Hero of Holtzwihr

By Henry Bodden

I had bought this fine painting by Jim Laurier depicting the one man stand of Audie Murphy at Holtzwihr, France, during the battle of the Colmar Pocket in the Vosges Mountains of the Alsace region. As I was putting my book together, In the Footsteps of Valor, I contacted the artist for permission to use it in my book in the section featuring Audie Murphy. Each June, I lead a tour to France, Belgium, and Germany and have made a one-day stop at Holtzwihr on our agenda to recount the exploits of Audie Murphy’s Medal of Honor heroics.

This year I had made arrangements for Patrick Baumann of Munster, France, to spend the day with our group and share his research and knowledge of the Colmar Pocket with us. In the painting you can see the little village of Holtzwihr about a mile away from Audie’s position in the “Bois de Riedwihr” where he had been ordered to

Let us not forget....

Honorary President

Marne 6 Sends

Greetings to all Dog Face Soldiers – past, present, and Friends of the Marne Division:

As we celebrated Labor Day last month, we reflected on the hard work and sacrifice our Nation’s citizens made to build the largest economic powerhouse in the world. Our military has a vital role in securing our economic success by protecting economic and national security interests at home as well as abroad. To fight and win our Nation’s conflicts, we focus on unit readiness; in order to maintain a high level of readiness under current budget constraints we recently welcomed a new unit to the Marne Division. On Sept. 16, the 3rd Infantry Division welcomed the 48th Infantry Brigade Combat Team from the Georgia National Guard, which patched under the Marne Division, to train, fight, and win our Nation’s wars if called on to do so. In addition to welcoming a new unit to the division, we have Soldiers deployed around the globe and we continue to train at home station in preparation for the upcoming division Warfighter Exercise (WFX) starting the first week of October.

The division staff remained focused and busy participating in the Ulchi Freedom Guardian exercise in South Korea at the end of August and immediately returned to Fort Stewart to finalize preparation for the division’s WFX. These exercises have been extremely productive for the cohesion of the staff and will ensure the team is trained and ready to excel at any mission our Nation calls us to execute.

Please turn to MARNE 6 on page 28
I am humbled and honored to have been elected to serve as the President of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division! As a young NCO newly assigned to the Division in 2004, I learned very quickly what people meant when they talked about the Marine Express. It is a train of Soldiers dedicated to accomplishing all assigned tasks and is loaded with pride, honor, and determination. These qualities propel the Marine Express through all challenges and fill its engine with the velocity of almost 100 years of sacrifice, dignity, and victory. When our country has been faced with overcoming the tough challenge, the high precipice, the wide abyss, the frozen reservoir or the searing hot deserts, it has been the Dogface Soldiers who were entrusted with overcoming all the obstacles in order to bring peace, democracy, and prosperity to oppressed peoples. As members of this Society, we continue to carry the pride of those who marched before us and will do everything possible to make their sacrifice and heroic deeds remain indelible in the hearts and minds of our fellow Society members and our Active Duty compatriots. Our “doughboys” have gone “over there” and stood like rocks, they were members of the greatest generation, fought a “forgotten war,” stiff-armed the iron curtain, sweated in the jungles, stormed the desert, and raced in the thunder run. And along the way, they earned their title of “Dogface Soldier”!

With this illustrious lineage we as a Society MUST remain true to our purpose which is:

1. To foster and strengthen associations and friendships formed during service with the Third Infantry Division.
2. To honor the Third Infantry Division fallen Warriors.
3. To perpetuate the memory of former comrades who shared a background or honorable military service with the Third Infantry Division.
4. To encourage and achieve the mutual benefits and support resulting from a close and cooperative alliance between the Society and the Third Infantry Division.
5. 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.

My focus will remain steadfast to my commitment to the Society and its membership. It is the membership that runs this organization and my door is always open to any member who wishes to contact me for any reason. I am especially grateful to those who have accepted my appointment to the respective Committee Chairs and those who are appointed to Staff positions. These dedicated Society members are willing to serve our members and have done so in a forthright, honest, and dedicated manner. I am very appreciative to all of them for their continued service to our Society and those new members who have accepted some of these positions.

Our collective “Thanks” to out-going President Joe Ball. He is a Korean War veteran and a member of the Chosin Few. He has worked tirelessly to ensure that the Society has been run in an exemplary manner, made important updates to the C&BL, completely revamped our website making it a modern and proud “Front Door” to the world, encouraged younger members, like me, to serve our Society and much more. Thank you Joe!

My promise to you is to focus on three main areas:

1. Expand our membership
2. Strengthen the Outposts
3. Build strong relationships with our active duty Soldiers and their Families

Our membership numbers have been dwindling for years. I need your help to recruit new members, and I believe one of the best ways to do that is to be visible. Be seen at events where Veterans gather and tell them about our Society. Go to Veterans and Memorial Day ceremonies and talk to those present. If your Outpost can organize a parade float to participate or lay a wreath at a memorial, please do so. Reach out to your buddies and let them know about the Society.

Our Outposts across the United States do so much that it is impossible to write about them here. But they are the leverage to the success of this Society. I want to work with all our outpost Presidents and their teams to identify things that we can do to make their outposts have a stronger presence in their communities. Individual outposts can have an important effect on their communities, and I want to help them do that.

Our division is the reason why we are all here. Building a strong relationship with our Active Duty partners and their families is critical to our mission. We can do so much more with them and they can with us. I will work hard to build mutually beneficial initiatives that will serve to enhance our relationship. This is where we can, and need, to do better. There are already exiting initiatives in the works and I am optimistic about the future with our Active Division. Many thanks to Major General Rainey for his consideration of our Society and his support.

Our annual reunion will take place on September 22-25 in Harrisburg, PA. I look forward to meeting as many of you as I can. This will be a wonderful event and I look forward to the camaraderie. Next year’s reunion will be held in my home town of San Antonio, Texas. As you know the Alamo and the Riverwalk area are two of the best kept secrets in the US, and if you have never been here to enjoy the ambiance, the food, and the culture, this is your opportunity. Don’t miss out!

In conclusion, the future of our Society is not guaranteed. It will take the work of all of us to make sure that we continue the great traditions of those Society members who have served before us. I believe if we work to accomplish these three overarching initiatives, we will be on a strong path for the future. I can’t do it alone. Your help, at any level, will bring this to fruition. I tell my Soldiers that if you want to be successful, you have to “Lean forward in the Foxhole.” That is what I will do as your Society President!

Rock of the Marne, Toby Knight
The photo to the right shows Patrick standing at a hole he had dug just beside the road. He informed us that this was the actual position of the M-10 tank destroyer Audie had climbed on to fight off the six Panther tanks supported by 250 snow-suited elite 2nd Mountain Division troops—German Infantry from Norway. This position was about fifty feet from the memorial which I always thought was the true position of the M-10. In the painting you will notice a tall tree to the left of Audie.

