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The *Crossed Sabers* is an official publication of the 12TH Cavalry Regiment Association. News, pictures, comments, address changes, etc. can be sent to: Trooper Thomas Crabtree, Editor, 12th Cavalry Regiment Association, 2108 Lindora Way, Midland, TX 79707-6211, (432) 853-4851, mmctlc3@aol.com





SPRING-2015

President's Column

COL (Ret) Al Freeland President -2th Cavalry Regiment Association A Company, 2d BN, 12th Cavalry, 1968-1969

12th Cavalry Regiment Troopers,

Hope all had a great Christmas and survived the winter! In Kentucky we received the most snow and coldest temperatures in 10 years-nothing like our Boston friends but big for us.

Time is close for the 68th Annual 1st Cavalry Division Reunion in Ft. Hood, TX.; would like the 12th Regiment to set an attendance record for this great time to meet and support active duty 1-12/2-12 Cavalry Troops. I hope we have increased attendance of Desert Storm, Iraq, Afghanistan Veterans to hear their experiences. Make reservations now; last day of reunion we celebrate the Army's 240th Birthday and Flag Day. On heels of Division-10th Annual 12th Cavalry Regiment Association Reunion-Branson, MO 9-13 Sep.; Thomas and Terry are working to make this event "bigger and better".

COL (Ret) JW THURMAN, DSC Recipient Vietnam passed to Fiddlers Green last month. A Veteran of 3d BN, 12th Cavalry, Armor/Cavalry Officer respected by his peers, retired from the US Army Armor School, Ft. Knox, KY. An active member of American Legion Post 113, Elizabethtown, KY, he again served with devotion. JW stopped short an impostor's career making speeches around the country claiming to be a DSC Recipient. He saw through the guy's story, got the right people involved, forced the fraud to renounce his claim, cease and desist. A SALUTE to JW!

In February 2015 Army Magazine, an article titled "MacArthur Unleashes 1st Cavalry on Manila", by Lt. Gen. Daniel P. Bolger, former Commanding General, 1st Cavalry Division, is recommended for your reading. To keep informed on the current state of our Military I recommend the book "This Kind of War" by T.R. Fehrenbach; a history of the Korean War, outlines what happens when you enter a conflict unprepared in training, weapons, intelligence, and not appreciating your enemy. I believe this book should be mandatory reading for all leaders-civilian and military. Point is-there should be "No more Task Force Smith's" as quoted by GEN (Ret) Gordon Sullivan.

I look forward to seeing all in June at Ft. Hood/Killeen.

SEMPER PARATUS (Always Ready)
Al Freeland

FULL PLATE-REUNIONS-2015: This Year Marks the 50th Year-beginning of the Vietnam War-Division June. September-October individual unit gatherings; 10th Annual (Anniversary) Reunion 12th Cavalry Regiment LZ Branson. November 9-12 IA DRANG VALLEY OBSERVANCE, Washington D.C.. 12TH CAVALRY REGIMENT SPECIFIC DOINGS ARE:

SAVANNAH, GA.-31 AUGUST-3 SEPTEMBER, C COMPANY 1ST BN (ABN) 12TH CAVAL-RY 1965: ORIGINALS and THOSE WHO SERVED in Charlie Company 1965 (ONLY). This is not intended to exclude those who served after 1965 thru 1972 but to gather for a completed circle of their legacy. These men, together from 1963 through Vietnam until their DEROS/ETS were the 'fathers', so to speak, of the Airmobile Assault Concept. They came together from the 11th Air Assault and 187th Parachute Infantry Regiment to train and be developed into 'First-Rate' Airmobile Infantry Troopers that made Our Division and the 12th Cavalry Regiment one of the most Famous and Infamous Units of the entire war! SALUTE!

RESERVATIONS HILTON SAVANNAH DE SOTO HOTEL, 1-877-280-0751; room rates \$108.00 + tax, per night; an \$18.00 per day parking fee is required for on grounds. Program for each day is:

MON 31ST AUG-Hunter Airfield Drop Zone Parachute Jump, Apache Helicopter Simulation Rides, Weapons Simulation Firings.

