Young Hockey Player Honors 3rd I.D. and Great Grandfather

By Jeff Danby, author of The Day of the Panzer; Scholarship Foundation Trustee

My son’s high school varsity hockey team, the “Newark Generals,” instituted an “alternate” jersey design last year to honor military veterans. The jersey is only worn two or three times each season on special occasions—one of those times is on or near Veterans Day. On the right sleeve, each player was allowed to display up to two service or unit patches to honor family member(s) who served in the military. My son, Will Danby, selected the 3rd ID patch and the 756th Tank Battalion patch to honor his great grandfather, 1st Lt Edgar R. Danby, who served in both and was killed in action in southern France on 27 August 1944. The Military Order of the Purple Heart also authorized our team to wear their patch on the left shoulder of each jersey. I believe Will is the only player on his team who could honor a family member who was killed in action—so the Purple Heart patch has very special meaning. This photo of Will was taken moments prior to the start of the November game where our team honored several local veterans who have been awarded the Purple Heart citation.

Society Challenge Coins Available

The Challenge Coin Program being administered by 1st Sgt. Toby Knight has been quite successful and Toby urges all those who have not yet ordered their Coins to do so soon. The Coins are available for a donation of $12.50 for one Coin or $10.00 each for two or more Coins, postage included.

To obtain your Coins, send your order and check or money order to Toby Knight, 5339 Osprey Oak, San Antonio TX 78253-6380. Please make checks payable to Society of 3rd I.D. If you have questions, call Toby at 210-885-2137. (Toby’s Address is also on page 2 of every issue of The Watch on the Rhine.) These will make great gifts for all Veterans and anyone interested in the 3rd Infantry Division or in collecting Challenge Coins. Challenge Coins are a source of great pride to the recipient.

Get your Coins while they last!

Honorary President

Marne 6 Sends

Greetings to all the Dog Face Soldiers, Families, and Friends of the Marne Division. We hope you had a wonderful holiday season spending time with friends and family.

The Division Headquarters arrived back from Afghanistan in the middle of November and hit the ground running. We arrived home just in time for Marne Week and enjoyed being a part of the comradery and competition within the Division. Marne Soldiers participated in a variety of different sporting events and competitions in the days leading up to our culminating event: the annual 3d Infantry Division Ball. This well attended event was a great time for our Soldiers to celebrate a dynamic year with their battle buddies and significant others.

The event closest to the hearts of many Dog Face Soldiers was the laying of wreaths at the base of the trees of Warriors Walk. This monument was originally dedicated in 2003 to the Soldiers of the Marne Division who were killed in action during the initial stages of OPERATION Iraqi Freedom. Today, Warriors Walk contains 468 white blooming Crape Myrtles, symbolic of not just the Dog Face Soldiers of the Marne Division, but also those fallen Heroes of our Fort Stewart tenant units and Soldiers who were attached to 3d Infantry Division during combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Each of these Soldiers, and all of the
As we move through the New Year, your Society faces challenges not unlike most other military fraternal organizations. Veterans of our Nation’s recent conflicts may, at this time, not appreciate the privilege of joining other veterans in membership in Societies such as ours. Loyalty and Pride in serving in the 3rd Infantry Division will remain for a lifetime.

The Watch on the Rhine “Last Call” listings are more numerous with each issue. The Society needs your help in recruiting new members. Our losses each year are greater than our total of new members. Let us all recruit one new member in 2016.

Please review page 2 of this issue. In order for our Society to survive, we need to train volunteers for many of the staff and committee chair positions. We will concentrate efforts during the first part of the year on back-ups for the Secretary-Treasurer and Roster Manager positions. If you desire to serve the Society, please consider doing so and contact me. The duties are not as time-consuming as you might think and the service is appreciated by all members.

The Call for Proposals to amend the Constitution and By-laws is in this issue. This is done on an annual basis. Please send your proposals to the C&B Chair, Lynn Ball. Contact information is on page 2. Proposals must be received by February 14, 2016. The nominations for Society Awards can now be sent to Joe Herron, and Nominations and Letters of Acceptance for Society President and three regional Vice Presidents can be sent to Nominations Chair Bill Buntrock.

Please read the very excellent “Marne 6 Sends” article in this issue. We should never stray from the proposition that we are a Society founded on the military history of the 3rd Infantry Division and to remember, honor, and support all those who wore the Patch. The Society Pledge is to those who have fallen and to the cause for which they fell.

The Society Annual Reunion is in the Gettysburg/Harrisburg area in September. Details are being completed for a tour of the Gettysburg Battlefield and a trip to Hershey, Pennsylvania, to visit the Hershey Chocolate Factory. Join us there.

The Society Challenge Coin has been very well received by our members and others. Reorders from the vendor have been received. It is a very nice coin that you will be proud to give or receive. Veterans have placed their in their wall shadow boxes used to display their military decorations.

Be sure to read the article about the awarding of the Bronze Star to all WW2 Veterans who wear the Combat Infantry Badge or the Combat Medic Badge. No other conflicts are included in the awarding of this decoration. Why? I don’t know.

Our Society conducts only one fundraiser per year—the Society Annual Raffle. Tickets will be mailed near the end of February. Please support this important Society effort by purchasing as many tickets as you can. The prizes are all paid in cash.

Famous quote: “If the enemy is within range, so are you.”

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**Call for Nominations for Society Officers**

Nominations for 2016-2018 Society President and Regional Vice Presidents will be accepted from January 1, 2016 through April 5, 2016. Please send your nomination and the nominee’s Letter of Acceptance to the Nominations/Elections Chair, Bill Buntrock, during this timeframe. Any Regular Member can be nominated and serve, if elected, as Society President. There are no regional restrictions. The term of office is two years. The Society President is limited to two consecutive terms, if nominated and elected. Associate Members cannot be nominated and serve as National President; however, they can be nominated for any other office in the Society.

Nominations for Regional Vice Presidents must be for candidates determined by their regional affiliation. If you are unsure of your outpost’s regional location, please check page 31 of every issue of the Watch on the Rhine. At Large Members can be nominated based on the region in which their state of residence is located. One Regional Vice President will be elected to represent each region: Eastern, Central, and Western Regions. Associate Members can be nominated and serve, if elected, as Regional Vice Presidents. If you have questions, call Bill Buntrock at 303-829-4047. All nominations must be submitted with a written Acceptance Letter from the nominee and must be received by the Nominations Chair by April 5, 2016. These can be sent via email to Bill Buntrock’s contact information on Page 2 of The Watch on the Rhine™ —Submitted by Bill Buntrock Elections Chair

**Watch Schedule**

The Watch editor requires receipt of copy on or before the 5th of the month preceding the month of publication. Space fills quickly so articles sent early have more chance of being published.

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Heroes represented in Warriors Walk, have their own piece of history in the storied legacy of the Marne Division. I am thankful this living memorial will be maintained and treasured for many generations especially for our Gold Star Family Members who can return to these hallowed grounds and remember the contributions their loved one made to defend the freedoms we enjoy today.

The Dog Face Soldiers from 1st Brigade closed out their second rotation as the Regionally Aligned Force for U.S. Army Europe and have returned home to Fort Stewart, Ga. Over the last three months, the Raider Brigade has taken advantage of every opportunity to train and increase unit readiness while continuing to improve every day. Individual crews distinguished themselves during gunnery operations while demonstrating their ability to coordinate efforts during a multinational combined arms live-fire exercise. Battalions continue to increase interoperability with our allies and partners at multinational exercises like Trident Juncture in Spain and Combined Resolve at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Germany, while continuing to demonstrate our commitment to NATO through Operation Atlantic Resolve. The lessons learned and relationships created over the last three months further enhanced the Brigade’s readiness to answer our Nation’s call wherever and whenever needed.

As the holidays approach, 2d Infantry Brigade Combat Team continues to prepare for missions and exercises in Africa as well as maintain community relationships here at home. The Spartan Brigade is regionally aligned to support a variety of missions and exercises in Africa over the next year. Of note, Soldiers from A Company, 3-15 Infantry were highlighted for their role in the East Africa Response Force assigned to Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa. Also, troops from B Company, 3-15 Infantry conducted a validation exercise and are projected to deploy as part of the East Africa Response Force in the near future. Locally, Soldiers participated in a number of community events, contributing to the enduring relationship between 3d Infantry Division and the coastal Georgia community. 2d Brigade leaders and troops visited with veterans at the Carl Vinson VA Medical Center, attended the Armstrong Liberty Center ribbon-cutting ceremony, and participated in the annual Wreaths for Warriors Walk. Spartan Soldiers continue to train hard, uphold the Army Values and embody the unit motto, “Send Me.”

3d Brigade Combat Team transitioned to Task Force 1-28 on December 16, 2015 at Fort Benning, Ga. In addition, the brigade inactivated 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery; 203d Brigade Support Battalion; 3d Battalion, 1st Cavalry Regiment; 2d Battalion, 69th Armored Battalion; 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment; and the 11th Brigade Engineer Battalion. These inactivations were part of the Army’s Force 2020 Reorganization plan. Task force Black Lions will continue to train individual and collective tasks and develop leaders during the months to come. Our number one priority remains preparing to deploy, fight, and win in combat.

The 3d Combat Aviation Brigade represented the 3d Infantry Division in the Savannah Veteran’s Day parade in November, celebrating our Soldiers in the community. Marne Air also welcomed back the Soldiers of the 4th Battalion, 3d Aviation Regiment from a nine month deployment to Germany in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve. The 2d Battalion, 3d Aviation Regiment continued training to ready itself for an upcoming rotation at the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) in Fort Polk, La. Further demonstrating our ties to the Coastal Georgia community, a Soldier from the 3d Combat Aviation Brigade, Sgt. 1st Class Casey Haugen, Company D, 2d Battalion, 3d Aviation Regiment was awarded the Volunteer Firefighter of the Year Award.

The last few months have proven both productive and historically significant for the 3d Infantry Division Artillery (DIVARTY). The Marne Thunder focus continues to be on Fires and Fire Support to enhance the lethality and capabilities of the 3d Infantry Division as the Army’s premier force for Decisive Action. Following successful integration with the 82d Airborne during Warfighter Exercise 15-02, the DIVARTY continued to enhance their expertise. In the coming year, DIVARTY will focus on the continued integration of their headquarters with the Division Fire Support element to ensure unity of effort within the headquarters. The Marne Thunder also looks to continue the revitalization of fire support within the Division and prepare Soldiers to support missions around the world.

The 3d Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade Soldiers of the 87th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion (CSSB) transported countless pieces of 3d Infantry Brigade Combat Team’s equipment from Fort Benning to Fort Stewart as part of the redesign of 3d Brigade. 258th Movement Control Team continues to work with 437th Aerial Port Squadron at Charleston Air Force Base on Air Force Aerial Port operations to cross-train and prepare for their upcoming deployment. Leaders and Soldiers of the 87th CSSB, marched in the Golden Isles Veterans Day Parade with Colonel Helwig as the speaker and grand marshal of the parade. 87th CSSB is preparing for their upcoming JRTC rotation, while select platoons are providing support to the Emergency Deployment Readiness Exercise missions to ensure unit readiness.

Your 3d Infantry Division is constantly training and preparing Dog Face Soldiers in their Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills for whatever the nation calls us to do. I ask you to remember all the Service Members we have deployed and the incredible sacrifices they make in defense of our freedom. Lastly, I ask that we continue to honor the Gold Star Family Members and their Service Members who made the ultimate sacrifice. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Rock of the Marne!
Army Strong!

James E. Rainey
Major General
U.S. Army, Commanding
Call for Nominations for Society Awards

This is a reminder to send your nominations of members you want to receive National Society Awards to Awards Chairman Joe Herron no later than August 5th, 2016. Nominees for the Audie Murphy Achievement Award, the Society Service Award, and the Outstanding Associate Member Award are to be sent to Joe. The recipients of the awards will be announced at the Reunion Saturday Night Banquet on 9/24/16. We have many members worthy of our Society’s recognition. Please send nominations for them to Joe Herron. See the December issue of the Watch, for award guidelines and more details. If you have any questions contact Joe Herron, Awards Chairman. His contact information is on page 2 of this issue.

