Holiday Greetings to my fellow troopers and families of the 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry.

This past year, I have been blessed to be able to be a part of a number of opportunities to meet with fellow troopers. The first was the St Louis reunion that is always an exceptional occasion.

Then, over the Veteran’s Day weekend, I was most fortunate to be able to share my home with about 40 Veterans and their families followed by a most special Veterans parade in D.C. At the evening bash, besides the usual assortment of hungry guys there were some new folks that had not even been to a reunion yet.

We welcomed Rei Espada from Hawaii, Bill Jillard from Philadelphia, Tom Parker from New Mexico, and Jack Thomas also from Pa. Representatives from each company to include even Co E (Bill and Ginger Moore) and every year (67-71) spent an unseasonably warm evening eating, drinking and getting reacquainted.

Co A reps presented a strong case for having our next reunion in Cincinnati, OH. Willie Mercer tugged at our hearts with his superb renditions of the songs he does so well. The debut of our battalion flag occurred and plans for the next day’s march in Washington were made.

After the flag’s introduction, we took the opportunity to discuss the purchase of battle streamers for the battalion flag. The 5th Battalion 7th Cavalry is authorized a total of 43 streamers (16-Vietnam, 14-Korea, 6-WWII, 1-Mexican expedition, 6-Indian wars). We agreed that the best way to fund the streamers would be by contributions. The cost is $55 for each streamer. Since we made the decision to accept contributions we have already received sufficient funds to buy all 16 of the Vietnam era streamers.

If you are interested in purchasing one of the remaining streamers in your name, or in the memory of someone else, here is what you do: mail a check for $55, payable to the 5th Bn 7th Cav Assn, to John M Long, 7801 Nauitan Court, Hanover, MD 21076. Your name will be forever associated with one of the above listed streamers.

The next morning, all of us along with thousands of others gathered on the Mall to take part in the first Vietnam Veterans Association sponsored parade. Our battalion was right behind the 1st Cav Assoc and the 1st Cav Division Color Guard that led the parade. We were also right in front of a group of Vietnam Vet Indians. This arrangement somehow seemed appropriate with the 7th Cav and Indians together one more time.

We had our own fine Color Guard of Darrel Martin, George Hannaford, John Goodpaster and Don Shipley that looked every inch the professionals that they are. You can see them and many other pictures of the parade and the weekend activities on our web site at www.cav57.org.

We experienced a lot of rain during the march that did nothing to dampen our good spirits, in fact, since the weather was warm, it seemed only fitting. With Willie and others calling cadence, we were a fine group of men parading down Constitution Avenue to the Vietnam Memorial.

As we all know, we are a very special organization. As such, we are dedicated to insuring that all of the men that served in our battalion in Vietnam are never forgotten. We also are responsible for maintaining our link with our past and keeping our heritage alive. We are doing that in several ways. When we sing Garry Owen at our gatherings or greet each other with “Garry Owen”, we are maintaining a tradition. When we carry the unit’s battle streamers on our flag, we are paying homage to our troopers that have served so gallantly since the Indian Wars.

On our web site, you will find listed all of the campaigns our battalion and its predecessors have served. You will also find the official Statement of Service of our battalion. You can be justifiably proud of this battalion and its history.

Suzy and I wish the best for you and your families during this holiday season.
By time you read this newsletter I hope all of you have done your Christmas Shopping at the Cav S/7 PX. John Good-paster “Goody” doesn’t want to do inven-tory in January. It is easier to restock in the New Year.

Times have been eventful since the last newsletter. Connie Pearson, one of the 1966 D Company troops was reunited with Keith Bodine. Keith was the door gunner that made room for Connie on a Huey that was overcrowded. Connie was severely wounded and Keith has wondered what had happened to him all these years. One year ago I found a request for info from Keith at the Military Connection.Com web site. I sent the request out in the Airmobile newsletter and now we will have a documentary coming soon.