TUE 1ST SEP-Mississippi Paddle Wheel Boat Ride-Savannah River to the Dock where Troops Departed on USNS Geiger to VN. A Memorial Service will be held here at 1800 HRS or 600 PM for those trying to be civilianized.

<u>WED 2ND SEP -1700 HRS or 500 PM, Miss Wilk's Dining House</u>-Old Style Southern Supper at Historical Savannah Landmark.

THU 3RD SEP-Banquet, Color Posting by 75th Rangers Honor Guard Ft. Benning. Open Podium "TELL YOUR STORY-SHARE YOUR LEGACY"; contact Bob (Raid-dar) Roeder at: 920-857-9297 for further details.

ENJOY TROOPERS! Leaving Savannah hop in your chopper whether a Chevy, Ford, Caddy, SUV, Real Chopper and assault LZ BRANSON for the 10th Annual 12th Regiment Reunion if possible! HOPE WE SEE YOU THERE! (TLC)

MORE INFO-PAGES 4-5 12TH REGIMENT: DELTA COMPANY 1ST-12TH PAGE 6!

OVERVIEW 10 YEARS BRANSON REUNION: 1st Year June 2006 Settle Inn-46 Troopers and Spouses attended; idea came about June 2005 Hospitality Room Division Reunion Killeen-Terry Combs, Mike barber, Frank Greenleaf, Jim Stokely, and Thomas Crabtree gabbing at a table-Terry said we 'aught to have a B Company Reunion.; everybody said Yeah-I said why not 1/12-Troops said Yeah! Terry reconned Branson, made contacts with Settle Inn, CHERIE CHITWOOD. and some shows. Next Newsletter announced there will be a 1/12 Reunion Branson, MO June 2006. That get together we decided to try it one more time; 2-12 Trooper asked if they were welcome, we said Yeah! All agreed on Branson in September to avoid vacation rush crowd-better prices-humidity not as heavy. 2d Year 2007-108 Troopers-Spouses Present; again, all decided on Branson-Settle Inn; 3d Year 2008 saw 130 attendees. We hit a glitch-Our Brother who handled registrations 1st 2 years called night before Wednesday Kickoff, informed me he did not have the monies. Wednesday those of us involved in putting it together discussed how this effected everybody who registered and were on their way to the reunion. We covered the shows and banquet costs due at that time; Saturday Night Banquet we explained the scenario. The ALWAYS READY 'BAND OF BROTHERS' stepped up, pitched in just as we all did in the jungles. We thought the incident might sink the 4th Year; all agreed to try it again. Doug Warden took responsibility for registrations-4th Year 2009-118 present; 5th Year 2010-140 present; 6th Year 2011-CHERIE went to The Welk, we booked there-largest turnout yet -195! CHERIE took leave of absence, referred us to Savannah House Years 7-2012, 8-2013 attendance -153, 142. Meanwhile back at THE WELK CHERIE returned so did we; 9th Year 2014-Attendance 175! ONE QUESTION ASKED IS-WHY DO WE BOOK WITH CHERIE CHITWOOD ?ANSWER: SHE TAKES GOOD CARE OF US! EXAMPLES-Last Year 2014-Had 'The Wall' set up in September for OUR ROLL CALL CEREMONY, normally not done until November. THIS YEAR-SATURDAY 12th 900AM to 400PM LADIES SPA DAY! TDC (Terry) and TLC (Thomas) think it is a good deal-feedback from those we've relayed this to CONFIRMS IT! DOUG WARDEN is still part of the committee but has taken a well earned break from registrations, being processed by THOMAS CRABTREE this year. I might add; DOUG, befitting of 12TH REGIMENT ASSOCIA-TION VP; was 2d Registrant for this year after JIM STOKELY DIVISION ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT. SINCE THE WINTER SNOW LOG JAM HAS MELTED REGISTRATIONS ARE COMING IN. WE ARE EXPECTING 200 THIS YEAR-TROOPERS-SPOUSES-FAMILY-OTHER GUESTS! TROOPERS-REACH INTO THOSE SADDLE BAGS-SEND REGISTRATIONS VIA DRONE, SNAIL MAIL, UPS, PONY EXPRESS AND RIDE INTO LZ BRANSON PREPARED FOR A GOOD TIME! ALL THE ABOVE SAID: You can see why 10TH ANNUAL MILESTONE is considered ANNI-VERSARY-we've been through it; we "set our watches back to TULSA TIME", came out on the upside! THANKS FOR THIS GO TO ALL WHO HAVE ATTENDED REGULARLY, WHO HAVE ATTENDED SOME, WHO PLAN TO ATTEND THIS YEAR-THE CHAMPAGNE THAT WHETS THE WHISTLE! THAT'S ALL FOLKS! UNTIL NEXT TIME-"MAY THE CHIEF CHOPPER PILOT HOVER OVER US-ORIGINAL PARATROOPER ELIMINATE OUR T10/T11 MALFUNCTIONS-HEAD POINT MAN KEEP US IN THE ASSIGNED AO"!