—Submitted by Joe Herron

My Dad: WWI

By Jerry Manley, 7th Inf/Korea ’52-’54

My Dad enlisted in the Army in 1917 and was honorably discharged in 1919, after the war was over. A resident of Minneapolis, he took his training at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, which at the time was an artillery school. When he shipped overseas to France he was assigned to Battery E, 60th Coast Artillery, “C,” whatever unit that was.

My father would never talk about his wartime experiences except that he once mentioned that he had been gassed. He would only talk to his brother, Ed,

WWI. We children were never allowed to listen in on their private conversations.

When I was an adult and had already served in the 3rd Infantry Division in Korea my Dad, after having had a few too many beers, told me the following story.

“We enlisted men existed on a diet of hardtack, beans, and what my Dad called “smoked goat.” The officers had fresh meat three or four times a week. On one occasion, on an extremely foggy night, while our battery was in the rear for rest and refit, fifteen men were ordered to a nearby railroad siding. There sat a refrigerator rail car full of fresh meat for the officers which we were ordered to unload.

My Dad and his buddy decided this was their chance to get some decent food. They both shouldered a side of beef, slipped around the end of the car and disappeared into the fog.

They got about five yards and were met by a semicircle of MPs. “Do you stupid b... ...s think that you two are the only ones who tried to get away with this?”

I asked my Dad, “What happened, did they lock you up?” He said, “No, they just busted me down to Pvt. again, I guess, because I apparently was a good soldier. I enlisted as a Pvt. and was honorably discharged as a Pvt. In between, I made SGT once, and Cpl. three times.”
Leaving Coins on Tombstones

While “Cleaning of the Stones” at the National Cemetery in Holly, I noticed a quarter placed on one of the stones. Later, I also noticed a nickel placed on another stone, I was so touched with this that I took pictures. (Sorry the nickel did not turn out). I googled about the coins and found this out. I am very proud to share this.

- A coin left on a headstone lets the deceased soldier’s family know that somebody stopped by to pay their respect.
- Leaving a penny means you visited. A nickel means that you and the deceased soldier trained at boot camp together.
- If you served with the soldier, you leave a dime.
- A quarter is very significant because it means that you were there when that soldier died.

Call for Constitution and By-laws Proposals for Change: 2016

Members may submit proposals for Constitution and By-laws changes now. Your proposed changes must be received by March 14, 2016. The Constitution and By-laws is available from Lynn Ball, Chairman. Please let me know if you need a current copy of the C&BL. Please send your proposals to me by e-mail (LDBALL1@MSN.COM) or U.S.P.S: 2010 Worcester Lane, Garland TX 75040. Please also send a copy to the Society’s Secretary, John Weis. Contact information for both Lynn Ball and John Weis is on page 2 of the Watch. Please use the following guidelines when composing your proposals for change:

1. State the Article or Section to be changed and its present wording.
2. State the new, proposed wording.
3. State the reason for the proposed change.

The Constitution and By-laws Committee will consider all proposed changes, and a draft of the proposed changes will be voted upon by the Executive Committee.

The draft approved by the Executive Committee will be presented in ballot form for membership approval. The mail-in ballot will be published in the June Watch on the Rhine.

Remember that the deadline for receipt of proposals for changes to the C&BL is March 14, 2016. These must be sent to Lynn Ball, Constitution and By-laws Chair. If you have any questions send them to Lynn at LDBALL1@MSN.COM or phone 972-495-1704.

—Submitted by Lynn Ball, Chairman

Watch Requirements Schedule

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Recent Major Holidays: To those of you who celebrated Hanukkah from December 6-14 and those who celebrated Christmas on December 25th, we hope you had a wonderful holiday with loving friends and family. When we say “Christmas” we know it is not limited to December 25th. That is the important date, the celebration of the birth of Christ; but in our home, preparations start weeks ahead of time with shopping, indoor decorations and plans for the big day— starting the night before with our customary stocking openings and Christmas Day with Church followed by family gift opening and dinner. This is usually limited to our immediate family as Joe’s and my siblings live in our home state, Pennsylvania. Cooking for our events starts well ahead of time with traditional cookies, rolls, and rickert among other entrees. Having grown up in an ethically diverse neighborhood, with a mother who worked, our Polish, Hungarian, Italian, and German neighborhood women taught me to cook. They used no recipes so I had to pay attention. Now, all sorts of recipes are on the internet. Perhaps recipes and weather reports are the most valuable things we can find on the internet—unless of course one likes misleading information.

Recent Weather Havoc: Since Christmas, Joe and I have been troubled by the weather we are tracking across the country. We think of and worry about our members spread across the entire United States and beyond and pray for their safety. Recently our biggest concerns have been caused by the tornadoes and flooding in many states. I know that many of you saw the reports about the tornadoes that struck the town in which we live, Garland, Texas. (Many even contacted us to learn if we were affected by the storms, and we thank them for their concerns.) Fortunately, we were not troubled beyond fighting the rising water and onslaught of leaves in our pool. The several tornadoes that passed through our area and adjacent cities caused great havoc south and east of our home. Since we live on a bit of a knoll, we have never been troubled with flooding though that has been a problem in many other areas of the city and is a problem with the recent insatiable rain. We are well aware that the limited path of the tornadoes (which produced 12 deaths in the Garland area) is moderate when compared to the damage and heartache weather has caused in some other parts of our country over the past few weeks and months. Of course, in addition to these havoc, there have been many forest fires in areas where our members live. Please know that we are keeping our members (all of you) in our prayers for your good health and safety. God knows where to direct His Grace.

Calls: Also included in this issue are some calls needing your attention: it is time to send Joe Herron your nominations for Society Awards to be presented at the Society’s 98th reunion to be held in September, in the Gettysburg/Harrisburg area. We also have a Call for Society Officer Nominations in this issue. These should be sent to Elections Chair Bill Runtrock. (See page 2 for contact information.) Please also send me any changes you wish to make to the Society’s Constitution or By-laws. I am the C&BL Chair. If you need a copy of the C&BL, let me know: I will send you one, hopefully attached to an e-mail. All of our addresses are on page 2 of this issue of the Watch. [See separate posting for each of these Calls elsewhere in this issue.]

About This Issue: This issue of the Watch on the Rhiné™ has a wonderful book review about Darrell C. Kilburn’s experiences with the 7th Infantry Regiment during WWII. Be sure to read it. His book is very explanatory. You may want to acquire it. As promised, we are publishing Hemmingway’s article, “Who Murdered the Vets,” about the tragic deaths of so many WWI Veterans in the 1935 Labor Day Hurricane mentioned in the October issue in the “Bonus Army” article. Several members requested publication, but we did not have space for it in the December issue. We are also fortunate to have some articles by members in this issue. I am excited to present Sheila Wolfe’s article about attending reunions. I hope it will prompt some other spouses to write articles for the Watch. Former Society President Jerry Manley has submitted an article about his Dad (WWI). Mike McClinton and Paul Desroches both have articles in this issue and both served in Germany during the Cold War. And of course, there is the beginning of reunion information in this issue. Our reunion coordinator is still working with the hotel to get the best possible arrangements, but we have information, in this issue, on our tours to the Gettysburg Battlefield and to Hershey’s chocolate factory in this issue. Both tours sound wonderful, and we will be able to taste chocolate at the factory. Please try to attend the reunion this year. It is a wonderful time to see old friends and make new ones. The reunions are never long enough for us to spend enough time with our members.

Society Raffle: Last, but certainly not least, is our Society annual fundraising program. This program is our only source of income aside from annual dues. We hope everyone will support this important raffle. You will receive your raffle tickets about March 1st. Prizes this year are $1,000 (First Prize), $500.00 (Second Prize), $250.00 (Third Prize), and $100.00 each for 4th through 7th Prizes—all paid in cash. Please write your name and address clearly on your ticket, or affix a return address label, and mail your tickets and payment to John Weis, Society Secretary-Treasurer. Extra tickets are available from John. His contact information is on page 2 of this issue of the Watch.
Scholarship Grant Applications: It is time to begin encouraging your eligible offspring to compile their scholarship grant applications. The deadline is June 1, 2016. The Application and Instructions are available from the Scholarship Foundation website at www.3idscholarshipfoundation.org. Or, you can contact me for a copy of the Application and Instructions. (Contact information is on page 2 of the Watch.) Please have them mail their applications to Lynn Ball at the Foundation (see page 2) so that they are received by June 1, 2016.

Change to our C&BL: Recently the Scholarship Foundation amended its Constitution and By Laws to permit Associate Members in good standing for four years or more to sponsor offspring in the annual grant awards program. Previously, only Associate Members with a direct link to the 3rd I.D. Soldier (mother/father/grandmother/grandfather, and so on) could submit a sponsor’s letter on behalf of a disabled or deceased 3rd Infantry Division Soldier. Now, any Associate Member meeting the four-years of good standing requirement can sponsor an offspring (biological or adopted). We are very pleased to expand this opportunity to our faithful Associate Members.

2016 Scholarship Grant Awards Program: Plans for this year’s grant awards program are well underway. So far we have the following grants established: “Award in Honor and Memory of Thomas W. Mason,” “Award in Honor of General Maurice W. Kendall,” “Award in Honor and Memory of SFC Ralph E. ‘Rick’ Richenbacher,” “Col. and Mrs. Terrence A. Smith Award in Honor of the 184th Infantry (Air Assault), OIF 2005-2006, a Valorous Unit,” “Award in Honor and Memory of 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers for Their Meritorious Service in the Evacuation of Military and Civilian Refugees from Hungnam, North Korea, December 1950,” and of course, our “Scholarship Foundation Memorial Award.” We hope to receive more sponsored awards before June 2016.

The Memorial Award recognizes those who were remembered with memorial donations to the Foundation, as well as the donors, during the previous fiscal year. Those honored and their donors are listed in the program presented to all attendees at the annual reunion. We will present this award again in 2016, and all awards will be announced at the 2016 Society Reunion in the Harrisburg/Gettysburg area and published in the August Watch on the Rhine™.

Requests for Prizes: We are currently gathering prizes for our next fundraising raffle and we invite you to contribute a gift to be included in the raffle. So far, we have a .22 caliber, single action, target revolver with a 6-round cylinder and a 6 1/2-inch barrel donated by Joe Ball, a few great books from Dan and Cleo Callahan and Dale Geise, a beautiful lap throw or tapestry from Shirley Conley, a queen-size, 3rd I.D. quilt and patriotic motif floral basket from Kathy Daddato, a couple of military DVDs, and a CD that we found while shopping. Dick and Devery Wells recently donated a copy of In the Footsteps of Valor by Henry Bodden. Scholarship Foundation Trustee and Society Public Relations Chairman Thomas Maines recently donated several non-cancelled, original issue, Major Audie L. Murphy stamps (29-cent) for the collectors in our Society.

For this issue of the Watch on the Rhine™, I reviewed Darrell Kilburn’s book A Foxhole Was My Home, and he graciously donated his wonderful book to our raffle. Since he is sending a separate copy, I can keep the review book as my personal copy; I will read it again. I donated a photo album with the enameled 3rd I.D. Patch mounted on the cover, and Member Kayla Cain has donated several military history books. This is a good start, but we need more prizes. I am trying to find some unique warm things to put into the raffle. Some of us, with poorer circulation get cold hands and shoulders when we sit still. I believe attractive warm accessories would be welcome offerings. If someone really young wins them, they would be excellent gifts for those of us, in every family, who need a little added warmth. Any gift you would like to donate would be most welcome. Please send them to the Foundation at 2010 Worcester Lane, Garland TX 75040-3331. We will send you a tax-certification letter to support your income tax deduction for your donation. In the past, we have had tapestries/wall hangings, art work, gift cards, silver coins, a complete set of state quarters, and cloth decorative wreaths; we even had a brand new coffee maker. Any gift is welcome. Part of the fun of the raffle is the variety of prizes donated by our supporters.

Following is a list of those who have sent cash donations to the Foundation since the December issue of the Watch on the Rhine.

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**Levels of Giving**
- Platinum Star, $50,000–$99,999
- Gold Star, $10,000–$49,999
- Silver Star, $5,000–$9,999
- Gold, $500–$999
- Silver, $100–$499
- Bronze, $1–$99

The Watch on the Rhine
Gerhard Detlefsen was a German national who joined the U.S. Army as a pathway to U.S. citizenship. I met Gerhard during basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia, in October 1957. We shipped out in May 1958 to serve with the 3rd Infantry Division in Bamberg, Germany. We remained friends, and when summer arrived, Gerhard invited me to visit his family in the northern German city of Flensburg. His Mom, Dad, and younger sister were all very glad to see us and treated us like returning dignitaries.

