New Society Officers and Staff

Following are brief biographies of our two new Committeemen (Regis Rocco, CR, and Mike McClintock, WR), our Roster Manager Sonya Frickey, and our Website Coordinator Justin Valle. We are very fortunate to have these capable people serving our Society.

Central Region Committeeman

Regis J. (Rege) Rocco

Regis Rocco.

Rege served in the 3rd Infantry Division in Europe from March '65 to December '66. He was assigned to Bravo Battery, 2nd Battalion, 41st Artillery in Aschaffenburg, Germany. He began his assignment in the Fire Direction Center in Headquarters Battery and soon volunteered for an assignment as Battery Clerk in Bravo Battery. During this assignment, he received additional training, qualifying as one of two “Courts and Boards” clerks in the Battalion for all levels of Court Martials.

The Vietnam War was heating up at this time and my officers from the battalion were sent to the Far East leaving the battalion woefully short of officers. For this reason, it became necessary to train enlisted men in a number of functions normally held by officers, notably Forward Observer. Rege was chosen to attend FO school in Germany and finished 2nd in a class of 35. He was promoted to sergeant E-5 and assumed leadership of the FO section in Bravo Battery, leading 9 men. A highlight of this assignment was Bravo Battery winning the Peden Trophy in December 1966, signifying the top Firing Battery in Division Artillery.

Following Honorable Discharge came college: BS in mathematics (Duquesne

Please turn to BIOGRAPHIES on page 12

Marne 6 Sends

Greetings to all Dog Face Soldiers, Families, and Friends of the Marne Division. We hope this message finds you in good health and spirits. The leaders in this Division have been steadfast in their dedication to the training and preparation of their Soldiers and units. We continue to work tirelessly to maintain the high standards of the Marne Division.

In March, we had the absolute honor of hosting the 25th Anniversary Reunion and Memorial Ceremony for the 24th Infantry Division in Desert Storm. The 24th Infantry Division was stationed at Fort Stewart when the nation called in 1991. With over 25,000 troops in the Division at that time, these Soldiers fought courageously in Desert Storm. As this year marks the 25th anniversary of that time in history, we had the distinct honor of hosting a variety of leaders from the 24th Infantry Division, including General (Retired) Barry McCaffrey, the former Commanding General of the Division. With him in attendance for the events were Gen. (Retired) Paul Kern, Gen. (Retired) Bantz “John” Craddock, Lt. Gen. (Retired) John LeMoine, Lt. Gen. (Retired) Mitch Stevenson, Lt. Gen. (Retired) Robert Dail, and Maj. Gen. (Retired) Jason Kamiya along with numerous other Soldiers from the Division. The ceremony also honored the 16 Division Soldiers who were killed during Desert Storm. The memory of these great heroes resonates with our Soldiers today, allowing them aspirations for greatness.

The Raiders from 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team returned from their second...

Please turn to MARNE 6 on page 4

A Celebration of Life...

Outpost #88 members gather to celebrate Harold Nelson’s 101st birthday. Harold is seated in the front row, center. See story in Outpost News.
We want to welcome two newly appointed Society officers and two newly appointed members of the Society Staff. The Society president is charged with filling two National committeeman openings. With the approval of the appointee and Executive Committee, Rege Rocco, a 3rd Infantry Division Veteran of the Cold War, will assume the duty as Committeeman representing the Central Region of the Society. Cold War Veteran Mike McClintock will serve in the same capacity representing the Western Region. Our latest additions to the National Staff are Roster Manager Sonya Frickey and Website Coordinator Justin Valle. Sonya is a 3rd Infantry Division Veteran and brings vast experience to this important staff position. Justin Valle holds a Master degree from the University of Texas, is webmaster of the Scholarship Foundation, and is a professional website builder. These appointments are of professional members who bring much experience and dedication to our Society. Rege and Mike are highly respected by all who know them. I look forward to working with this team. My thanks to these four new members of Society leadership.

Active Duty Liaison, and 3rd Infantry Division Veteran, Jeff Ashmen has met with MG James Rainey. Jeff presented the Society’s gifts to the CG and Society Honorary Membership Cards to MG Rainey and Division CSM Walter Tagalicud. Jeff covered the history of our Society and our annual reunion. I sent a formal invitation to the CG and included others that we would be honored to have attend our Harrisburg event in September.

Be sure to read “Marne 6 Sends” included in this issue. There is much activity with the Active Division, including another deployment of the 3-15th. Keep these Soldiers in your thoughts and prayers as they add more glory to the history of the 3rd Infantry Division and the pride of those who wore, and are wearing, the Patch.

The Society Annual Reunion will be held in the Harrisburg/Gettysburg, Pennsylvania area in September. There is more information located elsewhere in this issue. This year will be the 97th consecutive Society Reunion. Many military groups have eliminated their annual reunions and, instead, have switched to an every-other-year concept. Some have cut back on the mailing their newsletters. One group that I belong to has eliminated the mailing of their publication completely. It is available only on the Internet. The Society of the Third Infantry Division has no plans to change our format.

You have received the mailing of the Society Annual Raffle Tickets. This is the only organized fundraising event of the year. We ask that, if it is not a hardship, please purchase tickets and participate in this event.

The deadline for submitting proposals for changes to the Society C&BL is past; it closed on 3/14/16.

Be sure to wear your caps, jackets, and other 3rd I.D. and Society items when you are shopping, attending a ball game or traveling. Perhaps you can sign up a new member. I know that someone will shake your hand and thank you for your service. It happens every time.

Easter and Christmas are two important Christian holidays. We hope that your Easter, as appropriate, was special.

Robert Frost wrote: “In three words, I can sum up everything I’ve learned about life. IT GOES ON.”

Yours in the 3rd,

Joe Ball

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**2016 Society Raffle**

The Society’s annual raffle tickets are now at the homes of all members. The raffle will feature seven prizes. All prizes are in cash. There is no longer a bond option.

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Raffle tickets are $2.00 each or $20.00 for a book of 10 tickets.

The annual raffle is our best source of revenue other than annual and life dues. We hope everyone will support the raffle.

Additional books of tickets are available. Send your requests to Secretary-Treasurer John Weis (contact information on page 2).

The drawing for prize winners will be held at the Annual President’s Reception, September 22, 2016, and the winners will be notified. You need not be present to win.

—Secretary-Treasurer John Weis

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**Correction**

Page 22 of the February Watch on the Rhine included a photo of a general speaking at the Wreath for Warriors Ceremonies on 12/12/15. I misnamed the speaker. The speaker was not BG James Blackburn. The speaker was MG James Rainey. Our apologies to both BG Blackburn and MG Rainey.
rotation as the Regionally Allocated Force for Europe just before Christmas, in time to spend the holidays with their families and friends. Since returning to Fort Stewart the Soldiers have been busy conducting maintenance and services on the brigade’s “go to war” fleet, making sure their Abrams Main Battle Tanks and Bradley Fighting Vehicles are fully mission capable and ready to deploy and respond to any contingency at a moment’s notice. The Soldiers from C Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment returned to Europe in late February to participate in Exercise Cold Response, bringing tanks from the European Activity Set to join Soldiers from 10 different countries to improve interoperability while operating in severe winter conditions. The remainder of the brigade has been conducting individual and crew level training to prepare for the brigade’s latest rotation to Europe this spring. The Raider Brigade is expecting to deploy across 11 countries, conducting multinational exercises designed to increase interoperability while simultaneously reassuring our NATO Allies and partners of our continued commitment to the collective security of Europe.

The 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT) Spartans remained actively engaged in training, missions, and exercises on three continents. The brigade is regionally aligned to U.S. Army Africa for 2016, and in the past few months Soldiers traveled to Djibouti, Cameroon, Zambia, Tanzania, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Gabon, among other countries. Company B, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment is currently serving as the East Africa Response Force assigned to Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa, U.S. Africa Command. As the brigade moves into the summer months, travel between Fort Stewart and Africa is expected to increase as Spartan Soldiers participate in a variety of partnership exercises with allied European nations and African partnered nations. Additionally, 3-15 Infantry deployed over 200 Soldiers to Ukraine in February to serve as the Partner/Assist Training Team assigned to Joint Multinational Training Group - Ukraine, U.S. Europe. The Soldiers will train rotating Ukrainian defense forces for a period of 10 months. Meanwhile, training and activities state-side also remain active for the brigade. Spartan Soldiers are preparing for Marne Focus, setting up an Immediate Reaction Company, sending troops to train at the National Training Center and Joint Readiness Training Center, among other training events.

Operations in the Sledgehammer Brigade focused on 3rd Sustainment Brigade support for property divestiture, civilian line haul, and post-to-post moves to support the brigade’s inactivation in April 2016. In addition to property, 3IBCT continued to work on building and motor pool turn-in back to Fort Benning. The remaining task force (TF), TF 1-28, continued to train while balancing their inactivation tasks. For example, TF 1-28 executed Lion Focus, which was a battalion-level exercise that was designed to prepare the task force for the upcoming Hammer Focus and Marne Focus exercises, which are a brigade- and division-level exercise, respectively. These exercises build on each other and will ensure that the task force is fully trained and prepared for their upcoming National Training Center rotation as well as for future mission requirements.

The 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade jumped right into the New Year with a change of command: in January, LTC Phillip Mazingo passed 4th Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment’s colors to LTC Jennifer Mykins. The 3rd Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment conducted an aerial gunnery in early February, strengthening the skills of the aviators and crew alike. The 2nd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment spent a month training at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La., completing training that prepares units for upcoming deployments. The 4-3 “Brawlers” supported their battle buddies in the Sledgehammer Brigade during Hammer Focus at Fort Benning, Ga. The brigade headquarters even brushed up on their skills, participating in two command post exercises early this year in preparation for a large exercise at the end of the year.

Soldiers in the Division Artillery have been conducting a staff exercise to further hone the Military Decision Making Process throughout the division. These Soldiers simultaneously conducted joint training with the 2nd Marines. For the exercises, joint fire observers controlled air assets while M109A6 and M777A2 howitzers conducted missions to suppress the enemy from engaging the aircrafts. In the first week of March, the 3rd Infantry Division massed all artillery systems for a time on target mission (all rounds impacting at a specified time). The Marne Thunder rained down rounds simultaneously from 36 (18 x M109A6 Paladins, 12 x M119A2, 6 x M777A2) howitzers. Currently, fire supporters from 1-9 Field Artillery (FA) are deployed to the Horn of Africa in support of the Eastern African
Writing a Medal of Honor Citation

By John B. Meyers, SSGT, 1 Company, 7th Infantry Regiment, Korea 50-51.

I was drafted on October 20, 1950, and after basic training at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, I wound up in Korea on April 13, 1951, assigned to Company “L,” 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division. After about three weeks on the line, I was told that I was the new company clerk. My first assignment was to investigate and write a Medal of Honor Award citation for Corporal Charles L. Gilliland. Here is the Citation.

Rank and organization: Corporal (then PFC), U. S. Army, Company L, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division. Place and date: Near Tongmangni, Korea, 25 April 1951. Entered the service at: Yellville (Marion County), Ark. Born: 24 May, 1933, Mountain Home, Ark. G. O. No: 2, 11 January 1955, Citation: “Cpl. Gilliland, a member of Company L, distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and outstanding courage above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy. A numerically superior hostile force launched a coordinated assault against his company perimeter, the brunt of which was directed up a defile covered by his automatic rifle. His assistant was killed by enemy fire but Cpl. Gilliland, facing the full force of the assault, poured a steady fire into the foe which stemmed the onslaught. When two enemy soldiers escaped his raking fire and infiltrated the sector, he leaped from his foxhole, overtook and killed them both with his pistol. Sustaining a serious head wound in this daring exploit, he refused medical attention and returned to his emplacement to continue his defense of the vital defile. His unit was ordered back to new defensive positions, but Cpl. Gilliland volunteered to remain to cover the withdrawal and hold the enemy at bay. His heroic actions and indomitable devotion to duty prevented the enemy from completely overrunning his company positions. Cpl. Gilliland’s incredible valor and supreme sacrifice reflect lasting glory upon himself and are in keeping with the honored traditions of the military service.”