Another info request came from Jane Callanan, sister to Mike Lipsius, D Co. KIA 04-19-68. We were able to connect Callanan, sister to Mike Lipsius, D Co. KIA 04-19-68. We were able to connect

I want to put you on the alert for a book recently published in the UK by a Vietnam Cav S/7 vet. The title of the book is “The Cage”. The author is a British citizen named Thomas Abraham. He was a Lieutenant and served in D & B Companies in 1967 - 68. Excerpts of the book were published in the British press. One account in the book tells how Abraham was captured by the Vietcong, tortured and then how he broke free to return to his unit. After the book was published people began checking the validity of the stories and no-one can be found to cor-roborate the prisoner incident. As a result the British Press and The New York Times have both printed articles discr-eediting the story.

Based on feedback from some of the Cav S/7 troops that served with Tom Abraham and what I have read about the book I would say LT Abraham has a very vivid imagination and probably still suf-fers from PTSD.

Finding new members has been a little slow as of late. One of our members has called me three times to look for a fellow trooper. I have given him the phone num-ber three times. When I find you a num-ber I need you to make the call. I was in Vietnam in 66-67. I don’t know what happened in 68-71. It’s hard for me to talk about battles and troopers I don’t know about. When you talk to one of the troops you served with it makes it easier for them to relate to their experiences and hopefully want to join the association.

Veteran’s day in Washington, DC was as fulfilling as ever. The association didn’t have a spot in the line up of wreath pre-senters, as there are only 22 spaces avail-able. You have to make a reservation with the National Park Service to do this. Being the innovative troops that we are, we had our ceremony at 10:30 AM and beat the rush. The rain had stopped and we formed midway at the East wing of the wall.

Earlier in the day our newly formed color guard and 40 others did the March To Remember with the Vietnam Veteran’s of America. The S/7 was the sharpest unit there and the biggest. It rained and did we get wet. I’ll let President Long tell about dinner, the new colors and streamers to go with.

For those of you that are not online, go to your public library. Most Librarians will be tickled to death to help a vet find his web site. Remember it is your web site; please check it out: www.cav57.org.

Those of you that know of a trooper that was KIA and we don’t have his name on the KIA let me know. There is a new web site, which lists the names on The Wall with unit ID. This site has been 10 years in the making so let’s use it. Guys I can’t research all 58,000 names. If you know someone you think should be listed as one of us. Send his name to me and I will check it.

Merry Christmas
Happy New Year
“Krazy”
Dear Editor,

I am writing to you to tell you that one of your fellow 1st Cav had passed away -- Jim Rogers of Caledonia, Ohio. He has passed on to a better place on July 5, 2002.

We were camping with some friends and he fell over from a heart attack. It went fast so he did not suffer, which was a blessing.

I wanted to tell you that after we attended the Reunion in Nashville it was a turning point for Jim. He was happy to see people he had served with, all the memories, which were not all bad. Jim had some good memories which he shared with me on the trip home. He talked to me more in eight hours, than he had in twenty-six years about Vietnam.

He was talking about the next reunion. He wanted to see all of you again. You might not be able to see him but know he will be there with you.

All of you enjoy yourselves and share a moment in memory of Jim.

Sincerely,  Candi Rogers

GARRYOWN!
03 AUGUST 2002

To whom it may concern,

My name is Reinaldo Espada, and I served with C Co.5/7 Cav. 1st. Air Cavalry Division, Nov. 1968-1969 in the 2 Plt. I found out about your association from my VVA magazine. I was excited that the unit I served with has an association. I am very proud of the Cavalry and what we did and what we stood for. I would like to join your association, so if I can get more information on how to go about becoming a member. I enclosed a copy of my DD214 and an article of “THE CAVALAIR” dated Feb. 12, 1969 about one of biggest caches of the war. Maybe you can use it for documentation and history of the 5/7 Cay. Please let me know if I can help in anyway. As you can see I live in Hawaii and have been here since I was discharged from the Army. Well thank you for your time, and now you have a 5/7 trooper in Hawaii.

“GOD BLESS THE 5th of the 7th, GARRY OWEN”

ALOHA FROM HAWAII,  REINALDO ESPADA

Editor’s Note: Welcome Home Reinaldo and thanks for being with us for the Veterans Day festivities at John Longs and for the March to Remember and the Wreath Ceremony. We’re glad you found us and are proud to have you as one of our members.

