

# CALL ME SPEARHEAD

The Official Publication of the  
Association of 3d Armored Division Veterans

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Volume 13

## Crossing the Line in the Sand

### 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion 67<sup>th</sup> Armor Desert Storm Bandits By Timothy Reischl



Excerpted from Crossing the Line in the Sand: 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 67<sup>th</sup> Armor in Southwest Asia. Article published at the United States Army War College in 1993 by Lieutenant Colonel Timothy Reischl, who was the “Bandits” Desert Storm Commander.

#### Part 4

26 February 1991, with the Task Force deep into Iraq, heading east toward enemy contact with the “elite” Republican Guards. Orders have just been received from Division HQ with a change of mission.

Transmission of the frag order and dissemination down to company level took about one hour to accomplish, and the process was repeated several times over the next days. However, once the waypoints were received, land navigation became a simple matter of moving from waypoint to waypoint without the need to refer to a map. The GPS receivers, with their built-in capability to use the military grid reference system, were also useful in establishing target reference points for the call of indirect fire.

Almost immediately after the shift in the division axis, advance reports were received of enemy contact to the east and south in the 2d Armored Cavalry and 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade sectors. As the move east continued contact increased, with now the 2d Armored Cavalry and both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2d Brigades of the division in contact. The late afternoon twilight and early evening darkness of 26 February brought visible signs of very heavy contact, with gun flashes, secondary explosions from burning vehicles,

heavy artillery fires, and the arching rockets from MLRS launchers clearly visible forward of the task force. The bad weather of the early afternoon broke intermittently, but the cloud cover provided an eerie backdrop for the flashes of battle.

As the division reserve, and still not in contact, the task force and 3d Brigade had a clear view of the ongoing action. Just before dark the brigade was given a warning order for commitment into combat. The brigade was ordered to prepare to conduct a night forward passage of lines through the 2d brigade to assume the battle and continue east. Evidently, the 2d Brigade, which was the lead brigade in the division, had units running dangerously low on fuel.

The warning order induced a flurry of activity. Weapons were checked and final preparations made. Since it was to be a night passage of lines directly into combat, a very difficult operation, I directed that all unnecessary vehicles were to be stripped from the combat formation. Excess engineer vehicles, the air defense platoon and the mortar platoon were moved out of the combat diamond and placed with the command post behind the reserve company. In this way there would be only "killer" vehicles, infantry, and essential engineers forward in the combat formation, easing command and control in the darkness and lessening the possibility of fratricide.

The 3d Brigade's forward passage mission was postponed at 2000 hours, as 2d Brigade had successfully resupplied and was continuing its fight. The passage into the fight would take place in the morning. The task force continued to monitor the heavy contact across the division front most of the night, and heavy firing was also seen to the north in the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division sector. I directed the task force to remain at 50 percent alert and use a thermal watch in its night combat laager. Most personnel got a nervous few hours of sleep. Numerous vehicle sightings were made through the thermal sights, all were confirmed as friendly, and the possibility of fratricide was eliminated as each incident of vehicle movement outside the perimeter was investigated thoroughly, without any accidental engagement of friendly vehicles. The 3d Brigade moved approximately 60 kilometers on 26 February.

To facilitate the brigade passage of lines through 2d Brigade in the morning, Colonel Goff modified the brigade formation during the night. Task Force 5-5 Cavalry, an infantry task force previously assigned a division rear security mission, was attached to 3d Brigade on early 27 February to add more combat power. Additionally, 3-20 Field Artillery was given a reinforcing mission to 2-82 Field Artillery, adding a second battalion to the brigade's immediate artillery support. To maximize both maneuver space the amount of armor forward with such a large force Colonel Goff elected to use a brigade box formation, with the two armor task forces leading, two infantry task forces trailing, and the artillery battalions in the center of the formation. The battalions moved into this formation during the night.

Orders, waypoints, and graphics for the operation were distributed by brigade in the early hours of 27 February. The 3d Brigade mission was to pass through the 2d Brigade, attack on line with the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade on its right, and continue the attack through two objectives, Dorset and Minden, to a limit of advance about 50 kilometers to the east. The brigade was to destroy all forces in zone.

