

34th Infantry Division

Association

7105 NW 70th Ave
Johnston, IA 50131

Association Web page:
www.34IDA.org

Fall 2023 Issue
The 34th ID Newsletter is
published three times a year.

34th Infantry Division 76th Annual Reunion



WWII Soldier Honored at September Reunion



34th Infantry Division Assn. President, CSM Lucas Queck, 1-133rd Infantry Bn is show presenting the 34th ID Association Coin to COL Simon Shaffer, Cmdr of the 2nd IBCT, as a token of appreciation for his presentation at the 76th Annual Reunion Banquet, on Sep 16th at Camp Dodge.

The 34th Infantry Division Association 76th Reunion was hosted by the Des Moines Chapter, on 15-16 Sep at the Iowa Gold Star Museum at Camp Dodge. During the business meeting of the Reunion, we elected MG Jerry Lang, from Minnesota, as the new Association President, for FY 2023-24. The other elected leadership positions were filled by CSM (Ret) Dan Cain as 1st VP, and LTC (Ret) Jeremy De Gier as 2nd VP. Congratulations.

Approximately forty-eight association members attended the reunion. They were treated to a tour of the Training Site as well at the Medical and Maintenance Sustainment training at the Camp Dodge. The Iowa Gold Star Military Museum was open for special tours, featuring exhibits from WWI through "The War on Terror," that depicted all units of the 34th Infantry Division.

Col Simon Shaffer, outgoing commander of the 2nd IBCT, who will soon return to the 34th Infantry Division Staff, provided an information briefing on the new structure of the 34th Infantry Division. During the next few years the 34th ID, will grow to a fully manned MTOE Division of 25,000 soldiers, with units from nearly 20 states providing the structure.



WWII veteran, CPL Fred Adams, (right) is shown at the 34th Infantry Division Assn. Reunion on Sept 16. He remembers wearing an Army Campaign hat with Regimental Crest, like he is holding, when they arrived at Camp Claiborne, LA. Fred, at 5 ft 3 in, is standing with military reenactor, Russ Flattery, the son of 168th Inf veteran LTC Mark Flattery. Fred is now 100 years old, and was able to vividly recount all the early events of the war.

He was 18 years old and was assigned as a .30 Cal, Heavy, Water Cooled Machine Gun, Crew Chief, in Co D, 168th Infantry for N Africa. Fred talked of using landing nets to go over the side of the British ship, "Winchester Castle", and on to the beach in a boats, 10 miles West of Algiers. Yes, it was the wrong beach. They were supposed to be put ashore on "Beer Green Beach." His battalion commander was, LTC Doyle, and he landed with Company D. LTC Doyle was killed the next day by a Sniper in Algiers while the 168th Infantry secured the city. He will always remember the day they landed in Africa, Nov 7th, 1942, and the world was never again the same.

Fred was married and left his wife and two sons back in Des Moines. They later were blessed with two more sons, after the war. Fred Adams served the entire war with the 168th Infantry and returned home in 1945. Fred's father and uncle had served in WW I. Today, Fred Adams still lives in his own home in Des Moines. He's proud to tell us he drove his own car to his 100th Birthday Party. He told us "Life is good and he is blessed."



34th Infantry Division Final Roll Call

Fall 2023:

Hiroshi Miyamura, 100th Infantry BN, 34th ID
 Ronald Rocky Preece, 1-133rd Inf Bn 34th ID
 Chad Morman, 334th BSB, 34th Inf Div
 John Scuffhan B, 194 FA Bn, 34th Inf Div
 Corey Hute, 234th Sig Bn/67 Trp Cmd 34th Inf Div
 Arnold D Lovelace, E/ 133rd Inf Regt 34th ID
 Everett S Freel, 109th Aviation Co, 34th Inf Div
 Mark Good, 168th Inf Bn, 34th Inf Div
 Steve Starkey, 168th Inf Bn, 34th Inf Div
 Larry D. Hockersmith, 34th Inf Div
 Richard Adams, 168th Inf, 1168Trk Co, 34thID
 Hiroshi Miyamura, D/ 100th Inf, 34th ID
 Joe Sugawara, C/ 100th Inf, 34th Inf Div
 Don Miyada, A/ 100th Inf, 34th Inf Div
 Jack Nakamura, B/ 100th Inf, 34th Inf Div
 John "Jack" Wade, 34th Inf Div
 John H. Schomaker, 185th FA, 34th Inf Div
 Loy "Greg" Dunn, 2/ 133rd Inf, 34th Inf Div
 Timothy "Tim" J. Sanken Sr, 34th Inf Div
 Emmet Tinley III, 1-168th Inf, 34th Inf Div
 Tim Sanken, HQ's 34th Infantry Division
 Franklin w. Morris, 34th Infantry Division
 Douglas A. Wyborney, Aviation Units 34th ID
 Barbara Sutton, Medical Units, 34th Inf Div
 Richard L. Hayes, 47th DISCOM, 47th Inf Div