SEMPER PARATUS

AIRBORNE-AIRMOBILE

'BOOT to BOOT'

Thomas L. Crabtree (TLC)

C 1/12 VN-1966-67



Colonel Jim Dingeman, USA (Ret)
Honorary Colonel of the Regiment
TO THE 12TH CAVALRY FAMILY
GREETINGS TO ALL TROOPERS and FAMILY!

Hope all made it through the Winter okay and you look forward to a warm and bright Spring! The 68TH Division Reunion is upon us 10-14 June in Killeen-Ft. Hood. It will be good to see the 'band of brothers' of the 12th Cavalry and join with the active duty troopers ,Thursday the 11th during open time of the reun-

ion schedule. WE SALUTE ALL OUR YOUNG ACTIVE DUTY TROOPERS, who we know are "ALWAYS READY" to carry out their assigned missions in times of "War and Peace"!

CSM 1-12 is creating a Historical Reflections "Day Room" at Battalion Headquarters and asks people bring any type memorabilia you might want to donate to the project. HEADS UP-DO NOT BRING YOUR AKS-LIVE AMMO-or-CLAYMORES. Relics you may have from time in country you think would reflect the unique story of our regiment history are sought. So, "dig into those old saddle bags and dusty foot lockers to help seal the legacy of our heritage".

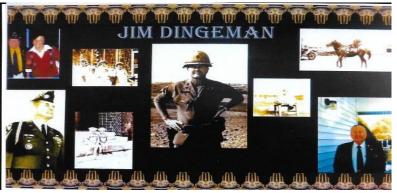
Sylvia and I are recovering from our medical disruptions of the past year and look forward to seeing all at Ft. Hood. A parting thought remember; "Character-Honesty-Respect Generate Excellence. Knowledge of what is possible is the beginning of happiness; Always set a good example-you can never go wrong"!

PROUD TO BE A 12TH CAV TROOPER
GOD BLESS-TAKE CARE
Jim Dingeman-Honorary Colonel 12th Cavalry Regiment

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR COLONEL? Some of us have had the opportunity to know him from Division Reunions; others only know he is our Honorary Regiment Colonel-Devoted Association Leader. Came across these photos and thought I would run His Bio— (Cont'd) page 6.

COL JAMES W. DINGEMAN: DOB-23 Nov 1925-Ft. Eustis, VA.; USMA Graduate West Point, NY 1948. Commissioned 2LT Infantry; early assignments -351st Infantry Regiment Trieste, Italy; Korea Assistant G3 Operations 7th Infantry Division, Aide-de-Camp to CG I Corps, Advanced Infantry Course-Airborne Course-Ranger School 1956; Command and General Staff College 1959. MBA Syracuse University 1960. Division Comptroller U.S. Army Europe and Commander 2d BN 48th Infantry, 2d BN 36th Infantry, 3d Armored Division (Spearhead) Germany. National War College 1968; assigned as COMMANDER 2D BN-12TH Cavalry Vietnam 1968-69. Later served in Combat Development Commands at Ft. Knox, KY, Ft. Belvoir, VA; Director Leadership Development and Chief-Office of Budget and Management Ft. Benning, GA. Silver Star, Legion of Merit 4 OLCs, Combat Infantryman Badge, Army Commendation Medal, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry w/palm and Gold Star, Vietnamese Honor Medal 1st Class, Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, Ranger Tab, Parachutist Badge. COL Jim and his wife Sylvia were married 11 June 1960; they have 2 Children-Son William Ray Dingeman born August 1962 and Daughter Linda Marie Dingeman born Jan 1966.; they are of the Presbyterian Faith. COL JIM-We of the 12th Regiment are Honored to know you; we have benefitted much from your Leadership and Wisdom while guiding us in growing the Association to what it is today! Looking forward to seeing you at Ft. Hood and possibly Branson.





