

***The Big Picture – The History of Cavalry***

Sergeant Stuart Queen: There is a story, which has endured since the Napoleonic Wars, about an English cavalry officer who, according to the tale, said that the purpose of cavalry in warfare was to give tone to what otherwise would be simply a vulgar brawl. The cavalry trooper was always from the beginning a magnificent fighter, and the cavalry itself a magnificent service. Surrounding the very word cavalry, there is a warm glow of nostalgia, of romance and valor, a sense of proud men fighting a proud cause with both dash and distinction. These are valid impressions, but the cavalry's historic role in the defense of this country is one of the Army's most illustrious chapters.

It is now many years since the horse cavalry was abolished. A global war and a localized police action have been fought without it. But the cavalry itself, its concept and its mission, is still a vital part of today's Army, a fact dramatically symbolized in a recent ceremony involving the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division. The 1<sup>st</sup> Cav, the heart and soul of the mounted service whose history parallels the lusty history of this country's growth, leaves Japan for Korea to become one of the first U.S. Army divisions to be reorganized into a Pentomic unit, a division organized to meet the demands of warfare on an atomic battlefield.

Today *The Big Picture* camera sweeps back through history to bring you the story of the cavalry in its long ride to glory.