The next photo (right) pictures Patrick and I at the memorial that Patrick constructed as a tribute of his village being liberated by Audie. In the painting you can see several men (twelve troops) going into a drainage ditch to attempt to flank the M-10 and Audie. The Germans could not detect where the firepower was coming from due to the burning M-10 Audie had mounted. They did not think someone would actually be firing from a burning M-10 as Audie was also calling in artillery on the advancing Germans. Just as a wind cleared the smoke from Audie’s vision, he unleashed his deadly 50 cal. gun on the twelve men in the ditch and in his autobiography, “stacked them like firewood.”

The photo below shows myself standing about where the squad of twelve was mowed down by Audie. I was quite surprised by how far they were from Audie’s position in the woods, and the accuracy of Audie’s fire from that distance. My painting was signed by Audie’s sister, Nadine Murphy Locky, of Farmersville, Texas, and Don Eckman of Michigan who was one of the sixteen or so Audie ordered back into the woods as he climbed atop the burning M-10. I met with Nadine at an Audie Murphy weekend in Greenville, Texas several years ago. She is a very intelligent woman and quite friendly.

I sent Don Eckman a copy of the print signed by Nadine and asked if he would also autograph my print. He did so and sent me a very moving handwritten letter about his life being saved by the unlikely heroes of Audie Murphy that day. The letters reads as follows: Jan. 3, 2012 — Dear Mr. Boden, Thank you for sending the photo. Sometimes I can’t remember a lot of things but I will never forget the day pictured in the drawing. I try to remember to thank God every day that I survived that day and have been able to enjoy a very good life. My wife and I have been married for 63 years with four children, grandchildren and now several great grandchildren. We have been able to travel to several places in the world – Central America, Indonesia, China, Australia, Europe and Holtzwihr On Nov. 11, 2010—Veterans Day—I was greatly honored to receive the Knight of the Legion of Honor from the French Government at a ceremony at our church. I am very proud and humbled to have served with a unit such as the 3rd Infantry Division and to have been able to know and to serve with Audie Murphy. Best Regards, Don Eckman

At lunch in Holtzwihr, I gave Patrick Baumann a copy of the painting signed by Nadine Murphy and Don Eckman. I also gave him three of the new Society of the 3rd Infantry Division coins designed by Toby Knight. It was a very enjoyable day, and I was shown things I never knew about in my four previous visits to Holtzwihr. Patrick is German and his grandfather fought with Germany in WWII, and his father fought with Germany in WWII. The Alsace- Lorraine region has changed hands several times between the two world wars. It was taken by the Germans during WWII, and lost back to France after WWII where it stands today.
The Importance of Preserving National Identity in the Modern World

Ryan C. Rosen was the recipient of the 2016 Scholarship Grant honoring Sgt. Nick Ramba. I have chosen not to edit the opinions of this writer. They are not necessarily the opinions of the Watch on the Rhine or the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division.

I thought I knew everything about my grandfather until I read A Kid from Pittsburgh. The account of Morris Rosen’s experiences fighting in World War II, written by my grandmother, Marion Rosen, broadened my understanding of the war and my grandfather. The book includes remarkable details, such as a time when Morris was lying under cover with other forward observers and Lieutenant General George S. Patton gave away their position by looking directly at my grandfather and saying, “Buckle that chin strap.” I had no idea that a legendary general I learned about in history class had an interaction with my loving grandfather. The most amazing story I read in A Kid from Pittsburgh was when Morris Rosen helped liberate the Dachau Concentration Camp with filmmaker Cecil B. DeMille and his camera crew. On the verge of discovering the greatest atrocity against mankind behind those walls, DeMille told my grandfather, “Soldier, open that gate.” I will hear those words echo in my head when I stand in front of that same gate this summer more than seventy years later.

I am greatly blessed to have the opportunity to visit Europe on an educational tour led by two history teachers from my high school. The tour the group selected follows the path of the Allies through Europe on the Western Front during World War II. Traveling across the Atlantic and back in time, I will visit England, and soon after take a ferry across the English Channel, landing in Normandy, just like the Allies did on D-Day. Our tour group will liberate the cities of Paris and Berlin, seeing every World War II monument in between, before heading to Dachau. Looking at the gate my grandfather once opened for the world to see, I will not only reflect on the past, the stunning events of the war that preserved freedom in Europe, Asia, and America, but also the future. The evils of Nazi Germany that came close to wiping out Western civilization are not exclusive to the fanatics of madman Adolf Hitler; the same senseless murder and aggression exist in the form of radical Islamic terrorism, specifically ISIS.

According to a CBS news article, Father Patrick Desbois, the founder of the French organization “Together as One,” which searches for mass graves of genocide victims, sees “a direct line between what the Nazis did 70 years ago and what ISIS is doing today.” He developed this comparison by noting how both groups murder others because they are different, killing to create a spectacle that induces fear.” It’s not the same ideology,” Desbois says. “But behind, it’s the same disease.”

The Europe I will visit this summer will be flooded with refugees trying to escape the hate and evil of ISIS. Europeans have to act vigilantly to preserve their Western ideology as millions of migrants penetrate their homeland. I do not believe that Europeans will persecute them because they are different, but the opposite seems to be true. Current indications appear to say that the European community today will lose its Western identity, leaving the United States as the sole torchbearer of liberty in the world.

As a nation, we need to come together with resurgent strength to avoid European decay and weakness. We must focus on the pillars on which our nation was built, the engravings on the smallest and most present currency: the penny. American people today need to believe and practice liberty, “E Pluribus Unum,” and “In God We Trust.” The current political instability in this election year makes it difficult to remember our national identity when the insults fly and politicians quiver in fear of the future. Though political differences have become deep schisms that feel like the Grand Canyon, the penny continually tells us to become one. Though I feel powerless in the political process as a high school student, I have liberty as an American, and I trust in God to make the future of the United States even more promising than its rich history.

In these dire times of revolutionary change, where the policies we promote and the president we elect will determine our fate into the future, patriotism is more important than ever. Americans need to fight for their freedom, just like my grandfather did in World War II. We must feel the urgency to stop and expose evil in the world, opening the gates that blind the world to the sins of ISIS, just like my grandfather at Dachau. We need to protect our distinctly American Ideology from foreign and domestic threats, avoiding an outcome like modern Europe. Finally, remembering the pillars engraved on the penny, we can launch ourselves forward into a positive future. That is what my grandfather and all of the other soldiers in World War II fought for.

Membership is Our Strength

It’s not the price you pay to belong, it’s the price you paid to become eligible to join.
We are very sorry to report that Outpost #35 Member Curley Faulk is experiencing some serious health issues. He served in Korea in the 7th Infantry Regiment. He is a Life Member of the Society and is the Honorary Sgt. Major of the 7th Infantry Regiment Association. That is a great honor. Curley is at a skilled nursing home near his family home in Lake Charles, Louisiana. Carol Ann is finishing her rehab treatments for a recent health problem. Curley is having some difficulty with computers so please send your note of encouragement to Curley Faulk, 1806 Deepwoods Drive, Lake Charles LA 70605-5252. The family asks that you keep Curley and Carol Ann in your prayers.

I have to tell the readers that some of the articles in every Watch are written by others. I always give credit to those who help provide material for each Watch. Yes, I edit everything to ensure correctness—often doing research to verify what is written—but many of those submitting items for publication need no help from me. I am very grateful for everyone’s contributions, and I know that our members also thank them.

