The Battle of Monte Rotondo and the Audie Murphy Cave

By Toby Knight

From the air, and when looking on a map, Soldiers of the 3rd ID in WWII could easily see that the Mignano Gap was straddled by high mountainous precipices that cradled the main Highway into Rome, Highway 6. Curiously, the plains in between the mountains hosted two smaller, yet formidable, “hills”: Monte Lungo and Monte Rotondo. Monte Lungo was not as high, but was long and presented barren hills. Monte Rotondo on the other hand was round and almost perfect in its construction. Its sides were steep, barren of any vegetation and littered with rocks that made scaling it tricky and devoid of cover and concealment. An infantryman’s worst nightmare.

In chapter four of his book “To Hell and Back”, Audie Murphy describes the scene eloquently. “MIGNANO lies in a broad valley through which runs an important railroad and the famed arterial highway Six. North of the town, steep brushed covered Mount Lungo splits the flatslands like a spur. On the eastern side of the valley is oval shaped Mount Rotondo. At its base is a rocky elevation, known on the military maps simply as hill 193….Our strategy is to by-pass Mignano and strike directly against the mountains protecting the city (Rome). The terrain over which we advance is a nightmare for offensive troops. The narrow trails, frequently on the edge of sheer cliffs and deep gorges, are so treacherous that

The First Wave

Part One

By Alex Kershaw

Editor’s Note: Mr. Alex Kershaw was our guest speaker at our 102nd Anniversary Soldier’s Ball in Jekyll Island, Georgia last year. He is currently writing a book about the 3rd Infantry Division in WWII and was invited by our Commanding General to attend and speak at our 100th Anniversary of our Society and the Soldier’s Ball. Alex is an honorary colonel in the 116th Infantry Regiment of the 29th Infantry Division that stormed the beaches at Vierville-sur-Mer at Omaha Beach on D-Day in Normandy. So I felt it appropriate that Alex share a summary of his latest book “The First Wave” that was decimated this coming June 6 seventy six years ago at Vierville-sur-Mer in Normandy. If you remember in the graphic thirty minute opening scene from the movie “Saving Private Ryan” – that scene depicted the first wave also at Vierville-sur-Mer. Alex Kershaw is the widely acclaimed and award winning author of several New York Times best selling books about WWII, including “The Bedford Boys” and “The First Wave” which is the subject of this article. Alex is a graduate of University College, Oxford and worked as a journalist for the Guardian and other newspapers before moving to the US in 1994 and residing in Savannah, Georgia. Alex leads battlefield tours and lectures on WWII. His 2012 book, The Liberator, is being made into a movie...
In April, a special ballot was sent to the membership to vote on eliminating the term limits set on the Society Presidency in the C&BL's. The vote was overwhelmingly in favor and the measure passed with a 2/3rds majority vote by the membership who voted.

Nominations for Society President and the three regional Vice-Presidents were open until April 30, 2020. Only one eligible nomination was received for the WR and ER position so the nominees are automatically elected IAW our C&BL’s. The CR Nomination will be filled by appointment. Since the term limit for the Society President was removed from the C&BL’s by membership vote, I was eligible and nominated to continue on as your President. In accordance with the C&BL’s Section V, para 5.3b, “If there is only one nominee for an office, no ballot will be published for member vote.” I am very proud to serve and I will continue to serve for the next two years. I am proud and honored to have such enormous support by the membership and I will continue to work hard to strengthen our Society and our membership. Thank you!

In this edition you will also find the ballot to vote on the Executive Committee Actions. There were no proposed Constitution and Bylaws Changes this year. PLEASE VOTE! This is your time to exercise your duty as a member of this organization and we need your input.

As you all know, June 6th marks the 76th Anniversary of the landings in Normandy, France and the eventual liberation of Europe. This June also marks the 70th Anniversary of the start of the Korean War. We salute all of our WWII and Korean War Dogface Soldiers as we remember their sacrifice and heroism in keeping us free. Thank you!

The Executive Committee voted to cancel the 2020 reunion in Kansas City, due to the COVID-19 pandemic that has infested our nation. Reunion Brat will refund your money. If you have any questions, please contact the Reunion Brat at 360-663-2521.

Next year’s reunion will be in conjunction with the Soldiers Ball in May of 2021. The location will be either in Savannah or Hinesville, GA. More on the details will be published in the coming months.

Don’t forget to nominate someone you believe deserves 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 were mailed out in April. 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.

Lastly, please keep safe during this pandemic. Our world rarely experiences anything like this and prudent decisions need to be made to keep yourself and your family healthy.

I serve as your humble and proud President.

ROTM!

Toby Knight

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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

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

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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
pack mules often lose their footing and tumble to their death….The Germans, holed-up among the rocks are difficult to locate until we are upon them. The ground is slippery with mud; and visibility is cut drastically by heavy autumn mist that lies over the land.”

Audie’s combat senses were honed to perfection by the time he entered the fight in the Mignano Gap. He knew the German tactics, their training, their equipment and their viciousness. He was not about to take this fight lightly. He utilized his senses to develop tactics that used the terrain, weather and knowledge of his men’s capabilities to fight and survive on the battlefield. Although young in years, he was advanced in his experience. His battlefield prowess and acumen saved many lives.

The division WWII history book describes what the 15th regiment, and its battalions, did to attack the German positions on Monte Rotondo. “The 15th Regiment, meantime, had pressed its attack strongly but without success. Every attempt to seize the southern slope of Mount Rotondo and Mount Lungo met with bitter, determined resistance. At 0845, November 8, a coordinated attack, by the 15th and 30th Infantry Regiments, was launched after a 15 minute preparation, fired by eight battalions of artillery. The 1st BN, 15th Reg, advanced around the southwest side of Monte Rotondo to seize hill 193, which occupies the center of the horseshoe curve in Highway 6. The 3rd BN fought its way to and captured hill 253, which is the southern nose of Monte Lungo. The 2nd BN fought up the southern slope of Monte Rotondo.”

Murphy and his men found themselves advancing up Monte Rotondo precariously close to the German line. So close, that he can hear German Soldiers’ boots hitting the ground and the growl of their Sergeant. He immediately opens fire and realizes his position is compromised. He gets his men to scamper up a small road where they, miraculously, discover an old rock quarry with a cave inside of it. The Quarry and Cave are equidistantly located between two small hills on Monte Rotondo, one occupied by American Troops and the other by German troops. They are caught in a crossfire of small arms and mortar fire. They are trapped.

Thankfully the quarry/cave offered excellent cover and con-
Mist covers where the 15th regiment attacked

The view of Hwy. 6 and the railroad from atop Monte Rotondo

celment, albeit in a precarious place. Murphy and his men hunkered down for the night. The next morning a German patrol is dispatched to clear out the area of the quarry/cave. Murphy, being the excellent battle tactician he has become, had established a machine gun position at the top of the quarry and implemented a night guard rotation among his men. In the early morning hours the next day, a German patrol was moving slowly up the road directly in front of the rock quarry/cave. The seven man German patrol knows that Americans are in the area and their leader is both cautious and nervous as they advance. On the machine gun position, Murphy has placed one of his best men, SGT Swope. When the Germans are in range of the machine gun, Swope opens fire with a 20 round burst. Once done, the rest of Murphy’s men open fire to finish off the rest of the Germans. They didn’t want to use too much of their ammunition because they didn’t know when they would be resupplied.

Four Germans survive the firefight. Murphy orders them to be moved into the cave for medical attention and apprehension. He obediently adheres to the Geneva Convention concerning wounded Soldiers. Because they had few medical supplies, there was little they could do. Throughout the night the Germans fell into and out of consciousness and agony. The pain of their wounds ripping apart their bodies and souls. All that Murphy and his troops could do was offer them water and cigarettes. Eventually, all four German Soldiers succumbed to their wounds by the next morning. Murphy was unable to move them due to their position in between the lines and the crossfire that was relentlessly raining hell down on them. Audie and his men were pinned down there for three days, until Monte Rotondo was completely taken by 3rd ID troops.

Being trapped in a crossfire is a dangerous situation and when compounded by safe-guarding wounded enemy troops, one has to question how you would survive. The front lines were blurred, confusion among the troops on the ground was rampant and communication was almost non-existent. In war, this is a recipe for disaster. Somehow, through Audie’s brilliant leadership, he, and his men, made it through this situation. All of the elements of superior fighting Dogface Soldiers were exemplified by Audie’s actions on Monte Rotondo and the cave he used.

After the battle, the quarry/cave fell into oblivion. The heroic actions and the heroic men who used it to save their lives fell into the abyss. Until Society member Luigi Settini decided to find its location. After reading Audie’s book, researching numerous reports, maps and interviewing local Italians in the area, he was able to locate the exact quarry/cave Audie used in WWII. It was left untouched since the battle.

