was defended with cannon.*

Chapultepec Castle was taken by a pair of hand-picked, 250-man storming parties, which included Mounted Riflemen under the command of Captain Benjamin S. Roberts, who would later command Company C. Seeing a party of Marines falter during the assault after losing most of their officers, Lieutenant Robert M. Morris of the Mounted Riflemen took charge and led them on to victory. During the assault, other elements of the Regiment captured an enemy artillery battery at the foot of the castle.

After these actions, the Regiment was immediately reformed and advanced down the Tacubaya Causeway to storm the Belen Gate which barred the way into Mexico City. The hard -fighting Riflemen captured another artillery battery halfway to the gate at Casa Colorado, and a third during the assault on the gate.

Leading the American forces, the Regiment stormed into Mexico City at 1:20 that afternoon. At 7:00 A.M. on 14 September 1847, Sergeant James Manly of F Company and Captain Benjamin S. Roberts raised the American Flag over the Mexican National Palace while Captain Porter, Commander of F Company, unfurled the Regimental standard from the balcony.



*The storming of Chapultepec Castle.*

As recalled by Major General John A. Quitman, "When forming my division on the plaza, I perceived several noncommissioned officers hastening towards the palace with their regimental colors. I cried out, 'No, my brave fellows, take back your colors. The first flag on that palace must be the flag of our country.' Captain Roberts, of the Rifles, was then directed to bring forward a stand of National Colors and plant them upon the palace."

Most of the remainder of the Regiment's service in Mexico would consist of police duty and chasing guerrillas. There were, however, engagements with Mexican forces at Matamoras on 23 November and Galaxara on 24 November, 1847, and at Santa Fe on 4 January 1848.

As a result of their reputation for bravery and toughness, the Mounted Rifles were usually found in the midst of the action. As General Scott said, "Where bloody work was to be done, 'the Rifles' was the cry, and there they were. All speak of them in terms of praise and admiration."

During the Mexican War, eleven Troopers were commissioned from the ranks and nineteen officers received brevet promotions for gallantry in action. Regimental losses in Mexico were approximately four officers and 40 men killed, 13 officers and 180 wounded (many of whom would eventually die), and one officer and 180 men who died of other causes.

The Mounted Rifles departed from Vera Cruz on the ship *Tyrone* on 7 July 1848. They arrived at New Orleans on the 17th and sailed up the Mississippi River on the same day aboard the *Aleck Scott*.

*Mounted Rifleman in distinctive uniform, with Grimsley saddle, ca. 1847. Painting courtesy of Randy Steffen/University of Oklahoma Press.*

**On to Oregon: 1849**

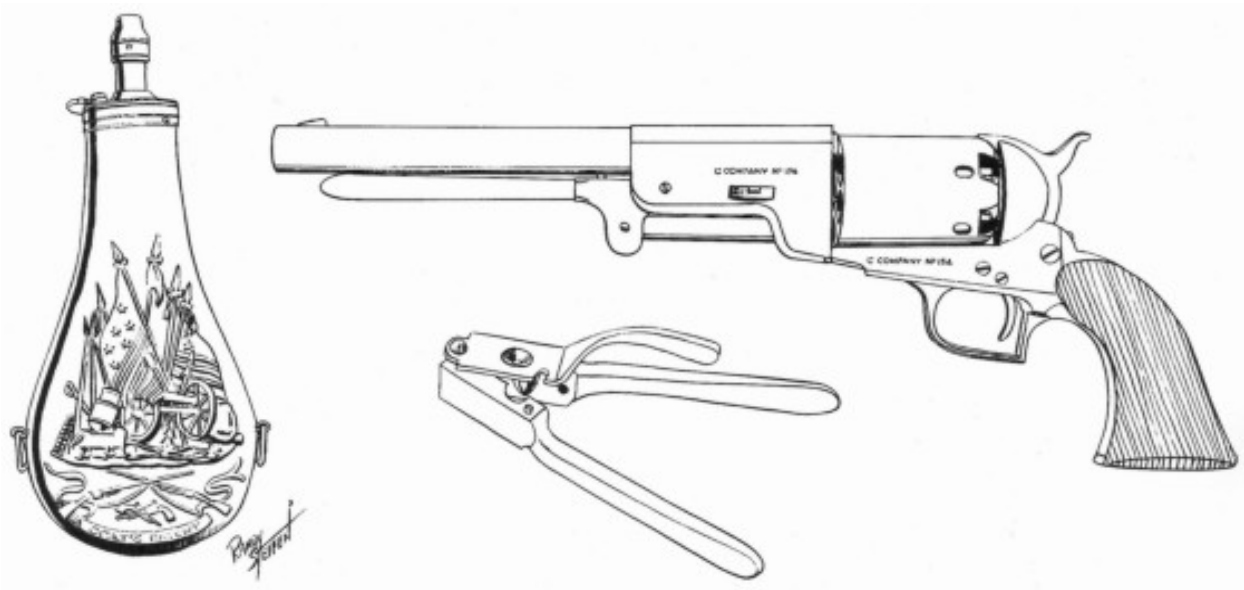
After the Mounted Riflemen returned from Mexico to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, they began to prepare for a 2,000 mile march through territory without roads and often without water, firewood, or grass for their animals. The Regiment departed Jefferson Barracks under the command of LTC William Wing Loring, the 2nd Colonel of the Regiment, on 10 May 1849 with 700 horses, 1,200 mules, a few oxen, and 171 wagons. There were few buildings on this route other than Fort Kearny, Nebraska and fur trading posts at Laramie and old Fort Hall. Surveying routes while guarding against hostile Indians, as well as dealing with the problems of supply, swollen rivers, and disease, made for a grueling mission.

The Army bought the fur trading post at Laramie, leaving Companies C and E to garrison the post. Companies B and F were left to garrison Fort Hall on the Snake River. The main body of the Mounted Riflemen arrived at Oregon City in November 1849.

In May 1851, The Mounted Riflemen were ordered to return to Jefferson Barracks. All the horses and Troopers were transferred to the 1st Dragoons in California, and the officers and NCOs traveled by ship to Panama. After crossing the Isthmus, they boarded another ship and returned to the Regiment's birthplace, arriving on 16 July 1851. For the next six months, the Regiment recruited, re-equipped, and re-trained.

**First Regiment of Mounted Riflemen**

In December 1851, the Regiment was ordered to Texas. By January 1852, the Regiment arrived at Fort Merrill, where for the next four years it operated against the Indian tribes living in the area. Patrols, skirmishes, guard, and escort duty were all part of the daily routine. Captain Dabney H. Maury of Company H, posted at Ft. Inge, Texas, remembered, "These Indians had their resting places at Fort Worth… near where the Second Dragoons were stationed, and

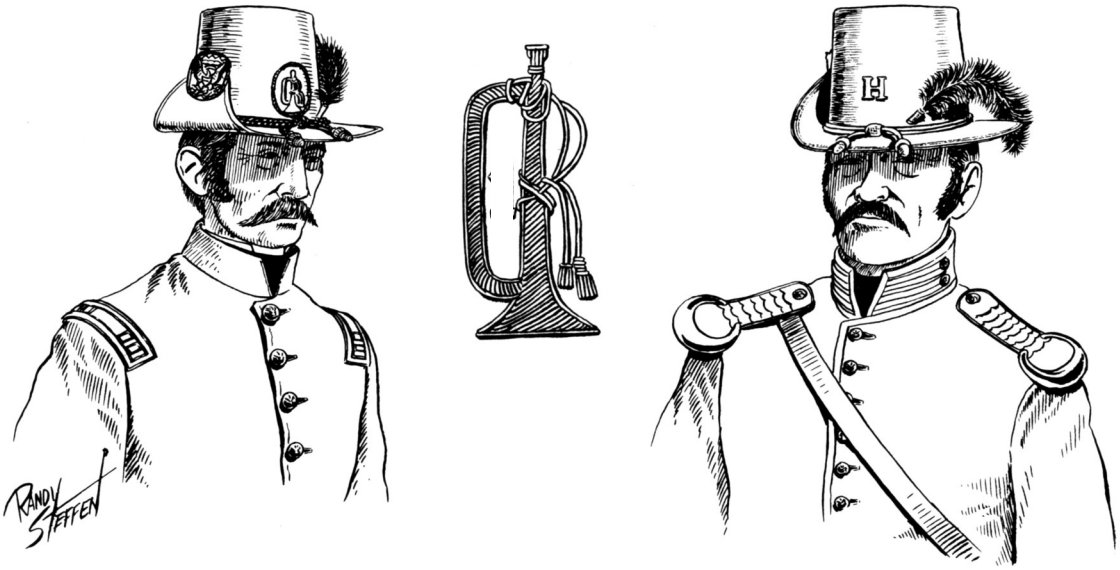


*The Walker Colt (U.S. Model 1847) .44 caliber revolver with powder flask and bullet mold. This pistol was co-designed by Samuel Colt and Captain Samuel Walker, commander of Company C, who was killed in action in the Mexican War. The Regiment of Mounted Riflemen was the only unit in the U.S. Army issued this weapon. Courtesy of Randy Steffen/University of Oklahoma Press.*

always kept the peace with them. Evidently they regarded us as a separate tribe, for whenever they were about to make a raid down our way, they would tell the Dragoons that they had 'war with the Rifles' and gravely bid them 'Good bye.' "

In 1853, the Regiment was redesignated as the First Regiment of Mounted Riflemen because the Army was considering raising another mounted rifle regiment. This did not happen, but the "First" designation of the original regiment was kept. Jeb Stuart, later to gain fame as a Confederate cavalry commander, served with the Regiment as a lieutenant during this period, before being transferred to the newly formed 1st Cavalry Regiment at Fort Riley in 1855.

In 1856, Indian troubles in the New Mexico Territory required additional troops and the Regiment moved further West. Fort Union, New Mexico became the new home base for the Mounted Riflemen. Service in New Mexico was constant and most exacting. The Regiment was widely scattered and the number of troops available was wholly inadequate for the task of patrolling an area that extended from Denver, Colorado to the Mexican border, and from West Texas to Arizona, Nevada, and Utah.



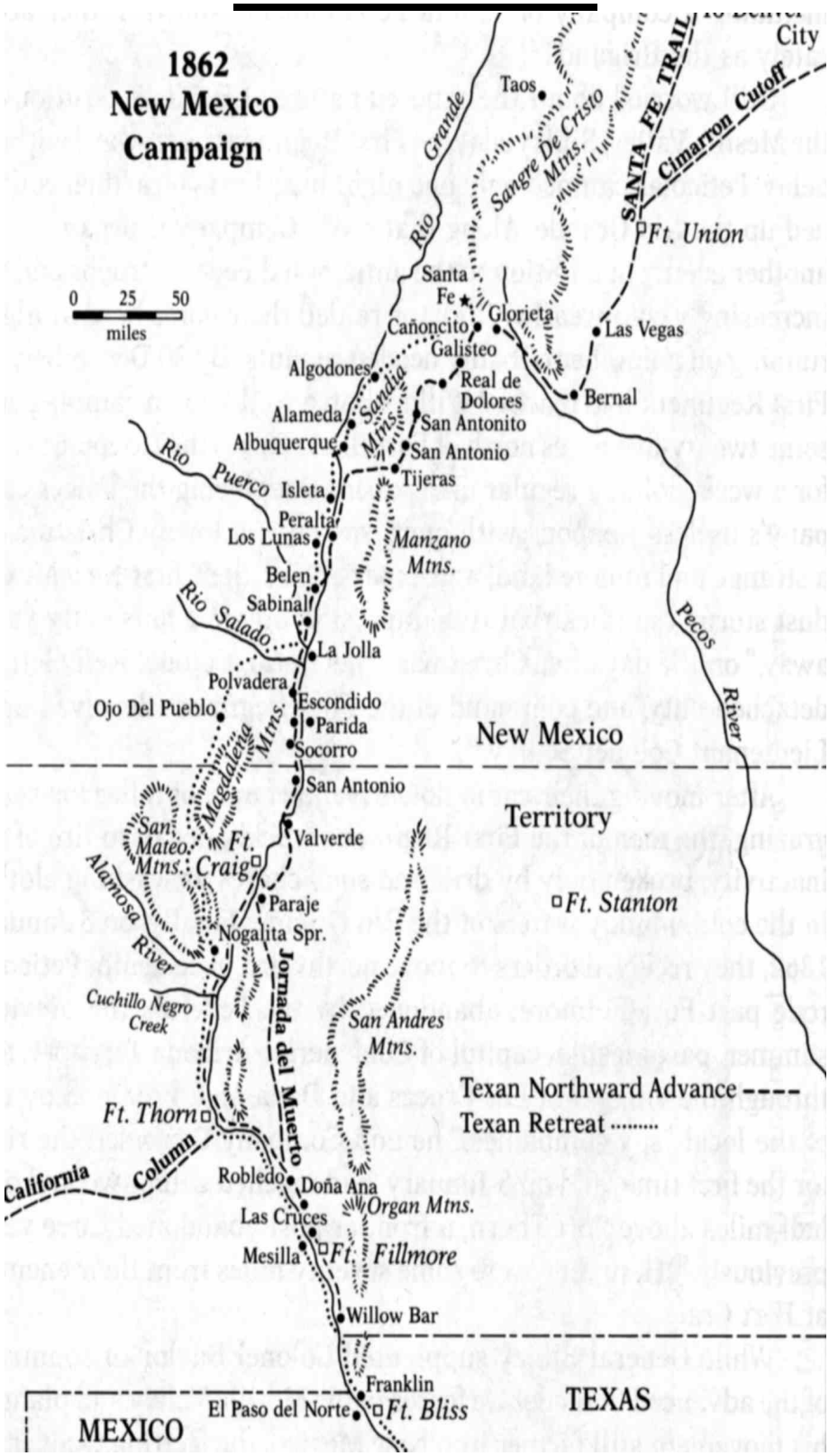

*The trumpet pictured above was the branch of service insignia of the 1st Regiment of Mounted Riflemen until it was redesignated as the 3d United States Cavalry Regiment in 1861. Courtesy of Randy Steffen/University of Oklahoma Press.*

**The Civil War: 1861-1865**

In April 1861, the American Civil War began and the Regimental Commander, Colonel William Wing Loring and twelve other officers left the Regiment to join the cause of the Confederacy. In August 1861, the mounted arms of the U.S. Army were reorganized, and the First Regiment of Mounted Riflemen was redesignated as the 3d United States Cavalry Regiment.

At the outbreak of the war, a Confederate force of about 3000 Texans began a campaign at Fort Bliss, Texas to seize the territories of New Mexico and Colorado. The 3d U.S. Cavalry Regiment was one of the few Regular Army units in the region available to oppose them. On 25 July detachments of Companies B and F were involved in a hard fight at Mesilla in the New Mexico territory.

# CIVIL WAR




*Map courtesy Don E. Alberts/University of New Mexico Press*

The Regiment dwindled down to the point that Companies A, B, and H had their Troopers transferred to other companies in August, leaving the Regiment no larger than a battalion.

Companies C, G, and K defeated a Rebel force at Fort Thorn on 26 September. On 21 February 1862, Companies C, D, G, I, and K under the command of Major Thomas Duncan and a provisional artillery battery commanded by Captain Alexander McCrae, formerly commander of Company E, were part of the Union force that fought the Confederates at the Battle of Valverde. This was the largest Civil War land battle west of the Mississippi River. The battle occurred at an important ford across the Rio Grande river just north Fort Craig, New Mexico. Union forces under Colonel Edward R. S. Canby held Fort Craig, which barred the route north.

*Captain Alexander McRae*

The Confederate commander, General Henry Hopkins Sibley, moved around them to the ford to draw the Union troops away from the fort since Sibley knew he was not strong enough to take it by force. Sibley could not leave this enemy force in his rear as he moved north, but he also needed to capture the food and supplies stored there to support his campaign. Capturing the ford would cut the post off from support by Union forces stationed further north.

Canby moved his command about 5 miles north to the ford to prevent the Confederates from seizing it. In the ensuing battle, McRae's battery raked the enemy positions with shell and

canister, as well as highly effective counter-battery fire that put a number of the Confederate guns out of action. He was ordered to move his battery across the Rio Grande to the eastern side to cover the Union attempt to roll up the Confederate's left flank.

With their line in danger of being outflanked by Union forces, the commander of one of the Texas units ordered a charge to attempt to capture or destroy McRae's battery. The Texans stormed out of a dry wash about 700 yards away, with some 750 men in three waves. Part of the battery's supporting infantry had been moved to another area on the battlefield and the remainder, untested volunteers, fled as the enemy closed on their position, leaving it unprotected. McRae's gunners continued firing into the Confederate ranks, inflicting heavy casualties. One by one, the gun crews were cut down, but McRae refused to retreat. The surviving gunners and infantrymen were now engaged in a furious hand-to-hand fight with pistols, clubs, bayonets, and knives. When the battery was overrun, Canby ordered a withdrawal, leaving the battlefield to the enemy.

Eighty percent of the Union casualties at Valverde occurred either in or near McRae's position. Of the eighty-five men in the battery, nineteen (including McRae) were killed, twenty-three wounded, and two missing in action.

The 23 March 1862 edition of the *St. Louis Republican* stated, "With his artillerymen cut down, his support either killed, wounded or flying from the field, Capt. McRae sat down calmly on one of his guns, and with revolver in hand, refusing to flee or desert his post, he fought to the last."

McRae was a native of North Carolina and was ostracized by his own family for remaining loyal to the Union cause. His belief in the oath to "preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution" was absolute. He died defending his position in the face of overwhelming odds, adding to the Regiment's tradition of selfless service to the nation.

In his official report, Colonel Canby, commander of the Department of New Mexico, said of McRae, "Pure in character, upright in conduct, devoted to his profession … Captain McRae died, as he had lived, an example of the best and highest qualities that man can possess."

McRae was buried at Fort Craig until 1867 when his remains were moved to the cemetery at West Point. Alexander McRae was one of only two officers of the Regiment killed in action in the Civil War. A new post south of Fort Craig was named Fort McRae in his honor as was a street in El Paso, Texas.

After the fight at Valverde, Companies C and K fought an engagement on 3 March with Indians at Comanche Canyon while Company E was involved in the evacuation of Albuquerque and Santa Fe, on 2 through 4 March. Company C was again engaged at Apache Canyon on 26 March.

Company E fought at the battle of Glorieta Pass (also known as the Battle of Pigeon Ranch) on 28 March and at Albuquerque again on 9 April. In the Glorieta Pass fight, a force of Colorado volunteers destroyed the Confederate supply train which left them in unfamiliar, unfriendly territory without food, water, or other supplies, ending the threat of Confederate Control of the territories of New Mexico and Colorado.

Company E was also involved in the pursuit of Confederate forces from 13 to 22 April. At Peralta on 15 April, Companies D, E, G, I, and K were involved in the final action of the campaign against the remnants of the Confederate force who were straggling back to Texas.

The Regiment departed from Fort Union on 30 September and marched 1280 miles to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, arriving on 23 November. In December 1862, the Regiment moved to Memphis, Tennessee, where it remained until October 1863.

Between October and December 1863, the 3d Cavalry participated in operations on the Memphis and Charleston Railroad and fought in skirmishes at various locations such as Barton Station, Cane Creek, and Dickinson's Station, Alabama.

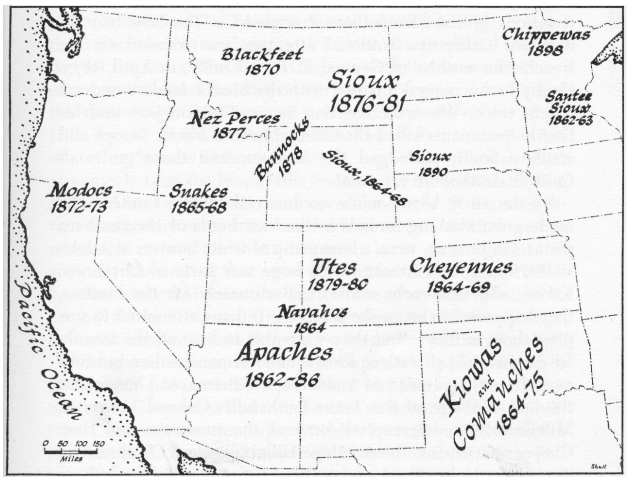
The 3d Cavalry was tasked by General Sherman to perform various reconnaissance missions as part of his advance guard, including marching to the relief of Knoxville, Tennessee. Elements of the Regiment also were engaged at Murphy, North Carolina and Loudon, Tennessee.

From May 1864 until April 1866, the 3d Cavalry was stationed at Little Rock, Arkansas, with the mission of "preventing the organization of enemy commands, capturing guerrilla bands and escorting trains." To accomplish these tasks, the Regiment did much hard riding over a large area. During an expedition from Little Rock to Benton on 21 August 1864, a detachment of the 3d Cavalry was ambushed by Confederate troops. The resulting confusion and effort to escape the kill zone became known as "The Benton Races."

The 3d U.S. Cavalry Regiment's losses during the Civil War were two officers and thirty enlisted men who were either killed in action or died of wounds and three officers and 105 enlisted men who died of disease or other non-combat causes.

**Back to the Frontier**

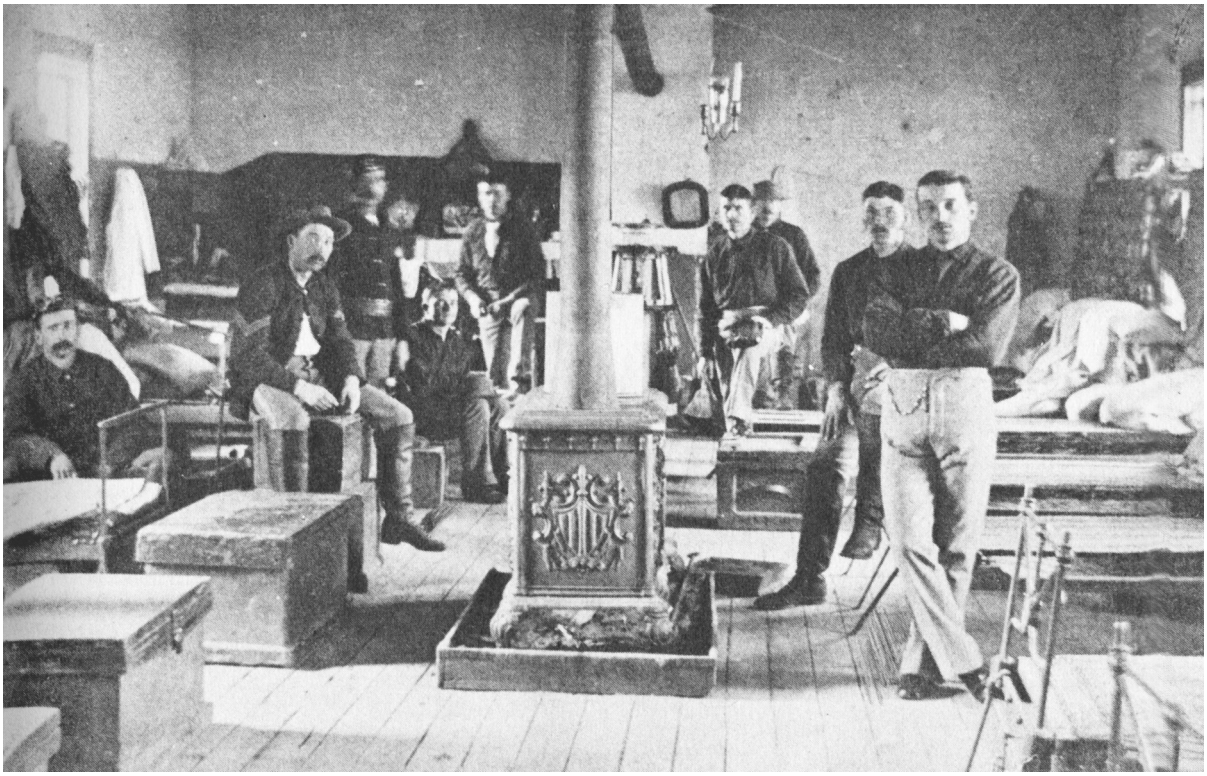
In April 1866, Companies A, D, E, H, L, and M were ordered to Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania and brought up to strength. The 3d Cavalry was once again ordered to the New Mexico territory to campaign against the Indians. Company E, traveling on the Arkansas River, suffered thirteen Troopers killed, nine injured, and twelve missing when the boilers exploded on the steamboat *Miami* on 28 January 1866.




*Indian Wars 1862-1898*

Beginning with E in February 1870, most of the companies of the 3d Cavalry Regiment began moving individually to the Arizona Territory, but the Regimental Headquarters and Company I moved to Camp Halleck, and Company D to Camp McDermitt, both in northern Nevada. Late in 1871, the Regiment was transferred north to the Department of the Platte, which included what are now the states of Wyoming, Montana, the Dakotas and Nebraska. The 3d Cavalry became the main cavalry force for Department operations in the Black Hills region.

During the summer of 1876, the Regiment participated in the Little Big Horn Campaign against the Sioux and Cheyenne. On 17 June 1876, ten companies of the 3d Cavalry fought in



*Barrack room of K Troop, 3d Cavalry at Fort Elliott, Texas, 1885. Sergeant Perley S. Eaton is seated at left on the footlocker and Private John Hubbard stands at right with arms folded.*

This was the largest battle between the Army and the Indians in the history of the American West, with 1,400 friendly Indians and Troopers opposing more than 1,500 hostile Indians.