Hundreds of veterans participated in the 24th Infantry Division Desert Storm Reunion’s 25th anniversary commemoration of Desert Storm today. The key note speaker was Gen. (R) Barry McCaffrey, the Taro Leaf Division’s commander in the war.

Response Force. Units from 1-41 FA are conducting certifications in preparation for their next regionally aligned forces rotation in Europe.

The Providers in the 3rd Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade dove right into 2016, training hard and preparing to support the Division. The 90th Human Resources Company deployed to Kuwait, and our 87th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, having already gone through a Joint Readiness Training Center rotation, completed their final preparations for a deployment to Egypt. Our Soldiers in the Sustainment Battalion are training hard too, from qualifying on their assigned weapons at the range, moving out on a week-long field-training exercise, and honing their basic soldiering skills through land navigation, radio communication, and reacting to the enemy. And the brigade staff completed a field exercise, where they set up an expeditionary headquarters with no pre-existing support in less than 24 hours. With even more large-scale training exercises coming up as spring rolls in, the Providers are ready to work.

Your 3rd 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

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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.

**Deadline to the Editor** | **Publication**
---|---
January 5th | February
March 5th | April
May 5th | June
July 5th | August
September 5th | October
November 5th | December
3rd I.D. Monument at Foglino Wood Honors Anzio Vets

Shortly after WWII, the Active Division erected a 3rd I.D. Monument in the Foglino Wood rather near the Rome-Nettuno Cemetery. The Division sustained 1074 KIA, 4302 WIA, and 919 MIA at Anzio. The monument has fallen into disrepair; however, the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division is not responsible for this monument. A group in Nettuno, Italy, “The Association: the Factory ’44,” has offered to provide repair and refurbishment and then maintain the monument on a monthly basis. This group will cut the grass, paint the insignia (the Patch), clean the bronze plaque with appropriate chemicals, put some new stones/rocks in the ground surrounding the monument, and many other things that will be done periodically each month.

We are very pleased that this patriotic group has undertaken the project of refurbishing the monument without charge to anyone. This is very kind and generous of them. They are truly patriots.

The Factory ’44 group agreed to do this after conversations with John Shirley who is a friend of one of the group’s members. Thanks John. We certainly want this monument to remain. There have been many war-related monuments erected by the military, in the past, with no provisions established for their upkeep.

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oe and I hope you had a wonderful and
guestful Easter. With all of
the festivities, we find
we must remind the lit-
tle ones that Easter, in
the Christian religion,
celebrates the day that
Christ rose from the
dead and ascended
into Heaven to sit at
the right hand of
God, the Father.

Other religions that
recognize the holiday view it as “Bunny
day,” and that is okay, as it is an event for
children to enjoy. Jesus would like that.

rabs as pests so their culture attributes
the Bilby as being the one that lays the eggs on
Easter Eve. The Bilby, a marsupial, is very
like a rabbit; however, it has a long tail and
an orange snout that makes it look a little like
a rabbit holding a carrot in its mouth.

There are just as many legends associated
with St Patrick’s Day: I have always thought
of St. Patrick on Easter, because St. Patrick is
credited with bringing Christianity to
Ireland. It is said that St. Patrick used the
Shamrock (the three-leaved clover) to
explain to Ireland’s early inhabitants the
Christian concept of the Holy Trinity (the
theory that God the Father, God the Son, and
God the Holy Spirit are each separate ele-
ments of just one entity). We hope you wore
green to ward off bad luck on St. Patrick’s
Day. It is believed that green beer, green lep-
rechauns, green hats - green everything on
St. Patrick’s Day is the color of Ireland, of
mysterious deeds, of an awakening earth, of
the mist that lies in the hollows foretelling
the coming of spring, of the shoots whose
green color deepens as they stretch toward
the sun. Green is a ver-
dant countryside
and the color of the finest
season of the year, thus
it is hoped to promote
good luck.

Events Requiring Member Input: It is
time to participate in some Society events.
Please send Joe Herron (Awards Chairman)
your nominations for Society Awards. The
last two issues of the Watch listed the
requirements for the Society’s various
awards. Simply write to Joe Herron with the
name of your nominee and why you feel
he/she should receive an award. Contact
information on page 2

It is also time to send nominations for
Society officers to Bill Buntrock,
Nominations Chairman. Bill is accepting
nominations for Vice Presidents from all
three regions and for Society President. At
large members must vote for Vice Presidents
based on the member’s region of residence.
The deadline for submissions is April 5,
2016.

Bombs over Tokyo
By Roy S. Cochran, D Company 38th Infantry Regiment: 1957-1959

D
uring the early part of WWII, my mother decided to use a rather unique technique to “potty”
train both my twin brother and myself. She set us on individual potty chairs, then lovingly
and smiling at us, she said, ‘Boys, if we are going to win this war, everyone has to do his part,
so I want both of you to go bombs over Tokyo.’ From my recollection, she was most pleased
with both of our performances.

During WWII, while riding on a crowded bus, I was squeezed into a seat between my mother
and a U.S. Army Infantryman. I soon spotted his C.I.B. and ETO Campaign ribbon so I decided
to engage him in a conversation. I said, “I see you saw action in Europe and was wondering if
you killed many Germans? My mother elbowed me and with a red face apologized to the soldier
for my rude behavior. The soldier smiled at Mother and said, ‘That is all right lady; that is what
Uncle Sam paid me to do.’

Mother told me to be quiet and I soon fell asleep with my head against the soldier. When we
arrived home, I was firmly told never to ask any servicemen any questions, and I was to mind
my own business from now on. At the time, I thought my question was appropriate, because
the soldier didn’t take offense.

I am now seventy-seven years old and in poor health, but I am very proud when I look back
on the two years, during which I served with the 3rd Infantry Division (September ’57 to
September ’59). My wife, Annette, and I moved to England where we have lived since 1972.
Annette is a Londoner, whom I met in the States and married in 1966. We have no children
and have had a happy life together.

Every day, I count my blessings and I enjoyed my career as a school teacher.

I want to thank you and your staff for all of your efforts.”
It is time to request that your eligible offspring submit their Scholarship Foundation grant applications. Applications and Instructions are available on the website of from Lynn Ball. The deadline is June 1, 2016. Please send applications to the Foundation at 2010 Worcester Lane, Garland TX 75040. The Foundation will pay the recipients’ grants, in the amount of $1000 each, to their college, university, or trade school accounts so we need their student identification number. Nowadays, institutions of higher learning will not cooperate in any way with us when we call to inquire about how to pay funds if we don’t have the identification number. (This is modern day security.)

On June 1, 2016, the applications will be forwarded to our judges for selection. Grants will be paid by July 1, 2016, and recipients’ photographs, names, and profiles will be published in the August Watch on the Rhine and announced at the annual reunion in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in September. This is an exciting time. Our directors are very pleased to honor our recipients each year. We have some very intelligent 3rd Infantry Division offspring.

This year, we have opened the competition to the offspring of Associate Members who have been members in good standing for at least four years. We hope this change has reached our membership.

Our judges will evaluate the submissions and select the recipients of the following grants: “Award in Honor and Memory of Thomas W. Mason,” “Award in Honor of Major 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 Services in the Evacuation of Military and Civilian Refugees from Hungnam, North Korea, December 1950,” and of course, our “Scholarship Foundation Memorial Award in Honor and Memory of SFC Nick Ramba.” We hope to receive at least two more sponsored awards before June 2016.

The 2016 Scholarship Foundation Memorial Award will honor SFC Nick Ramba. Nick’s family and friends elected to send donations to the Foundation in lieu of flowers. They too will be recognized in the August Watch on the Rhine and in the program distributed to attendees at the Reunion Awards Banquet. We thank those who remembered Nick in support of the Foundation.

The Foundation will conduct a fundraising raffle late this year and into next spring. We conduct a raffle every other year, and it is our major source of income besides member donations. Of course donations are the most important gifts we receive as they show our members’ support of our program.

We are beginning to collect prizes for our next raffle, so please send your gift to the Foundation at 2010 Worcester Lane, Garland TX 75040-3331. Any gift you would like to receive would be appropriate to donate. Remember, we issue Tax-Certification Letters for both monetary donations and gifts to be raffled so you can use the Certification Letter in support of your 2016 tax deductions.

So far we have a weapon for the next raffle. One of the 2015 recipients of a weapon did not complete the requirements to transfer the prize so it reverted back to the Foundation. It is the .22 caliber, single action, target revolver with a 6-round cylinder and 6 ½-inch barrel—American made. The weapon was donated by Joe Ball. We have also received the following prizes to date: Shirley Conley donated a star-shaped, hand crocheted, lap cover or tapestry. Kathy Daddato donated a queen-size, 3rd I.D. quilt. Dick and Deveny Wells donated Henry Bodden’s signed copy of In the Footsteps of Valor: A Personal Diary of WW2—then and now. It is a beautiful book containing hundreds of color photographs of important WWII sites as they were then and are now. We reviewed Henry’s book in the 2012 October Watch on the Rhine. John Shirley donated a copy of his book, I Remember, which records events during WWII. Melvin and Joann Ingram sent Dogface Soldier: The Life of General Lucian K. Truscott, Jr. by Wilson A. Heefner. Ronald Heitzenrater donated an American Flag; Kayla Cain donated the following books: Making America: Since 1965, A House Dividing: Lincoln Douglas Debates of 1858, and Patterns of World History, and James and Karen Van Delden donated a 3rd I.D. denim jacket. We also received an electric lap cover large enough to put on a bed and some copies of Korea Reborn: A Grateful Nation. These gifts from our donors are very much appreciated and are a nice start for our collection of prizes for the next raffle. We thank everyone who is supporting the raffle by donating prizes and/or buying tickets. We also thank our supporters who sent cash donations. These enabled the presentation of nine $1,000 grants to our 3rd Infantry Division offspring, in 2015. Raffle Tickets will be sent to all members in November.

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

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS**

- **Gold Donors**
  - Zwolenik Group for Nick Ramba
- **Silver Donors**
  - ArcelorMittal-Maintenance Support
  - Alice and Richard Baldwin
  - Five Points Dentistry, LLC
  - John and Becca Kendall
  - John and Lori Kendall
  - Derek and Lacey Parker
  - Scott and Casey Parker
  - Vernon and Karen Parker
  - Sarah Seidle

- **Bronze Donors**
  - Amy and Mark Tobias
  - Heather and Mike York
  - Charles & Joan Armbruster
  - Halina Feimer
  - Katie Kendall
  - Krista Kendall
  - Russell Matching Funds/Krista Kendall
  - Alice and Randall Lawrence
  - Donald and Nancy Lee
  - The Oros and Family
  - Barbara Reinbrecht
  - Mike and Jenny Sapienza
  - Charles Storrs

**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
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**Memorial Donations** in honor of SFC Nick Ramba:
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**General Ramsey Passing**

by Society Historian Tim Stoy

Major General Lloyd B. Ramsey, retired (a former member of the Society), served in the Division G-3 and as Battalion Executive Officer, Battalion Commander, and Regimental Executive Officer in the 3d Infantry Division’s 7th Infantry Regiment in WWII. General Ramsey died on Tuesday, 23 February 2016 in Roanoke, Virginia.

Major General Ramsey (in wheelchair) at OP International’s Obersalzberg ceremony in 2012.

General Ramsey graduated from the University of Kentucky in May 1940, where he was in the ROTC program, and received a Regular Army commission in the Infantry in July 1940. He was assigned to the 39th Infantry Regiment of the 9th Infantry Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He was promoted rapidly, achieving the rank of Major in September 1942. He was serving as Battalion Executive Officer of the 3d Battalion, 39th Infantry when the Battalion landed in North Africa 8 November 1942. He was with that battalion at the Battle of Kasserine Pass.

Ramsey was selected to serve as American aide de camp to British General Alexander, General Eisenhower’s deputy in North Africa and the Ground Force Commander. He served as aide from April to November 1943. He was then assigned to the 3d Infantry Division.