I issued an oral order at the task force command post at 0430 hours. Because of the proximity to execution time there was no time for extensive meetings or rehearsals. Company commanders received my commander's intent, the scheme of maneuver, waypoints for the navigation devices, and fire support information. Execution by task force SOP was the only way to accomplish the mission with minimum confusion. By first light the task force was prepared to execute its mission.

To the east, on the front line with 2d Brigade, the fighting had died down during the night. Colonel Goff had collocated his combat vehicle with that of Colonel Bob Higgins, the 2d Brigade commander,

and was making final coordination for lanes, guides, and fire support during the passage. Just after daylight, as a result of his coordination with Colonel Higgins and seeing the situation up close, Colonel Goff changed the brigade formation to mass more combat power forward during the attack. He elected to use the brigade wedge formation with three task forces (TF 5-18, TF 2-67, TF 4-67) in the wedge and TF 5-5 Cavalry in reserve. Because of the previous positioning of the task force, TF 5-18 was brought up onto the left flank of the brigade, while TF 2-67 headed the wedge. TF 4-67 occupied the right flank position, out of its accustomed position at the head of the brigade. The new frag order and waypoints to support the new brigade formation were complete and distributed by 0630 hours.

## Membership Report

Members Joined	582
Lifetime Memberships	204
Annual Memberships	353
Associate Memberships	14
Memberships inactive	<119>
Members who have passed away	<11>
Active Members	451

## New Members

The following new members have joined since our last newsletter:

Steven Borts	36 IN 3/HHC & C	John Meuser	8 CAV 3/A
Robert Christie	33 AR 2/F	Jason Phillips	32 AR 4/D
Dean Mitchell	122 Ordnance B	Harold Fischer	33 AR 2/HHC
Edward Paliatka	51 IN B	Edward Call	13 CAV 2MTB
Bertrand Close	32 AR 3/HHC	Thomas Griffin	HHC 3AD
John Cashman	57 AAA/D	Jerry Guthrie	HHC CCB
John DeRiggi	32 AR/E	Frank Zabawa	36 IN 2/A
Thomas Pinckney	HHC 1 BDE	Gerald Winkelman	32 AR 1/HHC
Harold Watts	32 AR/H	Edward Marquardt	
Paul Lawrence, Sr.	46 IN 2/D	James McDonough	33 AR 3/C
Luis Lomas	67 AR 4/B		
Christopher O'Meara	83 REC BN/B		
Derrick Peterson	6 FA 2/HHB		
Charles Lahmeyer	503 ADMIN CO		
Donald Feldman	23 EN		
Harold Douglas	36 IN 2/HHC		
Steven Bell	32 AR 2/HHC		
Richard Modzeleski	391 AFA/C		
Arturo Jaramillo	3 FA 2/A		
James Baggest	83 RCN BN		
Kenneth Blew	40 FA 6/HHB		
Charles Burdette	HHB DivArty		
William Hamm	HHC CCC		
John Meuser	8 CAV 3/A		

**Association of 3d Armored Division Veterans**  
**Profit & Loss**  
**April 1, 2002 through January 1, 2003\***

Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Merchandise Sales	7,961.40
Interest Earned	75.13
Membership Annual	4,872.00
Membership Lifetime	1,550.00
Postage Used	399.12
Reunion 2002 Income	7,348.70
Total Income	22,206.35
Cost of Goods Sold	
Merchandise Costs	6,402.66
Office Supplies	275.68
Postage Costs	399.09
Total Cost of Goods Sold	7,077.43
Gross Profit	15,128.92
Expense	
Bank Charges	322.17
Board Meeting Expenses	275.52
Miscellaneous	1,641.94
Newsletter Costs	700.08
Reunion 2002 Expenses	9,921.65
Reunion 2003 Expenses	465.00
Web Site Expenses	1,274.25
Total Expense	14,600.61
Net Ordinary Income	528.31
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Donations	563.55
Total Other Income	563.55
Net Other Income	563.55
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>1,091.86</b>

