On April 4th and April 5th of 2019, Society President Toby Knight and myself were honored to attend the two day affair honoring the heroics of Sgt. Stevon Booker, who paid the ultimate price protecting his men in “Operation Thunder Run” on April 5, 2003 as they approached Baghdad. Booker was part of Task Force I-64 Armor of the U.S. Army’s 3rd Infantry Division, 2nd Brigade that executed a raid called the “Thunder Run” to test the remaining Iraqi defenses.

The operation began south of Baghdad and went through main roads to the newly secured Saddam Hussein Airport. Iraqi resistance was disorganized, and the unit sustained few casualties. But when the 50 cal. machine gun jammed atop Booker’s tank, he ordered his men inside the tank for safety as he stayed atop in a prone position firing at the enemy while never stopped communicating with his platoon. Sgt. Booker destroyed an enemy vehicle and single-handedly killed twenty Iraqi’s.

Before being mortally wounded, Booker stayed atop his tank for nearly five miles while taking heavy enemy fire and rocket-propelled grenade fire. Sgt. Booker sustained a neck injury from Iraqi fire and was

Thunder Run Into Baghdad

The morning of April 5, 2003 started off pleasant enough with mild weather. Best of all, the soldiers were out of their MOPP gear, more commonly known as the JLIST suits (Joint Service Lightweight Integrated Suit Technology). Still, the men of 1-64 AR Battalion were anxious. Most did not get any sleep the night before due to the orders to attack into Baghdad. 15 days had gone by and 600 kilometers covered since the invasion of Iraq began on March 20. Vehicles and men were exhausted and dirty. Despite the hurdles that appeared as they always do in wartime, the

5 May 2019

OP International Commemorates 74th Anniversary of Berchtesgaden Liberation

OP International commemorated the 74th anniversary of the liberation of Berchtesgaden and the Obersalzberg with a ceremony at the 3ID memorial tablet at the Kempinski Hotel on the Obersalzberg the morning of 5 May 2019. This also marked the 12th anniversary of the dedication of the 3ID tablet on 5 May 2008. This is the first year the ceremony was held on a cold and snowy day. The tablet and hotel are at an altitude of 1000 meters in the Bavarian Alps. Locals say it was the first time the area has had snow on 5 May in over one hundred years!

Speakers at the ceremony were OP President Monika Stoy; Mr. Lu Zhou, Chief of the Political-Military Section in the US Consulate in Munich; Deputy County Commissioner and former Berchtesgaden Mayor Rudolph Schaupp; and Major Lars Kauven, Deputy Battalion Commander of the German Army’s 232nd Mountain Infantry Battalion from Bischofswiesen. The Chamber Music Ensemble
Preparations are fast underway for our national reunion November 14-17, 2019. We have contracted with the Westin Jekyll Island hotel. This hotel is beautiful and is right on the beach and is only steps away from the convention center where we will attend the Soldiers Ball.

As you all know, June 6th marks the 75th Anniversary of the landings in Normandy, France and the eventual liberation of Europe. Dogface Soldiers landed on the southern beaches of France several months later which marked their fourth amphibious landing since the beginning of WWII. They then began their thunder run towards Germany. They were in the Colmar pocket in the Vosges Mountains in just six weeks!

I also want to take this opportunity to introduce our new Sergeant-at-Arms, Mr Frank Homme from OP #5. Frank recently volunteered for this position and we will meet him at the reunion this year. Thanks Frank!

Don’t forget to nominate someone you believe deserving of one of our Awards. We are still accepting nominations for awards and so please don’t hesitate to nominate someone.

The Society raffle tickets will be mailed out soon. Our raffle is an important source of income and helps to keep the Society financially solvent. There are some great cash prizes for you to win and we appreciate all the support we get from members who buy our raffle tickets.

If you are an annual paying member, you should have received your dues card in the mail. Please send in your dues as soon as possible so our Roster Manager can update your status on the roster. Your membership is GREATLY appreciated.

Please take a look at the design for our special 100th anniversary Society Coin. This is a marvelous coin and will be available beginning July 1, 2019. Want to get one for FREE? Just attend the Soldiers Ball during the Reunion and yours will be complimentary!

Lastly, please keep all of our Soldiers deployed in harms way in your prayers. ROTM!

Toby Knight
Society President

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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

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mortally wounded.

For his action on this day, Sgt. Booker would posthumously receive the Silver Star for valor. And so on April 5, 2019, sixteen years to the day, the Booker family would be presented the Distinguished Service Cross by LTG. Laura J. Richardson in a ceremony in Pittsburgh’s beautiful Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall. Sgt. Booker served fifteen years in the Army and was a veteran of Desert Storm. Several of his men told me he was a hard-nosed leader who pushed his men to excellence which contributed to their own survival in combat. In this issue there is the first of two parts of “Thunder Run” which details this operation of the ouster of Saddam Hussein and his brutal reign of terror.

On Thursday night of April 4th, the Booker family moved into the Sheraton at Station Square on the banks of the Allegheny River across downtown Pittsburgh to be guests of honor for an evening social reception in honor of their son Stevon. It was a great reception and an opportunity to meet a lot of the soldiers who served with Stevon and meet other officers of the 3rd Infantry. As a non-veteran, I must admit I was quite awed being around Two Star Gen. Quintas (who I first met at the Albuquerque reunion last year) meeting Three Star LTG Laura Richardson, and Four Star Gen. David Perkins who was then Col. Perkins the Brigade Commander who followed the original “Thunder Run” Sgt. Booker was involved in. It was such a rich experience being around so many of our military’s best, both current and past who serve their country.

I was pleased to meet Sgt. Booker’s mother, Mrs. Freddie Jackson who was quite engaging and elated to see her son so honored. Also got to meet Sgt. Booker’s sister Kimberly Talley-Armstead who also was quite moved to see her brother recognized as a hero, sadly a posthumous hero but “that’s such a blessing.” It was also very interesting to me when “The Order Of St. George” Medallion was presented to the mother and daughter of Sgt. Booker. This is the top award given to a member of the Army’s Mounted Force by the U.S. Armor Association of the United states Army. The award which was initiated in 1986, portrays the familiar image of St. George on horseback slaying the dragon. Thus the requirement being mounted or armored in combat. It was a great evening as the program outlines, and the food was very good also.

Friday, April 5, 2019 – Friday morning we shifted to downtown Pittsburgh to the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall. It is a very unique and beautiful art deco building with the four first floor walls adorned with displays and artifacts from the American Revolution to present day wars our country has been involved in throughout our history. I was pleased to see a Merchant Marine display because my father served in the Merchant Marine at the outbreak of WWII following Pearl Harbor. My father’s ship transported oil up and down the Gulf and
Atlantic coast and was targeted by German U-boats right after Pearl Harbor. We were able to attend a pre-ceremony media event with the Booker family before the program began.

So after visiting with people once again, we all adjourned into the main Auditorium for the presentation of the Distinguished Service Cross to the Booker family. After the National Anthem by the 3rd Infantry Division Band, the Invocation followed which then opened the ceremony with the history of the Distinguished Service Cross. Colonel Hilmes presented all with a very stirring career overview of Sgt. Booker followed by a video presentation of Sgt. Booker’s life and the events of “Thunder Run”. LTG Laura J. Richardson then provided a lengthy and very interesting set of remarks about Sgt. Booker. She is quoted as saying “Steve was an extraordinary soldier and his heroic actions demonstrate a deep commitment to the nation and sacrifice above self for a higher purpose. Steve set the example for his soldiers both by his leadership and his competence as a tanker. The soldiers of his company looked to him for not only his expertise, but also his sage counsel, mentorship, and positive motivation. Because he was a warrior sand already a combat veteran. He knew what it took to fight and win against a tough enemy. Booker’s crew even named their tank “Another Episode” because of his Gulf War experience.” She then called upon Sgt. Booker’s mother, Mrs. Freddie Jackson and Booker’s sister Kimberly Talley-Armstead for remarks. Mrs. Jackson gave a very moving synopsis of the life of her hero son Sgt. Booker and his life and love of the military. She recounted one time when her son returned home on leave and asked him to attend church with the family in his uniform. She was so proud of her son that day. Mrs. Jackson said “It means a lot to me to have someone say that my son is a hero and that he didn’t only die for the Booker family, he died for the world”. The Booker family was then presented with a beautifully framed Distinguished Service Cross with citation. Twenty-six soldiers from the Spartan Brigade were awarded Silver Star medals for their actions during the Thunder Runs, but only one soldier earned the Distinguished Service Cross – Staff Sgt. Stevon Booker. The ceremony was then closed with a Benediction by Chaplain Samuel Kim of the Third Infantry Division. After the ceremony, a group of about twenty-five combat veterans who served with
STAFF SERGEANT
STEVEN A. BOOKER
UNITED STATES ARMY

For extraordinary heroism while engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States while serving as a Tank Commander with Company A, 1st Battalion, 64th Armor, 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) on 5 April 2003 in Iraq. On this date, Staff Sergeant Booker’s platoon led a tank force in a movement to contact along Highway 8 towards Baghdad International Airport. Two kilometers after the line of departure, the platoon came under heavy small arms and rocket propelled grenade fire from an enemy element. He immediately communicated the situation to his chain of command, encouraged his crew, and returned fire with his tank mounted machinegun. When both his and his crew’s machineguns malfunctioned, Staff Sergeant Booker, with total disregard for his personal safety, exposed himself by laying in a prone position on top of the tank’s turret and accurately engaged the enemy forces with his personal weapon. While exposed he effectively protected his platoon’s flank and delivered accurate information to his command during a critical and vulnerable point of the battle. Staff Sergeant Booker’s fearless attitude and excitement over the communications network inspired his platoon to continue the attack and assured them and leadership that they would defeat the enemy and reach their objective safely. As he remained exposed, Staff Sergeant Booker identified an enemy troop carrier which was attempting to bypass his tank, but within seconds engaged the enemy vehicle and destroyed it prior to the enemy troops dismounting. Along the eight kilometer route he remained exposed and continued to engage the enemy with accurate rifle fire until he was mortally wounded. Staff Sergeant Booker’s actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized), and the United States Army.