June 30th was the end of the Society’s fiscal year and dues for fiscal 2017 were due. Those who did not pay their dues by September 1st did not receive the October Watch on the Rhine and they will be dropped from the active roster on October 1st. We don’t want to lose these members so please encourage them to renew their memberships.

Please look at page 2 of the Watch. There are several new officers, Staff, and Committee Chairs. Please welcome them. We are grateful for those who signed up to help run our Society smoothly. They certainly bring valuable experience to their new posts, and each has pledged support of our members. Don’t hesitate to contact them if you need their help.

The Society now has a new website: www.society3rdid.org. This website was developed with the latest technology. Old browsers such as Internet Explorer, which is no longer being updated to support the latest technology may be the problem, if you have any problem accessing the website. You could download Google Chrome for your browser. It supports the latest technology and it is free. Our website is a work-in-progress, but it now has several articles reflecting the history of most of our regiments and some of our support groups. I am very interested in developing a brief history of the 10th Combat Engineers and would welcome anyone willing to help. Just send me an email if you want to help write this article: ldball1@msn.com. Also of interest to our readers would be brief histories of our other support groups including our Field Artillery units. Again, volunteer help is welcome.

Also relatively new is our Society Facebook page (Society 3rd I.D.). I administer the page which has been reaching thousands of people, and we have had many encouraging comments posted. If you want to contribute something to the Facebook page, please send it to me. Recently we ran a series of short articles, written by Joe Ball, about the “Dogface Soldier” song. That too has prompted many nice comments.

I received one complaint from a member who felt that I purposely lessened Tom Stoys’s chances of being elected President of the Society, because I did not put “Colonel” in front of his name. Why would I do that? Tim was not a Colonel. Tim retired with the proud rank of LTC. However, I used milit-
tary requirements for official documents. Those state that a Soldier who is serving in Active Duty must have his rank in front of his name and those who are retired do not have a rank in front of their names unless they are Generals. Further, I was criticized by the same person for putting Toby Knight’s name first (“so people would choose him.”) The candidates were listed in alphabetical order. Knight comes before Stoy in the alphabet. I hope this explains my motives and arrangement of information in typing the ballot for election of our Society President.

Getting ready for the reunion has been hectic. I hope to see many of you in Harrisburg. I am looking forward to our tour of the Gettysburg Battlefield, and I hope this issue of the Watch has a story about the Battle of Gettysburg. I toured the battlefield many years ago, but I know this visit will be more meaningful after having done research on the battle. Again, this issue of the Watch has several required articles. The Society Awards presented by Awards Chair Joseph Herron at the Awards Banquet are of particular interest. All recipients are listed. Please send your congratulations to those recipients familiar to you. We have several articles by members which we hope to squeeze into this Watch. Secretary-Treasurer, John Weis’s 2015-2016 financial report and Auditor Stephen Sullivan’s report are definitely included, and Outpost News has some very interesting articles.

Please look for the photo of the commemorative raising of the flag at Obersalzberg. Regrettably, we did not have sufficient space to include it with Outpost #5845’s report in the August issue. We have tried to give it featured space in this issue.

2016 Visit to Omaha Beach

By Daniel Wolfe

A 68-year-old vet isn’t expected to trudge this far. But this is Omaha Beach! A D-Day landing beach! I’ll follow our guide wherever she goes.

We stopped at a 22-foot bronze statue called, The Spirit of American Youth Rising from the Waves. It depicts a nude youth rising from the waves of Normandy with arms outstretched towards the sky. At its base, in bold, bronze letters, “Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory of the Coming of the Lord.”

The next stop brought us to the cemetery. Emerging from an emerald-green velvet-like carpet, were thousands of white, granite crosses. Scattered among them were white, granite Stars of David. A total of 9,387 American GIs are buried here, too many to be landscaped by trees.

The silence pierced our ears. Finally it was broken when our guide distributed a rose of remembrance to each of us. It was to rest against a gravestone of our choice. Upon approaching a Star of David, I noticed that lying underneath this marker was a 19-year-old who never knew the gift that he had bestowed upon me and to our country.

Our group then assembled at the foot of the bronze memorial dedicated to the Spirit of American Youth that passed away on the Normandy beaches.

The guide asked for any veteran in our group to step forward. About twelve veterans replied. He gave an emotional speech about the sacrifice men make when asked to serve their country. Tears welled up in my eyes recalling the Korean vets in my platoon who did not return. “The Star Spangled Banner” was aired from speakers surrounding us.

Then we went to Omaha Beach.

Children were chasing one another, leaving their tiny footprints in the sand. Parents were stretched out under multi-colored beach umbrellas. Tour buses were searching for a parking space. A woman was selling woven baskets. A peaceful panoramic sitting upon a beach dune soaked with blood.

A motorboat was heading towards the shore. I recalled Benny Hoover, my sergeant in Korea and WWII vet relate this story: “We were cramped up in a Higgins boat heading towards shore when we heard machine gun bullets ricocheting off the front ramp. It sounded like a snare drum. When we reached shore, and the ramp went down, seven men in front of me slumped over, dead.” Estimates of the number of GIs dead on D-Day range from 3,500 to 5,000.

My wife and her friend waded with their shoes on along the shoreline, perhaps to baptize themselves with the holy water of Omaha Beach. We stopped for a while to gather memorial sand in plastic bags, and then returned to our tour bus.

Daniel Wolfe, danielwolfebooks@aol.com, danielwolfebooks.com, 914-961-5709.

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<th>Army Division Association</th>
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<td>The A.D.A. is an association composed of 15 Army Division Associations with a membership of nearly 120,000. The annual meeting for 2016 was held May 12-15 in Charleston, West Virginia. The hotel, tours, banquets, and annual meeting were well planned and enjoyed by all attendees. The meeting on May 13th covered finances, scholarship plans, joint reunions, advertising, membership fund raising, and future meeting sites. The Society Public Relations Chair could not attend due to a scheduling conflict. The meeting dates and site for 2017 are May 4-7 at Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin. It is thought that the 2018 meeting will be in Virginia Beach, Virginia, May 6-9.</td>
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Submitted by Ron Ward, A.D.A.
Thank You Notes: Following are thank you notes from scholarship grant recipients Alec Roach, Westley Brooks, and Sedona Bulle. We also received a nice note of thanks from Sponsor Charles Lamlein.

Dear Mr. Ball and Board of Directors: Thanks you so much for presenting me with this honor for the third year. My family and I appreciate your support in my college endeavors. The "Award Honoring the Active Duty Soldiers" is quite an honor and I am humbled to accept it. Again, thank you for your support and allowing me to express my values and beliefs in our nation and supporting it. Very respectfully, Cadet Alec Roach, Echo Company, VMI Class of 2018.

Dear 3rd ID Society: Thank you for the scholarship grant that you awarded to me. I know it will help me in my pursuit of a college education. I'm eager to see where the University of Alabama takes me. Wes Brooks.

3rd Infantry Division Scholarship Foundation: Thank you so much for selecting me. Getting this means a lot to me. This will definitely help me with my college expenses. Lots of thanks, Sedona Bulle.

