

506<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment

4<sup>th</sup> Brigade Combat Team

101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault)



**CURRAHEE**

Memorial Dedication  
Ceremony

November 12, 2009

# OFFICIALS

Commander  
Brigade Sergeant Major

COL Sean M. Jenkins  
CSM Timothy D. Coop

## BRIGADE STAFF

XO.....MAJ Darman Place  
S1.....MAJ Robert Humphreys  
S2.....MAJ Jay Johnson  
S3.....MAJ Jason Wesbrock  
S4.....MAJ Ted Shinn

## BATTALION COMMAND TEAMS



1-506<sup>th</sup> Infantry

LTC David B. Womack

CSM Michael Judd



2-506<sup>th</sup> Infantry

LTC Donn H. Hill

CSM Christopher J. Menton



1-61<sup>st</sup> Cavalry

LTC William B. Johnson

CSM Anthony R. Broadhead



4-320<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery

LTC Andrew T. Rendon

CSM Victor R. Wilburn



4<sup>th</sup> Brigade Special Troops Battalion

LTC Ivan P. Beckman

CSM Steven E. Broughton



801<sup>st</sup> Brigade Support Battalion

LTC David J. Preston

CSM Gary R. Holder



# SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

**Welcome**

**National Anthem \***

**Invocation \***

**Currahee History**

**Wreath Presentation**

**Memorial Unveiling**

**Commander's Remarks**

**Diary Reading**

**21 Gun Salute**

**TAPS**

**Retreat**

**\* Please Stand**



# HONORARY COL & CSM



***506<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment  
Honorary Commander  
COL Richard Seitz (Ret.)***

Colonel (retired) Richard Seitz was commissioned a Second Lieutenant, Infantry, in June 1969 from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. Over the course of his 24 year career, Colonel Seitz served in Vietnam with 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 506<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault). During this 18-month period with the 2-506<sup>th</sup> Infantry, Colonel Seitz served as a Rifle Platoon Leader, a Reconnaissance Platoon Leader, Assistant Battalion S-3 and a Rifle Company Commander. He is currently the Honorary Commander of the 506<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment.



***506<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment  
Honorary Command Sergeant Major  
CSM Robert G. Nichols (Ret.)***

Command Sergeant Major Nichols was born in Huntington, West Virginia on 23 January 1952. He entered active service January 1969. Over the course of his 32 year career, Command Sergeant Major Nichols served over 15 years with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. He held leadership positions from Squad Leader to Brigade Command Sergeant Major, as well as Commandant of the Noncommissioned Officer Academy. He served in the 187<sup>th</sup>, 327<sup>th</sup>, 502<sup>d</sup> and the 506<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiments. He is currently the Honorary Sergeant Major of the 506<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment.

## Previous Colonels of the 506<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment

COL Robert F. Sink  
LTC Charles H. Chase  
COL Theodore A. Seely  
LTC Robert E. Wallace  
COL John E. Brooks Jr.  
COL William A. McNulty

COL Russell M. Miner  
COL Robert C. Works  
COL Harry H. Critz  
COL Arden W. Dow  
COL Edley Craighill Sr.  
COL Edward A. Cummings

LTC John P. Arntz  
COL Elvy B. Roberts  
COL Richard J. Allen  
COL Thomas D. Vail  
COL John P. Johnson

# CURRAHEE HISTORY

The 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, "Currahee" was established on July 20, 1942 at Camp Toccoa, Georgia. Throughout World War II, the Currahee Regiment received Presidential Unit Citations for combat action in Normandy and Bastogne with battle streamers for action in Normandy, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace and Central Europe. The 506th was inactivated at the end of World War II and later assigned as a training unit at Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky and later moved to Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

The 506th was reactivated and deployed to the Central Highlands of Vietnam in 1967. While in Vietnam, the Regiment was converted from Airborne to Airmobile Infantry. Here, our battalions would serve for four years, earn twelve more battle streamers, and receive a third Presidential Unit Citation for actions at Dong Ap Bia Mountain, better known as "Hamburger Hill." In December 1971 the 506th redeployed back to Fort Campbell and was deactivated in May 1984.

From 1987-2004, the 1st Battalion (Red Currahee), "Stood Alone" in Korea as the only American combat force north of the Imjin River. In August 2004, the Red Currahees deployed with other elements of the 2nd Infantry Division to Iraq where they served for one year and re-deployed to Fort Carson, Colorado where the Currahee flag was inactivated in September 2005.

The 506th was reactivated as the 4th Brigade Combat Team of the 101st Airborne at Fort Campbell on October 13, 2005. The modern day Currahee "Band of Brothers" consists of the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 506th Infantry, along with 1st Squadron, 61st Cavalry; 4th Battalion, 320th Field Artillery; the 4th Brigade Special Troops Battalion; and the 801st Brigade Support Battalion. This force deployed to Iraq from November 2005 through November 2006 where it served in East Baghdad with distinction. In March of 2008, the 4th Brigade Combat Team deployed to Afghanistan and transitioned to Combined Task Force Currahee, consisting of almost 6,000 service members from the United States, Poland and the Czech Republic to promote peace and prosperity to the people of Paktya, Paktika, Khost, Ghazni, Logar and Wardak as part of Combined-Joint Task Force 101.

From "Currahee Mountain" in Toccoa, to Hitler's Eagle's Nest in Berchtesgaden, Hamburger Hill in the Central Highlands of Vietnam, and most recently the peaks of Afghanistan—the Currahee Soldiers continue to "Stand Alone" yet "Stand Together" proud of our past, and prepared to face the challenges of the future.

# CURRAHEE

## MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of the Congress the Medal of Honor to:

### **SSG Clyde L. Choate**

SSG Choate assaulted an enemy tank single-handed, his determination to follow the vehicle, and his skill and crushing thoroughness in the attack prevented the enemy from capturing a battalion command post and turned a probable defeat into a victory.

### **SP4C Peter M. Guenette**

Through his actions, he prevented loss of life or injury to at least 3 men and enabled his comrades to maintain their fire superiority.

### **SP4C Frank A. Herda**

Sp4c Herda selflessly covered a blast with his own body, preventing 2 comrades from being seriously injured or killed and enabled the remaining defender to kill the other sappers.

### **SGT Gordon R. Roberts**

By his gallant and selfless actions, Sgt. Roberts contributed directly to saving the lives of his comrades and served as an inspiration to his fellow soldiers in the defeat of the enemy force.

### **PFC Kenneth Michael Kays**

Pfc. Kays showed heroic lifesaving efforts by moving into enemy held territory to treat a wounded American lying there. Only after his fellow wounded soldiers had been treated and evacuated did he allow his own wounds to be treated. These courageous acts by Pfc. Kays resulted in the saving of numerous lives and inspired others in his company to repel the enemy.

### **LTC Andre C. Lucas**

Lt. Col. Lucas was mortally wounded while directing the successful withdrawal of his battalion from the fire base. His actions inspired his men to heroic efforts, and were instrumental in saving the lives of many of his fellow soldiers while inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy.

**VALOR**