Hello,

I was referred to your website by Wayne Gibbs. I am writing a book about the Que Son valley that focuses on 2/12 Cav at LZ Ross, but I also plan to have coverage on 5/7 and 1/7 Cav. I have interviewed over 100 vets so far, have 220 pages written and started the book when I served in Bosnia in 2000.

I’d be interested in getting in contact with anyone who served during that time period, and Wayne tells me that I should get the copy of the report by Bret Coulsion on LZ Colt. I would be most grateful if you could give a copy of that to me. I also have a fax number (below) if that is convenient.

I have set up a web page for this project (below) and have a corresponding webpage for 1 and 5/7 Cav regarding this. Would appreciate any help you can offer regarding he dissemination of this request. Many thanks!

Thomas Pike — MAJ, USAR — Que Son Project — 202-345-3591; Fax: 202-338-4249

PS: Overall dates of interest are 8 Oct 67 until late January 68, Que Son Valley. Of special interest are the days between 24 Nov 67- 10 Jan 63 and: 10 Oct 67: attack on LZ Colt. Late Oct: Beach fights against the 3rd NVA RGT; 3 Jan 68: attack on LZ Ross, Leslie and Colt
Membership Notes:

- Check out the address label on the front of this newsletter. Printed after your name is your Cav 5/7 Company, the year you first served in Vietnam with the Cav 5/7 and the year through which your dues are paid. If the year is ‘01 or earlier your dues are not up to date.
- Dues are $10 per year. You can stay up to date by sending your dues to Financial Secretary, 5th Battalion 7th Cavalry Association, 23346 Mystic Forest, Novi, MI 48375.
- In the future if you would like to view your newsletter on the Internet please indicate so on your dues check. We can save about $1.25 for every newsletter we don’t have to mail.

Our web site is : www.cav57.org

Notes From the "Old" Sergeant-At-Arms - - - - - -  Willoughby (Willie) Mercer

Well, another reunion has come and gone. I still say that this was the best yet, but then all of our most recent reunions are the best, due to seeing all our friends, families and buddies over the years. I guess this is what makes each of our reunions SOOO special. The reunion barely over and already we can’t wait for the next one in 2004. Seems like such a long wait to see everyone again.

Peg and I are home again after a month long trip and stay in Colorado. Seeing old friends and family was a treat, but it still wasn’t long enough to contact all the people we would have liked to see but we’ll see you guys next year hopefully. On our way back home we stopped off in Jackson, TN and had a good old time with Aline and James Mitchel. Had a wonderful visit and again it wasn’t long enough.

I would like to thank all of the Troopers over the years for their support during my time as Sergeant-At-Arms. It was great being able to give a little help where needed. I haven’t gone away, just stepping aside for others to make a difference. I will still be there, loud as ever giving support to our new man on board, Harold Dannewitz. (I’m looking forward to working with you, Old Buddy.)

Our President, John Long has already thanked all for their contributions to the raffle. I too would like to thank all of the Garry & Mary Owens for their outstanding contributions. This was the best raffle turnout ever. However, it was really hard keeping up with all the items, especially who gave what and which night to raffle the items off. If it had not been for the help of Lynette Siere, Carol Hartz, Patty Coon, my good old stand-by buddy Ed Coon, all of whom reached out to me with such expert help, it would not have been so successful.

Plus I had some special help with the ticket sales: Tyler – nephew of the Westmoreland’s, Amanda – granddaughter of the Hartz’s, Brent – grandson of the Klines, and Roberta – daughter of Robert Matulac. They made a great ticket sales team. Again, thanks so much to all. I want to also thank Allen, Jasper and Karl for letting me work with you guys in the registration room. What a Great Team!

God Willing the next get together will be November, 2002 in Washington, DC at the Wall and in the Parade. Yes! God was willing and Peg, Vivian and I were in Washington this year; me with the guys at the Wall and the Parade and the ladies at the Long’s. Sunday night we all were at the Long’s for great food but most of all the fellowship. For those of you who could not make it this time, you missed another mini-reunion. There were about 40-50 persons having a great time.