After two days in Flensburg, Gerhard suggested we go camping on the Isle of Sylt on the North Sea. After all the Army bivouacking we had done recently, I was reluctant to go. However, Gerhard was a great salesman and convinced me that it would be fun.

We ferried over to the island, parked our car, and grabbed our rented tent, air mattresses, and sleeping bags before heading off to find a good campsite. The island was beautiful with white sandy beaches and deep blue water—an island paradise.

We set up our tent, sunned, swam, and relaxed. By afternoon, we went for a walk and met Franke and Hella, two frauleins from Hamburg. It was so nice meeting Franke as she had worked as an au pair in London and spoke fluent English—a welcome change after several months in Germany struggling with the language barrier. The four of us went everywhere together. In the evenings we went to the other end of the island where there were hotels, casinos, and nightclubs. I found out later that Sylt is considered a playground of the rich, but we had a great time using our free campsite as home base.

When vacation time was over, we all exchanged addresses, and in the ensuing months, several letters were exchanged until the correspondence stopped due to the passage of time.

The following summer, towards the end of June, Sam Fry and I were approved for 30-day leaves in July. We planned a trip to the Festival in Pamplona, Spain, passing through Paris. As our leave approached, I received a letter from Franke who had moved to Paris. She started the letter sounding annoyed that I hadn’t made vacation plans with her this summer, as Gerhard had already made plans with Hella.

The letter took a cordial turn and she suggested we meet in Paris. As there was no time for back-and-forth writing, I sent a note suggesting that she should go to the sidewalk café nearest the American Express office on Champs Elysees at Noon on Tuesday, July 7, 1959.

Sam and I left Bamberg on Monday, July 6th, travelling straight through to Paris and checked in at a cheap flat on the left bank. Sam had done his graduate work at Edinburgh University in Scotland and had travelled the European Continent many times.

When we got up on Tuesday, Sam wanted to plan our itinerary for the day. I stopped him and said we had to meet Franke at noon. Sam couldn’t believe that a kid from Brooklyn had a date in Paris, but we headed for the Champs Elysees. We found the American Express office, located the nearest outdoor café, took a table by the wide boulevard, and placed an order. After a few minutes, Sam said, “I told you she wouldn’t show up.” It wasn’t noon yet so I told Sam, “Hold your horses.” Then Sam, who was ogling all of the beautiful Parisian women said, “Look at that knock-out blonde.” I turned to see that it was Franke. I stood up and called to her, and she came trotting over to us and gave me a “hello” hug. Over my shoulder, I saw Sam agape, his mouth wide open. I did introductions and Franke asked if we could pick up her roommate, Jolene, and they would show us around Paris. We spent the next three days getting the best personal tour of Paris anyone could imagine. I couldn’t help thinking how glad I was that, the previous summer, Gerhard had convinced me to camp out on “The Isle of Sylt.” The photos included only hint at the beauty of the Isle of Sylt.
On December 13th, “Days of Lights,” in Europe, the Association US Major Grand est France, lit 5700 candle lights on each of the 5255 steles, and 424 names on the wall of the missing. More than 100 volunteers came on Sunday morning to light these candles. The whole of the candles weighted 1 ton.

It took three hours to light them. People came: elderly, young kids, teenagers, couples—everyone pitched in.

On December 13th, 5700 candles lighted the graves of the Soldiers buried at Epinal American Cemetery including those listed on “Wall of the Missing.” Here is a daylight and nighttime view of the cemetery.

At 1500 hours (3:00 O’clock), we had a beautiful ceremony. The American Forces Network in Germany was present. Elementary kids, middle-schoolers, high-schoolers, and junior college students came to speak about soldiers buried in Epinal, reading poems and letters written at Christmas time. The 3rd Infantry Division was particularly honored as we recalled its suffering in the Colmar Pocket. On Christmas Day 15 soldiers died and the next day over 20 died to take hill 351 in Sigolsheim, among them Pvt. Dominic Giovannazzo who was particularly honored too.

According to all present (there was a large audience), it was a beautiful and very moving ceremony. After the ceremony we had a get together at the city hall of Dinoze, and I came back with a friend at 2000 hours (10:00 O’clock) to see the cemetery.

It was pitch dark but the whole cemetery and wall of the missing were ablaze in the starry night. It was a magic view with all these lights twinkling in the night as if the soul of each soldier was palpitating. A feeling extremely powerful overwhelmed us watching in silence.

The night was thick but the sky was starry as it was cold and freezing so you could see many stars and when a friend and I lifted our heads, we saw a big shooting star coming above the cemetery zipping by. We were struck. We just said “OH MY GOD”! The boys in Heaven are telling us they are happy. This is our way to keep the flame of remembrance burning bright.

The Association placed a huge Christmas wreath at the apex of the 2 cemetery plots A and B, and many members laid individual wreaths on the grave or graves of their adopted soldiers.

Other activities in which our Member in France, Jocelyne

The group assembled at the grave of Paul Cummings, 79th Infantry Division (The Croix de Lorraine Division) adopted Cummings’ grave, laid down flowers/wreath and wrote a poem for Cummings, who is buried at Epinal American Cemetery.

The grave of PFC Norman Baker is one of the graves I have adopted—actually he was the first Soldier I adopted in 2012. Now I have 20 adopted Soldiers. This young boy is the grandson of dear friends who have adopted 10 soldiers!
Very Clever Credit Card Scam!

Beware of people bearing gifts. The following is a recounting of the incident from the victim: I had a phone call from someone saying that he was from some outfit called: “Express Couriers” (The name could be any courier company). He asked if I was going to be home because there was a package for me that required a signature.

The caller said that the delivery would arrive at my home in roughly an hour. Sure enough, about an hour later, a uniformed delivery man turned up with a beautiful basket of flowers and a bottle of wine. I was very surprised since there was no special occasion or holiday, and I certainly didn’t expect anything like it. Intrigued, I inquired as to who the sender was. The courier replied, “I don’t know, I’m only delivering the package.” Apparently, a card was being sent separately. (The card has never arrived!) There was also a consignment note with the gift.

He then went on to explain that because the gift contained alcohol, there was a $3.50 “delivery/verification charge,” providing proof that he had actually delivered the package to an adult (of legal drinking age), and not just left it on the doorstep where it could be stolen or taken by anyone, especially a minor.

This sounded logical and I offered to pay him cash. He then said that the delivery company required payment to be by credit or debit card only, so that everything is properly accounted for, and this would help in keeping a legal record of the transaction. He added, “Couriers don’t carry cash to avoid loss or likely targets for robbery.”

My husband, who by this time was standing beside me, pulled out his credit card, and ‘John,’ the “delivery man,” asked him to swipe the card on a small mobile card machine with a small screen and keypad. Frank, my husband, was asked to enter his PIN number and a receipt was printed out. He was given a copy of the transaction. The guy said everything was in order, and wished us good day.

To our horrible surprise, between Thursday and the following Monday, $4,000 had been charged/withdrawn from our credit/debit account at various ATM machines.

Apparently the “mobile credit card machine,” which the deliveryman carried now had all the info necessary to create a “dummy” card with all our card details including the PIN number.

Upon finding out about the illegal transactions on our card, we immediately notified the bank which issued us a new card, and our credit/debit account was closed.

We also personally went to the police, where it was confirmed that it is definitely a scam because several households had been similarly hit.

WARNING: Be wary of accepting any “surprise gift or package,” which you neither expected nor personally ordered, especially if it involves any kind of payment as a condition of receiving the gift or package. Also, never accept anything if you do not personally know or there is no proper identification of who the sender is.

Above all, the only time you should give out any personal credit/debit card information is when you yourself initiated the purchase or transaction!
Bronze Star Medal

The Bronze Star Medal was officially installed by Executive Order 9419 on 04 February 1944. It was based on the idea of Colonel Russell P. "Red" Reeder in 1943. He had launched the thought that it was good for morale of the military if there was a decoration that could be awarded by Captains of a Company or Battery to the personnel who served under their command. Colonel Reeder saw this medal as the ground version of the Air Medal and first introduced the name “Ground Medal.” At first the decoration was to be instituted with the U.S. Navy to be given to ground and surface personnel for heroic or meritorious deeds. For no known reasons the institution did not occur. The idea was picked up by General George C. Marshall who wrote a memorandum to President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The President installed the medal the very next day.

The decoration could be awarded to any military who, serving within or together with the army of the United States after 6th December 1941, decorating himself by heroic or meritorious deeds during the acting as military, not participating in air operations, during military operations against an armed enemy or during an armed conflict in which the United States was not participating as belligerent. The decoration could be awarded for the described heroic actions, not sufficient to be awarded the Silver Star for meritorious actions or meritorious acting of service which did not qualify for the Legion of Merit. In 1947 the possibilities for awarding were enlarged. From that moment on the medal could also be awarded to any member of the United States Army that were mentioned in orders after 6 December 1941 or who had received a certificate for exceptional service in ground battle against an armed enemy between 7 December 1941 and 2 September 1945 or whose merit could be proven by documents dated before 1st July 1947. This made it possible to award the Bronze Star to any person who had received the Combat Infantryman Badge or the Combat Medical Badge.

The Bronze Star can also be obtained by veterans or next of kin. Military that took part in the struggle on the Philippines between 7 December 1941 and 10 May 1942 could receive the medal when the action took place on Luzon, the Bataan peninsula or the Harbor Defenses on Corregidor Island and were entitled to the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation. The rule that any soldier that fought together with the American Army, the decoration could also be awarded to foreign military.

The Bronze Star Medal was designed by Rudolf Freund of Bailey, Banks and Biddle who also designed the Silver Star. The decorations measures 1.5 inch (38 mm) over all. In the middle can be found another bronze star with a diameter of 3/16 inch (4.8 mm). All radials in the center of both stars continue in one each other. The back bears the inscription “Heroic or Meritorious Achievement” with a space to engrave the recipient’s name.

The medal hangs on the ribbon with a square loop with rounded corners. The ribbon measures 1 3/8 inch (35 mm) wide. Left and right can be found a 1/32 inch (1 mm) wide white line, followed to the inside by a scarlet 9/16 inch (14 mm) broad band. In the middle can be found an ultramarine blue band measuring 1/8 inch (3 mm) flanked by two 1/32 inch (1 mm) lines.

For additional awards, every next decoration was to be shown by a bronze oak leaf cluster (US Army, Air Corps and Air Force) or a golden star (US Navy, Marines and Coast Guard). At every fifth award, the bronze and golden were replaced by a silver oak leaf cluster or silver star. A bronze “V” for “Valor” was awarded when the Bronze Star was received for heroism in battle, thus distinguishing the award from the Bronze Stars warded for merit. This “V” was introduced in 1945. The action it was to be awarded for had to be of significant value. Only one “V” was permitted to be worn on the ribbon.
World War II Soldier Closer to Posthumous Medal of Honor

Garlin Murl Conner, a World War II Army officer and native of Clinton County, Kentucky, is one step closer to posthumously receiving the Medal of Honor.

The Army Board for Correction of Military Records, a three-member panel, went against the advice of its staff and voted unanimously in late October that the evidence “was sufficient to warrant a recommendation” that Conner receive the Medal of Honor for the actions he took to save the lives of fellow soldiers.

Dennis Shepherd, an attorney for the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs, learned Monday about the panel’s recommendation. Shepherd said it’s rare for the panel to go against the advice of its staff, which had said there was “insufficient evidentiary basis” for granting the medal.

“I’ve reviewed dozens and dozens of decisions, and I’ve never seen it,” Shepherd said. “You just don’t see this.”

Shepherd, a retired Air Force colonel, has argued on behalf of the Conner family in various proceedings, including an oral argument before the 6th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals.

The Conner family now awaits a decision from the Senior Army Decorations Board. A letter to Conner’s widow, Lyda Pauline Conner, said, “It may be several months” before that board makes a recommendation. Nevertheless, Shepherd said, “I would say that our chances are pretty good.”

He said he hadn’t heard reaction from the Conner family because he just received the decision in the mail.