Today, it is marked on Google Maps and you can visit it, and other locations, thanks to the work of Outpost 16 in Southern Italy. They have developed a route in which you can follow the different locations that the 3rd ID fought in the Mignano Gap area. Each point is marked with a sign that informs the visitor of the significance of the area and the details of the battles. The research and work it took to develop this trail is amazing.

Next issue I will detail the heroic actions of Floyd Lindstrom and the battle for Monte Cessima.
Dear Members:

The deadline for our 2020 Scholarship Grants Program is fast approaching. It is time for applicants to begin preparing their applications for one of our Scholarship Grants. Applications for grants are being accepted at this time. The application and instructions for submission can be found on our website (http://www.3idscholarshipfoundation.org) or you can contact Foundation Chair Lynn Ball (ldball1@msn.com). Please send your applications as soon as possible. All submissions for the 2020 Scholarship Grants Program must be received by June 1, 2020. Please be sure to have your entry packets mailed by the deadline, as late entries will not be accepted.

Each applicant must have a sponsor who served with the 3rd Infantry Division or one of its support groups. There is no waiting period, but each sponsor must be a member of the Society with dues current. If the sponsor is deceased, contact Lynn Ball for instructions (972-495-1704).

This year’s judges are Trustees Jeff Danby, Richard Faulkner, Jim Reeves, and Justin Valle. The chair is Lynn Ball, with Justin Valle as webmaster, and Joe Ball as the C.F.O. Tom Maines is Trustee Emeritus. We thank all the trustees, past and present for their efforts toward the success of the foundation.

The sole mission of the Scholarship Foundation is to serve the soldiers, spouses and offspring of the brave soldiers who have served in the 3rd Infantry Division or supporting units. The Foundation provides financial support in the form of cash grants to applicants’ schools of higher education. Grants can be used for tuition, books, or other academic purposes. The cost of a higher education has increased in recent years to the point that financial help is needed and welcomed.

The officers of the Foundation are currently planning the 2020 Scholarship Grants Program. We thank all of our donors, and we recognize them on our website at http://www.3idscholarshipfoundation.org, under Donors. We especially thank those who have provided $1,000 grants for 2020. They are General William G. Webster, The Foundation, Joe Ball, and Terrence A. Smith. We hope to receive more donations to fund even more grants. We hope to receive more sponsored grants to fund our 2020 program and beyond.

Planning will soon begin for our 2021 fundraising raffle. The drawing will be held on July 15, 2021, and prizes will be sent to winners soon after. We have started receiving donations for the 2021 raffle, including several DVDs, two quilts, and two weapons: a 1911A pistol and a beautiful Korean Conflict M-1 Rifle, donated by Thomas Maines.

The two weapons are fully operational (semi-automatic) and have not been fired outside of original factory testing. Both have hard cases and the M-1 comes complete with a wood and glass display case.

Remember, all prizes for the raffle are donated by our members, and we send tax certification letters for all donated prizes. We hope to receive more donations for prizes soon. A full list of donated prizes will be sent to all Society members, and will also be published in the December 2021 issue of the Watch on the Rhine.

Thank you to all who have sent donations to the Foundation.

Now Hear This!

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

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Levels of Giving
Platinum Star, $50,000–$99,999; Gold Star, $10,000–$49,999; Silver Star, $5,000–$9,999;
Platinum, $1000–$4,999; Gold, $500–$999; Silver, $100–$499; Bronze, $1–$99.
Blind Rehab Recreation Therapy is on the Move!

Most VA Blind Centers across the Nation, (13 of them) employ a Recreation Therapist as part of the Rehab Program. The Recreation Therapist helps to enhance the lives of Veterans and accelerates their rehabilitation process through sports, recreation and physical activity. Recreation therapists weave the concept of healthy living into treatment to improve functioning and enhance independence and successful involvement in all aspects of life.

Air Force Veteran Hiram French first attended Major Charles Robert Soltes Jr., O.D. Blind Rehabilitation Center (BRC) in 2012 to learn more about white cane techniques, a very useful and handy skill for orientation and mobility that enabled him to continue volunteerism within his neighborhood at the renowned ‘SeaWorld’ in San Diego. Despite his declining sight, he was determined to pursue his passion as an educator and his comprehensive program at the BRC helped achieve his goal.

To this day, Hiram leads tour groups and loves sharing his knowledge about marine mammals and their habitats. In collaboration with BRC Recreation Therapists, he invites his fellow blind Veterans to participate in a hands-on, real-world exploration of environmental conservation at the park. He treats the group with an immersive behind-the-scenes tour and offers up-close animal encounters. Blind Veterans enjoy a multi-sensory experience such as interacting with sea life in the touch pools, meeting animals in rehab, and listening to educational narratives from other staff members.

Looking for buddies from 10th Engineer BN Co. E.

Carl Felton is trying to locate as many of his buddies from the 10th Eng. Co. E. who served from Feb. 1960 to Dec. 1961 in Kitzingen, Germany. Please contact him at:

Carl Felton
Lrac@wowway.com
614-278-9221

Reunion Calendar: 2020

NOTE: Some people are submitting reunion notices barely a few days or weeks before the actual gatherings. Please allow at least four months—six or more is better—if you want your reunion notices printed in more than one issue and in enough time to give potential attendees adequate notice to make plans to be there. The Watch-on-the-Rhine is not responsible for the content of reunion notices.

APRIL

Outpost International Society of the 3rd Inf. Div., Korean War Historical Seminar, Apr. 16-18, American Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst Ave., Spring Valley. Reserve and Memorial Amphitheater, Arlington National Cemetery. Monika or Tim Stoy, timmoni15@yahoo.com

JUNE

Korean War Veterans Assn., 22-26 June, Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel, 900 South Orme St., Arlington, VA 22204, 703-521-1900. A. J. Key, alveskey@sbcglobal.net

OCTOBER


Watch Requirements Schedule

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drama series to be aired into a drama series to be aired by Netflix this year. I therefore asked Alex if I would contribute this summary of his latest book “The First Wave” about the tragic deaths of “The Bedford Boys” who died at the invasion at Vierville-sur-Mer on D-Day.

6 June 1944, 12.30am: The British troopship Empire Javelin steamed steadily across the Channel. Among her passengers were 34 young men from the small Virginia town of Bedford. They belonged to the 116th Infantry’s Company A, a select 200-man unit. After 18 months of arduous training, Company A had been chosen from among the 15,000 GIs in the Army of the United States 29th Division to spearhead the most critical US assault of the entire war.

Bedford boy Lieutenant Ray Nance, 28, managed to get a few hours’ sleep. He awoke at 2am, dressed in full combat gear. He had not even removed his boots. Nearby were five fellow officers from Company A. By lunchtime, three of them would be dead.

In the noncommissioned men’s berths, a few dozed fitfully. Most sat in silence, alone with their thoughts. Other Bedford boys lay in bunks writing last-minute letters home. Nance knew that some would not live to write another. He felt responsible for them all. He had grown up with these men, trained them to be first-class soldiers, censored their love letters to girls he knew back in Bedford. The men under his command were family.

As Nance was getting up, 21-year-old British Sub-Lieutenant Jimmy Green was being woken by an orderly and told that his flotilla commander wanted to see him urgently. Green was second-in-command of the flotilla, but in full command of the first wave of boats that would land Company A in France. Green’s commander told him the boats would have to leave earlier than planned because weather conditions in the English Channel were so bad. Green grabbed a cup of tea and a ‘bite to eat’ and then drew his weapons from the Empire Javelin’s store. He had no illusions about what lay ahead. There would be heavy casualties. In his last shore briefing, he’d been told to expect to lose a third of his men and his boats. After breakfast, Ray Nance gathered his kit and climbed up a gangway. A heavy canvas curtain stopped light seeping on to the deck from below. Nance stepped through and into pitch blackness. He went to the rail and looked out at the dark waters, swelling ominously. Suddenly, he noticed Captain Fellers at his side. Fellers had, like Nance, grown up on a farm outside Bedford. The two were cousins. Twenty-nine-year-old Fellers was tall and thin, with a prominent chin and rolling gait. He was suffering badly from a sinus infection and looked tired and concerned.

Before embarking for France, Fellers had confided in Nance, telling him that very few would come back from France alive. Fellers had studied the Allied intelligence and countless aerial shots and concluded that Company A was being sent to face certain slaughter.

Fellers and Nance both looked out to sea. ‘We stood there awhile,’ recalls Nance. ‘We didn’t say a word, not a single word to each other. I guess we’d said it all.’

