



# Geronimo! Vo



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

JANUARY 2013

## John Devanie Honored

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Main Stories	1
Inside Story	2
1st 509 updates	3
Pictures	4/5
3rd 509 Updates	6
509 News/Ads	7
Membership App.	8



**Black 509th Elite T-2**  
A Bold Images 509 Product

World War II veteran John Devanie is honored by Consul General of France Frederic Bontems, left, after receiving the French Legion of Honor Award during a ceremony honoring the veterans for their wartime service to France at Ellington Airport in Houston, Thursday, Jan. 31, 2013. See story and pictures on pages 4/5 Video link:

<http://landing.newsinc.com/shared/video.html?freewheel=91051&sitesection=kiah&VID=24301441>

### 509th PIA GETS ITS OWN ONLINE STORE

**509th Parachute Infantry Regiment Online Store!**  
Wear your part of an American military legend today, shop 509th PIA, and support your

nonprofit 509th PIA Association with the custom placement of your 509th era's images. You can have all images at the store printed,

there, on any item you choose at the PIA STORE online.

Use this link for the 509th website and click on the 509 STORE option:

[www.509thgeronimo.org](http://www.509thgeronimo.org)

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **509th PIA STORE NOW UP AND RUNNING**
- **1ST AND 3RD BATTALION UPDATES**
- **MEMBERSHIP APP**
- **UPDATES ON MEMBERS AND 509ERS**
- **ADVERTIZING**
- **UPCOMING EVENTS**
- **509TH WEBSITE LINK**

<http://509thgeronimo.org/>

## 509<sup>th</sup> Store Information

### Initial products available:

- Shirts (T-Shirts, long & short Sleeve / Polo)
  - Sweatshirts (Hooded & Regular)
  - Bags
  - 11 Oz. Coffee Mug
  - 15 oz. Coffee Mug
  - 14 oz. Stainless Steel Travel Mug
  - 20 oz. Aluminum Water Bottle
- “Custom” Posters & Prints (Can send personal photos and blend with 509<sup>th</sup> graphics)
  - (1) 509<sup>th</sup> Embroidered Baseball Hat G-Man Patch w/ Airborne tab
  - 10% profit for 509 PIA per complete order, (Minus Sales Tax & Shipping) Bold – Images sales through 509<sup>th</sup> store will also garner 10% for the organization. Mainly bulk orders, but 509’ers can use for civilian business and help the association.

### **Easy access the 509 PIA Store:**

Click on [http://bold-images.com/509\\_PIA\\_Store](http://bold-images.com/509_PIA_Store)

Choose the product you want

Choose the design you want

Decide if you want to personalize it

Check out with mailing and credit info

It’s as easy as that

**\*\*\*10% of all sales go to the 509 PIA, even if 509ers or friends and family use the store for other businesses or fundraisers!**



## Fort Polk's Ten-Miler Team to run in Washington, D.C.

October, 19 2012

### Fort Polk's Ten-Miler Team to run in Washington, D.C. Sunday, October 21!

FORT POLK, La. — Fort Polk's Ten-miler team held their last practice Oct. 15 before leaving early Oct. 18 to drive to Washington, D.C. for The Association of the United States Army Ten-Miler, which takes place Sunday.

This year, 30,100 runners are participating in the event. The race begins and ends at the Pentagon and passes national monuments and memorials as it winds through the nation's capital, according to [www.ausa.org](http://www.ausa.org).



*Fort Polk's Ten-Miler team stands with Brig. Gen. Clarence K.K. Chinn, Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk commanding general and Command Sgt Maj. Clarence Keithley, Command Sergeant Major, JRTC and Fort Polk Oct. 15 as the team prepares to travel to Washington, D.C. for the Association of the United States Army Ten-Miler taking place Sunday. (From L to R) 1st Lt. Samuel Woo, 162nd Infantry Brigade, Warrant Officer Rosemary McGuire, Staff Judge Advocate, 1st Lt. David Worsham, 1st Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, Sgt. Enock Nyaenya, U.S. Army Air Ambulance Detachment, 5th Aviation Battalion, Maj. Jason Rosenstrauch, non commissioned officer in charge, 4th Brigade Combat Team,*

To encourage the Fort Polk team to do its best, Brig. Gen. Clarence K.K. Chinn, Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk commanding general, met with the Soldiers Oct. 15 for a pep talk.

“I appreciate you guys and all the hard work you have put into training for the 10 -miler race. I know you have done it on your own time while maintaining your normal duties and I and Fort Polk thank you for all your efforts,” said Chinn.