He initially served in the Division G-3 but on 30 January 1944, he was assigned as the Executive Officer of the 1st Battalion, 7th Infantry. In March he moved to Executive Officer of the 3d Battalion, 7th Infantry, serving in that position through the breakout from Anzio in May and the liberation of Rome in early June. On 22 June 1944 he took command of the 3d Battalion, 7th Infantry and was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. On 25 February 1945 he was moved to Regimental Executive Officer, and played a critical role in the final liberation of Berchtesgaden and the Obersalzberg in Germany in May 1945. Ramsey was twice awarded the Silver Star while in com-

Please turn to RAMSEY on page 22
The 7th Infantry Regiment in Vietnam

By Joe Ball

The 3rd Battalion of the 7th Regiment was formed at Fort Benning, Georgia in 1966. The Battalion went to Vietnam on December 10, 1966, attached to the 199th Infantry Brigade.

The Tet Offensive

The unit was conducting operations in Dong Nai Province when the 1968 Tet Offensive began. With the Viet Cong 275th Regiment ranging deep into the south against light ARVN Forces, they quickly established a command post at Pau Tho Racetrack, inside Saigon. The V.C. had captured Cholon, the western section of Saigon. Cholon was located at the hub of many streets, and by holding the racetrack, could stop helicopters from landing with critical reinforcements and supplies. The Cotton Balers were ordered to take it back. With a critical shortage of vehicles, only one company of the 3rd Battalion could be moved into the battle. Prior to the Cotton Balers arrival, American losses were very high as the VC slaughtered anything that moved, including innocent civilians. The American convoy was ambushed six blocks from the racetrack. The men of Able Company sprang into action, dismounted, and opened up with all the firepower at their disposal. A platoon of the 17th Cavalry, on tracked A.P.C.s and firing their 105mm guns, helped drive off the attackers. The Cotton Balers then started clearing the buildings using C-4 charges to open holes in the interior walls. The unit could then clear the buildings without exposing themselves on the street, which was under heavy enemy fire. Helicopter gunships joined the fight. Shortly after 1630, the Cotton Balers were in the racetrack. The V.C. had melted away into Cholon. The racetrack proved to be an ideal landing zone. Two additional rifle companies arrived after dark to reinforce their exhausted comrades and began to push to clear Cholon. For five days, the Cotton Balers fought and slowly cleared the enemy from this section of Saigon. The battle had turned against the communists.

Within days, the Americans and South Vietnamese had a dominating presence in Saigon. The South Vietnamese, for some reason, requested that the American troops be withdrawn. It could have been that they wanted to show the world that they could take back their own capital city, without American help.

The tired, dirty, and red-eyed Cotton Balers loaded onto helicopters and returned to their base at Binh Chanh. For several days, they resumed their patrol routine through the paddi county taking random fire from stry V.C.

By February 10th, the South Vietnamese Army had not retaken the capital. Quite the opposite, they had lost Cholon and the critical Phu Tho Racetrack. The Cotton Balers got the call to return. The entire battalion loaded onto helicopters and flew to the landing zone at the racetrack, not knowing that the enemy had taken it. The fight at Phu Tho lasted only minutes. The 7th had taken it back. Four days later the battle was over. The capital was firmly in Allied hands. The Tet Offensive was over.

The 7th spent two more years in Vietnam fighting in the paddies and jungle around Saigon. In total, the 7th Infantry spent four years in Vietnam. In all that time, the Tet 1968 fighting in Saigon was the only time the unit fought a pitched urban battle—very unusual during the war.

“The Cotton Balers, damn fine Soldiers.”

The Battalion returned to Fort Benning on October 11, 1970 and was inactivated. Loses were 754 K.I.A. and 4,679 W.I.A. (Sources: Various Internet and book references—all public domain.)

The Battalion and the 7th Infantry Regiment received Campaign Participation Credit for eleven (11) campaigns during service in Vietnam. The parent 3rd Infantry Division Headquarters did not go to Vietnam; therefore, the Division received no Battle Credit.

The NATO Maneuver

By Paul Desroches

The 3rd Infantry Division arrived in Germany in spring 1958. The 15th Infantry Regiment left port in Savannah, Georgia, on May 6, 1958 aboard the General Patch troop ship and landed in Bremerhaven, Germany, on May 15, 1958. The crossing was a welcomed change from all the infantry training done in Fort Benning from the preceding October. I was looking forward to duty in Germany and having an opportunity to tour Western Europe. I had enjoyed the ocean cruise which was surprisingly pleasant with good food and camaraderie.

We took the troop train from Bremerhaven to Bamberg, and when I awoke entering Bavaria, I was awestruck by the beauty of the landscape.

No passes were given for a few days; then for a while, we could only go off post in uniform. The locals were shocked that the 3rd Infantry Division moved in so quickly; they thought we just sewed new patches on our sleeves. Eventually they realized we were all new troops.

During my service, I enjoyed daily passes, 3-day passes, and annual leaves. I toured Europe at a time when our dollar was worth about five German marks (dollars), and we felt welcomed all over the continent. Throughout my travels, there was no sign of WWII devastation. It was remarkable how it was all rebuilt with no sign of the ruins of the past and in such a short time.

The exceptions to the rebuilding were three towns: Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels, and Wieldefliekin, which were left in their bombed conditions and used to train troops. It was at one of these areas that we were trucked to participate in a NATO maneuver.

The training consisted of our company living on “C” Rations, sleeping in our sleeping bags, and attacking various...
Buffalo Soldier

Compiled by Lynn Ball

Etymology: Sources disagree on how the nickname “Buffalo Soldiers” began. According to the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum, the name originated with the Cheyenne warriors in the winter of 1877, the actual Cheyenne translation being “Wild Buffalo.” However, writer Walter Hill documented the account of Colonel Benjamin Grierson, who founded the 10th Cavalry regiment, recalling an 1871 campaign against Comanches. Hill attributed the origin of the name to the Comanche due to Grierson’s assertions. The Apache used the same term (“We called them ‘buffalo soldiers,’ because they had curly, kinky hair, like bison”), a claim supported by other sources. Some sources assert that the nickname was given out of respect for, the fierce fighting ability of the 10th Cavalry. Still other sources point to a combination of both.

Legends. The term “Buffalo Soldiers” became a generic term for all black soldiers. It is now used for U.S. Army units that trace their direct lineage back to the 9th and 10th Cavalry units whose service earned them an honored place in U.S. history.

In September 1867, Private John Randall of Troop G of the 10th Cavalry Regiment was assigned to escort two civilians on a hunting trip. The hunters suddenly became the hunted when a band of 70 Cheyenne warriors swept down on them. The two civilians quickly fell in the initial attack, and Randall’s horse was shot out from beneath him. Randall managed to scramble to safety behind a washout under the railroad tracks, where he fended off the attack with only his pistol and 17 rounds of ammunition until help from the nearby camp arrived. The Cheyenne beat a hasty retreat, leaving behind 13 fallen warriors. Private Randall suffered a gunshot wound to his shoulder and 11 lance wounds, but he recovered.

The Cheyenne quickly spread word of this new type of soldier “who had fought like a cornered buffalo; who like a buffalo had suffered wounding after wounding yet had not died; and who like a buffalo had a thick and shaggy mane of hair.”

Service: During the Civil War, the U.S. government formed regiments known as the United States Colored Troops, composed of black soldiers. After the war, Congress reorganized the Army and authorized the formation of two regiments of black cavalry with the designations 9th and 10th U.S. Cavalry, and four regiments of black infantry, designated the 38th, 39th, 40th, and 41st Infantry Regiments (Colored). The 38th and 41st were reorganized as the 25th Infantry Regiment, with headquarters in Jackson Barracks in New Orleans, Louisiana, in November 1869. The 39th and 40th were reorganized as the 24th Infantry Regiment, with headquarters at Fort Clark, Texas, in April 1869. All of these units were composed of black enlisted men commanded by both white and black officers. These included the first commander of the 10th Cavalry.

Benjamin Grierson, the first commander of the 9th Cavalry, Edward Hatch, Medal of Honor recipient, Louis H. Carpenter, Nicholas M. Nolan, and the first black graduate of West Point, Henry O. Flipper.

History: Indian Wars: From 1866 to the early 1890s, these regiments served at a variety of posts in the Southwestern United States and the Great Plains regions. They participated in most of the military campaigns in these areas and earned a distinguished record. Thirteen enlisted men and six officers from these four regiments earned the Medal of Honor during the Indian Wars. In addition to the military campaigns, the Buffalo Soldiers served a variety of roles along the frontier from building roads to escorting the U.S. mail. On April 17, 1875, regimental headquarters for the 9th and 10th Cavaliares were transferred to Fort Concho, Texas. Companies actually arrived at Fort Concho in May 1873. At various times from 1873 through 1885, Fort Concho housed 9th Cavalry companies A-F, K and M, 10th Cavalry companies A, D-C, I, L, and M, 24th Infantry companies D-C, and K, and 25th Infantry companies G and K.

Johnson County War: A lesser known action was the 9th Cavalry’s participation in the fabled Johnson County War, an 1892 land war in Johnson County, Wyoming, between small farmers and large, wealthy ranchers. It culminated in a lengthy shootout between local farmers, a band of hired killers, and a sheriff’s posse. The 6th Cavalry was ordered in by President Benjamin Harrison to quell the violence and capture the band of hired killers. Soon afterward, however, the 9th Cavalry was specifically called to replace the 6th. The 6th Cavalry was swaying under the local political and social pressures and was unable to keep the peace in the tense environment.

The Buffalo soldiers responded within about two weeks from Nebraska, and moved the men to the rail town of Suggs, Wyoming, creating “Camp Bettens” despite a racist and hostile local population. One soldier was killed and two wounded in gun battles with locals. Nevertheless, the 9th Cavalry remained in Wyoming for nearly a year to quell tensions in the area.

1898-1918: After most of the Indian Wars ended in the 1890s, the regiments continued to serve and participated in the 1898 Spanish-American War (including the Battle of San Juan Hill) in Cuba where five more Medals of Honor were earned.

[Compiled from various Internet sources.]

Buffalo Soldiers in the Arizona Desert.
University ’70) and graduate degrees from the University of Dayton (MBA ’79 and MS ’81). During his career, he worked for a number of companies: Westinghouse, Digital Equipment Corporation, NCR, and Kodak. The majority of his experience was in manufacturing as industrial engineer, manufacturing engineer, cost engineer, and the management of those functions. At the time of his retirement, he was a Global Sourcing Strategy Manager with Kodak, in Rochester, New York.

Born in Pittsburgh, Rege and his wife, Beverly, a retired pharmacist, currently reside in Powell, Ohio. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this past December. They have one daughter, Debra, and two grandchildren. In retirement, Rege spends time gardening, making wine, and trying to solve the mysteries of hitting a golf ball.

Western Region Committeeman

Mike McClintock

Mike was born in San Diego, CA in the middle of WWII. His father, Lee, was in the Army stationed at Camp Callan on Torrey Pines Mesa. Lee was recalled to active duty at the onset of the war. Prior to WWII, he had served with the 3rd ID’s 9th Field Artillery at Fort Lewis, WA. When Mike turned 17, he enlisted in the Army and was sent to Fort Ord, CA for basic and advanced infantry training. From there he took his first commercial airline flight to Fort Dix, NJ where he was assigned to the 3rd ID’s D Company, 2nd Battle Group, 38th Infantry Regiment in Schweinfurt, W. Germany. After a 10-day luxury Atlantic Ocean cruise on the USNS Simon Bolivar Buckner he arrived in Bremerhaven in the middle of June 1961 and was sent by rail to Schweinfurt. D company was billeted at Ledward Barracks, the former Wehrmacht Panzerkaserne (or Adolf-Hitler-Kaserne), which was built in 1935.

In August 1961, the Berlin Wall went up and things started to get really interesting for the troops stationed in W. Germany. Field training accelerated and early morning alerts and deployments to forward areas became the norm. Aside from being hot, cold, wet, dirty or downright grubby, Mike enjoyed being in the field and loved seeing the German countryside from atop an M-113 APC. In March 1962, he transferred to the 3rd ID Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) Detachment at Daley Barracks in Bad Kissingen. As a lrup, Mike got to see Germany close-up—as in humping a rucksack through the woods as part of a 4-man recon patrol. To Mike this was the greatest duty ever, and he is still in contact with many of his 3rd ID LRRP brothers to this day.

