

34th Infantry Division Association

Association WEB Page:
www.34ida.org

7105 NW 70th Ave, Cp Dodge, Bldg 3692
Johnston, IA 50131



Spring 2024 Issue -
The 34th ID Assn. newsletter is
published three times a year.

Red Bulls to Deploy to the Middle East

Feb 6, 2024, By Staff Sgt. Mahsima Alkamooneh,
34th Red Bull Infantry Division

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. - Family and friends of more than 550 Red Bull Soldiers gathered Feb. 1 for a departure ceremony honoring the Minnesota National Guard's 34th Infantry Division "Red Bulls" and their upcoming deployment to the Middle East.

The Red Bulls will spend nearly 10 months away from their homes supporting Operation Spartan Shield. The unit will train in Texas before heading overseas.

The Red Bulls will take over for the California Guard's 40th Infantry Division, becoming Task Force Spartan, comprising active Army and National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve units. Through Operation Spartan Shield, Task Force Spartan maintains a U.S. military posture in Southwest Asia, strengthening defense relationships and partner capacity.

"You know that each and every day your warriors walk out the door, it's a risk," said Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz. "But what I can assure you is, there is no better trained, better equipped, and better ready unit in the world to take on this mission than the 34th Infantry Division."

Spanning 216 communities throughout Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota, Virginia, Colorado, California, Florida, Louisiana, Maryland, New Jersey and Texas, the Red Bull Soldiers will make their way to Fort Cavazos, Texas, for a month of pre-mobilization training. They return home from the Middle East in December.

"Thank you to the families, friends, civilian employers and community members who have come here today to support their Citizen-Soldier," said Army Maj. Gen. Charles Kemper, the 34th Infantry Division's commanding general.

The Red Bulls previously deployed in support of Operation Spartan Shield in 2018-19. More than half of the service members deploying this year have previously deployed. (Continued page 6)

34th Inf Div Assn. Reunion Cp Ripley, 4-5 Oct 2024

This year's 77th Reunion of our Association is being hosted by Commanders Own Chapter on October 4-5, 2024 at Camp Ripley, MN.

The Camp Ripley Training Center (CRTC) is a 53,000-acre training base operated by the Minnesota National Guard (MNNG) and is located 10 miles North of Little Falls, MN on Highway 371 in the heart of Minnesota's vacation area.

CRTC is home to MNNG Logistics, CFMO, RTI, USP&FO, and units of the 34th Infantry Division, along with the Minnesota Military Museum.

THE ARRANGEMENTS

Lodging: Lodging is available on both Friday and Saturday evening at Camp Ripley or at any civilian Motel in Little Falls, MN.

Camp Ripley offers BOQ Rooms with Full size beds at \$34 per night. The Camp Ripley billeting number is 320-616-3140. Please mention the 34ID Association Reunion when calling.

The Little Falls community has a number of lodging options available, go to the Little Falls Convention and Visitors website:
<https://www.littlefallsmn.com/stay/>.

Transportation:

Attendees are responsible to self-transport to/from CRTC. From the Minneapolis Airport there is a shuttle operated by Groome Transportation, link:

https://groometransportation.com/minneapolis-st-paul-airport/brainerd/?&sd_client_id=6b877a95-1deb-45ac-ba62-049b8c162b3b

There are two requirements to attend the reunion.

1. CRTC: Send in your Reunion Registration form, located in this newsletter. NLT September 15, 2024
 2. Make a hotel reservation – NLT: Sep 15, 2024
- Final details and any updated information will be posted to our 34th Association website, link:
<http://www.34ida.org> (Continued on pages 5 & 9)



Spring 2024

Greetings To Our 34th Infantry Division Association Members.

As you read this Spring Newsletter, the 34th ID Red Bull Soldiers will be well into their mission in the Middle East Theater of Operations. Operation Spartan Shield is a USCENTCOM operation in the Middle East, and is commanded by United States Army Central and includes units from all service branches. Our 34th Infantry Division, is the U.S. Army component of Task Force Spartan Shield. My thanks to the PAO staff from the division and also to LTC Jay Hackett, Commander of the HHBN, Task Force Spartan for your articles. LTC Hackett took the time to send me a summary of their post-mob training and their forward deployment to theater. God Speed to you LTC Hackett and the soldiers of Task Force Spartan.