Conner, a first lieutenant, earned four Silver Stars, four Bronze Stars, seven Purple Hearts and the Distinguished Service Cross for his actions during combat in World War II.

But he never received the Medal of Honor, the nation’s highest military distinction, given by Congress for risk of life in combat beyond the call of duty.


Since then, Shepherd was able to get three eyewitness statements presented into evidence to the Army Board for Correction of Military Records.

One statement came from a sergeant who said Conner had directed artillery fire to fall onto his own position, killing 50 German soldiers and wounding 100.

Garlin Murl Conner, a World War II Army Officer and a Clinton County Kentucky native, is one step closer to posthumously receiving the Medal of Honor. (Family photo via Fox News) Lexington Herald-Leader, Nov. 04, 2015, by Greg Kocher.

See this link, it explains things pretty well, and is pretty much what must be done to obtain the medal. http://www.all-milita...ic.php?id=15768

You must include copies of your DD-214 or other proof which shows the awarding of a CIB, or the official General Order announcing the award (i.e. GO #1, 1945, HQ 123 Infantry).
Who Murdered the Vets?


Lightly edited by Lynn Ball to save space.

Hemingway wonders who was responsible for the fate of the Bonus Army Veterans on Labor Day, 1935. “WHOM did they annoy and to whom was their possible presence a political danger? Who sent them down to the Florida Keys and left them there in hurricane months? Who is responsible for their deaths? The writer of this article lives a long way from Washington and would not know the answers to those questions. But he does know that wealthy people, yachtsmen, fishermen such as President Hoover and President Roosevelt, do not come to the Florida Keys in hurricane months. Hurricane months are August, September, and October, and in those months you see no yachts along the Keys. You do not see them because yacht owners know there would be great danger, unescapable danger, to their property if a storm should come. But Veterans, especially the bonus-marching variety of Veterans, are not property. They are human beings; unsuccessful human beings, and all they have to lose is their lives. They are doing manual labor for a top wage of $45 a month and they have been put down on the Florida Keys where they can’t make trouble. It is hurricane months, sure, but if anything comes up, you can always evacuate them, can’t you? There are usually two days to prepare for a hurricane. Sometimes you have longer.”

“But what happened on the Keys? On Tuesday, as the storm made its way up the Gulf of Mexico, it was so wild not a boat could leave Key West and there was no communication with the Keys beyond the ferry, nor with the mainland. No one knew what the storm had done, where it had passed. No train came in and there was no news by plane. Nobody knew the horror that was on the Keys. It was not until late the next day that a boat got through to Matecumbe Key from Key West.”

“Now, as this is written five days after the storm, nobody knows how many are dead. The Red Cross, which has steadily played down the number, announcing first forty-six then 150, finally saying the dead would not pass 300, today lists the dead and missing as 446, but the total of Veterans dead and missing alone numbers 442 and there have been seventy bodies of civilians recovered. The total of dead may well pass a thousand as many bodies were swept out to sea and never will be found. It is not necessary to go into the deaths of the civilians and their families since they were on the Keys of their own free will; they made their living there, had property and knew the hazards involved. Veterans had been sent there; they had no opportunity to leave, nor any protection against hurricanes; and they never had a chance for their lives. During the war, troops and sometimes individual soldiers who incurred the displeasure of their superior officers, were sometimes sent into positions of extreme danger and kept there repeatedly until they were no longer problems. I do not believe anyone, knowingly, would send U.S. war Veterans into any such positions in time of peace. But the Florida Keys, in hurricane months, in the matter of casualties recorded during the building of the Florida East Coast Railway to Key West, where nearly a thousand men were killed by hurricanes, can be classed as such a position.

And ignorance has never been accepted as an excuse for murder or for manslaughter. Who sent nearly a thousand war Veterans, many of them husky, hard-working and simply out of luck, but many of them close to the border of pathological cases, to live in frame shacks and tents on the Florida Keys in hurricane months?

Why were the men not evacuated on Sunday, or, at latest, Monday morning, when it was known there was a possibility of a hurricane striking the Keys and evacuation was their only possible protection? Who advised against sending the train from Miami to evacuate the Veterans. until 4:30 PM on Monday when it was blown off the tracks before it ever reached the lower camps? These are questions that someone will have to answer, and answer satisfactorily, unless the clearing of Anacostia Flats is going to seem an act of kindness compared to the clearing of Upper and Lower Matecumbe.”

“When we reached Lower Matecumbe there were bodies floating in the ferry slip. The brush was all brown as though autumn had come to these islands where there is no autumn but only a more dangerous summer, but that was because the leaves had all been blown away. There was two feet of sand over the highest part of the island where the sea had carried it and all the heavy bridge building machines was on their sides. The island looked like the abandoned bed of a river where the sea had swept it. The railroad embankment was gone and the men who had cowered behind it and finally, when the water came, clung to the rails, were all gone with it. You could find them face down and face up in the mangroves. The biggest bunch of the dead were in the tangled, always green but now brown, mangroves behind the tank cars and the water...
Florida East Coast Railway Overseas Railroad relief train derailed near Islamorada, Florida during the 1935 Labor Day hurricane. The Category 5 hurricane blew and washed away the railroad rails. Note: The trees still standing have no foliage.

you thought you’d never smell again, with luck. But now you know there isn’t any luck when rich bastards make a war.”

“The lack of luck goes on until all who take part in it are gone. So now you hold your nose, and you, you that put in the literary columns that you were staying in Miami to see a hurricane because you needed it in your next novel and now you were afraid you would not see one, you can go on reading the paper, and you’ll get all you need for your next novel; but I would like to lead you by the seat of your well-worn-by-writing-to-the-literary-columns pants up to that bunch of mangroves where there is a woman, bloated big as a balloon and upside down and there’s another face down in the brush next to her and explain to you they are two damned nice girls who ran a sandwich place and filling station and that where they are now is their hard luck. And you could make a note of it for your next novel and how is your next novel coming, brother writer?”

“But just then one of eight survivors from that camp of 187 not counting twelve who went to Miami to play ball (bow’s that for casualties, you guys who remember percentages?) comes along and he says, ‘That’s my old lady. Fat, ain’t she?’ But that guy is nuts, now, so we can dispense with him and we have to go back and get in a boat before we can check up on Camp Five. Camp Five was where eight survived out of 187, but we only find sixty-seven of those plus two more along the fill makes sixty-nine. But all the rest are in the mangroves.

It doesn’t take a bird dog to locate them. On the other hand, there are no buzzards. Absolutely no buzzards. How’s that? Would you believe it? The wind killed all the buzzards and all the big winged birds like pelicans too. You can find them in the grass that’s washed along the fill. Hey, there’s another one. He’s got low shoes, put him down, man, looks about sixty, low shoes, copper-riveted overalls, blue percale shirt without collar, storm jacket, by Jesus that’s the thing to wear, nothing in his pockets. Turn him over. Face tumefied beyond recognition. Hell he don’t look like a veteran. He’s too old. He’s got grey hair. You’ll have grey hair yourself this time next week. And across his back there was a great big blister as wide as his back and all ready to burst where his storm jacket had slipped down. Turn him over again. Sure he’s a veteran. I know him. What’s he got low shoes on for then? Maybe he made some money shooting craps and bought them. You don’t know that guy. You can’t tell him now. I know him, he hasn’t got any thumb. That’s how I know him. The land crabs ate his thumb. You think you know everybody. Well you waited a long time to get sick, brother. Sixty-seven of them and you got sick at the sixty-eighth. And so you walk the fill, where there is any fill and now it’s calm and clear and blue and almost the way it is when the millionaires come down in the winter except for the sandflies, the mosquitoes, and the smell of the dead that always smell the same in all countries that you go to—and now they smell like that in your own country. Or is it just that dead soldiers smell the same no matter what their nationality or who sends them to die? Who sent them down there?”

“I hope he reads this—and how does he feel? He will die too, himself, perhaps even without a hurricane warning, but maybe it will be an easy death, that’s the best you get, so that you do not have to hang onto something until you can’t hang on, until your fingers won’t hold on, and it is dark. And the wind makes a noise like a locomotive passing, with a shriek on top of that, because the wind has a scream exactly as it has in books, and then the fill goes and the high wall of water spins you over and over and then, whatever it is, you get it and we find you, now of no importance, stinking in the mangroves. You’re dead now, brother, but who left you there in the hurricane months on the Keys, where a thousand men died before you in the hurricane months when they were building the road that’s now washed out? Who left you there? And what’s the punishment for manslaughter now?”
Letters to the Editor

Bob Barfield wrote: “I put my magazine aside and I’ve been meaning to write and congratulate you on a well written article on the “Bonus Army” issue in the 30’s. It was very interesting to read the particulars though I have read about it before. I hope you do a follow up on Hemingway’s article.” [The article in elsewhere in this issue. Thanks for the reminder Bob.]

David Moats wrote: You may not be aware that there is an interesting article in the Jan-Feb 2016 Issue of WWII Magazine about General Truscott. Some things are mentioned that I did not know about him. We appreciate all of the work you and Joe do for the good of the Society. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year in 2016!

Jude and Paul Grabert wrote (during their trip to Lake Tahoe): We brought The Watch with us on the trip and have been enjoying reading it. Thanks for all your hard work on it. It’s always top-notch!

Dale McGraw wrote: “Thanks Lynn, for a great December Watch.”

Curley Faulk wrote: “Thanks for all you do for OP #35, and the 3rd I.D. I sometimes feel guilty for not doing more for the Regiment and the Division and our OP #35. I haven’t been able to support by attending our local veterans’ organization. Sometimes I just feel like having a good cry—Only, I’m afraid some news media would see me and I would make national news. Take Care, God Bless you both.” [Editor’s Note: I Sympathize with Curley as I sometimes feel the same way.]

Earl Killen wrote: “You and Joe do a great job for the Society. Happy Veterans’ Day. They are naming a state highway in front of our VFW post ‘Veterans Highway’ during our Veterans Day service. Rock of the Marne.” [Earl lives in Bolivar, PA.]

Don Bettine wrote: “Hi Lynn, just want to thank you for another great issue of the ‘Watch.’” Good assortment of articles covering a lot of history. I am especially touched by the “News from France” to learn how the youngsters are being taught the history of WW II and the role our servicemen (heroes) played in it.”

Gordon Draper wrote: “Thanks for all your work.”

Cold War Recollections

By Mike McClintock, Cold War, 1961-64

It is November in northwest Washington and although there is no snow yet here in the lowlands it is starting to turn cold, and whenever it turns cold I harken back to the winters of 1961-64 in West Germany where I served with the 3rd ID Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) Detachment. The 3rd ID Lurps thrived on being in the field, and the time of year did not matter. I liked the winter season best of all (as long as it didn’t rain too much). The winter snows brought out the true beauty of the German evergreen forests, and when it snowed it was not usually terribly cold.

Our unit was well-equipped for cold weather operations, unlike our line company brethren who were confined to the freezer-like interiors of their M113 armored personnel carriers and denied access to most of their cold weather gear until the temperatures outside dropped to well-below freezing. We Lurps, on the other hand, took advantage of multiple layers of clothing under our German army camouflage uniforms and carried all the comforts of home in our rucksacks. When it snowed we donned over-whites and added skis and poles to our equipment and supplies, although few of us actually knew how to ski. The skis were issued from special services and were about 8 feet long and 6 inches wide. They looked more like water skis. The bindings required the use of specially made ski boots that looked like they came from the Frankenstein monster and must have weighed 10 pounds apiece.

Needless to say, we could not have been mistaken for trained ski troopers and after 1 or 2 winter field exercises, the skis stayed in the unit supply room along with the Frankenstein boots. A pair of these boots followed me home and served me well on climbing forays into the high Sierra well into the 1970s. I also inherited a pair of hand-made German mountain boots from a member of the 10th Special Forces Group. These boots were exceptionally well made, but were still a close relative of the Frankenstein boots and heavy too. When I hear contemporary stories about Army combat boots coming apart after but a few months in the mountains of Afghanistan, I think about how well made those old boots were and how lighter is not always better. The people who make the Army’s field boots today should heed the words of my old squad leader in D Company, 2nd Battle Group, 38th Infantry in Schweinfurt, “Take care of your feet, and your feet will take care of you.” Papa Charlie was a Korean War vet, and if anybody would know, he would.