An anti-aircraft gun broke the silence, tracer bullets spitting through the sky, and then a searchlight caught the blaze of an exploding plane. ‘That brought it home to me,’ remembers Nance. ‘This thing is real. It’s not an exercise. A loudspeaker called the British naval crew to its stations. The troops knew they would be next. ‘Now, hear this! All assault troops report to your debarkation areas.’ As 34 Bedford boys emerged from below into the cold darkness, Nance touched every one of them lightly on the arm. ‘It was a gesture, a goodbye,’ he says 60 years later. ‘They were the best men I have ever seen in my life.’ The men included husbands, three sets of brothers, pool-hall hustlers, a couple of highly successful Lotharios, a minor-league baseball player destined for great things, and several Bible-reading, quiet young men who desperately missed their mothers and dreamed of home cooking. The Bedford boys checked weapons and kit, exchanged scribbled home addresses ‘just in case’, wished each other good luck, and tried to bolster others who suddenly looked terrified. ‘This is it, men,’ a loudspeaker blared. ‘Pick it up and put it on, you’ve got a one-way ticket and this is the end of the line.’

None of the Bedford boys had intended to see combat. They had joined their local National Guard outfit, more akin to a social club than a military unit, for a ‘dollar a day’ and to play soldier with their brothers, cousins, and buddies. ‘We were one big family,’ recalls Sergeant Roy Stevens, 24-years-old at the time. ‘We’d dated each other’s sisters, gone to the same schools, played baseball together, sometimes using a golf ball we
The Bedford Boys spend one last time with wives and sweethearts

wrapped up. And we were so young!

Like most of the men in Company A, Stevens and his twin brother Ray, also in Company A, had grown up on a farm just outside Bedford, a tight-knit community of 3,000 whose English ancestors had settled the area in the 1700s.

In early 1941, 18 months after the outbreak of the Second World War, the Bedford boys realized they would soon be mobilized and sent abroad to defeat fascism if America decided to no longer remain neutral. By 7 December 1941, the Bedford boys were slogging through North Carolina mud and ice. Their destination was a tented camp at AP Hill in northern Virginia, from where they would take trucks back to Fort Meade, where they expected to be discharged and sent home early in the New Year. As the men trudged along with upturned collars, rubbing their hands together to keep warm and talking about getting out of the goddamned army, astonishing news came along the line. They gathered around radio sets. That morning, the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. Flights of torpedo-bombers and fighters had killed more than 2,500 American citizens and wounded another 1,000. Six of the US’s greatest battleships had been irreparably damaged or sunk. At Camp AP Hill, the Bedford boys reacted with a mixture of shock and anger. Roy Stevens, his brother Ray and fellow Bedford boy Bedford Hoback went to see a Gene Autry Western that was playing at a cinema in nearby South Hill. Another news flash on the bombing interrupted the movie. The men went to a local bar and started drinking, growing angrier with every sip. ‘I didn’t even know where Pearl Harbor was,’ says Roy Stevens, ‘but we had those beers and we got right mad. Man, we were so confident - we were going to whip them and still be home for Christmas.’ But as war soon waged across the globe, Stevens and his buddies’ hopes of a quick victory began to fade. By 26 September 1942, they were assembled on a docks in Manhattan, bound for Europe. For many of the men, their last sight of land was an emotional moment. Almost all of Company A’s 200 men were leaving America for the first time. They knew many would never return. ‘I feel scared,’ Ray told Roy, voicing many of the men’s feelings. ‘I have never felt scared like this before.’

Early on 4 October 1942, the Bedford boys shouldered their 100lb barrack bags and marched into an old British army base on Salisbury Plain. Their new home, said an officer, was called Tidworth Barracks. It dated back to Elizabethan times and had been used as a cavalry post. To most of the men it looked like a Dark Ages prison. Once they had moved into their new barracks, the Bedford boys began the longest training program any American infantrymen endured in the Second World War. It would last more than 20 months, from October 1942 to May 1944. The US chiefs of staff had not yet decided when to invade Europe and they were concerned about the American forces’ lack of combat experience and rigorous training. So they opted to turn the 29th into as strong an invasion force as possible. For seven days a week, broken once a month by a 48-hour pass, Company A was pushed to its physical limits. Fifty men from Bedford had arrived at Tidworth. Each week, that number fell as one man after another was weeded out or assigned to a different unit. In early May 1943, the 29th Division was ordered to vacate Tidworth and move to a new barracks near Ivybridge in Devon, 12 miles from Plymouth. The move was part of Operation Bolero, a long-range plan for transferring and then accommodating almost 2m American servicemen in Britain in the run-up to an invasion of Europe, which commanders had now set for the summer of 1944. The Bedford boys were soon marching across the moors and camping out in the most deplorable weather. But their stay in Devon was not all ‘yomp’ and hard slog. Many evenings, the Bedford boys strolled down winding lanes to nearby pubs where they shared news from home and drank ‘bitter’. The most popular attraction for the Bedford boys other than the local pub was the American Red Cross’s centre, a mansion that actually adjoined the 29th Division’s barracks and had once belonged to the great British general, Wellington. The stately home was now given over to entertaining the troops, and the Bedford boys attended weekly dances where, for the first time, many met English girls. Many of these women belonged to the Land Army, responsible for Britain’s wartime agricultural production. ‘There were some robust women in that army,’ says Lieutenant Ray Nance. ‘They’d pitch you over a fence if you stepped over the line.’ Delicate or robust, they had all endured three years of strict rationing and bombing, and a well-paid Brylcreemed Yank was the ideal wartime boyfriend. ‘We had chewing gum, smart uniforms, American cigarettes, and money,’ confirms Roy Stevens.

...to be continued
Constitution and Bylaws Changes/Additions

EXCOM Actions

June 2019 - May 2020

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. 7/2/2019. EXCOM voted to redistribute Outpost 2 boundaries to Outpost Marne Association.

EC Action 2. 01/13/2020. EXCOM approve granting life membership status to Society Audie Murphy Achievement Award recipients beginning in 2020.

C&BL CHANGES:

None

Society 100th Anniversary Challenge Coin

Buy your 100th Anniversary Society Challenge coin TODAY. 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.

Each coin is offered for $25 each and they come in their own custom “Marne” blue velvet jewelry box. These are truly amazing coins that will only be offered this year while supplies last. 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
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 an 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, 2020 to the address on the back of this page.

Voting Ballot

Proposed Constitution and By-Laws

NONE

Executive Committee Actions

EC Action 1. ☐ Approve ☐ Disapprove

EC Action 2. ☐ Approve ☐ Disapprove
Greetings to all Dogface Soldiers, Families and friends of the Marne Division! As everyone is well aware, COVID-19 brought significant changes and disruptions to our daily lives. However, thanks to your patience, diligence, and innovation, the 3rd Infantry Division continues to evolve and adapt in this challenging environment. I am continuously impressed by the incredible efforts of our Dogface Soldiers, Families, and community, as we continue to thrive despite the circumstances. Our Soldiers are conducting physical training, maintenance and gunnery in new and innovative ways that maintain our readiness while also keeping Soldiers safe and protected. Our Garrison and Hospital teammates transitioned to virtual services and other safe means in order to continue to help our communities and families with the support they need. Last, our families have taken all of this in stride with changes to child care, education and other areas, allowing our Soldiers to remain ready. Thanks to all of your incredible efforts, we remain ready to answer the Nation’s call at a moment’s notice. Not only here, but all over the world, Marne Soldiers remain deployed in support of our Nation, and also in support of the fight against COVID-19.

As COVID-19 came to the United States and Georgia, the Soldiers from 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, “Raiders,” stepped up and answered the call to help keep our communities safe. Raiders showed up at the PX and Commissary, manned fever clinics and operated drive-thru screening sites, living up to their motto of ‘Raiders First’. In addition to working diligently to keep us safe, the Raiders were one of the first units in the U.S. Army to return to training. Beginning last month, Battalions began gunnery rotations to prepare for future operations in defense of our Nation and Allies. The Raiders demonstrated their ability to effectively train in this challenging environment, as the Third Infantry Division hosted the Sergeant Major of the Army, SMA Michael Grinston and the XVIII Corps and FORSCOM Commanders, LTG Michael Kuralia and GEN Michael Garrett, respectively, so that they could observe the readiness of the Raider Brigade.

The 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, “Spartans” remain deployed to Europe supporting our NATO Allies. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Spartans adapted quickly to their change of mission, continued to train and build readiness in Europe in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve. The Spartans have continued to develop new ways to partner with our Allies and conduct training and exercises while keeping their Soldiers safe and ready.

The 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, “Falcons”, are also forward deployed in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve in Europe. Thanks to the efforts and readiness of the Falcon Brigade, 3rd CAB increased their flying hours during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Falcons have continued to train in this challenging environment, and have conducted additional medical and resupply operations in support of our NATO Allies. Like the Spartans, the Falcons have been working closely with our allied partners during their rotation, strengthening partnerships and maintaining readiness. Scheduled to redeploy to Hunter Army Airfield later this summer, the entire Marne Division and their families earnestly await the Falcon Brigade’s return to Hunter Army Airfield.