As usual, we have a lot of information in this Newsletter to keep you up to date about the current missions and information about our Red Bull Soldiers as well as delving into our past history. LTC (Ret) James Meade provided an interesting article about his love for flying and history recalling the 34th ID's history in Italy flying spotter planes. And then he built a replica airplane! Read it!

The 34th ID had two units safely return from Southern Border missions this past 6 months, the 113th Cav Squadron (pp7) and the 682nd Engineer BN. I sat in a mission presentation from the 682nd during one of the Commander's Own membership meetings in March. These border missions are incredibly complex, have a huge AO and a lot of moving parts regarding federal and state government agencies. Job Well Done by both of these "Red Bull" units!

This is the last official newsletter put together by COL (Ret) Russ Bierl, the Secretary for the 34th ID Association for more than 20 years! We will name the new secretary before the next annual conference, so there is still time to volunteer for this position. Russ added two interesting articles, one about the Iranian drone attack in Jordan injuring 41 Guard soldiers and one about the Army naming its newest combat vehicle, the M10 Booker, after a 34th ID soldier and Medal of Honor recipient, PVT Robert D. Booker. Our own CSMs Josh Luck, Lucas Queck and PFC Lance Boicourt attended the ceremony. Thanks COL Bierl!

Finally, thanks to the Commander's Own Chapter here in MN and President Chad Sackett for hosting this year's reunion on Oct 4-5 at Camp Ripley. Included in this newsletter is all the registration, lodging and transporting information. The reunion starts Friday, with a social at the Viking Club and Saturday with a full day for the business meetings, guest speakers, Camp Ripley and museum tours and the reunion banquet. The following day, Sunday, is the Camp Ripley Memorialization Induction if you're interested. I'll see you at the reunion!

Attack Attack Attack

MG (Ret) Jerry Lang – President
34th Infantry Division Association
jerry.lang52@outlook.com (320) 250-3754

34th Infantry Division Final Roll Call

Winter 2024

Tom Walton 682nd Engr Bn 34th Inf Div
Ramon Osthus 34th & 47th Inf Division
Jorge L. Nazario, MN, 34th Inf Division
Mike McKeon, 1-194th AR, 34th Inf Div
James L Wolcott, 47th/34th Inf Division
H. Jack Knight, 34th DIV Aety, 34th Inf Div
Lyle C. Doerr, 47th / 34th Inf Division
SGT Sheridan Draz, 151 FA, 34th Inf Div
John D. Cutler, Co C 1-133rd Inf, 34th ID
Frederick "Fred" J. Fillman 133Inf 34th ID
Harvey H. Harmsen Jr, MN ARNG 34th ID
Larry Dean Williams, 34th Infantry Division
Timon W. Davison, Chap 34th Inf Div
Trenton Lumley, 113th Cav, 34th Inf Div
Donald Kinna, HHC 2nd IBCT, 34th Inf Div
Mark Good, 168th Inf, 34th Infantry Div
Robert "Bob" D. Howe 185 FA, 194 Cav 34ID

Spring 2024

Philip Michael Broderick, 168th Inf 34th ID
Paul Bartley, 234th Sig, 185th FA Bn 34th ID
Bill Carstens, 2-133rd Inf Bn, Mob 1968 34ID
David L. Winchester, 34th MP's
Tim W. Davison, 34th Inf Bde, 34th Inf Div
Wayne W. Jarrard, 1-133rd Inf Bn, 34th Inf Div
Don Matsuda, A Co, 100th Inf Bn, 34th Inf Div
Larry D. Walters, Troop D, 194th Cav Sq, 34ID
Lee Donald Lingren, 185th FA Bn, 34th Inf Div
Larry Hanshaw, 34th Inf Div Band, 34th Inf Div
Gary L. Handeland, C/ 1-133 Inf Regt 34th ID
James Klemm, B/ 1-194th FA Bn 34th Inf Div
Michael Scheetz, HHC, 224th Engr Bn, 34th ID