THE SOCIETY OF THE 3ID IS LOOKING FOR YOU!
The Society of the Third Infantry Division has existed for 97 years and is the oldest continuous Army Association.

Members receive a first-class publication six times a year. Members support a scholarship foundation. Members meet with local outposts at least once a year, and all members are invited to a national reunion held annually. Dues are minimal.

If you wore the Marne Patch or if you are a family member or friend of a Marne Soldier, you are invited to join the Society!

There is a membership application on p. 30. Join today!

Type 2. Boot, Mountain and Ski: Tentative Specification BQD 31A, May 12, 1942, introduced the high box toe typical of WWII Army ski boots. It was based on an army last to accommodate a felt insole and heavy wool socks, but still had felt leather sole with no toe spring.
News From The Outposts

Midwest
Chicago, IL

The Outpost #1 spring meeting will be Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 11:00 am at Al’s Steak House, 1990 W Jefferson St, Joliet, IL 60435. Phone: (815) 725-2388. We will order from their regular lunch menu from the sections of burgers, sandwiches and salads. You can view their menu at: http://www.alsssteaks.com/.

We will then go to the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery for a short talk and tour of the facility. Information on the cemetery can be found at http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/abraham-lincoln.asp It is a National Cemetery for American Veterans and certain relatives. The Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery lies in the northwestern area of the former Joliet Army Ammunition Plant, approximately 50 miles south of Chicago. The cemetery is named in honor of the 16th President of the United States and founder of the National Cemeteries. Burial in a national cemetery is open to all members of the armed forces who have met a minimum active duty service requirement and were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. A Veteran’s spouse, widow or widower, minor dependent children, and under certain conditions, unmarried adult children with disabilities may also be eligible for burial. Eligible spouses and children may be buried even if they predecease the Veteran. Members of the reserve components of the armed forces who die while on active duty or who die while on training duty, or were eligible for retired pay, may also be eligible for burial.

Please contact Secretary Treasurer John Spratt at address on page 31 if you plan on attending the spring meeting of Outpost #1.

At this time, the fall meeting will likely be at Coopers Corner, 27 W 150 Roosevelt Rd, Winfield, IL 60190 at www.coopercorner.com in September or October with a trip after the meeting and lunch to visit and tour of 1st Infantry Division Museum, 1S151 Winfield Road, Wheaton, IL 60189-3353, about one/two blocks from restaurant (630-260-8185). http://www.firstdivisionmuseum.org/

—Submitted by Richard Longfellow, President

Lottie Tipton
Columbia, SC

On 5 December, 2015, the valiant members of Outpost #3 met at Fatz Cafe in Orangeburg, SC for lunch and a walk, or several walks, down memory lane. Horace Burnette (& wife Juliet) and Henry Burke (with wife Pennie) were our only Korean War Veterans but shared fascinating stories of their time on active duty with the 3rd ID.

Gabe Guevarra (and Percy) and Chris Timmers (and Cindy) were members of the “Germany contingent,” i.e., those who served with the Division in its 50+ years of assignment to West Germany. Gabe served with D company, 3rd Medical Battalion, in Aschaffenburg, while Chris was posted to the 1st battalion, 15th Infantry in Kitzingen.

What was most fascinating were the stories our older vets told of the Korean War and, especially, Horace’s tales of serving in the Army as an African American in all black units. President Truman integrated the services by way of Executive Order in 1947, but true integration didn’t really start to take place until 1952. When Horace reported to Korea in 1951, he was sent to an all-black unit. How things change! Our army is stronger and better prepared to fight because of integration.

OP#3 has been approached by the VA Cemetery at Ft. Jackson to see if we would be interested in donating either a tree or a plaque to be placed on cemetery grounds. The membership voted unanimously to contribute both. Chris will follow up.

We will meet again in the June/July timeframe. We solicit input from other OP#3 members as to where our next meeting place should be. Give me a call at 803-609-0048 or email me at cbtimmers@yahoo.com. ROTM!

—Prepared by Chris Timmers, President

John S. Cole
Tampa, FL

A small group of members of Outpost #2 gathered on Tuesday, December 1, 2015, at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, Florida, to view our memorial, which was dedicated there on Veterans’ Day in 2001, and to mark the 97th Anniversary of the US Army Society of the Third Infantry Division.

Following the brief ceremony, we toured the grounds of the enormous and impressive Florida National Cemetery, and then met for lunch at Sonny’s Barbeque in Bushnell.

We hope that a larger group will be able to attend our next meeting, probably sometime in May. We welcome your suggestions and comments. Rock of the Marne!

—Submitted by Robert Gibson, Secretary/Treasurer
[Note from Editor]: Former Outpost #3 officer Maj. Robert L. Farrington, US Army, (Ret.), 83, of Columbia, died Sunday, November 29, 2015. While serving in the Army, he was awarded three Bronze Stars, was a member of the Military Officers Association of America, Military Order of World Wars, and the Special Military Active Recreational Travelers Club. Robert was a life member of the SC Locksmith Association. Burial with military honors was at Fort Jackson National Cemetery on Monday, December 14th.]

**Fort George Wright**

Spokane, WA

Outpost #4 met on September 9th at 1:30 PM at the Washington State Veterans’ Home, 222 E. 5th Avenue, Spokane, Washington. John Weiss, (John A. Weiss, Sec. Treasurer) was present at the outpost meeting but John A Weiss, (Op #4 Treasurer) was present and did move to donate to the Wildfire Relief Fund. (Please note the difference in the spelling of these officers’ last names.)

Outposts #4 and #63 were conjointly responsible for placing and dedicating the Third Infantry Division Memorial on the Memorial Walkway, Tahoma National Cemetery.

John A. Wiess shared with those at the September meeting the similarities of the two Outpost officers’ names: how interesting.

—Submitted by Dale McGraw, Secretary

**George G. Frost**

NY & North East

On Saturday, December 12, 2015, Outpost #5 held its annual holiday meeting/luncheon at the Holiday Inn, in Lehigh Valley, PA. An invocation was given by John Fisher before the meal. Following a delicious lunch and dessert, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. In the absence of President Bart Viruso, the meeting was called to order by David Mills. A treasurer’s report was given by Al Julia. A discussion was held about recruiting new members and possibly accommodating OP #11 members in a future meeting. Suggestions were asked for regarding a spring/summer meeting site. David Mills closed the meeting after no other business was discussed.

—Submitted by Al Julia, Treasurer

[Editor’s note: We listed Outpost #5 Member Michael Halik’s passing in the December Watch on the Rhine™. Since then, his daughter Debbie sent a thank you note for our sympathy card. Enclosed was a wonderful laminated memory card that displayed the American Flag, proudly flying on one side, and a copy of “Dogface Soldier” on the other side. Debbie also included a lovely religious passage, also laminated with a version of the Madonna on the reverse side.]

**Arizona**

Phoenix, AZ

Outpost #15 again participated in the Phoenix Veterans’ Day Parade, and again Outpost #15 has received award recognition for their parade entry. Following the parade activities, the participating members met at the home of Curtis Gentry for their scheduled meeting. We will have more information on the award to be presented.

—Submitted by Curtis Gentry, Secretary

Outpost #15 members participate in the Phoenix Veterans’ Day Parade.

**Giovinazzo-York**

Milwaukee, WIN

In the community of Denmark, Wisconsin, Outpost #18 Treasurer Marvin Kostka is known as “Mr. Patriotic” Marv flies the 3rd Infantry Division Flag under a comparable U.S. Flag every day. When his neighbors see these flags flying, they know all is well with Marv.

—Submitted by Robert Meganck, Secretary

**Our Society objectives are:**
- To foster and strengthen associations and friendships formed during service with the Third Infantry Division
- To honor the Third Infantry Division fallen Warriors
- To perpetuate the memory of former comrades who shared a background of honorable military service with the Division
- To encourage and achieve the mutual benefits and support resulting from a close and cooperative alliance between the Society and the Division
- To support the government of the United States and to give it, in peace and in war, the same devotion and service expected of us as members of its armed forces

Left to right: Jim Scofield, Peg and Dick Dugan, Merle and Al Julia, Charlie Condren, John Fisher, Shirley and Dave Mills, Mary and Egan Fehnel, Joe Todisco, David Pope, and Joe Herron.
A burial ceremony for the remains of Army Cpl. Robert V. Witt (POW/MIA Korea) was held at the Rose Hills Cemetery, Whittier, CA. OP #22 members attended the graveside ceremony on Oct. 30, 2015, to salute this Chosin Reservoir soldier and his family. Cpl. Witt was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT), 7th Infantry Division.

Andy congratulated the OP #22 members who received the ROK “Ambassador for Peace Medal” last April 26, 2015, at the Long Beach VAMC award ceremony. Korean War vets who are interested in traveling to Korea, please contact Roman Morales (626) 966-0476, cell, (626) 825-5703, or e-mail <romanmor1@verizon.net>.

The November 8, 2014 Annual Meeting Minutes were read and approved as written. Andy called for nominations for leadership for the 2015-2016 season. Nobody volunteered for any of the outpost leadership positions. Andy, Louis, and Ron will keep their existing positions for another year.

Western Region Committee, Louis Bravos, reported on the 96th National Reunion,

“‘It was Fantastic!’ He said, ‘It provided a wonderful opportunity to meet old friends, and to make new friends.’ He reported the names of the scholarship grant recipients, and the Society Awards recipients. He felt that the hotel, and the Charleston, SC tours were outstanding. He recommended that everybody attend the 97th National Reunion, in Gettysburg/Harrisburg, PA (September 22-25, 2016).

The annual meeting of Outpost #22, Southern California, was called to order (at 1300 hrs.), by OP #22 President Andrew M. Scullion. He greeted everybody, thanked them for their military service, and thanked them for attending this Veteran’s Day Celebration at the Flabob Airport, in Riverside, CA. Vice President and Western Region Committee, Louis Bravos, led the group in the salute and Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Andy announced that the 97th National Reunion will be held Sep. 22-25, 2016, in Gettysburg/Harrisburg, PA. Fill out your application in your next issue of Watch on the Rhine. Andy wished a Happy Birthday to all those celebrating their birthdays during November and December.

If you would like to submit an article for publication in the Watch on the Rhine, please submit it to Lynn Ball, editor, ldball1@msn.com.

Ron announced that our national Society has 1849 members, and OP #22 had 86 members as of November 6, 2015. He reported that Donald Polny, of Sunland, CA. has just joined OP #22. Also, Congratulations to Joe Aldana for changing his “annual” membership to “Life.”

U.S. Army Tech Sgt. Bud Bell was honored as the Guest of Honor during this Veterans’ Day celebration. (He received the Medal of Honor from the French government, and the Distinguished Service Cross, and CIB from Uncle Sam.) Travis Gammill coordinated the entertainment for this Veteran’s Day celebration, arranged for guest speakers, provided tours of the DC-3, and served on the planning committee. Both men rode with the Society of the 3rd I.D. members in the “Heroes Parade.”
OP#22 members met, and gave our condolences to David and Kathren Strawn, son and daughter-in-law of deceased WR Committee man James Strawn).

The Sec/Treas. proposed the new balanced 2015-2016 Budget. There was lots of discussion concerning lack of funding, service to the VA’s VAVS programs, sending our President & VP to the National Reunion, support for the Marine Riders, possible resumption of an annual picnic, and better communication with the membership (through possible monthly newsletters, instead of an annual President’s newsletter). Bruce Monkman said that 56 of our members have e-mail addresses. So, Ron offered to type six newsletters per year (to members with e-mail addresses) that would include “Recon 1st” list of “Things to Do and Places to Go.” No one else was willing to be the web-master or editor of a newsletter. The proposed budget was approved as amended.

Mr. Monkman said that he would like to see more articles in the Watch and the bimonthly newsletters that contain more stories of members’ military experiences. A member asked why there were no articles from OP #4, 7, 11, 12, 15, 17, 18, 22, 33, 53, 54, 60, and 63 in the October 2015 issue of the “Watch”. We assured them that it was not a case of our articles (and photos) not being important enough, but that is was just a problem with a lack of space to print all of the articles. Mrs. Ball said that our article will be in the February issue. (Editor’s note: I publish what is sent to me. If outposts do not send their reports to me, I seldom have anything to put into the slot I reserve for each outpost. All are very important to me and to our members. However, extremely long articles have to be edited. The Watch should not replace the Outpost Newsletters.)