The record of the battle shows that, "three battalions of the 3d Cavalry under Captains Mills, Henry and Van Vliet, performed gallant, heroic, and outstanding service." Henry was shot in the face, losing an eye, but survived to become our 12th Colonel of the Regiment. Four 3d Cavalry Troopers received the Medal of Honor for bravery in this battle: Trumpeter Elmer A. Snow of Company M and First Sergeants Joseph Robinson of Company D, Michael A. McGann of Company F, and John H. Shingle of Company I.

With the Apache uprising in the spring of 1882, the Regiment was ordered to return to Arizona, and on July 17th, the 3d and 6th Cavalry Regiments defeated renegade Apaches in the Battle of Big Dry Wash. This battle quelled the last Apache uprising in Arizona and also marked the end of the Regiment's participation in the Indian Wars. This action resulted in the award of two more Medals of Honor, to First Sergeant Charles Taylor of Company D and Lieutenant George H. Morgan of Company K.

The year 1883 would see the term "company" changed to "troop" in the mounted service and in 1885 the red and white guidon replaced the 1863 stars and stripes pattern adopted at the beginning of the Civil War.

In 1885, the 3d U.S. Cavalry was ordered back to Texas, where it remained until 1893. Between 1893 and 1897, the Regiment was engaged in garrison, training and ceremonial activities throughout the East and Mid-West. By July 1897, the Regimental Headquarters and four troops were stationed at Fort Ethan Allen, Vermont, while the remainder of the Regiment returned to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri.

**Fiddler's Green**

The experiences of a typical Indian Wars period Trooper are perhaps best summed up by the poem, *Fiddler's Green*. Although the poem's origin is uncertain, *Fiddler's Green* is described as a broad meadow located halfway down the trail to Hell, dotted with trees and crossed by many streams. Traditionally, this is the place where dead Troopers camp, with their tents, horses, picket lines, campfires and the old army canteen. The souls of the dead Troopers gather there to exchange reminiscences and tell stories.

## *Fiddler's Green*

*Halfway down the trail to hell,*
*In a shady meadow green,*
*Are the souls of all dead troopers camped*
*Near a good old time canteen,*
*And this resting place is known as Fiddler's Green.*

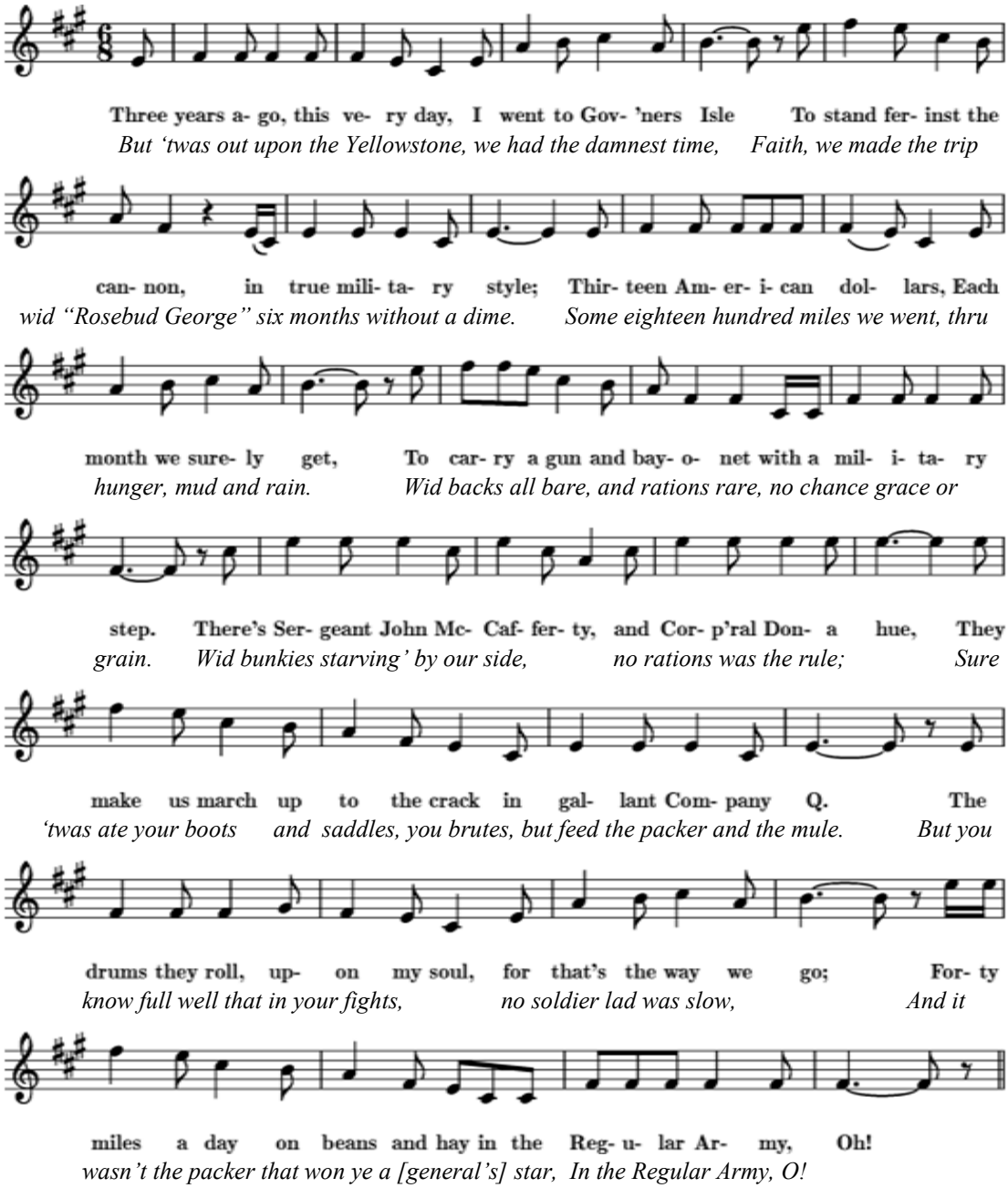
*Marching past straight through to Hell,*
*The Infantry are seen,*
*Accompanied by the Engineers,*
*Artillery and Marine,*
*For none but the shades of Cavalrymen*
*Dismount at Fiddler's Green.*

*Though some go curving down the trail*
*To seek a warmer scene,*
*No trooper ever gets to Hell*
*Ere he's emptied his canteen,*
*And so rides back to drink again*
*With friends at Fiddler's Green*

*And so when man and horse go down*
*Beneath a saber keen,*
*Or in a roaring charge of fierce melee*
*You stop a bullet clean,*
*And the hostiles come to get your scalp,*
*Just empty your canteen,*
*And put your pistol to your head*
*And go to Fiddler's Green.*

**Regular Army, O!**

The below song, from a musical of the same name written by Ned Harrington and David Braham in 1875, was a favorite among the almost-forgotten Regulars on the frontier during the Indian Wars. Regular Army Soldiers were known to change the words to popular songs like this one. One version was created by the soldiers of the 3d Cavalry under General George Crook who served in Montana. The 3d Cavalry version, shown in italics below the original version, references General Crook's notorious "starvation march" that occurred in the summer of 1876. Following the Battle of Little Big Horn on June 25, 1876, Crook had his force travel light in order to catch the hostiles, a decision which left the Mounted Riflemen sparse on supplies until early fall.



**The Spanish-American War: 1898**

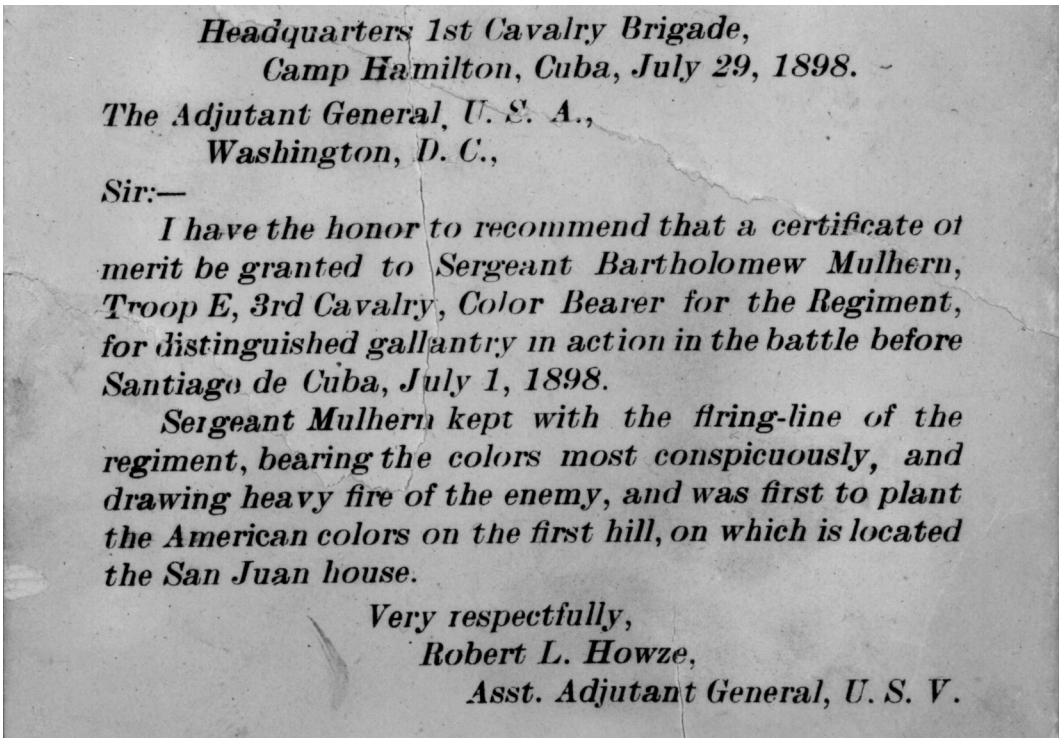
In April 1898, the Regiment was assembled at Camp Thomas, Georgia in Chickamauga National Park and assigned to a brigade in a provisional cavalry division.

On 13 May 1898, the Regiment arrived in Tampa, Florida. On 8 June, the Regiment, minus four troops, embarked, dismounted, on the transport Rio Grande for Cuba. These troops were commanded by Major Henry W. Wessels, Jr., while Major Henry Jackson commanded 2nd Squadron (Troops C, E, F, and G) and Captain Charles Morton commanded 3rd Squadron (Troops B, H, I, and K). Troops A, D, L, and M were left in camp in Tampa to care for animals and Regimental property, and to instruct recruits. The Regiment landed at Daiquiri, Cuba.

One of the Army's objectives was to seize the Cuban positions on the high ground around the landward side of the city of Santiago, a Cuban seaport. This would force the Spanish warships in the harbor to sail out to face the U.S. Navy. The cavalry division, of which the Regiment was a part, was one of three divisions assigned the mission of assaulting these hills, known as the San Juan Heights. The 3d Cavalry was one of five regular U.S. Cavalry Regiments engaged there.

Three troops of 3rd Squadron crossed over Kettle Hill and on to the Spanish positions around what was known as the San Juan House. Troop B advanced to the enemy's line at the San Juan Blockhouse (different from the San Juan House) where the Regiment's U.S. Flag, carried by Sergeant Bartholomew Mulhern of Troop E, was the first to be raised at the point of victory. 2nd Squadron, held in reserve on Kettle Hill, joined the 3rd Squadron on San Juan Hill that evening. The Regiment stayed in Cuba until 6 August when Troops B, G, H, and I sailed for Montauk Point, New York. On the 7th, Troops C, E, F, and K followed.

The 3d Cavalry's casualties were three Troopers killed, six officers and forty-six Troopers wounded. 1LT John W. Heard, Regimental Quartermaster, was awarded a Medal of Honor for most distinguished gallantry in action and Certificates of Merit were awarded to five Troopers. These certificates were the forerunner of the Silver Star Medal.



*Headquarters 1st Cavalry Brigade,*
*Camp Hamilton, Cuba, July 29, 1898.*

*The Adjutant General, U. S. A.,*
*Washington, D. C.,*

*Sir:—*

*I have the honor to recommend that a certificate of merit be granted to Sergeant Bartholomew Mulhern, Troop E, 3rd Cavalry, Color Bearer for the Regiment, for distinguished gallantry in action in the battle before Santiago de Cuba, July 1, 1898.*

*Sergeant Mulhern kept with the firing-line of the regiment, bearing the colors most conspicuously, and drawing heavy fire of the enemy, and was first to plant the American colors on the first hill, on which is located the San Juan house.*

*Very respectfully,*
*Robert L. Howze,*
*Asst. Adjutant General, U. S. V.*

The Regiment was joined at Montauk Point by the four troops which had remained behind. In early September the entire Regiment left Montauk Point for its new duty station at Fort Ethan Allen, Vermont.

The 3d Cavalry did not remain together for very long. In February and March of 1899, two troops were assigned to Fort Sheridan, Illinois, two troops to Jefferson Barracks, four troops and the band to Fort Myer, Virginia, while the remainder of the Regiment stayed at Fort Ethan Allen.

**Old Bill**

In 1898, The American artist Frederick Remington was visiting the camp of the 3d U.S. Cavalry in Tampa, Florida, where the Regiment was preparing for the invasion of Cuba during the Spanish-American War.

Remington was a close friend of Captain Francis Hardie, who was the commander of Troop G. During his visit, Remington's attention was drawn to one of the troop's NCOs. Sergeant John Lannen struck the artist as the epitome of the cavalryman, and with Hardie's approval, he made several rough sketches of Lannen in front of Hardie's tent. From those rough sketches Remington later executed the now famous drawing portraying a trooper astride his mount with a carbine cradled in his arm, depicted below.

At some point in the past this drawing became known as "Old Bill," and today it is universally recognized as the symbol of mobile warfare in the United States Army. This drawing represents a Trooper, a unit, and a branch of service.

As was the case with many American Soldiers in that conflict, Lannen contracted yellow fever and died in Santiago in 1898 after almost 30 years of faithful service. The 3d Cavalry Regiment points with pride to the fact that one of its Troopers has bequeathed such a rich legacy to his regiment, the United States Cavalry, and the United States Army.

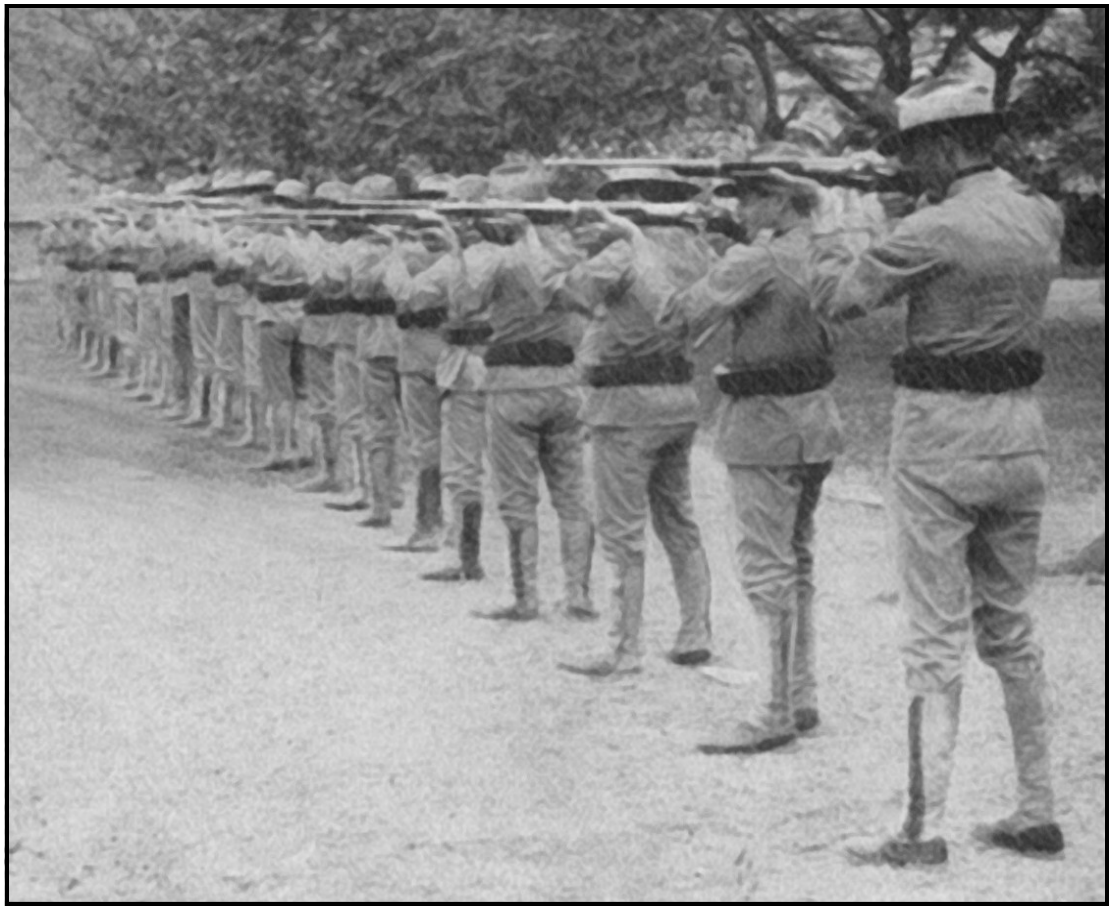
*"Old Bill"*

**The Philippine Insurrection: 1899-1902 & 1905-1908**

When the United States defeated Spain in the Spanish-American War, 400 years of Spanish rule in Cuba, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippine Islands came to an end. The United States, as a new world power, saw the Philippines as the perfect location for a naval facility to support a new Pacific fleet. 3d Cavalry units had barely arrived at their new duty stations in the U.S. when, on 22 July 1899, the headquarters and Troops A, C, D, E, F, K, L, and M were ordered to Seattle, Washington. From Seattle, this force embarked for the Philippine Islands to operate against the insurgents who were trying to prevent the United States from taking control of the islands. Meanwhile, Troops B, G, H, and I were ordered to assemble at Fort Myer.

The deploying troops landed in Manila in October 1899, with the remaining four troops following from Fort Myer in 1900. The 3d Cavalry remained on the island of Luzon until 1902, fighting sixty-two engagements during that time. The fighting was often fierce with no quarter asked and none given. This would be the first time the U.S. Army would fight in a jungle environment, and the first time it would fight a counter-insurgency, but it would not be the last.

The Regiment returned to the United States in detachments between April and November 1902. The headquarters, band, and Troops A, D, I, K, L, and M were stationed in Montana, Troops B and C in Wyoming, Troops G and H in Arizona, Troop E in Idaho and Troop F in North Dakota.



*3d Cavalry Troopers drill on Luzon during the Philippine Insurrection, ca. 1900.*

The 3d Cavalry Regiment remained in the United States until December 1905, when it was again ordered to the Philippines for peacetime occupation duty. It remained there until 1908, when it was ordered home and stationed in Texas. The following nine years were spent in garrison and patrolling the Mexican border.

**World War I: 1917-1919**

On 17 March 1917 the entire Regiment was transferred to Fort Sam Houston, Texas. In April, the United States entered the Great War, and in August the Regiment became one of the first units deployed overseas. Arriving in France in November, the Regiment operated three major remount depots until the war's end.

The three squadrons were charged with the purchase of horses, mules and forage, the care, conditioning, and training of remounts before issue, and the distribution and issue of remounts to the American Expeditionary Force. After the armistice, the Regiment was tasked with helping to sell the remaining animals to French civilians. The sale of 345,580 animals recovered over $52,000,000 for the Army. When they had finished in June 1919, they assembled in Brest, France and sailed home, arriving on July 4.

The only unit of the 3d Cavalry that saw actual combat was Troop K. A detachment of K troop was part of the I Army Corps during the Aisne-Marne Operation, (18 July - 6 August). The entire troop was part of the III Army Corps on the Vesle Front (7 - 17 August), during the Oise-Aisne operation (18 August - 9 September), and the Meuse-Argonne Front (14 September—11 November, 1918).

Troop K also served as part of the Army of Occupation. The occupation forces' first order of business was to continue training and to be prepared to implement a contingency plan in case Germany refused to sign the armistice or hostilities were resumed. Troop K participated in the March to the Rhine and served in the American Sector of the Army of Occupation from 15 November 1918 to 1 July 1919, when it prepared to sail home.

*Troop H, 3d Cavalry, taken in France on 15 November 1918, after the end of the World War I.*

**Between the World Wars: 1919-1940**

The Regiment sailed home to Boston in 1919 and the Headquarters and 1st Squadron moved to Fort Ethan Allen, Vermont. The 3rd Squadron was stationed at Fort Myer, Virginia. During the decades after World War I, the Regiment underwent a series of organizational changes. 2nd Squadron plus Troops C and D were inactivated. 3rd Squadron was redesignated as the 2nd Squadron.

Because of its proximity to Washington and Arlington National Cemetery, 2nd Squadron was frequently called upon to furnish honor guards and escorts for distinguished visitors and funeral escorts for distinguished civilian officials and military personnel. It became known as the "President's Own" because of these duties. On 11 November 1921, the 3d Cavalry furnished the cavalry escort for the interment of the Unknown Soldier from World War I in Arlington National Cemetery. Staff Sergeant Frank Witchey, Regimental Bugler, sounded taps at the ceremony. SSG Witchey's bugle and tabard are displayed in the Regimental Museum. Until 1941, the Regiment provided the Honor Guard detail at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

*A member of the 2nd Squadron of the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen guards the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery, one of many ceremonial duties undertaken by the Brave Rifles in the period between World War I and World War II.*

During this period, the Regiment became well known throughout the east for the magnificent horse shows and other riding events it either participated in or sponsored. The 3d Cavalry won many ribbons and trophies at these events, while the trick riding team became famous for its outstanding displays of horsemanship.

This period in the Regiment's history also saw the beginnings of mechanization in the Cavalry. World War I had heralded the limited use of armored vehicles, and the ensuing decades rang with the debate of the benefits of this new battlefield machine. Major George S. Patton, who would later become the 28th Colonel of the Regiment, weighed in with some ideas that he would later refine significantly as one of the most prominent leaders of armored warfare of the 20th Century.

"In closing, let me remind you of just one more thing. When Samson took the fresh jawbone of an ass and slew a thousand men therewith, he probably started such a vogue for the weapon, especially among the Philistines, that for years no prudent donkey dared to bray. Yet, despite it's initial popularity, it was discarded and now appears only as a barrage instrument for acrimonious debate. History is replete with countless other instances of military implements each in it's day heralded as the last word, the key to victory, yet, each in it's turn subsiding to it's useful, but inconspicuous niche.

"Today machines hold the place formerly occupied by the jawbone, the elephant, armor, the long bow, gun powder, and latterly, the submarine. They, too, shall pass. To me it seems that any person who would scrap the old age-tried arms for this new "ism" is as foolish as the poor man who, on seeing an overcoat, pawned his shirt and pants to buy it.

"**New weapons are useful in that they add to the repertoire of killing, but, be they tank or tomahawk, weapons are only weapons after all. Wars may be fought with weapons, but they are won by men. It is the spirit of the men who follow and of the man who leads that gains the victory.** In biblical times this spirit was ascribed and, probably with some justice, to the Lord. It was the spirit of the Lord, COURAGE, that came mightily upon Samson at Lehi which gained the victory, not the jawbone of an ass."

*-MAJ George S. Patton, Jr. in an excerpt from September - October 1933 issue of The Cavalry Journal*

During this interwar period, early armored cars and motor transport trucks began to appear at Forts Ethan Allen and Myer. The Troopers had to develop the first tactics for their employment while also learning to maintain them.

*21 February 1942—the end of an era. The 3d Cavalry gives up its horses. Headquartered at Fort Myer for over twenty years, the Regiment takes its mounts to a train before leaving for Georgia to begin training up for World War II.*

**World War II: 1943-1945**

With the attack on Pearl Harbor in December of 1941, the United States was thrust into World War II. In February of 1942 the Regiment was moved to Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia and then to Fort Benning, Georgia. At Fort Benning, the Regiment was reorganized and redesignated as the 3d Armored Regiment and assigned to the 10th Armored division.

In January 1943, it was reconstituted as the 3d Cavalry Group (Mechanized). The 1st and 2nd Squadrons were redesignated as the 3rd and 43rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadrons, respectively. The 3d Cavalry Group moved to Camp Gordon, Georgia and began training in mechanized operations. After participating in the Tennessee Maneuvers and a month of weapons qualifications at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, the 3d Cavalry Group (Mechanized) sailed to England.

The 3d Cavalry Group arrived in England in June of 1944. On 9 August, it landed in France and became the covering force for XX Corps, part of General Patton's Third U.S. Army. As the spearhead of XX Corps, the Group led the Third Army's breakout from Normandy. The Troopers of the 3d Cavalry Group were the first to reach the Meuse and the Moselle Rivers and enter the key city of Thionville, France.

On 3 November 1944, the Group received attachments of the 135th Engineer Combat Battalion, a field artillery battalion, a heavy field artillery battalion, and 2 tank destroyer battalions. As a result of these attachments, the Group became known as Task Force Polk, named for the Group Commander, Colonel James H. Polk, the 32nd Colonel of the Regiment. Other units, including the 5th Ranger Battalion, were attached and detached, but at one point the Task Force numbered over 5000 Soldiers even though the 3d Cavalry Group originally comprised only about 1553 men.

*Troopers of the 3d Cavalry Group (Mechanized) conduct a dismounted patrol during basic training at Camp Gordon, Georgia. The training lasted from November 1943 to March 1944.*

On 17 November 1944, Task Force Polk crossed the Moselle River into Germany. Shortly afterward, elements of the 3d Cavalry Group fought dismounted in grueling urban combat to reduce the fortress city of Metz.

