



The



# RED DRAGON REPORT

## 2016 Red Dragons Gathering

July 6-10 Nashville, TN

This year's gathering of Red Dragons will be in Nashville. We want to invite members of Red Dragon companies, notably the 10<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, 44<sup>th</sup>, 46<sup>th</sup>, 63<sup>rd</sup>, 101<sup>st</sup>, 172<sup>nd</sup> and 181<sup>st</sup>. We will be at the **Holiday Inn Express Nashville Southeast – Antioch** at 201 Crossings Place, Nashville TN 37013, tel. (615) 731-3261

<http://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/nashville/bnacr/hoteldetail>

Our group room rate will be \$119 plus \$20.64 tax.

### **WHAT YOU NEED TO DO**

**ONE** Make your hotel reservations ASAP – there is a big event in Nashville this week and the place will fill up fast. BE SURE to say you are with the Red Dragons as this saves us money on the hospitality room.

**TWO** Send me money! By June 6, please send a check for \$45 per person to cover hospitality room, refreshments, etc.

PLUS

\$80 for each person who will attend the banquet Saturday night

PLUS

The cost of any of the following activities in which you would like to participate:

- Grand Ole Opryland tour visit backstage and onstage, hear stories of the many stars who have sung here **\$55/person**

- Tour of Hermitage, Andrew Jackson’s plantation home. Get a view of life in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, plus find out what he did to be on the twenty dollar bill. **\$70/person**
- Grand Old Opry Performance This is a fun evening whether you are a country music fan or not **\$55/person**

Send your check to

Red Dragons Association  
 1455 Spanish Lakes Avenue  
 Saint Gabriel, LA 70776-5331

### **Financial Report**

<b>Beginning Balance YE 2014</b>	\$250.25
Donations	\$575.00
Newsletter	(\$496.02)
Reunion expenses	(\$2377.4)
Income, Bank fees, website fees (net)	(\$9.16)
Reunion revenues	\$2275.00
Raffle	\$122.00
<b>Ending Balance YE 2015</b>	<b>\$339.67</b>

## **New Red Dragon Company**

The 10<sup>th</sup> Chemical Company was reactivated and joined the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chemical Battalion on 14 April 2016. This company, to be known as “Enforcers – Defenders of the Corps” has a long history including ten campaigns during 4 years in Viet Nam. The company started out 68 years ago and one of its earliest tasks was to repair 4.2-inch mortars for the 2nd Chemical Mortar battalion. The unit will be stationed at Fort Carson, CO.

## Report on 2015 Reunion - New Orleans

This reunion was the first one in a long time that has included group activities such as tours. We had a city tour of New Orleans, a visit to Destrehan pre-civil war plantation, and an airboat tour of the Louisiana swamp. Our hotel was only a few blocks from the World War II Museum, and the day we spent among planes, tanks, Higgins boats and other displays was a highlight of the week. The Memorial Banquet was at the world-renowned Commander's Palace restaurant, and was a meal to remember.



# 25th Anniversary Desert Storm Reunion

Red Dragons of the 46th Chemical Company gathered in Austin, TX to recognize the 25th anniversary. We were there literally on the 25th anniversary of the beginning of the ground war on January 15, 1991. This was the first time that some had seen each other since returning from the Middle East.

The group visited Fort Hood to mingle with active duty soldiers and see displays of modern equipment. There was astonishment on both sides in comparing the barracks of today with those of yesteryear. A high point was visiting the M1059 smoke track displayed on the 2nd Chemical Battalion parade ground; these vehicles were hearth and home for Red Dragons during four long months in the desert.

COL (Ret) Mike brown, who was 2nd Chemical S-3 in Desert Storm, shared his after action briefing with the group. This brought up some interesting memories, and resolved some questions about things that happened and why. We're hopeful of seeing more "Smoke Dawgs" of the 46th at future reunions.



# Dragons in the Box

In March the Red Dragons from Fort Hood and Fort Bragg went into “The Box” – the term given to the intensive, high stress environment at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana. This experience will be the subject of a documentary that Walt Eldredge shot on site and is now editing. When it’s complete we will send out a link so that everybody can see it on YouTube.



*"Dragons in the Box"*

## Roster

The current Red Dragon Roster is at <http://www.red-dragons.org/2-G%20Roster%202015%2005%2023.pdf>

## TAPS

No names have been reported as deceased since the last issue of the Red Dragon Report

# 63rd Chemical Company Rejoins Red Dragons

After several years under another battalion the “Dragonmasters” of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Chemical Company, stationed at Fort Campbell, KY rejoined the 2d Chemical Battalion in mid-April. This company has a long and honorable tradition, carrying seven combat streamers for World War II (one with arrowhead) three for Southwest Asia and two for the War on Terrorism. The company has received two Meritorious Unit Citations, one in World War II and the other in Southwest Asia

# 172nd Chemical Company to Rejoin Red Dragons

This summer the 172<sup>nd</sup> Chemical Company, stationed at Fort Riley, KS, will rejoin the 2d Chemical Battalion. Activated in 1942 as a Smoke Generator Company, the “Gladiators” carry four campaign streamers for service in Italy in World War II and to streamers for Southwest Asia. The company figures heavily in the “Dragons in the Box” video during which they demonstrated mass casualty decontamination and conducted reconnaissance in a radioactive environment.

# Red Dragons Paint a Rock

At the National training Center in Yakima, WA it is traditional for units to paint a rock with their insignia. After their training rotation in October 2015, the presence of artists among the Red Dragons was revealed by their insignia rock, shown below.



# What was the Score, Again?

For those of us who have lost count, there are now five Red Dragon companies: 44<sup>th</sup> and 181<sup>st</sup> at Fort Hood, 21<sup>st</sup> at Fort Bragg, 10<sup>th</sup> at Fort Carson, and 63<sup>rd</sup> at Fort Campbell. This summer the 172<sup>nd</sup> at Fort Riley will be added.

## Why Come to Reunions?

Used to be that reunions were a time for veterans of wars long past to get together for memories and catch-up. That still works, but more and more there is a new element. Young, active duty soldiers are showing up at reunions, hungry for information about their predecessors. Come and share your memories with them. Your stories deserve to be told, and today's soldiers deserve to hear them.

## Test Your Red Dragon Knowledge

1. What was the original unit from which the Red Dragons are descended? A. 30th Engineers B. 1st Gas Regiment C. 2nd Separate Chemical Battalion
2. By what nickname was this unit known? (Still designates HHD of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chemical Battalion.) A. Fire Dragons B. Hell on Huns C. Hellfire
3. On the unit insignia, what do the circles under the dragon's foot signify? A. Bore of a 4.2-inch mortar B. wheel of a vehicle because unit was motorized C. Willingness to deploy worldwide
4. During the Korean War, how many consecutive days did the Red Dragons serve in combat without relief or going into reserve? A. 510 B. 368 C. 1007

Answers 1. A, 2. C, 3. B, 4. C

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