Again, I want to thank the Longs for letting me take up a lot of room in the kitchen. (You guys have got to see the pictures on the Web to know what went on. Ha Ha!!)

On Monday afternoon, a bunch of the guys went to see Colonel Swett and his wife, Kay, at their home. The colonel had some health problems and had been unable to come to the Long’s the previous night for our get together. Nor was he able to come to the Wall for the presentation. We found him to be in excellent spirits, as always, and he certainly looked to be on the mend.

Best wishes, Colonel!!
Till next time, God Bless and Keep You All.

Garry Owen, Willie
Hi - My brother, my hero, Pat (Sgt. Patrick Smith) was a Squad Leader, Company A, 5th battalion, 7th Cavalry, 1st Cav. Division - Airmobile. He was killed 11/26/68 - he had served in Vietnam from June 26th of 1968 - and was involved in 25 missions. He was awarded the Silver Star and promoted to E5 posthumously for saving members of his squadron on that terrible day. I was 9 when he was killed and all of my life I've dreamed of connecting with any or all of the men he saved that day - or even to find some of his other buddies.

My mission has been sidetracked lately - but for a good cause - I've become quite involved with a Committee organized by local vets to build a Memorial to honor the 98 Men who died from Lorain County, Ohio. As a family member of one of the 98 - you can imagine how anxious I am to see the site built. I have attempted to build a website for the group - http://lorainvietnamvets98.tripod.com - yes I am the group's official web master wannabe. Check it out if you'd like - but be gentle - as I said - it's my first attempt at building.

With yesterday being the anniversary of Pat's death - I was sorely reminded of how I've let my original mission slip by the wayside....which is the reason for my contact of course. May I post a message on your site - or can you point me in the right direction? I have some photos from his unit that I have attached in hopes that you or your group may recognize Pat or someone in his group. Included are some from Fort Benning - these were taken by Pat right before he was sent to Nam I believe....the undeveloped film was in his belongings - my Dad had stored in his briefcase - and I just came across them this fall :) Also on it was a photo of his baby - his 64 Chevy Supersport that he absolutely lived to race at Norwalk Speedway here in Ohio.

Thanks so much for your time.
Have a wonderful Holiday. God bless you and Welcome Home. Thank you in advance for your time.

With love, respect, honor and appreciation,
Dawn Dixon
sunrise1017@adelphia.net

Editor’s Note: The Pictures referred to above will be posted on our web site. Check out the Link labeled Sgt. Patrick Smith Photos. Dawn is working on a memorial for Veterans of Lorain County, Ohio. Info can be found at http://lorainvietnamvets98.tripod.com/.
5th Battalion 7th Cavalry PX

Baseball Cap 5/7 embroidered $10.
Miniature Garry Owen Crest pin 3
1st CAV cloth shoulder patch 5
1st CAV window sticker (no Vietnam) 3
1st CAV Div. challenge Coin 10
Full size CIB 4
1st CAV Hat pin (1") 3
Combat Medic pin (new) 3
Air Medal Pin (new) 3
M16-A-1 Hat pin (new) 4
Combat Cavalry pin (gold wreath - new) 4
5/7 Guidon bumper sticker (new) 2
Garry Owen/American flag pin (new) 3
1st CAV window sticker (no Vietnam) 3
7th CAV Crossed Sabers (no 5) 3
Reg. Garry Owen Crest Pin 3
Miniature CIB pin 3
AnKhe Hat pin 3
5/7 porcelain tie bar pin 5
1st CAV Div. Flag 3x5' 15
Raised letter CAVALRY pin (new) 3
1st Cav Hat pin (5/8") (new) 3
UHI Huey pin (new) 3
Miniature Purple Heart pin 3
M60 Machinegun pin (new) 4
Huey Hat pin (black/gold) 4
5/7 Crossed Sabers lg. pin (new) 4
Claymore Mine Pin (new) 4
Corgi HUEY Medivac or Gunship Reg. $59. All Metal Const. 35
White Polo shirts button-up with collar Embroidered 5/7 Cav. and Garry Owen Crest all short sleeved, order by size 23
5/7 Cav Denim Shirts Embroidered with Garry Owen Crest. Order by size, colors are Blue, Khaki, Green; Men or Ladies; Short Sleeves or Long Sleeves 25

PLEASE ALLOW THREE WEEKS ON SHIRT DELIVERY.
PLEASE INCLUDE $2.00 POSTAGE ON ALL SMALL ITEM ORDERS AND $3.00 ON ALL SHIRT AND HELICOPTER ORDERS.