SGT. Booker’s citation for his posthumous Distinguished Service Cross

Sgt. Booker posed for a group photo to honor their “fallen comrade.”

As a bit of trivia, you might remember watching a report about NBC’s war correspondent David Bloom, who was embedded with the 3rd Infantry as they approached Baghdad. David was riding in a Ford F250 four wheel flatbed truck titled “The Bloom Mobile” which kept him in a crouching position during the assault on Baghdad. The circulation was cut off from his leg several times which forced him outside several times during the conflict, risking his life to stretch his legs. His journey with the 3rd, where he broadcasted live around the clock by satellite feed, led him to remark about the cramped conditions, the excessive heat, and lack of sleep. Then on April 6, of 2003, one day after the death of Sgt. Booker, David suffered a deep vein thrombosis which caused a pulmonary embolism that travelled to his lungs that caused his death. I vividly remember watching the assault on Baghdad continuously and was quite surprised at David’s very unusual and tragic death. Three other journalists lost their life covering the eviction of Saddam Hussein from Iraq as they are remembered in a plaque in Maryland.

Everyone then adjourned to the “Grand Ballroom” for lunch and fellowship. I met Bob Burik, who has written a piece on “Thunder Run”, and I am running his article in this issue which ties in with the ceremony for Sgt. Booker. I was sitting with a group of Pittsburgh natives when one said, “Hey, there’s Rocky Bleier over there.” As a football fan, I ran over there with the group to meet Rocky and take pictures with the former Pittsburgh Steeler star who has four Super Bowl rings. Rocky was a blocking back for star running back Franco Harris. I was a little surprised how small he was, looking very dapper in suit and tie. Rocky played on the 1966 Notre Dame national championship football team, and captained the 1967 team. He was drafted 417th in the sixth round by Pittsburgh, and after his rookie year he was drafted by “Uncle Sam” whereas he volunteered to go to Vietnam. He was wounded in his leg and arm and lost part of his foot when he received a letter from Pittsburgh owner Art Rooney, who said “Rocky, the team’s not doing well and we need you.” Rocky was so moved by Rooney’s faith in him that he worked tirelessly to help the team and wound up winning four Super Bowls. As a football fan, this was quite an unexpected highlight of my visit to Pittsburgh to honor an American hero.

ABOVE: Vietnam vet and Pittsburgh Steeler Rocky Bleier
RIGHT: David Bloom, NBC war correspondent, in the tank he was imbedded in with the 3rd ID
Rasteau, located on the Plan de Dieu east of Orange, dedicated a plaque honoring the 3rd Infantry Division’s liberation of the village on 24 August 1944 during ceremonies held in conjunction with honoring the family of an American pilot, LT Donald Simpson, who was KIA during aerial combat on 16 April 1944. His plane crashed on the territory of Rasteau. The village conducted the joint ceremony in April to ensure these dedications would not be over-shadowed by 75th anniversary commemorations this coming August. There was no fighting in the village during its liberation as German forces were withdrawing from the area upon the 3rd Infantry Division’s approach.

The ceremony was presided over by Mayor Aimé Robert with his 1st Deputy Mayor Mrs. Mireille Gonzalez acting as mistress of ceremonies. The commemoration began with the dedication of a plaque honoring LT Simpson by Mayor Robert, LT Simpson’s family members, and representatives of Simpson’s unit association, the 48th Fighter Squadron. Wreaths were placed at the village’s war monument which in the town center, taps were played, and the village band played the US and French National Anthems. The Mayor delivered comments as did representatives of the family and the United States Consul General in Marseille Simon Atkinson.

The second half of the commemoration began with the unveiling of the 3rd Infantry Division plaque which is mounted on the retaining wall on the town square near the war monument. After the unveiling the Dogface Soldier was played over the public address system.

Monika delivered her comments, thanking the village on behalf of our great 3rd ID WWII veterans. Monika presented Mayor Robert with an outpost certificate of appreciation and the Outpost’s Operation Dragoon medallion. The Stoys conducted the POW-MIA ceremony with the assistance of OP International’s new liaison officer in France Mr. Jean Jacques Malapert who read the script in French. The ceremony was very well-received.

At the conclusion Mayor Robert presented Monika a village medallion, a certificate, and a boxed set of the village’s famous wines. The Stoys were honored to be named honorary citizens of the village.

Numerous local and regional political officials participated in the ceremony, and military vehicles and reenactors.

Please turn to 3ID PLAQUE on page 11
The Watch on the Rhine

of the German Mountain Infantry Band of the German Army provided outstanding musical support. A color guard of four volunteer non-commissioned officers from the US Army Garrison Wiesbaden traveled six hours to support the event. LTC, German Army, Oliver Muhs from the German War College in Hamburg joined us for the 3rd year in a row.

Other guests included the Director of the Police Division of Berchtesgaden, Wilhelm Handke; the duty group supervisor of the Police Division of Bad Reichenhall, Tobias Hasenknapf; head of sales for the Grassl Enzian Distillery, Karsten Brust; a Captain, Sergeant Major, and Corporal from the 232nd Mountain Battalion participated in the POW-MIA ceremony or as color bearer for the German flag in the combined color guard. Dr., COL, Austrian Army, retired Bruno Koppensteiner; former Mayor of Salzburg Heinz Schaden and JianZhen Schaden; Mrs. Zhou and the Zhou’s daughter Tiffany; Mr. Paul McIlvaine, Tenor; Ms Sabine Buxede and a colleague from a high school in Nuernberg Heinrich Mueller; Mrs Haesook Choi; and Mr. Andreas Nietschke, the Stoy’s godson.

The ceremony began with music played by the Ensemble and progressed through introductory remarks by master of Ceremonies Tim Stoy, the posting of the colors, the POW-MIA ceremony narrated by Tim Stoy and Oliver Muhs, welcoming remarks by Monika Stoy, comments by Mr. Zhou, Deputy County Commissioner Schaupp, and Major Kauven, the raising of the American flag and performance of the US, Bavarian, and German National Anthems by the Ensemble and Paul McIlvaine, the placing of a wreath, playing of The Dog Face Soldier by the Ensemble, the retiring of the colors, and a final group photo.

The outpost hosted a post-ceremony luncheon during which Monika Stoy presented certificates of appreciation and other gifts to ceremony participants. Paul McIlvaine performed the Ave Maria in memory of John Keller who recently passed away. The OP remains grateful to the Bavarian State Bank and the staff of the Kempinski Berchtesgaden Hotel for their continued support.

The OP is planning for next year’s 75th anniversary commemoration. We are looking for WWII veterans who were with the 3rd Infantry Division at the end of WWII and either were present for the ceremony on 5 May and/or visited the Obersalzberg while the Division was garrisoning nearby Salzburg and surrounding villages. This historic event is by invitation only, not open to the public.

100th Anniversary Society Challenge Coin

See description and order instructions on page 19.
Call for Awards Nominations

This is the first call for nominations for annual awards. The Awards Committee, consisting of the three Regional Vice Presidents, will select the recipients of the Society Service Award and the Outstanding Associate Member Award. The Executive Committee will select the recipient of the Audie Murphy Achievement Award from nominations submitted to the Awards Committee. These awards will be presented at the Reunion Banquet in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The annual Society Awards Program recognizes and honors those members of the Society of the Third Infantry Division who have contributed their energy and creativity to further the Society’s objectives.

Nominations must be received by August 10, 2019

Mail all nominations to SFC Ken Drake, Society Awards Chair, 3604 Herndon Lane, Wahiawa HI 96786 or at email: Sgtmpw1@earthlink.net. So that effective evaluation of nominations and determination of recipients can be accomplished, nominations must include the following general information as well as the specific information mandated in the award criteria to which the nomination is directed.

- Nominee’s post affiliation and precise information about his/her qualifications for the award
- Nominee’s achievements (details relative to the Society’s objectives and/or to the benefit of all veterans)
- Only nominees whose dues are current and who possess the established qualifications per the By-Laws and per awards protocol as stated in the S.O.P. will be considered for an award.

The Audie Murphy Achievement Award is the highest award the Society presents each year: The requirements for the Audie Murphy Achievement Award are as follows: the recipient must have been a member in good standing of the Society for at least three years or a former distinguished member of the Third Infantry Division or worthy national leader. Some of the considerations for this award are exemplary military service; service as an elected national Society officer, appointed or elected, including Outpost officers and members; outstanding service by Society members to their community, state or nation.

The Society Service Award: may be presented to a member in good standing of the Society for exceptional service to the Society. The recipient must have been a member of the Society for a minimum of three years.

The Outstanding Associate Member Award: may be awarded to an Associate Member in good standing of the Society for exceptional service to the Society. The recipient must have been a member of the Society for a minimum of three years.

President’s Special Award: Special service awards are given at the president’s discretion.

Nominations: If you are active in your outpost, you probably know of an outstanding worker who deserves recognition. If so, please nominate that member. You may make the nomination for a specific award or just name the person and tell what he or she is or has been doing for the Society, and the Society Awards Committee can make the determination. Thanks in advance for your help.

—Submitted by Award Chairman SFC. Ken Drake

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<th>ISSUE</th>
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<td>All issues:</td>
<td>Last Call and Roll Call</td>
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<td>Dec.-Aug:</td>
<td>Reunion Updates</td>
<td>Foundation Chair</td>
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<td>February:</td>
<td>Call for Scholarship Foundation Applications</td>
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<td>December:</td>
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Outpost 1 held their Spring 2019 Meeting in Dixon, Illinois. They first visited President Ronald Reagan’s home, had lunch at Mama Cimino’s restaurant, visited the Dixon Veterans Memorial Park, returned over the Dixon Veteran’s Memorial Bridge and saw the Ronald Reagan Statue and the replica of the Berlin Wall that President Ronald Reagan helped bring it down.