PHOTOS: COL JIM-2015; COLLAGE: Top Left-COL Jim and Sylvia; bottom Left-Ft. Knox, KY 1972; 2d Column Top-Family photo 1926; bottom-cousin and Jim at 6yrs old; Center-Standing Tall as CO 2D BN-12th Cavalry VN 1968; Top Right Corner-Horse Riding, MO Farm 1936.; Bottom right-Ft. Meyer, FL 2013.

REUNION INFO from PAGE 2: D COMPANY 1ST BN-12TH CAVALRY will have its' 1st Ever Company Gathering 29 September 2015-2 October 2015, San Antonio, TX at the EL TROPICANO RIVER WALK HOTEL; Call 1-800-504-3250 for Reservations, mention D Company 1-12 Reunion for rate of \$95.00 per night, includes breakfast for 2. Registration Forms and Itinerary will be placed on Delta Company Web Site www.cattrack6india.com. More info will be provided in the July (Summer) issue of this Newsletter. Check Web Site 1 May for further details. COL JOHN GERGULIS D Co.1965, sent me some interesting Historical Info significant to this gathering-will report in July Newsletter-stay tuned for updates-'Boot to Boot' (TLC)!

12TH CAVALRY REGIMENT 10TH YEAR ANNUAL (ANNIVERSARY) REUNION 9-13 SEPTEMBER 2015

WELK RESORT

1984 STATE HIGHWAY 165, BRANSON, MO 65616
RESERVATIONS; 1-800-505-9355
REFERENCE #: 3932343-SPECIFY 12TH CAVALRY REGIMENT

MAKE RESERVATIONS NLT 1 AUG 2015-ROOM RATES for TWO (2) \$84.00 PER NIGHT (PLUS TAX) INCLUDES BREAKFAST BUFFET 0730 HRS-1000 HRS THURDAY-SUNDAY! ADDITIONAL GUESTS IN ROOM CHARGE \$7.99 PER NIGHT (EA) INCLUDES BREAKFAST BUFFET.

REUNION REGISTRATION \$25.00 TROOPER ONLY!

WEDNESDAY 9/9/2015-WELCOME RECEPTION 1800 HRS (600 PM): CHUCK WAGON BAR-B-QUE \$20.00 PER PERSON-PULLED PORK, BAKED BEANS, COLE SLAW, COB CORN, CHIPS, APPLE COBBLER, DRINKS-ACCESS TO OUR INFAMOUS BAR.

THURSDAY 9/10/2015-# 1 HITS OF THE 60S 1400 HRS (200 PM): AMERICANA THEATRE \$19.50 PER PERSON: SPECIL TRIBUTE TO 12TH CAVALRY REGIMENT FOR OUR 10TH YEAR CELEBRATION AND LOYALTY TO THEIR SHOW! IF YOU HAVE PHOTOS YOU WOULD LIKE IN THE CD THEY CUT FOR US EMAIL TO mmctlc3@aol.com-I WILL forward them to MATT MUHOBERAC SHOW PRODUCER-DIRECTOR. WE WILL BE THE ONLY MILITARY UNIT AT THIS SHOW ON THIS DAY-THEY NOW HAVE LIVE BAND AND 2 TIERED STAGE; WE VISITED THE SHOW 25 MARCH AND THEY HAVE ADDED NEW ROUTINES, AS ALWAYS BETTER THAN THE LAST TIME-DO NOT MISS THIS ONE!

FRIDAY 9/11/2015 DOUG GABRIEL THEATRE 1000 HRS (1000 AM): \$21.00 PER PERSON-(TGIF) ROCK, POP, COUNTRY SONG MEDLEYS WITH SKITS-'GOOD SHOW' per TERRY and DELLA COMBS!