Mini-Meetings included the January 3, 2016 event (10:00 am to 4:00 pm): “Empire and Liberty” is the first major museum exhibition to illuminate the causes of the American Civil War, from the vantage point of Westward expansion. The exhibit has over 200 significant artifacts (including Texas slave documents, the Andres’ Pico’s war drum, the battle flag of the “California Hundred,” a Buffalo soldier’s revolver, and the Confederate General Stand Watie’s Bowie knife.”

Discussion included more “places to go”, and the possibility of future visitations (with refreshments) to the four VA hospitals in L.A. and San Diego Counties. There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 1354 hours, (so the veterans could ride on the float, at 1400 hrs. to be saluted for their service).

Outpost #35 will meet at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Club for a luncheon meeting on April 9, 2015, at 11:00 AM. Some may want to visit the museum nearby after the meeting. The meeting is being hosted by James Reeves and 1st Sgt. Toby Knight. Our speaker will be Outpost #35 Member, Retired Brigadier General Thomas G. Smith.

The photo of Curley and his grandson, Gabriel, was taken at St. Louis Catholic School on Veterans’ and Grandparent’s Day, 2015. Thanks, Curley, for sharing this precious moment with all of us.

—Submitted by

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Grandson Gabriel and Curley Faulk at Veteran’s and Grandparents Day.

Golden Gate
San Francisco, CA

Twenty-three members and guests attended our Veterans Day program at the Brass Door Restaurant in San Ramon, California. Our speaker was LTC Andrew Jones, commander of Camp Parks Garrison located in Dublin, California. LTC Jones was commissioned in Infantry at Ft. Benning and completed Basic course for Scout Platoon and Scout Platoon Leader. His first duty as a well-trained officer was as a Tank Platoon and Scout Platoon Leader with the 3rd Infantry Division at Ft. Stewart, Georgia. He has a long list of army schools including the Army Command and General Staff College and has a Bachelor of Arts in French and a Master degree in European History. He served in Desert Falcon, two tours in Iraq with a UN Special Commission, Operation Iraq Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. He was awarded the Bronze Star, five meritorious Service medals, and many decorations. He presented a fine talk about our Army and the large training mission at Camp Parks.

Outpost #54 Members and guests gather for their Veteran’s Day meeting.

This meeting was the last for Ruth De Bord, our long time Secretary-Treasurer. She was awarded a special certificate of appreciation and several gifts. We will miss her very much as we miss her recently departed husband, Leonard, a 39th FA battery commander in Korea.
Our new Secretary-Treasurer is Associate Member Robert Yates. He has been attending outpost meetings for several years and very graciously offered to serve in this very important position.

We paused to remember all our departed comrades, the most recent was Jim Strawn, 10th Engineers, Korea. He was a wonderful, active member of our society. We were honored by the presence of Reid Anderson, a 96-year-old veteran of the division who was stationed at Ft. Lewis, Washington when the Old China Hands of the 15th Infantry Regiment returned from duty in China in 1938 and was assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division. He made all the division landings and battles until he was wounded at Anzio.

After reports and announcements, we held our raffle that helps support our scholarship program for San Francisco and Oakland JROTC cadets. Our next meeting will be in the spring near Memorial Day.

—Submitted by John Shirley, President

OP 5845 organized an award ceremony for Marine Man Robert A. Dutil on 14 November in Williams, California, at the Sacramento Valley Museum which had previously served as the high school where Bob went to school before going to war. Bob served with the Intelligence and Reconnaissance Section of the 3d Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment under LT Garlin Connor from October 1944 until the end of the war. He received the Bronze Star for merit as a recipient of the Combat Infantryman’s Badge.

The ceremony was organized by Monika and Tim Stoy, who flew in especially for this ceremony from Northern Virginia, with Tim having the distinct honor of presenting the medal to Bob in the name of the Secretary of the Army.

Bob never knew he was authorized the award until Monika and Tim informed his daughter, Lynn Reister, this past spring. She contacted the office of Congressman John Garamendi which processed the paperwork for the award. Chief Master Sergeant, USAF, retired John Evalle, District Director for the Congressman, attended on behalf of the Congressman, and read the award citation for the ceremony. He also presented a Congressional Proclamation honoring Bob from Congressman Garamendi.

Bob Dutil Bronze Star Presentation: L-R: John Evalle, Monika Stoy, Bob Dutil, Tim Stoy, Bob Dutil’s WWII uniform.

Over 100 of Bob’s friends and neighbors attended the ceremony which included a power point presentation on the 3rd Infantry Division’s operations in WWII in which Bob participated, and a photo presentation of Bob’s trips to France, Germany, and Austria over the past seven years to participate in Outpost International’s commemorations of Operation Dragoon, the Battle of the Colmar Pocket, and the Division’s campaigns in Germany and Austria. Bob’s daughter-in-law, Paula, did a wonderful job of setting up the hall for the ceremony and preparing refreshments for the post-ceremony reception.

Why Belong to the NIA?

- To support the work of the ONLY organization representing the entire Infantry and the Chief of Infantry. The combined strength of our membership ensures that the Infantry voice is heard by decision makers.
- To share the camaraderie of like minded soldiers and citizens who believe in maintaining the Infantry spirit, and to help recognize outstanding Infantrymen.
- To grow professionally through participation in Association activities, programs and publications.
- To support a new, expanded National Infantry Museum and the educational values associated with its contents.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION available securely on our website, or will be sent upon request.
Wreaths for Warriors

By Jeff Ashmen

Fort Stewart and Wreaths for Warriors Walk held their 9th Annual Christmas Wreath Laying Ceremony on 12 December 2015. This annual event coincides with “Wreaths across America” ceremonies conducted at Arlington and other veterans’ cemeteries in all 50 states, ceremonies at sea, and 24 national cemeteries on foreign soil.

This annual solemn event brought soldiers, family members, and volunteers from surrounding communities together to pay tribute and honor the sacrifices of our brave men and women. Warriors Walk, located on each side of Cottrell Field at Ft Stewart Georgia, is lined with 468 white crepe myrtle trees in honor of the soldiers assigned or attached to the 3rd Infantry Division who have died in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom, New Dawn, and Enduring Freedom. Each tree received a live wreath that remained in place until after the holidays.

Prior to the ceremony, each tree was decorated with donated ornaments and help from many volunteers. This tradition started back in 2009 when the Gold Star mother of SGT Gene Lamie (Mrs. Linda Lamie), who initially came in years past to decorate her own son’s tree, decided this should be done for all the trees.

This year, 139 family members representing 43 soldiers attend the event along with hundreds of volunteers. For more information on Wreaths for Warriors Walk visit their website at www.w4ww.org.

2016 Reunion Tours

Gettysburg Battlefield ~ Friday September 23rd: We will arrive at the Gettysburg visitor center and watch the movie, “A New Birth of Freedom.” Narrated by Morgan Freeman, and featuring the voices of Sam Waterston and Marcia Gay Harden. The film, “A New Birth of Freedom,” places the monumental events of the Battle of Gettysburg into the larger context of the world’s largest collections of outdoor sculptures. Close to 1,400 statues, sculptures, markers and tablets commemorate the men who fought at Gettysburg.

Hershey’s Chocolate World ~ Saturday September 24th: In the Hershey’s Factory you will follow their cocoa beans on a journey from the tropical rainforest to Hershey, Pennsylvania. See, feel, hear, and smell the delicious transformation from bean to HER-SHEY’S famous chocolate. Then, you will indulge yourself in the flavorful world of chocolate in their all new tasting experience! Filled with the sights, sounds, and smells of chocolate, Hershey’s tasting experts show you how to engage all senses to taste chocolates—from milk to dark and varieties in between.

The April Watch on the Rhine will provide more details and the reunion registration form.
A Foxhole Was My Home, by Darrell C. Kilburn, is an excellent first-hand account of his experiences during WW2 while serving with the 7th Infantry Regiment. It is better written than any books I have read recently. Darrell has a knack for realizing that not everyone understands some terms so he defines everything that might seem obscure, thus making his book a very fast read. The hard cover book contains 157 pages measuring 8 1/2” x 11”. It is printed on heavy gloss paper and the chapters are relatively short and right to the point. There is no “filler” to distract the reader’s attention from the points Darrell is making.

Darrell grew up in the mountains of Western Pennsylvania where hunting to put food on the table was an ongoing effort. This experience with firearms served him well in the Army. In short, it enabled him to hit what he aimed at. It enabled him to eliminate two German machine gunners who were killing our Soldiers. While killing humans has continued to bother Darrell throughout his life, in war, it becomes a necessary support of any soldier’s duty to his companions, and thankfully, Darrell was there to stop an onslaught.

Darrell begins his story with several pages of dedications written to describe the people he honors. These are followed by several quite informative acknowledgements—both sections contain some photographs.

Chapters include his pre-war life, basic training, embarkation, and arriving in Africa. These chapters and all that follow make the reader feel that he/she is going along on the trip. Then he discusses Italy, “A Sea of Mud,” the Anzio landing, experiences in capturing prisoners, and a “no-man’s land.” The chapters dealing with Anzio Annie, night patrols, frontline experiences, and being wounded in action are particularly descriptive. One can almost feel the blisters he developed from prolonged use of morphine. His chapters dealing with recovery from his wounds and his several bouts with malaria are so descriptive that the reader fully understands what Kilburn (and many other soldiers) experienced.

His feeling that, while everywhere he looked, he noticed that “Kilroy Was Here,” he came to feel that “Kilburn Was Here” too.

As Kilburn gets close to home, we find ourselves on the ship with him as he returns to the States. Once home, he completes high school, deals with getting treatment at the Veterans’ hospital, PTSD, and more.

As the book winds down, we find Kilburn on the 2012 Honor Flight to Washington DC to see the WWII Memorial and a later trip, 2014. He compares and contrasts those trips to deliver an extremely interesting prospective.

Other chapters tell of more private experiences—his 90th birthday, excerpts from letters he sent home, several exhibits of War Department Telegrams and letters. Particularly interesting is his section on returning to Italy and finding some areas he remembered, including the area where he was severely wounded.

This book is masterfully written and is extremely valuable in explaining what happens to our Soldiers (physically and emotionally) who went through WWII—and other conflicts.

I highly recommend A Foxhole Was My Home, by Darrell C. Kilburn. This hard cover book is well worth the price of $46.00 including postage and handling. Please order your copy of A Foxhole Was My Home, from Darrell C. Kilburn, 721 Moseley Road, Fairport, N. Y. 14450-3623. You will be very pleased with your purchase.

White House Greeting

If you have never received a birthday greeting from the White House, you may be interested in the wording used: “We are delighted to wish you a happy birthday, and we want you to know we deeply appreciate your service and sacrifice. The courageous men and women who have worn our Nation’s uniform are shining examples of what we can accomplish when we join together in a spirit of duty and hope. Thank you again for your service to our country. We wish you the very best for a terrific birthday and a great year ahead. Sincerely,”—followed by signatures for both Obamas.

The cards are worded differently for non-Veterans. The cards are individually addressed so be sure, when ordering cards to specify the gender of the recipient. Order cards, for Veterans ages 70 and older; others are for ages 80 and up. Request a card for Veterans and non-Veterans at decade wedding anniversaries (50, 60, and 70). Send requests two months in advance to Greeting Office, The White House, Washington DC 20500.

Seeking New Members

We hope you will contact Veterans of the 3rd Infantry Division who are not already members of our Society and invite them to join us. We have copies of the Watch available for those who wish to distribute them at military gatherings and other places. Page 30 of every Watch has the information needed to join the Society and Kathy Daddato has a new, quite attractive recruitment brochure available. Over the year, we have encountered several people who said they were out of the service for several years and didn’t know about our Society. When they learned about us, they joined. All reports have been positive.
In the wintertime, we occupied a position that was on a pretty good sized hill. The location for the forward observer was probably one of the best I ever had. It was a former Chinese position that the Chinese had dug and it was very unique. The hole went down into the hill in a spiral staircase about 10 feet and then it opened out into a cavern that probably could sleep 10 Chinese. The ceiling was about four feet tall. Four or five of us guys slept in there and not only was it safe from incoming artillery and mortars, but it kept that cold air from the Yalu from freezing us at night. We had a new 20 power spotting scope, which was better than binoculars. Our lines were about a mile apart so a powerful scope was essential.