Next came the envelopment of the Siegfried Line and the pursuit to the Rhine River. The 3d Cavalry crossed the Rhine on 29 March and made a 150-mile, three-day dash to the Bad Hersfeld area north of Fulda as resistance started to crumble.

In April and early May 1945, with final victory in sight, the Third Army, with the 3d Cavalry Group in the lead, turned south and raced through upper Austria to link up with the Soviet Army.

After hostilities ended, the Group was sent through the Alps to Northern Italy to monitor the activities of the various factions that controlled Yugoslavia when the war ended. When no threat materialized, they moved back to Austria. The 3d Cavalry Group (Mech) was the first military unit to cross the Alps since Hannibal's army did it in 215 B.C.

While in action, the 3d Cavalry Group (Mech) ultimately moved 3,000 miles in 265 days, 117 of those in continuous combat without a rest! The 3d Cavalry also accounted for over 43,000 enemy troops killed, wounded, or captured.

Shortly after the war in Europe ended, the Troopers of the 3rd and 43rd Squadrons returned to the U.S. for a short furlough. They then reported to Camp Bowie, Texas to begin training for the invasion of Japan. With the use of the atomic bombs against Japan, however, their services were no longer required.

Colonel Polk and the Group Headquarters Troop stayed in Germany to operate a displaced persons camp for war refugees. Most of these people were either fleeing the Russian Army or had been released from concentration camps. After the camp was turned over to another organization, these Troopers also returned home.

*"Task Force Polk Patrols the Saar" by Don Stivers*

**Patton's Praise**

At the war's end, the 3d Cavalry Group, like the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen in Mexico City nearly one hundred years earlier, received high praise from the Commanding General. General George S. Patton, Jr. commented on the battlefield actions of the 3d Cavalry Group with these words:

> "The 3d Cavalry has lived up to the accolade bestowed upon it at Chapultepec by General Scott. As horse cavalry you were outstanding; I have never seen a better regiment. To your performance as mechanized cavalry, the same applies. It is a distinct honor to have commanded an army in which the 3d Cavalry served."

*General George S. Patton, 28th Colonel, awards the Silver Star Medal to Colonel James H. Polk, 32nd Colonel, on May 18, 1945 at Seewalchen, Austria. The occasion was the 99th anniversary of the 3d Cavalry. Polk would eventually become the Commander in Chief of 7th Army and USAREUR. He retired in 1971 after more than 40 years of service. After retiring, he said "The 3d Cavalry made me a general."*

**The 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment: 1948**

Returning from Europe, elements of the 3d Cavalry Group were eventually assembled at Fort Meade, Maryland. On 5 November 1948, the 3d Cavalry Group (Mechanized) was redesignated as the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment. The 43d Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron became the 1st Battalion, the 3rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron became the 2nd Battalion, and the 3rd Battalion was activated and partially filled by personnel from the 35th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, an all-Black unit .

During the period of 1948-1951, the Regiment participated in many major field training exercises in the eastern United States. It also conducted training during the summer months for Reserve Component armor units at Fort Meade and Camps Picket and A.P. Hill, Virginia.

The outbreak of the Korean War meant that the Regiment would have to train replacements for that conflict, despite losing many of its officers and Troopers to units going to Korea.

In February 1952, the Regiment moved from Fort Meade to Camp Pickett where it remained until May 1954. After participating in Exercise *Flashburn* at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, the Regiment moved back to Fort Meade.

*T-41 Walker "Bulldog" tanks being tested by 2nd Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment during Operation Snowfall, a joint Army-Air Force exercise at Camp Drum, New York, 10 February 1952.*

The Regiment began an intense ten week train-up at Camp A.P. Hill on 1 April 1955 which was interrupted when the Troopers were required to fight a devastating fire in Bowling Green, Virginia. The climax of the training was a firepower demonstration on 24 June followed by the return to Fort Meade from 27 to 29 June.

**Operation Gyroscope: 1955-1958**

In August 1955, the Regiment became the first unit to deploy to Germany under *Operation Gyroscope* — a plan under which divisional and separate regimental-sized units were sent overseas as replacements for similar units which would return to the United States. The term *Operation Gyroscope* refers to the attribute of rotation with stability exhibited by a gyroscope. This was an attempt by the Army to reduce personnel turbulence by transferring entire units rather than individual Soldiers.

The advance party arrived in Germany on 26 June. On 2 August the 1st and 2nd Battalions sailed from New York aboard the *U.S.N.S. Randall* and arrived at Bremerhaven on 10 August. The 3rd and Provisional Battalions sailed from New York on *U.S.N.S. Buckner* on 6 August and arrived at Bremerhaven on 14 August.

Replacing the 2d Armored Cavalry Regiment, the Regimental Headquarters was stationed at Merrell Barracks, Nuremberg with the 1st Battalion at Christensen Barracks, Bindlach, the 2nd Battalion at Warner Barracks, Bamberg, and the 3d Battalion at Pond Barracks, Amberg. The exchange with the 2d ACR was completed by 15 August.

*C Troop prepares to move out on a training exercise in West Germany during the Operation Gyroscope period, ca. 1957.*

The 3d ACR participated in numerous field maneuvers such as NATO exercise *Cordon Bleu* and Command Post Exercise *Polo Ball*. In addition, the various units in the Regiment patrolled both the Czechoslovakian and East German borders, frequently working with the West German Federal Border Police, the Bundesgrenzschutz (BGS).

The 3d ACR returned to the United States in February 1958 and was once again stationed at Fort Meade. The Regiment became part of the Strategic Army Corps (STRAC) and, from 1958 to 1961, it was the recipient of four STRAC streamers, awarded for superior readiness and training.

In May 1960 the Army changed the unit designation "battalion" back to the old cavalry designation of "squadron." From the end of World War II until 1967 separate brigades and regiments were not authorized their own shoulder sleeve insignia, but on 12 June 1967, 3d ACR Troopers were finally authorized to wear the "Bug" patch on their left shoulders. Prior to this change, the patch was worn on the left breast pocket because the patch of the next higher headquarters was worn on the shoulder.

Because so many East Germans had been fleeing into West Berlin, Soviet forces in East Germany abruptly erected a wall between East and West Berlin in 1961, prohibiting movement between the two halves of the city except through controlled check points. The Soviets also began erecting a stronger barrier system all along the East-West German Inter-Zonal Border. These unannounced activities during the middle of the Cold War startled the NATO alliance and created a heightened sense fear that the Soviet Union was preparing for war.

As a result of the Soviet's actions, the 3d ACR was alerted for movement back to Germany. At the time, the Regiment was involved in field training exercises on two different installations. The units were able to move back to home station, pack and ship vehicles, and equipment, sail to Germany, and be ready for operations in 30 days.

**Service Under Seventh Army: 1961-1968**

The 3d ACR was initially placed under the Seventh Army Support Command and given the mission of rear area security. From 1961 to 1968, the Regiment was situated with its Headquarters and Headquarters Troop and the 1st Squadron at H.D. Smith Barracks, Baumholder, the Aviation company at Hoppstadten and the 2nd and 3rd Squadrons at Kapaun Barracks, Kaiserslautern. The Troopers of the Regiment spent many hours reconnoitering the road network in the Seventh Army's area to determine the best routes for rapid deployment in case of attack by Warsaw Pact Forces.

*PFC Bob Allsop of L Troop at Kapaun Barracks in Kaiserslautern, Germany, ca. 1963. Note the "Bug" patch worn on his pocket. (Photo courtesy James A. Riebe)*

During 1962 and 1963, the 1st and 2nd Squadrons relieved elements of the 14th ACR for two one-month periods along the East German border. From November 1962 through November 1964, the 3d ACR had a troop attached to the 14th ACR for border surveillance operations on a monthly rotational basis. In February 1964, the Regiment came under the direct control of the Seventh Army. On 10 June 1964, the 2nd Squadron was redesignated as the 1st Squadron, 11th ACR, and returned to the United States with that regiment.

Concurrently, 1st Squadron, 11th ACR was redesignated as 2nd Squadron, 3d ACR and attached to VII Corps with its duty station at Straubling, Germany. The 2nd Squadron continued the mission of the 3d ACR along the Czech border, operating two border camps with one troop until relieved of its border mission and relocated to Kaiserslautern in March 1965.

While it was stationed in Europe, the 3d ACR performed varied and outstanding service for the Seventh Army. The entire Regiment participated in a number of major field training exercises (FTX), including *Scotch Gambit I* and *II* in 1962, exercise *Big Lift* in 1963, *Brandy Station* in 1965 and *Silver Talon* in 1966. In addition, the squadrons took part as separate units in several other exercises such as *Saber Knot* in December 1962, a major counter-insurgency exercise in Bavaria in 1964, and *Lundy's Lane I* and *II* in 1964 and 1965. In these latter exercises, the squadrons of the 3d ACR acted as aggressor forces to test the capabilities of several British armor units. In December 1966, the Regiment was assigned to V Corps, and in 1967 took part in Exercise *Large Play*.

**Fort Lewis, Washington: 1968-1972**

With the Vietnam War expanding, the 3d ACR was ordered back to Fort Lewis, Washington for a possible deployment to that country in the early 1970s. By the time the Regiment arrived there in July 1968, the planned deployment was cancelled due to the beginning of the draw-down in Vietnam, and 2nd Squadron was inactivated in 1971.

The Regiment became a major REFORGER (Return of Forces to Germany) unit, capable of rapidly deploying to Germany in the case of an incursion by Warsaw Pact forces. Troopers from the 3d ACR also spent considerable time at the Yakima Firing Center training National Guard cavalry units.

**Fort Bliss, Texas: 1972-1996**

In July 1972, after 116 years, the Regiment returned to Fort Bliss, Texas. The 1st and 3rd Squadrons, Headquarters Troop, Air Cavalry Troop, and 513th Maintenance Company were augmented in 1973 with the addition of several new units. These included the 181st Ordnance Detachment (Missile) and the 66th Military Intelligence Detachment.

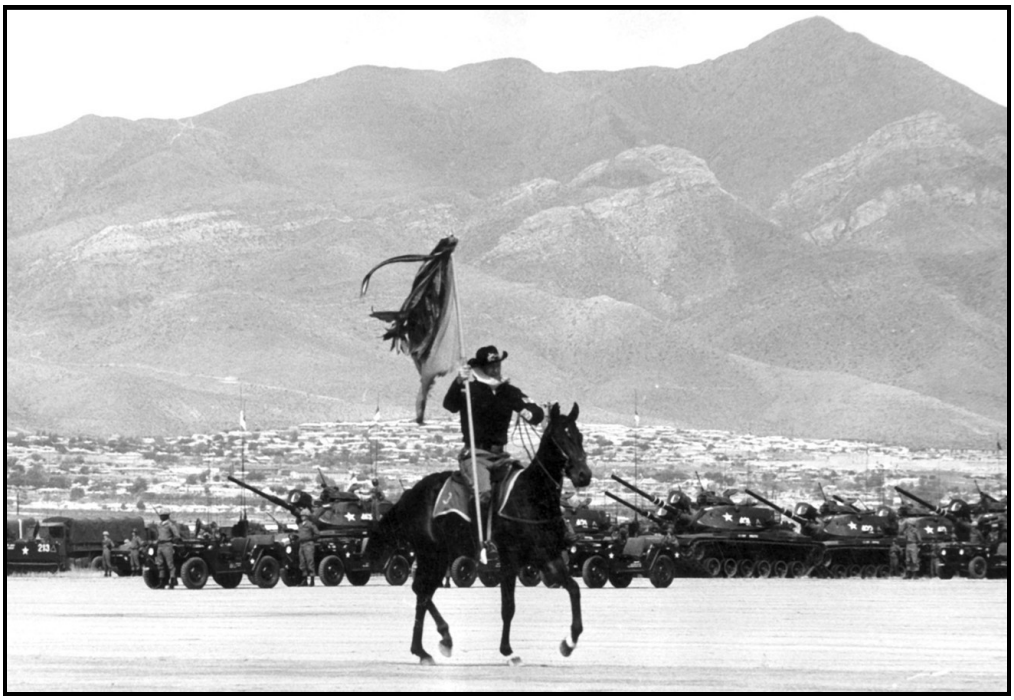
2nd Squadron was reconstituted using personnel and equipment from the 1st Squadron, 6th Cavalry, which was moved from Fort Meade to Fort Bliss. In 1976 the size of the Regiment was again increased with the addition of the 43rd Combat Engineer Company.

The 3d ACR's readiness was tested over the ensuing years in a series of training missions, including *REFORGER* missions in Germany and FTX Straffe Zugel (Strong Rein) with the German 1st Panzergrenadier Division.

From April 1978 to May 1979, H Company conducted Operational Test II of the then-new XM1 Abrams Main Battle Tank. The company logged nearly 300,000 miles, used over 320,000 gallons of fuel, fired 8,000 rounds of 105mm ammunition, and 200,000 rounds of small arms ammunition in round-the-clock operations with the new tank.

On 16 November 1982, the 66th Military Intelligence Company (CEWI) formed by combining the 407th ASA Company and 66th MI Detachments. CEWI (pronounced see-wee) stands for "Combat Electronic Warfare Intelligence."

In 1985, two events occurred that further enhanced the Regiment's capabilities. The first was the activation, on 16 April, of the Support Squadron, the first new squadron to be activated since 1960. The other was that 2nd Squadron became the first unit in the United States Army to field the new M1A1 variant of the Abrams tank. Another major change occurred on 16 October 1988 when the Regimental Support Aviation Troop, with other aviation units, was redesignated as the newest element of the Regiment — the 4th Squadron.



*"Old Bill", SSG Kenneth Allen of Troop A, 1st Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment, bears the Regimental Colors on "Bug Day," 9 September 1972. Bug Day was the welcoming ceremony for the Regiment at Fort Bliss, Texas.*

**The Persian Gulf War (Operation Desert Storm)**

On 7 August 1990, the Regiment was alerted for movement to defend Saudi Arabia from Iraqi Aggression. In September, the Regiment arrived in country as part of the XVIII Airborne Corps and moved into a defensive position south of the Kuwaiti border. During this defensive buildup, known as *Operation Desert Shield*, the Regiment trained extensively in anticipation of the ground assault which would be required to liberate Kuwait.

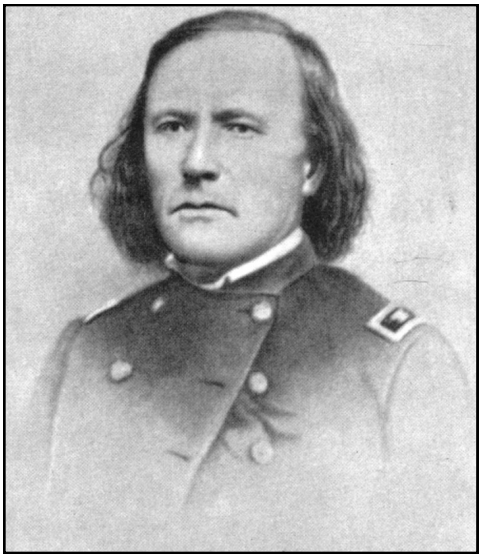
On 17 January 1991, the United Nations initiated *Operation Desert Storm*. In *Operation Desert Caravan* the Regiment moved 2400 vehicles 250 kilometers west to set up in the neutral zone on the Saudi/Iraqi border, as the air war progressed overhead. On 22 January 1991, elements of Troop I, accompanying Douglas H. Starr, the 63rd Colonel of the Regiment, engaged in the first ground combat by the XVIII Airborne Corps, when they responded to an Iraqi attack on a Saudi border outpost.

On 22 February 1991, F Troop, 3rd Squadron led the Regiment across the berms into Iraq for the start of the ground phase of the war. In 100 hours the Regiment moved over 300 kilometers north, then east to Basra, Iraq, ending the war in the Rumaylah oil fields. The Regiment left the remnants of three Republican Guard Divisions in its wake.

The 3d ACR returned to Fort Bliss as quickly as it had deployed to the Middle East, arriving home on 5 April 1991.

**Fort Carson, Colorado**

In early 1996, the Regiment once again answered the call to "Boots and Saddles" and moved to Fort Carson, Colorado. The Mountain Post is named for the famous Colorado frontiersman and military officer, Christopher "Kit" Carson. President James K. Polk appointed Carson a lieutenant in the Mounted Rifles in 1848, in recognition of his service to the nation. However, due to political issues brought about by his support of General Stephen W. Kearney's conquest of California, his appointment was not confirmed by the Senate. Carson is listed on Regimental returns as "...appointed but not joined."



*Colonel Christopher "Kit" Carson*

Shortly after arriving at Fort Carson, the 3d ACR celebrated its 150th anniversary. In addition, various units of the Regiment established partnerships with several communities in the Pikes Peak region. During this period the Regiment was commanded by COL Martin E. Dempsey, the 67th Colonel of the Regiment. The 67th Colonel would later command 1st Armored Division in Iraq in 2003-2004 and eventually serve as the 37th Chief of Staff of the Army and the 18th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

*General Martin E. Dempsey*

3d ACR Troopers continued to hone their war-fighting skills with operations at Ft. Carson and the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, east of Trinidad, Colorado. During Rotation 98-1 at the National Training Center (NTC) at Ft. Irwin, CA, the Regiment once again set the standard and demonstrated its lethality by the destruction of the Opposing Force (OPFOR). This deployment was the best recorded to that date by a regimental-size unit.

Elements of the Regiment also operated with other Army units in exercises at the NTC, the Joint Readiness Training Center at Ft. Polk, Louisiana, and other locations.

**Bosnia**

In August 1998, the Regiment was notified that it would participate in the Bosnian peace-keeping mission as part of Stabilization Force 7 (SFOR 7). This would be a unique deployment because the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment (less 1st Squadron) would be under the operational control of the Texas National Guard's 49th Armored Division. SFOR 7 was the first time that a National Guard organization would have command authority over active component units as well as a multinational force, known as Task Force Eagle.

When the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment deployed, beginning in February 2000, it represented 75 percent of the American contribution to the Multinational Division North (MND-N) and constituted the bulk of the American maneuver element.

*Srebrenik Castle, north of Tuzla, Bosnia*

**Exercise Bright Star 01/02: 2001**

Beginning in September 2001, Tiger Squadron, with elements of the Regimental Headquarters, Longknife and Muleskinner Squadrons, deployed to Egypt to participate in exercise Bright Star 01/02 as part of a Combined Forces Land Component command (CFLCC) coalition. The coalition included elements from the U.S. Marine Corps, Egypt, France, Kuwait, Greece, Italy, and the British Army.

The 3d ACR Troopers took part in field training and live fire exercises while in Egypt. They also conducted training on nuclear, biological, and chemical warfare, night warfare, and the use of smoke on the battlefield. Static displays and briefings on Air Defense Artillery capabilities were also provided. Aviation support was provided for the exercise by Longknife Troopers in the form of medical evacuation and personnel transport, while the Muleskinners of Support Squadron established and operated a logistics support system.

In addition, members of Tiger Squadron and the Regimental Staff were tasked to conduct affiliation training with their Egyptian counterparts to teach them to function as Observer/ Controllers (OC) for the forces involved in ground tactical operations, as well as establishing and maintaining communications and command and control between the various multinational OC forces.

*A tank from D Company, 1st Squadron maneuvers through the Egyptian desert during Bright Star 01/02.*

The terrorist attacks against the U.S. on 11 September caused the 3d ACR units in Egypt wonder if they would be involved in some form of retaliatory action, but all deployed personnel returned to Fort Carson by 10 November. Valuable experience was gained by all participants, demonstrating that disparate coalition forces could overcome different doctrines and cultures to successfully work together.

**Operation Iraqi Freedom I: 2003-2004**

In support of the Global War on Terror, coalition forces invaded Iraq in March 2003. As a result, the Troopers of the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment readied themselves for deployment in support of the campaign to remove the despotic regime of Saddam Hussein.

The 3d ACR received a deployment order for movement to the CENTCOM AOR on 14 February 2003. The first personnel arrived in Kuwait on 2 April and the remainder of the Regiment arrived in Theater by the middle of the month.

*XVIth RCSM, John R. Caldwell bids farewell to a 3d ACR Trooper as he is about to board a flight to Kuwait at the Colorado Springs Jet Center.*

The main body of the Regiment crossed the border into Iraq on 25 April 2003 and was immediately tasked to perform an economy of force mission to secure and stabilize the western part of the country. This area had been by-passed during the advance to Baghdad, and the Regiment had little intelligence on what would be found there. The Troopers found that they had been given responsibility for Al Anbar province, the largest province in Iraq, covering fully one third of the country or about 140,000 square kilometers. It was the largest assigned area of responsibility and it was assigned to the smallest maneuver unit directly subordinate to Combined Joint Task Force-7.

This area included the "Sunni Triangle," the part of Iraq that Saddam Hussein, his family, and the senior leaders of the Ba'ath Party called home. Al Anbar was home to forty-eight primary and fourteen sub-tribes and it shared a 900 kilometer border with Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Syria.

With the attachment of a number of other units, the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment became the nucleus of a Regimental Combat Team named Task Force Rifles. The Regiment's strength grew to include five squadrons, four battalions, and eight separate companies totaling more than 8,200 troops, under the command of Colonel David Teeples, the 70th Colonel of the Regiment.

*PV2 Joseph M. King of A Troop provides security for his dismounted team while they sweep the area after an ambush near the headquarters of the Ba'ath Party in Husaybah on 27 October 2003. Photo courtesy of Andy Rogers/Colorado Springs Gazette.*

The various elements of Task Force Rifles successfully performed many missions across the entire spectrum of military operations from offensive missions to civil affairs operations. Daily operations included reconnaissance, security patrols, escort duty, static security, and presence patrols. Other types of missions included capturing or killing former regime elements, securing mass grave sites, and restoring law and order by reopening Iraqi police stations, courthouses, and prisons.

The Regimental Combat Team continued operations focusing on finding and destroying regime loyalist camps and weapons caches between Lake Tar Tar and the Euphrates River. This operation resulted in the apprehension of several individuals from the Defense Intelligence Agency's Top 55 Black List of High Value Targets (HVT).

*PFC James V. Garza (L) and SPC Ruperto Estrada of 3rd Platoon, G Troop apply C4 plastic explosive to 82 millimeter mortar ammunition stacked for demolition at a collection point northeast of Fallujah during Operation Longstreet.*

Hand in hand with combat operations, Task Force Rifles spent an enormous amount of time and energy performing civil-military operations (CMO). The first of these was establishing a Government Support Team (GST) in Ar Ramadi.

Another Task Force project to increase security was the establishment of the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps (ICDC) training facility north of the city of Hit. More than 3000 troops were trained and then assigned to two ICDC battalions.

*SGT Carl D. Harding, CSM Gilberto Muniz, and CPT Mary Thompson, of HHT, Support Squadron, distribute school supplies at a boy's school in Iraq. Over 300 schools in Task Force Rifles' area of responsibility were renovated and reopened.*

*SPC Jason Coffman (L) and SPC Erik Newlander service the rotor system of an OH-58D Kiowa Warrior from O Troop, 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment at Habbaniyah, Iraq, 10 May 2003. 4th Squadron provided continuous support to the various ground elements of Task Force Rifles. U.S. Photo courtesy of Andy Rogers/*

For its service in Operation Iraqi Freedom I, the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment received the Valorous Unit Award. Approximately 400 citations for valor were awarded, but thirty-three 3d Armored Cavalry officers and Troopers died during Operation Iraqi Freedom I. Eighteen Troopers attached to the Task Force also died. 233 Task Force Rifles Troopers were wounded. The names of the Troopers who died may be found at Appendix I.

*The memorial service at Forward Operating Base Tiger for SGT Michael E. Dooley of B Troop. SGT Dooley was killed in action at Al Qaim, Iraq on 8 June 2003. Photo courtesy Patrick Andrade/ Newsweek.*

**Operation Iraqi Freedom III: 2005-2006**

The Brave Rifles team had barely settled back into the routine at Fort Carson when, in July 2004, another deployment order alerted the Regiment that it would return to Iraq after roughly 10 months at home.

In April 2005 the 3d ACR deployed to South Baghdad, conducting reconnaissance and offensive operations in northern Babil Province for almost two months.

As the Regiment conducted counterinsurgency operations in the area south of Baghdad, 2nd Squadron responded immediately to new orders to begin movement to Western Ninewa Province.

In mid-May, after severely disrupting the enemy networks between the Tigris and Euphrates River Valleys south of Baghdad, the Regiment, minus 3rd Squadron, undertook a new mission to defeat a highly organized terrorist network in northwest Iraq, centered on the ancient city of Tall Afar.

*SSG Nathan Rico of L Troop maneuvers his Bradley Fighting Vehicle through the countryside of Babil Province, south of Baghdad, during a zone reconnaissance mission on 7 April 2005. Photo courtesy Todd Heisler/Rocky Mountain News.*

The Regiment's area of operations in western Ninewa Province spanned 3,000 square kilometers and included 278 kilometers of the Syrian/Iraqi border (the Rabi'ah Port of Entry was particularly critical as the only legal border crossing in Ninewa Province). The Regiment partnered with an Iraqi Border Police Brigade of five battalions manning forty-two forts along the Syrian border.