Final Roll Call Prayer

*May they have no
more hills to climb,
nor cold, nor rain, nor mud,
nor enemy fire,
and may they now rest in Peace.*

National Office-34th Infantry Division Association

Iowa Gold Star Museum, Camp Dodge - Bldg 3692,
7105 NW 70TH Ave, Johnston, IA 50131
Association Website <http://www.34IDA.org>

77th Reunion 4-5 Oct - 2024 Camp Ripley MN

Newsletter Secretary LTC (Ret) Jeremy De Gier jeremy.degier@gmail.com

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Facebook Manager: CW5 (Ret) Herman Poggensee, pogjack@gmail.com

Website, Historian: MSG (Ret) Daniel Ewer justcallmesarge@gmail.com

Facebook 34th Inf Div Assn: <https://www.facebook.com/34InfDivAssoc>

Internet 34th Inf Div Assn: <http://www.34IDA.org>

Also, follow Red Bulls at

1st ABCT: <http://www.facebook.com/MinnesotaRedBulls>

2nd IBCT: <http://www.facebook.com/iowaRedBulls> <http://www.dvidshub.net/units/2-34IBCT>
<http://www.twitter.com/iowaRedBulls> <http://www.flickr.com/iowaRedBulls>

Retired Army Officer Builds Replica FA WWII Spotter Plane

by LTC (Ret) James Meade

This is a story about my love of flying, serving in the U.S. Army, and reading WWII historical combat stories of the 34th Infantry Division fighting in Italy.

My plane looks like an old WWII “War Bird,” but it is actually a modern aircraft I built from a kit, and made it look like a Field Artillery, OP Spotter plane on purpose.

When I was a ten-year-old farm boy filling an ear corn crib on a sunny October Saturday, I often watched the small airplanes flying overhead to an Iowa Hawkeye football game. I yearned to fly, but I knew my eye sight would keep me out of military flying so it wasn’t until 1972 that I earned a civilian private pilot certificate. Eventually, I became a civilian flight instructor and later flew small jet charter planes. I never did fly as a military pilot.

Thirty-two years after I retired from the U.S. Army, I found myself back on the family farm and decided I had to get a small airplane of my own. I already had a plane that my wife and I had flown around the U.S. to visit family and friends, but I wanted something different.

My dream plane had to fly off of my farm and land on rough terrain. The best way to get my plane was to build one from a kit. I chose a Rans S-7S. The layout would be a high-wing, tandem seat, tail wheel plane rather like a Piper Cub. I remembered that Army L-4 spotter planes in WWII were a military version of the Piper Cub, so I whimsically decided to dress my plane up like something not seen since the Cub flew in WWII, but what unit should it represent?

A happy part of my military service was in the Iowa Army National Guard (IARNG). My assignments included Assistant S-4, 34th Inf Bde; HHC Cdr, 34th Ind Bde, CO Troop C 1/194 Cav and S-3, 1-133 Inf Bn. I’ve always loved military history and the Iowa ARNG in my heart, as was with the 34th Division. Why not honor the 34th Division’s aerial history by making my new plane look like an aircraft the 34th Infantry Division used in combat?

My plane is not a Piper Cub, or what the US Army called the O-59, later L-4, but it looks like one at a glance. I decided to dress it in the same livery as a 34th Infantry Division L-4. That means olive drab fabric cover and the markings used by a 34th Division spotter plane in Italy.

If my plane’s livery was to honor the 34th Infantry Division, it had to look reasonably accurate. It is possible to get in passionate arguments about the exact shade of olive drab, the exact placement of insignia, and whether certain markings are official or the whim a local command. In the end, I consulted the most reputable sources I could find, and did the best I could. It’s pretty close.

My “go to” sources include “L-Birds, American Combat Liaison Aircraft of World War II” by Terry M. Love and “The Fighting Grasshoppers, US Liaison Aircraft Operations in Europe 1942-1945”, by Ken Wakefield.