\*Association Fiscal Yr. = April 1 to March 31

**ASSOCIATION OF 3<sup>D</sup> ARMORED DIVISION VETERANS  
2003 REUNION - SEATTLE, WASHINGTON**

*(see event details of events on following pages)*

**PROGRAM OVERVIEW – (See details on next page)**

**Wednesday, 16 July 2003:**

1700 - 2200 Registration

1900 - 2400 Social Gathering in Hospitality Suite (*Spearheader Biergarten*)

**Thursday, 17 July 2003**

0700 - 0900 Complementary hot breakfast buffet for registered guests at hotel

0800 - 0845 Registration

0900 - 1630 Seattle City Tour (includes box lunch)

1630 - 1800 Registration

1800 - 2100 German Dinner Buffet at Hawthorne Suites

2100 - 2400 Social Gathering in Hospitality Suite

**Friday, 18 July 2003**

0700 - 0900 Complementary hot breakfast buffet for registered guests at hotel

0800 - 0900 Registration

*Alternate programs - select one:*

0900 - 1630 Ft. Lewis Trip (includes lunch at Officers' Club) OR

1000 - 1630 Tillicum Northwest Indian Village and Harbor Boat Tour (includes lunch)

1800 - 2000 Dinner Buffet at Hawthorne Suites: Tribute to WW2 vets, guest speaker Bert Close

2000 - 2400 Social Gathering in Hospitality Suite

**Saturday, 19 July 2003**

0700 - 0900 Complementary hot breakfast buffet for registered guests at hotel

*Alternate programs - select one:*

0900 - 1100 Association Business Meeting OR

0900 - 1100 Family/Spouse activity

1130 - 1230 Buffet sandwich lunch at Hawthorne Suites

*Alternate programs - select one:*

1300 - 1700 – bus drop off and pick-up at entrance to Boeing Museum of Flight

1300 - 1700 – bus trip to Columbia Winery tour and wine tasting

1800 - 1900 Cocktail reception

1900 - 2130 Reunion Banquet Buffet at Hawthorne Suites: Tribute to Gulf War vets, guest speaker Rod Thomas

2000 - 2400 Social Gathering Meeting Room in Hospitality Suite

**Sunday, 20 July 2003 (Departure or continue your Seattle visit)**

***Program details on next page***

## REUNION HOTEL

**Hawthorne Suites**, 6329 South 212 th Street. Kent, Washington 98032. Tel: (253) 395-3800 FAX: (253) 395-3022. Located 4.5 miles from airport with shuttle service and free parking, features one and two-bedroom suites with full kitchens, free hot buffet breakfast, fireplaces, free evening cocktail reception, outdoor pool, exercise room, hot tub, tennis, in-suite movies/cable, laundromat on site, valet service, handicap accessible, complimentary USA today, voicemail & dataports, convenience store business services (fax / overnight mail). Special reunion rates: \$89.00/night + tax <http://www.hawthorn.com/index.asp?go=reservations/locationdetail.asp?facid=244>

## PROGRAM DETAILS

### **Social Gathering (Wednesday through Saturday evenings)**

Meet other SPEARHEADERS and their families in the “*Biergarten*” room with tables, chairs, and plenty of free keg beer to those who register. Bring your SPEARHEAD beer stein!. Share your scrapbooks and memories as you and your family meets old friends and makes new ones. This is one of the most popular features of the reunion.

### **Daily Breakfast Buffet (Daily)**

This is a full hot breakfast buffet, complementary for registered guests of the Hawthorne Suites.

### **Seattle Bus Tour with box lunch at Chittenden Locks/Salmon Ladder (Thursday day trip)**

The tour bus with guide will pick us up at the hotel then drive along the waterfront with its import shops and fresh seafood restaurants, into historic Pioneer Square. This area, one of Seattle's oldest, features early 1900's architecture, much of which has been renovated into wonderful art galleries and specialty shops. Next is the International District where Pacific Rim cultural influence abound, even the street lights have an Asian style. Continue along Lake Washington for the first stop at Hiram Chittenden Locks and Salmon Ladder for lunch. The locks are an engineering feat which connects saltwater Puget Sound with freshwater Lake Union. The salmon ladder features the seasonal migration of salmon returning to their parent streams to spawn. Next, to Magnolia Bluff where the view of Puget Sound is breathtaking. The last stop is the world famous Pike Place Farmers Market. Vendors from all around our region come to the market to showcase their wares. You'll have the opportunity to browse and hopefully find a perfect souvenir of Seattle. This tour will be provided by Convention Services Northwest which is highly regarded in the Seattle area but must have a minimum of thirty. Registration for this tour and lunch is on a separate form sent to the tour service with a payment of \$40.00.