The Regiment, reinforced by the 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry, immediately challenged the terrorist stronghold of Tall Afar. Throughout the months of May, June, and July, Sabre Squadron developed accurate intelligence through effective reconnaissance operations. The squadron's units conducted raids and engaged in several pitched battles with the enemy that lasted several hours — some of the toughest urban combat seen by American units in Iraq.

The enemy developed a highly organized air defense network that relied on timely communications and large volumes of small arms and machinegun fire. Enemy actions against the Regiment's air assets resulted in damage to twelve aircraft in less than two months of intense fighting.

*SPC Brantwan Smith and members of A Troop provide overwatch for Iraqi soldiers during Operation Tigerwalk in Babil Province 20 April 2005. Materials for making improvised explosive devices were found in the house being searched. Photo courtesy Craig F. Walker/Denver Post.*

In late May, the remainder of the Regiment (minus 3rd Squadron) joined Sabre in Ninewa, and the Regiment immediately launched Operation Veterans Forward to establish the Iraqi Army, Iraqi Police, and Iraqi Border Police across the vast Syrian border region — a region

the enemy was using to access external support from Syria.

In late July and early August, 2nd Squadron, 1st Squadron, U.S. Army Special Forces, and the Iraqi Army conducted a series of operations to defeat the enemy in Avgani, a small town north of Tall Afar that had served as a terrorist stronghold. An Iraqi Army battalion with U.S. Army Special Forces advisors then established permanent security with an Iraqi Police Force built from scratch.

*An Iraqi woman hurries away from her house as 1st Squadron Troopers and Iraqi Intervention Force soldiers search it during Operation Tiger Walk in Babil Province, south of Baghdad, 20 April 2005. Photo courtesy Craig F. Walker/The Denver Post.*

As the bulk of the regiment fought in northwest Iraq, 3rd Squadron became the keystone of the Third Infantry Division's counterinsurgency efforts in South Baghdad and northern Babil Province, while they also secured the most critical supply route in the theater. Their aggressive pursuit of the enemy in this critical area dealt a severe blow to the terror network, killing scores of enemy and detaining hundreds. 3rd Squadron conducted fourteen air assault operations to kill or capture enemy cells and also establish Iraqi Army patrol bases to regain control of this region. Their innovative use of air assault tactics, indirect fires, and patrol bases became the model for counterinsurgency efforts in the difficult south Baghdad region.

The Regiment secured the victory in Tall Afar and across western Ninewa Province by partnering with the Iraqi Army, moving into the communities and living among the people, and reestablishing an Iraqi Police Force that was representative of the ethnic and sectarian balance in the Area of Operations. Despite terrorist attempts to destabilize the region after this success, the people of Tall Afar refused to be intimidated when approximately 70 percent of the population living in Tall Afar voted in the October referendum. In the ensuing days, more than 1,700 citizens joined the Police Force, while more than 2,700 citizens of western Ninewa enlisted in the Iraqi Army.

Thirty-nine members of the Regiment died during the deployment, and approximately 126 were wounded. The Regiment was recognized in a speech by President George W. Bush for its successful model of counterinsurgency operations in Tall Afar, Iraq. As the Regiment returned home, they were joined by Tal Afar Mayor Najiim Abdullah Al-Jibouri, whose letters to President Bush (Appendix L) and General George Casey, Commander of Troops in Iraq, praised the Troopers for their courage and bravery in freeing his city from the grip of insurgents.

*4 September 2005. A 3d ACR Bradley Fighting Vehicle maneuvers down a narrow street in Tall Afar. Photo courtesy Franco Pagetti.*

**Fort Hood, Texas: 2006**

Before returning from Iraq, the 3d ACR was notified that it would once again be moving to a new home base - Fort Hood, Texas. In conjunction with the Army's transformation process, Air Defense Battery was inactivated on 5 June 2006 and 4th Squadron was reflagged as another unit. The 571st Medical Company (Air Ambulance) was inactivated on 15 April 2006 after having served as part of the Brave Rifles family since July 1996.

On 13 July, 2006, the 3d ACR uncased its colors at Fort Hood, opening a new chapter in the Regiment's history.

*An Eagle Troop M1064A3 mortar carrier fires a 120mm round at the Curry Mortar Complex at Fort Hood, Texas, 14 February 2007.*

**Operation Iraqi Freedom 07-09: 2007-2009**

In November 2007, the 3d ACR returned to Iraq at Forward Operation Base (FOB) Marez in Mosul to assume responsibility of Ninewa Province from 4th Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division. As the Regiment deployed to Ninewa, 2nd Squadron (-) was detached to 4th (Stryker) BDE, 2 ID to conduct operations in Diyala Province, and 4th Squadron had preciously been detached to support operations in Multinational Division-Baghdad.

Upon arrival, the Regiment found that Mosul was in a state eerily similar to the conditions prior to its fall in 2004. Many Police Stations were in disarray and in danger of collapse, important roads had been sealed by Iraqis forces fearful of car bombs and coordinated attacks, and the people of Mosul were living in fear.

*Members of I Troop, 3rd Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment patrolling Mosul, Iraq, 17 July 2008.*

The Regiment immediately sprang into action as Thunder Squadron conducted a series of operations to establish security and open the road network.

As the Regiment continued success in northern Ninewa, in the south, 1st Squadron conducted OPERATION TIGER REAPER II, followed by offensive operations to disrupt the flow of foreign fighters from Syria.

Daily attack levels were cut in half. The Regiment's persistent offensive operations led to over 350 AQI/ISI killed, three 1st Armored Division high-value targets captured, 425 AQI/ISI captured, 90 caches discovered, and over 18,000 kilometers of roads cleared. The conditions were now set to establish the systems and infrastructure that would ensure continued and long-lasting stability in Ninewa Province.

Concurrently, Sabre Squadron, after completing their RIP/TOA at FOB Caldwell in Diyala Province, conducted operations under 4th Stryker Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division. Upon arriving in AO Sabre, the Squadron conducted area reconnaissance and area security operations.

*Members of K Troop search two men after their patrol was fired on in western Mosul, 18 March 2008. Photo courtesy Maya Alleruzzo/Associated Press.*

4th Squadron made great strides in the counterinsurgency fight in Baghdad. When extremist violence increased in Sadr City and other predominantly Shia neighborhoods in mid March 2008, the Squadron immediately increased its mission support to eliminate the indirect fire threat on the Green Zone. From 23 March to 5 June, the Squadron conducted over 150 successful engagements of insurgent forces and were credited with over 40 percent of the damage inflicted on the enemy during that period.

Through their efforts, Longknife reduced IEDs along route PLUTO by over 80% within a two week period. In April, the Squadron safely flew in excess of 3024 AH-64D hours and 817 UH-60 hours, which were more hours flown by an AH-64D unit in a single month in history to that date.

The Multi-National Division Baghdad (MND-B) Commanding General, Major General Jeffery Hammond, described the Squadron's actions during a June 2, 2008 DoD news briefing when he stated, "Our success against these [rocket and mortar] teams could not have been accomplished without the bravery, the patience and professionalism, and concern for collateral damage that was demonstrated by our attack helicopter pilots."

Between January and March of 2009 the Regiment returned to Fort Hood. With its third deployment to Iraq complete, the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment once again demonstrated its ability to successfully conduct fast-moving combat operations across a wide area.

An Armored Combat Excavator from the 43rd Combat Engineer Company, 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment, clears debris from a major thoroughfare in Mosul, Iraq, during Operation Thunder Reaper Dec. 18. Operation Thunder Reaper, a route clearance operation, has cleared and repaired five kilometers of road for use by the citizens of Mosul. (U.S. Army photo by 1st Lt. Richard Ybarra, 115th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment)

In a solemn tribute to their fallen comrades from the past three deployments, the Troopers of the Regiment held a ceremony on 25 March 2009 to rededicate the Operation Iraqi Freedom Memorial site at Fort Hood, which included a new stone bearing the names of those lost during OIF 07-09 and a wall listing the past conflicts from the Regiment's distinguished history.

The expanded memorial site was the result of a year-long design and construction effort spearheaded by BAE Systems, the Regiment's corporate sponsor. BAE's design team selflessly dedicated their time and effort to build a fitting tribute to the sacrifices of so many Soldiers and their families.

*Members of F Troop, 2nd Squadron prepare for a mission in Diyala Province, 9 February 2008. Photo by SPC Kieran Cuddihy, U.S. Army.*

On 3 April 2009, the mantle of command was transferred to Reginald E. Allen, the 73rd Colonel of the Regiment and its first African American commander, and Jonathan J. Hunt, the XVIIIth Regimental Command Sergeant Major. The new command team immediately focused on the reception of equipment from the post-deployment reset program, the integration of newly -arrived personnel, and the continuation of individual training.

In the fall of 2009 the Regiment received orders to deploy to Iraq again the following summer. This time period also marked the beginning of a series of field training exercises that gradually increased in intensity as the Squadrons moved into the collective phase of training.

On 5 November 2009, the Regiment was called upon again, not to face an overseas threat, but to help protect the members of its own community when a lone attacker opened fire on Soldiers and civilians at Fort Hood's Soldier Readiness Center. Sabre Squadron, the installation's designated Crisis Reaction Battalion at the time of the incident, was alerted to deploy back from training in the field and assist Fort Hood Emergency Services with cordoning the crime scene while the police searched for additional suspects. Joined by Soldiers from Tiger, Thunder, and Muleskinner, Sabre Squadron manned entry control points around the post to systematically search vehicles leaving the installation later that evening and the continued to secure the gates for several days after the attack. The Troopers helped bring peace of mind back to a community that had been devastated by the inexplicable actions of an American Soldier.

In June of 2010, the Regiment was ordered to bid farewell to its Air Cavalry Squadron, casing the colors of Longknife Squadron. Longknife reflagged to become the 1-229th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, the first stage to the future transformation of the Regiment as a lightly-armored Stryker unit. The remaining phases of this transformation were planned to commence after the Regiment's tour in Iraq.

**Operation New Dawn: 2010-2011**

In August of 2010, the Regiment began its fourth and final deployment to Iraq since 2003, becoming the first unit to deploy as an Advise and Assist Brigade under the new Operation New Dawn mission. As the media heralded an end to combat operations, the Regiment, operating under a force cap, moved into Iraq with roughly 3,000 Troopers to assume the northern portion of southern Iraq from 3rd Brigade, 3ID.

The Regiment assumed responsibility for the five northern provinces of southern Iraq on 30 September with a two-fold mission. The Regiment was charged with advising, assisting and training the Iraqi Security Forces in the region as well as supporting the provincial reconstruction teams in each province.

*Capt. Joseph Gainey and 1SG Daniel Torres-Garza, commander and first sergeant of Bandit Troop, 1st Squadron, study a map during a force protection mission in Babil Province June 1 force protection patrol in Babil Province June 16, 2011. Photo courtesy of Spencer*

OPERATION RIFLES HEIGHTS, advising and enabling the 8th IA's security operations for the Shi'a Ashura observance, underscored the Regiment's success in enabling the ISF to progress toward the USF-I end state of a stable, self-reliant and sovereign Iraq.

During March and April, the Regiment undertook one of the most ambitious training operations attempted in Iraq, OPERATION EAGLES RISING. Unlike any other training event in Iraq, EAGLES RISING was an independently commissioned attempt to undertake training of the Iraqi Army up to and including the company level, in conditions akin to the National Training Center. During four iterations, more than 2,000 IA soldiers graduated from the program.

*Members of an 8th Iraqi Army company conduct maneuvers during Eagles Rising training at An Numaniyah Military Training Base Mar. 23, 2011, as 3d ACR cadre look on. Photo by Spc. Adam Hefner, 3d ACR Public Affairs.*

In the Spring and Summer of 2011, increased activity by Iranian-backed militias turned Rifles OE into the most dangerous region in the country. As the final transition of responsibility for training occurred, Advise, Train, and Assist missions were reconsidered for priority as compared to those aimed at force protection. Due to the continued attacks and the increased lethality throughout OE Rifles, the focus became Force Protection. Subsequently, there was significantly less interaction with the Rifles STTs and the ISF throughout the OE. Partnership efforts within the provinces focused on Check Point Operations, Counter IDF and Counter IRAM patrols, specifically within Numaniyah, in an effort to deter continued attacks within that city.

On August 13, 2011, the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment cased the colors, turned over authority to the First Brigade of the First Cavalry Division, and closed out a 12-month tour that brought to a close the final deployment of a US Army Armored Cavalry Regiment.

Executing more than 12,000 dismounted and mounted patrols, 76 named operations, 3,500 operations in partnership with various Iraqi Security Force counterparts, more than 1300 key leader engagements (KLE's), and training more than 14,000 ISF personnel, 3d ACR Troopers maintained a constant tempo of operations, intelligence gathering and analysis, and stability support and development during the year long deployment.

*Members of Dragon Company, 1st Squadron, take a minute to interact with schoolchildren during a school improvement project at the Al Shomali School in Babil. Photo by U.S. Army.*

**THE REGIMENT RETURNS TO ITS ROOTS: A Regiment of Mounted Riflemen (Stryker)**

On 16 November 2011, Colonel Reginald E. Allen, the 73rd Colonel of the Regiment cased the Colors of the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment and uncased the Colors of the 3d Cavalry Regiment while conducting a change of command ceremony with Colonel John B. Richardson IV, the 74th Colonel of the Regiment. This transition marked the official conversion of the Regiment from an ACR organizational structure with a Corps reconnaissance and security mission to an infantry-centric Stryker-equipped regiment with the mission to conduct full spectrum operations anywhere in the world. The Regiment expanded its ranks with the conversion, standing up a new Fires Squadron headquarters and reactivating 4th Squadron, "Longknife," as a (ground) reconnaissance squadron. 1/3, 2/3 and 3/3 reorganized as Stryker-equipped infantry squadrons, and the Regimental Support Squadron remained in a similar structure. The 3d ACR's 89th Chemical Company was inactivated, and the new 3d Cavalry structure added Outlaw Troop (Signal) and Predator Troop (Anti-Armor).

For over 60 years, the Regiment trained and fought as an ACR, and the conversion to its newest organizational structure brought confusion, anxiety and apprehension to the ranks of current and former veterans of the Regiment. The 74th Colonel of the Regiment abated all concerns by ensuring the Regiment would always maintain its history, lineage and traditions.

As the Regiment begins the newest chapter in its 165-year history, the 74th's words at the 16 November 2011 conversion ceremony captured the moment and set the direction of the Regiment as it rides into the future.

> *"To the Regiment, today marks a significant milestone in the unit's history. It's not the passing of the Regimental Standard from the 73rd Colonel to the 74th Colonel of the Regiment, but because it's the official date of the Regiment's conversion from an Armored Cavalry Regiment to a Stryker-equipped organization with a new organizational structure and new mission. For those familiar with the Regiment's storied past, you know this is not the first conversion in our unit's history.*
>
> *From our origins as the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen to horse cavalry to mechanized cavalry to Armored Cavalry and now to Stryker, evolving to remain relevant and maintaining its competitive advantage has always been part of the Regiment's DNA.*
>
> *Over the last year, I ran into the 67th, 70th and 71st Colonels, and all relayed to me the following sentiment about the Regiment's conversion to an infantry-centric Stryker unit, when they stated, 'Remember, Cavalry isn't a branch, and it isn't a mission. Cavalry is a state of mind.' Stated another way, the equipment might change, the organizational structure may evolve, but the essence of the Cavalry remains: seizing the initiative through aggressive mobility, executing decentralized operations based on trust and guided by the principles of mission command, combined arms at the lowest level, and always maintaining an offense spirit and mindset.*
>
> *These traditions and this mindset will not change in the Regiment. As we go full circle and return to our roots as the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen, we take forward the Red and White, the crossed sabers, the lineage, the traditions and, most importantly, the state of mind. Brave Rifles, Veterans, Blood and Steel."*
>
> -Colonel John B. Richardson IV, 74th Colonel of the Regiment

*The 1st Cavalry Division Horse Detachment begins the traditional cavalry charge at the 3d Cavalry Regiment change of command and conversion ceremony Nov. 16, 2011. The ceremony signaled the conversion of the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment to the 3d Cavalry Regiment (Stryker).*

# PART II

## REGIMENTAL CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS

*"Forty miles a day on beans and hay . . .*
***our traditions will carry us through!"***

General Martin E. Dempsey
67th Colonel of the Regiment
January 2012

## PART II: REGIMENTAL CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS

### Regimental Insignia

### Coat of Arms

The Regimental Coat of Arms for the 3d Cavalry Regiment was originally approved on 7 May 1921. The Coat of Arms was redesignated for the 3d Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, Mechanized on 28 February 1945. On 18 December 1951, the Coat of Arms was once again redesignated, this time for the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment. The Coat of Arms was amended to revise its symbolism on 27 June 1960. On 21 February 1974 the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment was issued a formal Grant of Arms by the U.S. Army Institute of Heraldry.

### Blazon

**Shield:** Vert (green), on a cross argent (silver) a tower of the field (green) on a chief or (gold) bend gules (red).

**Crest:** On a wreath of the colors argent (silver) and vert (green) a trumpet palewise (vertical) or (gold).

**Motto:** Brave Rifles! Veterans! You have been baptized in fire and blood and have come out steel!

Grant of Arms

By authority of the Secretary of the Army, the Institute of Heraldry, United States Army, gives grants and assigns unto the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment the arms following:

Blazon

Shield : Vert, on a cross argent a tower of the field, on a chief or a bend gules.

Crest : On a wreath of the colors argent and vert a trumpet palewise or.

Motto : Brave Rifles! Veterans! You have been baptized in fire and blood and have come out steel.

Symbolism

The Regiment's original green facings on the uniform and its gold trumpet insignia are shown by the color of the shield and by the crest. The unit's first engagement was the capture of Vera Cruz, and it continued with specially distinguished service throughout the campaign of 1847 to the capture of the City of Mexico. Upon entering the city it hoisted the Stars and Stripes over the National Palace and displayed the Regimental standard from the palace balcony, which drew from General Scott the sentence now used as the Regimental motto. This campaign is shown by the cross for Vera Cruz and the tower in green (the Mexican color) for the fortified City of Mexico, the first and last engagements fought. The chief, taken from the arms of Lorraine, commemorates the Regiment's World War I service.

BRAVE RIFLES!

Under the provisions of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 701 and 704, the arms here given, having been registered and recorded in the Institute of Heraldry, United States Army, are reaffirmed from this date and hereafter may be borne, shown and advanced by the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment as sole proprietor of said arms.

In testimony whereof these letters are given under my hand at the City of Alexandria in the Commonwealth of Virginia this twenty-first day of February in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy-four and in the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-eighth.

Charles R. Spittler
Colonel, Adjutant General's Corps
Director

*Official Grant of Arms document, authorizing the 3d Cavalry's Coat of Arms, dated 21 February 1974.*

**Coat of Arms Symbolism**

The Regiment's original green facings on the uniform and its gold trumpet insignia are captured in the design of the shield and the unit crest, all marking which originally distinguished the Regiment as a separate branch of service, the elite Mounted Riflemen. The unit's first engagement was the capture of Vera Cruz, and the Regiment continued fight with distinction throughout the campaign of 1847 to the capture of Mexico City. Upon entering the city, it hoisted the Stars and Stripes over the national palace and displayed the regimental standard from the palace balcony, which drew from General Scott the statement, "Brave Rifles! Veterans! You have been baptized in fire and blood and come out steel."* The campaign is shown by the cross for Vera Cruz and the tower in green (the Mexican color) for fortified Mexico City, the first and last engagements thereof. The chief, taken from the arms of Lorraine, commemorates the Regiment's World War I service.

*It has since been determined that General Scott actually made this statement in a speech to the Regiment at Contreras, rather than in Mexico City. See Appendix G for the full text of the speech.

**Regimental Distinctive Unit Insignia**

The original branch insignia of the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen was a trumpet rather than the crossed sabers of the dragoon regiments, the only other mounted units in the Army at that time. This trumpet surmounts the crest on the Regimental Coat of Arms and appears on the present day Regimental Distinctive Unit Insignia, which is shown below. Affectionately known as the "Bug" due to its shape, this distinctive insignia was originally approved for the 3d Cavalry Regiment on 25 November 1922, and amended to revise its description on 5 January 1923. On 18 December 1951, this insignia was redesignated for the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment.

**Description**

A green enameled metal device 1 1/16th inches in width consisting of a gold colored metal trumpet, mouthpiece up, entwined vertically with a cord, surmounting a green enamel scroll arced on the left and the right and looped below the trumpet inscribed "BRAVE" on the viewer's left and "RIFLES" on the viewer's right, and the numeral "3" centered on the lower segment, all in gold colored metal.

*Above is the only authorized digital version of the "Bug."*

**Regimental Shoulder Sleeve Insignia**

The shoulder sleeve insignia for the 3d Cavalry Regiment was officially authorized by the Department of the Army on 12 June 1967.

**Description**

On a green disk with 1/8 inch border, 2 ¾ inch diameter overall; a yellow trumpet bound with a gray cord and with mouthpiece up, in front of and extending above a green scroll; edged in yellow and bears the 'BRAVE' to the left of the trumpet in gray lettering, and 'RIFLES' to the right of the trumpet in gray lettering. The numeral '3' in gray is centered below the trumpet bell. The device on the disk is similar to the Regimental Distinctive Unit insignia. The colors, green and yellow refer to the uniform with green facings and the gold trumpet insignia authorized the Regiment in the uniform regulations of 1851. The words "BRAVE RIFLES" are derived from the accolade given to the Regiment by General Winfield Scott. The gray color of the letters and the numeral "3" simulates the color of steel and refers to the Regimental Motto, "Blood and Steel", which is also derived from the Regimental Accolade.

**Symbolism**

The green scroll represents the green facings on the distinctive uniforms authorized for the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen in 1851. The uniform regulations of 1851 also authorized the trumpet as the unit insignia for the Regiment. The numeral "3" indicates that the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment is descended from the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen, being numbered 3 because it was the third mounted unit in the Army, after the 1st and 2d Dragoons which became the 1st and 2d Cavalry Regiments in the reorganization of 1861.

**History of the Regimental Shoulder Sleeve Insignia**

The shoulder sleeve insignia was first worn by the members of the 3d Cavalry Group (Mechanized) of World War II. The Group never received any written authorization to develop and wear the patch. Instead, it received verbal permission of General George S. Patton, Jr., Commander of the Third U.S. Army and the 28th Colonel of the Regiment. At the end of WWII the Regiment was required to remove its unauthorized shoulder sleeve insignia and wear in its place the shoulder patch of its next higher headquarters. However, the troopers continued to proudly wear their distinctive unit patches on an unofficial basis on the left breast pockets of their fatigue uniforms. The Department of the Army finally authorized the wear of distinctive shoulder sleeve insignia for separate brigades and regiments in 1967.

The late General Polk (32nd Colonel) recalls:

> …The regiment never received any formal correspondence authorizing the… wear of a regimental patch. …Gen Patton asked me personally why no member of the regiment wore a patch… He then answered his own question by saying that he… supposed we did not enjoy particularly the wearing of a Third Army patch as it connoted support troops such as truck companies, engineer battalions and the like… I then asked his permission to design a patch incorporating the 3d Cavalry "Bug", the regimental insignia worn on our dress uniform. …He readily agreed. …I have been challenged on occasion by officers with a statement that I am wearing an unauthorized patch. My reply has always been that the patch was authorized by General Patton personally and that I consider this good and sufficient authorization….

*Above is the only authorized digital version of the unit patch.*

***NOTE: IT IS A VIOLATION OF BOTH ARMY POLICY AND TITLE 18, USC, SECTION 701 TO ALTER MILITARY INSIGNIA FOR ANY REASON. Persons or organizations needing graphic examples of any 3d Cavalry insignia should use only the original designs rather than attempting to create their own versions. Approved versions may be obtained from the Third Cavalry Museum.***

**Officer Branch Insignia: Cavalry Crossed Sabers**

While serving in the 3d Cavalry Regiment, all commissioned and warrant officers are expected to wear the Cavalry insignia of crossed sabers on their ASU, regardless of the officer's basic branch. Similar to the Stetson where the color of the cord demonstrates branch pride while the crossed sabers represents membership in the Regiment, so too in ASUs the officer's branch color on the shoulder straps connotes the officer's branch while the crossed sabers demonstrate proud membership in the Regiment and symbolizes the cavalry mindset that the Regiment is a combined arms team.

The Crossed Sabers may but are not required to include a Regimental "3" affixed above the crossed sabers or may be squadron insignia with the Regimental "3" above and the squadron numeral below.

Officers will not wear the crossed sabers in their official DA Photo; they are required to wear their basic branch insignia in ASUs for the photo.

**Regimental Color**

The Regimental color is emerald green. This was the branch color of the Mounted Rifles and trimmed the distinctive uniforms worn from 1851 to 1861.

**Regimental Motto**

The Regimental Motto is "Blood and Steel." It is derived from the Regimental Accolade.

**Traditional Unit Designation**

The Traditional Unit Designation for the 3d Cavalry Regiment is "BRAVE RIFLES." This designation, awarded to the Regiment for its many years of faithful and distinguished service, was officially granted to the Regiment by the Secretary of the Army on 19 January 1977.

**Stetson and Spurs for the 3d Cavalry Regiment**

**Background: The Pattern-1876 Campaign Hat Reborn**

The current tradition of the Cavalry Stetson being worn by members of modern day Cavalry outfits began just prior to the Vietnam War. The Cavalry Scouts and pilots of the 11th Air Assault Division wore the U.S. Army's Pattern-1876 campaign hat to build esprit and foster the ***cavalry mindset*** of the unit. The 11th Air Assault Division was reflagged the 1st Cavalry Division (Air Mobile) prior to deployment to Vietnam. By this point most units in the division had adopted the headgear to connote the unit's cavalry roots. By the end of the Vietnam War, many air and ground cavalry units were wearing the Stetson and the tradition continued after Vietnam and has become *the standard* for all Cavalry units in the Army.