Full details and information on the fall Outpost 1 Meeting will be in the next Watch on the Rhine. Nominations and elections of Officers for Outpost 1 will be held at the Fall Outpost 1 Meeting.

Submitted by Richard Longfellow

Outpost 15 held its spring meeting on Sunday April 7th with a potluck and business meeting attended by eight at the home of member Curtis Gentry. A very nice Arizona spring day and turkey meal was enjoyed by all. The next get together will occur on Monday November 11th for the annual Phoenix Veterans Day Parade in which the outpost will participate. We encourage all that are interested to please join us for this excellent event.

Outpost Officers: Bob Johnson (President), Mike Grimes (Vice-President), Curtis Gentry (Secretary-Treasurer)

On Monday, May 27, 2019 Outpost #7 participated in the National Memorial Day Ceremony, conducted by the Veterans Administration, at Arlington National Cemetery. Representing the Society of the Third Infantry Division, members of OP #7 and OP #5845 laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier as part of the formal ceremony events.

Immediately after the wreath laying, the Society of the Third Infantry Division members, 3ID active duty and alumni, friends and guests moved to the 3ID Monument to place a wreath and the 3ID patch, then those present conducted a remembrance ceremony to honor the Division’s fallen.

The spring meeting of Outpost #13 took take place on 11 May 2019 at noon at Baker’s of Milford. A complete report and pictures will be in the August issue of the Watch on the Rhine.

Submitted by Gordon W. Draper, Vice President

Dear friends:

March came in like a lion. But, we now have good weather again. Our members have been enjoying an improved Quality of Life. We have enjoyed hiking, biking, and smelling the beautiful fields of flowers that followed the heavy rains. Our members enjoyed watching the Milky Way from the darkness/solitude of the Anza Borrego Desert, we have seen a 90 foot long Fin Whale, a huge Basking Shark, Orcas, and huge pods of bottle nose dolphins along the southern coast of California.

We attended a fantastic Armed Forces Day Parade, in Torrance, CA., and we celebrated Memorial Day by participating in a Memorial Day wreath laying ceremony. We saluted our fallen brothers at the Riverside National Cemetery. And, we held our annual meeting at the Long Beach VA Medical Center. We enjoyed an Aloha Festival, music performances, art shows, and
were organized by Mr. Patrick Choukroune of Orange, a longtime sup-
porter of the outpost’s commemorative activities in Southern France. Numerous patriots and veterans’ organizations were represented by their color bearers. The village firemen also stood formation. The US Army Liaison Officer to the French Infantry School in Draguigan LTC Ivan Salgado and his wife Lynn were also in attendance. He is a former 3rd ID and 15th Infantryman, having served in 1-15 IN at Fort Benning shortly after the Division left Germany in 1996!
Society member, Mr. Nico Courtine, played an important role in organizing the ceremony and working with Rasteau to have the 3rd ID plaque dedicated and the outpost is very grateful for his hard work honoring our great Marne veterans.

Hospitalized Veterans (from the Long Beach VA), walked (and rolled) in the Huntington Beach 4th of July parade. Some of our members look forward to participating in the VA’s Golden Age Games (Anchorage, A.K., June 5-10, 2019).

Our San Diego members plan to volunteer at the June 8-9, 2019 San Diego Festival of the Arts, (for disabled veterans), in Waterfront Park. We will attend the Los Olivos Jazz and Olive Fest, and plan to watch the U.S. Open Golf Championship at Pebble Beach, on June 10th.

We look forward to attending the 39th Lotus Festival at Echo Lake, (Los Angeles), July 13 and 14th, 2019 (12 noon to 9 p.m.). OP #22 members send you our best summer wishes.

Submitted by Walter Mendoza, Sr., President, OP #22.

3ID PLAQUE from page 7

The New 3rd Id Plaque In Rasteau, France

POW-MIA table at the Rasteau War Monument

Update Your Contact Info
Update your email, phone, and mail contact information
Send changes to the Society Database Manager

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.Region:
ER = Eastern
CR = Central
WR = Western

DELIVERY POINT BARCODE

Check your name and address (Apt./Bldg/Lot No.). If your zip code does not contain 9 digits (zip+4), it is incomplete. Check http://zip4.usps.com/zip4/ or contact your local post office for your zip+4

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

—Submitted by Joe Ball
The Watch on the Rhine

To be held at the Westin Jekyll Island Hotel located at 110 Ocean Way, Jekyll Island, GA 31527. Room rates are $122 per night, plus a $15 resort fee and taxes for an island view room. The hotel provides free parking to hotel guest. Call the Westin Jekyll Island Hotel at 1-888-627-8316 no later than October 14, 2019 to make your hotel reservations. Make sure to mention you are with the 3rd Infantry Division to receive the group rate.

Thursday November 14th
2:00pm Registration and Hospitality Room Opens
5:00pm-6:00pm ~ No Host Social Hour
6:00pm-8:00pm ~ President’s Reception Dinner

Friday November 15th
8:00am-3:00pm ~ Mighty Eighth Museum Tour
5:30pm-6:30pm ~ Soldiers Ball No Host Social Hour
6:30pm-9:00pm ~ Soldiers Ball Dinner
9:00pm-12:00am ~ Soldiers Ball

Saturday November 16th
8:30am-10:30am ~ General Membership Meeting
9:00am-10:30am ~ Ladies Breakfast
10:30am-12:00pm ~ Executive Committee Meeting
1:30pm-8:00pm ~ Fort Stewart Tour & Regimental Dinner Fort Stewart Club

Sunday November 17th
8:00am-10:00am ~ Memorial Breakfast and Reunion Farewell

Tours

Mighty Eighth Museum & Lunch
Friday November 15th 8:00am-3:00pm Price $36.00
The Mighty Eighth Museum uses state-of-the-art graphics, memorabilia, vintage motion pictures and photographs and interactive “live-it-yourself” features. The Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum is a work of art by itself. Divided into galleries, which effectively group the information presentation by either time or location, the museum begins with a concise retracing of the events leading to World War II in the Prelude to War, and then paints a bleak picture of Britain, seemingly alone, against the powerful German forces. Dramatic archival footage, some of which is rarely seen, recreates the life and death struggle that took place over the skies of Great Britain from 1940 until 1942. A lunch will be provided at the museum.

Fort Stewart Tour & Dinner at Fort Stewart Club
Saturday November 16th 1:30pm-8:00pm Price ~ $39.00
The Third Infantry Division will host the Society during a tour of Fort Stewart and will include a visit to the Fort Stewart Museum, the Warriors’ Walk Memorial and more events that are still in the planning stages. The day will be finished off with a Pot Roast Dinner at the Fort Stewart Club attended by officers and leaders of the division.

For More Information Contact:
Toby Knight 210-885-2137
Tobster16@gmail.com
The Reunion BRAT 360-663-2521
thereunionbrat@hotmail.com

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

- Confirmation of Registration and Itinerary will be sent out by October 18, 2019
- CANCELLATION POLICY: By sending in the registration form, you are agreeing to the cancellation policy
- 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.
- Cancellations can ONLY be requested over the phone at 360-663-2521. You will receive a cancellation number; no refund will be issued without this number. Please make sure to keep this number for verification of your cancellation.
100TH ANNUAL REUNION
SOCIETY OF THE 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION
JEKYLL ISLAND/SAVANNAH, GEORGIA
NOVEMBER 14-17, 2019

ADDRESS

CITY____________________________________________STATE__________ZIP________________
PHONE____________________________EMAIL____________________

⭐ 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 THE BACKSIDE OF THIS FORM

NAME____________________________________PREFERRED NAME ON BADGE________________
ASSOCIATE MEMBER: YES_______OUTPOST_______

⭐ IF YOU ARE A GUEST FILL OUT THIS SECTION

FOR ADDITIONAL GUEST PLEASE USE THE BACKSIDE OF THIS FORM

NAME____________________________________PREFERRED NAME ON BADGE________________
NAME____________________________________PREFERRED NAME ON BADGE________________

PLEASE LIST ANY SPECIAL NEEDS: ___________________________________________________

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY: ___________________________________________________

REQUIRED REGISTRATION FEE (PER PERSON)______X $39.00 = ______
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 14TH ~ PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION DINNER______X $59.00 = ______
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 15TH ~ MIGHTY EIGHTH MUSEUM TOUR & LUNCH______X $36.00 = ______
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 15TH ~ SOLDIERS BALL & DINNER______X $35.00 = ______
SOLDIERS BALL DINNER WILL BE A DUO PLATE OF BEEF & CHICKEN

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16TH ~ LADIES BREAKFAST______X $32.00 = ______
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16TH ~ FORT STEWART TOUR & DINNER______X $39.00 = ______

REQUIRED INFORMATION FORT STEWART ACCESS

LEGAL NAME (LAST, FIRST, MI)____________________GENDER (M/F)_____DOB (i.e.1962 JAN 11)________
DRIVER'S LICENSE# & STATE ISSUED (i.e.M19G062BLU / MI)________________________USTHIS CITIZEN (YES / NO)____
LEGAL NAME (LAST, FIRST, MI)____________________GENDER (M/F)_____DOB (i.e.1962 JAN 11)________
DRIVER'S LICENSE# & STATE ISSUED (M19G062BLU / MI)________________________USTHIS CITIZEN (YES / NO)____

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 17TH ~ MEMORIAL BREAKFAST______X $34.00 = ______

TOTAL ENCLOSURES: _______

⭐ PAYMENT IS DUE NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 14, 2019
PLEASE SEND PAYMENTS TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS AND MADE PAYABLE TO:
THE REUNION BRAT
16817 MOUNTAINSIDE DRIVE EAST
GREENWATER, WA 98022
In putting this issue of the Watch together, I am amazed once again at the footprint left by Tim and Monika Stoy in Europe, especially in France where the 3rd ID made history in WWI & WWII. They work tirelessly representing the 3rd ID throughout Europe and Korea to name a few, and are excellent goodwill ambassadors from America. Their names are on numerous plaques and monuments throughout Europe. Great work and keep up the travels, as it is much appreciated throughout the Society.