The 3rd Infantry Division Artillery, “Thunder”, and our 3rd Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, “Providers”, are also deploying Soldiers worldwide, and also in response to COVID-19 demands here in the United States.

Highlights include the 83rd CBRN Battalion, which built and trained six COVID-19 Response Teams to assist in protecting our Dogface Soldiers. The 63rd Expeditionary Signal Battalion deployed Soldiers to provide vital support to COVID-19 response operations throughout the United States. The 92nd Engineer Battalion is preparing to support summer training, and the 188th Infantry Brigade continues to train units that arrive to Fort Stewart for follow on operations around the world.

All across the Division and Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield, we remain focused and ready to respond and win, no matter what mission. In these trying times, I could not be more proud or honored of all of our Soldiers, Families, and Community for the strength and resiliency they have shown in the face of this immense challenge. Every day I am awed by the innovation and diligence to operate and maintain readiness. Don’t ever forget that we are all in this together.

We are all Dogface Soldiers!
Rock of the Marne!
Army Strong!

Major General Tony Aguto
Dogface Soldier

Military Humor

A crusty old Army General, veteran of WWII, Korea and Vietnam was being interviewed by a young female reporter after giving a speech to a group of veterans. The young reporter was impressed by the Officer and asked about his service record. The General responded, telling her about his years in combat, his peace-time deployments, the many years spent in foreign countries. The reporter thought for a moment and asked “Sir, if you don’t mind me asking, with all the years you were deployed, when was the last time you were intimate with a woman?” “That’d be 1955 ma’am.” “That’s incredible Sir, isn’t that a bit extreme?” The General looked at his watch and replied, “No ma’am, it’s only 2030 now”.

(Recalled from the speech given by LGEN Tom Kelly at our 1991 reunion. Rest in peace Sir.)
I hope that you are all being safe during this pandemic of Coronavirus COVID-19.

As you know by now that Governor Pritzker has extended the stay at home order and social distancing of 6 feet until end of May. So, we were not able to hold our May Outpost 1 meeting. The chances of having a September Outpost 1 Meeting is still up in the air. The August Watch on the Rhine will have more information on the possibility of having a September Outpost 1 Meeting.

The last issue of Watch on the Rhine had information on possible meeting sites for future Outpost 1 meetings. I would like for you to send your votes for future meeting sites as follows.

**IMPORTANT:** Please indicate date (month, day and year) and site of your choices for Fall and Spring.

You are to send your choice to either Richard Longfellow, dlongfel1776@gmail.com, 815-973-0201, 807 Washington Ave, Dixon, IL 61021 or John Spratt, jpspratt@gmail.com, 224-430-1174, 675 Seybrooke Lake, Crystal Lake, IL 60012 via email or phone or regular mail. Please vote as soon as you can after this Watch on the Rhine has been sent to you.

- Camp Grant Museum Restaurant in Rockford, IL at www.campgrantmuseum.org.
- September 15, 16 or 17, 2020
- May 18, 19 or 20, 2021
- The Russell Military Museum near Zion, IL. http://www.russellmilitarymuseum.com/ with a cost of $10.00
- September 15, 16 or 17, 2020
- May 18, 19 or 20, 2021
- Illinois Railroad Museum in Union Illinois www.irrm.org
- September 1, 2 or 3, 2020: The grounds and buildings are open & electric trains are running. Senior Admission $9.00
- Or May 18, 19 or 20, 2021: The grounds are open, buildings are not open, & trains are not running. Free Admission
- Or May 25, 26, or 27, 2021: The grounds and buildings are open & electric trains are running. Senior Admission $9.00

So stay safe in this pandemic

In this time on national panacea of the Coronavirus COVID-19, Outpost 1 will not be holding its Spring Meeting and depending on the situation may not be holding its September Fall Meeting.  

Richard Longfellow, Outpost 1 President
Reno/Tahoe, Mammoth mountain, and throughout the San Gabriel, and San Bernardino mountains. Our 75+ y.o. bicycle riders cruised the bike paths, where we enjoyed the Spring flowers, beaches, mountains, deserts, and beautiful weather. We enjoyed flying to Palm Springs, Julian, and the Joshua Tree National Monument. Some members enjoyed stage productions (“Mame”, “Arsenic & Old Lace,” and “The Diary of Ann Frank”), while others survived on hemodialysis, or lie in a hospital bed.

The Egyptian sunken city exhibit at the Ronald Reagan Library was outstanding! Some of us celebrated National Vietnam Veteran Day (March 30th) at the “Whoooligans Family Fun Day” festival at the Graystone Mansion (Beverly Hills, CA). Dennis Tiberi sent us a postcard from “The Punchbowl” cemetery, in Hawaii and wished all improved health. (Nick, Jamie, Patricia, Bianca, Vivian, Ron, Ella, and Chris), enjoyed the Santa Clarita Cowboy Festival, and the tour of the Planetarium. Passover and Easter were peaceful. We all looked forward to the military parades: a. the Armed Forces Day parade (in Torrance); b. The America on Main Street (San Diego County); and c. and The Mule Day Rodeo and Parade (in Bishop, CA).

The COVID-19 problems: Many public places, universities, and VA hospitals were described as “dead cities”, because so many public programs, school classes, and hospital clinics have been shut down, due to the spread of the coronavirus. Elizabeth Greco (VA Blind Rehab Clinic RTS), said that the LBVAMC has sent patients home for “self-isolation,” and the 10 remaining in-patients are not allowed to go to other parts of the hospital, or assemble in groups of over 20 people.

The March 28th National Veteran Winter Ski Clinic program was cancelled. The Summer Sports program (in San Diego), and the July 4, 2020 Independence Day celebration are still “on hold.” Elizabeth had received a small grant from: the Blind American Veteran’s Foundation, (727) 642-1776; <michael@michaeljerinigan>; from BAVF President Michael Jerinigan, to send five blind patients to the clinic in Snowmass, CO.

The SCI therapists have cancelled their dances, all off-station trips, and basic art, and computer classes for in-patients. CSU Riverside, UCI, Whittier College, and Cal State University Long Beach students joke that, because “no spectators” are allowed to watch scheduled school basketball games, you can hear the “squeaks of the sports shoes on the courts” again.

The International 2020 Olympic games (Tokyo) are scheduled to start on 24 July 2020. The Olympic Organizing Committee has not yet decided if the Olympic Games, or Paralympic Games, will go on as scheduled, or not. OP #22 members wish you, and your family, good health in 2020. Travis

Corrections due to Covid –19

The 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games dates have been postponed to July 23 to August 8, 2021) and Paralympic Games to August 24-31, 2021)

On The Lighter Side

I’m Going to Take This Little Sissy’s Car

When Audie Murphy was returning to Texas for Thanksgiving from California in 1946 while living with actor James Cagney, he not only contracted a serious case of the flu, but also was the victim of what appeared to be an attempted robbery of his car. It was very cold and he only had a light jacket while driving north from Dallas on Hwy. 75 towards McKinney.

It was raining hard when he noticed a large man about 6’2” and 190 pounds (he looks larger than that) limping along the highway. Playing the good Samaritan, Audie stopped and offered the bedraggled walker a ride. After driving a few miles, the man suddenly jammed something into his ribs, slapped Audie across the mouth and said “I’m the boss now, if you won’t talk, this .45 will and I can use this car.”

After driving a few miles further, the man ordered Audie to stop at a roadside gas station, took the keys to the car and ordered Audie to slide out of the car. The man’s left hand was hidden under a jacket the hitchhiker had been wearing and still jammed into Audie’s ribs. As Audie started to get out of the car he decided to make a play to grab the gun from the man. He grabbed the man’s hand and found out he was bluffing and had no gun and struck the man a blow that tumbled him from the car onto the gas station drive.

An eyewitness said a ten minute fistfight ensued with Audie in a dress suit and all got the better of this huge man and finally knocked him out. The State Police were called and by coincidence, Audie’s good friend Everett Brandon was the police officer who soon arrived on the scene. The bleeding and badly beaten assailant was arrested and according to the Fort Worth Star Telegram, was placed in the Collin County jail in McKinney.

Audie Murphy never backed down from any fight including his Medal of Honor heroics in France. If it were anyone but Audie Murphy, you can’t blame some for being skeptical about exploits from such a small person. This assailant misjudged his prey as being young, baby faced, young, and wearing a dress suit and would be an easy target. Little did he know that this diminutive little fella had just killed 240 Germans, one by one over thirty months. And this big man was lucky he was not #241 on Audie’s resume.
Reflections

By Jackie Postell (member of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division)

Part One

On certain soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division, their contributions and my affection toward the Military, and how what and when it occurred and how it all made my faith in God better because of their examples of service. I was introduced to Military things in the third grade here in Nashville, Tennessee in an elementary school. For some reason my 3rd grade class was moved to the school library. My desk was next to a shelf and one day I just pulled out a book which was about all of things, the United States Military Academy at West Point. It was a picture book that showed the cadets life there. I was enthralled with the life, uniforms, and what they did there at the “Point”. I started trying to learn all I could about the place and anything associated with the Military. I also was interested in the American West, the life of a cowboy.

