

**Tuesday, January 06, 2004**

## Bulldog brigade officer epitomizes 'duty, honor, and country' values

By: Sgt. Christopher Stanis, 1AD PAO

BAGHDAD, Iraq – “Duty, honor, country: Those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you can be, what you will be ... they build your basic character,” said Gen. of the Army Douglas MacArthur in a 1962 speech given at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.

First Armored Division’s 3rd Brigade Combat Team deputy operations officer, Capt. Eric Strong will represent the division as one of U.S. Army Europe’s two officers and one warrant officer nominated for the Gen. Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award.

The award was established in 1987 by the Gen. Douglas MacArthur Foundation and the Army to recognize company - grade leaders who demonstrate the MacArthur’s ideals of duty, honor and country.

“Selecting Capt. Eric Strong to represent the brigade was no easy task,” said Col. Russ Gold, 3BCT commander. “As with so many others, Capt. Strong represents all that is good and he epitomizes the true meaning of what the MacArthur Leadership Award is supposed to symbolize.”

Thirteen awards are given for the Army’s active duty component and seven each for the Army Reserve and National Guard.

Hailing from Syracuse, N.Y., Strong described himself as a typical boy, growing up “playing Army.”

“Making guns out of wood in your dad’s work shed, playing with miniature Army men ... running around in the woods, playing hide and go seek, camping; I did all of that outdoor stuff (associated with the military,)” Strong said.

But it wasn’t until his college years at Notre Dame that Strong was revisited from his childhood thoughts of the military.

“A friend from college invited me to check out the Reserve Officer’s Training Corps,” Strong said.

His reason for joining: “It just felt right.”

Almost every man in the Strong family served in the military. Though they just did their time and got out, they nurtured a patriotic environment.

“I was brought up to love the values that America holds dear,” Strong said, “an environment that embraced, and had pride and respect (for the military.)”

Strong attended the basic airborne and air assault courses as a cadet. And it was at the air assault course that he received his first -- and possibly most impacting -- leadership experience.

If a student receives an unsatisfactory grade, or “no-go”, on a tested event in the air assault course he is allowed a retake.

Strong was the class leader. He was receiving all “go’s” on the tested events during a portion of the course, and then received a no-go. At the next test station an instructor asked how he was doing. With a bitter attitude, Strong said not well.

“The instructor pulled me aside and said, ‘if you’re going to be an officer you have to know your job and you have to know your soldiers’ job. You can’t afford to show a lack of confidence,’” Strong said. “That was my first true taste as a



leader about what good trainers and leaders do. He took time to talk to me for 15 or 20 minutes.”

After receiving his commission as an armor officer in 1997, Strong was assigned to the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment at Fort Carson, Colo. – a good first assignment, he said, because he received a lot of field training to practice his skills. He served as a tank platoon leader and scout platoon leader.

After attending the Aviation Captain’s Career Course at Fort Rucker, Ala., in 2001, Strong arrived to Fort Riley to serve as the S-3 (operations) air officer for 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor Regiment.

In February 2002, Strong took command of Hawk Troop, the brigade’s reconnaissance troop.

People who know Strong said his personal style and leadership techniques provide the needed direction, motivation and purpose for his unit to thrive in an uncertain and challenging environment.

Soon, Strong found his troop in Baghdad, delivering and distributing over 250,000 cylinders of propane gas – the primary cooking and heating oil in Iraq – to thousands of Iraqis.

Strong said deploying to combat is the most important thing he has done in the military.

“You can train and you can prepare for it, but until you do it, you don’t know how you will be, you don’t know how you will do,” he said.

It was Strong’s actions with Hawk Troop in combat and leading up to it that received him the recognition and nomination for the MacArthur Leadership Award.

“I have seen Eric perform his duties in peace and in times of war. He has seen the best and worst of humanity, and never wavered in times of hardship,” Gold said. “He always leads from the front and defines the true meaning of selfless service.”

# The Old Ironsides Report *January 6, 2004*

## *News...*

### **U.S. Begins Tracking Foreign Arrivals**

ATLANTA (AP) - Authorities began scanning fingerprints and taking photographs of arriving foreigners Monday as part of a new program that Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said will make borders "open to travelers but closed to terrorists." The program, aimed at letting Customs officials instantly check an immigrant or visitor's criminal background, targets foreigners entering the 115 U.S. airports that handle international flights, as well as 14 major seaports. The only exceptions will be visitors from 27 countries - mostly European nations - whose citizens are allowed to come to the United States for up to 90 days without visas.