Mike returned to the States in January 1964, was married in 1965, and today, has 3 adult children and 4 grandchildren. Over the years he has worked in the aircraft industry, been (and is) a city planner, planning commissioner, airport authority administrative officer, airport planner, aviation consultant, and forest ranger. He currently resides in Mount Vernon, WA with his wife of over 50 years, Gloria. To this day, he is proud of his service with the 3rd ID and honored to be asked to serve as one of the Society’s two Western Region Committeemen.

Roster Manager

Sonya Frickey

Born and raised in Nebraska, I joined the Army in 1986 right after high school. I had a knack for learning foreign languages and was sent to learn Russian at the Defense Language Institute in San Francisco, CA in 1987 after basic training. I got married and eventually had four wonderful children: two girls and two boys.


Website Coordinator Justin Valle

Justin Valle is a Master graduate from the University of Texas. He has worked with the Society for over ten years, during which time he has designed numerous printed documents, had an article featured in the Watch on the Rhine, designed and distributed membership cards for the entirety of Outpost #35, and even played a critical role in the presentation of an award to honor Medal of Honor Recipient Paul R. Smith. Justin has managed the Society’s Scholarship Foundation website since its inception in 2005 and is currently redesigning the site. He has played a big part in the Society since joining in 2010, and was honored with the Society’s Associate Member of the Year award in 2010. Justin currently works as a web developer creating websites for small-to-medium sized businesses. When not working, Justin enjoys photography and graphic design.
A letter from Anzio: May 3, 1944

By Philip Hamburger
New Yorker Magazine

Submitted by Virgil Pelon (Printed in New Yorker Magazine, one year after the battle)

The Anzio battlefield today, a year after the last shot was fired, lies naked and wounded in the sun. The war is over in Italy, but Anzio, in common with hundreds of other battlegrounds all through Southern Italy, is neither at war nor at peace but is in a desolate twilight zone between the two. With the exception of a small graves registration unit, our troops have gone, leaving behind some seven-thousand dead. They lie in a broad field outside the town of Nettuno, a mile southeast of the point where the American 3rd Infantry Division landed at Anzio. Each day, our men scour the beaches and fields and return with a few bodies. “We’re still looking for a specific party of Engineers: we know that they’re out there somewhere, but no luck, yet,” a tall, elderly, scholarly looking sergeant told us at the cemetery. “Most of the people we find were given a quick divisional burial during the battle,” he said. “Sometimes we find dog tags, sometimes not. Sometimes there is no identification but teeth. We’ve picked up 2,500 Germans and put them in three rows. We also had a co-belligerent in here, an Italian fellow who fought with us, but he was moved out recently.

Handling the dead of Anzio has become a major pursuit of Anzio and a hundred and fifty town’s people are employed tending graves and keeping the road to the cemetery. During the final months of the war, veterans often came down on leave from the North, the sergeant said, and stood silently for an hour or more before the grave of a friend. “They never say anything,” he told me. Out of necessity, the sergeant has become philosophical about his work. His professional interests consume almost all his time, and having a day to himself last week, he drove up to inspect a German military graveyard. The sergeant kicked some dirt around with his foot. “Well,” he said, “I had one hell of a time getting past the gate of the Rome cemetery. Finally, I told the guard I only wanted to see how the Germans handled the thing.” The sergeant gave the dirt a final kick. “We do a better job,” he said quietly.

The mementos of war, scattered every which way for miles around, have become blended with the countryside and the people. Schoolchildren carry their books in olive-drab metal American mortar-shell boxes. Hundreds of families, their homes destroyed by shell-fire or bombs, have hammered together new ones out of wooden shell crates. The fences, separating farm-from-farm, are mostly British, American or German barb wire. The Anzio battle area spreads back from the Anzio-Nettuno beaches in an arc that includes Cisterna, where a large number of Rangers were wiped out, and where later we finally broke through. Another town, Aprilia, which was used as a strongpoint by the Germans, and was the scene of hard hand-to-hand fighting during the three German counter-offensives, is slowly being cleared of mines, overturned tanks, and such remnants of Fascism as signs saying, “Credere. Obedir. Combattere.” The debris has been shoveled from the streets of the towns of Anzio and Nettuno, but that is only the beginning as more than half of the houses are skeletons. Military signs in two languages are still on the walls of many buildings: “M.P.” “Use Latrine.” “This house Occupied.” “Ortskommandantur.” A shady square on Nettuno, once used by our forces for presentations of decorations and other ceremonies, is again a live marketplace of sorts, with rickety vegetable stands. Nearby, in a subterranean chamber, is the old headquarters of the Sixth Corps, now entered from a local dark and dingy bar.

One of the few un-shattered building in Anzio is the Villa Borghese, a somber brown building, high on a hill overlooking the sea. Prince Stefano Borghese lived there all through the German occupation and the fighting. He managed Anzio’s civil affairs for the Germans and has been kept on by the Allies. When we went to the villa, we found him at home, a slight dapper, weary-looking man in his early thirties, reading Steinbeck in a chilly book-lined study. “I was mayor throughout all the troubles,” he said, “but the people threw me out later,” he smiled like a tired child. His milk cows had either been taken off by the Germans or killed in the fields. Anzio and Nettuno are now governed by a stonemason, chosen by the Committee of National Liberation.

“We once had eight fast through trains a day from Rome. Only fifty minutes, Now, one train...three hours...if it arrives.” Twenty thousand people used to spend the season here, he said, and twenty thousand more crowded the beaches on weekends. “But the Villa Borghese will survive, he said. “We withstood the earthquake of 1921. Yet, I must confess to a certain uneasiness.”

“Your Fifth Army established headquarters here and dug three deep tunnels beneath the house and gardens. Now the gardens are sagging at many points. Let me show you.” It was daytime, but the Prince took a lantern from the table and we went out, then walked down a pair of white marble stairs, overrun with vines, and along a duty path that wound beside low hedges. “You see,” said the Prince, pointing to several deep holes, “how the earth has fallen in.” He stopped at the foot of the garden, before a door at a high mound of dirt. He drew a large iron key from his pocket, and turned the lock. We entered a long dark tunnel, from which big, concrete-lined chambers opened on both sides, “G-2,” said the Prince, pointing to one room. “G-3,” he said, pointing to another. “General Clark’s aide,” he said, entering a small chamber. “And here,” he said, holding his lantern high, to illuminate the huge room “General Clark.” The room was paneled and furnished with handsome chairs and desks, when the General was there, the Prince said. The damp chambers are now empty. “A truly historical point of interest for Americans, after the war, don’t you think?” the Prince asked. “But heavens, I do hope the roofing holds up. I have written the authorities, and they assure me the tunnels will survive, but who is to say?” He glanced sadly at the ceiling. He seemed small and helpless in the large room. Then he smiled his faint smile again. “Perhaps some night my whole castle will tumble down.” He said.
Bruce Monkman sent a replica of a WWI 3rd Infantry Division Patch: The border is olive green, the diagonal stripes are forest green; the white stripes are dusted with green. In the center is a red “A” in a green circle surrounded by a red dish circle that is bordered in forest green. We don’t know what the “A” signifies. If anyone knows, please inform the Watch editor.

Bob Dalton wrote inquiring if we had done a report on “Mickey Mouse Boots.” He writes: “Those boots did resemble those black high top shoes on the cartoon character, but they sure kept my feet warm in below zero weather. Just thought of them after reading about the Cold War boots in the February Mickey Mouse Boots

Bob Barfield wrote to let us know that his grandson, Tracy, has been inducted into the “Sons of the Revolution.” Bob said it took a lot of paperwork for Tracy to be accepted. Bob also commented that his 3rd generation grandfather was killed near Petersburg, Virginia, on June 28, 1864. “He joined the 22nd S.C. volunteers Jan 9, 1862. We have a picture of him; he was a good looking guy.”

General Maury Kendall: In answer to an inquiry about my favorite general, his son, Mike Kendall, answered, “Dad is doing well for 94. I was with him last week, and he is still charging—active with several local social groups and his church. He continues to be an inspiration to his family and friends. Of course, he talks about his 3rd Division at every opportunity.”

Lyda Pauline Conner, Garlin Murl Conner’s widow, called to thank us for the story we ran in the February Watch about her husband’s possible Medal of Honor. Mrs. Conner expressed many thanks and much appreciation for everything we and others have done to try to make Murl’s award a reality. She specifically mentioned not only our current article but also an article we published in the Watch a couple of years ago. She was sorry no one contacted her until many days after the latest news about the possible award was being published in several newspapers. She is sad because the award was not presented during Murl’s lifetime and hopes it is awarded while she is still living. We hope so also. Murl certainly deserves the award.

Joe Poggi wrote to report the death of an Outpost #5 member, John “Charlie” MacKinnon, 91, of New Jersey. Joe kindly added, “You do a great job as editor; keep up the good work.”

Dale McGraw wrote “Thanks Lynn, the USPS abused my February Watch, but that didn’t curb my reading enjoyment. ROTM, Dale”

Ron McCleary wrote: Thanks so much for the job you do with The Watch. I enjoyed the article by Mike McClintock on ski boots. During the winter of 1948-49, we who were at Fort Devins remember our ski training very well. The boots bring back some fond memories.”

BG Bill Weber (Ret.) wrote: “Hi Lynn: Have been a Society member for many years and have always enjoyed The Watch on the Rhine. You do a great job putting this publication together, and I just wanted to express my thanks and gratitude for what you do. I know you work hard at this and I, for one, appreciate your superb efforts! The Society serves a terrific purpose, and I thoroughly enjoy the stories that you publish from the great veterans that provide excellent observations from years, battles, and wars past. Thank you again, Lynn, and all of the Society’s leadership. With warmest regards….BG(r) Bill Weber”

Dale Geise wrote: “Haven’t written for some time but always enjoy The Watch.” Dale also commented on the “excellent treatment” both Veteran friends and he receive, at the Des Moines, Iowa, VA Hospital, from a “caring and concerned staff.” Dale also offered his book for our Scholarship Raffle, as well as an article/story for the Watch. Both will be most welcome.

Jerry Manley wrote: “I just received my February Watch by snail mail today. Lo and behold, you put my article on page 5, up there with the important news!! Thank you very much. I am sure my dad was looking down and saw it and is having a good laugh! I showed the article to Marilyn and she ended up reading the whole Watch before she returned it to me. She said it is one of the best she has ever seen. A lot of good information. Keep up the good work. Rock of the Marine!”

Jerry Kraft, Outpost #35 Member and former Society Judge Advocate called on another matter and emphatically stated that The Watch on the Rhine is the best it has ever been. He noted that the assortment of articles is excellent. All are easy to read and understand. He was complimentary of the editing and of the clarity of meaning in the stories.

Paul Desroches wrote: “Thank you for running my story [‘The Isle of Syli’]. Pictures included and all fitting neatly on the page; I’m impressed.” In a second message, Paul wrote “Another fine issue of The Watch on the Rhine. I especially enjoyed Sheila Wolfe’s article about reunions, it hit right on the mark.”
Alex Castillo called to compliment us on the “Bonus Army” story and the reprint of Hemmingway’s article about the hurricane that killed so many of our WWI Vets who were sent by our government to work in Florida during hurricane season. He said the treatment of the WWI Veterans (The Bonus Army) was downright un-American. He was ashamed of the treatment our leaders and our military gave the Vets in our Nation’s Capitol.

Don Bettine wrote: “Thanks for another great issue of the Watch. I again found the News from France interesting.”

Roy A. Cochran wrote from England: “I enjoy reading my copy of the Watch and thank you and all concerned, who work hard to put it out.”

John Shirley wrote to thank us for the “nice” story about his Outpost #54 meeting. Later he wrote thanking us for the “Non-member Passing” article about his wife, Helen. “I just read the nice words about Helen’s passage on the Last Call page. Thanks for including them in the last Watch. I finished reading the Watch today, and as always it was excellent.”

Major Randy Ready wrote asking if The Watch is interested in information on the Active Duty troops being deployed as the Regionally Allocated Force for U.S. Army Europe. Of course we answered in the affirmative. We hope he will send lots of news and photos. We will certainly find space for them. I know our readers will welcome any news of our Active Duty Soldiers.