I consulted several times by phone with Colin Powers, the Experimental Aircraft Association expert on WWII liaison planes. Powers restored the L-4H called Rosie the Rocketeer and flown by MAJ Charles “Bazooka Charlie” Carpenter, who was credited with six German tanks destroyed with bazookas, that he had fastened to his wing struts. Powers sent me copies of official Army Technical Bulletins spelling out colors, sizes, placement and other details of insignia and markings.

The U.S. government purchased 3,590 Stinson L-5 aircraft, between 1943 and 1945. The L-5 was used by U.S. Army Air Forces, Army Ground Forces, and the USMC. It was equipped with a 185 HP, 6- Cylinder Lycoming engine.

As a final tribute to the heritage of the 34th ID, I chose to dress my plane as if it were assigned to the 151st FA BN, which served in WWII and continues today in the MN Guard. The 151st Field Artillery was a 105 T, (DS) Battalion, that regularly worked with the 133rd Infantry Regt. Combat Team (RCT) and had 2 each L-4s. The 34th ID DIVARTY and battalions had 8 each L-4 in total.

On the sides of my plane from fore to aft are the letters CC, the US National insignia (star and bar) and the letter A. According to Wakefield, 34th Division FA unit planes started with the letter “C”, with DivArty HQ being “CA”. The FA Bns were 125th “CB”, 151st “CC”, 175th “CD” and 185th “CE”.

The National insignia underwent many modifications during the war and my aircraft is accurate for late 1943-1944. I can’t find a reference for the “A” after the National insignia. All liaison planes had a character there, and I used the letter “A” to represent plane number 1 of the 151st FA Bn.



(Continued: Replica WWII Spotter Plane page 3)

I believe that's a fair assumption. The FA on the vertical stabilizer is an informal annotation used by Fifth Army.

There was tension between Army Ground Forces and the Army Air Corps (AAC) over control of air assets. The Army Air Corps already envisioned its existence as a separate force, like it was in the British military. The AAC wanted to use the more capable and more expensive Stinson L-5. The Army ground forces preferred the cheaper and more easily maintained L-4. By 1942, the Field Artillery Corps, headquartered in Ft. Sill, OK, succeeded in maintaining control of aircraft assigned as field artillery spotter planes. British experience and the results of the Louisiana maneuvers convinced the FA HQ'S that they needed to control forward observers near the front. Other Army planes were controlled by the Army Air Corps.

The 34th Infantry Division had only L-4 models assigned. Other liaison aircraft, like the Stinson L-5 which was flown by the 121st Liaison Squadron was attached to Fifth Army, and were available in support roles.

It was in a 121st Liaison Squadron L-5, that BG Gustav J. Braun, 34th Infantry Division ADC, was killed in, when shot down by enemy fire on 17 March 1945. BG Gustav J. Braun was a fearless combat soldier who started his military career in the New York National Guard in 1910. He was mobilized in early 1917, to serve on the Mexican Border during the Poncho Vila Border Expedition, and later commissioned as an officer and served in WWI with the 4th U.S. Infantry Division, and earned the Distinguished Service Cross.

After the war he served at the Infantry School and the Army War College, attended the University of Michigan, and other assignments until the outbreak of WWII. During the early part of WWII, Braun served on the IX Corps, 7th Infantry Division and VII Corps staffs. In 1943 he became the 69th Inf Div Chief of Staff, and he subsequently served as Commander of the 133rd Infantry Regiment, 34th Inf Div,

and was promoted to Brigadier General as the 34th Infantry Division's Deputy Commander.

BG Braun was killed near Bologna, Italy, when his L-5 reconnaissance aircraft, was shot down behind German lines by small arms fire. Found later by the 133rd Infantry, the Germans had buried Braun, and his pilot, S/Sgt Larquis W. Cunningham, with military honors at the crash site. The two graves were marked with two "well-made wooden crosses, with the names engraved, and a carefully hand painted, 34th Inf Division Red Bull insignia applied. After the war, Braun was reinterred at Arlington National Cemetery.