Henry Bodden – Editor

On The Lighter Side

...and who can forget that lovable “Baghdad Bob” - the original purveyor of “Fake News”

As our troops took Baghdad, and Saddam Hussein was nowhere to be found, the toughest job fell on Mohammed Saeed al-Sahaf, aka “Baghdad Bob.” His job as Information Minister was to assure the citizens of Baghdad that “all is well.”

His funniest and most ridiculous report was that while broadcasting live on camera, he assured Iraqi citizens there were no American tanks anywhere near Baghdad, even as American tanks were on live television rolling behind the hapless “Baghdad Bob”. Pictured are some of his most brazen statements of “fake news.” I vividly remember “Baghdad Bob” reporting on the news of the American invasion, and love the one where he falsely reports that American troops are committing suicide at the walls of the city. He was later arrested, interrogated, and then deemed “harmless” and released.

Baghdad Bob on the Invasion

Mohammed Saeed al-Sahaf made so many statements as information minister. Here is a sampling of some of his most foolishish quotes:

“They see no American infidels in Baghdad. Never!”

“My feelings, as usual, will change them all.”

“Our initial assessment is that they will all die.”

“No I am not armed and neither should you be!”

“We will welcome them with bullets and shots.”

“They are not even within 100 miles of Baghdad. They are not in any place. They hold no place in… This is an illusion… they are trying to sell to the others an illusion.”

“Vigilant forces of infidels cannot just enter a country of 36 million people and lay siege to them. They are the ones who will find themselves under siege. Therefore, in reality, whatever this miserable Rumsfeld has been saying, he was talking about his own forces. Now even the American command is under siege.”

“Washington has thrown their soldiers on the fire.”

“They fled. The Americans lost. Indeed, concerning the fighting waged by the heroes of the Arab Socialist (Iraqi) Party yesterday, one amazing thing really is the cowardice of the American soldiers. We had not anticipated this.”

“God will roast their stomachs in hell at the hands of Iraqis.”

“They tried to bring a small number of tanks and personnel carriers in through Al-Durah but they were surrounded and most of their infidels had their throats cut.”

“I can say, and I am responsible for what I am saying, that they have started to commit suicide under the walls of Baghdad. We will encourage them to commit more suicides quickly.”

A potpourri of Baghdad Bob’s fake news reports

While in Pittsburgh, a side trip to “Fallingwater”

Anytime I take a specific trip to anywhere, I always research for something else that may be in the area. At last year’s reunion in Albuquerque, I took advantage of visiting Window Rock, Arizona to visit the Navajo Nation headquarters, just two hours west of Albuquerque. After arriving in Pittsburgh, I had a free afternoon before the reception began that evening to visit a place I never thought I would be able to visit. I had studied about Frank Lloyd Wright’s architectural masterpiece residence known as “Fallingwater,” which he designed in Mill Run, Pa. for Pittsburgh department store owner Edgar J. Kaufmann in 1935 on the family’s mountain property at Bear Run. “Fallingwater” is perhaps Frank Lloyd Wright’s premier work, as it has been called “the best all-time work of American architecture” and the most famous private residence ever built.

Mr. Kaufmann wanted to build a summer cottage for his family and for his employees to relax and enjoy the beauty of the wooded area with its waterfall. Kaufmann’s son had studied under Wright’s tutelage and therefore a relationship developed that Wright would design “Fallingwater” for the Kaufmann family. At first the Kaufmann’s wanted their home built on a spot with a beautiful view of the waterfall. But Wright, who was struggling at the time, envisioned a most unique opportunity to use the waterfall as the central centerpiece of the home by building the home over the waterfall. And so he did, and the rest is history. Mr. Kaufmann’s roots are founded in Germany, and Edgar Kaufmann Jr. who inherited the residence
was a WWII veteran who served in the Army Air Corps. Albert Einstein, who fled Germany around 1933, was a guest of the Kaufmann’s at “Fallingwater” at one time. Kaufmann Jr. later left “Fallingwater” to the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy.

I booked a tour with George DeBolt, who drove me to "Fallingwater" and gave me a complete history of Pittsburgh and western Pennsylvania, and of course his beloved Pittsburgh Steelers. George and I are both rabid sports fans and also shared a love of the history of the two World Wars, so we had a mutual great time talking history, Pittsburgh, and “Fallingwater.” When the tour began, our group met our very informative guide Suzie Morris, who walked us through each room of this fabulous piece of Americana. The history about the Kaufmann family was great, and we were not allowed to photograph or touch any of the priceless Picasso works of art, or the centuries old Ming Dynasty vases that adorned some of the rooms. Suzie pointed out that every detail of the residence had a functional purpose based on letting the natural light and the pastoral scenery of the forest and streams that surrounded the residence. Built during the Depression, this contemporary design was way ahead of its time. After the tour, Suzie introduced me to several of the staff like Rhonda Mariotti who signed my print. Suzie and I then had a photograph together in front of this magnificent residence. Had I not attended the ceremony for the Booker family in Pittsburgh, I would probably never have had the opportunity of visiting “Fallingwater.”

**Looking for...Cecil Martin**

Henry Lulay Jr. is looking for his very good Army buddy, Mr. Cecil Martin who served in the 3rd ID in Germany in 1973 with the 36th, Signal Co.

Henry Lulay Jr., MOS: 36th Signal Co.
3rd ID served in Germany in 1973

If you know Cecil or how to contact him, please contact Henry at: 1-860-833-7114.

**Private Ryan And Private Eckman At Gravesites**

One important photo was left out of the last issue that needs to be shown in this issue as a follow up. On the left side, an elderly “Private Ryan” is pictured paying homage to Capt. Miller at the American Cemetery at Omaha Beach in Normandy, who gave him a chance to live a completed life.

The photo on the right was left out of the last issue. It shows “Private Eckman” and his daughter Debbie Eckman Smith at the gravesite of Lt. Audie Murphy at Arlington National Cemetery. Murphy’s Medal of Honor action at Holtzwihr, France against impossible odds, saved his own life and his seventeen men against six German Panther tanks and 250 infantrymen.

**Editor’s note:** “Private Eckman” died on May 12th. The family did say he read the article about him and was pleased before he died.
45 Star Flag

Several years ago while living in TN, my wife and I went to an estate sale. A US flag was being auctioned off. I wanted it so I got it! It is a 45 Star Garrison flag that still has the original hooks in it. It is Hugh! The 45th star represented the state of Utah. It flew under 3 Presidents, Grover Cleveland, William McKinley, (who was assassinated) and Theodore Roosevelt. I had the flag signed here in Orlando by Betsy Ross’s 7th great granddaughter.

The flag is now 123 years old. I have flown it once here in Orlando. I also sent it to my then Congresswoman “Sandy Adams” and asked her to have it flown over the US Capitol on June 14th, 2012. June 14th, 1953 was the start of the “battle for Boomerang” that my then unit “company “F” 7th regiment, 3rd Infantry Regiment fought and won over overwhelming Chinese Infantry. I would not part with this flag!

Submitted by: Bob Barfield

45th Star Certificate

“Anzio-Nettuno Beachhead” book

Dear Henry, by way of introduction, my name is Silvano Casaldi from Anzio-Nettuno. I have been involved in many initiatives with the Association of the Third Infantry Division. I started the Allied Landing Museum in Nettuno, and hundreds of Anzio veterans have visited it like John Boller, Jack Hall, Clyde Easter, Al Brown, and John Shirley to name a few. John Shirley and his son Stephen visited me two years ago for a very nice visit. I am also the curator of the Monument dedicated to the Third Infantry Division at Anzio (Nettuno) which had been built in June of 1944 before the 3rd ID left for France. I have written several books about the landings at Anzio, but with the approaching 75th anniversary of Anzio, I have just published a new book

“Anzio-Nettuno Beachhead” with maps and photographs. General Truscott appears on the cover along with General Penney, the British Commander of the 1st Division. John Shirley just sent me an e-mail with his and others concern about the upkeep of the monument. So we have cleaned up the grounds and replaced the wooden fence as the photographs show. I invite all who may visit Anzio to come visit the monument to the 3rd Infantry Division and their sacrifice at “Bloody Anzio.”

Dr. Bob Jensen

Bob Jensen was regimental surgeon of the 7th info. Reg. He authored a biography “Bloody Snow” a fascinating account of the first winter that the 3rd I.D. was in the Korean war. I am privileged to have an autographed copy of that tome. Doctor Bob attended our reunion in Charleston and presented it to me. I was briefly President at that time of the 7th. I believe some recognition of Dr. Jensen’s contributions to the 3rd I.D. and specifically the Cottonbaler Reg. is overdue. Dr. Jensen passed away last year and his book is a great read.

Thanks, Bob Dalton. O.P.35.
Editor’s note: Thanks Bob, and I have always thought that our medics and hospital staff did not get the recognition saving our combat soldiers under fire.

Seven Thousand Poppies

Society member, Jocelyne Papelard, recently reported that the US Memory Grand EST organization in France on May 8th put together a ceremony remembering the 75th Anniversary of the D-Day landings, and that 7,000 felt poppies in a “V” for victory formation were placed at the American Battle Monuments Cemetery in Epinal France. There are more than 5,000 Americans interred at Epinal as it is nestled in the Vosges Mountains in the “Colmar Pocket” area. Numerous dignitaries from both the United States and France were present and more than 42 young French children sang “America the Beautiful” in English! The 50 state flags were also presented and a Color Guard from the “Rock of the Marne” association in France presented the colors along with the 3rd ID colors. We are thankful to all of our French compatriots for honoring our Soldiers and for their memorial activities.