On a large hill across the valley from us, a good thousand yards, there was a little ridgeline that came down towards us. Right on the tip of that ridgeline was a Chinese foxhole with a soldier in it. I could see him as plain as day with my scope, and I figured he was an observer looking for activity. I called battalion and reported what I had seen. I was given permission to fire on this one Chinese with one gun. It takes three or four rounds to pinpoint a target that size at that range. As my rounds got closer and closer, he probably realized that he was the target and ducked out of sight. I told the FDC (Fire Direction Center) to record the firing data and if the Chinese soldier returned, we would Fire-For-Effect.

After about 10 minutes I saw “my Chinaman” poke his head and shoulders out of his hole. I called battalion and requested Battery, One Round, Converged Sheaf on the adjusting gun, Fire-For-Effect. This meant that I would get six rounds, simultaneously, on the same target. I also requested Fuse VT. A VT fuse has a radar type fuse that causes the round to explode about 15 yards above the ground. When this happens, most of the fragments go into the ground from above and your chances of hitting the enemy are greatly increased.

I soon got the command from the guns of, “On the way.” My scope is locked on “my Chinaman.” I can hear the guns behind me go ba-ba-boom! At this particular time, “my Chinaman” has no idea his life is in jeopardy. As I heard my shells going overhead, I saw my target begin to move. Just then the six shells exploded, tearing up the ground around his foxhole. I have no idea if I got him or not, but I do know that his area was saturated with fragments.

About an hour later I spotted another observer and repeated my fire request with similar results. I fired on this particular target four or five times. We never knew whether it was the same soldier or if they kept sending replacements up.

One of the officers from battalion finally came up to the front lines and wanted to see “my pet Chinaman.” When he saw the target, he shot the mission. As time went by, “my pet Chinaman” was the talk of the battalion, and we had a few visitors come up to see us and fire a mission. Generally, a forward observer has few visitors. Eventually our “pet” disappeared. He probably moved to a safer neighborhood.

It was tradition that on your birthday you were relieved from duty “on the hill” for the day. You got to return to your battery where you could shower, sleep on a cot, get some clean clothes and some hot chow. On January 26th, when I was 26 years old, they sent up my relief. My whole crew got to come back with me! Officers were allowed to buy whiskey in Korea. I didn’t drink heavy because it was a foolish thing to do, but I had whiskey available and I had one bottle with me. My replacement was going to come up about 10 o’clock in the morning, so I started taking a slug from the bottle and so did my men. By about 10 o’clock we were almost “in the bag” because we knew we were coming off the hill.

I had been shooting at some bunkers about two thousand yards away on a ridgeline. I knew they were heavy bunkers and I had been shooting at them periodically. I just couldn’t hit them because it’s very difficult to hit a target right at the top edge of a ridge. Either your rounds go just over or they land on the face of the hill. You have to have just the right adjustments to hit this kind of a target. I had been shooting at those bunkers for weeks. I decided to have a “bunker shoot” before we came off the hill. So I zeroed in on those bunkers and requested Battery Two Rounds, Fuzed Delay.

A round, with fuzed delay, does not explode on contact with the ground. What happens with a fuzed delay is that when the rounds hit the ground, there is a small delay to allow the shell to penetrate before exploding. (Very good for bunker busting.)

When I fired for effect, I could see logs, dirt and people go up in the air from two or three bunkers. After shooting at these bunkers for a week or so, stone, cold, sober, I destroyed two or three and I’m half “in the bag.”

We went back down to the battery and everybody was happy and we were singing! My battery commander was a black Captain. He had me eating in his tent. I can...
recall roast beef with mashed potatoes and gravy, and green beans. Oh, God! What a meal! We don’t get meals like that out on the hill with the infantry! My Captain said I must have a tapeworm because I ate so much. I told him it was the first roast beef I had seen in about 45 days. Two nights in a nice warm cot and I was back on my hill shooting at “my pet Chinaman.”

Of course while I was on that hill, the Chinese knew I was a forward observer and they could see our activity. We didn’t try to hide from the Chinese because we received little artillery fire from them. We walked on top of the ridges with binoculars and were carrying around maps and such. It was no secret for anybody with a good scope. We might not have been so brave if they had a good sniper. They could tell that there was a forward observer there. They had a gun at least three or four miles away and he started shooting at me, sort of like I was shooting at “my pet Chinaman.”

The first time that he shot at me, the round went over the hill and of course it was close. I figured he was shooting at me, so every time I could hear the gun going off in the distance I would go down the spiral staircase inside the hill. When I heard his round explode I would come back up. I was trying to see the flash from his gun. I never did see his gun flash, but I tried to use the sound of the gun firing. Every time he’d shoot, I’d move my scope to where I thought the sound was coming from. We zeroed in on him that way. I don’t think we ever got that gun. Evidently, he got tired of trying to hit us because he only shot at us for a day. He never did hit my O.P., but I knew he was shooting at me.

Over in the Chorwon Valley, my company was ordered to raid up the valley about three miles. We never went up in the Chorwon Valley very far because it was surrounded on all sides by mountains. The Chinese were in those mountains. We were ordered to go up the road with a platoon of tanks and a platoon of infantry. My job as forward observer was to provide fire support for them. I rode in a tank so I would have a more powerful radio for communication with my battalion.

When I got in the tank, the tank commander told me that I was taking the place of the bow machine gunner. My job in the tank was to shoot artillery missions and then operate the bow machine gun as we got close to the objective. One thing I discovered quickly was that your vision of what is going on outside a tank is extremely limited. All I had to look through was a bulletproof glass opening the size of a deck of cards.

Being in a tank on the move, over rough ground, is like being on a ship. You pitch up and down. As we went into the assault, all I could see was dirt and bushes and then blue sky. I soon got into synch by firing the machine gun whenever I saw dirt and bushes. When there was blue sky I stopped firing. The gunner was shooting 75 millimeter shells out of the main tank cannon. Every time the gun fired, the tank was filled with ammonia fumes. They had a hatch in the tank big enough to throw empty shell casings out. I finally had to open the hatch to get some fresh air. When we finally got on the objective, there were no Chinese there. I wasn’t particularly disappointed.

On our way back to our original positions, some of us dismounted from the tanks and were talking with the infantry leaders. We were fired on by a single rifleman located on Hill 500 to our right. The second shot hit the tank commander in the leg. There was an immediate request for artillery fire on Hill 500. I had to return to my tank to use the radio and request fire. I put quite a few artillery rounds up on 500 and that calmed down the sniper. He didn’t do any more shooting at us and we finally returned to our lines.

One of our attacks happened in the spring, after the snow had melted. We were crossing the Imjin River. The Infantry crossed the Imjin on mattresses. They made a good raft for crossing a river. They crossed the river and I decided I would stay on this side of the river, which was only 15 yards across, but it was very deep and very swift flowing. Taking my heavy radio would have been too dangerous and we might lose it.

As the Infantry came closer to the objective (a low range of hills) they got machine gun fire and quite a few guys were hit. I placed artillery fire on the hill. Of course it had to be raining, HARD!

There was a tank on my side of the river. I used the tank radio as mine was rainsoaked. That night I and another forward observer named Lt. Riley were on the tank together. We fired one thousand rounds that night. There was an article in the newspaper with our names mentioned and the number of rounds that we fired in support of those guys who were trying to take that hill. They had a much tougher job than we did because not only did they have to cross that river, but when they were wounded, they had to come back across the river again. With the rain, the river got higher and swifter and it became a very, very difficult job.

Riley and I were sitting inside the tank. In order to shoot artillery, you have to get an azimuth, which is a direction to the target. You use a compass to do that. You could not use a compass inside the tank because of all the metal. Whenever we fired a new mission to a different location, someone had to get out of the tank to use the compass. That someone was me! As I was doing this, the Chinese were firing artillery and mortars at our tanks.

I’ll never forget the Imjin River crossing and we did fire plenty of artillery that night. I think we saved the Infantry from having heavier casualties because we kept the Chinese from coming over that little hill and wiping them out. —To be continued in the April issue.

To be continued in the April Watch.
Last Call

All of us in the Society of the Third Infantry Division, U.S. Army, extend our sincere sympathy to the families and friends of those listed below. May they rest in peace.

In Memoriam

We no longer list the addresses of our deceased members. This is being done to curtail predators and people who victimize our members’ survivors with schemes. If you need an address of one of the following, you can find it in your Roster or you can contact the editor, Lynn Ball. Contact information is on page 2 of the Watch.

Life Members

WILBERT G. AFFLERBACK
65INF/HVMTR KOREA/1952-53 PFC
DOD - August 17, 2011 Reported on the Internet

JOHN H. ANDERSON
39FA/A BTRY, HQ BTRY CW/Nov52-Nov53 1LT
DOD - July 19, 2014 Reported by USPS and Internet

ERNEST H. BEARSS
71INF/C & H PT 2LT
DOD 2009, Reported on Social Security Death Index

DONALD R. CHRISTIAN
30INF/HQ WW2/Apr43-Oct45 PFC
DOD - January 12, 2015 Reported by USPS and Internet

ALBERT H. DAVIS
10ENG/C WW2 CPL
DOD - UNKNOWN Reported by the USPS returned mail

ROBERT L. FARRINGTON
30ICC/7BN C & HQ CW/Jan56-Sep61 CPT
DOD - November 29, 2015
Reported by his spouse Joyce

CLAYTON O. GIESE
10ENG/A WW2 SGT
DOD - December 13, 2015 Reported on the Internet

MICHAEL HALIK
15INF/F WW2/43-46
DOD - November 2, 2015 Reported by his daughter Debra

LOUIS HITES
9FA/ WW2/41-45 T5
DOD - April 6, 2015 Reported by Bruce Monkman

FRANK E. JONES
30INF/BTL PLT/RECON WW2 PFC
DOD - October 21, 2015
Reported by his daughter Debora Barnes

MAX A MADDOX
7INF/TK KOREA/48 CW-82 COL
DOD - Unknown Reported by LynnBall

JOSEPH J O’HARE JR
39FA/A Btry I&Q KOREA/49-51 CPT
DOD - April 7, 2014 Reported by the Internet and USPS

MAHON C. TAYLOR
15INF/CO D WW2/44-46 SSGT
DOD - November 19, 2015 Reported by Tom Heitzer

PAUL WALKOWSKI
10ENG/B KOREA/Jan51-Dec51 SFC
DOD - NOVEMBER 19, 2015
Reported by his spouse Ann

Annual Members

WILLIAM R. DUGGER
15INF/1BN/C CW SP4
DOD - December 18, 2015 Reported by his spouse Linda

MARTIN R. FORS
30INF/1 BTL GRP CW/57-59 SP5
DOD - November 23, 2015 Reported by his spouse Sheila

CLYDE J. HANSON
7INF/E KOREA CPL
DOD - December 14, 2015 Reported by Lynn Ball

Non-Member Passing

Helen Shirley, 84, of Livermore, California, passed away on December 4, 2015. Helen is the spouse of John Shirley, former Society President who served with the 15 Inf. IL during WW2 (’44-’45). Helen was active as a Cub Scouts Den Mother and a leader in the Campfire Girls. Further, Helen was an accomplished musician, seamstress, excellent cook, jewelry designer, and watercolor artist. For a time she edited the Livermore Art Association newsletter. Helen is greatly missed by her many friends in Livermore and in the Society.
April 6, 2016: Outpost #4 will meet at the Washington State Veterans Home in Spokane, Washington, at 11:30 AM.

April 9, 2016: Outpost #35 will meet at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Club for a luncheon meeting at 11:00 AM, hosted by James Reeves and 1st Sgt. Toby Knight. Our special speaker will be Outpost #35 Member, Retired Brigadier General Thomas G. Smith. Some may want to visit the nearby museum after the meeting.

April 17, 2016: Outpost #18 will hold its spring meeting at 10:30 AM, at The Five Pillars Supper Club, located at Highway #57 and County Truck Highway “K.” Our officers have a great meeting planned, and we hope all members will attend.

May 11, 2016: Outpost #1’s spring meeting will be at 11:00 a.m. at Al’s Steak House, 1990 W Jefferson St, Joliet, IL 60435 Phone: (815) 725-2388. We will order from the regular lunch menu. (View the menu at http://www.alsteaks.com/). We will then go to the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery for a short talk and tour of the facility. Please contact Secretary-Treasurer John Spratt at the address on page 31, if you plan to attend the spring meeting.