## Panetta announces new Distinguished Warfare Medal

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta has approved a new medal designed to recognize service members directly affecting combat operations who may not even be on the same continent as the action. The Distinguished Warfare Medal recognizes the changing face of warfare. In the past, few, if any, service members not ac-

tually in a combat zone directly affected combat operations

“The medal provides distinct, department wide recognition for the extraordinary achievements that directly impact on combat operations, but that do not involve acts of valor or physical risk that combat entails,” Panetta said. It will be awarded in the name of the Secretary of De-

fense to members of the military whose extraordinary achievements directly impacted combat operations, and cannot be used as an end-of-tour award. In the order of precedence, the Distinguished Warfare Medal will be below the Distinguished Flying Cross, and will be limited to achievements that are truly extraordinary.

# Geronimo!



National Order of the Legion of Honour  
*Ordre national de la Légion d'honneur*



Thanks to Hal Persun and John Eaves for Pictures/Info for article.



*Ambassade de France  
aux Etats-Unis*

*L' Ambassadeur  
2764*

Washington, November 30, 2012

Dear Mr. De Vanie:

I am pleased to inform you that by decree of President Hollande on November 9, 2012, you have been appointed a "Chevalier" of the Legion of Honor.

This award testifies to President Hollande's high esteem for your merits and accomplishments. In particular, it is a sign of France's infinite gratitude and appreciation for your personal and precious contribution to the United States' decisive role in the liberation of our country during World War II.

The Legion of Honor was created by Napoleon in 1802 to acknowledge services rendered to France by persons of exceptional merit. The French people will never forget your courage and your devotion to the great cause of freedom.

It is a true pleasure for me to convey to you our sincere and warm congratulations.

In order to determine a date and time when the insignia could be bestowed upon you, please contact Ms. Marie-Laure Reed in our Consulate in Houston ([marie-laure.reed@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:marie-laure.reed@diplomatie.gouv.fr) +1 (713) 985 3266). In the meantime, please find enclosed a brief fact sheet, which explains in more detail the award you will receive.

Once again, my heartfelt congratulations.

Sincerely,

François Delattre

Mr. John C. De Vanie  
1309 Pasa Tiempo  
Leander, TX 78641

**John said, "I accept  
this award on be-  
half of the past, the  
present, and the fu-  
ture 509ers."**

## Spartans honor fallen with monument

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska –

Family, friends and paratroopers gathered for a memorial dedication at the 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, headquarters to honor soldiers killed in action during the brigade's recent deployment to Afghanistan.

Maj. Kenneth Bolin, 4-25th ABCT chaplain, led the invocation which focused on the sacrifices of the fallen.

"So strengthen us now, and in the days to come, so we may not forget the sacrifices of these men and the many more they represent."

Brigade Commander Col. Morris T. Goins spoke to a somber audience of the sacrifices the fallen soldiers made for their nation.

"You see the sacrifice of our fallen, our families, our friends and our community," Goins said. "We the people helped the people of Afghanistan have options to create a government of their very own that provides for their safety and happiness as well. In other words, we've given them an option. In order for our nation to continue to be the ray of hope for the world and our own people, we the people must continue to sacrifice."

Several family members of the Spartan Heroes, respectfully referred to as Gold Star family members, listened solemnly as Goins openly grieved their loss.

"The Gold Star families that are represented here today, as well as the paratroopers in our community, i.e., 'We the People,' have saved lives in Afghanistan, provided a foreign nation options and protected our families so the future generations of Americans can be free," Goins said. "Sadly, though, in our pursuit of freedom, we suffered fallen comrades. There are eight paratroopers and six soldiers of Task Force Spartan

"For the fallen and to the families, I will say this. I will honor you and the fallen by living my life to the fullest," Goins said. "I will ensure that our children remain free and lastly, I will remember our fallen as they lived for what they stood for: something greater than themselves. To the families and friends of the fallen, you are not alone. We are always here to talk, and more importantly just [to] listen.

The names of the honored were read, followed by a moment of silence. The ceremony moved out-



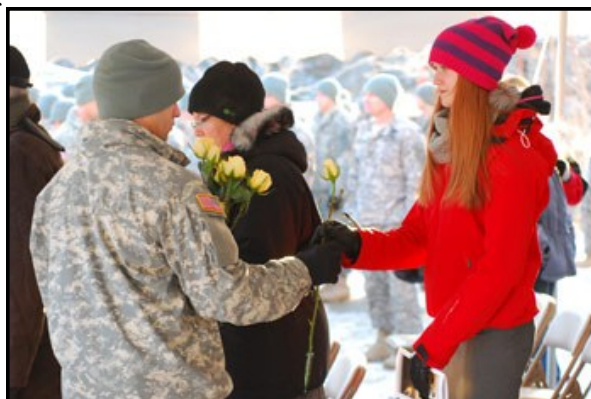
who paid for our earthly freedoms."