Harry Morse, OP #54, wrote to inquire as to why there was so little about the 30th Infantry Regiment written in The Watch on the Rhine. We know that the 30th served with honor in WWII. The unit has been activated and inactivated several times in its proud history. If you served with the 30th, or know someone who did, send your stories to the editor.

NATO from page 10

objectives for about a week. Then we were marched to an area with barracks and real beds. We were told we had the afternoon off to be ready for the big NATO final attack the next day. After the week of intense training, I chose a top bunk and proceeded to read my book. I was pleased to have time to relax.

Soon, a couple of our guys came running into the barracks saying we should go outside, because Elvis Presley was stationed in the next barracks and he was out cleaning his jeep. I asked if he was going to sing; they said, “No” so I decided to leave him alone and continued reading my book.

The next day, we stepped off for the finale of the NATO maneuver. I was the platoon radio operator and was out in front of our company with acting Platoon Leader Sgt. John F. Allen. Allen was the most courageous and complete Soldier you could imagine. He was a professional Soldier who served with the Marines in the Pacific and was captured in both WWII and the Korea War, a tribute to his daring and bravery which he demonstrated while training us.

Sgt. Allen excitedly told me that Elvis Presley was driving the battle group commander in the jeep immediately ahead of us, and I thought that an event that excited gutsy Sgt. Allen was certainly one to be remembered. I’m blessed to have served with such a man. I salute him, Sgt. Presley, and all who participated in the NATO maneuver. They have helped to keep us free.

The Vietnam Memorial Wall, Washington D.C.

By Gabe Guevarra

My first visit to the Vietnam Memorial Wall was back in the mid-1990s. I was very excited to see firsthand this memorial to the casualties of our longest land war to date. That day, Percy and I first visited the Lincoln Memorial then afterwards we walked to the left side of the Reflecting Pool towards The Vietnam Memorial.

From afar, the Memorial looks very simple, just a simple shiny wall that started at one end 8 inches high, gradually rising to a height of 10 feet, then again gradually tapering off to the other end, to the height of 8 inches. It was a weekday at that time, a moderate number of visitors were present but no real big crowd. As I walked slowly toward the center of the Memorial, I kept looking at all the names engraved on the polished wall and tried to spot any Hispanic or Latino or maybe some Asian names.

When the height of the Wall was level to my chest, for some reasons I neither could explain, nor understand, nor control, both of my eyes started to water. When the height of the Wall was even to my head, the tears from both of my eyes were freely flowing down my cheeks. I tried to face away and hide my tears from my wife, Percy, too embarrassed for her to see me cry, but strangely, I did not feel any shame or embarrassment facing the people and having them see me cry.

I was so overcome by the sheer number of names engraved. At the center of the Memorial, my tears were pouring from both eyes, watery mucous was coming out of my nose. I did not have any paper tissue, napkin, or handkerchief with me, so I keep wiping my tears and mucous with my hands then wiping my hands on to my shirt or pants. As I write this story my eyes are watering a little bit. On my subsequent visits, I have been able to control my emotions, but my eyes still water once face-to-face with the Memorial Wall. The wall listed 58,191 names when it was completed in 1983, as of May 2014, there are exactly 58,300 names, including 8 women. Approximately 1,200 of these are listed as missing (MIA).

[Editor’s Note: 754 of the names on the Wall are those of 3rd Infantry Division, 7th Infantry Regiment Soldiers.]
Service in Four Wars

By Lynn Ball; source, Beaver Valley Times, Jan. 12, 2016

The Beaver Valley Times is published in the Ohio River Valley near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Recently, the paper started a new column entitled “Veterans of Beaver Valley” and billed it as “New episode premieres today.” The subject of the column is Society Life Member MSGT Ronald X. Heitzenrater (Ret.). Ron is a retired Economy Borough police officer who served in four wars: Vietnam, Gulf, Iraq, and Afghanistan. “To protect and serve” are words many police officers live by. They are the men and women who answer calls no matter the danger, time of day, or weather. They do their jobs to keep people safe. They are people like Ron Heitzenrater.

Ron enlisted in the Marine Corps Delayed Entry Program, and four days after graduating high school, he entered boot camp. Following boot camp, he was sent to Okinawa, Japan, where he served as a military police officer and prison guard. He worked mainly guarding our American prisoners who had committed crimes and also did patrols and escorts and broke up more than a few bar fights. “It was an experience,” he said. Following that assignment, he returned home and used his military benefits to train for his 31-year career as a police officer.

He joined the Pennsylvania Air National Guard in 1980 serving first with the 112th Fighter Wing and later the 171st Air-Refueling Wing.

He deployed to England and Italy during the first Gulf War in 1991 and also served three tours in Iraq and one in Afghanistan, post 9/11. Two of his tours in Iraq were at the air base in Balad, Iraq, north of Baghdad, where Ron filled his non-duty time by volunteering in the hospital emergency room. “I saw a lot of things there,” he said. “I can’t say enough to praise the doctors and nurses there.” The ER had a survival rate of 98.7 percent, treating wounded American and Iraqi Soldiers and civilians and even service dogs.

“It helped me sleep at night,” he said of the volunteer work, which he did on top of a 12-hour shift as a supervisor at the base. “I’d sleep maybe four hours a day,” he said. “I’d volunteer at the hospital four or five times a week.”

Ron remembered a letter and flag he received during his second tour in Iraq from a student at St. Alexis Catholic School in McCandless, Pennsylvania. “It was one of my most prized possessions.” In part the letter said, “You are like a super person because you are protecting us from evil.” It was signed by a fifth grader who had moved on from the school by the time Ron returned to the states.

Please turn to HEITZENRATER on page 23
News From The Outposts

Midwest
Chicago, IL

The Outpost #1 spring meeting will be held on 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 which includes burgers, sandwiches, and salads. If you have Internet you can go to their website at http://www.alsteaks.com/ to see their menu.

We will then go to the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery for a short talk and tour of the facility. It is about 15 minutes from Al's Steak House. Information on cemetery can be found at http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/abrahamlincoln.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. Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery is named after 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 predeceased 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 retiree pay, may also be eligible for burial.

Please contact Secretary Treasurer John Spratt at the address on page 31 if you plan to attend 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.cooper-corner.com in September or October with a trip after the meeting and lunch to visit and tour of 1st Infantry Division Museum, 1st151 Winfield Road, Wheaton, IL 60189-3353 about one/two blocks from the restaurant 630-260-8185, http://www.firstdivisionmuseum.org

—Submitted by Richard Longfellow, President

Charles D. King
Michigan

The next meeting of Outpost #13 will take place on Saturday May 14, 2016. It will be held at Bakers of Milford at noon. The restaurant is three miles north of Exit 155 off Hwy I-96. During the meeting, veterans who have served in Korea will be given special recognition.

I am sad to say that Terry Tennant, the long-time secretary-treasurer of Outpost #13 reported to his last roll call on 1 February. You will find his military details in the Last Call section of this issue of the Watch. Part of his contribution to our unit was collecting the dues, keeping the books, writing the article for the Watch, publishing a separate newsletter for our Outpost, arranging for our meeting places, and in general he was a major pillar of our organization. His last post was vice president. Due to health issues, he has been unable to attend our meetings for the last couple of years. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy, and two daughters.

—Submitted by Gordon W. Draper, Vice President

Audie L. Murphy
Washington, DC

Outpost #35 will hold its spring luncheon meeting on Saturday, April 9, 2016, hosted by Toby Knight and James Reeves at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Club, 1050 Harry Wurzbach, San Antonio, Texas. Our speaker will be BG Thomas Smith (Ret.). Currently, Tom sits as Chair of the Veterans Assistance Advisory Committee of the Texas Veterans Commission. Following the meeting, some attendees may wish to visit the museum on base. It is just a couple of blocks from the Golf Club. All members were sent a newsletter and meeting invitation one month prior to the meeting. Any Society members in the area are welcome to join us. The cost, including service, is $14.35. We must pay the restaurant five days in advance so send your meal choice (Roast Beef or Chicken Picatta) and payment to Lynn Ball.

—Submitted by Lynn Ball, Secretary-Treasurer
Outpost 57 will hold its spring meeting on May 25th at Der Dutchman Restaurant in Belleville, Ohio. The restaurant is just east of mile marker 165. The luncheon will begin at 12:00 Noon with a short business meeting to follow. Cost is $15 per person, payable at the restaurant. Hope to see many of you there.

—Submitted by Regis “Rege” Rocco

Outpost #88 members and a group of KWVA members helped Lou Schindler and Victor Santiago celebrate their 92nd and 91st birthdays, respectively at the Dutch Nelsen Chapter, KWVA, in Colorado Springs, CO on 2-20-2016. Both had birthdays in February.

The outpost held a 101st birthday celebration for Harold Nelson at the Academy Hotel in Colorado Springs attended by 31 people. The outpost gave Harold $101.00 (one dollar for each year of his life). Hershey Miyamura and Jim Hoffsis came up from New Mexico to attend the party. Harold Nelson’s daughter and husband came in from Grand Junction, CO to help us celebrate Harold’s birthday. Harold was delighted by the party with friends and family. We had a 100th party for him last year, and we intend to have a 102nd party for him next year! HAPPY BIRTHDAY. Harold, we all wish you the best!

—Submitted by Joe Annello

The town of Le Luc in Provence, which two years ago dedicated a commemorative plaque honoring the 3d Infantry Division for its part in the liberation of the town in August 1944, continued honoring of the Division through the naming of the major bridge in town, the “Bridge of the 3d Infantry Division, American, Rock of the Marne.” The naming ceremony with plaque dedication was held on Friday, 15 January 2016, and was conducted by Mayor Patricia Zirilli with the participation of local veterans associations. Deputy Mayor Pascal Verrelle, a Society member, played a major role in the project. Both Mayor Zirilli and Deputy Mayor Verrelle are great supporters of the Society and of the 3d Infantry Division. Le Luc was a critical point along the Route National 7 which was crucial to the Division’s ability to move west rapidly and prevent a coherent German defense of the Argens River Valley. Elements of both the 45th Infantry Division and French Combat Command Sudre were also involved in the fight for Le Luc which was finally liberated once elements of the 30th Infantry Regiment joined in the fighting to finally clear the town.

OP Secretary and Historian Tim Stoy was privileged to participate in a wreath ceremony at the Tomb of George Washington at Mount Vernon on Washington’s Birthday on 22 February. Tim, a great admirer of George Washington, was honored to be selected along with another military veteran to participate in Mount Vernon’s commemoration of Washington’s 284th birthday. It was a beautiful day at Mount Vernon and a great day to remember our country’s first President and the victorious commander of American forces in the Revolution!

—Submitted by Monika Stoy, President

Membership is Our Strength
It’s not the price you pay to belong, it’s the price you paid to become eligible to join.

Regimental Dinner
Friday September 23, 2016: open to all Attendees.
Contact Tad Davis for information and registration. adavis@spring-lake.org or 1-401-270-0315.
Dogface Soldier: The Life of General Lucian K. Truscott, Jr. by Wilson A. Heefner is comprised of 377 pages, including a preface and introduction, 23 maps, a list of abbreviations, definitions of all of the code names used during WWII, Notes enhancing all of the quotations used in the book and headers at the top of the note pages to identify the page numbers where the quotes are found, and an excellent Index. Heefner’s book is well planned and executed—a wonderful read. The book is available through Amazon.

The first paragraph of the Introduction to Dogface Soldier is really a summary of the book. “Lucian Truscott was one of the most highly rated combat commanders in WWII, but today, his name does not enjoy the renown of a George Patton or an Omar Bradley. Roger J. Spiller notes that, ‘In a miscarriage of history, he disappeared from the view of all but the most serious students of the war.’ This neglect seems all the more remarkable when we recall that he was the only American officer who commanded in combat a reinforced infantry regiment (regimental combat team), and infantry division, a corps, and a field army.”

The inside flap of the book cover states, “On July 11, 1943, General Lucian Truscott received the Army’s second-highest decoration, the Distinguished Service Cross, for valor in action in Sicily. During his career he also received the Army Distinguished Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, and the Purple Heart. Truscott was one of the most significant of all U.S. Army generals in World War II, pioneering new combat training methods—including the famous ‘Truscott Trot’—and excelling as a combat commander, turning the Third Infantry Division into one of the finest divisions in the U.S. Army. He was instrumental in winning many of the most important battles of the war, participating in the invasions of North Africa, Sicily, Anzio, and southern France. Truscott was not only respected by his peers and “dogfaces” alike but also ranked by President Eisenhower as second only to Patton, whose command he took over on October 8, 1945, and led until April 1946.