### **German Dinner Buffet (Thursday evening at the Hawthorne Suites)**

Schweinelende Chalote (*Shallot Encrusted Roasted Pork Loin*), Bratwurst in Bierteig (Beer Roasted Bratwurst), Bratkartoffelen (*German Fried Potatoes*), Roter Kohl (*Red Cabbage*), Sauerkraut, Deutches Brot (German Bread) Senf (German Mustard), Appelauf (Apple Crisp Loaf), Viele Getränke (*Assorted drinks soft drinks and water*) - bring your own beer or wine (and Spearhead Stein!). We are trying to line up German music entertainment.

### **Fort Lewis Trip (Friday day trip)**

A convenient bus ride south of the hotel will be a day at Ft. Lewis, I Corps Headquarters. Ft. Lewis is on the forefront of the Army's transformation, taking the army from the late 1990's to where it will be in 2010 and beyond in the post-cold war/terrorist world. Included in the tour will be a Army Transformation Briefing, Stryker Combat Vehicle "hands on" briefing, displays of M-113 Armored Personnel Carrier, M-1 Abrams tank, and new infantry weapons. Lunch at Cascade Community Club (formerly Officer's Club), a 3<sup>d</sup> Armored Division Memorial Service, and the Fort Lewis Military Museum will be key events.

### **Northwest Indian Village and Harbor Boat Tour (Friday day tour)**

For those not wishing to visit Ft. Lewis, we have arranged for a unique Northwest experience. A 4-hours narrated harbor cruise, a delicious buffet lunch featuring traditional Indian-style baked salmon, a spectacular Indian stage show, "Dance on the Wind," and time to explore the forested trails and picturesque beach walks on Blake Island State Park. This tour will also be provided by Convention Services Northwest which will bus us to Seattle's Central Waterfront Pier 55 for departure and return. This tour has been highly recommended by those who have taken it, but will require a minimum of 30. The cost is \$71 per person inclusive, and sign-up is on the separate form provided by, and sent directly to Convention Services Northwest.

### **Buffet Banquet; World War II tribute (Friday evening at the Hawthorne Suites)**

We have invited as guest speaker Mr. Bert Close, SPEARHEAD M-4 "Sherman" tank ace Sgt Lafayette's Pool's hull gunner. At the dinner, plans for the 2004 joint reunion with the WWII 3<sup>d</sup> Armored Division Association veterans will be discussed. The dinner will be an Italian Buffet featuring Chicken Piccata with Almond Rice Pilaf, Smoked Salmon Penne with a mushroom and Garlic Alfredo Sauce, Green Salad with Assorted Dressings, Rolls with Butter, Assorted Dinner Dessert Tray, Coffee, Tea , and Decaf (bring your own Vino Italiano Chanti!)

### **Association Business Meeting (Saturday Morning)**

Open to all members and participants. Reports on the Association, future plans, election of officers, views and business brought forward by the members

### **Family/spouse activity or free time (Saturday Morning)**

Family members who do not wish to attend the business meeting can use this as free time, or attend an activity yet to be determined.

### **Buffet Sandwich/Salad Lunch (Saturday Noon)**

Light sandwiches and soda before afternoon winery/museum bus trip

**Columbia Winery Tour (Saturday Afternoon)** The "Napa Valley of Washington," located north of Seattle in the small town of Woodinville, is home to many premier wineries of the Pacific Northwest. A bus will take us to the nearby countryside for a tour and tasting at beautiful Columbia Winery. Upon arrival you will be given a free tour through the winery and view the wine making process first hand. After the tour, wine tasting will be offered of selected wines at the tasting bar. Following this tasting you may explore the extensive Manor and browse through the gift shop.