I had no idea at that time God used both to get me interested in the history of the United States, character development, and to major in History when I went to College. Since I became a Christian in high school, I went to theological colleges graduating with a B.A. degree in 1976 in History from Belmont University here in Nashville, Tennessee. My minor was political science. During my school years, I have read a lot of military books about soldiers, the life and contributions and different branches. I still do so. Since 1963, I have seen seven Presidents, including Kennedy, Nixon, Reagan, Carter, Clinton, George W. Bush and Trump. Talking with Nixon five months before he resigned, I decided to enter a seminary after graduation instead of entering a career in government, law, or politics. That was a good decision and I have done church work for over 30 yrs. I really hoped to serve in the Army, but some bad knees prevented that. God has helped me become a part of three great official military groups. As mentioned when I could I went to military events off and on during different times to learn and get the feel of real military activities.

When I was in early high school, some channel showed the Movie “To Hell and Back” about Audie Murphy starring Audie Murphy. I have watched it many times since the 1960’s I also have a paperback of To Hell and Back as well. I have many books about him including “No Name on the Bullet” (taken from one of his movies) and a book about his movies “The Life and Career of Audie Murphy” by Sue Gossett. I have this book as well and I highly recommend it with lots of color pictures and a full explanation of both Audie Murphy and Alvin York, their lives, military exploits, battles and the Medals they won, and their life after WW1, and WW2.

In March 1971, I saw in the newspaper that Audie was coming to Nashville to help a charity, the Cerebral Palsy telethon. I took my copy of his book to get it autographed which would mean a great deal to me. I did get my copy signed and I treasure it to this day. On Memorial Day weekend just two months later that year he lost his life age 46 near Roanoke, Va. I was and still am very sorry that happened. I am glad I took the time to get his autograph on his book. That weekend it was graduation from high school.

When they came out with a stamp of Murphy, I got one also.

As I have said for several decades, I was on a hunt for military information especially real honest to goodness military information that I could keep and learn from. One day I decided to write the Superintendent of West Point to ask for a copy of the cadet handbook all plebes get on “R” day. It contains plebe knowledge they have to know. One question is where do plebes rank sir? Some of the answers were, under the Superintendent’s cat, the Admirals in the whole Navy, etc. When I wrote the request, I suggested another question, WHERE does Bugle notes rank sir? Answer: Underneath the Bible sir. Three days later by UPS I received the class of 1994 edition.

After that I have obtained Contrails, Air Force Academy, Reef Points, Naval Academy and the Rat Bible from VMI, the Virginia Military Institute.

I am a part of three Military organiza-
James Arness; Soldier, Movie Star.

Although Arness wanted to be a naval fighter pilot, he was concerned his poor eyesight would bar him. However, his 6 feet 7 inch (2.01 m) frame ended his chances because the limit for aviators was set at 6 feet 2 inches (1.88 m). He was into the U.S. Army and reported to Ft. Snelling, MN in March 1943. As a rifleman, he landed on on January 22, 1944, with the 2nd Platoon, E Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry Battalion of the 3rd Infantry Division. Arness - due to his height - was the first man to be ordered off his landing craft to determine the depth of the water; it came up to his waist.

He was severely wounded in his right leg at the Battle of Anzio and he was medically evacuated to the US where he was sent to the 91st General Hospital in Clinton, Iowa. After undergoing several surgeries, he was honorably discharged from the Army on January 29, 1945. However, he continued to have severe pain in the leg for the rest of his life and it became acute when he was mounting horses in his filming his Gunsmoke series.

He received the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with three bronze battle stars, the Word War II Victory Medal, and the Combat Infantry Badge.

Chaplain’s Corner

One of the more interesting parts about deployments, or even being stationed overseas, is viewing the Armed Forces Network (AFN). I’m sure they have changed quite a bit over the years, but one constant is that AFN does not show commercials. To fill in the space, I’ve seen them use information segments such as history moments for a given day or special event, information on States, and all sorts of public service announcements. With this being said, there was one “informercial” involving a grandmother and her grandson that really spoke to me.

The scene opened with a grandmother and grandson walking along the beach early one morning. The grandson noticed a lot of starfish and asked what had happened. The grandmother kindly told him that they had been left on the beach after the tide went out. The little boy was a bit disturbed because he noted that when the sun came out they would dry up and die.

He immediately began bending over, picking up starfish, and throwing them back into the ocean. While she felt very loving toward her grandson, the grandmother commented that with all the starfish on the beach, there was no way he could throw them all back into the ocean.

Her question to him about what he was doing was, “What difference does it make?”

As he bent over, picked up one starfish after another, he said to her, “It makes a difference to this one. And to this one. And to this one.”

I share this story because it does such a good job of highlighting the fact that though we can’t help everyone whatever we do does make a difference in the lives of those that we can help. With all the challenges of COVID-19 and the numerous changes it has brought to our society, we may feel at a loss for how we can help others.

The bottom line is that whatever we can do to help others, does in fact make a difference to them. It may be as simple as a phone call, a letter, or just touching base with someone else to see how they are doing; but whatever you do will make a difference and matter to them. We don’t need to do great things to have a positive effect on another person, but even the little things can make a big difference.
COVID 19 Leads to Cancelations of 75th Anniversaries

To date the outpost is happy to report none of its members has contracted the COVID 19 virus. We hope this continues! Unfortunately, Outpost International’s 75th anniversary of the end of WWII commemorative activities in Germany, Austria, and France were canceled due to the COVID 19 pandemic and the respective government’s restrictions on public activities. All official 75th anniversary events planned to commemorate the end of the war in Europe have been canceled.

Augsburg had planned to observe the anniversary of its peaceful turnover to the 3rd Infantry Division with events on 28 April. Instead the city marked with...
The Outpost’s annual ceremony on the Obersalzberg/Berchtesgaden commemorating the raising of the United States flag over Hitler’s former residential compound was also canceled due to COVID 19. This will be the 1st time in 13 years this ceremony will not be held.

MG Ramsey and Gen. Ham participate on the Obersalzburg ceremonies in May of 2012

an impressive bronze tablet commemorating the city’s peaceful surrender to the 3rd ID. Local citizens locked up the fanatical Nazi leaders in the city to prevent a bloodbath should the Division have had to attack.

The Outpost had organized a ceremony at the Salzburg, Austria airport for 4 May to commemorate the city’s liberation and to dedicate a plaque honoring the 3rd ID’s occupation of the city and to commemorate the Medal of Honor award ceremonies held at the airport in June and July 1945 in which Audie Murphy and Charles P. Murray, Jr. received their medals. It would have been an excellent event as the US Defense Attaché’s Office and representation from the Embassy in Vienna were to participate. The governor of the state of Salzburg, the Austrian military district commander, and the Archbishop of Salzburg were

occasion virtually with speakers either providing videos of their speeches or having the written version posted on the city’s website. Monika Stoy had been invited to participate in the commemorative activities, but due to circumstances provided her speech in English and German. These have been posted at http://www.augsburg.de/75jahrekrriegssende. Ten years ago, the city dedicated

Group photo in 2008
also scheduled to participate. US European Command was supporting with a joint color guard and the USAFE Band. The outpost plans to reschedule the plaque dedication for a later date public health conditions permitting.

The Outpost’s annual ceremony on the Oberalzberg/ Berchesgaden commemorating the raising of the United States flag over Hitler’s former residential compound was also canceled due to COVID 19. This will be the 1st time in 13 years this ceremony will not be held. This would have been a grand event, with Chargé d’Affaires Robin Quinville from the US Embassy in Berlin; Minister Joachim Herrmann, Interior Minister for the State of Bavaria; GEN John “Mike” Murray, Commanding General United States Army Futures Command and former 3rd Infantry Division Commander; and Brigadier Rob Rider, Defense Attaché from the United Kingdom in Berlin speaking. Both the USAFE Band and the Brass Quintet from the German Army’s Heeresmusikkorps (Army Band) Ulm were supporting the ceremony, and the color guard was again coming from US European Command. Soldiers from the 232nd Mountain Infantry Battalion were also going to participate. This year, for the first time, French members of the outpost were going to attend the ceremony – LTC, ret. and Mrs Xavier and Martine Marquot and Mr. Thierry Villeneuve. The Marquots live in Orange and have supported our Southern France commemorations for many years. Thierry is a leading member of Memories Forty Four, the reenactment group which supports commemorative events in the Aix-en-Provence area portraying the 3rd Infantry Division.

