



NIA PRESENTS 2009 DOUGHBOY AWARDS

VINCE LITTLE

GEN (Retired) John W. Foss and CSM (Retired) Jimmie W. Spencer are the 2009 recipients of the Doughboy Award in recognition of their contributions to the Infantry.

The National Infantry Association honored the two during a dinner on 22 September in conjunction with the Infantry Warfighting Conference at Fort Benning and Columbus, Ga. It's the highest award the chief of Infantry can present to an infantryman.

Past recipients include former Secretary of State and GEN (Retired) Colin Powell, Sen. Daniel Inouye, Ross Perot, Bob Hope, and former Sens. Robert Dole and John Tower.

"To be nominated is a great honor and to be selected is just overwhelming," Spencer said. "You go on a list of names with people that are real American heroes. I'm just honored to be mentioned in the same breath with them."

Spencer enlisted in the Army in December 1961. During 32 years on active duty, he had various assignments with Infantry, Special Forces and Ranger units. He completed two combat tours in Vietnam — first as a squad leader and platoon sergeant with the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) (Airborne) from 1965 to 1966 and then as a military adviser to South Vietnamese forces from 1969 to 1970.

"That was the most satisfying feeling to come back after that first tour, as a combat Infantryman, knowing I was up to the task ... because it came very early in my career," he said.

Spencer held numerous command sergeant major positions, including stints with the 2nd Infantry Division at Camp Casey, South Korea; U.S. Total Army Personnel Command in Alexandria, Va.; and U.S. Army Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg, N.C.



Infantry Bugler, NIA

MG Michael Ferriter and CSM Earl Rice present the Doughboy Award to GEN (Retired) John W. Foss and CSM (Retired) Jimmie W. Spencer during a dinner on 22 September.

He now lives in Alexandria and retired from the military in 1993 to become director of the Association of the United States Army's Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier Programs. In 2004, he was inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame.

"I always wanted to be one of those Soldiers who would volunteer in times of need and emergency. I always thought of myself (as) willing to step up and do my part," Spencer said.

Foss, meanwhile, has a rich heritage of Army service. His father, Peter, was a combat Infantryman in World War I. An older brother, Pete Jr., graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1951, and Foss followed suit five years later. The two siblings later served as battalion commanders at the same time in Vietnam.

Foss, 76, began his career as an enlisted Soldier in the 136th Infantry of the Minnesota National Guard in April 1950 and joined the regular Army the following year as an Infantryman. After gaining his commission, he went on to hold numerous

command and staff positions in the U.S. and overseas.

He wound up completing two combat tours in Vietnam. His stint as commander of the 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, turned out to be the most memorable in his career, he said.

"Commanding a battalion against the North Vietnamese was a challenge and among the greatest rewards I could have," he said.

Foss was the Infantry School's 37th commandant and served as commanding general at Fort Benning from March 1984 to January 1986, arriving just as the Army launched its Light Infantry concept.

Foss also commanded the 82nd Airborne Division and XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, N.C., where he deployed units on emergency operational missions to Honduras, Panama and the Persian Gulf.

Foss spent four tours in Europe and four in the Far East. He also was commanding general of the Seventh Army Training Command in Germany, deputy chief of staff for Army operations and plans, and commanding general of Training and Doctrine Command.

Foss retired from the Army in 1991 and was inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame four years later. He lives in Williamsburg, Va.

"It humbles me very much," Foss said of his selection as the Doughboy Award's officer recipient. "All these great Infantrymen I served with through the years — I think about them, and those not with us anymore ... the great NCOs and officers.

"It means I've been recognized by the people I consider the best Soldiers in the Army, the Infantry. It's a very humbling thing."

(Vince Little writes for Fort Benning's post newspaper, The Bayonet.)

SOLDIERS RECEIVE NEW GRENADE LAUNCHER



PEO Soldier

The M320 can be attached to M4 or M16 rifles or fired as a compact, stand alone weapon.

Soldiers of the 82nd Airborne Division received the first of the Army's new 40mm M320 Grenade Launcher (GL) June 16 and began the process of training with the weapon for combat deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan. The M320 is the much anticipated replacement for the M203 grenade launcher that has served the Army since the late 1960s.