**Boeing Museum of Flight (Saturday Afternoon)** The Wine Tour bus will drop off and pick up for those wishing to visit the Museum of Flight on the way to the winery. This exhibit within the historic walls of the original Boeing "Red Barn" tells the story of flight. Within the Great Gallery, soaring six stories high, nearly 50 historically important planes are on display. Discover tales of the first airmail flights, the birth of an airline, the huge flying boats and the daredevil pilots who conceived and flew the these historic airplanes. You'll have the opportunity to see the Wright Glider, famed World War I utility aircraft, classic biplane fighters and early day rockets. The classic movie "Dream," narrated by

Walter Cronkite, is shown in the theater on a continuing basis along with other. There is an approximate \$9.50 entrance fee for adults charged by the museum which is not covered in the bus transportation fee.

**Saturday Night Reception** A reception with cash bar before the banquet.

**Buffet Banquet; Gulf War Tribute (Saturday evening at the Hawthorne Suites)**

The Guest speaker will be COL Rod Thomas, (Ret), who will speak of his experiences with SPREARHEAD before and during the war. The French inspired buffet will feature Dijonnaise Beef a La Bourguignon, Chicken Fricassee, Green Salad with Mixed Dressing, Sautéed Seasonal Vegetables, Assorted Dessert Tray, Bread Basket, Assorted Sodas and Water - bring your own wine or beer to enjoy after the cash bar closes.

# A3ADV REUNION REGISTRATION FORM - SEATTLE 16-19 JULY 2003

**Veteran's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Email address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Arriving on (check one):** \_\_\_\_\_ Wed \_\_\_\_\_ Thurs \_\_\_\_\_ Fri \_\_\_\_\_ Sat

**Names of guests and relationship for nametags:** i.e. Mary Smith (wife), Bill Smith (son)

**Registration (required for all attending any Association activities):**

- Veterans.....\$35.00 per person \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - Guests registered with a veteran.....\$20.00 per person \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- (How Many?) (Total Cost)

*Select from the following meal and activity options (must be registered above);*

**Meals:**.....\$84.00 per person \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Includes Thurs, Fri, & Sat dinners plus Sat, lunch. (save \$6.00) (How Many?) (Total Cost)

**Meals and Association Conducted Activities:**.....\$131.00 per person \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Includes Thurs, Fri, & Sat dinners plus Sat, lunch. (How Many?) (Total Cost)

- Friday Fort Lewis Trip including lunch on post
- Saturday Boeing Museum of Flight and Winery transportation. The museum has an additional \$9.50 entrance fee – the Columbia Winery tour admission is free (save \$12.00) *Note: for those taking the Tillicum Village & Harbor Tour Trip, the Registration + Meals option is recommended with the Winery Tour a la carte.*

**A la Carte Meals and Activities (must be registered):**

- |  | (How Many?)              | (Total Cost) |
|--|--------------------------|--------------|
| • Thursday Night German Buffet Dinner.....   | \$30.00 per person _____ | = \$ _____   |
| • Friday Ft Lewis Tour and Lunch .....   | \$38.00 per person _____ | = \$ _____   |
| • Friday Night Buffet Dinner.....  | \$25.00 per person _____ | = \$ _____   |
| • Saturday Sandwich Lunch.....   | \$10.00 per person _____ | = \$ _____   |
| • Saturday Boeing Museum/Winery bus transportation.....  | \$15.00 per person _____ | = \$ _____   |
| • Saturday Night Reunion Banquet.....  | \$25.00 per person _____ | = \$ _____   |
| • <i>Seattle City Tour and Tillicum Village tour conducted by<br/>Convention Services Norwest – see note at bottom</i> |                          |              |

Total of all of above: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Add 15% if payment made after April 15, 2003: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Add 25% if payment made after June 1, 2003: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check Amount Enclosed:

**Credit Card Charge Amount (provide your card information below):** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Card Type (circle one):    Discover                  Visa                  MasterCard

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year

Authorization Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Send application and payment to: A3ADV, PO Box 681486, Indianapolis, IN 46268-1486**

**Note: Thursday Seattle City Tour and Friday Tillicum Village and Harbor Tours** are provided by Conventions Services Northwest Inc, and subject to a minimum of 30 or subject to cancellation. Reservations for tours must be made by mailing their registration form directly to them using the separate form provided. **This form reserves no tours or hotel rooms.**



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