Greetings Fellow 34th Inf Div Assn. Members,

Congratulations on the successful 76th Reunion and to all who attended and especially to the Des Moines Chapter who organized the reunion and made it happen. I also want to thank CSM Lucas Queck for his service to the 34th Inf Div Assn. as our President last year. Job Well Done!

I had the opportunity to attend the ground-breaking ceremony for the new museum to be built at Camp Ripley and this will be an excellent venue to fulfil one of our association goals of "gathering and maintaining the history of the 34th Infantry Division." Although it won't be completed in time for our 77th Reunion at Cp Ripley next year, it is going to be a beautiful facility rich with history and particularly the 34th ID.

I would like to direct your attention to a few items in this Fall Newsletter. Page 2 gives you an idea of the OPTEMPO the 34th ID continues to operate in and as one of the premier combat divisions in the U.S. Army, no one is surprised. The same is true for virtually every subordinate unit of the division as well. Page 4, congratulations to the 34th ID War College graduates and future leaders of the division. Page 5 lists all of our affiliate chapters and I would encourage all of you take a look at these local area chapters to stay informed and be involved. Page 8, Best of Luck to SSG Kerfeld and SPC Shields representing the 34th ID as you continue your quest in the Best Warrior Competition. And finally, a great letter from Alessandro Querci from our Italian 133rd Ironman Chapter in Italy and their activities this past summer.

I look forward to serving as your association president this next year and look forward to meeting and talking with as many of you as I can. Please reach out.

Jerry Lang, MG (RET)
 President, 34th ID Association jerry.lang52@outlook.com (320) 250-3754
 ATTACK! ATTACK! ATTACK!
 BG (Ret) (Ret) Jerry Lang
 President, 34th ID Association

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>

Newsletter Secretary LTC (Ret) Jeremy De Gier
jeremy.degier@gmail.com
Secretary: COL (Ret) Russell Bierl, bierlhome@msn.com
Treasurer: COL (Ret) Mark Newhall mark.d.newhall@gmail.com

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

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>

34th ID Returns to the Middle East

By

CPT Keith W. McAndrews, HQ 34th ID & James E. Taylor, MG (Ret)

In 2024, the Red Bulls will return to the Middle East! On February 2024, the Division Headquarters will deploy to Fort Cavazos, TX (formerly Fort Hood, TX) to begin their support of Operation Spartan Shield.¹ They expect this deployment to last approximately one year. The Division will assume the mission to command and control Operation Spartan Shield, wherein Red Bulls will deploy across the Middle East, including Iraq, Jordan, and Kuwait. This is not the first time the Division has supported Operation Spartan Shield; they led the Spartan Shield Task Force from Nov 2018 through July 2019.

The United States Central Command (USCENTCOM) directs Spartan Shield, and Task Force Spartan is the U.S. Army component of the operation. Their mission is to maintain a military posture in Southwest Asia to strengthen defense relationships and build partner capacity. The task force that the Division will command comprises active Army and National Guard units, rounded out by Army Reserve support units.

The Red Bulls will relieve the 40th ID, California National Guard, who has led the task force since July 2023. Their support to Operation Spartan Shield represented the 40th ID's largest deployment since the Korean War in 1952.



In preparation for this deployment, the Red Bull Division participated in Exercise Immediate Response 23 from 22 May to 2 June 2023 in Croatia and North Macedonia. During the exercise, the Red Bulls led brigade-level task forces in Albania (Task Force South), Bulgaria (Task Force Black Sea), and Croatia (Task Force North). Exercise Immediate Response demonstrates the ability of the United States Forces of Europe and Africa to deploy a combat-credible force to the Balkan region to establish a multi-national division in support of a NATO mission. Its similarity to the mission of Operation Spartan Shield prepares the deploying Red Bulls for the tasks they will perform in the Middle East.