Our directors and staff want to thank everyone who donated to the Scholarship Foundation since the last issue of the Watch. You have made the Scholarship Grant Program not only possible but also a success. A list of current donors follows. Our Directors are grateful for your help.

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS**

- **Silver Donors**
  - Marjorie T. Hatchell
  - James A. Hoffsis
  - Sue Sack
  - Philip G. Seaton
  - Joseph C. Sours
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- **Bronze Donors**
  - Jim and Linda Reeves
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**Levels of Giving**

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

**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

**THE SOCIETY OF THE 3ID IS LOOKING FOR YOU!**

The Society of the Third Infantry Division has existed for 97 years and is the oldest continuous Army Association.

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

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

There is a membership application on p. 30. Join today!
Starting with the New Year 1953, The 8th Army’s commander, General Maxwell Taylor, was on message to minimize casualties. He was acutely aware of the shortage of properly trained officers for key staff positions. Infantry units on the main line of resistance (MLR) were still short of platoon leaders, but glaring deficiencies were obvious in S-2 positions.

Back in the winter of 1950, intelligence was completely ignored by General MacArthur which had confirmed China’s intention to intervene in Korea. The travesty of intelligence gathering in the war was the low priority accorded the conflict. There was not a national effort to intercept communication messages from the adversaries. The designation of the conflict as a police action prevented intelligence ground operatives from infiltrating the Chinese mainland. War intelligence was collected from prisoners, infiltrators, and aerial reconnaissance. The methods were somewhat successful.

The 8th Army began screening personnel rosters for officers who had received training at the Military Intelligence Service Group Far East, at Camp Palmer, Japan. As it happened regularly, some army officers were pulled from the pipeline to attend the intelligence course administered at the camp before continuing on to Korea. In the spring of 1952, I attended and completed the 14 week S-2 course. The successful completion of the course became a part my 201 file. However, my training as a Rifle Platoon Leader took precedence. Therefore that summer, I was assigned to Co “A” of the 65th Puerto Rican Regiment.

But then in January 1953, I received orders to report to the 3rd Infantry Division’s air strip. The order was from G-3 headquarters. But why? The order was strange. At the time, I was serving as a Platoon Leader in the Heavy Mortar Company of the regiment. But, it was an order and I obeyed without questions.

The air field was a euphemism. It was situated behind but close to the MLR. The runway was short with loose crushed gravel. It was reminiscent of runways employed by bush pilots in the wilderness of Alaska. Also, there was a small non-descriptive shack with a covered stove pipe protruding from its flat roof. Inside, there were two junior officers, a bulky sergeant and a Lt. Colonel who welcomed me into the tight interior. There was a small table which contained parachutes. I became suspicious. I had elected not to attend jump school after completing my basic infantry officer’s course at Fort Benning. I still considered jumping out of a perfectly normal plane abhorrent. Fortunately, my fears were alleviated when Lt. Colonel Baker explained that we were to become the regiment’s battalions S-2 officers. Finally, I thought, the Army remembered my intelligence training.

I was designated S-2 of the 1st battalion. As such, I was selected to go up and fly over the enemy’s position which faced the 1st battalion’s front. The sergeant quickly and professionally strapped me into my main parachute and attached an emergency chute to my front. I waddled out of the shack and into a bright wintry day. Waiting for me was an olive canvas covered L-19—a Piper Cub masquerading as a military aircraft. I was told to observe my enemy’s front position and gun emplacements. Although on the surface the command seemed appropriate, the colonel failed to comprehend that Chinese gun emplacements and personnel bunkers were not visible. Not even from the air. I climbed into the seat behind the pilot with my powerful field binoculars. The parachutes severely restricted my body movements. I rested my binoculars on the top of the emergency chute.

There was no opportunity for me to express to Colonel Baker the futility of flying over enemy-held real estate. But he was in command and insisted that we staff officers should become familiar with the terrain. It was impossible for the other two junior officers to voice their disapproval about the mission. In Korea, rarely did junior officers question direct orders. Moreover by the third year of the war, the probability of a cease fire looked good. Everybody was trying to play it safe.

The sergeant closed the canvas door flap and the pilot taxied the plane out to the runway. The take-off was smooth and quick. The aircraft began wide upward climbing circles as soon as we were airborne. When he was satisfied with the plane’s altitude, we headed north and over the MLR into enemy held territory. My visibility from the cockpit was limited and next to nothing. All I could make out was a grayish, fine ash covering the hillsides and mountain peaks. There was absolutely no vegetation—just a bare denuded surface. It was obviously a short time in the air but there was nothing to see that resembled trenches or gun emplacements. The Chinese had, because of our superior artillery and mortar fire, dug everything underground and made caves for their men and weapons.

I sensed that the pilot felt the flight was a crazy mission and finally he asked me, “seen enough Lieutenant?” In a quick and clear voice I said, “Yes.” In that moment, I felt exonerated and relieved. The flight may have lasted twenty minutes or more but the touch-down was quick and bumpy, and I was glad to be back on solid ground and without taking any fire.

Back in the shack the colonel debriefed me. Sorry to report sir, “I saw nothing and the Chinese soldiers were not running around in the open.” He was a bit puzzled by my short report but he did not press me further. After the removal of my parachutes, I was given a box of aerial photos of my battalion’s front, no-man’s-land, and the enemy’s front. In addition, the colonel gave me my orders assigning me as the S-2 of the 1st Battalion, 65th Regiment. I saluted, picked up my M-2 carbine and, with my driver, I headed back to our familiar portion of the MLR. What we needed were stiff shots of Canadian Club with Donald Duck orange juice chaser. As for another flight in a light air craft, it should be noted, not on your life. But I digress.
Joe Annello wrote “Dear Lynn: I have been remiss in not complementing you on some of the great articles in the “Watch on the Rhine.” However, the recent human relations article on ‘News from France’ was particularly interesting, informative, yet sad at the same time! My heart went out to the two daughters of servicemen KIA in France, Jean Kimbriel and Jo Ann Rowman-Morrissey. Aaron, the little French boy who loves and honors our American Flag, really yanked at my heart strings… a young foreign boy who honors our flag more than some of the ingrates that we have in our own country! Thank you once again for your outstanding work as Editor of ‘The Watch’! We really appreciate all of your efforts and the contribution they have made to our Society!”

Charles Lamlein wrote “Dear Lynn: I am so proud of my granddaughter, Hannah Yaeger receiving a scholarship award as noted in the latest Watch on the Rhine. I am also very proud of all the work you and Joe do to make the 3rd Infantry Division publication such a great one for many years now, and I am proud to be a recipient of all your devotion in making the publication such a great one. The Third Division Society members, I am sure, owe Joe both a “Medal of Honor.”

Joseph Poggi wrote: “SFC Roy Spanower (Ket.) (83) passed away on April 12, 2016. Roy served with the 3rd Infantry Division in Korea. While on Hill 400 in the Chorwon area, Spanower was serving as radio operator for G Company 2 BN Command. He picked up an automatic rifle and joined the fight threatening the command center. He was wounded and was awarded the Purple Heart and the Silver Star for heroism. For many years, Roy was a member of the 15th Infantry Association and the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division. In civilian life, Roy was a Director of the Department of General Services for New York City. Roy proudly reported that one of his three children is a New York State trooper.”