### **Purported Bin Laden Tape Likely Authentic**

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) - A speaker believed to be Osama bin Laden said on an audiotape that the U.S.-led war in Iraq was the beginning of the "occupation" of Gulf states for their oil and called on Muslims to keep fighting a holy war in the Middle East. The tape is likely authentic, U.S. officials said Monday. The voice on the audiotape, broadcast Sunday on the Al-Jazeera satellite channel, referred to recent events.

### **Letter Bombs Sent to Three EU Officials**

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) - Two letter bombs addressed to senior members of the European Parliament went off, bursting into flames when opened, and another was intercepted Monday. No one was injured in the two explosions. Authorities also intercepted a suspicious package sent to a fourth parliamentarian and were investigating whether it contained a bomb.

### **NASA to Release Color Images From Mars**

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) - Scientists marveled at crisp photographs of the surface of Mars while the NASA rover that snapped them switched from black-and-white to color as it continued to send back images of the pancake-flat plain where it landed. NASA said it hoped to release on Monday the initial batch of color photos - the first from the surface of Mars in seven years. NASA began receiving its second batch of black-and-white pictures from its Spirit rover late Sunday.

## ***Chaplain's thought for the day...***

### **Heroic Lives**

Towering over Edinburgh, Scotland, is the Edinburgh Castle. And in the midst of very old buildings is the comparatively new World War I memorial.

It carries a quotation from Thucydides: "The whole earth is the tomb of heroic men, and their story is not graven only on stones over their clay, but abides everywhere, without visible symbol, woven into the stuff of others' lives." -- Robert C. Shannon, 1000 Windows, (Cincinnati, Ohio: Standard Publishing Company, 1997).

## *Sports...*

### **Rose Admits Betting on Baseball in Book**

By RONALD BLUM, AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) -- After 14 years of denials, Pete Rose has finally come clean and admitted he bet on baseball while manager of the Cincinnati Reds.

The career hits leader says in his soon-to-be-released autobiography that he hopes the acknowledgment will help end his ban from baseball, which could lead to his induction into the Hall of Fame.

Rose says he was a big-time gambler who started betting regularly on baseball in 1987 but never against the Reds, according to excerpts from the book released to Sports Illustrated for its issue that hits newsstands Wednesday.

"Yes, sir, I did bet on baseball," Rose told commissioner Bud Selig during a meeting in November 2002 about Rose's lifetime ban.

Rose repeated his admission in an interview on ABC News' "Primetime Thursday," parts of which aired Monday on "Good Morning America."

"It's time to clean the slate, it's time to take responsibility," Rose says in the interview. "I'm 14 years late."

In "My Prison Without Bars," to be released Thursday, Rose writes that he regrets lying for all those years and says, "I wish I could take it all back."

"I've consistently heard the statement: 'If Pete Rose came clean, all would be forgiven.' Well, I've done what you've asked. The rest is up to the commissioner and the big umpire in the sky."

Rose agreed to the lifetime ban in August 1989 and applied for reinstatement in 1997, but Selig hasn't ruled on the request.

After meeting with Selig, Rose came away thinking he would be reinstated "within a reasonable period." Other baseball officials, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said the following month that Selig wanted Rose to admit he bet on baseball as part of any reinstatement agreement.

"We haven't seen the book. Until we read the book, there's nothing to comment on," Selig told The Associated Press on Sunday night.

As long as Rose is banned from baseball, he is ineligible for the Hall of Fame ballot. His last chance to appear on the writers' ballot is December 2005. After that, if he's reinstated, he could be voted in by the veterans' committee.

"The application remains pending, and the commissioner will take all of this into account," Bob DuPuy, baseball's chief operating officer, said Monday.

Rose wrote that if he "had been an alcoholic or a drug addict, baseball would have suspended me for six weeks and paid for my rehabilitation."

In the book, Rose admits placing bets with Ronald Peters through Thomas Gioiosa and Paul Janszen - the three were the primary witnesses in the 1989 investigation by baseball lawyer John Dowd that led to the agreement in which Rose accepted a lifetime ban.

Dowd concluded Rose bet on baseball from 1985-87 and detailed 412 baseball wagers between April 8-July 5, 1987, including 52 on Cincinnati to win.

Rose wrote that after breaking Ty Cobb's career hits record in 1985, and as he dealt with retirement as a player the following year, his betting became more of a problem. He details losing several hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Asked during the ABC News interview what fans think about him, Rose said: "I think the powers that be in baseball understand that, 'Hey, maybe the fans like this guy. Maybe the fans want, want us to give him a second chance.'"