SEND ORDERS TO:
JOHN GOODPASTER
303 CORA DRIVE
CARLISLE, OHIO 45005-3268
PHONE #937-855-7475
EMAIL: goody@infinet.com

Holiday Thoughts ……. By Ted Swett

Happy Holidays To You, Troopers, And To Your Families!

You know, as you get older you begin to look back and count your blessings, especially during this Holiday Season. I doubt that there are many in our outfit who are older than I, so I will take the liberty of mentioning one of the most special of my many blessings. It is my relationship with each of the 5th Bn 7th Cav troopers whom I have gotten to know over the years. It is a major blessing!

Our relationship began with my being trusted with the responsibility of organizing and training our battalion, and of leading it into its first combat actions. That blessing was enhanced for me 25 years later when I became the first President of the Association of the 5th Battalion 7th Cavalry Association. I’ll not forget the honor of being elected President For Life at our third reunion, and subsequently President Emeritus at Reunion V.

In my heart, whether you were among the citizen soldiers who originally answered the call in late 1965 and trained together at Fort Carson, or whether you joined the battalion in later years, you are part of this blessing, for which I am thankful each day of my life.

Together you made this unique and outstanding battalion what it was in five years of combat in Vietnam, and what it is today. I am grateful to you.

These thoughts came to mind as I read the draft of John Long’s stirring Holiday Message that appears in this issue of AIRMOBILE. May your pride swell as you read it again, because it captures the essence of who we are. God bless you all.

Finding fellow troopers from the 5th battalion 7th Cavalry — Do you have a name, address, service number but you still can’t locate your old buddy? Let us know and we’ll try to help with your search. Send a note to the Editor using the return address on this newsletter or e-mail the editor using the following e-mail address: editor@cav57.org.

WHERE TO FIND VETERANS INFORMATION BY PHONE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VA Benefits</td>
<td>1-800-827-1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VA Health Benefits</td>
<td>1-877-222-8387</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VA Education benefits</td>
<td>1-888-442-4551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VA Life Insurance</td>
<td>1-800-669-8477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VA Debt Management</td>
<td>1-800-827-0648</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mammography Hotline</td>
<td>1-888-492-7844</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD)</td>
<td>1-800-829-4833</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHAMPVA</td>
<td>1-800-733-8387</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headstones and Markers</td>
<td>1-800-697-6947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gulf War &amp; Agent Orange Help line</td>
<td>1-800-749-8387</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Eligibility Center</td>
<td>1-800-733-8387</td>
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</tbody>
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The VA Federal Benefits booklet and other VA information is available on VA’s World Wide Web Home Page at: http://www.va.gov/VA also has a toll-free bulletin board, called VA ON LINE, which can be reached at 1-800-US1-VETS (8387).

HEALTH CARE RESOURCES ON THE INTERNET

Check out the 5th battalion 7th Cavalry web site (http://www.cav57.org) to get up to date links to important health care web sites for veterans and their families.
I would like to wish all of you a very Happy Holiday. Allen Patrick is trying hard to get it printed and mailed before the holidays.

I work about a mile from Allen Patrick. He works for Ford Motor Company at World Headquarters. Since I have business at World Headquarters, we could discuss the preparations for the last reunion, this upcoming reunion, and other things about this Association. Believe me, it was great to have someone to meet almost immediately on any issue concerning the Association. It's a lot better to talk to someone in person than on a phone.