John Myers wrote that he wanted to update his profile on our website. “I wanted to add my dates of service: 10/20/1950 to 7/7/1952. I was a Staff Sergeant in “I,” 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Division. I am retired but I worked for General Motors for 24 years in Labor Relations. I don’t know which was worse. I was only on the front line for about three weeks and they told me to come back to the kitchen train and be our Company Clerk. I only had to go up to the line once a day to get the morning report signed by the Captain. The statistics I compiled while there were 49 KIA, 149 wounded and the man (17 years old), Charles L. Gillard, for whom I wrote the Medal of Honor citation. He is still missing. So the odds of getting wounded were three to one for getting killed. We went in alphabetical order, Marina, Marino and Meyers. Marina was killed and Marino went back to New York and I went back to Cleveland, Ohio. One more thing on my address; my zip is 30094-3720. Website would not accept last four digits. Hope this helps, Lynn, and every time I get something from you and Joe, I thank God you are there. God bless. P.S. I am 88 years old and still play golf 3 times a week.” [Our Roster does not support fields for all of John’s information, but it has been updated with his dates, rank, unit, his civilian employment, and his zip code extension. You will recall that the Watch previously published John’s story about writing the citation that led to the award of the MOH.]

Curley Faulk, Outpost #35 Member, wrote: “Hello all: I am making progress in rehab! Currently visiting Carol Ann at home today. How great it is! Thank you all for your moral support! Learning to use a new tablet today and hopefully I can stay more connected in the future.”

Kathy Daddato called to say that she received her Watch and liked everything in it. She said there was a good assortment of topics covered and complimented the editor on the writing. “It was just wonderful. I particularly liked the human interest story about the little boy in France who loses our fallen soldiers and our American flag.”

William J. McLean wrote to Joe: “As a member of the Audie Murphy Outpost, I want to thank you and Lynn for all you have done for our Society and Outpost. Yours has been service ‘above and beyond’ and I want to recognize you for it.”

Paul Desroches wrote: “Hi Lynn, Congratulations on your new position as Vice President of the Central Region and being able to continue as editor of the Watch. You have always done an outstanding job and are a great asset to the Society. I look forward to reading your future columns and your continued success. Thanks for all your hard work.”
Chaplain’s Corner

Jerry Daddato

Dear Fellow Veterans, Active Duty Soldiers, and Families:

Here we are at the end of our summer season at the midwest and east coast. But in Florida the heat is always here; this is my first year here and believe me it is warm, 93 degrees every day with a slight rain in the afternoon. We hope that all enjoy the warm weather before the winter visits up north with the snow and cold.

Labor Day weekend and the start of school have come and gone. I just don’t know where the time goes. We hope everyone had a great holiday and now down to work with the busy fall season ahead.

As we are enjoying our freedoms; our military is hard at work protecting our country and they are ready at a moment’s notice to answer the call to arms.

God bless all of our military for what they do for our country, and when you see them thank them personally and shake their hands. It means so very much to them to be recognized.

When you read this report our 97th Reunion will have come and gone. If you were at home you missed a great one as usual. Seeing old friends is what I really enjoy. The Veteran Members of our Society who served in times of conflict, times of near conflict, and in Peace time can recount their experience while serving in defense of this great nation. Equally difficult, for many, was the adjustment when returning to their homes and families. God’s Blessings to all who have served or who presently serve the Flag.

Next year’s Reunion, in San Antonio, Texas, is something that I am looking forward to.

Remember to pray for the safe return of all of our military for they are on duty 24/7.

Hope to see all of you soon. May God Bless America.

ROTM

Your Chaplain, Jerry Daddato

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Seeking New Members

We hope you will contact Veterans of the 3rd Infantry Division who are not already members of our Society and invite them to join us. We have copies of the Watch available for those who wish to distribute them at military gatherings and other places. Page 30 of every Watch has the information needed to join the Society and Kathy Daddato has a new, quite attractive recruitment brochure available. Over the year, we have encountered several people who said they were out of the service for several years and didn’t know about our Society. When they learned about us, they joined. All reports have been positive.
Letter to the President and OP Harry

By William McLean

As a member of the Audie Murphy Outpost, I want to thank you and Lynn for all you have done for our Society and Outpost. Yours has been service "above and beyond" and I want to recognize you for it.

I was pleased to read your review of the battle of Outpost Harry during those terrible days just before the Armistice was signed. I was a Second Lieutenant in the 3rd AAA BN at the time and assigned to battery A as the Executive Officer. I had been called in from my platoon to assist Lt. Charles Sperow manage a group of M-39s (personnel carriers on a light truck chassis) which were operating between the MLR and Harry building up the defenses in anticipation of a major push by the Chinese.

The regiment and the engineers were digging trenches, building bunkers, and stringing barbed wire, using the M-39s as cargo carriers. This seems an odd assignment for an anti-aircraft outfit, but we had the M-39s, which were critical to this effort to protect Harry. Your article gave the position of Harry as 425 yards beyond the MLR, which was true, however the route to get from the MLR to Harry was much longer, and under enemy observation the whole distance. The M-39 was extremely fast (about 60 mph over flat ground), armored on the sides, with an open cargo space. Enemy artillerymen wasted very little ammunition trying to hit them at speed. When one broke down, however, or had to slow to cross a gully, they were fair game, consequently we tried to do most of the ferrying after dark.

Once they reached the base of Harry, they entered a cut made by bulldozers, and were relatively safe while unloading and loading. When the Chinese push came, it was late night and came with a vengeance. The infantry companies assigned each night were always overrun, and had to repulse the attacks with hand-to-hand fighting. The M-39 mission changed immediately to one of toting ammunition, personnel, and subsistence supplies to Harry and bringing wounded back to the aid station. The message logs of the regiment reflect many calls for M-39 assistance.

During these hectic days and nights 3rd AAA drivers ran those M-39s back and forth to Harry seemingly without a thought to their own safety. They constantly faced the possibility of a Chinook patrol waiting for them, a lucky hit by artillery, or a breakdown leaving them stranded in enemy territory. They also risked being caught on Harry when one of the attacks occupied the whole trench system. Alas, I did not keep a record of the wounded and killed 3rd AAA personnel in this effort, nor do I remember the medals awarded to those drivers. I do remember that LT. Sperow was wounded and I replaced him as the operational manager of the M-39 detail.

I must mention the Greek BN, which was assigned to the 3rd Infantry as part of the United Nations force. They had the reputation as fierce fighters, and one of their infantry companies spent a night on Harry during this time of nightly assaults. The report we got was not only did they repulse the Chinese, but also that they left the trenches on Harry and pursued them back to their own lines. A problem arose between the Greek Battalion Commander and myself about maintenance on the M-39s. He considered them "his to command" and would not allow them to leave his forward battalion headquarters. We were forced to gas them up from 55 gallon drums, by hand, and could not bring them back to our motor pool for much needed service. There was a liaison officer assigned to their headquarters to mediate problems like this, but he did not have any effect on the Greeks. Finally, I asked Division Artillery to send someone of equal rank to talk to the Greek C.O., and they sent a Major who had never been close to enemy fire before.