The outpost is still commemorating the event virtually - the USAFE Band has recorded several musical selections, including the Dogface Soldier, which will be posted on the Society website, along with Monika Stoy’s, Chargé Quinville’s and Brigadier Rider’s speeches.

The outpost’s small delegation, which was to include Monika and Tim Stoy, Mrs Haesook Choi, Colonel Kathleen McHale and Mr Paul McIlvaine, and Mr. Win Dodge, was also scheduled to travel to France to participate in 75th Anniversary V-E Day ceremonies but these two were canceled.

A further COVID 19 casualty was a planned 18 June morning commemorative ceremony at the 3rd Infantry Division Monument in honor of the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Austria. The Ambassador from Austria to the United States, Ambassador Dr. Martin Weiss and the Austrian Defense Attaché, MG Juergen Ortner, were going to join the outpost for this great event, which was to be followed by the placing of a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns. The Austrian Embassy was to host a reception and historical seminar at the embassy in the afternoon. The event was to serve as a reminder that Austria was also liberated in May 1945. Too often this small but important country is forgotten in commemorations of the end of the war.

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**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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mem Type</th>
<th>ID</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Unit</th>
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<td>Giancaterino</td>
<td>385th MP BN</td>
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Letters to the Editor

Good evening everyone,

Enclosed is the magazine of the Third Infantry Division of the month of April.

We have the front page and the article of our President and Society President Toby Knight. To think that all existing soldiers of the Third Infantry Division, including the commanders in charge, who will receive this magazine will see the work that all of you have done to honor and remember it is a great satisfaction.

Land of Medals is a great project, identifies not only a specific area, but it creates a driving force of curiosity and interest to all those who suffered there, and for anyone in that situation have earned the highest military honors.

We must never lose sight of it.

Good evening everybody,

Luigi

Society of the 3rd Infantry Division
Membership is Our Strength
It’s not the price you pay to belong, it’s the price you paid to become eligible to join.

Why Belong to the NIA?

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

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

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. 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, 2020

Mail all nominations to SFC Ken Drake, Society Awards Chair, 3604 Herndon Lane, Whiawa HI 96786 or at email: Sgttubal@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 outpost 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
Korea: The Forgotten War

My fellow members of the 9th Field Artillery Battalion and friends. On July 27, 1953, North Korea and South Korea signed the Korean Armistice Agreement. Although the two countries are technically at war since no peace treaty was signed, the armistice brought about the end of the hostilities. I was there as a member of the Third Infantry Division, 9th Field Artillery Battalion when the fighting stopped. Those of us who were there, recall that early in June 1953, the tempo of action stepped up, and the 3d Infantry Division withstood heavy enemy attacks all along the front.

The most bitter fighting took place on Outpost Harry on the Division’s left center, and against the Boomerang on the right flank. Despite determined enemy assaults, preceded and accompanied by heavy artillery and mortar barrages, the line held firm and the Chinese withdrew, defeated. During the intense Chinese attacks the 9th Field Artillery Battalion fired thousands of rounds in support of front-line infantry units inflicting great losses upon the enemy each time.

The largest and fiercest battle since 1951 began on the morning of July 14, 1953, when over 60,000 Chinese Communist Forces (CCF) an estimated seven Chinese Divisions, launched a massive attack against the Republic of Korea (ROK) Capital Division, located in the Kumsong River valley between Sniper Ridge, on the west, and Christmas Hill, on the east.

On July 15, the 9th Field Artillery Battalion moved into position near Kumsong; and it was four or five days later that members of Headquarters Battery began learning details about the attack. Much of what we heard was that two 105mm battalions, the 92nd armored Field Artillery Battalion and the 555th ("Triple Nickel") Field Artillery, had been hit hard. Because the CCF offensive commenced on a cloudy day, it was shielded from aerial bombardment.

A day later, the skies cleared and the air force started their attacks. But not before the 92nd and the 555th had been overwhelmed. Those battalions provided direct artillery support for the Capital Division. Shortly after the offensive began, the Capital broke and made a hasty and disorderly retreat. Some batteries of the 105mm units were not even notified that there was no infantry between them and the CCF. One battery received orders to bore sight and fire at point blank range. The crews looked up and saw CCF streaming down the mountain in front of them.

A mortar round landed on the breech of one piece, disabling it and killing and wounding crew members. A CCF group had pulled a 90mm piece to a mountain top and were firing down on hapless gun pits. Only about 30% of the 92nd’s Charlie Battery got out safely by the end of the day. Even worse, the Triple Nickel was overrun, suffering 22 killed, 19 wounded, and 46 captured. The captured had to march northward for several weeks and were not freed for two or more months after the truce was signed.

After the 3d Division, including its artillery and tank units, was in position by the evening of July 15, it staunchened the flow of CCF, who had penetrated several miles. The 65th Infantry Regiment stood firm despite thousands of enemy mortar and artillery rounds; the 15th Regiment inflicted heavy casualties.

On July 18, the 64th Tank Battalion routed a mass of CCF gathering for battle. In its counterattack, the 3rd Division tried several times to cross the Kumsong river and hold its north bank; but it abandoned the effort after July 20, when the battle wound down.

Though the fighting continued along the front until the final minute prior to the cease fire at 2200 hours on 27 July 1953, the Chinese advanced no further. The enemy drive in the Kumsong sector had been stopped. On July 27, 1953, the Armistice was signed and all fighting stopped. After 37 months of combat, total UNC casualties reached more than 550,000, including 95,000 dead. American losses included 33,686 killed and 103,284 wounded. United States Army casualties alone totaled 27,728 dead and 77,596 wounded. The bulk of these casualties occurred during the first year of fighting. The estimate of enemy casualties, including prisoners, exceeded 1,500,000 of whom 900,000 were Chinese. The Army deployed eight divisions to Korea—the 1st Cavalry Division; the 2d, 3d, 7th, 24th, 25th, 40th and 45th Infantry Divisions; and the 5th, 29th and 187th RCTs. U.S. Army personnel received 78 of the 131 Medals of Honor awarded to military members who served in Korea.

Submitted by Ronald G. Hill

The 9th again in action near Kumsong
The National Museum of the U. S. Army Nears Completion

By Tim Stoy

The United States Army built America. From achieving our independence to our vast territorial expansion and to the development of the extensive infrastructure network which serves as the nation’s vascular system, the Army played a leading role in these areas and more which have made our country great. In a very real way, our country is a museum to the United States Army. Yet it may be difficult to believe but the United States Army does not have its own national museum!

Many readers will say that isn’t possible, they have visited an Army museum. You very well may have, at any of our Army bases around the country, such as Fort Benning. These are wonderful museums but they are not the National Army museum. Their mission is to use history to motivate our soldiers. The National Museum of the United States Army being erected in Fairfax County, Virginia, outside of Fort Belvoir, has an entirely different mission: to educate the American public and other visitors about the Army’s tremendous contributions to the nation, tell the stories of the nation’s soldiers, and inspire Americans to support the Army.

The museum, which will be easily accessible from Interstate 95 or US Route 1 via the Fairfax County Parkway, is appropriately located close to Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington, the Army’s first Commanding General! The museum will be easily accessible with no entrance gate.

The museum was expected to open in June 2020 but has been postponed. It will exhibit artifacts from the Army’s extensive collection of historic items from the entire breadth of the nation’s history. Children will have experiential learning opportunities, veterans a wonderful facility for reunions and meetings, and the public a fantastic resource for learning about its Army and the great men and women who served in it. Additionally the Military District of Washington will use the parade ground for ceremonies open to the American public throughout the year.

In front of the U.S. Army Campaign Wall with Director LTG Roger Schultz and BG Creighton Abrams Executive Director

A wonderful feature in the museum and on the foundation’s website is the Registry of the American Soldier. An Army veteran can fill out their registry entry on line, which can later be accessed on line by interested persons and by visitors at one of the kiosks in the museum’s lobby. Tens of millions of Americans have served in the Army, and every one of them deserves to have their story told.

The museum’s opening will be the culmination of many years of hard work. Congress initially authorized construction of a museum way back in 1814. The Army Historical Foundation was established in 1983 for the express purpose of raising the necessary funds for the museum’s construction. Even with the opening of the museum in 2020 the Foundation will continue its crucial fundraising role as it will be running the museum store, café, and the theater.

The museum will be run by the Army as the owner of all the artifacts. Each exhibit has been developed with oversight by the Army’s Center of Military History to most effectively tell the Army’s story.

For more information I recommend that readers visit the Army Historical Foundation’s (AHF) website: www.army-history.org. Should you wish to support the museum you can become a member of AHF, buy a brick honoring your or a family member’s service, and/or donate. Our great Army deserves a great museum and deserves our support!

From the left, Sergeant Major of the Army, retired, Ken Preston, AHF Membership Chairman, Monika Stoy holding example of AHF Brick, and AHF Executive Director Creighton Abrams
The 101st Airborne (Band Of Brothers) Were First Into Berchtesgaden, Right?.........