S/Sgt Laquis W. Cunningham, SN 7033244, 121st Liaison Squadron, U.S. Army Air Corps, from Hammond, Indiana, was buried at the American Military Cemetery in Florence, Italy. S/Sgt Cunningham was awarded the Silver Star, Air Medal, and the Purple Heart.

Thanks to the 34th Inf Division Assn. for assistance in gathering historical facts for this story, concerning BG Gustav J. Braun and S/Sgt Laquis W. Cunningham.



Many airplanes sported nose art, such as a drawing or name, and mine is no exception. My wife's name is Hannelore, nickname Hanne which sometimes sounds like honey. The honey bee captures both my wife's name and, with the stinger, the idea that the FA spotter plane has a sting.



CPT James N. Meade, 1975
Photo taken while attending the Infantry Officer Advance Course at Fort Benning, GA.



77th Reunion 34th Infantry Division Assn. Continued from Page 1

This year's 77th Reunion of our Association is being hosted by Commanders Own Chapter on 4-5 October, 2024 at Camp Ripley, MN.

All the information for the Reunion is listed on this page. Please note the Reservation Form for the Reunion is shown on page 9 of this newsletter.

THE ARRANGEMENTS

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There are two requirements to attend the reunion at CRTC:

1. Send in your Reunion Registration form, located in this newsletter. NLT September 15, 2024
 2. Make a hotel reservation – NLT: Sep 15, 2024
- Final details and any updated information will be posted to our 34th Association website, link: <http://www.34ida.org>

THE PROGRAM

Registration:

The registration fee for the reunion covers the Friday evening dinner, Saturday lunch & banquet meal, and soft drinks/snacks. The Registration Fee, for the entire event is \$55, to be paid with the pre-registration. Payment can be made by check or the Commanders Own Chapter PayPal account. Single day registration is \$20 for Friday only & \$35 for Saturday only.

Friday-October 4th

After checking into your pre-arranged lodging, move to the Hangar Conference Center (Bldg 8-195) at 4 PM to kick off the reunion with a "Gathering of the Red Bulls". You can get directions from the Gate or Billeting office.

The social runs from 4-8 PM with a pulled pork sandwich, sides, and dessert dinner served at 6 PM. There will be non-alcoholic beverages available as part of your registration fee and a no host bar available at the Viking Club adjoining the Hangar, and will remain open following the event.

Saturday- October 5th

Activities start at 9 AM in the Hanger Conf Center with a CRTC brief by COL Fink, Garrison Commander, and followed by a bus tour of cantonment.

Return to the Hanger at 11 AM to prepare for a 11:30 AM Subway sandwich box lunch and the 12 PM business meeting, followed by a presentation by LTC Grutsch, who will provide an update on the 34th Division deployment and activities.

The evening continues at 4:30 PM with a social (no host bar), a memorial service at 6 PM and the banquet (roast beef & stuffed chicken dinner, cheesy potatoes, green beans, salad, roll, and dessert) at 6:30 PM. The guest speaker is COL Chip Rankin, 1/34 ABCT Commander, to speak on the brigade.

This concludes the reunion events, but the Minnesota Army National Guard is holding Memorialization activities on Sunday.

Reunion Pocket Program

Friday- October 4

10:00-5:00 PM MN Military Museum Open

4:00-8:00 PM Reception/Registration at the Hangar. Dinner and non-alcoholic beverages covered by registration fee and a no host bar.