By the time he had spent the night with me in our Battery bunker, which was over the hill from a battalion of 155mm cannons which fired over our heads all night long, and my driver had ditched the jeep taking us to the Greek Battalion rear headquarters because the Chinese artillery was shooting at us, he was not in very good shape to lay down the law to the Greeks. The Greek C.O. finally agreed to let the M-39s go back to the rear for service, if I would personally accompany them to and fro. This arrangement lasted a couple of days, but ended when we just ignored the Greek demands, with no further trouble.

Those were trying times, but I went my way after Korea with a new respect for the Infantry Soldier. Those companies occupied that hill—a new one every night—knowing that before the night was over, they would be fighting for their lives in those trenches. The engineers were right there beside them, rebuilding the defenses and then fighting alongside them when the attacks came. The forward observers for the artillery deserve a medal for just being there, responsible for bringing artillery down on themselves in attempts to repel the enemy. Gallantry was common, heroism the order of the day.

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.

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Korean War Veterans Honored

Lee Joon-keun, just right of center, poses with the 10 veterans he invited to Korea as his all-expense paid guests so they could attend the July 27th event.

On July 27th, Korean War Veterans from 21 nations gathered at the national shrine at Yiyun Chung Tower in the National Cemetery in Seoul to witness an incense burning ceremony to honor the Koreans who perished in the Korean War. The tower has a crypt that holds the ashes of 7,000 unidentified Korean service personnel who fell, and memorial tablets bear the names of 104,000 South Koreans who are listed as missing in action. South Korea’s Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs, Chung Mongkoo, presented the Ambassador of Peace Medal to several participants.

At a Grand National Ceremony held in Seoul’s indoor Olympic Stadium, thousands of veterans, school children, and national and civic dignitaries attended a solemn service commemorating the 63rd anniversary of the July 27, 1953 Armistice that ended the Korean War. Veterans and other celebrants saluted while the National Anthems were played at the beginning of the ceremony. At other times during the event, those assembled waved flags and offered cheers of joy for the achievements of all of the veterans during the war and for the enormous achievements of the people of South Korea in the six decades since the armistice went into effect.

Many medals were awarded during the ceremonies. Medals of High Decorations were presented to veterans from four of the UN allied nations honoring them for their Korean War service and also as representative of the service of all who served and contributed to the July 27, 1953 victory. Receiving the highest medal for bravery, the Taeguk Medal of the Order of Military Merit, were General Michael Muller (South African Air Force) General Raymond Davis, (United States), and Colonel Maximo Young (Philippines).

Entertainment included Korea’s Little Angels, the renowned junior singing and dance group that has existed since right after the Korean War and now spans four generations. The Little Angels began touring the world in the 1950s and appeared in the United States on the “Ed Sullivan Show.” The group has its own college and theatre in Seoul. Through the years, many of them have gone on to a variety of careers and have distinguished themselves in many spheres of activity, including national politics.

This was quite an event; it seemed that people from every walk of life were honoring the Veterans of the Korean War. A civic group, wanting to show that the Korean War Veterans will always be their heroes, marched with flags of many UN Allied Nations in downtown Seoul to demonstrate their love and support of the veterans, despite a drenching rain. Not publicized, but in addition to the 130 veterans and family members, 65 veterans were honored guests with their airfare and all costs in Korea paid by the Ministry of Patriots and Veteran Affairs. This was made possible by the generous efforts of various industrial and civic groups who sponsored additional veterans so that their numbers were significantly increased.

Shown at the War Memorial of Korea in Seoul, construction tycoon Lee Joon-keun posed with 10 veterans he invited to Korea as his all-expense paid guests. Mr. Lee also covered the full cost of airfare and accommodations for the family members accompanying each veteran.

[Compiled by Lynn Bell from materials submitted by Joe Anello]

Michigan War Dog Memorial

From materials sent by Bernadine Ginter

For years there existed a humble little pet cemetery off Milford Road in Lyon Township, Michigan. They called it the “Happy Hunting Ground” when the Elkow family first laid to rest a faithful companion in the 1930s. It is now known as the “Michigan War Dog Memorial” and is being rejuvenated for beloved pets and veteran service dogs. Phil Weitlauf, president of the Michigan War Dog Memorial, is spearheading the restoration efforts. He said that the memorial event on April 16, 2016, was a tribute to service dogs who have taken “best friends” to life-saving levels.

Weitlauf, added that “this mission has taken on a life of its own.” Weitlauf discovered the cemetery in 2010 and said “its markers include more than a few dogs who served their country along with their masters in WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and the Middle East.” Weitlauf said the grounds had all but been taken over by nature. He felt that the animals buried there deserved better. He organized a detail with military veterans and K-9 supporters. “We needed to clean this up and show our respect. Once people realized what was there and what we were doing, we had hundreds of volunteers signed up to help.” He said support continued to grow as veterans and dog lovers realized what we were doing. “K-9 troops are said to have saved more than 15,000 lives in World War...

Please turn to MEMORIALon pag 24
We will meet at the 3ID monument, at 2:15 PM on November 11, 2016, for a short ceremony, and we will recognize the dedicated service of John Insani. At 3:15 PM, OP #7 will conduct the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Wreath Laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns.

—Submitted by Dennis Barletta, Vice President

A report on the October meeting of Outpost #13 will be in the next issue of the Watch. Mark your calendars for our spring meeting which will be held on Saturday 13 May 2017 at noon at Bakers which is three miles north of Exit 155 of I-96.

—Submitted by: Gordon W. Draper, Vice President

Outpost #15 will hold its next meeting in conjunction with its participation in the Phoenix Day Veterans Parade. A potluck luncheon and outpost meeting will be at Curtis Gentry’s home, following the parade.

—Submitted by Curtis Gentry, Secretary-Treasurer

Outpost #17 Associate Member Doris Duckworth chaired and presented the “Ladies’ Event” and program at the 97th Reunion of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division. Doris also presented the program, which was very well received, at the 96th Reunion. Thanks, much, Doris. Your help and support is very much appreciated.

—Submitted by Lynn Ball, Editor, Watch on the Rhine

Greetings from Southern California. Congratulations to Toby Knight (our new national President). We send a giant “Thank You” to all of the past Society leaders who served the Society, during their terms of office. Thanks!

James Threadgill (Norco, CA) survived a terrible house fire, where he lost all of his military memorabilia. We are glad that you made it out alive, Jim. We treasure the memories of deceased life member, Bob Coults (of Ventura, CA), Bob de Jong (England), Ed Everett, (of Lompoc, CA), Ted Hurlinger (of Anchorage, AK), Rudy Martinez, (of Temecula, CA), George Welch (of Adelanto, CA), and Roger Whittle (of North Hollywood, CA), who recently died. We will miss you.
Because our OP members live so far apart (central and southern California, NV, AZ, AL, NJ, PA, UT, WA, and GA), we have found it difficult to hold regular meetings and mini-meetings. Some of our members assemble during VA activities, and share “quality of life” trips, social experiences, and adventures with family, friends, and close Army buddies. Thank you RECON 1 for your “Places to Go; Things to Do” report. In the past two months, we have gone u-pick cherry picking, visited an ostrich farm (in Leona Valley), attended beach parties (Sunset Beach, Carlsbad, Santa Barbara, and Cambria, CA), watched the national Surfing Championship (Huntington Beach, CA), visited museums in San Francisco, Sylmar, and Los Angeles CA), attended county fairs in San Diego County, Orange County, the Central Coast) and enjoyed local festivals (i.e. “The Lotus Festival” in L.A., wine tasting, a Salsa fest., a Greek fest, an inter-tribal POW WOW, and an Italian festival.