The Commanding General, MG Charles Kemper, is expected to lead the Red Bulls in this deployment. We commend the Warriors of the 34th ID, who continue the legacy of excellence established in August 1917 by those who served in the War to “end all wars.” Attack, Attack, Attack!

¹ On 24 May 2022, the Commission on the Naming of Items of the Department of Defense that Commemorate the Confederate States of America or Any Person Who Served Voluntarily with the Confederate States of America recommended that Fort Hood be renamed to Fort Cavazos. Fort Cavazos is named after GEN (Ret) Richard E. Cavazos, a native Texan and the US Army's first Hispanic four-star general. GEN Cavazos served as a Senior Mentor of the 34th ID in its preparations for deployment to the Balkans (Bosnia and Kosovo) in 2002 through 2004.

War College Graduates with 34th ID and Red Bull Ties

Six officers currently assigned to the 34th Infantry Division, and two officers previously assigned as a Red Bulls graduated from the U.S. Army War College on 28 July 2023, at Carlisle Barracks, PA.

First photo, Front Row: L to R. LTC Brandi DeGier, with MG Johanna Clyborne, MN ARNG, and MN State Chaplain, CH (COL) Philip “Buddy” Winn. Back Row: COL Dan O’Meara, LTC Martin Leppert, LTC Ryan Kelly, and LTC Jake Helgestad.

Second photo: CH (LTC) Raymond Leach after he received his diploma at the War College. Chaplain Leach served with the 1-133rd Inf Bn, 34th Inf Div, in Iraq, during the Long Deployment of 2005-2007. He currently serves as the Deputy Command Chaplain at the USAR 99 Readiness Division at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.

Third photo: COL William Lecates, NY ARNG, who served with the 334th BSB at Camp Blackhorse, Afghanistan in 2010.

All eight officers completed two years of studies in the Distance Education Program (DEP) with two dedicated Active Duty school periods in residence at Carlisle Barracks, PA, which earned the officers a U.S. Army War College Diploma and an accredited Master of Strategic Studies degree.



(Reunion Continued from Page 1)

34th Inf Div Assn. Reunion Continued



This photo shows the Des Moines Chapter host crew for the 76th Annual Reunion. The team was led by Chapter President, Dan Cain, Herman Poggensee, Daryl Drake, Curly Albrecht, Chris Stroner & Carroll Tungesvik. Along with the National Officers Lucas Queck & Mark Newhall.



Attendees at the Reunion included MG Stephen Osborn, the Adjutant General of Iowa & CSM Mathew Strasser.



Chaplain Colonel Martha Kester conducted the 34th Inf Div Memorial Service for our Fallen Soldiers this past year. The Reunion participants read the same program and we sang the same songs that was used 75 years earlier. in 1947.

34th Infantry Division Assn. Officers



2023-2024 Elected for Current Year

President MG (Ret) Jerry Lang

1st VP CSM (Ret) Dan Cain

2nd VP LTC (Ret) Jeremy De Gier

Past President SGM Lucas Queck
1 Year Trustees

Dr. Chris White

Daniel Ewer

James Avrams

LTC Randall Stanford

2 Year Trustees

Ron "Curly" Albright

Mark Zirkelbach

Willie Adams

Daryl Drake

3 Year Trustees

Herman Poggensee

Larry Woodworth

Paul Wieck

CSM (Ret) Chris Stroner

Secretary COL (Ret) Russell Bierl

Treasurer Col (Ret) Mark Newhall

Assistant Treasurer LTC (Ret) Jeremy DeGier

SGT at Arms MSG Zack Richardson

Website Mgr / Historian MSG Daniel Ewer

Chaplain CHP Col Martha Kester, Appointed

Purpose of the 34th Infantry Division Association

(Short Version)

-Maintain association with our comrades with whom we served in the 34th Infantry Division.

-Maintain and honor the memory of those who died in action and remember all of us who pass later.

-Gather and maintain the History of the Organizations, Units and Soldiers of the 34th Division.

-Support our "Wounded Warriors" who have faithfully served our nation.

-Support the museums, historical buildings and Armories of units associated with the 34th Division.

Des Moines Chapter 34th Inf Div Assn.

Meets at the Iowa Gold Star Museum Cp Dodge, Johnston IA
Dinner Meetings Mar, Apr, Jun, Aug, Sep, & Nov.