Saturday- October 5

7:00 AM Officer/Trustee Meeting C Dining Fac, Bldg 6-76

9:00 AM CRTC Overview by COL Fink, Hangar

10:00 AM CRTC Bus Tour by JVB

11:30 AM Lunch (included in fee)

12:00 PM Business Meeting, Hangar

1:00 PM Briefing: 34ID Update, LTC Grutsch

1:45 PM Minnesota Military Museum, Mr. Dietrich

2:00 PM Self-Guided Tour of Museum

3:30 PM Personal Time

4:30 PM Social Hour with a no host bar, Hangar

5:45 PM Posting of the Colors, Hangar

6:00 PM Memorial Service, Hangar

6:30 PM Reunion Banquet (included in fee), Guest Speaker COL Rankin, 1/34 ABCT Commander

Sunday- October 6- No
Association Activities

Greetings to the 34th Infantry Division Association,

Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion (HHBN), 34 Infantry Division "Red Bulls" has demonstrated exceptional dedication to training and mission preparedness and is now deployed forward. This deployment to the Middle East is the Capstone of years of preparation, a testament to the Division's commitment and readiness. A majority of the Division Staff and DIVARTY mobilized forward to provide mission command in support of Operation Spartan Shield (OSS) with key personnel supporting Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR).

Post-mobilization training took place at Fort Cavazos, Texas, and consisted of approximately one month of individual, theater-specific tasks, weapon qualification, and a Capstone Training Event (CTE). The CTE was comprised of mission simulations intended to replicate some of the dynamic mission sets the Division Staff would face in theater. Training was conducted and validated through Observer /Trainers from First Army.

HHBN, 34 Infantry Division deployed their OSS and OIR elements forward into the theater, fully trained, confident, and prepared. They demonstrated their readiness and capability by executing a flawless relief-in-place operation with the 40th ID (California Army National Guard). This successful operation further showcased the Division's adaptability and effectiveness, instilling confidence in their abilities.

At the final after-action review (AAR), MG Mark Landes, acting Commanding General of First Army, praised the Division for setting the conditions not only for the Red Bull rotation but also the follow-on rotations. In true Red Bull fashion, the staff successfully tackled the scenarios by applying years of experience from seasoned soldiers and fresh eyes and brains from the new and younger staff members. The staff worked hard to "see themselves" early in the exercise to gain a high level of understanding and proficiency. Mission "injects" during the CTE exposed every staff element to the current operating environment and forced them to "increase their level."

The Army Central (ARCENT) commanding General, LTG Frank, presided over the Transfer of Authority ceremony at which the Red Bulls official took control of Task Force Spartan with a mission of providing command and control of multi-component forces in theater, strengthening relationships within the region, building partner capacity, maintaining readiness, and when necessary, executing contingency plans.

The Red Bulls of the 34th Infantry Division have a storied history of commitment, resilience, and excellence, and we look forward to celebrating a successful deployment when we return home.

Jay Hackett, LTC, IN, USA, Commander,

HHBN, TF Spartan, ARCENT



34th Infantry Division HQ's and Support Battalion Mobilization Send Off

Soldiers, family members and friends gather for a deployment ceremony at Grace Church in Eden Prairie, Minnesota, Feb. 1st, 2024. More than 550 soldiers from the Minnesota National Guard's 34th Infantry Division "Red Bulls" began final preparations for a deployment to the Middle East. (MN ARNG Photo by Staff Sgt. Mahsima Alkamoonah)



Maj. Gen. Charles Kemper (L), the commanding general of the 34th Inf Div, and CSM Matthew Erickson (R), the senior NCO of 34th Infantry Division, salute the 34th Division's colors during a transfer of authority ceremony between the 34th Infantry Division and the 40th Infantry Division for Task Force Spartan at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, on March 23, 2024.

Task Force Spartan is the Army component of Operation Spartan Shield, a U.S. Central Command operation to strengthen defense relationships, build partner capacity, maintain readiness, and, when necessary, execute contingency plans. The transfer of authority ceremony, rooted in military tradition, symbolizes a transfer of responsibility from one command to another, ensuring continuity in operations on the battlefield. (by Spc. Tyler Becker)



113 Cavalry Squadron Soldiers Return from Southern Border Duty

Soldiers assigned to 1st Squadron, 113th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division, Iowa National Guard pose for a photo at the Condition of the State address at the Iowa State Capitol in Des Moines, Iowa, Jan. 9, 2024. Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds is shown at the far right, along with MG Steve Osborn, the Adjutant General of Iowa. The Soldiers were recognized for their 30-day mission in Texas to assist in border security in August 2023.