# The Old Ironsides Report January 6, 2004

myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: TUESDAY, JANUARY 06, 2004

As of: Monday, January 05, 2004 8:39:49 AM

Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
00:00			AMERICAN CHOPPER	TODAY		00:00
00:30	ESPNEWS	HEADLINE NEWS			HEADLINE NEWS	00:30
01:00	AROUND THE HORN	TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO	THE BROTHERS MCMULLEN		LESTER HOLT LIVE	01:00
01:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION					01:30
02:00	SPORTSCENTER	THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN		SESAME STREET	HEADLINE NEWS	02:00
02:30					NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	02:30
03:00	NFL LIVE	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - BIG EAST: TEXAS @ PROVIDENCE	RUGRATS : - DADDY'S LITTLE HELPERS/ HELLO DILLY	DRAGON TALES : - KNUCK, KNUCK, WHO'S THERE?/ JUST DESSERTS	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	03:00
03:30	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - BIG TEN (WOMEN'S): SOUTH CAROLINA @ MINNESOTA		SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS : - THE SNOWBALL EFFECT/ ONE KRABS TRASH	WHEEL OF FORTUNE	CBS EVENING NEWS	03:30
04:00			THE SIMPSONS : - BRAWL IN THE FAMILY	THE DR. PHIL SHOW	THE NEWSHOUR	04:00
04:30			HOME IMPROVEMENT : - BACK STAGE PASS			04:30
05:00		COLLEGE BASKETBALL - BIG XII: KANSAS @ COLORADO	J.A.G. : - STANDARDS OF CONDUCT	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW	HANNITY & COLMES	05:00
05:30	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - SEC (WOMEN'S): ILLINOIS @ MISSISSIPPI STATE					05:30
06:00			THE PRACTICE : - HONOR CODE	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	THE NEWS WITH BRIAN WILLIAMS	06:00
06:30				JUDGE JUDY		06:30
07:00		HEADLINE NEWS	CELEBRITY PROFILES : - SARA FERGUSON	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	BET NIGHTLY NEWS	07:00
07:25				GUIDING LIGHT		07:25
07:30	ESPNEWS	ESPNEWS			NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	07:30
08:00	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - MWC: PEPPERDINE @ UTAH	HEADLINE NEWS	THEY WERE EXPENDABLE		LARRY KING LIVE	08:00
08:13				GENERAL HOSPITAL		08:13
08:30		HEADLINE NEWS				08:30
09:00		SESAME STREET		DISNEY'S PB&J OTTER : - OTTER IN THE WATER/ ALL POPPED OUT	NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	09:00
09:30				WHAT'S NEW SCOOBY DOO? : - ROLLER GHOSTER RIDE!		09:30
10:00	SPORTSCENTER	DRAGON TALES : - KNUCK, KNUCK, WHO'S THERE?/ JUST DESSERTS		THAT'S SO RAVEN : - PARTY ANIMAL	PAULA ZAHN NOW	10:00
10:30		WHEEL OF FORTUNE	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES	THE AMANDA SHOW		10:30
11:00	NHL - MINNESOTA WILD @ ST. LOUIS BLUES	THE DR. PHIL SHOW	RUGRATS : - DADDY'S LITTLE HELPERS/ HELLO DILLY	JEOPARDY!	NIGHTLINE	11:00
11:30			SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS : - THE SNOWBALL EFFECT/ ONE KRABS TRASH	HEADLINE NEWS	NAVY/MARINE CORP NEWS - PROD YEAR	11:30
11:46		THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW				11:46
11:52				PACIFIC REPORT		11:52
12:00			THE SIMPSONS : - BRAWL IN THE FAMILY	ESPNEWS	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	12:00
12:30			HOME IMPROVEMENT : - BACK STAGE PASS	HEADLINE NEWS		12:30
12:35		GUIDING LIGHT				12:35
12:52				PACIFIC REPORT		12:52
13:00			J.A.G. : - STANDARDS OF CONDUCT	SMALLVILLE : - INSURGENCE	THE O'REILLY FACTOR	13:00
13:17		GENERAL HOSPITAL				13:17
13:30	SPORTSCENTER					13:30
14:00		HEADLINE NEWS	THE PRACTICE : - HONOR CODE	26TH ANNUAL KENNEDY CENTER HONORS	CNN DAYBREAK	14:00
14:30	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - BIG XII: KANSAS @ COLORADO	JUDGE JUDY				14:30
15:00		TODAY	CELEBRITY PROFILES : - SARA FERGUSON		GOOD MORNING AMERICA	15:00
16:00			THEY WERE EXPENDABLE	HEADLINE NEWS		16:00
16:22				PACIFIC REPORT		16:22
16:30	MOTORCYCLE RACING - FIM: SPEEDWAY GRAND PRIX (GOTHENBORG)			TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO		16:30
17:00		DISNEY'S PB&J OTTER : - OTTER IN THE WATER/ ALL POPPED OUT			HEADLINE NEWS	17:00
17:30	MOTORCYCLE RACING - FIM: SPEEDWAY WORLD CUP (VOJENS)	WHAT'S NEW SCOOBY DOO? : - ROLLER GHOSTER RIDE!			THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN	17:30
17:45					ABC WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING	17:45
18:00		THAT'S SO RAVEN : - PARTY ANIMAL			THE EARLY SHOW	18:00
18:30	NBA FASTBREAK	THE AMANDA SHOW	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		18:30
19:00	SPORTSCENTER	JEOPARDY!	RUGRATS : - DADDY'S LITTLE HELPERS/ HELLO DILLY	WHEN A MAN LOVES A WOMAN		19:00
19:30		HEADLINE NEWS	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS : - THE SNOWBALL EFFECT/ ONE KRABS TRASH			19:30
20:00	NFL TOTAL ACCESS	ESPNEWS	THE SIMPSONS : - BRAWL IN THE FAMILY		FOX NEWS LIVE	20:00
20:30		HEADLINE NEWS	HOME IMPROVEMENT : - BACK STAGE PASS			20:30
21:00	SPORTSCENTER	SMALLVILLE : - INSURGENCE	J.A.G. : - STANDARDS OF CONDUCT		FOX NEWS LIVE	21:00
21:15				3:10 TO YUMA		21:15
22:00	NHL - TEAMS TBD	26TH ANNUAL KENNEDY CENTER HONORS	THE PRACTICE : - HONOR CODE		FOX NEWS LIVE	22:00
23:00			CELEBRITY PROFILES : - SARA FERGUSON	ESPNEWS	HEADLINE NEWS	23:00
23:30				HEADLINE NEWS	INSIDE POLITICS	23:30