Yet no definitive history of his life has been compiled. Wilson Heefner corrects that with the first authoritative biography of this distinguished American military leader. Heefner presents Truscott as a soldier who was shaped by his upbringing, civilian and military education, family life, friendships, and evolving experiences as a commander both in and out of combat.

Heefner’s brisk narrative explores Truscott’s career through his three decades in the Army and defines his roles in key operations. It also examines Truscott’s postwar role as military governor of Bavaria, particularly in improving living conditions for Jewish displaced persons, removing Nazis from civil government, and assisting in the trials of German war criminals. It also offers the first comprehensive examination of his subsequent career in the Central Intelligence Agency, where he served as senior CIA representative in West Germany during the early days of the Cold War, and later as CIA Director Allen Dulles’s deputy director for coordination in Washington.

Dogface Soldier is a portrait of a man who earned a reputation for being honest, forthright, fearless, and aggressive, both as a military officer and in his personal life—a man who, at the dedication ceremony for the Anzio-Nettuno American Cemetery in 1945, turned away from the crowd and to the thousands of crosses stretching before him to address those buried there. Heefner has written a definitive biography of a great soldier and patriot.”

I hope you acquire this wonderful book or win it in the Scholarship Foundations upcoming fundraising raffle to being in November. The book I read was donated to the raffle by Melvin and Joann Ingram. I have seen the book at a discounted price at Sam’s Wholesale.

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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
97TH ANNUAL REUNION
SOCIETY OF THE 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA
SEPTEMBER 22-25, 2016

★ IF YOU SERVED IN THE 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION FILL OUT THIS SECTION ★

NAME _______________________ PREFERRED NAME ON BADGE _______________________

UNIT SERVED IN ______ OUTPOST ______ PLEASE CHECK ONE OR MORE: WWII KOREA ______
COLD WAR ______ GULF WAR ______ IRAQ WAR ______ AFGHANISTAN ______ PEACE TIME ______ ACTIVE DUTY ______

★ IF YOU ARE AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER FILL OUT THIS SECTION ★

FOR ADDITIONAL ASSOCIATE MEMBERS PLEASE USE A SEPARATE PIECE OF PAPER

NAME _______________________ PREFERRED NAME ON BADGE _______________________
ASSOCIATE MEMBER: YES ______ OUTPOST ______
NAME _______________________ PREFERRED NAME ON BADGE _______________________
ASSOCIATE MEMBER: YES ______ OUTPOST ______

★ IF YOU ARE A GUEST FILL OUT THIS SECTION ★

FOR ADDITIONAL GUEST PLEASE USE A SEPARATE PIECE OF PAPER

NAME _______________________ PREFERRED NAME ON BADGE _______________________

MEMBER ADDRESS ____________________________________________________________
CITY ___________________ STATE ______ ZIP ______
PHONE ___________________ EMAIL ___________________

PLEASE LIST ANY SPECIAL NEEDS: ________________________________

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY: ________________________________

REQUIRED REGISTRATION FEE (PER PERSON) ______ X $39.00 = ______
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22ND ~ PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION BUFFET DINNER ______ X $47.00 = ______
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24TH ~ LADIES BREAKFAST ______ X $21.00 = ______
LADIES BREAKFAST-SCRAMbled EGGS WITH DICED HAM, PEPPERS, ONIONS & CHEESE - BREAKFAST POTATOES, BACON AND FRUIT
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24TH ~ BANQUET DINNER ______ X $49.00 = ______

★ BANQUET MEAL SELECTION: BEEF ______ CHICKEN ______ SALMON ______

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 25TH ~ MEMORIAL BREAKFAST ______ X $24.00 = ______
OPTIONAL TOURS
FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 23RD ~ GETTYSBURG NATIONAL PARK TOUR ______ X $55.00 = ______
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24TH ~ HERSEY CHOCOLATE WORLD TOUR & TASTING ______ X $33.00 = ______

TOTAL ENCLOSED $_____

PAYMENT IS DUE NO LATER THAN AUGUST 22, 2016
PLEASE SEND PAYMENTS TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS AND MADE PAYABLE TO:
THE REUNION BRAT
16817 MOUNTAINSIDE DRIVE EAST
GREENWATER, WA 98022

- Confirmation of Registration and Itinerary will be sent out by August 26, 2016
- A $20 per person cancellation fee will apply to all cancellations received within 30 days of the event. Cancellations received within 10 days of the event will be non-refundable.
- Call the Best Western at 717-561-2800 no later than August 22, 2016 to make your hotel reservations. Be sure to mention you are with the 3rd Infantry Division to receive your group rate of $119.95 plus tax per night, including double occupancy. Based on availability the group rate is available 3 days before and after the reunion.
97TH ANNUAL REUNION
SOCIETY OF THE 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA
SEPTEMBER 22-25, 2016

To be held at The Best Western Hotel located at 800 East Park Drive Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17112. Room rates are $119.95 per night, plus tax. The hotel offers complimentary shuttle service to and from the Harrisburg International Airport and Harrisburg Train and Bus Stations. Parking at the hotel is complimentary.

Thursday September 22nd
2:00pm Registration and Hospitality Room Opens
6:00pm-7:00pm ~ No Host Social Hour ~ 7:00pm-10:00pm President’s Reception Dinner and Program

Friday September 23rd
9:00am-5:00pm ~ Optional Gettysburg National Park Tour
6:00pm-9:00pm ~ 15th Regimental Dinner Buffet

Saturday September 24th
8:30am-10:30am ~ General Membership Meeting
9:00am-11:00am ~ Ladies Brunch and Program
10:30am-12:00pm ~ Executive Committee Meeting
12:00pm-3:00pm ~ Optional Hershey Chocolate Tour
6:00pm-7:00pm ~ No Host Social Hour ~ 7:00pm-10:00pm ~ Reunion Banquet, Program, and Awards

Sunday September 25th
8:00am-10:00am ~ Memorial Breakfast and Reunion Farewell

★ Call the Best Western at 717-561-2800 no later than August 22, 2016 to make your hotel reservations. Be sure to mention you are with the 3rd Infantry Division to receive the group rate of $119.95 plus tax per night.

Optional Tours
Gettysburg National Park Tour
Friday September 23rd 9:00am - 5:00pm Price $55.00
We will arrive at 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 Civil War and American history. After the movie you will learn about Gettysburg and a Divided Nation at War in the Gettysburg Museum of the American Civil War. The museum offers visitors an experience that tells the story of the Battle of Gettysburg and its significance to our nation's history. Lunch will be on your own at the visitor center café. Next we will take a guided tour of the Gettysburg Battlefield with a Licensed Battlefield Guide who will give you a unique perspective of the battle fought at Gettysburg. Monuments to both Union and Confederate troops are visible on the battlefield. Gettysburg National Military Park preserves one of the world's largest collections of outdoor sculptures. Nearly 1,400 statues, sculptures, markers and tablets commemorate the men who fought at Gettysburg.

Hershey Chocolate World Tour & Tasting
Saturday September 24th 12:00pm-3:00pm Price $33.00
See, feel, hear and smell the delicious transformation from bean to Hershey's famous chocolate on the Hershey World Chocolate tour. After viewing the factory, there will be time for lunch on your own at the food court on site. Then you can immerse yourself in the flavorful world of chocolate in Hershey's tasting experience. Hershey tasting experts show you how to engage all senses to taste chocolates from milk to dark and varieties in between.

For More Information Contact
Leonard Collins 912-863-3633
leonardcollins@planters.net

The Reunion BRAT 360-663-2521
thereunionbrat@hotmail.com

COME JOIN US AS WE SHARE OLD MEMORIES AND MAKE NEW ONES!
News from France

Joe and I sent two Society Challenge Coins to Jocelyne Papelard: one for her and one for Aaron, the little boy who flies the American Flag every day in his backyard. Joe wrote a presentation speech to be delivered by the Superintendent of Epinal American Cemetery for Jocelyne and we asked Jocelyne to prepare some words of praise and gratitude to accompany the presentation of the coin to Aaron. Here is her answer:

“I received your package with the two Society Challenge coins. I thank you so much for being so kind, but you know I only do my duty. The more I know about the boys [at Epinal], the more I feel I must be their voices.

We have requests for adoptions of graves almost every day from locals but also from people in other parts of France. What I strive to do is for villages or town to adopt a Soldier who died for their liberation and it is going well.

We have several official adoption ceremonies planned in the spring for some of the towns, like Vesoul, on the 8th of May with the family of the Soldier they adopted present, and le Tholy who adopted a boy from the Third. That ceremony will be the last week in April. The town is going to send all fifth-graders by bus to the cemetery every year.

We also have more and more individuals and patriotic associations requesting guided visits. The cemetery is starting to get recognition. Last year, because of the association, the number of visitors doubled.

The superintendent is absent until the end of February, but when he gets back, I will speak with him to arrange a ceremony with public recognition for Aaron. Memorial Days seems a good date.

Aaron is a special little boy. I have never met a young child like him with so much maturity and devotion to the Flag and to the boys at Epinal—even though I have met thousands of kids during my long career as a teacher.

Of course, his dad, Benoit, is Franco American (like me) with strong ties to Texas where his family lives. He is a teacher at a junior college. Aaron’s grandmother lives in Texas, and teaches English at the high school level. Aaron is an amazing little boy, at ease and fluent equally with the French and American languages. I am so glad you thought enough of Arron to recognize him. I know he will treasure his Challenge coin.”

A friend of mine from Alabama, whose grandfather was in the Third (30th Infantry Regiment) and fought in my village, has sent me two Division flags. I will keep one and present the second flag to Aaron when he is presented his Challenge Coin.

RAMSEY from page 9

mand of the 3d Battalion, 7th Infantry.

General Ramsey went on to have a sterling career in the US Army, including command of the 23d Infantry Division (AMERICAN) during the Vietnam War and culminating as the US Army’s Provost Marshal General. Due to the severe injuries he suffered in a helicopter crash while serving as AMERICAN Commander, Major General Ramsey was medically retired.

General Ramsey was awarded 2 Distinguished Service Medals, 3 Silver Stars, 2 Legions of Merit, 1 Distinguished Flying Cross, 4 Bronze Stars with V device, 5 Purple Hearts, 17 Air Medals, 2 Army Commendation Medals, one Presidential Unit Citation, the French Legion of Honor, the French Croix de Guerre, the Vietnamese National Order, 5th Class, the Vietnamese Armed Forces Honor Medal, and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm. He also wore the Combat Infantryman’s Badge, the Glider Badge, and General Staff Identification Badge.

After retirement in August 1974 General Ramsey served as Chairman of the Board for McLean Savings and Loan in McLean, Virginia. After retiring from this position General Ramsey and his wife, Glenda, moved to Salem, Virginia. Mrs. Ramsey passed away in October 2000.

General Ramsey served as Chairman of the Committee to build the 3d Infantry Division Memorial in Washington, DC from 1984 to 1990. The monument was dedicated on 15 August 1990, and the 3rd is the only Army division to have its monument on the grounds of the cemetery.

General Ramsey was a member of Outpost 7 and later of Outpost 5845. He regularly attended historical seminars on the Invasion of Southern France and the Battle of the Colmar Pocket hosted by OP 5845 between 2009 and 2013.

General Ramsey will be laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery with his wife, Glenda, on a day still to be determined in the spring. Once details are available, the information will be distributed to the Society.
Retiree Appreciation Day

By Jeff Ashmen

The Fort Stewart Retirement Services Office held their annual Retiree Appreciation Day at the University of Central Florida on 20 February, 2016. Retiree Appreciation Days, also known as RADs, are a great source for information impacting military retirees. This year’s event was hosted by the Installation’s Directorate of Human Services and supported by volunteers from the Fort Stewart Retiree Council. The event also included representatives from AAFES, DFAS, TRICARE and local veteran organizations like the DAV, VFW, and the American Legion. The guest speaker for this year’s event was Retired Sergeant Major of the Army, Raymond F. Chandler III.