Submitted by Jocelyne Papelard

Chaplain’s Corner

Recently, I had major surgery. All went well, but I am in recovery and thanks to my wife, I am getting around nicely. I hope that you enjoyed your Easter, Holy Week and Passover festivities. It is always a blessing to be able to celebrate these events.

I would like offer this prayer for anyone wounded in life and all those who are in need of medical attention.

Father in Heaven, grant our wounded brethren comfort in their suffering. Give them courage when afraid, patience when afflicted, hope when dejected and when alone assure them of the prayerful support of your holy people. Grant this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

I have informed our Society President that this 100th anniversary year will be my last. I will see you all at the reunion and hopefully the memorial breakfast. Please come, it will be great. I will be giving my Chaplain cloth to my replacement, Chaplain (LTC) David Beavers who has volunteered to be our new Chaplain. Hopefully you will be able to meet him at the reunion. I know he will do a great job. Thank you David and God bless you!

Chaplain Jerry Daddato

The monument was improved by a new fence, and two trees planted next to the monument

Send all information for publication in The Watch on the Rhine to:

Henry Bodden, Editor
Society of the Third Infantry Division
9610 North Dover Place, Owasso, O.K. 74055
hebodden@gmail.com; 1-918-376-9417

Now Hear This!

Website: www.society3rdid.org
The Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Scholarship Foundation, Inc. is conducting a raffle to raise funds to support our 2019 Scholarship Grant Awards Program. Those eligible to receive grants are deserving offspring of those who served with the 3rd Infantry Division, as well as Soldiers (past and present), the children and unmarried spouses of Soldiers K.I.A. while serving with the 3rd, and the married spouses of Soldiers currently serving with the 3rd Infantry Division. Each year, we have more applicants than the previous year. In order to provide scholarship grants to all those who meet or exceed our requirements, we must raise funds. We hope you will support this effort by purchasing the tickets enclosed. Tickets are $2.00 each or $20.00 per book of 12 tickets. Simply write your name and address on at least one ticket (we will duplicate the information for all additional tickets) or affix address labels, and mail the completed portion of the tickets and your payment to the Foundation in the envelope provided. Make checks payable to “Scholarship Foundation.” Be sure to include your phone number so we can check addresses before we ship prizes to the winners. Additional tickets are available from the Scholarship Foundation upon request. The drawing will occur on July 15, 2019, and prizes will be shipped shortly thereafter.

(Weapons are the same as pictured, only commemorative editions)

A 1911-A fully operational semi-automatic pistol was the premium side arm of the U.S. military from 1911 to 1986. It is .45-caliber, clip fed and has not been fired since factory testing.

The Thompson Submachine gun in the special commemorative issue honoring the Korean Conflict (similar as pictured, only commemorative). The Thompson is fully operational, semiautomatic, and comes with the original issue 20 round clip. A 30-round clip and the drum magazine can also be used with this weapon. The weapon has not been fired outside of factory testing. This weapon comes complete with a wood and glass display case for home use and a hard case for use when carrying the gun to the range for live firing.

There are 40+ total prizes including military books, DVDs, quilts, patriotic caps, U.S. and Society flags, and several proofs of beautiful commemorative coins. A special prize this year is an envelope stamped at the Greenville, TX post office where Audie Murphy enlisted. The envelope includes an uncanned U.S.P.S. $0.29-cent stamp from June 20, 1996. A full list of prizes can be found on the reverse of this letter.

Please encourage all eligible candidates them to submit their applications to the Foundation on or before June 1, 2019. The application and instructions are available on both the Society website and the Scholarship Foundation website at www.3idscholarshipfoundation.org and from Lynn Ball, Chairman (972-495-1704).

Judging by our directors will commence on June 2nd and grants will be paid to recipients’ university, college or vocational school shortly thereafter. Each candidate must have a sponsor who served with the 3rd Infantry Division or its support groups (Soldiers may act as their own sponsors). All offspring, both biological and adopted, are eligible, as are the offspring of Associate Members who have a direct link (father or grandfather) who served with the 3rd Infantry Division. If the sponsor is deceased, contact Lynn Ball for guidance in completing the sponsor’s letter which must accompany the candidate’s application.

Current List of Prizes for 2018-19 Scholarship Foundation Raffle

The Drawing for These Prizes will be July 15, 2019

• Model 1911A .45-caliber pistol*
• .45-caliber Thompson Submachine gun in Display Case*
• Envelopes with cancelled Audie Murphy Stamps from the Greenville, TX stamp dedication (10)
• From an Iowa Farm to Korea by Dale Geise (5 copies)
• Faces of War (4 copies)
• Secret History of WWII
• Ball caps imprinted with “USA”
• Ball cap imprinted with American Flag
• Polyester 3’ x 5’ American Flags (2)
• 3’ x 5’ 3rd Infantry Division Flag • Korea Reborn (3 copies)
• U.S. Korean War Memorial Coins (4)
• DVD: “The Siege at Firebase Gloria”
• DVD: “MASH: The Movie”
• DVD: “All Quiet on the Western Front”
• DVD: “The Dirty Dozen”
• The History of the 11th U.S. Cavalry book
• History of the 2nd Infantry Division book
• The 7th Cavalry in Korea book
• History of the 25th Infantry Division book
• Ex-POWs, Volume 77 book
• The History of American POWs in WWII book
• Shadows in the Jungle – Alamo Scouts WWII by Larry Alexander (2 copies)
• Behind Enemy Lines – The OSS in Burma in WWII
• 30 Seconds Over Tokyo by Ted Lawson (1943 printing)
• The Day of the Panzer by Jeff Danby, signed by the author
• The Army in WWII: Salerno to Cassino by Martin Bluenson
• Back in the Day, cookbook
• Queen-sized quilts with shams and throw pillows (2)
• Bill Mauldin’s Army (1984 printing)

* Winners of the weapons must pass the Federal firearms background check.
Your Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Scholarship Foundation, Inc., chartered as a Not-For-Profit Public Charity, is celebrating its 15th year of providing educational grants to worthy members of our Marne Family. All donations to the Foundation are tax deductible, and we send tax-certification letters for all donations and report all gifts in the Watch on the Rhine. Our directors, Lynn Ball, Chairman; Jeff Danby, Trustee; James Reeves, Trustee; Richard Faulkner, Trustee; Justin Valle, Trustee; J.W. Ball, CFO, and Justin Valle, webmaster, are all volunteers who receive no compensation or personal expenses. Our donors’ contributions are used only for scholarship grants. Please submit contributions to the address above.

Those supporting the Foundation’s efforts are truly investing in the future of our Country. Thank you for supporting our efforts and the higher education goals of our young people.

Yours in the 3rd, Lynn Ball, Chairman, on behalf of our Directors

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

Whatever we were in that frozen long-ago and whatever we are now, we are bound as one for life in an exclusive fraternity of honor. The only way into our ranks is to have paid the dues of duty, sacrifice and valor by being there. The cost of joining, in short, is beyond all earthly wealth.

For an application, contact Headquarters at 843-379-1011 or email ThechosinFewInc@aol.com or visit our website at ChosinFew.org

100th Anniversary Society Challenge Coin

Here is the final design for our 100th Anniversary Society Challenge coin. These coins are spectacular! The overall design idea was to use the baseplate of an artillery shell as the main concept. As you can see it also looks familiar to the bottom of a rifle bullet with the primer in the middle being the 3rd ID patch. This design features our beloved “Rocky” the bulldog marching with the Stars and Stripes in the background on the back of the coin. The front features the Society logo embossed in a polished gold circular disc that has the Society dates on the ribbon on the bottom and the division mottos surrounding the logo.

These coins will be received FREE for those who attend this year’s Soldiers Ball during the reunion. If you will NOT make the reunion, each coin is offered for $25 each and they come in their own custom black velvet jewelry box.

These are truly amazing coins that will only be offered this year while supplies last. Sales begin on July 1, 2019 and you can pre-order your coin by sending your check or money order to:
Society of the Third Infantry Division
5339 Osprey Oak
San Antonio, TX 78253

Make checks payable to: Society of the Third Infantry Division
You can also purchase your coin online at our Society website: www.Society3rdid.org.
Proposed Constitution and Bylaws Changes

June 2018 - May 2019

The following are proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws and Executive Committee Actions to be approved by the membership. Please vote on each of these amendments on the official mail-in ballot in this issue. ONLY the official mail-in ballot may be used to vote. Cut out the ballot along the scissors line. Removing the ballot won’t destroy your WATCH.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

EC Action 1. 6/29/2018. EXCOM established a permanent budget line item for the funding of the Membership Roster and for Monuments upkeep.

EC Action 2. 6/29/2018. EXCOM approve the additional funding for the publication of the 2019 issues of the WOTR.

EC Action 3. 3/13/2019. EXCOM approved the redistribution of OP 88 boundaries to other Outposts.

C&BL CHANGES:

Motion to amend Constitution paragraphs 5.1a, 7.1 and 8.0 and Bylaws para 2.4, 5.3b and 11.2 by inserting the following sentence: “The National Secretary-Treasurer is authorized to publish and mail ballots to members who do NOT receive a paper copy of the Watch on the Rhine, for use in voting in Society elections or votes.”

Current Reading:
Constitution paragraphs 5.1a, 7.1 and 8.0 and Bylaws para 2.4, 5.3b would all be amended.

Proposed Reading:
The various paragraphs would be amended by the addition of the following sentence at the end of the paragraphs: “The National Secretary-Treasurer is authorized to publish and mail ballots to members who do NOT receive a paper copy of the Watch on the Rhine, for use in voting in Society elections or votes.”

Reason for Addition:
The C&BL's only allows for ballots published in the WOTR to be used for voting. There are two classes of membership who do NOT receive a paper copy of the WOTR. Active Duty lifetime members and members of Outpost 16. The election of a digital copy of the WOTR was contingent on their membership. Due to this, they are, inadvertently, excluded from voting in elections, C&B's changes and EC actions.