Soldiers were very impressed with the M320's innovations and improvements over its predecessor. The M320 can be attached to M4 and M16 rifles or fired as a compact, stand alone weapon — a capability especially useful in the confined urban battlegrounds where our Soldiers are often fighting. Additionally, the M320 has a side opening breech that can accept longer and more advanced projectiles, an advanced day/night sight, a better located safety switch, and a double action trigger.

The M320's development and fielding has been managed by Program Executive Office (PEO) Soldier, the Army acquisition office responsible for everything a Soldier wears or carries. Because PEO Soldier views the individual Soldier as the center of the Army's strength, it is dedicated to producing the best equipment possible and getting it into the hands of Soldiers as quickly as possible.

For additional information on PEO Soldier, visit www.peosoldier.army.mil.

ARE YOU A COMBAT-EXPERIENCED MORTARMAN?

If you are a combat-experienced mortarman, the chief of Doctrine for the Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCOE) would like to invite you to help capture the hard-won lessons you learned and provide them for others to use in the future.

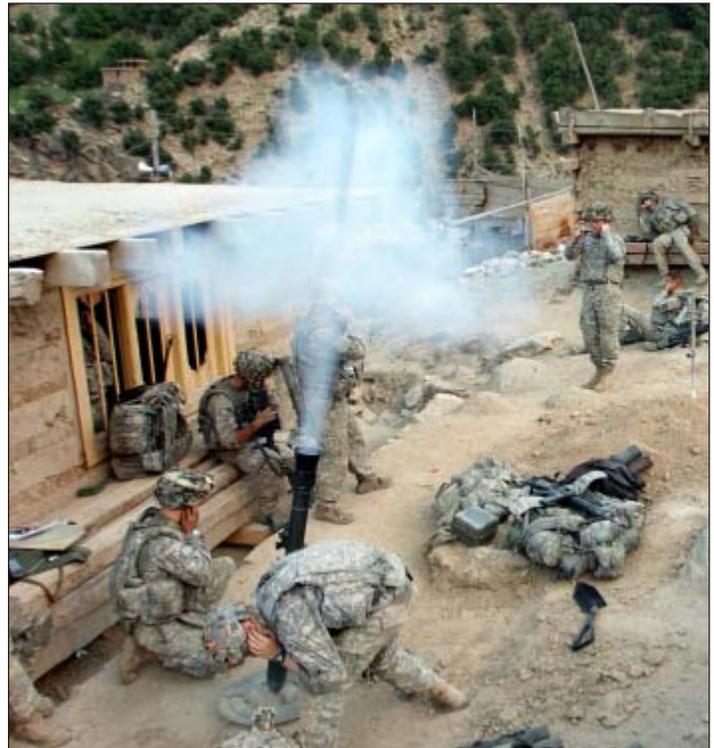
The MCOE is revising the field manual on tactical operations by mortar units. This project will update FM 7-90, *Tactical Employment of Mortars*, which was written by the Infantry School in 1992. Many things associated with mortars have changed since 1992, and new tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs) associated with them have been learned during combat in Iraq and Afghanistan.

This new publication is presently being worked on by experienced contract and military doctrine writers, the Center for Army Lessons Learned, the Infantry Mortar Leaders' Course instructors at the Infantry School, and the fire support instructors from the U.S. Army Field Artillery School. Research supporting its development comes from the experiences of the U.S. Army in WWII, Korea, and Vietnam, as well as Iraq and Afghanistan. It also will include the experiences of other armies around the world.

This manual is intended to be written with a mortar platoon/section focus. It will be used by brigade planners, but the primary audience is small-unit leaders at the troops-in-contact level of the mortar squad leader, the platoon leader and platoon sergeant, and up to battalion commander.

Anyone wishing to share experiences or to provide TTPs on mortar combat operations can e-mail Arthur Durante, the MCOE's deputy chief of Doctrine, at arthur.durante@conus.army.mil. He can also be reached at (706) 545-7114.

In addition, those interested can be added to a mailing list to



SGT Matthew C. Moeller

Soldiers with the 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment fire mortars during combat operations in Afghanistan on 12 July 2009.

receive a draft of the manual and offer comments, recommendations and feedback directly to the manual's authors.

Become part of the solution and help write doctrine for the future!