A Veteran reacts with joy when a service agency representative presents her with a new P38. Kevin Larson, U.S. Army photo

The event was a huge success as Veterans from Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina converged on the UCF campus displaying a glimpse of their service on caps and clothing. Aside from getting the latest information on issues impacting retirees, it was also an opportunity through conversation to link their presence in a unit, military post or foreign land with other veterans.

After the briefings were complete, retirees and their family members had the opportunity to update ID cards, get a medical wellness check, and visit a variety of booths setup to provide useful information.

Each Retirement Services Office is responsible for retirees in a geographic area so no matter where you are geographically, there is likely to be a RAD, coming soon to an area near you. For information about upcoming RADs throughout the U.S. and overseas go to https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/rads. Jeff serves on the Retiree Council for Fort Stewart.


HEITZENRATER frompage 16

The appreciation he and other soldiers now receive from people is in stark contrast to his treatment in the Vietnam era. “I was ashamed of how the people treated us, then,” he said. “The respect people now have for our military is unbelievable,” he added. During one of his homecoming flights to Pittsburgh, the flight crew asked everyone else to stay on the plane so he could greet his family: “I started to cry. As I was walking off the plane, everyone was clapping. When I got up to the door of the plane, the pilot and co-pilot shook my hand.”

Ron is very glad to have served. “I’d do it again in a heartbeat. It just makes me feel so good. It makes me feel proud.”

Marine Veteran Ronald Heitzenerater returned to the States to serve in the Pennsylvania Air National Guard.

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.

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.

Combat Infantrymen’s Association
National Commander
Nick Hubbell
825C Merrimon Ave, Suite 354
Asheville, NC 28804
828 490 9304 Ext 1
clanatcmdr@gmail.com

Afghanistan, Iraq, Gulf War Veterans ~ free membership for one year
Korean War

By Jim Miller

[We published Part 3 of Jim Miller’s article in the February Watch on the Rhine.]

Another mission that I recall very clearly that really made me feel kind of queasy was when we were in the Chorwon area. Out in front of me about five hundred yards there was an old rice paddy. It was getting on towards fall so there was still some rice in there. I saw some people in white clothing picking what rice was there, not much, but they were picking some. I called back to my Fire Direction Center and told them what I saw. I thought they might be Chinese soldiers disguised as civilians. We knew they were short of food. I received permission to fire on them.

I adjusted on them with my artillery. You usually adjust with two guns. I finally put them exactly in the field where they were picking that rice. I’ll never forget this for as long as I live. As soon as the artillery started coming in, they scattered and disappeared. After I got the rounds exactly where I wanted them, that concentration was ready to be fired if and when they come back.

In about an hour or so, they came back. They were so far away, I couldn’t tell if they were men or women or Chinese or what. All I knew was they had white clothes on and they were picking rice. When they got out in the field, I requested Battery, two rounds, Fire-For-Effect. There are six guns in a battery. I’m going to get 12 high explosive rounds out in that rice patty. I know that those rounds are going to land right where those people are picking rice and I know who I’m going to kill today. When I called for that fire, I had a terrible, terrible feeling. Seldom do you see your target, so up-close and personal.

When the rounds landed, they were so scattered that they didn’t land exactly where I wanted them to land. No one seemed to be hit. They never came back. I gave a sigh of relief because to this day, I don’t know if I was firing at Chinese or Korean civilians. I did know that if that artillery had landed where I wanted it to land, I would have killed a number of people.

Going back to that incident on Christmas day where my artillery landed right in the Infantry troops, to this day I don’t know how many were killed or how many were wounded. All I knew is that I got seven or eight guys and I kind of blacked it out because it was probably the most horrible time for me in Korea. You had to put that out of your mind. Those things happen and you’d be surprised at how many people are killed by friendly fire in combat, particularly in Vietnam because we called our airplanes in right on top with napalm, machine guns and bombs. A number of American soldiers were killed by friendly fire. It’s something you don’t want to happen, but it does.

One of the first nights that I was up on the hill with the 65th, I was up on the front lines and they were bringing up reserves from the back. The Sergeant was bringing up three or four guys to relieve somebody up on the front line. Evidently, one of the guards did not challenge the Sergeant with the password. He just fired and killed the Sergeant. From then on, when I walked around at night I would kind of whistle a little bit and sing a little song. “I’m the F.O. I’m the forward observer. I’m the F.O.” I didn’t sing it real loud, but I sang it loud enough so that they could hear who it was. These 65th Infantry guys were all Puerto Ricans and a lot of them couldn’t speak much English. I let them know before dark I would be walking around that night, and I was the F.O. because they were very quick on the trigger. It doesn’t make you feel very good when you’re shot at by your own people! (To my knowledge I never was.)

In spite of the language difficulties, the Puerto Rican soldier was a good soldier. In many cases, the platoon leader was a Puerto Rican Lieutenant who spoke fluent Spanish and English. During the summer months, we didn’t have one fatality and very few wounded because our operations were well planned. The company commander at that time was Captain L. Luz and he was a “good one”.

One of the things that I could never get over as a forward observer was how much money I was shooting. I knew that an artillery shell ran about $150, maybe $200 a pop and every time I adjusted, (when you would adjust on a target you’d shoot two rounds), you’re talking about $300 or $400 just to get two rounds out on the ground. It was probably a very good forward observer as far as budget was concerned because I didn’t like to shoot more than I needed to. Sometimes when you’d need to shoot battery three rounds, I’d shoot battery two rounds and usually battery two rounds would do the job. That situation changed a lot in Vietnam and in later wars because the idea was to put the fire power on them and I was a little more conservative, probably more than I should have been. I feel like I fired when I had to and I didn’t overdo it.

There’s a tremendous amount of power in a forward observer’s hands. Not only could I shoot my battery, but I could shoot my whole battalion. There were 18 guns in the battalion and if you had a real good target, you could get another battalion. That’s another 18 guns. Sometimes you’d be firing 36 guns at a time and that’s a lot of artillery.

I kept track of my time on the hill, mainly because I think I served more time on the hill than a lot of people did. I think I had a total of nine months in the front line as a Forward Observer. The last three months, they finally brought me back and I was a Liaison Officer at Infantry battalion headquarters, a little bit better job than being a Forward Observer. At least you were sleeping on a cot in a tent at night and meals were provided on a regular basis.

My job was to supervise the three forward observers in E, F, and G Companies. I was the artillery advisor to the infantry battalion commander. All the time that I did that job, I can’t remember any incident that stands out in my mind as particularly dangerous. It was just a day in and day out job and I was glad I was doing it. I was waiting for my time to return to the U.S. to come up. You had to serve 13 months in Korea and I had been there almost a year.

Life on the front lines in the winter time was an experience. We had some very, very cold temperatures in Korea. It got down well below freezing on many nights. Of course men would go out on patrol and sometimes they were wounded. If they were forced to lie out there for hours at a time, they had to be
dressed warmly to keep from freezing. One of the best items of clothing that we had was called a Mickey Mouse boot. It was a thermal boot that had two layers of rubber with an insulation layer between. The shoes were so good that your feet actually sweat in the shoe when you were active and moving around. One of the problems, then, was that if the soldiers didn’t keep their feet as dry as possible they would get something they called Immersion Foot. In World War I they called it Trench Foot. Men were forced to live in wet trenches for many days and their feet were affected.

We instituted a procedure that made sure that the men got dried socks at least once a day. We were fed a warm meal usually at breakfast time and then around five or six o’clock in the evening. 55 gallon drums were brought up, filled with water and heated with fires. At supper time, every Infantry platoon leader was required to inspect each of his men’s feet before they could eat. Each man washed his feet in his helmet and put on a clean pair of dry socks after being inspected. We had very little trouble with Immersion Foot after instituting that check. It had to be done religiously because the men would not take care of their feet and as a consequence, they would be useless if their skin began to fall off their feet and they couldn’t walk. I thought that was an interesting situation with a very simple solution.

This procedure worked as long as we were not in the attack. When we were in the attack, you had to depend upon the men to change their socks on their own. Usually they would carry a pair of socks just inside their pants to that their body heat would keep the socks dry. Again, the men would have to be checked very carefully to make sure that they would change socks at least once a day. Even if the socks weren’t washed, at least they were dry and that was the important thing.

Naturally, we didn’t get showers and I can remember going a couple of weeks maybe three weeks without a shower. The way you would handle that is that you would scrounge around and get a can and boil water to take a sponge bath. It was not very good, but it was a lot better than nothing. Sometimes they would take a group down to the showers behind the lines. You stripped off your dirty uniforms, took a shower, and received clean clothes as you came out of the shower. The clothing that was thrown away was sent to a Quartermaster laundry where they were washed and handed out to the next group of guys that came to get a shower. I can remember on several occasions getting a pair of pants that somebody had worn before me and you’d see nice little round holes about the size of a pencil. You knew that the guy that had worn them before you had been shot. There’s nothing wrong with a pair of pants with a little round hole in them, but it makes you think, “I hope when I turn mine in next time that they don’t have any more round holes in them.”

All the time that I was in Korea, I don’t recall of any instance where I was actually involved in city fighting. We were always out on a hill. We called everything that we were on a “hill”, and generally they were hills, but I think that if you were honest about it you would see that some were mountains.

I know that as we would be in the approach march going up the hill, all I had was my bed roll, binoculars and compass. I wasn’t as heavily loaded as the Infantry guys were. I remember the first hill I climbed, I picked up about three hand grenades and I also picked up a brand new 75 millimeter recoilless rifle shell. It was surprising to me that soldiers would drop equipment. You never knew for sure if supplies would come when needed.

I usually had three or four enlisted men in my F.O. party. I had a Sergeant and a couple of other guys that would run wire or carry a radio. It is remarkable that all the time I spent “on the hill” (nine months), nobody in my crew was killed and the only guy wounded was me, and that was an accident!

This happened on a big attack just outside of Chorwon. We were going to kick the Chinese out of an area near a road going toward the west and it was surrounded by heavy mountains. Luckily for us, our company was in reserve all during the attack. We were laying out in the middle of a rice paddie that didn’t have any water in it. We were waiting to be called up in case reinforcements were needed.

As it got close to night, we received the word to move back. As we crossed a little stream, the Chinese started firing at us with 105 millimeter artillery. They were landing right on the area where we were crossing the stream. They knew that it was a good place to cross the stream and they laid them right in on us. I can remember getting in a ditch and lying down with my nose above two inches above the water. Every time one of those shells came in it just sounded like it was going to land right in the middle of your back. I was in a pretty good position because the ditch that I was in was probably three feet deep. I knew that if they were going to get me, they had to land right in my ditch.

When I looked down at my hand, I was bleeding pretty good. The medic came and put a bandage on me. Since I was injured and couldn’t perform my duties, I was told to walk back to my battalion. I had about a mile or so to go from where we were to get back to where our artillery was. I walked back with a guy that was shell shocked. I knew he wouldn’t be much help to me if we ran into any Chinese on the way back. Luckily, we had no problem getting back.

We made it to my battalion. Our doctor looked at me and told me I was being evac-
uated to the Regimental Clearing Station. When I arrived there, they had so many serious casualties that they couldn’t take care of a wound like mine, since it was not a serious wound. They put me in a jeep and sent me back to a M.A.S.H. unit. M.A.S.H. stands for Mobile Army Surgical Hospital. Again, when I was admitted, my wound was such that they told me that I would have to wait until the serious cases were attended to.

During the night someone told me I could take a shower. I really needed one after spending most of the day in a dried up rice paddy, plus wallowing around in that ditch. It was a bit difficult taking a shower with my left hand, but I managed. Clean clothes made me feel human again.

I received a shot of morphine because my wound was very painful. The gash went clear down to the bone and you could see the white tendon in there every time I moved my hand. In the morning, it was finally my turn. I was taken to an operating room where the wound was cleaned and a bandage applied. After bandaging, I was told I would be evacuated to Pusan. Nobody got back to Pusan unless they were wounded badly. I asked why I was being sent back. I was told that hand injuries could be serious enough to require a specialist. I didn’t argue.