We hope to see you in Harrisburg, PA for the national reunion. Stay healthy, live well, and enjoy life.

—Submitted by Ron Greenwood, Secretary-Treasurer

WWII Veteran Staff Sgt. Joe Hilderbrand was honored by the Cherokee Nation with the Medal of Patriotism in May. Hilderbrand is 1/16th Cherokee. He took his basic training at Camp Walters in Mineral Wells, Texas. He traveled through Africa to Naples, Italy where he was part of a replacement unit at Anzio Beachhead. His unit was able to break through the German line in May 1944. In June, Hilderbrand was the assistant squad leader for his unit, which was charged with freeing Rome. He was in the first wave of the invasion of France and was wounded. In addition to the Purple Heart, Hilderbrand received several ribbons and medals for his service. Each month, the Cherokee Nation recognizes service men and women for their sacrifices and as a way to demonstrate the high regard in which all veterans are held by the tribe. Native Americans, including Cherokees, are thought to have more citizens serving per capita than any other ethnic group, according to the U.S. Department of Defense.

—Submitted by Joe Ball, President

Two months ago, Outpost #54 members attended the Change of Command Ceremony at the Parks Army Base in Dublin, California. Recently, Outpost #54 officers and some members attended a Bastille Day celebration at Outpost #54 Member Josiane Selvage’s home. We remember how much the French government assisted us in our battles with England to secure our Independence from British rule. The French citizens greatly appreciate all we did to liberate them from German rule. In early September, I will attend a Liberation Ceremony in Abrois, France. I will also visit Anzio to thank the men who are maintaining our 3rd ID monument there.

—Submitted by John Shirley, President

Outpost #57, Western Reserve, will again hold its fall meeting at Der Dutchman Restaurant in Bellville, Ohio, on October 26 at Noon. The restaurant is conveniently located just east of Exit 165 on Interstate 71. The cost of the buffet is $16 per person. There will be a short business meeting following lunch.

We recognize that some members have expressed an interest in an alternate location for the meetings and we tried to find a convenient and reasonably priced location closer to Columbus. We could only find sites that charged for the use of a room in addition to the price of the food. The charges were in the neighborhood of $75 for 2 hours and the food would be served “family style” which means in bowls that are passed. We find that our Bellville location, with its excellent buffet and room at no charge is a better value for the Outpost.

The officers of the Outpost would like to accommodate the wishes of the members and we are open to suggestions for an alternate site for next May’s meeting. Please email me with suggestions. That being noted, we hope to see many of you in October.

—Submitted by Regis Rocco, President

Joe Annello and Bill Buntrock had breakfast in Castle Rock, Colorado, on September 9th. It would have been nice to be a mouse under the chair at that meeting.

OP International participated in 28 commemorative events between 14 and 31 August during the 72nd anniversary of Operation Dragoon and Southern France campaign activities in Provence, France. We are happy to report the French living in the communities liberated by the 3rd Infantry Division and other units in the 7th Army remain deeply grateful to our WWII veterans for their combat service in France which brought their liberation from the Nazis in August 1944.
Our first event was a mass in the chapel of St. Anne in St. Tropez the evening of 14 August commemorating the anniversary of the town’s liberation. The congregation also celebrated the Feast of the Ascension of Mary which falls on 15 August each year. Early that morning we joined the US Consul General, the US Military Attaché to France, and numerous dignitaries at the 7th Army Memorial/3ID plaque on Pampelonne Beach in Ramatuelle to commemorate the division’s landing there and the town’s liberation on 15 August. We also visited the Audie Murphy memorial off the beach at Les Bousis, the site of his Distinguished Service Cross action. Later that morning we participated in ceremonies at the 3rd ID/509 Parachute Infantry Battalion monument in St. Tropez and the town’s war memorial, and at the memorial to the maritime services in the harbor area. Mayor Jean-Pierre Tuveri remains a great supporter of the outpost and hopes to host a historical seminar in St. Tropez next year in conjunction with commemorations of 15 August.

At the St Tropez ceremony: L-R: Jean-Claude Routard, Tim Stoy, Mayor Tuveri, and Monika Stoy at the 3ID/509PIB monument.

On 17 August we participated in Le Luc’s liberation ceremony with Mayor Pascal Verrelle and on the 19th we participated in Brignoles’ ceremony, the first time in several years we have been able to do so. That afternoon we participated in the liberation ceremony held by the village of Tourves, outside of Brignoles. This was the first time this community has ever held a liberation ceremony, and it was the first time Americans in uniform are remembered to have been in the village since the war.

On 20 August the outpost participated in three ceremonies: Vauvenargues, Saint Marc Jaumegarde, and Port de Beraud on the outskirts of Aix-en-Provence. It was great to see Brigadier General Pierre Kerlann, organizer of the Vauvenargues and St. Marc ceremonies, again, and Mayor Regis Martin of St. Marc and Jean-Pierre Brioile, deputy mayor of Vauvenargues. The following day we participated in the ceremony in Aix-en-Provence, working with old friend Gerard Deloach, the city’s representative for military and patriotic affairs. We were very happy to be joined by Brigadier General Jacques Aragones, a close friend of the Division.

On 22 August Outpost #5845 participated in Lannion’s ceremony in the morning with Mayor Michel Mille and Mr. Jean-Baptiste Falzon, and in Salon-de-Provence in the late afternoon. On 23 August we participated in the ceremony at Larmor. On 24 August we participated in Cavaillon’s ceremony. Mayor Jean Claude Bouchet has always been a great OP supporter, and on 25 August there were two ceremonies in Carpentras, one in honor of a fallen Resistance member and the other, the town’s liberation ceremony.

In St Paul Trois Chateaux with Mayor Jean Michel Catelinois leads parade through medieval town gate flanked on the right with the 3ID commemorative plaque.

On 26 August, the outpost participated in a ceremony in Vaison la-Romaine in the morning, Bollene mid-afternoon, a traffic circle naming ceremony (in honor of Army Air Corps pilot Lt. Warren Semple killed in the air campaign supporting Operation Dragoon) in Orange’s liberation ceremony, and at another ceremony in Piolenc. On the 27th the ceremonies were at Saint Paul Trois Chateaux in the morning, and in the evening in the liberation festival sponsored by the beautiful village of Malacuene.