FRIDAY 9/11/2015 WELK THEATRE MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET 2000 HRS (800 PM): \$27.00 PER PERSON-4 LAS VEGAS MUSICIANS RE-CREATE "THE GREATEST ROCK JAM SESSION EVER HELD"! 4 DEC 1956 SAM PHILLIPS ('FATHER OF ROCK N ROLL'/SUN RECORDS PRODUCER-MEMPHIS, TN), BROUGHT TOGETHER 4 ICONS-HE DISCOVERED INDIVIDUALLY- FOR AN IMPROMPTU RECORDING ONE TIME ONLY JAM SESSION-THEY WERE: ELVIS PRESLEY, JOHNNY CASH, JERRY LEE LEWIS, CARL PERKINS; (OTHER THAN THE CLOTHING, THESE MUSICIANS ARE NOT IMITATORS) THEY JUST PLAY THE MUSIC SHOULD BE A ROCKIN' GOOD TIME!

SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE BANQUET 9/12/2015 1800 HRS (600 PM) \$30.00 PER PERSON: SIT DOWN SERVED-MC WELCOMING REMARKS, POSTING COLORS, PROCLAMATION-RECOGNITION BY BRANSON DIGNITARY and WELK MANAGEMENT; DINNER, GREAT CAMADERIE-'ESPRIT DE CORPS'; 10TH YEAR CELEBRATION CAKE CUTTING; EXCEPTIONAL GUEST SPEAKER THAT ALL SHOULD HEAR-VETERANS- ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY-CIVILIANS! IF YOUR SPIRITS ARE LOW AND YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT WHERE THE COUNTRY IS GOING-THIS SPEAKER WILL REVITALIZE YOUR FAITH IN 'CAN DO' AMERICAN VALUES!!!

NOTE: BANQUET NIGHT MENU: ROAST PRIME RIB OR HERB BAKED CHICKEN; GARLIC MASHED POTATOES, DINNER SALAD, ROLLS, NEW YORK CHEESE CAKE, TEA, WATER, COFFEE and (OF COURSE) OUR INFAMOUS BAR ACCESS! ON REGISTRATION FORM-CIRCLE PREFERENCE for PRIME RIB OR HERB BAKED CHICKEN; YOU WILL BE GIVEN A TICKET-GREEN for ROAST PRIME; RED for HERB BAKED CHICKEN. THIS WILL ASSIST THE STAFF IN SERVING THE MEAL EXPEDITIOUSLY.

10TH ANNUAL 12TH REGIMENT (ANNIVERSARY) REUNION-REGISTRATION FORM 9-13 SEPTEMBER 2015 LZ BRANSON, MO

NEWS FLASH: SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2015-900 AM-400 PM-LADIES SPA DAY AT THE WELK! TWO CONNECTING ROOMS HAVE BEEN RESERVED ONE FOR MASSAGES BY JENNIFER CROSBY-CANDLELIGHT- AROMA THERAPY! ONE FOR MANICURES-PEDICURES-CHAMPAGNE-VINO-CHEESE! ALL PREPAID. YOU'VE WONDERED WHERE THE MONIES FROM BANQUET NIGHT AUCTION GO? WONDER NO MORE! ANSWER-MEAT and CHEESE TRAYS; SODAS-BEER-WHISKEY- BOTTLED WATERS PROVIDED DAILY IN THE HOSPITALITY ROOM. THIS YEAR-LADIES SPA DAY-ENJOY! THANK CHERIE CHITWOOD FOR THIS SUGGESTION!

TROOPERS: WE WILL HAVE OUR REGULAR SATURDAY MORNING BRAIN FEST BUSINESS MEETING TO DECIDE WHERE TO GO FROM HERE-WE ENCOURAGE ALL TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE-IT IS YOUR REUNION-WE OF THE COMMITTEE THE PAST 10 YEARS ARE ONLY THE POINT MEN-BE THERE! TERRY and I ASKED CHERIE IF SHE COULD GET US A POLE DANCER FOR THIS IMPORTANT SESSION-SHE SAID ("I WILL HAVE A 100 MEN TYPE A PERSONALITIES WITH VARIED DEGREES OF PTSD-A 100 WOMEN WITH COLLATERAL EFFECT and YOU WANT A POLE DANCER-NOT REALLY A GOOD IDEA") HA! ACTUALLY, CHERIE DID NOT SAY THAT- (THOMAS DID) SO DON'T GET MAD AT HER, HA! FILL OUT FORM BELOW-MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: 12TH CAVALRY REGIMENT-BRANSON, MO REUNION FUND.