Capt. Thahn Truong, the commander of Troop A, 1st Squadron, 113th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd IBCT, 34th Infantry Division, was specifically congratulated for a job well done by Iowa's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Steve Osborn, at the Iowa State Capitol building in Des Moines, Iowa, in January. Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds recognized the 109 Soldiers at the Condition of the State address for their 30-day mission in Texas, and thanked them for their service assisting with border security. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Rachel I. White)



1st Sgt. Joshua McCaffery, 1SG of Troop A-113th Cav, is greeted by MG Steve Osborn, TAG, Iowa Guard.

National Guard Bureau Confirms 41 Guardsmen Wounded in Sunday Attack in Jordan

Washington Report Jan 31, 2024

At least 41 Army National Guard soldiers were wounded in the unmanned aerial system attack last Sunday on the U.S. logistics support facility known as Tower 22 in northeast Jordan, the National Guard Bureau confirmed in a press release today.

The attack killed three Army Reserve soldiers from an engineer unit in the state of Georgia. The wounded Guard soldiers are from units based in Arizona, California, Kentucky and New York, according to National Guard Bureau.

Twenty-seven soldiers were able to return to duty, while 14 others continue to be evaluated for follow-on care, including one requiring medical evacuation from Jordan who is in stable condition.

"I echo President Biden and Secretary Austin's condemnation of this attack," said Army Gen. Daniel R. Hokanson, the chief of NGB. "It will not deter our citizen-soldiers from their mission of defending America and its interests." "We join our senior leaders in strongly condemning Sunday's attack on our forces," said retired Maj. Gen. Francis M. McGinn, the NGAUS president. "The 41 Army National Guardsmen wounded should remind all Americans of the important role the National Guard plays every day around the world in defending our nation."

Several hundred U.S. Army and Air Force personnel are deployed to the facility in support of Operation Inherent Resolve, according to NGB. They include Army Guard soldiers from Arizona's 1st Battalion, 158th Infantry Regiment; the headquarters of the California-based 40th Infantry Division; Kentucky's 138th Field Artillery Brigade; and New York's 101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion.

More than 27,000 Guard soldiers and airmen are deployed in support of overseas operations, including 6,700 across the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility in the Middle East, NGB said. They are also deployed in the Horn of Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe.

U.S. Army Dedicates the New M10 Booker Combat Vehicle

The U.S. Army announced the dedication of the new M10 Booker Combat Vehicle during the official Christening and Dedication Ceremony at Aberdeen Proving Ground, in Aberdeen, Md., April 18, 2024. As part of the dedication of the M10 Booker Combat Vehicle, two soldiers with the sir name of Booker, were recognized in the Dedication Ceremony.

The vehicle is named after, Pvt. Robert D. Booker, a Medal of Honor recipient, and infantryman, assigned to Co B, 133rd Infantry Regiment, 34th Infantry Division, who was killed in action near Fondouk, Tunisia, on 9 April 1943, during World War II. Pvt. Booker was a native of Callaway, Nebraska. Ms. Rosella Hirsch, the sister of the late Army Pvt. Robert D. Booker, attended the ceremony.

The vehicle is also named after Staff Sgt. Stevon A. Booker, a Distinguished Service Cross recipient, and tank crewman, assigned to Co A, Company, 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Both men were recognized and honored for their ultimate sacrifice, heroism and commitment to service and the country, were represented by family members during the ceremony.

The Army is set to procure up to 504 M10 Combat Vehicles, all of which will be allotted to light divisions in the active duty and National Guard. The 82nd Airborne Division will become the first unit equipped, when 33 M10s are delivered in late FY25. The 82nd will initially field a battalion of M10s, divided into three companies. The M10s will be controlled as a divisional asset. Commanders will determine, based on mission objectives, which infantry brigade combat teams (IBCTs) will be supported by the M10-equipped battalion. The M10, with a 105 MM Gun, weighs 42 Ton compared to the M1A3 Tank, with a 120 MM Gun, weighs 73+ Ton. Each has a crew of four soldiers.