By Henry Bodden - Editor

I received an e-mail from Ron Greenwood of Outpost 22 last week requesting written proof for the fact that the 3rd Infantry Division was the first unit to roll into Berchtesgaden and accept their surrender and also capture Hitler’s “Eagle’s Nest” that sits atop a 6,000 foot mountain top that overlooks Berchtesgaden and the Obersalzburg below. It seems that one of their lifetime members, Harvey Krasner was being interviewed for an upcoming documentary about his exploits with the 3rd Infantry Division in WWII. But the media doing the interview asked Harvey for historical facts that he and the 3rd ID were in fact the first to occupy Hitler’s Bavarian second seat of power next to Berlin. Well, no one knows any better than Harvey, because he was there. So I thought, this will be pretty easy to prove as a fact because in our archives we have a book titled “From Fedala To Berchtesgaden” written by Nathan William White who was a member of the “7th Light Foot” Infantry from May 25, 1944 to February 4, 1946. Plus there are all kinds of other sources that document this fact. So I didn’t think too much of this effort to help Harvey at first, but after contacting Harvey and listening to his story, I really got into it because this was really up my alley because I have been to Berchtesgaden many times, and sensed that this will make a great story for our readers of the 3rd Infantry. I was delighted to delve into this story because for the past eight years I have had a tour each June that begins in Paris and ends in Munich, but the highlight of our passengers and myself is spending two nights and days in the breathtaking area of Berchtesgaden and the Eagle’s Nest. So as I interviewed Harvey more, I found some interesting anecdotes about his service as a “dogface” and decided to intertwine his story with the main subject: Who was first to Berchtesgaden?

The reason there is confusion as to which unit was first into Berchtesgaden is due to “Hollywood.” The great HBO mini-series “Band of Brothers” which was produced by Tom Hanks and Steven Spielberg, was based on Stephen Ambrose’s book by the same name. The “Band of Brothers” are depicted in the mini-series from their beginning of their training in Toccoa, Georgia where every day they were forced to climb the 1,000 foot Mount Currahee which was the inspiration for their motto “Currahee.” After training they departed for England for the assault on “Fortress Europe” at Normandy. The 101st Airborne was an elite rifle company that parachuted into the early hours behind German lines in Normandy hours before the invasion began at 6:30 a.m., the morning of June 6, 1944. Back to England, the unit then participated in the ill-fated “Operation Market Garden” where they suffered high casualties and had to retreat. They then were ordered to man the besieged crossroad town of Bastogne, Belgium in the Battle of the Bulge. Their next assignment, capture the Bavarian headquarters of Hitler’s home and second seat of government after Berlin. Gen. Eisenhower had conceded Berlin to the Russians, fearing massive American casualties. So Ike directed his forces to head south through Nuremberg, Munich, and finally Berchtesgaden and Salzburg, Austria. Ike was fearing the possible existence of a “national redoubt” in Bavaria and Austria. Fearing thousands of Nazi diehards would take to the mountains and sustain a years long guerrilla type war. But they faced a German army with very little fight left in them. Tens of thousands of German prisoners clogged the autobahn as our soldiers headed south towards Bavaria. So Berchtesgaden changed from a strategic to a prestige objective. Every Allied unit in the area desperately wanted to capture Hitler’s second seat of power, thus win for itself historical immortality as the conquerors of the crown jewel of Hitler’s evil empire. So the race was on to be the first into Berchtesgaden between the 3rd Infantry, the French 2nd Armored Division, and the 101st Airborne. The 7th Infantry Regiment of the “Cottonbalers” had fought its way from North Africa to Germany. The unit enjoyed a proud combat heritage dating back to the War of 1812. The command and veterans of this tradition-rich unit figured it was their just dessert after so many hard years of fighting. On May 2, 1945, fresh from the capture of Munich and a tour of the infamous Dachau death camp, the regiment was back on the move bound for Salzburg, Austria which they took with no opposition.

But first, here is a first hand account by our own Harvey Krasner who began as a replacement soldier drafted into the Army in 1944. Harvey wanted at first to join the Army Air Corp but was rejected. Harvey trained at Fort Custer, Michigan at eighteen years old. On December 1, 1944, Harvey landed in Marseilles, France and was assigned to the 756th Tank Co. with the 3rd Infantry. Harvey fought all the way up the Rhone River Valley with the 3rd Infantry’s drive along the western side of the Vosges Mountains expelling the Germans town by town. Harvey told me Audie Murphy and other “dogfaces” would from time to time ride on the back of Harvey’s tank to the next town or battle. Harvey’s unit went through the French Ardennes before veering into Strasbourg. Harvey’s unit then fought in the Colmar Pocket which expelled the last of the Germans in France and pushed them back across the Rhine into Germany. Harvey’s next battles were at the Siegfried Line, which was a tank barrier hoping to stop armored units into the Fatherland. Breaching the Siegfried Line, the 3rd Infantry took Nuremberg, and occupied the massive Zeppelinfeld stadium where Hitler held his annual September rallies in front of 200,000 fanatical SS and Hitler youth attendees. On April 19, 1945, Harvey paraded with the 15th and 30th Infantry of the 3rd Division in a massive ceremony of victory over Nuremberg which was the “spiritual capital” of the Third Reich. A huge American flag was draped over the massive marble Swastika which was the centerpiece of the stadium. Twenty-six years ago, my still ongoing journey visiting Europe and the Pacific began when I stood with my 3rd ID son in the very podium where Hitler would deliver his speeches to the masses. After the parade Harvey witnessed the 3rd ID presenting the Medal of Honor to five of our heroes, including Keith Ware (on the left) for
his heroics at Sigolsheim in the Colmar Pocket. Second from the right is Sgt. Lucian Adams, “The Tornado from Texas) for his heroics near St. Die in the western Vosges Mountains. Lucian Adams is from my hometown of Port Arthur, Texas and we had four of his family as guests at our San Antonio Reunion three years ago. Then on April 22, 1945, three days after the ceremony, Harvey was there to witness the demolition by our engineers of the giant Swastika which blew debris all over the stadium. From Nuremberg, Harvey and his tanks then swung south to Munich and a visit to Dachau. Dachau and the Landsberg concentration camps finds must have been difficult for Harvey being Jewish. These camps were the first found by American troops, but the Russians in the east happened on the real camps that specialized in the mechanized mass extermination of six million Jews and five million other “undesirables.” Harvey told me he viewed the corpses lying around at Dachau which shocked the troops to their core in disbelief.

The Dash into Salzburg, Austria and Capture of Berchtesgaden

On May 2nd, orders were given for the XV Corps to continue the advance south to capture Salzburg, Austria by the 3rd Infantry who encountered light opposition by some SS troops. During the rapid advance, over 1,000 Germans had been captured and several enemy were killed. The Seventh Infantry was now in a most favorable position to swoop into Berchtesgaden and capture Hitler’s hideaway, Der Berghof and the Obersalzburg. No one realized this any sooner than the Third Division Commander, because the 101st Airborne and the French 2nd Armored Division both had orders to capture Berchtesgaden. Then early May 4th after the capture of Salzburg, Major General John “Iron Mike” O’Daniel took matters into his own hands and decided to send the Seventh Infantry out of the 3rd Infantry’s zone of action to “steal Berchtesgaden” from the 101st and the French. He then ordered Col. John Heintges to drive the “Cotton Baler” full speed to get there first, the prize and pearl of all military objectives at the time. Col. Heintges was ordered to heavily guard the two bridges and deny anyone to pass over them into Berchtesgaden. So Harvey and his 756th Tank Co. raced toward Berchtesgaden, while in Bad Reichenhall at 09:30, that town was seized with 3,000 Germans surrendering. Col. Heintges then gave Lt. Col. Wallace and Major Flynn the go sign for Berchtesgaden. Then at 15:58, the Seventh Infantry encountered no opposition and were the first Allied troops to enter Berchtesgaden. And on May 4, 1945 and the town was seized with 2,000 enemy troops surren-
A young Harvey Krasner in WWI

dering. As American tanks drove up the hill into the Royal Palace grounds of Berchtesgaden, Lt. Col. Kenneth Wallace met with Burgermeister Karl Sandrock (left in overcoat in the photo) to discuss the surrender of Berchtesgaden to the 3rd Infantry Division. I couldn’t resist taking a “now” photo of standing in the exact spots to correspond with these “then” photos of the tanks and the Burgermeister where they happened 75 years ago. After the surrender to Wallace, the group traveled up to the Obersalzberg to complete the surrender of the area. When they arrived at the Obersalzberg at 16:30, Hitler’s Berghof home was not directly hit by an air bomb, but was smoking from destruction and fires caused by the SS troops prior to the entry by the Seventh Infantry. A large Nazi flag was torn down from the pole nearby. The former house of Hermann Goring and his hq. of the German Luftwaffe were found to be undamaged and placed under guard. In 1994 on my very first trip to Berchtesgaden, my son and I climbed thru a fence into a cow pasture and found the very little remains of Goring’s house and took photos. In fact, the only thing left were three concrete steps of his porch. Today the luxury Kempinski Hotel dominates this former cow pasture.