President: Dan Cain 712-326-8808

Sec: Carroll Tungesvik 515-709-9451

ctungesvik@gmail.com

Council Bluffs Chapter, 168th Infantry (SE Iowa Red Bulls)

Sec: Bill Wege

Our chapter is forty members strong. Our members meet at monthly luncheons or dinners.

Contact: LTC (Ret) James Avrams
Phone 402-650-8494

Commander's Own Chapter

President: COL (Ret.) Matt Vatter

Tres: MAJ Mark Gile

VP: COL Chad Sackett 320-412-6736

Chad.mitchel.sackett@gmail.com

The Commander's Own Chapter is collocated with the 34th Infantry Division HQ's Arden Hills, MN

Commander's Own Chapter
34th Infantry Division Association

13865 South Robert Trail
Rosemount, MN 5506

1st Minnesota Chapter –

"To The Last Man"

President: CSM (Ret) Chris Stroner

VP: Adam Stock, Sec/Tres: Sgt (Ret) Kyle Kosloske
Mankato-based 2-135 Inf Bn & Southern Minn.

Contact: **Chris Stroner** cstroner@hotmail.com

First Minnesota Chapter, 34th Inf. Div Assn.

3400 South Coon Creek Dr, Andover, MN 55304

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/1stMN34thIDAssociation>

133rd Infantry "Ironman Chapter" Waterloo

President: Gary Czuba

Sec: Marv Peters marvepeters@gmail.com

Tres: Curley Albrecht pantherfanforlife@gmail.com

Monthly coffee at Waterloo Armory at 9:30 AM
on 2nd Wednesday of month.

Dining at 63 Diner in Waterloo at 5:30 PM on 3rd
Monday of January, April, July and October.

Chapter email is ironman50701@gmail.com

Facebook

is: www.facebook.com/34IDAssocIronManChapter

The 1st Minnesota Annual Remembrance Day

July 2nd 1800hrs

Every year, on July 2nd, at 1800hrs, soldiers and friends who have served in the 2nd Battalion 135th Infantry Regiment, gather at the grave site of COL William Colvill at the Cannon Falls Cemetery, to drink a toast to Col William Colvill and those members of the 1st Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and to share in the comradery of the Regiment. The current day 135th Infantry Regiment, traces its lineage through the 1st Minnesota and 13th Minnesota Regiments, and those who have served are known as the "Sons of Colvill".

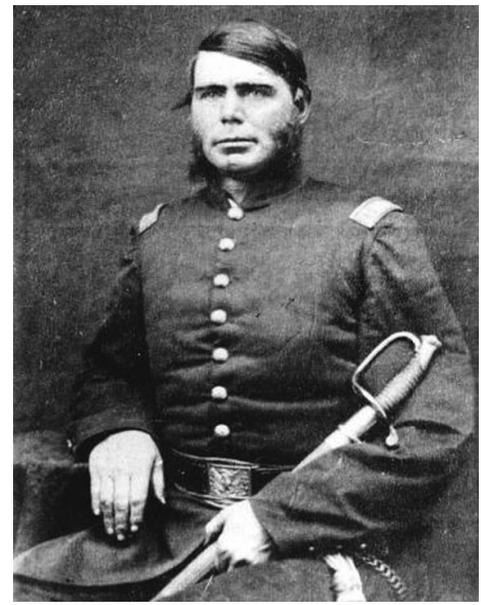
The date of July 2nd is significant as it represents the charge of the 1st Minnesota on the 2nd day of the Battle of Gettysburg in 1863, known as "The Charge that Saved the Union".

Late in the afternoon on July 2nd (the 2nd day of the battle) Confederate General Cadmus Wilcox's Alabama Brigade, around 1800 men strong, broke through the III Corps at the Wheatfield. The Union II Corps commander General Winfield Scott Hancock, seeing the danger of the Union position being overrun on Cemetery Ridge, rode up to the Minnesota troops and asked Colvill, "My God! Are these all the men we have here? What regiment is this?" Colvill responded, "1st Minnesota, Sir!" Hancock's response was "Advance, Colonel, and take those colors!"

Lt. William Lochren of the First Minnesota wrote later, "Every man realized in an instant what that order meant; death or wounds to us all, the sacrifice of the regiment, to gain a few minutes' time and save the position and probably the battlefield."