Nominations and Elections Results

Officers Elected

As you all know, every year we have elections on a rotating basis. This year the office of Society Secretary-Treasurer and the six regional Committeemen were open for nomination/election. We only had one nominee for each office therefore, no ballot is sent to the membership in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws, Section V para 5.3b which states “If there is only one nominee for an office, no ballot will be published for member vote.” The following nominees are automatically elected to their respective office:

SOCIETY SECRETARY-TREASURER: ................................Russell Zeeb
EASTERN REGION COMMITTEEWOMAN: ..........................Kathy Daddato
EASTERN REGION COMMITTEEMEN: ..............................Gabriel “Gabe” Guevarra
CENTRAL REGION COMMITTEEMEN: ..............................Richard Faulkner
CENTRAL REGION COMMITTEEMEN: ..............................John Weis
WESTERN REGION COMMITTEEMEN: ................................Lou Bravos
WESTERN REGION COMMITTEEMEN: ..............................Mike McClintck

Russell recently joined the Executive Committee as Secretary-Treasurer after volunteering for this position. He has been doing an outstanding job considering he has been affected by the flooding in the Nebraska area.

These outstanding members have served in these positions for the last two years and have faithfully and dutifully executed their duties. They are dedicated Society members who are committed to protecting the Society and serving the membership.

Thanks to all of our National leaders for their dedication to the Society and their commitment to the membership.

Respectfully submitted by-

Ed Conley
Nominations and Elections Chairman
SOCIETY OF THE THIRD INFANTRY DIVISION, U.S. ARMY
OFFICIAL MAIL-IN BALLOT & INSTRUCTIONS FOR SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP VOTING

In accordance with the By-Laws of the Society, contained herein is the mail-in ballot to amend the Society C&BL and approved EXCOM actions. Only this official ballot is valid. Contact the C&BL Chair (Watch page 2) should the original Watch ballot be lost or destroyed. Only members in good standing are eligible to vote. Check the ballot carefully, then print and sign your name. Cut out the ballot and mail it to the address on the back of this page.

OP# __________________ Print Name _________________________________ Date ________________

Signature __________________________________________________________________________

Return your mail-in ballot by June 30, 2019 to the address on the back of this page.

Voting Ballot

Proposed Constitution and By-Laws

ARTICLE V, PARA 5.1a  ☐ Approve  ☐ Disapprove

ARTICLE VII, PARA 7.1  ☐ Approve  ☐ Disapprove

ARTICLE VIII, PARA 8.0  ☐ Approve  ☐ Disapprove

Section II, PARA 2.4  ☐ Approve  ☐ Disapprove

Section V, PARA 5.3b  ☐ Approve  ☐ Disapprove

Section XI, PARA 11.2  ☐ Approve  ☐ Disapprove

Executive Committee Actions

EC Action 1.  ☐ Approve  ☐ Disapprove

EC Action 2.  ☐ Approve  ☐ Disapprove

EC Action 3.  ☐ Approve  ☐ Disapprove
From: ________________________________
__________________________________
__________________________________

To:    Amy McKenna, C&BL Chair
       303 Hanover Lane
       Brighton MI 48114
Greetings to all Dogface Soldiers, Veterans, Families and friends of the Marne Division. The Marne Express continues rolling right along through spring and into the summer, even as we prepare for some big changes.

Over the course of the past two years the Division has maintained a steadfast dedication to warfighting readiness, from the highest headquarters to the individual Dogface Soldier level. As a result, across all our units, the Marne Division has remained prepared to answer the Nation’s call. Preparation has occurred as a result of high tempo and of tough, realistic training, and through many deployments. We have executed several Warfighter exercises, countless gunnery, field training exercises, and live fires, as well as completed rotations to the Joint Readiness and National Training Centers. In every instance our focus has been on improving leadership, lethality and mastering the fundamentals. As a result, the Marne Division remains one of the most highly trained and ready divisions in the United States Army.

Since the last Marne 6 Sends we completed another highly successful iteration, in March, of our Division-wide training exercise, known as Marne Focus. The exercise employed nearly the entire Fort Stewart training area. Which is the largest training area east of the Mississippi.

In April we had the honor and pleasure of taking part in a ceremony to present the Distinguished Service Cross, the Nation’s second highest award for valor, to the family of Staff Sgt. Stevon A. Booker, a 3rd Infantry Division and “Thunder Run” hero, who made the ultimate sacrifice on April 5, 2003. The presentation occurred at the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to recognize Staff Sergeant Booker’s heroism and sacrifice.

The “Raiders” from the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team saw elements of the brigade complete a successful rotation at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana. The Raiders closed March out with Marne Focus, where they served as Observer-Controller/Trainers and the Opposing Force, providing valuable support to increase the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team’s mission readiness.

The “Spartans” of 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team completed Marne Focus, which included a brigade force-on-force exercise and brigade command post exercise. The readiness gained through the exercises further prepared them for combat and strengthened their ability to exercise mission command while mastering the operations process. The Spartans, supported by the “Falcons” of the 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, followed Maren Focus with a successful rotation to the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, California. The NTC rotation consisted of realistic ground combat operations training to certify a brigade-level combat team for future deployments. Both brigades returned to their home stations in late May and will spend the next couple of weeks refitting and integrating back with the rest of the Division.

“Thunder” Soldiers from the Division Artillery Brigade (DIVARTY) have continued training for several critical training events. In April, DIVARTY hosted an event “Affirmation of Life,” with special guest speaker Maj. Gen. (retired) Mark Graham, who, using a very compelling personal story, spoke to Soldiers about eliminating the stigma of mental illnesses.

The “Providers” of the 3rd Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade established the Army’s first culinary kiosk, The Outpost. Fort Stewart is the first instillation to have Kiosks, significantly increasing Soldier access to dining facilities within our large geographic footprint, while supporting its high operational tempo and its mix of various units from the National Guard, Reserve and various maneuver units. The Joint Center Culinary of Excellence continues to work with us to optimize the kiosks effectiveness as we look to expand the program across the Army.

This will be my last edition of Marne 6 Sends, as my time commanding the 3rd Infantry Division will soon come to an end. The Division Change of Command will occur on June 3rd, and I hope all can attend! While I will be departing, the 3rd Infantry Division will continue to be in good hands, as I will pass the colors, to Maj. Gen. Antonio A. Aguto Jr, the incoming commanding general, and new Marne 6. I want to thank the Society for the 3rd Infantry Division for your unwavering support of the Soldiers and Families of the Marne Division. Specifically, I would like to especially thank the Society for in hosting the annual 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers’ Ball, what an amazing event! It has been an honor to serve alongside every one of you, and I proudly say that I will always be a Dogface Soldier.

As always, I ask you to remember all of our Dogface Soldiers from the Marne Division who are currently deployed and those who are about to deploy, and the incredible sacrifices they and their Families make in defense of our freedom. Finally, I ask that we all continue to honor the memory of our fallen Dogface Soldiers and Gold Star Families, who have secured our freedoms through selfless service.

Rock of the Marne!
Leopoldo A. Quintas, Jr.,
Major General, U.S. Army, Commanding
A Tribute To Our Gold Star Families

Submitted By
Carolyn Thornton
to
“The Father I Never Knew”

After just covering the Distinguished Service Cross ceremony in Pittsburgh for the Sgt. Stevon Booker family who lost their son on April 5, 2003 in Iraq, I am always touched when meeting Gold Star families. Although I don’t really know that many families, but I felt compelled to submit this story of someone I know, and in 2015 myself and two WWII veterans paid homage to the father of Carolyn Thornton who was killed in the aftermath of “The Battle Of The Bulge.” We found the gravesite of Isaac Briggs in the American Cemetery in Luxembourg, the father Carolyn never knew, and posed for a photo at his tombstone which is one of the 5,000 or so that lie in rest in this beautiful forested cemetery. When I visit other American Overseas Cemeteries, I always reflect that all these thousands of crosses have unfortunately made “Gold Star” families for their loved ones. So here is Gold Star daughter Carolyn Thornton’s story of the father she never knew.

I want to introduce you to my mother and through telling her story, I want you to learn what life was like during World War II when the love of your life was “over there.” Her name was Mary Elizabeth Lee who married Isaac Daniel Briggs, so one of my names all my younger life was “Mary Briggs’s daughter!” Just a little bit about her younger years will set the stage for the telling of the war years. At 15, Mama (Mary) quit school and started providing for the family by working at a chicken processing plant. She did well and made many friends, most of whom were older than she was. To advance her position with the company, she started working in St. Louis at the company’s chicken plant there. This was seasonal work, but quite good work for a young girl during the Great Depression.

While back in Clinton, she met Ikey (Isaac) who soon became the love of her life. (I’m fortunate enough to have some of the letters written during this time before they were married and he stayed in Clinton and she was working in St. Louis.) The story of their wedding day is worth the telling too. He was supposed to get the marriage license and come pick her up in Warrensburg (30 miles north of Clinton) so they could get married that night. But Ikey wasn’t drafted till 1944.

Now for the letters. Mama kept all of my father’s letters and many of hers to him plus others from other family members. I suppose he brought her letters home when he was on furlough so she could save them. In one of his letters he told her he only wrote on the front side so she could save them and make a journal. Well, 70 years later the letters are finally indexed, organized and in a journal. Here they are in these three binders. They begin with his first letter on Feb 17, 1944 from Jefferson Barracks, MO and end with his final letter on March 14, 1945 “somewhere in Germany.” That was the day he was shot and killed by a sniper near the city of Koblenz in Germany. Actually there are 20 letters that she continued to write to him before she received word of his death or believed the telegram to be true.