# The Old Ironsides Report, *the back page...* January 6, 2004

## *Today in history...* Jan. 6, 1971 **Army drops charges of My Lai cover-up**

The Army drops charges of an alleged cover-up in the My Lai massacre against four officers. After the charges were dropped, a total of 11 people had been cleared of responsibility during the My Lai trials.

The trials were a result of action that occurred in March 1968. During the incident, 1st Lt. William Calley, a platoon leader in the 23rd (Americal) Division, allegedly led his men to massacre innocent Vietnamese civilians, including women and children, in a cluster of hamlets in Son Tinh District in the coastal south of Chu Lai.

By 1971, charges were pending only against Lt. Calley, Capt. Ernest Medina, and Capt. Eugene Kotouc. On March 29, 1971, a Fort Benning court-martial jury found Calley guilty of the premeditated murder of at least 22 South Vietnamese civilians and sentenced him to life in prison. Kotouc was cleared by a court-martial on April 29, and Medina was acquitted on September 22.

On May 19, the Army disciplined two generals for failing to conduct an adequate investigation of My Lai, demoting Maj. Gen. Samuel W. Koster from two-star to one-star rank. At the same time, both Koster and Brig. Gen. George W. Young Jr., his assistant divisional commander at the time of the massacre, were stripped of their Distinguished Service Medals, and letters of censure were placed in their personnel files. The trials ended on December 17, when Col. Oren K. Henderson was acquitted of cover-up charges. He was the highest-ranking officer to be tried.

Of those originally charged, only Calley was convicted. Many believed that Calley was a scapegoat, and the widespread public outcry against his life sentence moved President Nixon to intervene on April 3, 1971. He had Calley removed from the Fort Benning stockade and ordered him confined to quarters pending review of his case. On August 20, Calley's life term was reduced to 20 years. In November 1974, a Federal Court judge ruled that Calley was convicted unjustly, citing "prejudicial publicity." Although the Army disputed this ruling, Calley was paroled for good behavior after serving 40 months, 35 of which were spent in his own home.

The Army keeps rewarding soldiers with cash for reenlisting while deployed. Starting Jan. 1, 2004, Task Force 1st Armored Division soldiers with less than 10 years of service can earn from \$5,000 to \$10,000 when they reenlist.

**Soldiers must reenlist for 36 months. Other factors that will determine the bonus amount include years of service and current pay grade.**

**For more information contact your career counselor:**

- Command Career Counselor: SGM James Jaranowski, 551-9405
- Retention Operations NCO: MSG Gary Schoolfield, 551-9405
- 1st Brigade: SFC Burke, Martyrs' Monument, 550-7027
- 2nd Brigade: SSG Gibson, Presidential Palace, 551-2010
- 4th Brigade: MSG Wolfe, 551-6620
- DIVARTY: SFC Hilton, 551-7030
- DIVENG: MSG Collier, 551-6131
- DISCOM SFC Casnave, 551-9405
- Division Troops: SFC Nagle, 551-9405

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