This month Allen decided to retire and move on to other things. I'm sure the management at Ford Motor Company will miss him. I already do and he's just left. I sure we all wish Allen a happy and successful retirement. Now he should have more time to devote to being the Editor of the Airmobile. I know when I was the editor I never had enough time to work on the newsletter it is a very time consuming job.

In this issue you can see that we have less money in the bank. This always happens after a reunion. We get a drop in dues coming in but that was really to be expected. At the last reunion many of you paid ahead on dues. However, let me reassure all of you, we are in great shape financially.

Finally, remember any dues, donations, etc that came in during late October or after will not appear in this issue. I used the latest bank statement on hand to publish this issues Financial Report and that was the statement issued at the end of October.

Again, have a good holiday!

Garry Owen, Jasper

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**Financial Report**

Balance 7/30/02 $24,247.56

### INCOME

**Donations**
- Dickess, Dennis $60.00
- Mitchell, James $50.00
- Perez, Manuel $20.00
- Total Donations $150.00

**Dues and Fees**
- Bennett, Michael 02 $10.00
- Bossout, Walter 02-04 $30.00
- Clark, Harry 02-06 $50.00
- Dickess, Dennis 04-09 $60.00
- Downard, Charles 02-03 $20.00
- Espada, Reinaldo 02 $10.00
- Fernandez, George 00-03 $40.00
- Gogets, John 01-03 $30.00
- Hebert, Rodney 01-04 $40.00
- Hokenberry, Richard 98-07 $100.00
- Hodges, Brent 02-03 $20.00
- Hoelzer, Robert 02-05 $40.00
- Hoy, Clinton 02 $10.00
- Julian, Claude 03-04 $20.00
- Kinder, Robert 03-05 $30.00
- Kremer, Fred 95-04 $100.00
- La Cosse, Robert 02-04 $30.00
- Lilly, David 02 $10.00
- Long, John 03-06 $40.00
- Mack, Bob 03-04 $20.00
- Magie, Bill 02 $10.00
- McBride, Norman 02 $10.00
- Millar, Hugh 97-03 $70.00
- Olson, Arthur 02 $10.00
- Perez, Manuel 02-03 $20.00
- Porod, George 02-05 $40.00
- Sattler, William 02-06 $50.00
- Sheumaker, Harold 03-04 $20.00
- Sholtz, Michael 02-04 $30.00
- Stockton, Margaret 02 $10.00
- Tjaden, Steve 03-05 $30.00
- Trimble, James 02-03 $20.00
- Total Dues and Fees $1,030.00

**PX Sales**
- Bowers, Terry $6.00
- Brostrom, Gerhard $15.00
- Cecere, John $38.00
- Espada, Reinaldo $40.00
- Fernandez, George $45.00
- Gibbs, Wayne $13.00
- Gonzales, Juan $23.00
- Huber, Earl $26.00
- Johnson, Ron $74.00
- Kinder, Robert $26.00
- McCarthy, Tim $88.00
- Oblad, Robert $44.00
- Pemberton, Jerry $22.00
- Sattler, William $24.00
- Shipley, Don $15.00
- Shurley, Michael $50.00
- Swett, Trevor $30.00
- Walentinonis, Wayne $30.00
- Goodpaster, John $12.00
- Total PX Sales $621.00

**Other Income**
- Bank Credit $8.00
- Bank Interest $50.30
- Total Other $58.30

**TOTAL INCOME** $1,839.30

### EXPENSES/OUTFLOWS

**Refund Reunion 6** Dickess, Dennis -$120.00

**Air Mobile Costs** Heckley Printing -$880.68

**Other Costs**
- Bank Charge -$8.20
- Bank Charge -$0.05
- Hoover Manufacturing -$320.69
- Miami Valley Sports -$540.00
- Miami Valley Sports-Caps -$275.00
- Novel T 2 Shirts -$482.50
- Reunion Costs -$943.79
- PX Mailing Costs -$211.70
- T-Shirts Of America -$224.00
- US Flag -Flag Purchase 5/ 7th flag -$1,091.80
- Total Expenses $5,098.41

**Balance 10/31/2002**

Checking $4,909.09
Savings $16,079.36
Total Accounts $20,988.45
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Veterans Day 2002