I was put on a hospital train that night. It was a nice experience because they had white sheets on the bunks. In about a day’s time we got back to Pusan where I went to a clearing hospital. If they couldn’t take care of you at this hospital, your next stop was Japan where they had real good hospitals. Everybody wanted to make that trip to Japan because if you ever got to Japan, your next stop was the United States. I was told you were seldom sent back to Korea from Japan.

Finally I had an orthopedic doctor take a look at me. He took the bandage off and took a look at the wound, which had been stitched up and was beginning to heal. X-rays were taken, but no bones were broken. I hadn’t closed my hand for probably five or six days because it hurt and it was pretty stiff. The doctor told me to close my hand. I told him I couldn’t because of the pain. He told me that if I didn’t close that hand I could lose mobility. The doctor solved the dilemma by forcibly closing my hand. It hurt plenty! He told me to do this once or twice an hour. So I was on the road to recovery.

I stayed in Pusan for about two weeks until I had enough mobility in my hand. The gash had healed and they took the stitches out. I was put on a train heading north and was returned to my battalion. The treatment I got was excellent, I had no complaints and I found out how the medical evacuation system worked.

To be continued in the June Watch.

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**CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **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 museum nearby 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.alssteaks.com](http://www.alssteaks.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.

- **May 25, 2016**: Outpost 57 will hold its spring meeting at Der Dutchman Restaurant in Belleville, Ohio. The restaurant is just east of mile marker 165 off I-71. The Luncheon will begin at 12:00 Noon with a short business meeting to follow. Cost is $15 per person, payable at the restaurant. Hope to see many of you there.”

- **May 30, 2016**: Outpost #7 will conduct Memorial Day ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery. Members will meet at the 3rd Infantry Division Monument at 4:00 PM. for our wreath-laying ceremony. Members are urged to attend. For more information, contact Dennis M. Barletta ([denisbarletta@gmail.com](mailto:denisbarletta@gmail.com)) or Pat Williamson ([army3rdvtanker@gmail.com](mailto:army3rdvtanker@gmail.com)).

- **September 15-18**: 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.

- **September 22-25, 2016**: Society of the 3rd Infantry Division 97th Reunion in Harrisburg/Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

- **September 21-24, 2017**: Society of the 3rd Infantry Division 98th Reunion in San Antonio, Texas.

- **November 11, 2014**: Outpost #7 will conduct Veterans’ Day ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery. Members will meet at the 3rd Infantry Division Monument at 4:00 PM. for our wreath-laying ceremony. Members are urged to attend. For more information, contact Dennis M. Barletta ([denisbarletta@gmail.com](mailto:denisbarletta@gmail.com)) or Pat Williamson ([army3rdvtanker@gmail.com](mailto:army3rdvtanker@gmail.com)).

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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

NINO L. MANCINO
1/15INF/A, 10ENG/E, HHC 3ID SSGT, DOD
- reported by Rich Heller

NICK V. RAMBA
39FA/HQ SFC, DOD - February 18, 2016
- reported by son-in-law Mike Reardon

WILLIAM K. WAYNE
15INF/M T5, DOD - January 13, 2016
- reported by daughter, Linda Eastman

JOHN C. MAC KINNON
15INF/L PFC, DOD – February 15, 2016
- reported by Joe Poggi

ABRAHAM P. FRIEDMAN
DIV/MED/HQ 1LT, DOD - October 20, 2015
- reported by William T. Shearer

JAY A. PALMER
7INF/D PFC, DOD - December 2014
- reported by Marshall & Melhorn, LLC (law office)

DAVID F. JONES
7INF/HQ LTC, DOD- January 29, 2016
- reported by daughter to Lynn Ball

ANDREW J. MACKE
7INF/A PFC, DOD - January 29, 2016
- reported by friend James Osborne

VERL H. ENLERT
10TH ENG/C SGT, DOD – September 21, 2015
- reported by his wife, Marjorie

Non-Member Passing

Eugene M. Heckmann, 94, of Brentwood, Pennsylvania, passed away on December 22, 2015. Gene served with the 3rd Infantry Division during WWII, received numerous decorations, and was a liberator of the Dachau Prison Camp.

—Reported by Frank Kosko

Karen Carew-Wold (70) passed away on January 1, 2016, in San Antonio, Texas. Karen is the spouse of Outpost #35 Member Col (Jack) Wold. She retired as a Manager of Finance and Personnel at the Army Residential Community where she served for 24 years. She was an accomplished tennis advocate and a kind and caring person. Her husband, Jack, served with the 15th Infantry Regiment, 1 BN, Div/Med during the Korean War.

—Reported by James Reevs

Robert L “Bob” Bean (89) passed away on February 15, 2016, at Hollidayburg Veterans Home in Pennsylvania. Bob served with B Company, 7th Infantry Regiment during WWII. Bob had a long career as a tool and dye-maker at General Motors.

—Reported by Ron McCleary

Evelyn L. Bettine (81) passed away on September 29, 2015, in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Evelyn was the spouse of Don Bettine, MSGT, 7th Infantry Regiment, Korea. Evelyn retired from Sears Catalog and was active in the sports life in Green Bay as well as in the Knights of Columbus gatherings. She is greatly missed by her many friends and family.

—Reported by Donald Bettine

So that his brethren shall know...

Please report the death of any member of the Society of the Third Infantry Division to Sonya K. Frickey, Roster Manager (address, p.2) for listing in the “Last Call.”
Dear Fellow Veterans, Active Duty Soldiers, and Families:

Kathy and I hope you had a Blessed Easter. We certainly did. We attended church, including a sunrise service, and the weather cooperated as we remembered the rising of our Blessed Jesus who ascended to Heaven to watch over us.

Your Chaplain had a great dream last week and I would like to share it with you. I suppose the dream resulted because of what was going to happen at Epinal American Cemetery. The celebration there means so much to me as my dear Uncle, Dominic Giovannazzo’s life blood was spilled on the ground there in France on December 26, 1944. I cannot imagine 5255 candles all lite up and burning at one place, plus candles and a large wreath in honor of the 400 Soldiers still missing in Action. May God bless every last one of them.

Your Chaplain has been praying for dry weather and very light wind and nice warm weather. I know that the weather can change at any time.

And now here is the dream that I had: I was back at Epinal American Cemetery and the end of the world was in progress. All the soldiers, all 5255 of them, that were in the ground came up; the dirt over the graves split up the middle and up they came just like they were before they were killed.

I ran to the B side of the cemetery where my uncle was buried since 1944 and looked for him and there he was. I told him I was his sister’s son, Jerome, and the last he saw me was five years old. Then we were told to be quiet. The Lord was there with Jesus and the Virgin Mary. Then Jesus called every one of them. I could not see them; they were real white and far from me, but I could hear what was said: “Dominic, come here son. I will take your hand; I have to tell you something. Please go home. Your family is waiting for you there.” I was amazed. Dominic was gone. One-by-one they went up to the Lord; the 400 that were missing were there too. Then my dream changed to Pearl Harbor, and the Navy ship The Arizona rolled over and every sailor who was under water came to the top and stood on the shore side-by-side, and I could not believe what I was seeing. It was unreal and the Lord, Mary, and Jesus called them to their sides and said, “Go home, your families wait for you, and they miss you dearly.” Then some sailor said out loud, “What about the sunken ships and planes that went down on land, sea or air?” The Lord said, everyone will stand judgment before his maker, and my son, Jesus, and The Virgin Mary. There were over 30,000 Air Force men lost over Germany during the WWII.

After the dream, I thought to myself, “I wish I could have met the Lord.” I know everyone will stand in Judgment some day and meet the Lord who raised the dead and healed the blind and the deaf. What a dream. I did not make this up. When I sleep and wake up I keep paper and pen nearby so I can write down what I remember of my dreams. This was my dream and I also have my prayer for all of you. Always pray to have eyes that see the best, a heart that forgives the worst, a mind that forgets the bad, and a soul that never loses faith. ROTM, Chaplain Daddato
Lost in Fort Benning

By Paul Desroches, 15 Inf./BG,
Cold War: '57-'59

On October 21, 1957, I was summoned to 39 Whitehall Street, NYC, for a pre-induction physical. I was being drafted into the U.S. Army. The inductees were given a cursory examination, completed questionnaires, and took basic I.Q. tests, swore allegiance to our Nation and then were put onto buses and transported to Fort Dix, New Jersey.

I spent three days at the Induction Center. We received our complete uniform issue, haircuts, and best of all, medical shots. After three days of constant activity with little sleep, we boarded a plane to Fort Benning, Georgia, and I thought, “Not so bad to winter in the south.” We were assigned to the 15th Regiment of the 3rd Infantry Division. Recruits from all regions of the country were being assembled as the ranks were formed to begin training to replace the Division then serving on the east/west border in Germany.

I completed eight weeks of basic infantry training and thought, “Now life will be less hectic.” Then posted on the bulletin board was our schedule for the next eight weeks: advanced Infantry Training—another eight weeks of constant training: rising early, multiple repetitions of the daily dozen (12 calisthenics), morning runs, and countless classes and lots of field duty—sleeping in two-man tents, no showers, and enduring snow and cold that I never imagined Georgia to have. At the end of Advanced Infantry Training, again a look at the bulletin board surprised us. We were next scheduled for eight weeks of Battle Group Training.

At the end of Advanced Infantry Training, again a look at the bulletin board surprised us. We were next scheduled for eight weeks of Battle Group Training.

This was a repeat of the previous training, only on a much larger scale. We practiced with many types of weapons coordinating with other units to simulate battle conditions. We practiced attacking different targets, both during the day and night and also practiced night withdrawals with combined forces. At the end of Battle Group Training, we were scheduled for the big Battle Group Test.

Our company formed up early one morning at the I.P. (Initial Point) and waited for the umpires. They arrived, they met with the company commander and platoon leaders and outlined what the test was to include. The umpires would take the leaders and show them the objective of the morning attack that would be initiated at precisely 0700 hours.

The second platoon was chosen to lead the attack. I was the 2nd platoon radio operator and accompanied the company commander and platoon leaders through the woods as the umpires led us to the attack target. It was my job to return to the I.P. and bring up the company to start the action once the objective was pointed out.

As we were running through the woods, all the trees looked alike. Sgt. Allen was pointing out different trees to remember, saying to keep the sun over my right shoulder, notice the moss on the trees, and so forth. I was trying, but after about two miles, I knew I was in trouble. We finally reached the sight of the objective, and I was given the order to bring up the company. I did an about face and started running, looking at all those similar trees, looking for the unusual trees Sgt. Allen had pointed out. No good! I thought I was going in circles. I’m not a quitter, so I went on and on. Suddenly, I saw a dirt road. I know we didn’t pass that road, but I got a sense of relief because I was out of that maze of trees.

After 24 weeks of intensive training it actually felt good. I knew I had done my best and I was going to take a break before deciding my next move. I sat down on a log. Lit a cigarette, took a puff, and then heard the rumble of a vehicle coming down the road. I saw a “Full Bird” on the fatigue cap of the passenger in the jeep. I quickly ditched the cigarette, sprang to my feet, gave a snappy hand salute and shouted, “Good Morning Sir!”

He said, “Are you the *x/* who was to bring up the company?” “Yes Sir,” I answered and told him that I had gotten lost. He asked, “How the H*** can you get lost?” I answered “City boy, Sir.” He asked, “Where are you from?” and I said “Brooklyn, New York.”

He then asked to see my map and compass, and when I told him that they didn’t give them to me, he understood my dilemma. He sent me through the woods to join the 2nd platoon which by then was very close.

I guess somehow we passed that test. We shipped out on May 6, 1958, and spent the next 1 ½ years in Germany. I’ll always remember being “Lost in Fort Benning.”
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.

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 given 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.

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 “Footsie Britt At Large” (named for Lt. Maurice Britt, MOH, WW2).

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.

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

Some Outposts charge an addition fee beginning with the second year’s dues, making the total annual dues for Outpost #3: $23.00; Outpost #12: $24.00; Outposts #4, #7, #60: $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:

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<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Domestic</th>
<th>Overseas</th>
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<td>Up to age 39</td>
<td>$400.00</td>
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<td>Ages 80 and over</td>
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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, 510 W. York Street, Blue Hill, NE 68930-7488.