The Department of the Army classifies the wear of the Pattern-1876 campaign hat (the Stetson) and the *Order of the Spur* as an "Army tradition." As such, regulations for wearing of the Stetson, as well as the wear of Cavalry accoutrements, like cross sabers, and the awarding of Spurs can be set by a Cavalry unit commander. Consequently, in the absence of any Army-wide regulations, this document provides instructions for the proper wear, appearance, and authorization of such items in the 3d Cavalry Regiment. Veteran Cavalry Troopers may find that some standards differ slightly from previous units, but the spirit and traditions embodied in this policy memorandum remain the same.

**Regimental Policy**

(Also see: Memorandum of Instruction (MOI) Concerning the Wear and Appearance of the traditional Cavalry headgear (the Stetson) and Spurs for the 3d Cavalry Regiment, dated 18 Nov 2011)

<u>The Pattern-1876 Campaign Hat (the Stetson)</u>

(1) All personnel, military and authorized civilians assigned or attached to the 3d Cavalry Regiment are authorized to purchase and wear a Stetson or comparable cavalry campaign hat that meets the guidelines set forth below, <u>upon signing in and becoming a member of the Brave Rifles team.</u>

(2) Military personnel and civilians (not assigned to the Regiment) and Spouses are not and cannot be regulated by this policy.

<u>Appearance and proper wear of the Stetson.</u>

(1) The traditional Cavalry headgear of the Pattern-1876 style will be the standard black Cavalry headgear, Stetson or other appropriate brand, with a **2 ¾ or 3-inch brim**. Officers, NCOs, and Troopers who purchased 4-inch brims while assigned to another cavalry outfit will be allowed to retain and wear their previously procured headgear; however, all personnel purchasing a Stetson after 16 November 2011 will only purchase and be allowed to wear the 2 ¾ or 3-inch brim hat.

(a) The hat will present a clean, neat appearance at all times.

(b) The hat will be formed and shaped so that the front and rear of the brim are either straight or slightly turned down and the sides parallel to the ground and not rounded up "cowboy style." It is recommended that the Trooper go to a Western Store with a hat steaming machine to have the Stetson shaped properly. The Western Store in the PX provides this service, as do other stores in the Killeen and Harker Heights communities.

(c) The crown crease should remain as manufactured. Dimples toward the front of the hat are acceptable, so long as they are not creased and present a neat appearance.

(2) The black leather neck strap is required for wear. The strap will be worn behind the wearer's head fitting snuggly at the back, lower part of the head. All excess leather will be trimmed and secured.

(3) Hat cords shall be worn by all personnel according to rank for officers and branch/ MOS for enlisted Troopers.

(a) General officers wear solid gold hat cords.

(b) Company and field grade officers wear black and gold hat cords.

(c) Warrant officers (CW4-CW5) wear solid silver cords.

(d) Warrant officers (WO1-CW3) wear black and silver hat cords.

(e) Officers are NOT at any time authorized to wear branch specific cords designated for wear by enlisted Troopers.

(f) Enlisted Troopers and NCOs will wear the cord that delineates their branch/ MOS as noted on the following list:

Adjutant General Corps: Dark Blue and Red
Air Defense Artillery: Red
Army Doctors/Dentists: Maroon and White
Armor: Yellow
**Cavalry: Yellow***
Corps of Engineers: Red and White
Field Artillery: Red
Infantry: Light Blue
Medical: Maroon
Military Intelligence: Oriental Blue
Military Police: Green
Ordinance Corps: Crimson and Yellow
Quartermaster Corps: Buff
Signal Corps: Orange
Transportation Corps: Brick Red and Golden Yellow

(g) * **ALL** ENLISTED TROOPERS REGARDLESS OF MOS, WHO WISH TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR PRIDE IN BEING ASSIGNED TO THE 3d CAVALRY REGIMENT ARE AUTHORIZED BY THE RCO TO WEAR THE **CAVALRY YELLOW CORD** IN LIEU OF THEIR BRANCH COLOR WHILE SERVING IN THE REGIMENT.

(h) Solid Black cords are not authorized for wear by any member of the 3d Cavalry Regiment.

(i) Authorized civilians employed by the 3d Cavalry Regiment will wear cords commensurate with their civil service rating or previous service in the Cavalry.

(j) Hat cords from modern era (cords with acorns) are the only authorized cords for Troopers in uniform. The cord will extend to the edge of the brim of the Stetson. Cords may be knotted *based on personal choice* and does not signify combat service. If knotted, the ends of the cord will still rest at the edge of the brim. Hat cords can be purchased at the 3d U.S. Cavalry Gift Shop.

(4) There will only be three (3) additional items worn on the Stetson in addition to the cord. These items include: 1) **Crossed Sabers with the Regimental "3"** (squadron specific, 3d Cavalry insignia are authorized) 2) **Non-subdued Rank insignia**. Both will be worn centered on the front of the hat. Rank is worn over the Regimental insignia and evenly spaced. Only shiny brass metal insignia from the Indian Wars or Spanish-American War periods (1870-1899) are authorized and can be purchased at the 3d U.S. Cavalry Gift Shop. Smaller branch insignia worn on officer's lapels is NOT authorized on the Stetson; and 3) **The 3d Cavalry distinctive unit insignia (DUI)**, more commonly referred to as "the Bug" ***is optional.*** If the Bug is worn it will be centered on the back of the Stetson. No other pins, branch insignia, DUIs, or badges are authorized on the Stetson.

(5) The Stetson and Spurs will be worn only for the appropriate occasions. The Stetson may be worn at all official 3d Cavalry functions (i.e. promotions, parades, H&F, or formals) as directed and authorized by the Commanding Officer (T/C/B, squadron, or the RCO/RCSM). Stetsons and Spurs will also be worn on the last work day of each week, inside the Regimental footprint, unless authorized by the unit commander to be worn outside the R-footprint.

(a) The Stetson may **not** be worn at formations or other functions where the prescribed headgear is the beret or patrol cap only. Formations **MAY** be a mix of Stetsons and other headgear if authorized by unit CO/1SG, SCO/CSM, or RCO/RCSM.

(b) The Stetson may **not** be worn while conducting maintenance on vehicles or while driving a tactical vehicle.

(c) The Stetson **may** be worn during deployments for special events.

(d) The Stetson will **not** be worn at III Corps or Garrison sponsored functions unless directed or authorized by the III Corps Commanding General or CSM.

(e) The Stetson may **not** be worn during the consumption of indoor meals.

(f) The Stetson may **not** be worn in a chapel or an area designated for religious services regardless of the event or function. All headgear must be removed in all chapels.

(g) The Stetson will be removed when entering a residence, unless the head of the household is wearing a hat or the occasion mandates wear.

(h) The Stetson will be worn during the presenting and retiring of the Colors.

(i) The Stetson may be worn in a smoking room or bar area during military functions. If a civilian establishment prohibits the wear of the hats then it must be removed.

(j) When in civilian clothing, the Stetson may be worn at the wear's discretion. When wearing the Stetson with civilian attire, however the wearer should remain mindful and take great care not to bring discredit upon the Army, the U.S. Cavalry, the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen, and the tradition that they symbolize while wearing the Stetson.

(k) During invocations, participants will follow the example of the person delivering the invocation in order to determine whether the headgear should remain in place or be removed. Those participating in parade ceremonies will not remove their headgear; rather they will slowly bow their heads with headgear in place.

Cavalry Spurs

(1) There are two different categories of Spurs awarded in the 3d Cavalry Regiment: Silver and Gold. Neither Spurs are an entitlement for serving within this Regiment. The "Order of the Spur" will not be awarded to any Trooper based on arbitrary or meritless criteria such as rank, time in service, or branch. Spurs are not earned by enduring hazing or other degrading behavior. In fact that behavior has no place in the "Order" and will not be a part of earning spurs in this formation. Rather, Troopers must first be in good standing within their formation (i.e. have no incidents of misconduct, record of adverse actions, or failures in obtaining basic army standards) and then "earn" the right to wear Cavalry Spurs through their demonstrated proficiency at both technical and tactical skills expected of Troopers assigned to this Regiment.

(2) Troopers assigned or attached to the 3d Cavalry Regiment are authorized to earn and wear the Spurs. Each Squadron will establish a program to allow Troopers the opportunity to be admitted into the "Order of the Spur" and to be awarded the **Silver Spurs** which assesses and measures the warrior skills a Cavalry Trooper must possess; assess and measure their overall physical fitness, as well as their understanding of the Regiment's lineage, history, and traditions. The testing event will be called the "Spur Ride." Those who have earned spurs are for evermore known as **Spur Holders**. The assessment may be executed over as short of a time period as 24 hours with required prerequisites or over a course of time up to three months and executed during the duty week. Hazing is not authorized. Units should conduct a "Spur Ride" at least twice a year to include during combat deployments. Spur Certificates and Silver Spurs will be presented during a **Spur Dinner** which reflects the achievement of the Troopers who

meet the high standards required to earn their spurs. The Regiment will design and produce **a Regimental Order of the Spur Certificate** signed by the RCO and RCSM.

(3) Troopers may lose the privilege to wear the Spurs if they fail to remain in good standing, such as demonstrating an act of indiscipline. This is a serious punishment for a cavalryman and should not be taken lightly. **Only 1SGs and CSMs are authorized to pull and reinstate the privilege to wear spurs at their level**. First line leaders will ensure that Troopers who lose their spurs, develop a remedial development plan and help their Trooper regain the privilege to wear spurs once the deficiency has been corrected.

(4) The **Gold Spurs**, often referred to as **"Combat Spurs"** are awarded to Troopers during combat deployments. The Trooper will be awarded a **Regimental Combat Spur Certificate** signed by the RCO and RCSM. Neither the Silver nor Gold Spurs are more prestigious than the other. The wearer may choose to wear the Spurs they have earned as long as they match. The following is the criteria for awarding the Gold "Combat Spurs".

(a) Served honorably in combat with a Cavalry unit (assigned, attached, OPCON).

(b) No adverse action during the deployment as defined by D-Day thru R+90.

(c) Troopers who have been awarded the Gold Spurs during a previous deployment and have **not** met the standards of the Silver Spur during a Spur Ride are encouraged to participate in a Spur Ride, prove their proficiency in their craft, and earn their Silver Spurs.

(5) The Spurs are worn with the Stetson, but may be worn with beret or the patrol cap if the Trooper does not own a Stetson. Spur Holders are encouraged to purchase a Stetson to set the example of keeping the cavalry traditions alive.

(6) Authorized Versions of the Spur

(a) The standard Spur worn today is the "**Prince of Wales" spur** which comes in Silver and Gold. The strap may be black or tan. This model is a more traditional 20th Century form of Cavalry spur, featuring a short neck and no rowel at the end. The Prince of Wales spur can be worn on boots and low quarters.

(b) Troopers are also authorized to wear actual or replicas of the U.S. Army's Model-1859, Model-1874, or the most common Model-1885. These military spurs feature a small rowel and only come in brass (Gold Combat Spurs). A replica of the **M1885 cavalry spur** is sold at the 3d U.S. Cavalry Gift Shop along with the Gold version of the Price of Wales spurs. These U.S. Army spurs may be worn with boots and low quarters.

(c) The M1885 cavalry spur was replaced by the **M1911 cavalry spur** which has no rowel. This spur comes in Silver and Gold. This model spur was made to be worn higher on the foot, near the ankle, designed for modern day "riding boots." Officers or NCOs

who wear Dehner cavalry boots (riding boots) are the only personnel authorized to wear the M1911 cavalry spur (the last cavalry spur issued in the U.S. Army). The M1911 is only authorized on Dehner boots and will **not** be worn with combat boots or low quarters.

(7) Standards of Wear with Low Quarters and Boots

(a) **When worn with Low Quarters**: Black leather straps must be worn with low quarters, tan straps are not authorized. The spurs will be affixed to the footgear so that the U fits snuggly were the shoe leather meets the heel, along the seam of the shoe. The U shaped portion shall enclose the shoe in such a manner as to assure that the neck of the Prince of Wales spur curves down to the ground. The strap will be fastened over the instep of the footgear in such a manner that the **buckle faces to the outside of the foot** and the buckle itself is on the outside of the foot with approximately 2 inches between the spur and the buckle. (see enclosure for picture example)

(b) **When worn with Boots**: Black or tan leather straps are authorized, but tan straps are preferred. The spurs will be affixed to the footgear so that the U fits snuggly were the boot leather meets the heel. The strap will be fastened over the instep of the footgear in such a manner that the buckle faces the outside of the boot. (see enclosure for picture example)

Purchasing Stetsons or Spurs

(1) The purchase of the Pattern-1876 campaign hat (Stetson) or spurs is an optional item which Troopers are not required to purchase.

(2) Troopers may purchase the Stetson (upon arrival) or Spurs (once earned) from any location that offers the headgear and Spurs as described in the MOI dated 18 Nov 2011 as outlined in *Blood and Steel*.

*Officer Stetson with officer cord & Crossed Sabers circa 1876 (Indian Wars)*

*Enlisted Stetson with Yellow Cavalry Cord & Crossed Sabers circa 1898*
*(Spanish-American War)*

*Prince of Wales Spur on ACU boots (black straps are authorized for wear with tan boots) Prince of Wales Spur can also be worn on low quarters.*

*Model 1885 (M1885) Cavalry Spur on low quarter (tan strap NOT authorized on low quarters).*
*M1885 (and its predecessors the M1859 and M1874 spurs) can also be worn on ACU combat boots.*

*Model 1911 (M1911) Cavalry Spur on Dehner boot (M1911 only authorized for wear on Dehner boots)*

## Other Customs and Traditions

### Regimental Abbreviation

*Since August of 1861, when using the numeral "3" in stead of the word "Third", the proper form is "3d" with a small case "d".* ***An upper case "D" is never used, nor are "R", "r", "3ACR", or "3SCR". The only authorized nomenclatures for the Regiment are: 3d Cavalry Regiment, 3d CR and 3d Cavalry Regiment (Stryker); never 3d SCR.***

### Regimental Greeting

The Regimental greeting is rendered by all enlisted troopers to officers and by junior officers to senior officers. The greeting is exchanged as follows:

Junior individual exclaims: *"Brave Rifles, Sir (or Ma'am)!"*
Senior individual responds: *"Veterans!"*

### Regimental Battle Cry

"*AI-EE-YAH!"* is the Regimental Battle Cry. Adopted from the Indians, it is a Sioux war cry meaning "Attack!" The expression symbolizes the cry of the Cavalry Trooper charging into battle. It has evolved into a form of slang used by members of the Regiment, referring to or meaning anything and everything except "no" and is synonymous with HOO-AH!

### Regimental Accolade

This expression of esprit and élan, which originated with General Winfield Scott, has been adopted by the Regiment as its Accolade and is also the source of the Regimental Motto and the Regimental Greeting (see Appendix G). It is normally rendered by all personnel prior to passing in review during parades, and prior to dismissal from some formations. It is rendered in the following manner:

Regimental, Squadron, or Troop Commander: *"Prepare for the Regimental Accolade!"*
Squadron, Troop Commander or Platoon Leader: *"Prepare to sound off!"*
Regimental, Squadron, or Troop Commander: *"Brave Rifles!"*
All personnel respond: *"Veterans!"*
Regimental, Squadron, or Troop Commander: *"Blood and Steel!"*
All personnel respond: *"AI-EE-YAH!"*

### Mounted Rifleman's Creed

*I am a Brave Rifle.*

*I am part of an elite unit, the nation's only Regiment of Mounted Riflemen.*

*I stand shoulder to shoulder with the best fighting Soldiers in the United States Army.*

*With a long line of Cavalry Troopers behind me, I will carry their traditions forward..*

*Through my actions, I daily honor the historic motto: "Brave Rifles! Veterans!"*

*Baptized in fire and blood, I have come out steel.*

*I am lethal. I am unbreakable. I am a Mounted Rifleman.*

***Possession of colors and guidons by private individuals and organizations is a violation of Federal Law 10 USC 4565. Giving a flag as a memento constitutes a felony. A copy of 10 USC 4565 is available at the JAG office.***

**Regimental Standard**

The organizational flag of a mounted unit has traditionally been referred to as a "standard," as opposed to the term "colors" which has been used to refer to organizational flags of foot units. The regimental standard is symbolic of branch, history, and the spirit and tradition of the organization. The standard and its companion National Colors are displayed in the Regimental Commander's office, and are carried in all Regimental ceremonies and formations.

When a new standard is issued, the old one is retired from service and placed in the Third Cavalry Museum. All the Regimental Standards that are known to exist are part of the Museum's collection, beginning with the second Standard, which dates from 1848. The first Standard was presented to Congress at the conclusion of the Mexican War and has since disappeared.

**Regimental Color Guard and Color Bearers**

Regimental Color Guard members are selected from different units in the Regiment by the Regimental Command Sergeant Major. The Regimental Color Sergeant is traditionally provided by Fox Troop in memory of Sergeant James Manley of Company F, Regiment of Mounted Riflemen. Sergeant Manley carried the National Colors in the Regiment's assault on Chapultepec and later raised the same flag over the Mexican National Palace in Mexico City.

**Regimental Pass in Review**

The command to pass the Regiment, or any element thereof, in review during a parade ceremony is given in the following manner:

Reviewing officer: *"Brave Rifles – pass in review!"*

**Regimental Saber of Command**

The Saber of Command has traditionally represented the authority of the Regimental Commander. At a Regimental change of command ceremony, the Saber of Command is passed from the outgoing Commander to the incoming Commander, thus signifying the relinquishment, transfer, and assumption of command of the Regiment. The Saber of Command is displayed in the Regimental Commander's office.

**Command Lineage**

It is customary for the Regimental Commander and the Regimental Command Sergeant Major to sign all correspondence in such a manner as to indicate their number in chronological succession of command or responsibility, e.g. "74th Colonel" or "XIXth Command Sergeant Major."

**Order of the Spur**

The Spur Program was created to recognize those Troopers and officers who have demonstrated a level of professional expertise which exceeds that expected of other soldiers in the Army. The quest for admittance to the Order of the Spur during peacetime, ending with the Spur Ride, is an essential part of the development of all cavalrymen. Successful completion of the Spur program results in the award of a pair of spurs and membership in the Order. While participation is strictly voluntary, spurs are highly sought after and are a visible symbol of the qualities of professional excellence that all cavalrymen strive to achieve. Spurs are also earned by virtue of having served in combat with a cavalry unit. See the Regiment's Stetson and Spur Memorandum of Instruction, dated 18 November 2011, for further information.

**Order of the Garter**

When a newly assigned officer or senior NCO is hailed by his unit, his lady is also welcomed and enrolled into the Order of the Garter. The lady receives a yellow garter with blue ribbon and a certificate of enrollment.

**Organization Day**

Each year, the Regiment celebrates its birthday with a series of activities and events intended to recall its history, customs, and traditions. The Regiment first celebrated Organization Day on 19 May 1921. 19 May 1846 was the day on which the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen was "constituted," having been previously "authorized" by an Act of Congress in December 1845. Though on 14 July 1967, the Department of the Army officially recognized 12 October as Unit Day for the 3d Cavalry in recognition of its formal "organization" (manned and equipped) at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri on 12 October 1846, the birthday is usually celebrated in May each year.

The celebration typically includes a field day in which units of the Regiment compete against each other in a series of military and athletic competitions, a Regimental Ball, and a Regimental formation. At this formation, the Regimental Commander may give a short address to the troops, followed by a summation of the regimental history, battle honors, and Medal of Honor recipients.

**Reporting for Duty and Leaving the Regiment**

Immediately after an officer or senior NCO is assigned to the Regiment, it is customary for a letter of welcome to be dispatched from the Regiment to the individual. In the case of an officer, the letter is sent by the Regimental Commander, while the letter of welcome for an NCO is sent by the Regimental Command Sergeant Major. These letters usually enclose such information as may be desirable for orienting the individual and facilitating his or her immediate adjustment to probable new duties and new station.

All new officers will report to the Regimental Adjutant and then are interviewed at an appropriate time by the Regimental Commander, who will orient new officers as to the mission and organization of the Regiment. When departing the Regiment, whether for civilian life or a new duty assignment, it is customary for all officers to pay their respects in person to the Regimental Commander.

**Change of Command**

A change of command is a formal ceremony conducted within the Regiment whenever a new commander takes command of a unit. Change of command ceremonies for troop/company/ battery size units are normally conducted at squadron formations. A Squadron Change of command is usually performed at a squadron formation and when the Regiment changes commanders, the entire Regiment is usually formed for the occasion.

After the ceremony, a reception is held so that guests and members of the command may congratulate the new commander and his or her spouse. As soon as possible following his assumption of command, the new Regimental Commander addresses all assigned members of the Regiment in separate assemblies, usually at Squadron level.

**Regimental March**

The official march of the Regiment is *"Brave Rifles"*, by C. Campagna. This march was composed in 1937 and dedicated to the Regiment during the command of Kenyon A. Joyce, 26th Colonel, while the Regiment was stationed at Ft. Myer, Virginia. The march is customarily played at all Regimental ceremonies and formations where the Regiment passes in review.

**Regimental Song**

The Regimental Song is "Green Grow the Rushes, Ho!" The exact circumstances by which the Regiment selected this song as its very own have been lost to history. It is tradition, though not established fact, that the term "Gringo," a slang term often used by the people of Latin America when referring to Americans, originated from this song. Supposedly the Mexican populace heard the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen singing while on the march during its campaigns in the Mexican War and derived the word "Gringo" from the phrase "Green Grow." The new label was first applied to the Mounted Riflemen, then to all American troops, eventually becoming universally applied to all Americans.

All the verses of this song as sung by the Regiment have been lost to history. The original twelve verses, dating back to the Middle Ages, are still in existence, but they are basically religious in nature, and soldiers have never been known to be very pious, particularly when it has come to composing and singing verses for their marching and drinking songs. In all probability, the original words parodied Burns' lyrics who's chorus was: "The sweetest hours that ere' I spent were spent among the lasses, O!"

**Dining In**

Annually, the officers and selected NCOs of the Regiment meet for a Dining In or Formal Mess Night. Instituted as a custom in the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment during the 1950's, the Dining In provides an opportunity for the officers and NCOs to participate in the ceremony and tradition integral to the life of a cavalry unit**.**

**Regimental Toast**

The Regimental Toast is customarily offered by the Regimental Commander to the officers of the Regiment at a Formal Mess Night. The origin of this toast dates from the 1960's when the Regiment was stationed in the Federal Republic of Germany. The author is unknown. The Regimental Toast is given in the following manner:

I propose a toast:

To the Brave Rifles who stormed Chapultepec for General Winfield Scott, who were baptized in fire and blood and came out steel and who raised the colors of victory over President Santa Ana's Palace.

To the Mounted Riflemen who rode westward from Missouri to the Pacific, opening and protecting the Oregon Trail and securing the frontiers of our advancing civilization.

To the Cavalry Veteran who protected the Texans, fought bravely in the Indian Wars, and rode in the bitter fighting of the War Between the States.

To the Cavalryman who fought victoriously in Cuba, in the Philippines and in France during WWI.

To the Mechanized trooper who, as a "Ghost" of Patton's Army, provided the sharp point to the spear which pierced the heart of Nazi Germany.

And too, to the Armored Cavalryman who was rushed to Europe to help tip the balance of force against the Cold War threats of our country's enemies.

To the Armored Cavalryman who rushed to protect Saudi Arabia and liberate Kuwait in only 100 hours and who brought peace to war-torn Bosnia.

To the Armored Cavalryman who returned again and again to the plains of Mesopotamia to free the Iraqi people from the tyranny of global terrorism.

Yes, I propose a toast to many men--many Brave Rifles who are as one. I propose a toast to that dedicated fighting professional, the Trooper of the 3d Cavalry Regiment.

**Births in the Regiment**

When a baby is born to an officer of the Regiment, the event is commemorated by the presentation of a silver baby cup, appropriately inscribed and engraved with the Regimental Distinctive Unit Insignia and the baby's name and date of birth.

**Deaths in the Regiment**

When the Regiment is in garrison and one of its officers or troopers passes away, memorial services are held in the Chapel by the unit to which the individual was assigned. The Squadron Chaplain conducts the services and honors are rendered according to the rank of the deceased. It is customary for the Regimental Commander, Regimental Command Sergeant Major and the respective Squadron Commander and Squadron Command Sergeant Major to be in attendance.

When the Regiment is engaged in combat operations, away from its home base, besides the services conducted in theater, services are conducted in the home base chapel by the rear detachment and installation chaplain's office. Maximum participation at these services is encouraged to show support for the members of the Regiment while they are away.

**Regimental Grace**

The origin of this blessing is unknown, having been lost to history. It is normally presented by the Regimental Chaplain prior to the serving of the dinner at a Dining in. It reads as follows:

> Most Gracious God, who hast enriched thy creation with many blessings, we now evoke Thy presence with all Brave Rifles gathered about these tables. May the food so plenteously supplied to us cause us to renew our expressions of Thanksgiving to Thee. May the strength received from this food nourish our spiritual body.
>
> Bless those who have prepared this food and those about to partake of it, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. AMEN.