"Sons of Colvill" at the Cannon Falls Cemetery



William Colvill shown as a Company grade officer in the early 1860's

Outnumbered 4 or 5 to one, the 1st Minnesota charged the Confederate Brigade, stopping their advance and buying Hancock time to reinforce. The cost was high for the Minnesota boys. Of the 262 Minnesotans who made the charge, 215 were killed or wounded and 47 men reported present for duty that evening, no man absent. The next day the Regiment participated in repelling Pickett's Charge, losing another 17 soldiers. Col Colvill was twice wounded during the charge and would suffer the effects for the remainder of his life.

General Hancock later recalled, "I would have ordered that regiment in if I had known every man would have been killed, It had to be done." It is where the Regiment draws its motto, "To the Last Man."

Ironically, or fittingly, Col William Colvill died on June 13th, 1905 while attending a ceremony in St. Paul, MN to transfer civil war flags to the new state capitol and visiting his former comrades. Col Colvill was buried in Cannon Falls, MN. Calvin Coolidge, attended the dedication of a new monument to the Colonel in 1928, stated in his remarks, "So far as human judgment can determine, Colonel Colvill and those eight companies of the First Minnesota are entitled to rank as the saviors of their country."

After the War, Col Colvill became Minnesota Attorney General, practiced as an attorney, and later served in the Minnesota State Legislature.

Article by CSM (Ret) Chris Stroner

34th Infantry Division National Membership Application Form

NOTE: If your address Label shows (L), (W), (T) or (2) you do not owe dues for the Current Year

() Enclosed is \$10.00 for my Annual Membership in the 34th Infantry Division Association. Annual membership period is – 1 Sep thru 31 Aug of each year. (Open to past and present members of units / organizations assigned to the 34th Inf Div or soldiers who have been members of the National Guard for six years or longer.)

() Enclosed is \$10.00 for my Associate Membership in the 34th Infantry Division Association. (Annual Fee) (Period is – 1 Sep thru 31 Aug of each year). (Individuals who do not meet membership requirements, ie: Spouses, Friends, Other Services)

() Enclosed is \$_____ for my LIFE MEMBERSHIP in the 34th Infantry Division Association.
 (See Fee Schedule Below) {No Further Annual Fee}.
 To Age 60 \$100.00 At age 60 & older \$50.00



() Enclosed is \$ _____ for my donation to the 34th Infantry Division Memorial Fund.
 (Maintain all monuments and annual flowers for the Cemeteries in North Africa, Italy & U.S.)

Name _____ Street _____
 City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
 E-Mail: _____ Phone Number _____
 Age _____ Military Unit/ Organization _____ Signature: _____

Note: The purpose of the 34th Infantry Division Association is to preserve the history of the 34th Divisional units & attached organizations of soldiers that have served their nation since 1917. The National Association schedules an annual meeting each Fall.

The National Secretary is COL (Ret) Russ Bierl. His E-Mail address is bierlhome@msn.com The National Association Website is <http://www.34IDA.org> Membership Treasurer: COL (Ret) Mark Newhall Email: mark.d.newhall@gmail.com

A newsletter is sent to current members three times a year by email or U.S. mail. All newsletters are shown on the Association Website. The 34th Infantry Division Association maintains files and a desk at the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum.

Museum Store - 34th Inf Div Assn Price List – Oct 2021

34 th Red Bull Polo Shirts Size _____	\$ 25.00	34 th Red Bull Div Insignia Pins (Lapel Pin)	\$6.00
34 th Red Bull T-Shirt Size _____	\$15.00	Red Bull Patch (Black & Red)	\$6.00
		34 th Div Red Bull Neck Tie	\$15.00
34 th Red Bull Window Decal	\$2.00	34 th Div Red Bull Flag (3X5')	\$65.00
34 th Red Bull Jacket Size _____	\$25.00	Red Bull Memo Pads, 50 Sheet	\$ 2.00
34 th Div "Camouflage" Red Bull Ball Cap	\$22.00	34 th Red Bull Coffee Mug	\$ 6.00

Special Price on Books: Roaring Bull, 34th Infantry Division in the Global War on Terror \$10.00

*Add \$5.00 for shipping the first ITEM and \$2.00 per each added ITEM in the same shipment.

Sub Total \$ _____
 Shipping \$ _____
 Total \$ _____
 Name: _____

34th Infantry Division Association
7105 NW 70th Ave, Camp Dodge, Bldg 3692
Johnston, IA 50131

Street Address _____ City _____ ZIP _____

Text 515-210-1812 if you have a question.