May 14, 2016: Outpost #13 will meet at Bakers of Milford at noon. The restaurant is three miles north of Exit 155 off Hwy. I-96.

September, 15-18, 2016: 6th Army Group in France, Germany, and Austria Historical Seminar and Commemorative Ceremony (Honoring veterans of Operation Dragoon, fighting in the Vosges, the Battle of the Colmar Pocket, the campaign in Germany, and the final liberation of Salzburg, Austria) Hosted by OP 5845 in Arlington, VA. POC: Monika Stoy.


Display the 3ID Patch Proudly & Support the Scholarship Fund

The Society has a variety of Society stickers available for purchase with a small donation. You can choose from:

1. Inside window decal with Society Emblem: 3” round, self-adhering, easy to remove and reuse.
2. 3rd ID Patch: 2 1/4” or 2 5/8” with permanent adhesive.
4. Society Emblem: 3 1/4” with permanent adhesive.

Bumper stickers are no longer available.

Make checks payable to:
Society of the 3rd Infantry Division

Mail to:
Joe Ball, 2010 Worcester Lane, Garland TX 75040.
If you have questions, call 972-495-1704

Join the Organization for Combat Infantrymen

You earned the right to Proudly wear it. Be part of the elite Combat Infantrymen’s Association!

Applicants must have earned the Combat Infantryman’s Badge as certified by form DD-214, Official U.S. Army orders, or other official documents. Age dependent life memberships are available. For more information visit our website www.cibassoc.com; E-mail: jabemk@aol.com or contact: Combat Infantrymen’s Association National Deputy Commander PO Box 97033 Tacoma, WA 98497-0033 Afghanistan, Iraq, Gulf War Veterans ~ free membership for one year

Membership is Our Strength

It’s not the price you pay to belong, it’s the price you paid to become eligible to join.
Dear Fellow Veterans, Active Duty Soldiers and Families,

Your Chaplain had a good Thanksgiving and Christmas with his wife, Kathleen, three daughters, three sons-in-law, 8 grandchildren (3 girls and 5 boys).

I hope you also had a great Christmas while celebrating the birth of our Savior, our Lord.

But before I go any further, we must all remember our Veterans, not only on Veterans Day, but each and every day—especially all the military who were not with their families this holiday season during this troubling time.

Also remember the 3rd ID Soldiers who are away at very dangerous places; may our Dear Lord help and protect them.

Let us not forget the Navy Submarine Service who are under water six months at a time while helping to keep us safe and also remember our Strategic Air Command who are in the air over our country 24 hours a day, 7 days a week keeping us safe.

May our Lord comfort all of our Service Members until they make it home to see their families.

Then, there are the terrorists, who, so help me God, will be wiped off the face of the Earth for what they stand for, what they do, and for what they have done to innocent people.

So, until we meet again, I remain your loving Chaplain, Jerry Daddato.

God bless our military and God bless America. ROTM.

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Founders Day Banquet, 12/6/15, commemorating the founding of VFW Post #1 founded in Denver in 1899—the oldest VFW Post in the U.S.: L-R: Medal of Honor recipient Hiroshi Miyamura, POW, Korea for 26 months, who was awarded the military's highest honor for valor during the Korean War; Navy SEAL Team 6 Member Robert J. O'Neil, the man many know as the SEAL who killed Osama bin Laden; Medal of Honor recipient Drew Dix, who received the medal for his valorous actions in Vietnam, and Barry Bridger, who spent six years as a prisoner of war at Vietnam's infamous Hanoi Hilton prison camp.

Lost Your DD-214?
To obtain a copy of your DD-214, go to http://members.aol.com/ forvets/dd214.htm or consult your local V.A. office.

—Submitted by Joe Ball
Will I Ever Walk on Asphalt Again?

By Dan Wolfe, 15th Inf./L., Korea

From Cold Ground’s Been My Bed; A Korean War Memoir by Daniel Wolfe

The sun had just dipped below a ragged wall of mountains to the west. A bumpy ten-minute ride from battalion headquarters brought us to Company L’s position on the MLR (front line). The rain let up. My body, warming my wet fatigues, itched wherever the cloth chafed my skin.

Sergeant Springer, a World War II veteran, greeted me on the reverse slope of the MLR (Main Line of Resistance). I envied the comfort of his dry, worn, soft, faded fatigues. My stiff, dark OD uniform labeled me as a newcomer. He introduced himself as my squad leader. We stepped into a trench line accompanied by the distant chatter of machine gun and rifle fire.

What have I come to? Will I be out there; part of that noise? Will I ever walk on asphalt again? Should I squat as I walk through the trench? Springer isn’t squatting; I’ll need a friend, and he seems like someone who would listen.

Like a calf following its mother, I anxiously followed him to my new home. With moonlight shining on its roof, I could see brittle, pale weeds twisted among scattered rocks and soil. He pulled aside the door to a hole in the ground, a limp and filthy OD blanket. We entered a bunker. I stepped onto a slick floor of earth tamped down from months of traffic. Jagged earthen walls conspired with the floor to radiate a chilling cold and dampness. Before he left, Springer introduced me to Jesse, who was sitting on three stacked grenade boxes.

Am I expected to sleep here? Will this be home? Until when? I was raised in a humble home in the Bronx. I slept on a convertible couch in the living room whose piercing springs were covered by a thin fabric, over which Ma placed a blanket. This had been my mattress at home. But wrapped in my clammy fatigues, I was totally unprepared for a sleeping bag rolled out over my poncho on a damp, slick floor.

“Cold Ground Is My Bed.”

“Welcome home,” said Jesse. “Welcome home?” I replied. “Don’t tell me you can sleep through the night in this miserable damp box.” “Through the night? No more of that. You’re not stateside. You’re not in the artillery. You’re not in the tanks. You’re a dog-face. We take guard duty every two hours.”

Pointing to his rolled out sleeping bag he said, “When I’m not on guard or on a patrol, this is my inner-spring mattress.” Then he recited lines from a blues song by Brownie McGhee:

Rocks has been my pillow.
Cold ground’s been my bed,
Blue sky’s been my blanket,
And the moonlight’s been my spread.

These words resonated within me for a few days. Soon they became my way of life.

So that his brethren shall know...

Please report the death of any member of the Society of the Third Infantry Division to Richard W. Heller, Roster Manager (address, p.2) for listing in the “Last Call.”
Purpose

The Society of the Third Infantry Division, United States Army, was founded in 1919 and incorporated in 1958 as a non-profit, fraternal, social, educational, patriotic, military service organization and shall always remain non-profit and non-political.

Specific objectives are:
- To foster and strengthen associations and friendships formed during service with the Third Infantry Division, U.S. Army.
- To honor the Third Infantry Division War Dead.
- To perpetuate the memory of other former comrades who shared a background of honorable military service with the Third Infantry Division, U.S. Army.
- To encourage and achieve the mutual benefit and support resulting from a close and cooperative alliance between the Society and the Third Infantry Division, U.S. Army.
- To support the Government of the United States and to give it, in peace and in war, the same devotion and service expected of us as members of its armed forces.

Pledge

I pledge to the Society of the Third Infantry Division, United States Army, in the achievement of the goals for which it is formed, that same full measure of loyalty and devotion which my comrades have who fallen gave to the Division and to the cause for which they fought.

Through my loyalty and devotion to their memory, they shall not be forgotten by the country, for which they died, or by the comrades at whose sides they fell.

To them, I pledge in peace and war the dedication of myself to that country and that cause to which they consecrated themselves.

General Information

All members in good standing receive the official bimonthly publication, The Watch on the Rhine. Life Members shall receive the Watch in the Rhine with no further dues payments during their lifetime. The National Membership Roster is printed every three years. All members receive a copy of the roster on the three-year cycle. All new members receive a copy. The next National Membership Roster will be printed in 2018.

The Society is divided into chapters, called outposts, which members are entitled to join. Outposts, at their discretion, may charge a small additional amount for outpost activities. At large members do not belong to outposts but are referred to as “Footsies Big At Large” (named for Lt. Maurice Britt, MOH, WW2).

Eligibility

Regular Membership: Veterans with honorable service in the Third Infantry Division. Also, those who were members of supporting or attached units of the Third Infantry Division.

Associate Membership: Spouse, parents, children or siblings of any person eligible for regular membership, and any person with a special interest in, or an affinity for the Society of the Third Infantry Division.

Life Membership: Available to both Regular and Associate Members.

Dues

Annual dues: Regular, Active Duty, Associate Members $20.00
Annual dues: Overseas Members $35.00

Some Outposts charge an additional fee beginning with the second year’s dues, making the total annual dues for Outpost #7: $23.00; Outpost #12: $24.00; Outposts #4, #7, #66: $25.00; Outpost #22: $22.00. All other outposts pay $20.00 annually; all new members pay $20.00 for the first year.

Dues for Special Life Membership

Recipient of Medal of Honor ........... No charge

Dues for Other Life Memberships are based on the following scales:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Domestic</th>
<th>Overseas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to age 39</td>
<td>$400.00</td>
<td>$1,280.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 40-49</td>
<td>$350.00</td>
<td>$925.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ages 50-59</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
<td>$685.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 60-69</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
<td>$475.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 70-79</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
<td>$310.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 80 and over</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
<td>$275.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Annual dues are payable before July 1st each year. Life dues are applicable for Regular and Associate Members. Life Member dues can be paid in one lump sum or in four quarterly payments over a 12-month period.

For information, please contact The Society of the Third Infantry Division, 1515 Ramblewood Drive, Hanover Park IL 60133-2230.

Membership Application □ □ □ Society of the Third Infantry Division, U.S. Army

Date: ____________________________

☐ New Regular Annual or Life Member

(Circle Annual or Life)

☐ New Associate Annual or Life Member

(Circle Annual or Life)

Name ____________________________

(Last) ____________________________

(First) ____________________________

(Middle Initial) __________________

Date of Birth ____________________________

(Required for Life Members)

Phone No ____________________________

Home Address ____________________________

(Street) ____________________________

(City) ____________________________

(State) ____________________________

(Zip+4) ____________________________

E-Mail Address ____________________________

Unit(s) Served with: ____________________________

Served From ____________________________

To ____________________________

Rank: ____________________________

Current/Former Occupation ____________________________

Spouse’s Name ____________________________

Amount Enclosed: ____________________________

Referred by ____________________________

Please print clearly, detach, and mail this application for membership along with a check or money order payable to Society of the Third Infantry Division to: The Society of Third Infantry Division, 1515 Ramblewood Drive, Hanover Park IL 60133-2230.
CAMPAIGNS OF THE THIRD INFANTRY DIVISION

WORLD WAR I [2 Medals of Honor]
★ Aisne
★ St. Mihiel
★ Champagne-Marne
★ Meuse-Argonne
★ Aisne-Marne
★ Champagne

WORLD WAR II [39 Medals of Honor]
★ Algeria-French Morocco (with arrowhead)
★ Tunisia
★ Sicily (with arrowhead)
★ Naples-Foggia
★ Anzio (with arrowhead)
★ Rome-Arno
★ Southern France (with arrowhead)
★ Ardennes-Alsace
★ Rhineland
★ Central Europe

KOREAN WAR [13 Medals of Honor]
★ CCF Intervention
★ First UN Counteroffensive
★ CCF Spring Offensive
★ U.N. Summer-Fall Offensive
★ Second Korean Winter
★ Korea, Summer-Fall 1952
★ Third Korean Winter
★ Korea, Summer 1953

WAR ON TERRORISM [1 Medal of Honor]
★ Liberation of Iraq
★ Transition of Iraq
★ Iraqi Governance
★ National Resolution
★ Iraqi Surge
★ Iraqi Sovereignty
★ New Dawn

Rock of the Marne
- WWI 1917-1918
- Peacetime 1919-1941
- WWII 1941-1945
- Korea War 1950-1953
- Cold War 1945-1991
- Desert Storm 1990-1991
- Peacetime 1992-2000
- Bosnia 2000-2001
- Peacetime 2002-2003
- Middle East 2003-present

WWI, WWII, Korea, Cold War, Peacetime, Bosnia, Iraq, Afghanistan

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