**Regimental Prayer**

The author of the original Regimental Prayer is unknown. It is normally presented by the Regimental Chaplain at the conclusion of a dining in. The prayer was revised in 1965 by E. A. Simon, the Regimental Chaplain, to read as follows:

> Almighty and Eternal God, our Heavenly Father, we come to thee now through thy Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, asking thee to hear and honor our prayer. We thank thee, our Father, for thy continual guidance over the destiny of our Regiment of Mounted Riflemen and pray that each trooper will faithfully follow thy direction throughout his life.
>
> We beseech thee to help us always to be worthy of those glorious achievements, inherited from our forefathers and which are now entrusted to us.
>
> With thy divine assistance, may we carry our colors with courage, honor, and distinction.
>
> We ask thee to guide our leaders, bless our troopers and cause all of us who serve thee to be faithful to thy name. In times of combat, may our arms be victorious over our enemies, so that a just and lasting peace may come to the world.
>
> And Lord, when our final Taps is sounded, may each Brave Rifleman, who knew and served thee in this life, be called before thy throne to receive their eternal award. These things we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. AMEN

**Weddings in the Regiment**

At wedding ceremonies for officers of the Regiment, it is customary for an arch of cavalry sabers to be formed by the groomsmen outside the chapel entrance, under which the newlyweds pass when departing the chapel. It is also customary for the officer and his new bride to be presented with a wedding tray inscribed with the Regimental Distinctive Unit Insignia. *NOTE: the Third Cavalry Museum does not provide the sabers for these ceremonies.*

**Holidays**

On New Year's Day it is customary for officers of the Regiment and their spouses to call on their respective Squadron Commander and the Regimental Commander at their quarters at a specified time. On Thanksgiving and Christmas, all dining facilities hold an Open House for officers, troopers, and their families and guests. During Thanksgiving meal in the dining facility, troop, company and battery commanders and first sergeants; squadron commanders and command sergeants major; and the Regimental commander and command sergeant major arrive in Army Service Uniform to serve the Troopers and Families their holiday meal.

**Lucky Sixteen**

When the 3d Cavalry joined the 2d and 11th in the Cold War General Defense Plan of Europe, the regiments became known as the "Lucky 16" (the total of the regimental numbers 2, 3, and 11.) Whenever two of the Lucky 16 Regiments are in the same location the Lucky 16 convenes in a social setting to renew old friendships and strengthen comradeship.

**REGIMENTAL AWARDS**

There are several types of Regimental Awards given to officers, troopers and families of the Regiment.

**Order of the Brave Rifles**

Upon departing the Regiment, officers are permanently enrolled as Troopers in the Order of the Brave Rifles. Under exceptional circumstances, distinguished civilian and military officers of the United States and foreign countries may be enrolled in the Order of the Brave Rifles as the "Bravest Rifle".

**Honorary Squadron of Mounted Riflemen**

The Honorary Squadron of Mounted Riflemen recognizes significant contributions to the Regiment. The award consists of a mounted certificate awarded at a Punch Bowl Ceremony in the Regimental Conference Room. The recipient will have his/her name annotated in the rolls of the Honorary Squadron of Mounted Riflemen during the ceremony. Inducted members may purchase a silver cup engraved with their rank and name, which will become part of the Regimental silver upon their departure. Point of contact is the Regimental Adjutant.

**Regimental Coin of Excellence**

The 3d Cavalry Regimental Coin of Excellence provides special recognition from the Regimental Commander or Commander Sergeant Major for outstanding training, duty performance, or special activity. Individuals are recognized on the spot for their outstanding efforts. Anyone associated with the Regiment is eligible, regardless of rank, specialty skill, or duty position and

it may be awarded at any time and any place. Since the Regiment's 150th birthday, the Regimental coin has remained the same on the front side, with only the years of service to the nation being updated annually. The back of the coin is modified to reflect the RCO and RCSM's command.

**Certificate of Recognition**

Troopers departing the Regiment who have distinguished themselves during their period of service and who are recommended by their Commanders are eligible to receive a Certificate of Recognition from the Regimental Commander. Awards are also presented to those individuals selected as Trooper and NCO of the Quarter and Trooper and NCO of the Year. The Regimental Command Sergeant Major oversees selection of the recipients.

**Lady of the Brave Rifles**

The lady of a departing officer is accorded the honor of being enrolled as a Lady of the Brave Rifles. This honor recognizes her contribution in support of the Regiment through participation in family support groups and community activities on behalf of the Regiment.

## *Accolade to a Cav Lady*

*Ai-ee-yah!'s the cry of*
*The 3d U.S. Cav,*
*A reminder of pride*
*In the history we have.*

*So hold your head high*
*You're a part of this clan,*
*A Faithful Cav Lady*
*Who stands by her man.*

*You've paid your dues,*
*Lonely nights and long days,*
*The wife of a soldier*
*Seldom gets praise.*

*This memento is given*
*With love's lusty yell,*
*Ai-ee-yah! Brave Rifles!*
*Godspeed and Farewell!*

## Appendix A

## TRANSCRIPTION OF THE ACT OF CONGRESS ESTABLISHING THE REGIMENT OF MOUNTED RIFLEMEN

The 3d Cavalry Regiment was originally organized and equipped as the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen. The Regiment was authorized by an act passed by the 29th Congress of the United States on 1 December 1845. This act, entitled "An Act to provide for raising a regiment of mounted riflemen and for establishing military stations on the route to Oregon," is reproduced here in its entirety:

**Twenty-ninth Congress of the United States;**

**At the first session,**

Begun and held at the City of Washington, the first day of December, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five.

**AN ACT**

To provide for raising a regiment of mounted riflemen, and for establishing military stations on the route to Oregon.

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

"That there shall be raised one regiment of mounted riflemen, to be composed and organized as follows, to wit ... one colonel, one lieutenant colonel, one major, one quartermaster-sergeant, two chief buglers, and one adjutant who shall be a lieutenant, one sergeant major, one chief musician, and ten companies; each company shall consist of one captain, one first lieutenant, one second lieutenant, (exclusive of the adjutant lieutenant), four sergeants, four corporals, two buglers, one farrier, one blacksmith and sixty-four privates.

"Section 2. And be it further enacted. That the officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians, and privates shall be entitled to the same pay and emoluments as are allowed to dragoons, and that the farrier and blacksmith shall receive the same pay and allowances as are allowed to an artificer of artillery.

"Section 3. And be it further enacted. That the said regiment of riflemen shall be subject to the rules of war, and shall be recruited in the same manner as other troops in the service of the

United States, and with same conditions and limitations; and the officers, noncommissioned officers, musicians, privates, blacksmiths and farriers shall be entitled to the same provisions for wounds and disabilities, and the same provisions for widows and children, and the same allowances and benefits in every respect, as are allowed to other troops composing the army of the United States.

"Section 4. And be it further enacted. That the non-commissioned officers, musicians, and privates of said regiment, when employed in constructing fortifications, making surveys, cutting roads or performing other labor, shall be allowed fifteen cents a day each with a commutation in money for the extra spirit ration, as provided by the act of the second of March, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Nineteen entitled "An act to regulate the pay of the army when on fatigue duty".

"Section 5. And be it further enacted. That the sum of seventy-six thousand five hundred dollars, for mounting and equipping said regiment, be, and the same hereby is appropriated, and a sum be paid out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

"Section 6. And be it further enacted. That a sum not exceeding three thousand dollars, out of any moneys in the treasury, not otherwise appropriated, be, and the same hereby is appropriated, to defray the expenses of each military station or defense which the President may deem necessary on the line of communication with Oregon; and a sum not exceeding two thousand dollars for making compensation to the Indian tribes which may own or possess the ground on which the said station may be erected, and for each station."

## Appendix B

## CERTIFICATES OF LINEAGE AND HONORS

The certificates attesting to a unit's lineage and honors are the most important documents relating to the history of that unit. Issued by the Department of the Army's Center of Military History, they are the unit's birth certificate, its deed to organizational properties, and its service record. While the original copies are in the Regimental Museum, the information contained on them has been reproduced here to aid in tracing the history of the Regiment.
The 3d Cavalry Regiment has received credit for participation in 45 campaigns during the course of its history. It has been awarded a battle streamer for each of the forty campaigns. These streamers are affixed to the top of the staff on which the Regimental Standard is carried.

### Lineage

Constituted 19 May 1846 in the Regular Army as the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen.
Organized 12 October 1846 at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri. Redesignated 3 August 1861 as 3d United States Cavalry.

Inactivated 15 July 1942 at Fort Benning, Georgia; personnel and equipment transferred to 3d Armored Regiment (see annex). Redesignated 18 January 1943 as 3d Cavalry, Mechanized.
Activated 15 March 1943 at Camp Gordon, Georgia.

Regiment broken up 3 November 1943 and its elements reorganized and redesignated as Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3d Cavalry Group, Mechanized and the 3d and 43d Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadrons, Mechanized.

Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3d Cavalry Group, Mechanized, inactivated 22 December 1945 at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey. Activated 26 February 1946 at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland. Redesignated 5 November 1948 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3d Armored Cavalry; organization of the remainder of 3d Armored Cavalry completed 3 November 1948 by redefinition of elements of 3d and 43d Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadrons, Mechanized and by reconstruction, redefinition, and activation of certain other elements of the 3d Cavalry which had been inactivated or demobilized 1921-1928.

3d, 777th, and 21st Tank Battalions (see annex) consolidated with 3d Armored Cavalry
8 January 1951. (Battalions and Companies redesignated Squadrons and Troops, 1 June 1960).

Redesignated 16 November 2011 as the 3d Cavalry Regiment (SBCT), with the addition of a field artillery battalion (Fires Squadron) and the reactivation of 4th Squadron as a (ground) reconnaissance squadron.

**Annex A**

3d Armored Regiment constituted 11 July 1942 in the Army of the United States and assigned to 10th Armored Division. Activated 15 July 1942 at Fort Benning, Georgia with personnel and equipment from 3d Cavalry.

The Regiment was reorganized and re-designated 20 September 1943 as follows: 3d Armored Regiment (less lst and 3d Battalions, Band, Maintenance, Service, and Reconnaissance Companies) as 3d Tank Battalion. lst Battalion as 777th Tank Battalion and relieved from assignment to 10th Armored Division; 3d Battalion as 21st Tank Battalion; Reconnaissance Company, as Troop D, 90th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, Mechanized (separate lineage); Band and Maintenance and Service Companies disbanded.

Above Battalions inactivated as follows: 3d Tank Battalion 13 October 1945 at Camp Patrick Henry, Virginia. 777th Tank Battalion 24 October 1945 at Camp San Luis Obispo, California. 21st Tank Battalion 19 October 1945 at Camp Myles Standish, Massachusetts.

3d, 777th, and 21st Tank Battalions consolidated 8 January 1951 with 3d Armored Cavalry; concurrently, 3d and 21st Tank Battalions relieved from assignment to 10th Armored Division.

**Appendix C**

**CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CREDITS**

## Regimental

**Mexican War**
Vera Cruz
Cerro Gordo
Contreras
Churubusco
Chapultepec
Vera Cruz 1847

**Indian Wars**
Comanches
Cheyennes
Utes
Little Big Horn
Texas 1856
New Mexico 1857
New Mexico 1858
New Mexico 1860
New Mexico 1861
New Mexico 1867
New Mexico 1869
Oklahoma 1868
Arizona 1870
Arizona 1871
Arizona 1882

**Civil War**
Chattanooga
New Mexico 1861
New Mexico 1862
Alabama 1863
Tennessee 1863
Arkansas 1864

**War With Spain**
Santiago

**Philippine Insurrection**
Luzon 1899
Luzon 1900
San Fabian
San Isidro

**World War I**
Without inscription

**World War II**
Northern France
Rhineland
Ardennes-Alsace
Central Europe

**Southwest Asia (Gulf War)**
Defense of Saudi Arabia
Liberation and Defense of Kuwait

**Global War on Terror**
Liberation of Iraq
Transition of Iraq
Iraqi Governance
National Resolution
The Surge
Iraqi Sovereignty
Operation New Dawn

## Troops Entitled to Additional Campaign Participation Credits (streamers)*

| Campaign Streamer | Battle Location and Date |
|---|---|
| **TROOP A** | |
| Texas 1855 | Pecos River, 7 January 1855 |
| New Mexico 1859 | Santa Teresa Mountains, 3 and 18 December 1859 |
| Philippine Islands 1901 | Near Parar, Ilocos Norte, 21 February 1901 |
| **TROOP B** | |
| Nebraska 1872 | Loupe River, 26 April 1872 |
| **TROOP C** | |
| South Dakota 1877 | Hay Creek, near Deadwood, 23 February 1877 |
| **TROOP F** | |
| Texas 1869 | Sangre Canyon, 22 April 1869 |
| | Near San Augustine Pass, 15 August 1869 |
| | Guadalupe Mountains, 18 November 1869 |
| | Sanguinaria Canyon, Guadalupe Mountains, 26 December 1869 |
| **TROOP I** | |
| Molino del Rey | Mexico, 8 September 1847 |

**The above troops are authorized miniature campaign streamers to be attached to their guidon staff with their guidon. Because these combat actions were fought by single troop/ company formations, the Regiment is not authorized a campaign streamer for those actions; only the troop engaged in the battle or campaign is given campaign credit and authority to display the campaign streamer. Campaign credit is only given to the Regiment when 2 or more troops are engaged in the same battle or campaign.*

## UNIT AWARDS

### Regimental

**(1)** Distinguished Unit Citation, embroidered *BASTOGNE* (The name of this award was changed to the "**Presidential Unit Citation**" on 3 November 1966.)

3d Tank Battalion, 10th Armored Division (less Company C) and Company C, 21st Tank Battalion, 10th Armored Division "for extraordinary heroism in military operations against an armed enemy." These units earned this award for their part in the defense of Bastogne, Belgium from 18 to 27 December 1944 during the "Battle of the Bulge". These units were made up of elements of the 3d (horse) Cavalry that were transferred to the 3d Armored Regiment in July 1942. They were consolidated with the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment on 8 January 1951.

**(2) Belgian Croix de Guerre** (1940) with Palm, embroidered *BASTOGNE*

This decoration was awarded by the Belgian Government to the 3d Tank Battalion, 10th Armored Division (less Company C) and Company C, 21st Tank Battalion, 10th Armored Division for there part in the defense of Bastogne, Belgium from 18 to 27 December 1944. These units were made up of elements of the 3d (horse) Cavalry and transferred to the 3d Armored Regiment in July 1942. They were consolidated with the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment on 8 January 1951. *Only those soldiers who actually participated in this battle are authorized to wear this award on their uniforms.*

**(3) Valorous Unit Award** for Operation Iraqi Freedom I embroidered *AL ANBAR PROVINCE 2003*

*General Order # 2009-11*

By direction of the Secretary of the Army, the Valorous Unit Award is awarded to: 3d Armored Cavalry for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy of the United States:

During the period 25 April 2003 to 18 September 2003, the 3d Armored Cavalry displayed extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy while in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The unit performed an economy of force mission stretching across expansive terrain much larger than the Regiment is doctrinally designed to secure, encompassing an area more than 120,000 square kilometers in size and containing a population of over 1 million residents. The Regiment performed tasks ranging across the entire spectrum of combat operations in the area of the "Sunni Triangle," while maintaining the largest assigned area of responsibility and functioning as the smallest maneuver unit directly subordinate to Combined Joint Task Force-7. The unit accepted the surrender of Iraqi forces remaining in zone and then attacked former regime loyalists in what proved to be the most insurgency-plagued area of the country. The unit continued to establish order among a population whose government had collapsed and began rebuilding much of the infrastructure of the Al Anbar province. Battling summer conditions in a brutal desert environment, the unit maintained high morale, achieved highly extraordinary feats for a unit of its size, and upheld the proud legacy of traditions set by cavalry units long ago. The 3d Armored Cavalry's performance of duty reflects great credit upon the unit and the United States Army.

**(4) Valorous Unit Award** for Operation Iraqi Freedom 04-06 embroidered NINEVEH PROVINCE 2005.

By direction of the Secretary of the Army, the Valorous unit Award is awarded to: Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment

For extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy. During the period 18 May 2005 to 23 September 2005, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3d Armored Cavalry and its subordinate units displayed extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in and around western Nineveh Province, Iraq, including Tal Afar. The unit deployed to an austere area of operations with a well-entrenched insurgent network. Upon arrival, it immediately conducted Operation Veterans Forward and challenged the enemy's safe haven centered in Tal Afar. During fighting from 18 May to 29 August, the regiment was responsible for 200 confirmed anti-Iraqi forces killed in action and the capture of over 300 more. The unit also greatly affected the enemy's ability to move fighters and Weapons across the Iraq-Syrian border through aggressive combined reconnaissance operations with Iraqi Security Forces. Additionally, the unit partnered with the 3d Iraqi Army Division and Iraqi Police in order to implement the "clear and hold" strategy across western Nineveh Province. After the success of Operation Veterans Forward, the regiment planned and conducted operation Restoring Rights — consisting of over 10,000 Iraqi and United States' forces. During the operation, the unit accounted for over 200 enemy fighters killed in action and detained over 850 suspected enemy fighters. Together with Iraqi forces, the regiment developed intelligence that allowed it to target the enemy with precision, preventing unnecessary damage to infrastructure and the civilian population. The unit's efforts severely degraded the insurgency threat in northern Iraq and across the country allowing for the reconstruction of Tal Afar, as well as free and fair elections with over 85 percent participation in both October and December 2005. Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3d Armored Cavalry's outstanding performance of duty is in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflects distinct credit upon the unit and the United States Army.

.

**Unit Awards Earned by Squadrons within the Regiment**
(Not Authorized for the Entire Regiment)

**3rd Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment; Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3rd Squadron and Troops I, K, L, Company M, Howitzer Battery, Troop E, Company H, 2nd Squadron, and 43rd Engineer Company, 2nd Squadron:**

*Permanent Order # 070-17*

By direction of the Secretary of the Army, the **Valorous Unit Award** is awarded to: 3rd Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy.

During the period 15 January 2005 to 14 January 2006, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division and its subordinate units displayed extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The unit's dedication and professionalism went beyond the call of duty and contributed greatly to the advancement of political, economic, and security objectives throughout the region. Headquarters, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division's actions are in keeping with the finest traditions of military service.

**Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3d Squadron and Troops I, K, L, Company M, Howitzer Battery, Troop E, Company H, 2d Squadron, and 43rd Engineer Company, 2d Squadron:**

*Permanent Order # 163-04*

By direction of the Secretary of the Army, the **Valorous Unit Award** is awarded to: 3d Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy.

During the period 5 December 2007 to 1 April 2008, 3d Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment and its subordinate units displayed extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in and around Nineveh Province. The unit demonstrated skill at arms, courage under fire, and the ability to accomplish the mission beyond the call of duty. Additionally the squadron's ceaseless vigilance in securing the cities of Mosul, Tal Afar, Sinjar, Muhallabiyah, and Al Bi'aj made a significant and enduring contribution to safeguarding the Iraqi citizenry. The unit's accomplishments also far exceeded the expectations of any single battalion-sized unit in theater. 3d Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment's outstanding performance of duty is in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflects distinct credit upon the unit, Multi-National Division-North, and the United States Army.

**Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 2d Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment, Troops F, G, and Howitzer Battery:**

*Permanent Order # 174-06*

By direction of the Secretary of the Army, the **Valorous Unit Award** is awarded to: 2d Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy.

For extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy. During the period 11 December 2007 to 28 December 2008, 2nd Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment and its subordinate

around Diyala Province. The unit's professionalism, discipline, and adherence to the highest standards truly went beyond the call of duty and greatly contributed to the success of Coalition and Iraqi Security Forces. Additionally, the squadron unit demonstrated superior skill at arms, courage under constant attack, and ability to accomplish any mission. 2nd Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment's outstanding performance of duty is in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflects distinct credit upon the unit, Multi-National Division-North and the United States Army.

**Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 4th Squadron (Regimental Aviation Squadron) and Troops N, O, P, Q, R, S, T :**

(1) **Meritorious Unit Commendation** (Army), Streamer Embroidered *SOUTHWEST ASIA*

By direction of the Secretary of the Army, the Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to: 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding service:

4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry distinguished itself by outstanding meritorious performance for the period 23 September 1990 to 5 April 1991, while engaged in combat with Iraqi forces. The 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry screened the Easter flank of the XVIII Airborne Corps and maintained contact with the VII Corps. Throughout the campaign, units of the 4th Squadron were in continuous contact with the enemy as the Regiment plunged over 350 kilometers deep into Iraq and the heart of the Republican Guard. In all actions and engagements, the troopers of the 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry displayed the true Cavalry spirit, courage, and determination to find and defeat the enemy. The accomplishments of the 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry reflects great credit upon themselves and the United States Army.

(2) **Army Superior Unit Award**, Streamer Embroidered *1994*

By direction of the Secretary of the Army, the Army Superior Unit Award is awarded to:
4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry for outstanding meritorious performance during peacetime of a difficult and challenging mission:

During the period 27 June 1994 to 1 December 1994, the 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry distinguished itself by excelling in sustainment and training functions while simultaneously planning for and executing major force modernization actions. Challenged with a National Training Center rotation and the continued testing of several new air defense command, control, communication and intelligence systems, the 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry executed flawless planning and coordination with a spirit, competence and professionalism unequaled in today's Army. The 4th Squadron, 3d Armored cavalry's performance of these extraordinarily challenging missions, under arduous circumstances, is indicative of the outstanding devotion to duty, esprit de corps, selfless service and expertise of its members. The 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry's testing of the forward area air defense systems command, control, communication and intelligence system significantly impacted upon the entire Army. The outstanding accomplishments of the members of the 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon themselves and the United States Army."

**Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 4th Squadron (Regimental Aviation Squadron)* and Troops N, O, P, Q, R, S, T:**

(3) By direction of the Secretary of the Army, the **Valorous Unit Award** is awarded to: 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy.

During the period 23 March 2008 to 5 June 2008, 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment and its subordinate units displayed extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in and around Baghdad. The unit displayed remarkable valor and unparalleled selfless service in supporting Coalition Forces as they engaged a motivated and well-equipped enemy during the battle for Sadr City. The squadron made significant contributions in destroying enemy resistance, protecting and bolstering the confidence of friendly forces, preserving vital infrastructure, and promoting peace and stability for the citizens of Iraq. In doing so, the unit flew a combined total of over 3,800 flight hours, utilizing both AH -64D and UH-60L model helicopters, more than any previous battalion-sized combat aviation unit in history. The unprecedented operations tempo and incredible daily risk from surface to air fire exemplifies the squadron's bravery and discipline. 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment's outstanding performance of duty is in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflects distinct credit upon the unit, Multi-National Force-Iraq, and the United States Army.

**Unit awards earned by 4th Squadron (Regimental Aviation Squadron) are not authorized to be worn by the current 4th Squadron (Reconnaissance Squadron of SBCT-9). 4th Squadron (RAS) was reflagged 1st Battalion, 229th Aviation Regiment, and the unit awards earned by 4th Squadron (RAS) follow the 1-229th lineage.*

**Unit Awards Earned by Troops-Batteries-Companies within the Regiment**

**Present day Troop E (Troop B, 43d Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron in WWII):**

Streamer, **French Croix de Guerre** (WWII) with Silver-Gilt Star, embroidered *MOSELLE* (see below)

Troop B, 43d Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized)
French Croix De Guerre with Silver-Gilt Star, awarded under Decision No. 247, 15 July 1946, by the President of the Provisional Government of the French Republic, with the following citation:

"A magnificent shock troop, eager and of wonderful courage. It particularly distinguished itself on 5 November 1944, at the capture of Berg, which defended the crossing of the Moselle. It attacked, without artillery preparation, positions strongly held by a trained and fanatical enemy. In spite of gunfire which was annihilating its ranks, this unit gave proof of wonderful dash and, aided by tanks, captured the position. It held this position despite terrific bombardment. In the course of the mopping up, it took 17 prisoners."

**Present day Troop K (Troop C, 3d Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron in WWII):**

Streamer, **French Croix de Guerre** (WWII) with Palm, embroidered *LORRAINE* (see below)

Troop C, 3d Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized)
French Croix De Guerre with Palm, awarded under Decision No. 267, 22 July 1946, by the President of the provisional Government of the French Republic, with the following citation:

"A unit skilled in maneuvers, full of dash, which stood out by the bravery of its fighters. It distinguished itself particularly at Mars-la-Tour, where an enemy airdrome was recaptured with a considerable quantity of fuel, at Saint Private and Sainte Marie, by doing effective reconnaissance work for the 7th Armored Division, then in the capture of Metz, by neutralizing on the Vionville-Rezonville-Gravelotte-Rezerieulles Line, an important number of emplacements of heavy arms and again by bringing back valuable information about the enemy. By this series of daring and deep reconnaissance actions during the months of August and September 1944, this unit made it possible for the third U. S. Army to advance rapidly across France up to the Moselle."

**66th Military Intelligence Company:**

By direction of the Secretary of the Army, the **Meritorious Unit Commendation** is awarded to: 66th Military Intelligence Company for exceptionally meritorious service.

During the period 7 November 2007 to 16 January 2009, the 66th Military Intelligence Company displayed exceptionally meritorious service in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The unit demonstrated a marked determination to succeed and an ability to innovate, adapt, and overcome obstacles. Additionally, the company's ability to provide the intelligence support necessary for successful counterinsurgency operations represents an outstanding effort. The 66th Military Intelligence company's outstanding performance of duty is in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflects great credit upon the unit, the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment and, the United States Army.