Italian 133rd Ironmen Activities in Tuscany Region of Italy

by Alessandro Querci

Representatives from Camp Darby honor the Memorial of the 34th ID



The Governor of the Tuscany Region Mr. Giani, visits our headquarters



Memorial Service, on Sept 23rd, for the fallen soldiers of Italy, the U. S, and Germany during WWII.



The 34th Infantry Division Colors, which were made, and are being held by Mrs. Natalia Zarelli, on Hill 810. Thank you for honoring our "Famous" 34th Infantry Division.



This sign, with the 34th Inf Div emblem, marks the site of the conquest of Hill 810 at the Torricella pass, where the 34th ID fought in Tuscany, Italy. The 34th ID Association is honored that you represent us, daily in Italy at Memorial Events!

Dearest friends, good morning!

An intense September both for the Ironman Battalion Chapter and for the Linea Gotica Pistoiese Association.

On the 9th, in the presence of Civil and Military authorities, the inauguration of the "Calenzano'44" Exhibition and Documentation Center took place, home of the Italian Ironman Battalion Chapter. Among the various guests was a large representation from Camp Darby. In the words of the Mayor of Calenzano Prestini and the other speakers, words of appreciation and esteem for the work carried out so far and best wishes for future activities.

In the afternoon, the historical event "A thin green line" was kicked off, a historical re-enactment event that commemorates the liberation of the Calenzano area, in which over 50 re-enactors belonging to various associations participated. On Sunday 10th the commemorative ceremony took place in memory of the fallen with the laying of a wreath of flowers at the plaque in honor of the 34th ID, located in the Legri Remembrance Park.

On Saturday 22nd, Paolo Franceschi and Alessandro Querci on behalf of the Linea Gotica Pistoiese Association and the Ironman Chapter attended, at the invitation of the mayor, the inauguration of the headquarters of the Autism Syndrome Association, which is located in the same building that houses our structure and with which we intend to formulate a path to help bring people with psychophysical disorders closer to the knowledge of history through facilitated cognitive paths.

Also during the morning of the 22nd, we received a surprise visit from the Governor of the Tuscany Region, who, not having been able to be present at the inauguration, still wanted to dedicate a meeting to us to learn more about our activity and to convey his greetings he. We remind the members of the 34th IDA that the Linea Gotica Pistoiese Association last year obtained recognition as the "Historical Association of the Tuscany Region".

On Sunday 23rd, as anticipated in a previous communication to the Association's secretariat, at the invitation of the Municipality of Vernio and the Association of Officers on Leave (UNUCI), a picket in historical uniform and divisional flag participated in the celebration of the 79th anniversary of the conquest of Colle 810 at the Torricella Pass. The ceremony saw the presence of military and civil authorities including the banners of the Region, the Province and the Municipality of Prato, the latter awarded the Silver Medal for Civil Valor.

At the end of the ceremony the representation presented their greetings to the Mayor of Vernio on behalf of the 34th IDA, thanking him for the invitation received which allowed us to remember the fallen of the Division.

Since we are increasingly called upon to be present at representation ceremonies, for some time we have equipped ourselves with a divisional flag of the 34th entirely handmade by Natalia, wife of member Settimi. We are also thinking of equipping it with Streamers too. In this regard, we also wanted to hear your opinion.

Once this aspect has been clarified, we will proceed with the acquisition of the missing elements, deciding whether we can find them here in Italy or looking for alternative solutions.

A cordial greeting to all of you from the Italian Chapter.

Respectfully

Alessandro Querci

Eight National Guard Divisions

By Corey Dickenstein, STARS AND STRIPES

WASHINGTON — The Army National Guard has plans to move most of its infantry and armor brigades under the command of its eight established division headquarters, as it reorganizes its fighting formations to give the force more combat power and some soldiers new career opportunities, officials said.

The Army Guard move will mark a substantial increase in the number of fully manned divisions that the U.S. Army can deploy, as only the service's 10 active-duty divisions are now filled out with subordinate units, said Lt. Gen. Daniel Hokanson, the director of the Army National Guard. The increase to 18 complete Army divisions comes at a time when service officials believe a major conflict with a near-peer rival namely "Russia or China" would require the employment of full divisions. For the last two decades, the Army has focused on its brigade combat teams as its primary fighting elements for counterterrorism operations and deployments focused on assisting the forces of other nations.