As I read through the 200 plus letters, I felt like I got to know my father so much better. She often had problems with her car. Sometimes she would have her brother-in-law help with the repairs. In those days it was common practice to keep your car going by making your own repairs. One time she mentioned “War Dads” who might have helped her with her car problems. I guess that was a group of fathers of soldiers who volunteered to help the young wives when they had problems.
During basic training and advanced training in the United States, wives would join their husbands and rent a room in a town near to the base. Ikey was first in Camp Croft, SC. Many of the letters had anxious words about Mama coming to see him. And should she bring Jackie or not. It finally worked out with the money and the availability of the room, and she went to South Carolina after April 17. This was two months after he had left home. My father was 29 years old, which made him at least ten years older than many of the recruits. Several times he wrote of sergeants leaving him in charge for short times, probably because of his maturity.

After basic training in South Carolina, he was sent to Camp McCoy, WI. Then in November of 1944, Issac was on a train to the East coast. He was with the 76th Infantry Division stationed in Camp Miles Standish and shipped out from Boston on Thanksgiving Day of November 24, 1944 on the ship “Brazil” then arriving in England on December 4th of 1944, just weeks before “The Battle Of The Bulge” broke out in Belgium and Luxembourg. Then crossing the English Channel on January 10, of 1945, Isaac entered combat on January 22, 1945.

As his division moved through France, Luxembourg, and Germany, he wrote about mud, finding honey and making candles from the beeswax, frying potatoes he had found in a basement, making soup from chicken giblets he had rescued from kp duty, and on March 14, writing from a desk and sipping wine. That was the day he was killed.

Mama didn’t get the telegram for two weeks and in the meantime, she received a poem that he had written for her for her birthday in February. The hardest letters for me to read were the ones that she had written after March 14 and were returned to her marked “deceased.” Knowing what she didn’t know…that he would never read the letters. I was born that July. His body was never brought back to the US. He is buried in the Luxembourg American Cemetery in Luxembourg City, Luxembourg. Mama never remarried. She raised my sister and me on her own with a widow’s pension and made sure we both graduated from college on a War Orphan’s benefit.

In 1991 my sister, mother and I went to Luxembourg to visit his grave. It is a beautiful cemetery that also contains the grave of General George Patton. It brought us closure which we needed. She remained active into her 70s, being an avid bowler even with crippling arthritis. She died June 3, 2000 while at a bowling tournament in Reno, NV. That is when I inherited these WWII letters and it took me 16 years to uncover the family treasure they are!

In 2008 the Truman Library in Independence, MO, exhibited Associated Press photographs from World War II, some of them never before published. My husband and I went to see the exhibit since my husband is very interested in World War II history. It was an amazing display of photographs from the war enlarged to 3 x 5 feet graphic depictions of the war arranged in chronological order. As we made our way through the pictures, Terry stopped and nudged me on the elbow to look at the photo he was standing in front of. The caption read, “Koblenz, March 1945 An American soldier, shot dead by a German sniper, clutches his rifle and hand grenade.” You can imagine how shocked we were. We know there is no way to confirm this is a picture of my father or not, but it again brought some closure. Another treasure like the letters.

Perhaps you have a similar family treasure at your house. It’s time you organize them for your posterity.
Robert Maxwell, oldest living MOH Recipient and longtime Society member, passes away

Monica Stoy reported that she received a phone call from Robert Maxwell’s Daughter that he had passed away on May 11, 2019. He was 98 years old.

Maxwell served in the Army during World War II as a communications technician and was seriously wounded in France when he threw himself on a grenade to save the lives of his nearby comrades. He was one of two living MOH awardees that were Dogface Soldiers.

... he threw himself on a grenade to save the lives of his nearby comrades.

Funeral services and burial information will be posted on the Society website and Facebook once they become available.

Submitted by Toby Knight, Society President

Robert Maxwell, MOH

Last Call

The following personnel were identified as deceased. 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 Roster Manager Frank Ugolini. Contact information is on page 2 of the Watch.

3396 1LT Harry E. Jones, Korea, 39FA/C&HQ, DOD 2019-04-07, Reported by Funeral Home

3338 CPL John, Jackson, Korea, 58th Armor BN/B, 65RCT, DOD 2019-04-28, Reported by Daughter

New Members — Society of the 3rd Infantry Division

Listed below are all new members who enrolled during since the last issue of The Watch-on-The-Rhine.

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<th>Membership type</th>
<th>ID</th>
<th>First Name</th>
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We are proud to announce that work has begun on a new book to document the history of the “Rock of the Marne” and the men and women who have made this one of the most elite fighting forces in the world.

In addition to the Division’s colorful history, this exciting book will feature a special section showcasing biographies of 3rd Infantry Division veterans, with “then and now” photographs, and YOU are invited to participate. There will be no cost to have your 150-word bio included!

Our book will feature veterans from all eras, from WWI, WWII, Korea, the Cold War years, Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Global War on Terror. Note: all 3rd Infantry Division veterans are encouraged to participate, even those who were active in peacetime — all served with honor and distinction.

Widows, friends and family members are also encouraged to send in biographical portraits and materials for their loved ones now passed on—a perfect tribute to your veteran’s service to our nation. Gold Star Families will also be included.

The book will also include special after action reports, stories and photographs from the membership, tributes to our fallen brothers, and much more!

Members are also encouraged to order a copy of this one-of-a-kind book through the publisher for $59.95 (see contact information below). The deadline for biography submissions and book orders is June 30, 2019.

Detailed brochures with a sample biography and easy fill-in-the-blank form are available through the publisher. Contact Acclaim Press at:

WWW.ACCLAIMPRESS.COM • 1-877-427-2665
3RDINFANTRYBOOK@ACCLAIMPRESS.COM
Acclaim Press • PO Box 238 • Morley, MO 63767

SAMPLE BIOGRAPHY - Follow this sample in writing your own bio. Send with two photos (then and now) to Acclaim Press, and be part of OUR book!

MIKE (MCGEER) MCINTOCK served with the Division in W. Germany from June 1961 until mid-January 1964, following in the footsteps of his father, who served in the 3rd ID’s 9th Field Artillery Regt at Ft. Lewis prior to WWII.

Assigned to D Company, 2nd Battle Group, 38th Infantry Regiment at Ledward Barracks in Schweinfurt, Mike served as a rifleman, was trained to drive the M-113 armored personnel carrier (APC), and fired the M60 machine gun on the Battle Group’s marksmanship detachment in preparation for NATO’s Prix LeClerc marksmanship competition. Mike volunteered for duty with the 3rd ID Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) Detachment billeted at Daley Barracks in Bad Kissingen. He joined the “lurps” in March 1962 and never regretted his decision.

Although not on TDY status, all of the men of the 3rd ID LRRP Detachment were volunteers, but still remained assigned to their TO&E units. Mike was assigned to his original unit (D/2/38) until he was reassigned to C Company, 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment in 1963. At the tender age of 19, Mike was promoted to SGT (E-5) and became a patrol leader. In mid-January 1964, he rotated home to San Diego, CA, where he served for a short time as a radio operator on a B Team with the Army Reserve’s 17th Special Forces Group (Abn) stationed at Fort Roscrans. He is a graduate of the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare School’s Special Forces Extension Course.

Mike has been married for over 50 years and resides in Mount Vernon, WA with his wife Gloria. He has three children and four grandchildren.

Over his long and varied career, he has worked as a city planner, airport planner, community college instructor, and Forest Ranger/Forest Protection Officer. He is proud of his service with the 3rd Infantry Division and contributes occasional articles to the Watch on the Rhine. He has also served as the editor of the U.S. Army Ranger Association’s (USARA) Ranger Register, and is the Unit Director for the 3rd ID LRRP Detachment within the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc.
battalion's professionalism and training shown through during the march up to Baghdad.

Now came orders to make a bold attack into Baghdad-proper to test the defenses. The tankers of 1-64 had always been given the idea that they would do the fighting up to the Iraq capital but others would take over once the city was reached. City fighting was not for tanks, so went the doctrine. At the least, they need support from infantry due to the close-in fighting, and the fact that the enemy can usually work their way around the tanks and get flank and rear shots without much effort. This was not going to be the case for 1-64 today. Today would be a thunder run attack, and today the battalion would make history.

FULL BATTLE RATTLE

1-64 AR was actually a task force, meaning the battalion was a mixed force that traded a company of its tanks for an infantry company from another battalion. For the invasion, the task force was also supplemented by other teams - an engineer platoon, field artillery forward observers, an ANGLICO team from the Marines, and an ALO team from the Air Force. This gave the tank battalion, during wartime, a true combined arms element that could deal with scenarios that a pure tank battalion could not handle on its own. But typically, in garrison, the tank battalion would not often train with “Crunchies.” However, during the training in Kuwait from mid-2002 up until crossing the border on March 20, 2003, the battalion was able to train with the attached units and become a true combined arms team – a task force. Task Force 1-64 AR.

To start the war, besides the cross-attached units, the battalion had two companies of tanks and one company of Bradleys. Each company was made up of three platoons of tanks or Bradleys. Platoons consisted of four vehicles led by a 1st Lt and a platoon sergeant, usually a Sgt First Class. The company had two more tanks as the headquarters element, consisting of the company commander’s tank – a captain, and the executive officer’s tank (XO) – a lieutenant. The battalion then had its own HQ element, made up of the battalion commander’s tank – the Lt. Colonel, and his XO’s vehicle - a major. The battalion XO did not have a tank. It was more efficient for him to be in an M113 APC in order to track operations. In addition, the battalion had other M113s for mechanics, the ANGLICO’s, the ALO team, and ambulances, called Band-aids. Each of the three companies of the battalion had a BFIST team in a Bradley variant, which in effect was a forward observer team for the field artillery. M88 recovery vehicles, Humvees, and M577s filled out the vehicle complements of the battalion.

TF 1-64 had an advantage to other battalions in the 3rd ID in that it was one of the earliest battalions to arrive in Kuwait in 2002 for Operation Desert Spring. Such a deployment does not allow for the comings and goings of personnel like state-side training. In effect, the battalion was on lockdown. Thus, all of the intense training that occurred in Kuwait had a direct effect on the combat results of OIF. Gunnery ranges at typical US bases have limitations on what is considered safe shooting conditions. For the M1A1 Abrams 120mm main gun that is about 2,500 – 3,000 meters. In Kuwait, the crews were able to train with service rounds which have an effective range of 3,500 meters, but engagement ranges can exceed 4,000 meters. Also, at home-base ranges there is limited turret traverse allowed. But in Kuwait there were no such restrictions. So, crews had a much better understanding of their own capabilities and the lethality of their vehicles, due to the realistic training they underwent.