*This page left intentionally blank.*

**Appendix D**

## REGIMENTAL MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

*The Medal of Honor awarded to Corporal Charles A. Bessey.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Fichter, Hermann | Private, Company F, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Whetstone Mountains, Arizona, 5 May 1871. |
| Kilmartin, John | Private, Company F, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Whetstone Mountains, Arizona, 5 May 1871. |
| Miller, Daniel H. | Private, Company F, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Whetstone Mountains, Arizona, 5 May 1871. |
| Mott, John | Sergeant, Company F, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Whetstone Mountains, Arizona, 5 May 1871. |
| Yount, John P. | Private, Company F, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Whetstone Mountains, Arizona, 5 May 1871. |

| | |
|---|---|
| Cody, William F. | Civilian Scout, Company B, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Loupe Fork, Platte River, Nebraska, 26 April 1872. (Medal rescinded by Act of Congress 21 April, 1916. Reinstated per findings of EEO Review Board, 12 June 1989). |
| Foley, John H. | Sergeant, Company B, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Loupe Fork, Platte River, Nebraska, 26 April 1872. |
| Strayer, William H. | Private, Company B, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Loupe Fork, Platte River, Nebraska, 26 April 1872. |
| Vokes, Leroy H. | First Sergeant, Company B, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Loupe Fork, Platte River, Nebraska, 26 April 1872. |
| Glavinski, Albert | Blacksmith, Company M, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Powder River, Montana, 17 March 1876. |
| McGann, Michael A. | First Sergeant, Company F, 3d U. S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Rosebud Creek, Montana, 17 June 1876. |
| Murphy, Jeremiah | Private, Company M, 3d U. S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Rosebud Creek, Montana, 17 June 1876. |
| Robinson, Joseph | First Sergeant, Company D, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Rosebud Creek, Montana, 17 June 1876. |
| Shingle, John H. | First Sergeant, Company I, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Rosebud Creek, Montana, 17 June 1876. |
| Snow, Elmer A. | Trumpeter, Company M, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Rosebud Creek, Montana, 17 June 1876. |
| Kirkwood, John A. | Sergeant, Company M, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Slim Buttes, Dakota Territory, 9 September 1876. |
| Smith, Robert | Private, Company M, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Slim Buttes, Dakota Territory, 9 September 1876. |
| Bessey, Charles A. | Corporal, Company A, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action near Elkhorn Creek, Wyoming, 13 January 1877. |
| Lewis, William A. | Sergeant, Company B, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Bluff Station, Wyoming, 20-22 January 1877. |

| | |
|---|---|
| Morgan, George H. | 2d Lieutenant, Company K, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Big Dry Wash, Arizona 17 July 1882. |
| Taylor, Charles | First Sergeant, Company D, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Big Dry Wash, Arizona, 17 July 1882. |
| Walker, Allen | Private, Troop C, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action in Texas, 30 December 1891. |
| Heard, John W. | 1st Lieutenant, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at the mouth of the Manimani River, West of Bahia Honda, Cuba, 23 July 1898. for extraordinary heroism, while serving with 3d U.S. Cavalry, in action at Bahia Honda, Cuba. After two men had been shot down by Spaniards while transmitting orders to the engine-room on the Wanderer, the ship having become disabled, First Lieutenant Heard took the position held by them and personally transmitted the orders, remaining at his post until the ship was out of danger |

*This page left intentionally blank.*

**Appendix E**

## REGIMENTAL COMMANDERS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Persifor Frazer Smith | 1st Colonel | 1846-1857 |
| William Wing Loring | 2nd Colonel | 1857-1860 |
| John Smith Simonson | 3rd Colonel | 1860-1861 |
| Marshall Saxe Howe | 4th Colonel | 1862-1866 |
| William Nicholson Grier | 5th Colonel | 1866-1870 |
| Joseph Jones Reynolds | 6th Colonel | 1870-1877 |
| Thomas Casimer Devin | 7th Colonel | 1877-1878 |
| Washington Lafayette Elliot | 8th Colonel | 1878-1879 |
| Albert Gallatin Brackette | 9th Colonel | 1879-1891 |
| Albert Payson Morrow | 10th Colonel | 1891-1892 |
| Anson Mills | 11th Colonel | 1892-1895 |
| Guy Vernor Henry | 12th Colonel | 1895-1897 |
| Samuel Baldwin Marks Young | 13th Colonel | 1897-1900 |
| Wirt Davis | 14th Colonel | 1900-1901 |
| Albert Emmett Woodson | 15th Colonel | 1901-1903 |
| Joseph Haddox Dorst | 16th Colonel | 1903-1911 |
| Hugh Lennox Scott | 17th Colonel | 1911-1913 |
| Augustus Perry Blocksom | 18th Colonel | 1913-1917 |
| Francis Henry Beach | 19th Colonel | 1917-1919 |
| Lloyd Milton Brett | 20th Colonel | 1919-1920 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| William Cannon Rivers | 21st Colonel | 1920-1923 |
| Hamilton Smith Hawkins | 22nd Colonel | 1923-1926 |
| William Jefferson Glasgow | 23rd Colonel | 1926-1927 |
| Guy Vernor Henry Jr. | 24th Colonel | 1927-1930 |
| Harry Newton Cootes | 25th Colonel | 1930-1933 |
| Kenyon Ashe Joyce | 26th Colonel | 1933-1936 |
| Jonathan Mayhew Wainwright | 27th Colonel | 1936-1938 |
| George Smith Patton, Jr. | 28th Colonel | 1938-1940 |
| William Whitelain Gordon | 29th Colonel | 1940-1941 |
| Howell M. Estes | 30th Colonel | 1941-1942 |
| Frederick Weed Drury | 3lst Colonel | 1943-1944 |
| James H. Polk | 32nd Colonel | 1944-1945 |
| Walter Burnside | 33rd Colonel | 1946 |
| C. H. Valentine | 34th Colonel | 1946-1947 |
| Charles A. Sheldon | 35th Colonel | 1947-1949 |
| Samuel L. Myers | 36th Colonel | 1949-1951 |
| James Owen Curtis, Jr. | 37th Colonel | 1951-1952 |
| Clay F. Bridgewater | 38th Colonel | 1952-1953 |
| Edward W. Williams | 39th Colonel | 1954 |
| Clyde L. Layne | 40th Colonel | 1954-1955 |
| William A. Hamberg | 41st Colonel | 1955-1956 |
| Robert Edward McCabe | 42nd Colonel | 1956-1957 |
| Douglas P. Frazier | 43rd Colonel | 1957-1958 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Emmet Robert White | 44th Colonel | 1958-1960 |
| John B. Maxwell, III | 45th Colonel | 1960-1961 |
| Donald H. Cowles | 46th Colonel | 1961-1963 |
| John R. Barclay | 47th Colonel | 1963-1964 |
| William J. Boehmer | 48th Colonel | 1964-1966 |
| Thomas J. Hanifen | 49th Colonel | 1966-1967 |
| Gerald V. Reberry | 50th Colonel | 1967-1968 |
| Sidney Hack | 51st Colonel | 1968-1970 |
| Kenneth W. Kock | 52nd Colonel | 1970-1972 |
| Walter W. Plummer | 53rd Colonel | 1972-1973 |
| David K. Doyle | 54th Colonel | 1973-1975 |
| John M. Shea | 55th Colonel | 1975 |
| Grail L. Brookshire | 56th Colonel | 1975-1977 |
| Joseph C. Lutz | 57th Colonel | 1977-1978 |
| Richard G. Cardillo | 58th Colonel | 1978-1980 |
| William A. Fitzgerald, Jr. | 59th Colonel | 1980-1983 |
| James B. Taylor | 60th Colonel | 1983-1985 |
| James M. Lyle | 61st Colonel | 1985-1987 |
| Jarret J. Robertson | 62nd Colonel | 1987-1989 |
| Douglas H. Starr | 63rd Colonel | 1989-1991 |
| Robert R. Ivany | 64th Colonel | 1991-1993 |
| Robert M. Young | 65th Colonel | 1993-1994 |
| Robert Wilson | 66th Colonel | 1994-1996 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Martin E. Dempsey | 67th Colonel | 1996-1998 |
| Christopher L. Baggot | 68th Colonel | 1998-2000 |
| Anthony W. Harriman | 69th Colonel | 2000-2002 |
| David A. Teeples | 70th Colonel | 2002-2004 |
| H. R. McMaster | 71st Colonel | 2004-2006 |
| Michael A. Bills | 72nd Colonel | 2006-2009 |
| Reginald E. Allen | 73rd Colonel | 2009-2011 |
| John B. Richardson IV | 74th Colonel | 2011- |

**Appendix F**

## REGIMENTAL COMMAND SERGEANTS MAJOR

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Ambrose R. Winans | I RCSM | 1972-1974 |
| Charles Bolling | II RCSM | 1974-1975 |
| Jacinto Vasquez | III RCSM | 1975-1978 |
| Elton R. Allen | IV RCSM | 1978-1980 |
| Jack H. Schmidt | V RCSM | 1980-1982 |
| Guenter H. Heibich | VI RCSM | 1982-1984 |
| Harvey L. Reed | VII RCSM | 1984-1985 |
| Bennie R. Causey | VIII RCSM | 1985-1987 |
| Howell W. Ramsey | IX RCSM | 1987-1989 |
| Dennis E. Worley | X RCSM | 1989-1992 |
| Tommy E. Nester | XI RCSM | 1992 |
| Dennis E. Webster | XII RCSM | 1992-1994 |
| Robert A. Murphy | XIII RCSM | 1994-1998 |
| Timothy R. Steiner | XIV RCSM | 1998-2001 |
| David A. Hartzell, Jr. | XV RCSM | 2001-2002 |
| John R. Caldwell | XVI RCSM | 2002-2005 |
| William J. Burns | XVII RCSM | 2005-2009 |
| Jonathan J. Hunt | XVIII RCSM | 2009-2011 |
| Patrick K. Akuna, Jr. | XIX RCSM | 2011- |

**Appendix G**

## COMPLETE TEXT OF GENERAL SCOTT'S REMARKS TO THE REGIMENT AT CONTRERAS

"When the Mounted Rifles reached Contreras on August 19 and 20, they began a battle which became a 17-minute dart from the rear and ended in the capture of Contreras and all it contained…. Sergeant Hiram Dryer and the other men – dirty, hungry, and tired – threw themselves on the ground to rest. Then General Scott rode up! Of course, every man in the Regiment, with cap off, was on his feet in a moment. Immediately, a shout was heard that would have delighted the heart of any true soldier, no matter what his rank. When quiet was restored, the general addressed the men:

> Brave Rifles, Veterans – you have been baptized in fire and blood and come out steel. Where bloody work was to be done, "the Rifles" was the cry, and there they were. All speak of them in terms of praise and admiration. What can I say? What shall I say? Language cannot express my feelings of gratitude for your gallant conduct in the terrible conflict of yesterday and this morning. But, my brave boys, in the course of one hour more you will be engaged in a more sanguinary engagement than the one you have just passed through, and I hope and trust that you will take the same noble stand you did yesterday and this morning. And now, men of the Rifle Regiment, you may rest assured that a grateful country will reward you for your gallant deeds through this campaign. Goodbye for the present, and God bless you all.

*Private Sam McCurdy*
*Company D, Mounted Rifles*

**Appendix H**

## The 3d ACR Fallen Heroes of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM I

| | |
|---|---|
| PFC Vorn J. Mack | HHT, 1/3 ACR |
| 1LT Michael Adams | A Troop, 1/3 ACR |
| SGT Michael E. Dooley | B Troop, 1/3 ACR |
| SSG Daniel Bader | ADA Btry, 1/3 ACR |
| SPC Brian H. Penisten | ADA Btry, 1/3 ACR |
| SSG Andrew R. Pokorny | ADA Btry, 1/3 ACR |
| CPT Joshua T. Byers | F Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| SPC Stephen M. Scott | HHT, 2/3 ACR |
| SGT Thomas F. Broomhead | E Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| SSG William T Latham | E Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| SSG Michael B. Quinn | E Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| PFC Justin W. Pollard. | G Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| PFC Jesse A. Givens | H Company, 2/3 ACR |
| SPC Darius T. Jennings | How Btry, 2/3 ACR |
| PV2 Benjamin L. Freeman | K Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| SSG Frederick L. Miller, Jr. | K Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| PFC Armando Soriano | How Btry, 3/3 ACR |
| CW2 Matthew Laskowski | O Troop, 4/3 ACR |
| CW2 Stephen Wells | O Troop, 4/3 ACR |
| SPC Michael A. Diraimondo | 571st Medical Co, 4/3 ACR |
| SPC Christopher A. Golby | 571st Medical Co, 4/3 ACR |
| CW2 Hans N. Gukeisen | 571st Medical Co, 4/3 ACR |
| SGT Richard A. Carl | 571st Medical Co, 4/3 ACR |
| CW2 Phillip A. Johnson | 571st Medical Co, 4/3 ACR |
| CW2 Ian D. Manuel | 571st Medical Co, 4/3 ACR |
| CW3 Brian K. Van Dusen | 571st Medical Co, 4/3 ACR |
| SGT Ernest G. Bucklew | HHT, Support Squadron/3 ACR |
| MAJ Mathew E. Schram | HHT, Support Squadron/3 ACR |
| SPC Rian C. Ferguson | S & T Troop, Support Squadron/3 ACR |
| SGT Taft V. Williams | Maint. Troop, Support Squadron/3 ACR |
| SPC Tamarra J. Ramos | Medical Troop, Support Squadron/3 ACR |
| SSG Stephen A. Bertolino | AVIM Troop, Support Squadron/3 ACR |
| SPC Spencer T. Karol | E Company (LRSD), 51st IN (ABN) |
| SSG Paul A. Velazques | SVC Battery, 2nd Battalion, 5th FA |
| SGT Joel Perez | A Battery, 2nd BN, 5th Field Artillery |
| SSG Joe N. Wilson | A Battery, 2nd BN, 5th Field Artillery |
| SGT Keelan L. Moss | B Battery, 2nd BN, 5th Field Artillery |

| | |
|---|---|
| SPC Steven D. Conover | C Battery, 2nd BN, 5th Field Artillery |
| SPC Rafael L. Navea | C Battery, 2nd BN, 5th Field Artillery |
| SGT Ross A. Pennanen | C Battery, 2nd BN, 5th Field Artillery |
| SGT Paul F. Fisher | F Company, 106th Aviation Battalion |
| 1LT Brian D. Slavenas | F Company, 106th Aviation Battalion |
| CW4 Bruce A. Smith | F Company, 106th Aviation Battalion |
| PFC Karina S. Lau | B Company, 16th Signal Battalion |
| PFC Anthony D. D'Agostino | D Company, 16th Signal Battalion |
| SSG Richard S. Eaton, Jr. | B Company, 323rd MI BN, 205th MI BDE |
| SPC Francis M. Vega | 1st PLT, 151st AG Company (Postal) |
| PFC James A. Chance III | C Company, 890th Engineer Battalion |
| PFC David M. Kirchoff | 2133rd Transportation Company |
| SPC Aaron J. Sissel | 2133rd Transportation Company |

**Appendix I**

**The 3d ACR Fallen Heroes of**
**OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM III**

| | |
|---|---|
| PFC Joseph L. Knott | RHHT, 3 ACR |
| MAJ Douglas A. LaBouff | RHHT, 3 ACR |
| MAJ Michael R. Martinez | RHHT, 3 ACR |
| 2LT Charles R. Rubado | C Troop, 1/3 ACR |
| SPC Joshua T. Brazee | How Btry, 1/3 ACR |
| SGT Charles T. Wilkerson | ADA Btry, 1/3 ACR |
| SGT Denis J. Gallardo | E Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| CPL Joseph L. Martinez | E Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| SGT Tyrone L. Chisholm | F Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| SGT Jacob M. Simpson | F Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| SPC Hoby F. Bradfield, Jr. | G Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| PFC Robert W. Murry, Jr. | G Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| PFC Ricky W. Rockholt, Jr. | G Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| PFC Eric P. Woods | G Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| SSG Brian L. Freeman | I Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| CPL Jared W. Kubasak | I Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| SFC Christopher W. Phelps | I Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| CPL Robert C. Pope II | I Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| PFC Mario A. Reyes | I Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| 1LT Justin S. Smith | I Troop, 3/3dACR |
| SPC Ernest W. Dallas, Jr. | K Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| SSG Jason W. Montefering | K Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| SGT Milton M. Monzon, Jr. | K Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| PFC Ramon A. Villatoro, Jr. | K Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| SPC Ronnie D. Williams | K Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| SPC Eric J. Poelman | L Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| SPC Brian S. Ulbrich | L Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| SSG Justin L. Vasquez | L Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| SFC Eric P. Pearrow | M Company, 3/3 ACR |
| SGT Timothy J. Sutton | M Company, 3/3 ACR |
| SSG Scottie L. Bright | How Btry, 3/3 ACR |
| CPL Lyle J. Cambridge | How Btry, 3/3 ACR |
| SPC Robert A. Swaney | How Btry, 3/3 ACR |
| SSG Jeremy A. Brown | 66th MI Company, 3/3d ACR |
| 1LT Joseph D. deMoors | 66th MI Company, 3/3d ACR |
| CW2 Dennis P. Hay | P Troop, 4/3d ACR |
| SGT Timothy R. Boyce | Maint. Troop, Support Squadron/ 3d ACR |

| | |
|---|---|
| CPL Jeffrey A. Williams | Med. Troop, Support Squadron/ 3d ACR |
| SFC Brett E. Walden | 1st Battalion, 5th Special Forces Group |
| LTC Terrance K. Crowe | 98th Division Military Transition Team |
| SFC Robert V. Derenda | 98th Division Military Transition Team |
| SGT Ivan V. Alarcon | 473rd Quartermaster Company |

**Appendix J**

## The 3d ACR Fallen Heroes of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM 07-09

| | |
|---|---|
| PFC Keith E. Lloyd | HHT, 1/3 ACR |
| SGT Alejandro A. Dominguez | A Troop, 1/3 ACR |
| SPC Joel A. Taylor | A Troop, 1/3 ACR |
| SPC James M. Yohn | A Troop, 1/3 ACR |
| 1LT Jeremy E. Ray | HWB, 1/3 ACR |
| CPT Michael J. Medders | HHT, 2/3 ACR |
| SPC Andre D. Mitchell | HHT, 2/3 ACR |
| SFC Miguel A. Wilson | E Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| CPT Torre E. Mallard | F Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| SGT Phillip R. Anderson | F Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| SPC Donald A. Burkett | F Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| SGT Corey E. Spates | G Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| SGT Gregory D. Unruh | HWB, 2/3 ACR |
| SPC Matthew T. Morris | HWB, 2/3 ACR |
| SPC Alex D. Gonzalez | 43rd CEC |
| Mr. Albert A. Haroutounian | 2/3 ACR Interpreter |
| SPC Jorge L. Feliz Nieve | HHT, 3/3 ACR |
| CPT Rowdy J. Inman | I Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| SSG Chad A. Caldwell | K Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| SGT Jose Regalado | K Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| SPC Corey M Shea | K Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| SSG Bryant W. Mackey | L Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| SFC Jonathan A. Lowery | HWB, 3/3 ACR |
| SGT Benjamin B. Portell | HWB, 3/3 ACR |
| SPC Christine M. Ndururi | AVIM Troop, 4/3 ACR |
| PFC Joseph E. Waltenbaugh | AVIM Troop, 4/3 ACR |
| SGT Michael K. Clark | A Company, 1-8 Infantry, 4th ID |
| SSG Gary W. Jeffries | B Company, 1-8 Infantry, 4th ID |
| SGT James E. Craig | B Company, 1-8 Infantry, 4th ID |
| CPL Evan A. Marshall | B Company, 1-8 Infantry, 4th ID |
| SPC Brandon A. Meyer | B Company, 1-8 Infantry, 4th ID |
| PFC Joshua A. Young | B Company, 1-8 Infantry, 4th ID |
| SSG Chad A. Barrett | FSC, 1-8 Infantry, 4th ID |
| SSG Solomon T. Sam | 523rd ENG CO, 84th ENG BN |
| SGT John J. Savage | 103rd ENG CO, 94th ENG BN |
| SSG David W. Textor | A Company, 3rd BN, 1st SFG (ABN) |
| SSG Justin R. Whiting | 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) |

| | |
|---|---|
| CW2 Christian P. Humphreys | A Troop, 6/17th Cavalry |
| CW3 Donald V. Clark | C Troop, 6/17th Cavalry |
| MSG Anthony Davis | 2-11-3 MiTT (Thunder SQDN) |
| MAJ John Pryor | 1st Forward Surgical Team |
| CPT Warren A. Frank | 5th ANGLICO, MNF-W |

**Appendix K**

## The 3d ACR Fallen Heroes of OPERATION NEW DAWN

| | |
|---|---|
| PFC David D. Finch | HHT, 2/3 ACR |
| CPT Matthew G. Nielson | HHT, 2/3 ACR |
| 1LT Omar J. Vazquez | F Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| PFC Antonio G. Stiggins | F Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| CPT David E. VanCamp | G Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| SGT Robert G. Tenney Jr. | G Troop, 2/3 ACR |
| PFC David R. Jones Jr. | How. Btry., 2/3 ACR |
| SSG Thomas W. Owens | How. Btry., 2/3 ACR |
| SPC Robert M. Friese | I Troop, 3/3 ACR |
| PFC Matthew J. England | M Company, 3/3 ACR |
| SSG Christian A. Garcia | HHT, Support Squadron, 3d ACR |
| SSG Quadi S. Hudgins | Maint. Troop, Support Squadron, 3d ACR |
| SSG John F. Burner III | 440th Signal Company |
| SSG Glenn M. Sewell | 6th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment |
| SSG Nicholas P. Bellard | 6th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment |
| SGT Matthew R. Gallagher | 6th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment |

**Appendix L**

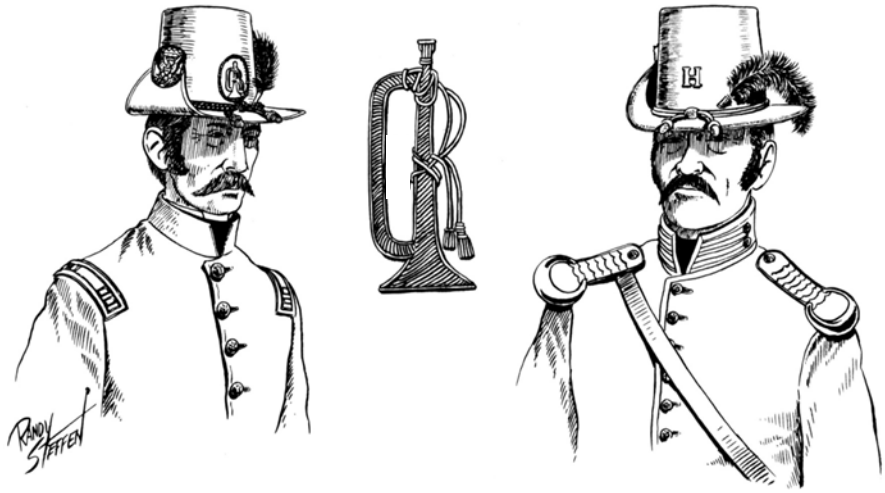
## ORGANIZATION OF THE REGIMENT

### U.S. Army Maneuver Branches and their branch insignia prior to the Civil War (1861)

Prior to the Civil War the U.S. Army had four maneuver branches, one dismounted (infantry) and three mounted arms of service.

Infantry 1775 | Dragoon 1832 | Mounted Riflemen 1846 | Cavalry 1855

### Regiment of Mounted Riflemen



May 1846- Regiment of Mounted Riflemen constituted by Congress
Aug 1861- Converted to 3d Cavalry Regiment (Horse)*
Jan 1943- Converted to 3d Cavalry Group (Mechanized)
Nov 1948- Converted to 3d *Armored* Cavalry Regiment
Nov 2011- Converted to 3d Cavalry Regiment (Stryker)

*In 1861 Congress consolidated all mounted branches under the branch of "Cavalry." Regimental designations were based on seniority of the Regiment. The 1st Dragoon (1832) became the 1st Cavalry, the 2d Dragoons (1836) became the 2d Cavalry, The Mounted Riflemen (1846) became the 3d Cavalry, the 1st Cavalry (1855) became the 4th Cavalry, and the 2nd Cavalry (1855) became the 5th Cavalry.

**History of the Guidon**

The guidon is a military standard that company or troop-sized elements carry to signify their unit designation. The guidon has been used throughout military history to act as a rallying point for troops and to mark the location of the unit commander. This tradition is believed to have originated in ancient Egypt and was reinforced when medieval armies emblazoned the commander's coat of arms on the unit standard. This practice served to keep units from being fragmented on the battlefield, thus increasing the chances of victory.

U.S. Army guidons conform to a swallow-tailed, versus a rectangular design, meaning that there is a triangular portion removed from the fly. According to Army Regulation 840-10, guidons are swallow-tailed marker flags in branch-of-service colors, measuring 20 inches at the hoist by 27 inches at the fly, with the swallow-tail end forked 10 inches. Previously guidons were made of wool bunting, and, if serviceable, these older versions may still be used. Current guidons are made of heavyweight rayon banner cloth. Exceptions to the use of branch colors for guidons are found in both the infantry and cavalry. Cavalry guidons are horizontally divided, scarlet over white, with troop letters and squadron/regimental numbers in white and scarlet, but no branch insignia.