**Pvt Robert D. Booker,
Co B, 133rd Inf Regt, 34th
Infantry Division, 1942.**



34th Infantry Division soldiers participating in the Christening Ceremony for the M10 Booker Combat Vehicle, at Aberdeen Proving Grounds were, CSM Josh Luck, CSM- 2/34th IBCT, Pfc. Lance Boicourt, Color Guard, 1-133rd Infantry Battalion, and CSM Lucas Queck, I-133rd Infantry Battalion, 34th Infantry Division. (Photo by Cpl Jonathon Downs)

34th Infantry Division Association

2024 Registration Form- Celebrating 77 Years

Friday, October 4, through Saturday October 5, 2024

NAME: _____

GUEST: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ Chapter of Membership: _____

EMAIL: _____

List any special needs during the reunion: _____

REGISTRATION FEES:

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY ATTENDANCE. Fee covers the association meeting venues/costs, Friday evening reception with dinner, Saturday lunch and banquet, and non-alcoholic beverages and snacks (cash bar available for socials). Number of Persons _____ X \$55 = Total \$ _____

FRIDAY ONLY ATTENDANCE. Fee covers the venue, Friday evening reception with dinner, and non-alcoholic beverages (cash bar available). Number of Persons _____ X \$20 = Total \$ _____

SATURDAY ONLY ATTENDANCE. Fee covers the association meeting venues/costs, Saturday lunch and banquet meal, and non-alcoholic beverages and snacks (cash bar available). Number of Persons _____ X \$35 = Total \$ _____

Please return registration form and payment for total amount to:

By mail. Make check out to: 34ID Commanders Own Chapter

Send to: **34th ID Assn. Commanders Own Chapter**
Attn: Chad Sackett
20414 213th St
Little Falls, MN 56345

PayPal option. Send funds to **@34idcommandersown** put "34ID Assn. Reunion" in the remarks. If using PayPal, you may eFax or scan your registration form to: chad.mitchel.sackett@gmail.com

Lodging arrangements must be made by September 15, 2024.

Camp Ripley Billeting, (320) 616-3140. Reference the 34ID Assn. Reunion. Individual rooms with Full size beds and private bath.

For local Little Falls, MN lodging options, go to: <https://www.littlefallsmn.com/stay/>

For questions on the reunion, contact COL(R) Sackett, chad.mitchel.sackett@gmail.com

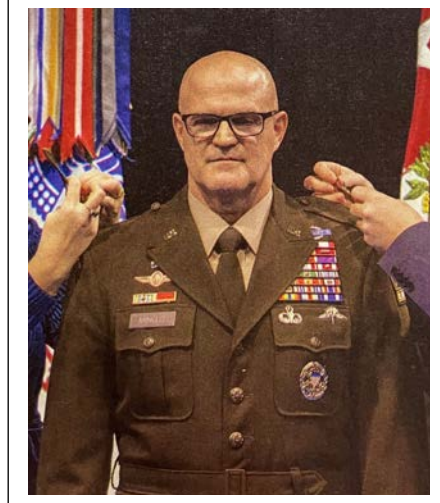
For questions on PayPal payment, contact LTC Gile, mkgile@gmail.com

National Secretary, COL(R) Bierl, bierlhome@msn.com

Materials and updates are posted on the 34IDA website: <http://www.34ida.org/>

GEN James Mingus promoted to 4-Star General on January 4th 2023 as the Vice-Chief of Staff, US Army

Gen Mingus first enlisted, as a 17-year-old boy, in Battery A, 194th Field Artillery, 34th ID in Spencer, IA. He served in the Iowa National Guard while he attended Winona State Univ. and earned a college Degree and an ROTC Commission. General Mingus was commissioned as an Infantry Officer in the Regular Army in 1987, and has commanded at every level from Company to Division level, as commander of the 82nd Air Borne Division. MG has been deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan 12 times during his career. The father of MG Mingus, SFC Maurice Mingus, served in Battery A, as the Mess Steward. Congratulations to General James Mingus!



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34th Infantry Division Association

Camp Dodge - Bldg 3692

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