Goins then spoke to the friends and loved ones of the paratroopers being honored.

doors where Goins and 4-25th Command Sgt. Maj. Terry Gardner unveiled a stone monument to the fallen soldiers. Their names were engraved on the stone.

After the unveiling of the memorial, a wreath was presented in front of it, followed by the firing of the volleys and the sounding of Taps.

Gold Star Family members were allowed to pay their respects first and take photographs of the memorial stone.





PO Box 860, Huntsville,  
Alabama 35804

**Peggy's BORO EMBROIDERY**

Peggy Gross  
15 Parkridge Court  
Springboro, Ohio 45066

(937) 474-3058 Cell  
(937) 748-1479 Fax  
pegster8711@hotmail.com

## BIG DONATION THANK YOU!

The Executive committee and the Board of Directors of the 509 PIA would like to send a heartfelt **THANK YOU TO BILL CARMODY**, and his company for their generous donation of \$5,000 to the association, half of which will be used to defray the traveling expenses of our WWII members to our reunions. Thanks Bill

We're on the Web!

<http://>

[www.509thgeronimo.org/](http://www.509thgeronimo.org/)



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND  
1600 SPEARHEAD DIVISION AVENUE, DEPARTMENT 480  
FORT KNOX, KY 40122-5408

PERMANENT ORDER 219-11

6 August 2012

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment  
Company A, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment  
Company C, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment  
Company B, 1st Battalion, 77th Armored Regiment  
Company B, 9th Engineer Battalion  
Company C, 3d Battalion, 509th Infantry Regiment (30 November 2006 to 21 December 2006)

Announcement is made of the following award:

Award: Presidential Unit Citation

Period of service: 5 November 2006 to 14 May 2007

Authority: AR 600-8-22, paragraph 7-13

Reason: For extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy. During the period 5 November 2006 to 14 May 2007, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment and the cited units displayed conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action while conducting combat operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Soldiers of these units displayed gallantry, determination and esprit de corps in the face of a determined enemy in the Adhamiyah District of Baghdad, Iraq despite enormous personal sacrifice. The units arrived from Germany in early August 2006 and without benefit of Relief-In-Place, started conducting combat patrols in less than four weeks from notification of their deployment. The units organized into a combined arms force in order to accomplish the mission. They faced daily attacks in the form of traditional and deep buried improvised explosive devices, explosively formed penetrators, indirect fire, snipers, small-arms fire and hand grenades. Despite the incredibly complex and dangerous environment, the Soldiers were awarded 51 medals for valor for actions while closing with and destroying the enemy. The Soldiers of these units accomplished their mission of reducing sectarian violence in Adhamiyah by lowering the murder rate from eight daily to less than two a week. The units facilitated the destruction or disruption of an additional fifteen Al Qaeda In Iraq group cells, detained 136 insurgents including four division high-value targets and 17 brigade high-value targets, reduced 29 caches, cleared 37,800 kilometers of road and conducted more than 1,700 patrols to establish security in Adhamiyah. The units established joint security stations, built the Adhamiyah safe neighborhood and initiated several million dollars in projects. The actions of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment and the cited units are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon the unit and the United States Army.

Format: 320

Additional Instructions: This order serves as official notification that a unit award has been approved for the organization(s) listed above and will serve as authority for eligible Soldiers to update their records and wear the award. The award is still subject to final confirmation in Department of the Army General Orders. Official verification of a specific unit's entitlement to display the award in the form of an appropriate streamer on its flag or guidon rests with the U.S. Army Center of Military History (CMH), which is also responsible for determining official unit Lineage and Honors for MTOE organizations. CMH will use this permanent order to authorize

**2013**  
**509 PIA Reunion**  
**Ft Bragg, NC**  
**See You There!!!**

**Organization Dues Statement**

January 1-December 31

**Annual 509<sup>th</sup> PIA Membership**

- |                  |                          |                                                   |                  |
|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>CHARTER</b>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>WORLD WAR II VETERAN</b>                       | \$20.00 per year |
| <b>LEGACY</b>    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>IMMEDIATE FAMILY OF VETERAN</b>                | \$20.00 per year |
| <b>REGULAR</b>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>POST WORLD WAR II 509<sup>TH</sup> VETERAN</b> | \$25.00 per year |
| <b>ASSOCIATE</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>NON 509<sup>TH</sup> VETERAN</b>               | \$25.00 per year |

*Please make check payable to:*

**509<sup>th</sup> PIA**

*and send to:*

**509<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Association**  
**P.O. Box 860**  
**Huntsville, AL 35804**

**We Need Your Support**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Check the box if you Do Not want your name and information listed in the Membership Directory