

## Chapter 28 News

July 4th was a beautiful day for the 70th Annual Independence Day Parade in Coronado, across the bay from San Diego. This year's theme was "America's Heritage". The parade ran the length of the island and the Color Guard made up of veteran paratroopers of 173d Chapter 28 accompanied by 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne veterans marched the entire 1.6 mile length of the parade route. They joined over 100 other entrant groups, three high school bands and two military bands. Chapter 28 participates every year in the parade. Many folks along the parade route shout "Airborne" and "Thanks for your service". This military town really supports and appreciates its current and veteran service members.

Chapter 28 members brought two vintage vehicles to bolster the group's presence. Ninety-four year old, John Short, the only remaining member of the original parachute company, rode in Rusty Culp's modified M151 jeep. The V8 engine and running gear are new and they added a new dimension to the term vintage. John loved the ride from beginning to end. Lou Mossa and Dave Wilbur rode on Warren William's 2 ton 1953 Chevy flatbed. They both enjoyed the view as they rode down the parade route.



Color Guard left to right: Al Calderon, Gil Reynoso, Nick Aguilar, Charles Stout, Richard Gauthier



Parade participants left to right: Rusty Kulp, Warren Williams, Gil Reynoso, John Short, Nick Aguilar, Charles Stout, Lou Mossa, Dave Wilbur, Al Calderon, Richard Gauthier, Al Gonzales, Norm Vanderbuilt



Rusty Kulp’s M151 Jeep and Warren Williams’ 1953 Chevy 2 ton.

In other news, Chapter 28 will be rewarding a 173 medal and certificate to the most deserving Junior ROTC cadet in each of the High Schools in San Diego County. A rigorous process, cadets who meet high standards and know the history of the 173d will have an opportunity to vie for the award. The National 173d Association is assisting Ch. 28 with the process.