But shooting the “Silver Bullets” was not the only part of training. It was much more complicated. Training an armored battalion is a progressive process. First the platoons shoot gunnery, then the companies, then the battalion as a whole. By the end of training in Kuwait the whole brigade worked together, and the commanders were quite comfortable with the working elements. Then there were the cross-attached units. Charlie Rock was the cross-attached Bradley company led by Cpt. Larry Burris. His company was part of the task force even before 1-64 left for Kuwait, so there was plenty of comfort already with how they would partner with the battalion. Other joint plug-ins were
somewhat different, though. They were task organized as the war approached and therefore the teams had to spin up the training somewhat more intensely to solidify the team. The Air Force ALO team was a good example. The Air Liaison Officer team consisted of four air force personnel that would assist the task force with air support, led by an A-10 pilot. The team would be able to call on Air Force assets that would be on station over the battlefield. Due to well-known fratricide events in Desert Storm in 1991, and as recent as operations in Afghanistan when it came to ‘smart bombs,’ the 1-64 commander, LTC Rick Schwartz knew there would have to be a focus on getting on the same page with the ALO team in order to take advantage of their force multiplier effects. As a result of that focus, the ALO team was ready to prove themselves when they crossed the line of departure on March 20.

**ROCK N’ ROLL**

Not long after the war started, vehicle issues started to crop up. This was not unexpected. Armored vehicles have a lot that can go wrong with them, and so maintenance is an important part of protocol for an armored crewman. But the crew can only be expected to know and handle so much. This is where the M-88 recovery vehicles come in. One is assigned to each company along with an M113 that carries mechanic personnel and equipment. They would play a vital role in keeping the vehicles in running operation throughout the campaign. However, they were not without their own problems too.

One of the war’s strategies was to have the AFVs travel through the desert in southern Iraq while the wheeled vehicles stayed on the roads. This was in order to conserve fuel and was possible due to the Iraqi Army’s strategy to pull back towards Baghdad, and so there was very little Iraqi Army presence in the south. Task Force Heavy Metal, the AFVs, and Task Force Rock & Roll, the wheeled vehicles, consolidated at Objective Martin after completing the fastest and farthest armored move in history. But those M-88s were old, and this kind of operation taxed the vehicles and crews. Several M-88s broke down on that drive, and one crew got a little too concerned with abandoning their vehicle, so they threw thermite grenades into it and basically burned it to the ground. With hindsight, it was not the best decision to destroy the vehicle, as the crew would not really be leaving it to the enemy – there really were none in the south. And so an important maintenance vehicle was written off early in the war.

The two weeks leading up to the April 5 thunder run would cause a certain amount of attrition to the vehicles, especially the M1A1s. Division-wide, hard use commonly led to road wheel shear on the Abrams, where the hub bearing would overheat from lost lubrication of a leaky seal. The support arm for the roadwheel would then shear off, leaving the remaining part of the support arm to bounce around. Engines would fail too, along with transmissions, amongst other things. This left tanks scattered throughout the southern Iraq desert. It would be the mechanics who would perform beyond expectations 24 hours a day to keep the tanks and Bradleys going and units up to combat strength. And by April 5, after 600 km of hard use, the task force was more than ready to go.

**GO, GO, GO!**

Even though there was trepidation for the upcoming thunder run, soldiers within the task force were coming from everywhere to volunteer for the mission. Nobody wanted to be left out, and some had to be turned away. All of their training was coming to culmination on this day. 1-64 was consolidated at Objective Saints the morning of April 5. The night before, around 2200 they got the FRAG order for the raid. They were to go off at 0600. So, there was not a lot of time for planning. There was no plan for artillery prep since there was a goal to mitigate damage in the built-up environment of Baghdad. The idea was for an armed reconnaissance of the Baghdad defenses. There was no intent to seize territory; just to test the defenses, and create chaos amongst the enemy. There would be no support vehicles, only armored vehicles. The brigade found that the enemy was not afraid to try and consolidate power once an American attack was discovered, and it was unlikely soft-skinned support vehicles would survive a thunder run as planned. As a result of all of the hard work of the mechanics, 1-64 would be fully combat-capable. 60 vehicles would push forward, made up of 27 M1A1 Abrams’, 14 M2A2 Bradleys, three M7A2 BFIST Bradley Fire Support Team (BFIST) vehicles, 14 M113 A2s, and two M113 A3s. The column would even include the 2nd Brigade commander, Colonel David Perkins in an M113 with a Fox TV news crew. But there would be no M-577s, known as the ‘hightop,’ due to their similarity to the high top basketball shoe. They were considered an RPG magnet as they were so tall and large.

To some of the crews, it felt like a normal day. Due to the Iraqi propaganda, the local civilians had little idea the 3rd ID and USMC was anywhere near Baghdad. Civilians were attempting to go about their normal days and regular traffic was on the roads. As the LD was crossed only the civilians could be seen. But, as the enemy determined the column was coming to culmination on this day. 1-64 was consolidated at Objective Saints the morning of April 5. The night before, around 2200 they got the FRAG order for the raid. They were to go off at 0600. So, there was not a lot of time for planning. There was no plan for artillery prep since there was a goal to mitigate damage in the built-up environment of Baghdad. The idea was for an armed reconnaissance of the Baghdad defenses. There was no intent to seize territory; just to test the defenses, and create chaos amongst the enemy. There would be no support vehicles, only armored vehicles. The brigade found that the enemy was not afraid to try and consolidate power once an American attack was discovered, and it was unlikely soft-skinned support vehicles would survive a thunder run as planned. As a result of all of the hard work of the mechanics, 1-64 would be fully combat-capable. 60 vehicles would push forward, made up of 27 M1A1 Abrams’, 14 M2A2 Bradleys, three M7A2 BFIST Bradley Fire Support Team (BFIST) vehicles, 14 M113 A2s, and two M113 A3s. The column would even include the 2nd Brigade commander, Colonel David Perkins in an M113 with a Fox TV news crew. But there would be no M-577s, known as the ‘hightop,’ due to their similarity to the high top basketball shoe. They were considered an RPG magnet as they were so tall and large.

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**Purpose**

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

Specific objectives are:

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

**Pledge**

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

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

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

**General Information**

All members in good standing receive the official bimonthly publication, *The Watch on the Rhine*. Life Members shall receive *The Watch on 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 2021.

The Society is divided into chapters, called outposts, which members are entitled to join. Outposts, at their discretion, may charge a small additional fee beginning with the second year’s dues, making the total annual dues for Outpost #3: $23.00; Outpost #12: $24.00; Outposts #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.

**Eligibility**

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

**Associate Membership**: Spouse, parents, brother, sister, children, grandparents, grandchildren of any person eligible for Regular Membership and any person with an interest in, or an affinity for, the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division.

**Life Membership**: Available to both Regular and Associate Members.

**Dues**

**Annual dues**: Regular, Active Duty, Associate Members $20.00

**Annual dues**: Overseas Members $35.00

Some Outposts charge an additional fee beginning with the second year’s dues, making the total annual dues for Outpost #3: $23.00; Outpost #12: $24.00; Outposts #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 $100

**For any AD Soldier currently on Active Duty**

**Active Duty Lifetime Membership**: $100

**Will only receive digital copies of the “Watch on the Rhine” magazine via email**

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 visit our website: www.society3ridd.org

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**Membership Application**

**Date:** ________________

☐ New Regular Annual or Life Member (Circle Annual or Life)

☐ New Associate Annual or Life Member (Circle Annual or Life)

**Name**

(Last) ____________ (First) ____________ (Middle Initial) ____________

**Phone No** ____________ **E-Mail Address** ________________________

**Home Address**

(Street) ______________________ (City) ______________________ (State) ____________ (Zip+4) ____________

**Unit(s) Served with:** ______________________ **Served From** ____________ **To** ____________ **Rank:** ____________

**Current/Former Occupation** ______________________ **Spouse’s Name** ______________________

**Amount Enclosed:** ______________________ **Referred by** ______________________

Please print clearly, detach, and mail this application for membership along with a check or money order payable to Society of the Third Infantry Division to: The Society of Third Infantry Division, 12420 W Tower Ave, Airway Heights, WA 99001-5063.

**Website**: www.Society3ridd.org
CAMPAIGNS OF THE THIRD INFANTRY DIVISION

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

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

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

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

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

THIS ISSUE
DEPARTMENTS
President’s Message ..........................................................3
News From The Outposts......................................................10
From the Editor’s Desk ..................................................14
Letters to the Editor ...................................................16
Chaplain’s Corner ......................................................17
Scholarship Foundation News ..............................................18
Marne 6 Sends ...............................................................23
Last Call ........................................................................26
Roll Call .........................................................................26
3ID Membership Application ................................................30
Outpost Register ............................................................31

NEWS & NOTES
A Grateful Nation Honors A Fallen Hero ............................1
Thunder Run Into Bagdad ................................................1
OP International Commemorates Anniversary of
Berchtesgaden Liberation ..............................................1
Village of Rasteau Dedicates 3ID Plaque .........................7
Call for Awards Nominations .........................................9
100th Anniversary Reunion: Schedule & Activities ..........12
100th Anniversary Reunion: Registration ..................13
Proposed Constitution and Bylaws Changes ....................20
Nominations and Election Results .................................20
Official Mail-In Ballot ..................................................21
A Tribute To Our Gold Star Families ...............................24
Robert Maxwell, oldest living MOH Recipient and longtime
Society member, passes away ....................................26

Website: www.society3rdid.org

3rd Infantry Division – 100 Years of Service