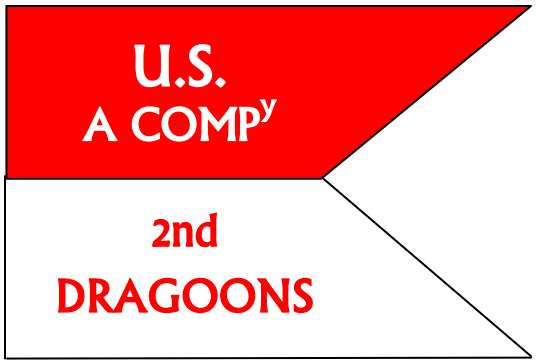
The significance of the guidon is that it represents the unit and its commanding officer. When the commander is in, his or her guidon is displayed for everyone to see. When he or she leaves for the day, the guidon is taken down. It is an honor to be the guidon carrier for a unit, known as a "guidon bearer" or "guide". He or she stands in front of the unit alongside of the commander (or the commander's representative), and is the rallying point for troops to fall into formation when the order is given. In drill and ceremonies, the guidon and commander are always in front of the formation.

The guidon is a great source of pride for the unit, and several military traditions have developed around it, stemming back from ancient times. Any sort of disgrace toward the guidon is considered a dishonor of the unit as a whole.

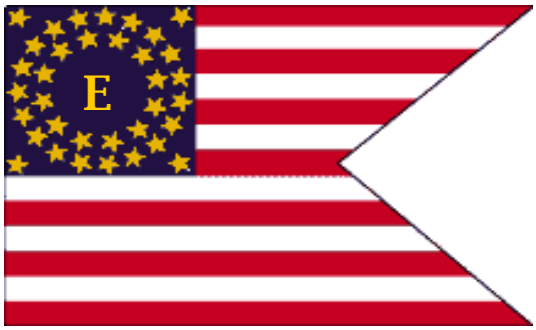
**Why are Cavalry Guidons Red over White?**

The tradition goes back to the Napoleonic Wars. When Napoleon invaded Poland, an elite formation of Polish mounted Lancers made a valiant last stand against France's Grande Armee in defense of Poland's sovereignty. Overwhelmed by the strength of the Grande Armee, the Polish cavalry was defeated. Napoleon was so impressed with their valor, courage, and skill that he gave the Polish Lancers a special place in the Grande Armee, always placing them at the decisive point of his attacks. From their lances flew a white over red small flag, the flag of Poland. Once integrated into the Grand Armee, as a symbol of loyalty to French Emperor they turned the flag over so that it was red over white. Eventually the British Army would face off against Napoleon. The British would also gain great respect for this Polish contingent that fought for Napoleon and because Red and White are the colors of St. George, the patron Saint of England, many English cavalry units adopted the Red over White small flags as a symbol of elite mounted forces of Great Britain.

When the U.S. established two regiments of Dragoons in the 1830s, this new mobile force needed a flag to help maintain command and control over large distance on the mobile battlefield. The default was to go back to our British roots and use the Red over White flag used by the British Cavalry during this era.

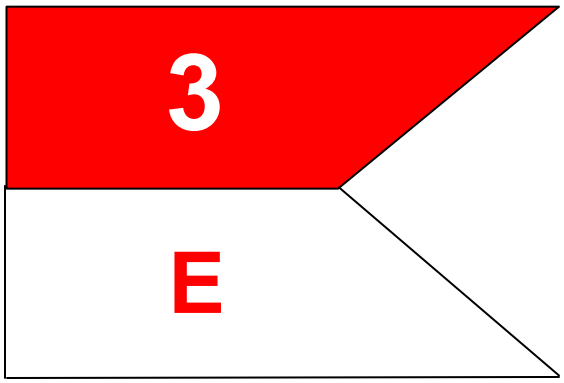



In August 1861 all U.S. mounted formations (Dragoon, Mounted Riflemen, and Cavalry) became consolidated under the branch of Cavalry and the Army regulation dictated that cavalry company guidons would be of small versions the National Colors in swallow tail form, with the company's unit designation (letter), embedded in the blue field with the stars.



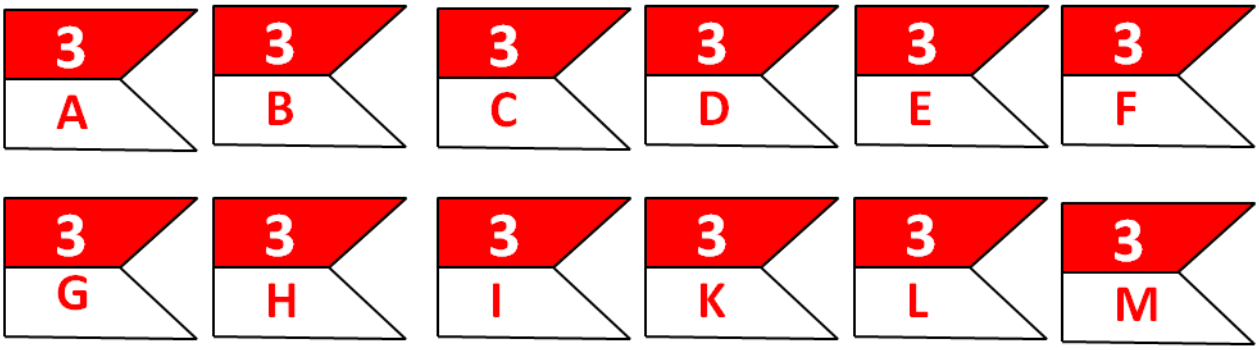

*In 1862 the U.S. Cavalry began using guidons similar in appearance to the United States flag (vice Red over White) to better distinguish Union from Confederate cavalry.*

This tradition continued until the regulation was changed in 1880 when all cavalry troops returned to the Red over White with the Regimental numeral in white on top and the troop letter designation in red on white on the bottom portion of the guidon.




In 1880, "companies" was changed to "troops" and the Red and White guidon was reintroduced as the unit symbol.

# Where is J-Troop?



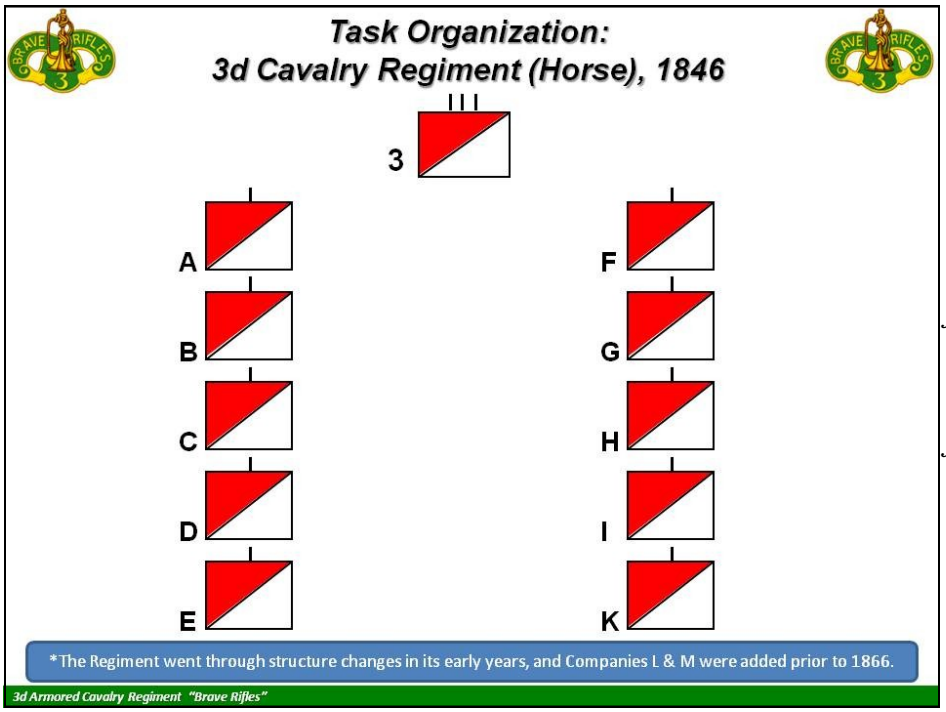

A regiment historically consisted of 12 troops, usually labeled from A to M. There was no J company. The letter J was traditionally not used because capital letters I and J looked alike in the handwriting of the day and were therefore too easily confused with one another. In fact, the Elizabethan alphabet had only 24 characters, and the same character was used for the letters I and J.

Letter "I" in Old English

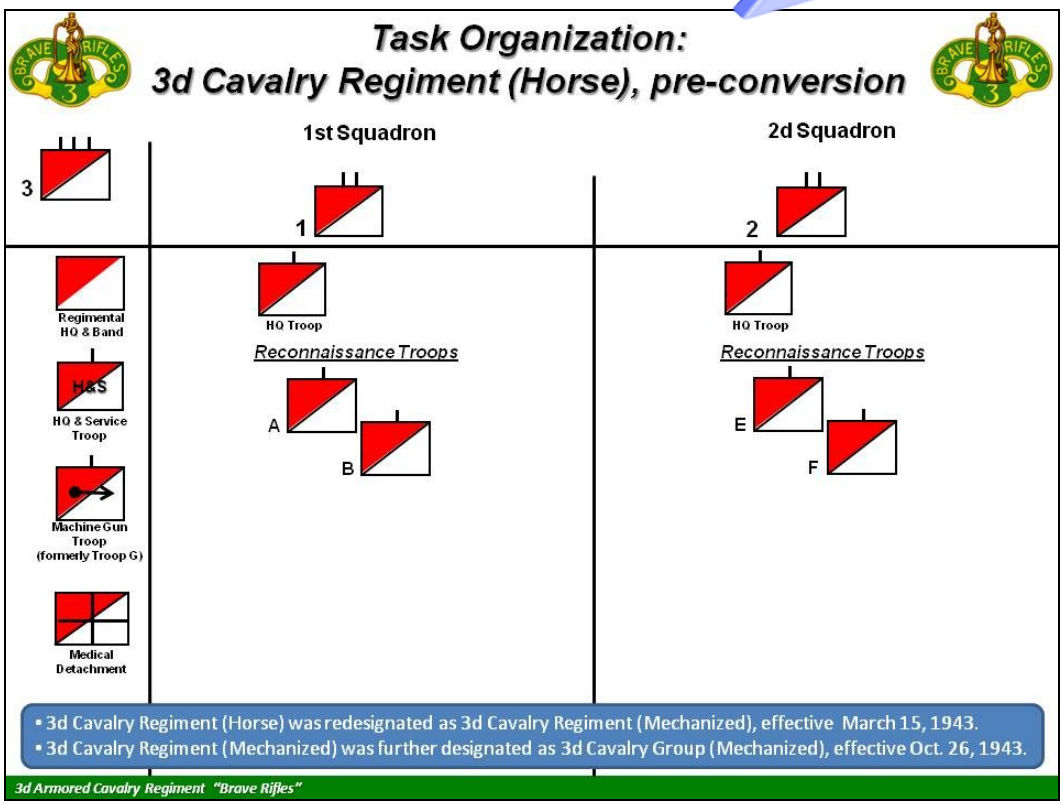
Letter "J" in Old English

## THE EVOLUTION OF THE CAVALRY REGIMENT

### From the Horse Cavalry of 1846 to the Horse Cavalry of 1943

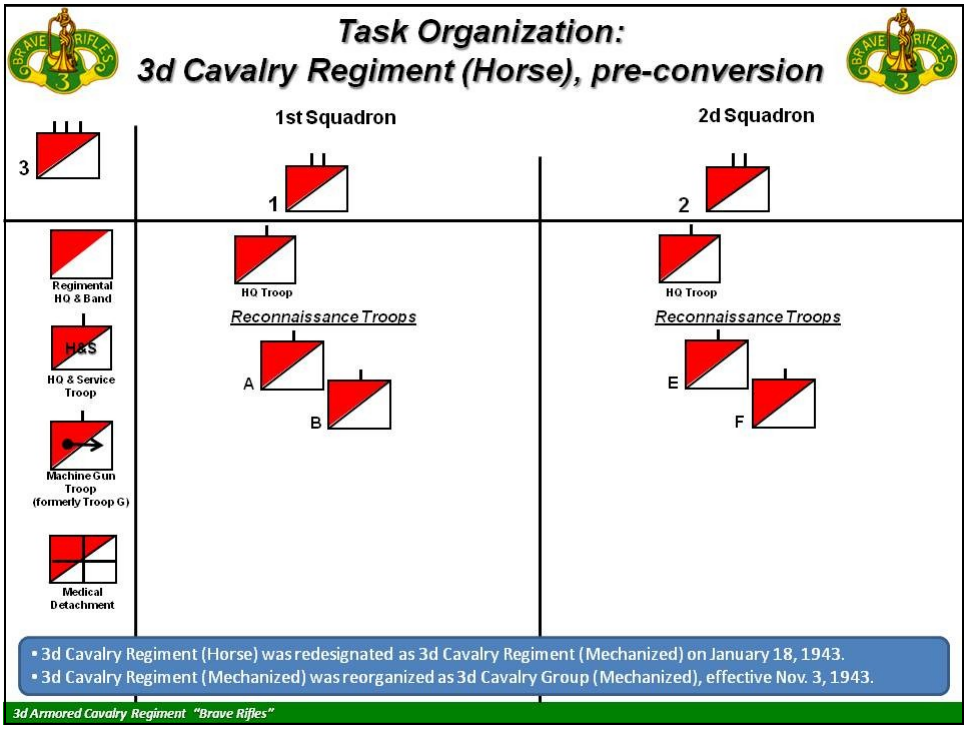



*Change has been a hallmark of the Regiment's history, as the Regiment of Mounted Rifleman has consistently adjusted to meet the demands of the nation and the battlefield.*

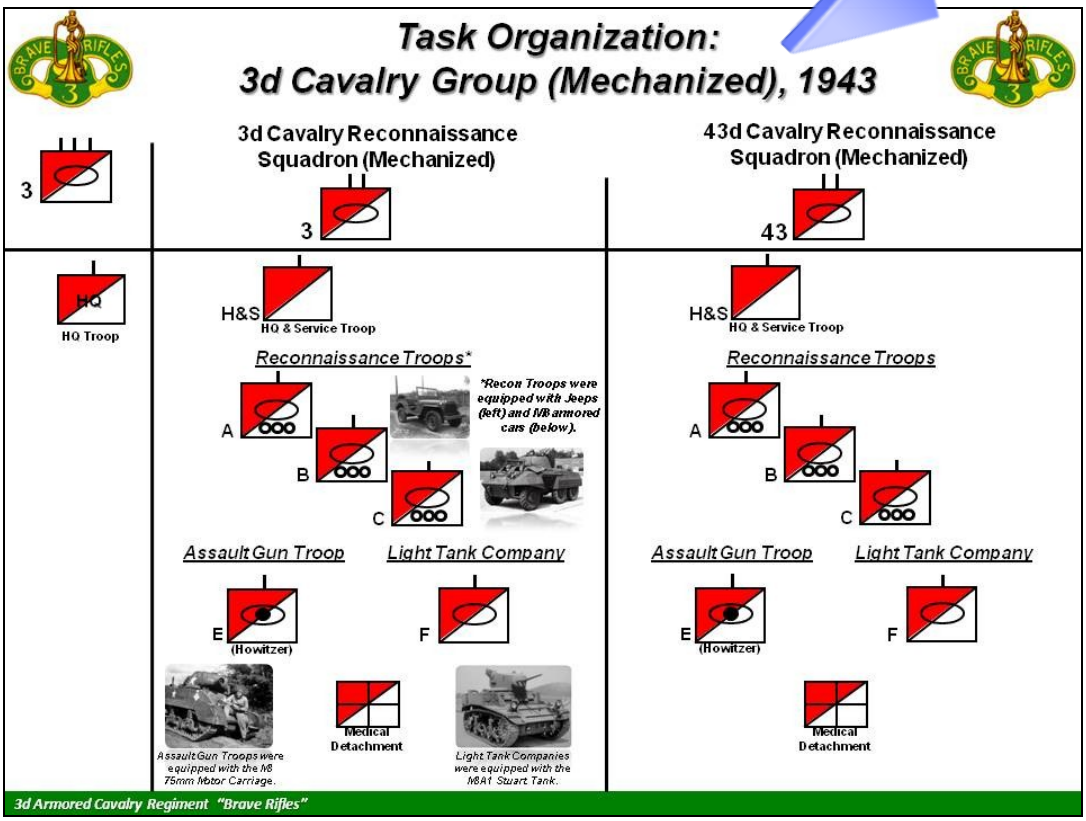


## THE EVOLUTION OF THE CAVALRY REGIMENT

### From Horse Cavalry to Cavalry Group (Mechanized)

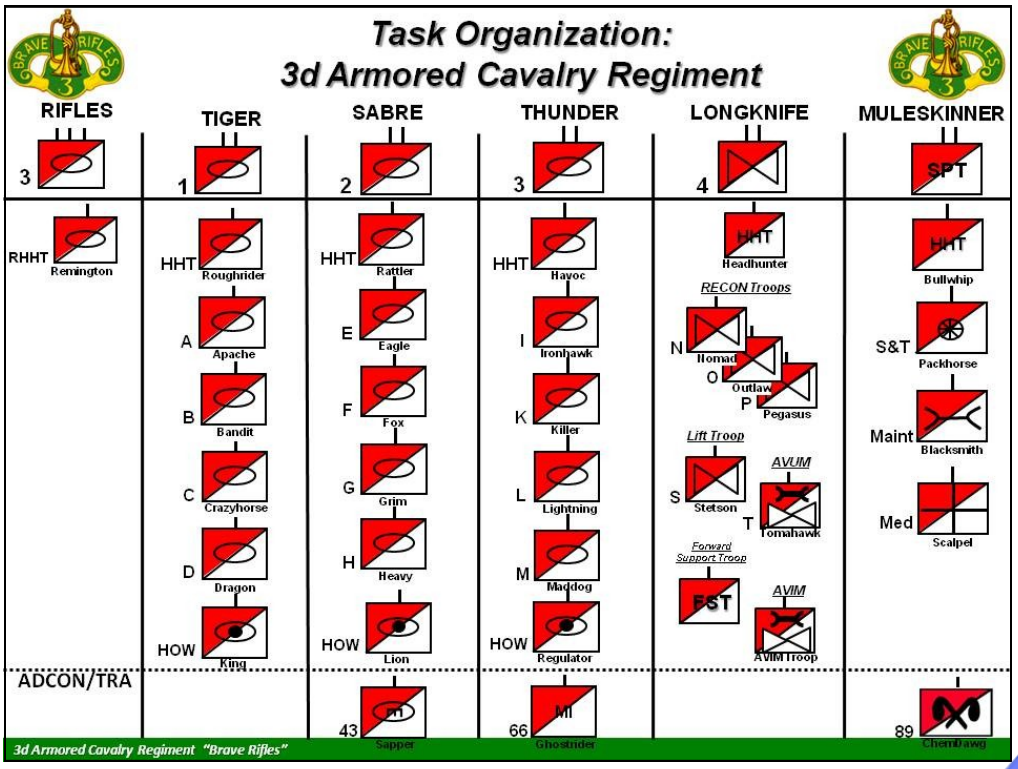


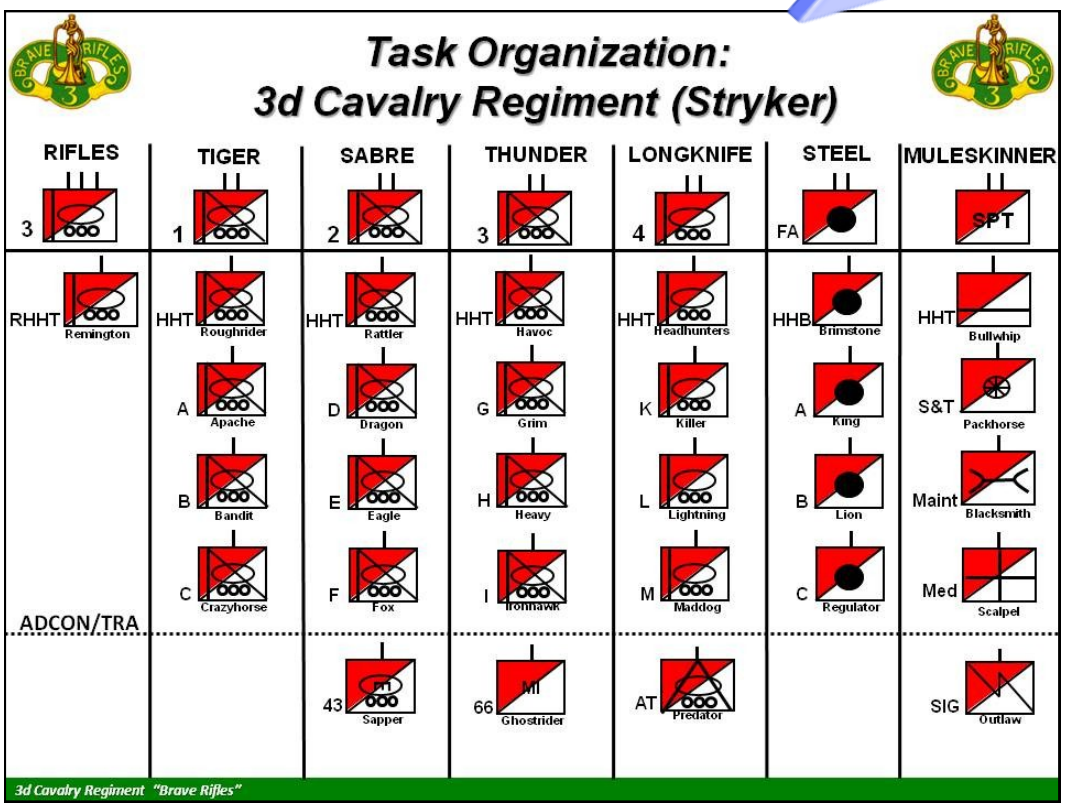

*Change has been a hallmark of the Regiment's history, as the Regiment of Mounted Rifleman has consistently adjusted to meet the demands of the nation and the battlefield.*



## THE EVOLUTION OF THE CAVALRY REGIMENT

### From Armored Cavalry Regiment to Stryker



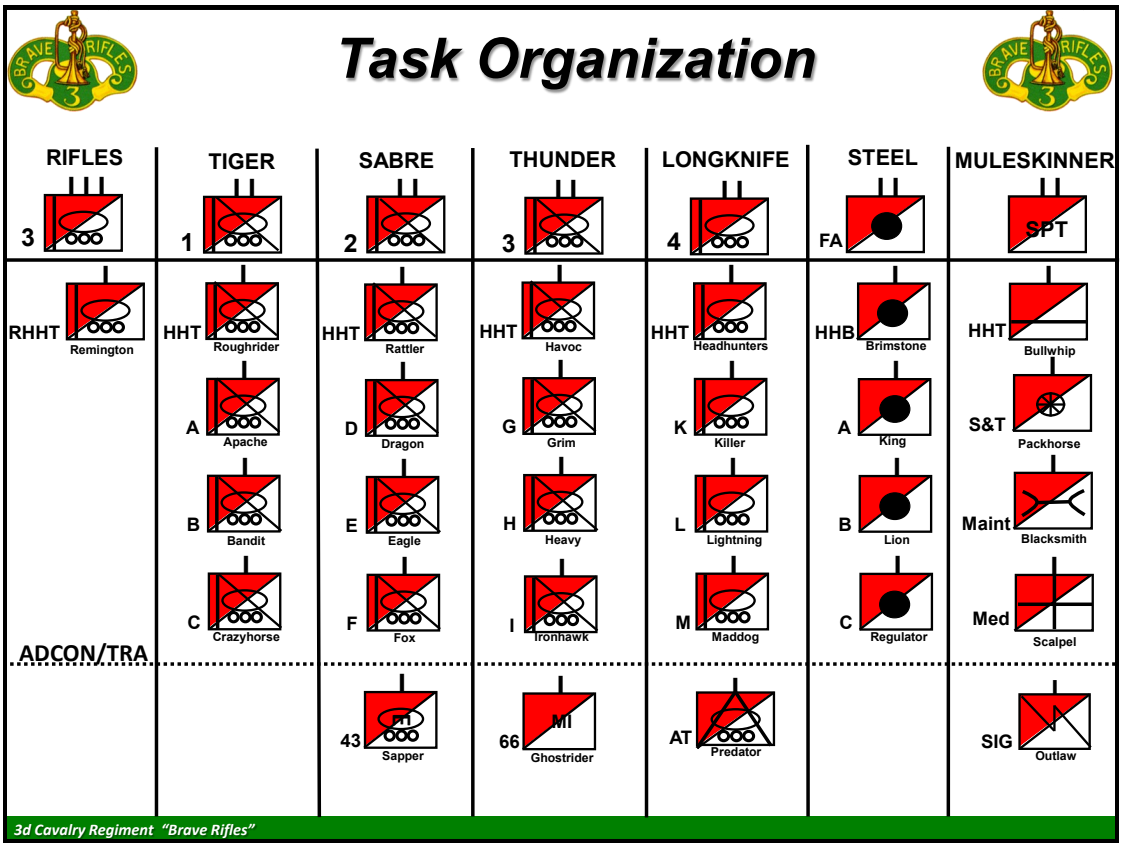



## CURRENT MISSION & ORGANIZATION OF THE REGIMENT

### 3d U.S. Cavalry Regiment Mission

*On Order, 3d CR rapidly deploys capable combined arms formations to execute decisive action anywhere and to accomplish any mission.*

### 3d U.S. Cavalry Regiment Task Organization



***STAY CAV!!***

***AI-EE-YAH!***