"When you look at the National Defense Strategy and competition among near-peer competitors, that great power competition, there is a potential for large-scale combat operations ...and it could actually be division level fights," Hokanson said in an interview Thursday ahead of the Guard's planned announcement Saturday. "We wanted to make sure that everything that the Army National Guard did was in support of the total Army and the National Defense Strategy, and one issue was that our divisions are just headquarters they don't have actual brigades assigned under them."

The National Defense Strategy, crafted by former Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, guides the Pentagon on future planning, placing the potential for major conflict with rivals China and Russia as the nation's primary national security threat. For the two decades prior, the military had focused almost exclusively on fighting transnational terrorist organizations, which the strategy defined as a lesser threat than those posed by nation-state competitors. The Army National Guard now has eight Division headquarters elements stationed in Pennsylvania -28th, Virginia -29th, Minnesota -34th, Kansas -35th, Texas -36th, Indiana -38th, California -40th and New York -42nd.

Each HQ' Battalion is made up of approximately 300 soldiers. Most have established relationships with subordinate units, but none are fully manned in the way the Regular Army has built its divisions, which boast about 20,000 soldiers in the ranks.

CSM (Ret) Chris Stroner Message

1st Minnesota Chapter, 34th ID Assn.

"Please join the 1st Minnesota Chapter members in supporting the Pat Tilman Foundation on November 12th at "Invictus Brewing" in Blaine Minnesota, for the "Pints for Pat" fundraiser.

I am guessing most people reading this know Pat Tilman's story. Information and registration link below. Hope to see you there.

Registration <https://secure.qgiv.com/.../event/pintsforpat2023minnesota/>

Pat Timan's Story

<https://pattillmanfoundation.org/the-foundation/pats-story/> "

Pat's Story: (Short Version)

Pat Tillman was a star football player out of Arizona State University, who was recruited by the Arizona Cardinals, as a 10th Round choice. He became the team's starting safety and broke the franchise record for tackles in 2000. Pat joined the U.S. Army in July, after the 9 / 11 Terrorist Attack on the US. He committed to a three-year term of enlistment, stating it was his contribution to defending his country.

He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment in Fort Lewis, Washington. He served tours in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003, and in Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom in 2004. On the evening of April 22, 2004, Pat's unit was ambushed as it traveled through the rugged, canyon terrain of eastern Afghanistan. His heroic efforts to provide cover for fellow soldiers as they escaped from the canyon led to his untimely and tragic death via fratricide.

While the story of Pat's death may have been the most publicized in the War on Terror, it is Pat's life, principles and service that are his true legacy. Pat's family and friends started the Pat Tillman Foundation to carry forward that legacy by giving military service members, veterans and spouses who embody those principles the educational tools and support to reach their fullest potential as leaders, no matter how they choose to serve.

Iowa & Minnesota, 34th ID Soldiers Win Regional Best Warrior Title By Spc. Sierra Campbell, 196th MPAD

NEWTON FALLS, OHIO – Soldiers from across the Midwest and from Hungary and the Republic of Serbia tested their mental and physical fortitude in the five-day regional Best Warrior Competition at Camp James A. Garfield Joint Military Training Center May 3-7.

The fourteen enlisted and NCO's from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin competed to be the Best Warrior Soldier and NCO of the Year, testing their mental and physical fortitude in rigorous training events.

Staff Sgt. Leo Kerfeld, infantryman, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 34th Inf Div, Minnesota Army National Guard, took home the NCO title. Spc. John Shields, combat medic specialist, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 34th Inf Div, Iowa Army National Guard, won the enlisted title.

Each competitor worked through the Army Combat Fitness Test, water survival, a 12-mile ruck march, land navigation and other events. During the Expert Physical Fitness Assessment, Soldiers completed a 1-mile run, 30 dead-stop hand-release push-ups and a 100-meter sprint. They immediately lifted 16 sandbags onto a 66-inch-tall platform, carried two 40-pound water cans 50 meters, and completed a 25-meter-high crawl and another 1-mile run.

Winners of the regional competitions will represent the Army National Guard in the Department of the Army Best Warrior Competition in Anchorage, Alaska, later this year in 2023.

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34th Infantry Division Association

Camp Dodge - Bldg 3692

7105 NW 70TH Ave

Johnston, IA 50131