TROOPER REGISTRATION \$25.00 (TROOPER ONLY)			
TROOPER NAME/RANK		SPOUSE NAME	
UNIT			
ADDRESS			
PHONE # HOME	CELL	EMAIL	_
# OTHER GUESTSNAME			
WEDNESDAY 9/9/2015 WELCOME RECEPTION 1800 HRS \$20.00 EA # GUESTS - THURSDAY 9/10/2015 # 1 HITS OF THE 60s 1400 HRS \$19.50 EA # GUESTS -			
FRIDAY 9/11/2015 DOUG GABRIEL THEATRE 1000 HRS \$21.00 EA # GUESTS -			
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SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE BANQUET 9/12/2015 1800 HRS (600 PM) \$30.00 EA # GUESTS -			

<u>MAIL TO:</u> THOMAS CRABTREE, 2108 Lindora Way, Midland, TX 79707-6211 <u>QUESTIONS</u>: Thomas <u>CELL 432-853-4851</u>; email <u>mmctlc3@aol.com</u>; Terry <u>CELL 918-931-8352</u>; email ixxi@att.net.

SEE YOU ALL THERE-YA'LL COME YA' HEAR!

INSERT NOTES

In the Movie 'Forrest Gump', there is a scene where Jenny has come home; She and Forrest are out walking as they come upon her father's house Jenny picks up rocks, starts throwing them at the house hoping to knock it down, only succeeds in breaking a window. She falls to the ground crying and Forrest in his inimitable wisdom comments-"sometimes I guess there just 'ain't' enough rocks"! WELL-in my WORD-PUBLISHER PROGRAM used for this Newsletter sometimes there 'ain't' enough space to accommodate all the words that need to be written (so it seems). Some add end notes to page 7-OVERVIEW 10 YEARS BRANSON REUNION need be said!

Our Brother spoken of who went off the main trail, did an outstanding job the 2 Years he was Reunion Registrar and contributed in many other ways; It is unfortunate he went the wrong path. BT crossed over to FIDDLERS GREEN July 2014.

12TH CAVALRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION IS NOW A SPONSOR OF BRANSON VETERANS TASK FORCE! Last week of March we were firming up details of upcoming reunion, made a contribution to the Task Force Board from our own funds in name of the Association.

NO TAPS SOUNDED FOR 12TH REGIMENT TROOPERS SINCE WINTER 2014 ISSUE.

THOUGHTS and PRAYERS go out to these TROOPERS and FAMILY:

AL-DENISE FREELAND; JAY-JEANNE SNYDER; DWIGHT-CAROLYN EDWARDS; JIM-SYLVIA DINGEMAN:; THOMAS-NORENE EMPEROR; JERRY-LENORA KETCHER; JOHN-LEANN SPRANZA; TERRY COMBS-HOPING FOR QUICK AND HEALTHY REOVERIES FOR ALL! DOC VOGHT-DAUGHTER STEPHANIE-CONDOLENCES RECENT LOSS OF YOUR WIFE (MOM)! FRED KRAFT; ALL OUR ACTIVE TROOPERS AND THEIR FAMILIES!

<u>REMEMBER</u>: MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS FOR THE WELK NLT THAN 1 AUG 2015-1800-505-9355, REF-ERENCE #: 3932343 12TH CAVALRY REGIMENT!

PHOTOS PAGE 10-TOP 1st YEAR JUNE 2006-SUNDAY MORNING MEMORIAL; 2d ROW-MEMORIAL TO OUR FALLEN ON MANSION OF THE AMERICA'S GROUNDS; 2d PHOTO PARADE-2 MILES ALONG BLUE ROUTE LED BY THE 12TH REGIMENT! 3d ROW-2d YEAR AT SETTLE INN 2007, 1st YEAR AT THE WELK 2011. Bottom-Last Year 2014 WELK RESORT.

SEE YOU ALL 9-13 SEPTEMBER 2015!

CRABTREE OUT!



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