Meanwhile the French forces and the 101st Airborne had not been so fortunate in discovering bridges over the Saalach River that flows thru Berchtesgaden. They learned that they were being held by the Seventh Infantry and tried to use them but failed. As the 3,000 German prisoners captured at Bad Reichenhall were being marched over the wooden bridge back to POW cages, a lead jeep carried the stars of a Field General who was standing up in the vehicle with one hand on the windshield and the other waving frantically with his swagger stick for the prisoners to clear the way. However, the American guard blocked the road and stopped the French 2nd Armored Division from continuing. The French General was none other than legendary Major Gen. LeClerc who demanded an explanation from the officer in command. Gen. O’Daniel was contacted and gave permission for the French General to pass over the bridge, but for all French troops to stay put. LeClerc was livid and began to converse with the American General. Unfortunately, this conversation was not recorded, but Gen. O’Daniel had learned early in life the full phrase “possession is nine-tenths of the law.” With Berchtesgaden in full control by the Seventh Infantry, O’Daniel then allowed the French to enter the town four hours after the first “Cotton Balers” had entered Berchtesgaden. The 101st Airborne had also been jammed on the Reichs Autobahn with no place to go until O’Daniel chose to let them go. So folks, this is proof that the “Band of Brothers” were not first into Berchtesgaden until O’Daniel let them in about five hours later.

In Berchtesgaden, at Hermann Goring’s Staff Headquarters, Gen. Kastner-Kirkdorf was found dead in his bedroom by suicide. He was a member of Hitler’s staff and had arrived at Goring’s HQ. on May 2nd and committed suicide just after the Seventh Infantry entered Berchtesgaden. Included in the bag of prisoners was Col. Fritz Goring who was a nephew of the number two Nazi in command. He personally surrendered to Col. Heintges and gave his pistols to Gen. O’Daniel. When questioned about the whereabouts of Adolph Hitler, Hermann Goring, and other top officials, the German did not know because Hitler had just ordered the arrest of Hermann Goring a few days earlier after Goring wanted to surrender and assume leadership of the Reich. He also told Col. Heintges that he would like to turn over to the Seventh Infantry the property of Hermann and Frau Goring which was quite considerable. What most interested Heintges was some 18,000 bottles of the finest liquors and two automobiles the Field Marshall’s two-seated roadster and a fourteen passenger bullet proof sedan. The “Cotton Balers” had just missed Field Marshall Albert Kesserling himself by several hours. Kesserling was in charge of all German forces on the Western Front. When captured later he had stated that the 3rd Division was the best unit his troops faced in the war. There was much rejoicing and excitement over the capture of Berchtesgaden and the troops indulged in celebrating champagne and cigars that were found in abundance at Hitler’s and Goring’s homes. Then on May 5th, 1945, an important ceremony was held when the American flag was raised over the Obersalzberg where the present Hotel Kempinski now stands.

I had a picture taken with the general manager of the hotel at the site on their grounds which has a nice plaque dedicated to the 3rd Infantry. At first the ceremony was delayed by the French who were given a section of the Obersalzberg, and still smarting from the day before when they were blocked, they tried to prevent the Americans from raising their flag. Finally, a compromise was worked out that the American and French flags would be jointly raised, but the French flag was so big that it could not get off the ground. I asked Harvey if he were there at this ceremony, but he recalled he was not. But fame would find Harvey later as he and his buddies climbed up the Eagle’s Nest to enjoy the spoils of war at this most beautiful place on a 6,000 foot mountaintop. Then at 16:30 on May 5, 1945, the following message was received at the Command Post from the Commanding General: “effective immediately there will be no more fighting

Harvey is here somewhere marching on the parade ground in Zeppelin Stadium

Harvey paraded, witnessed the Medal of Honor ceremony, and witnessed the demolition of this huge Swastika three days later
unless fired upon or attacked.” Fighting therefore against the
enemy was finished for the Seventh Infantry for World War II.
Then on May 6, 1945, the seventh Infantry was ordered to leave
Berchtesgaden and to assemble the entire regiment in Salzburg,
Austria. Reluctantly, the troops who had “stolen Berchtesgaden”
from the French and “Band of Brothers” turned the whole place
over to the 506th Parachute Regiment of the 101st Airborne
Division and to French troops. Their short stay in the famous
town had been quite profitable and much looting of souvenirs
that once belonged to Nazi bigwigs were hauled away to the dis-
may of the relieving forces. Col. Heintges had to content himself
with only one of Hermann Goring’s vehicles, however the sedan
would not start and had to be left behind. Therefore, the “Band of
Brothers” visited the Eagle’s Nest and Hitler’s Berghof residence
and celebrated and looted like all victors. But not before Harvey
Krasner and his buddies relaxed and enjoyed drinking the wine
and cognac, compliments of Hitler and Goring. But a strange
thing happened while Harvey and his buddies were drinking at
the Berghof. A cameraman named Kameraman just happened to
snap this photo of Harvey (in the foreground holding up a bottle)
and his buddies. Harvey has had this photo all these years and his
daughter Dru Miller sent it to me to complete my story about the
race to Berchtesgaden. When I received it, it looked familiar to
me and I found this exact photo in my personal archives. But my
photo is on the front cover of the June 22, 1945 issue of Yank
Magazine. Excitedly, I contacted Dru and Harvey and asked if
they knew that Harvey had made the cover of Yank Magazine.
Neither said no, and such a treasure for Harvey and his family to
now have at this late date in history this magazine cover. It excit-
ed me also to the extent that I found an original copy on E-Bay
and purchased a copy for myself to add to my collection of arti-
facts from our WWII veterans. So Harvey has witnessed and par-
ticipated in quite a colorful part of history from his first landing
No nonsense "Iron Mike" O'Daniel commanded the 3rd ID

The Berchtesgaden Burgermeister Karl Sandrock (in overcoat) surrenders the town to Lt. Col. Kenneth Wallace

Starving Dachau survivors welcomed the American liberators

The Third Division
FRONT LINE
FRENCH MOROCCO-TUNISIA-SICILY-50 ITALY-ANZIO-ROME-FRANCE-GERMANY-AUSTRIA

In Triumph Shall Wave... War's Climax For Division Comes in Alps

After the surrender, Harvey (#2) played on the Army basketball team

This original Front Line magazine of the 3rd ID captures the flagraising by the 3rd on the Obersalzburg

Three days later on May 7th, 1945, German Gen. Jodl surrenders unconditionally to the Allies in Reims, France. One year later Jodl is hanged after the Nuremberg trials

A photographer caught Harvey Krasner (in foreground holding up a champagne bottle) and his buddies enjoying the spoils of the war. 75 years later Harvey finds out this photo made the front cover of YANK magazine.
in Marseilles, and ending in Salzburg with the end of the war in Europe on May 7, 1945 when Germany surrendered unconditionally to the Allies in Reims, France. Reims is also a regular stop on our annual tour and the room where the Germans surrendered can be viewed through plexiglass, frozen in time just as it was 75 years ago. Harvey stayed in occupied Salzburg for about six months after the war. He told me he would see Audie Murphy from time to time at the Marabee Casino in Salzburg during their stay in Austria. Harvey’s take on Audie Murphy was that he was very quiet and admired by his men who thought “he was nuts” for some of the things in combat.

Editor’s Note: With Harvey finding out 75 years later he was a “cover boy” was a highlight for me in researching this article. Egbert White who had worked on “The Stars and Stripes” had proposed the idea for YANK Magazine to the Army in early 1942. White became the editor for YANK after it was approved, but was later dismissed and Joe McCarthy became the new editor. The first issue was published with the cover date of June 17, 1942. It was made available only to the US Army overseas, but after the fifth issue it was made available to serving members in the US. It never made the newsstands for public purchase, but YANK’S circulation exceeded 2.5 million in 41 countries with 21 editions. The last issue was published on December 28, 1945. Joe McCarthy remained the editor of YANK until the official closure of the office on New Year’s Eve 1945.

When you visit Reims today, you can stand right here and view history “frozen in time” 75 years later. The room has been left, maps and all, just as it was.
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 who 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 amount for outpost activities. At Large members do not belong to outposts but are referred to as “Footsie Britt At Large” (named for Lt. Maurice Britt, MOH, WW2).

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 ................. No charge

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

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

*Active Duty Lifetime Membership...........$100**
*For any AD Soldier currently on Active Duty
**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.society3rdid.org.

Website: www.Society3rdID.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 [40 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

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

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

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