The outpost was in Montelimar the morning of 28 August for its ceremony, and in the afternoon participated in a plaque dedication ceremony remembering the crew of a US Army Air Corps bomber. The plane was lost while on a bombing mission during Operation Dragoon. On 29 August we attended the liberation ceremony in Sauzet, which saw very hard fighting in the week prior to the fall of Montelimar. The town’s choir performed “The Star Spangled Banner.” Later that day we traveled to Valreas to express our gratitude and present certificates of appreciation to Mayor Patrick Adrien for his liberation ceremony honoring the 3d Infantry Division. The final commemoration the OP participated in was in Valence on 31 August. This was another city which was happy to have Americans join in its liberation commemoration for the first time since WWII.

The French citizens expressed deep affection and gratitude for our WWII veterans of the Southern France campaign and asked us to bring back the message that your service and sacrifices are not forgotten. The outpost received outstanding support from all the communities we visited. Special thanks go to Mr. Nico Courtime, who assisted us in numerous ceremonies throughout the two-plus weeks in France; LTC, retired, Xavier Marquet, in Orange; Mr. Laurent Amans in Le Luc, Brignoles, and Aix-en-Provence; Mr. Jean-Claude Routard in St. Tropez and Brignoles; COL, retired Pierre Viger in Valence, and Mr. Claude Douay in Montelimar.
Gettysburg: The Pivotal Battle of the Civil War

By Lynn Ball

Available on Amazon in both hard cover and paperback (new and used) for a variety of prices.

The story of the Battle of Gettysburg opens charmingly with the 1899 journey by train, of an old Veteran of the Civil War, from the shores of Puget Sound to Gettysburg to re-visit the battlefield. The reader experiences the images he sees and the emotions he feels as he travels 12 of the 45 states comprising the United States in 1899.

Prior to the Battle of Gettysburg, General Joseph Hooker was commander of the Union Army. It was undoubtedly the stunning defeat of Hooker’s Army at Chancellorsville, even though his army was of superior numbers that led to his demise. Instead of pressing his advantage, Hooker ordered his army to retreat north across the Rappahannock River to wait for reinforcements. This enabled General Lee to capture some 12,000 soldiers and associated weapons and artillery. Hooker continued to lead the Army into June. However, due to in-fighting, he asked to be relieved at the end of June. Lincoln named General George G. Meade to command the Union Army.

Actually, while the Confederate Army was lower in numbers of Soldiers, it was in much better shape than the Union Army. The Soldiers of the Confederacy were primarily farmers and country boys who had to depend on their skills with firearms to put food on the table. By contrast, the North was much more urbanized. Few Union soldiers had the marksmanship skills of the majority of the Confederate forces. Another disadvantage with which the Northern troops coped was inferior ammunition. The ammunition provided to them had little powder so shot did not always travel far enough to be useful. This was a complaint throughout the Civil War. By contrast, the Southern troops had excellent ammunition. But the northern forces had rifles while the southern forces had muskets. The northern forces had some additional advantages: 97% of the USA’s firearms were manufactured in the north and 94% of the pig iron was in the north. The south hoped to make good its lack of materials by trading with Europe, but the Union used its naval strength to impose increasingly tight blockades. Of course, one major loss to the South at Chancellorsville was General Stonewall Jackson who was mortally wounded by friendly fire. He had been General Lee’s right hand. These were the facts on the eve of battle.

Many people have wondered why the Union Army (representing the North) attacked Gettysburg from the South and the Confederate Army (representing the South) attacked from the North. The Battle of Gettysburg took place July 1 – 3, 1863. In June, General Robert E. Lee, commander of the Confederate forces, began moving his Army of Northern Virginia north-west, through West Virginia and into Pennsylvania with the two-fold purpose of capturing needed materiel along the way (and depriving the northern troops of this materiel) and of attacking key cities of the North, including Harrisburg. He thought that if he could capture Harrisburg, the capital of Pennsylvania, and threaten other cities like Washington, he could force a favorable negotiated peace.

In the meantime, the Union Army under the command of General George G. Meade was south of Gettysburg, but moving north. Once General Lee realized this movement, he reversed direction of his Army and began the several-day’s march south. It was on July 1st that the two armies met and began battle at Gettysburg. The initial battle of Oak Ridge, a decisive victory for the South led to the Union Army’s occupation of Cemetery Hill, Culp’s Hill, and Cemetery Ridge. Lee’s army hesitated and the Union forces fortified Culp’s Hill, Spangler’s Spring, and the important position at Little Round Top. The Confederate forces moved into position toward Devil’s Den and the Round Tops. A savage battle ensued; however, the Union forces held the west slope of the Big Round Top of Devil’s Den, and the Peach Orchard. The loss of Little Round Top would have jeopardized the entire Union position.

The Confederate forces did succeed in advancing on one side of Culp’s Hill but did not press their advantage. Further, they failed to destroy the Union supply train just a few hundred yards away. The Confederate leadership’s failure to press advantages and their unclear orders and lack of coordination played roles in the Confederates’ inability to gain a victory.

On July 3rd, except for intermittent sniping of sharp-shooters, an ominous silence prevailed. At 1:00 PM, the Confederate artillery loosed a heavy shell storm that blackened the sky and clouded the air with smoke. The Union gunners waited until they located the Confederate guns and then began firing their 80 guns in succession for nearly two hours. Then the Union guns slackened to save ammunition as did the Confederate guns, for the same reason.

Believing it was time to attack, Lee sent word to Pickett to charge across the open field for a frontal attack. However, Union guns opened fire on the right and left flanks of Pickett’s charge. As Pickett and his troops neared the stone wall protecting the Union troops, the Confederate lines broke ranks in disarray. Nevertheless, Pickett and 150 of his men charged over the wall. Pickett was wounded and his men were captured. Others retreated to Confederate lines in the rear. Meade did not counter-attack as Lee had expected.

Late on the afternoon of the 4th, Lee began an orderly retreat. While some skirmishes took place, for the most part, the Army of the Confederacy crossed the Potomac River into the Northern Virginia, thus ending the Battle of Gettysburg.
My father was a career U.S. Navy officer. We moved all about the United States during his career and spent several years in the San Diego area while he worked at the Coronado Naval Base. He occasionally would depart on cruises to ports of call in the western Pacific, or, as the Navy referred to it, WestPac.

He was a photography fan and took pictures of every destination his ship, the USS Bremerton, put into. By far the most interesting photos (all in slides) were those taken in Hong Kong. A series of slides featured: 1) a small flotilla of sampans approaching the Bremerton, (next slide, please) 2) Ropes lowering boxes and small crates to the out-stretched arms of smiling Chinese, (next slide) 3) An older woman in the bow of the lead sampan waving, smiling, then (slide, please), 4) eager young Chinese men and women scaling the ship’s lowered stair ladder, carrying what appeared to be buckets, paint brushes, rollers, and rags. Here’s the story behind the slides: The older lady in the lead sampan was known as “Hong Kong Mary.” The Chinese in the other sampans were her workers. The contents of the boxes lowered into her boats were from the ship’s galley and contained spoiled produce, meat, and any other consumables the ship’s head cook deemed to be outside their “consume by” date. The younger Chinese workers clambering aboard were there to paint the ship.

What a trade! What a savings to the US taxpayers! Get your ship painted for a few cartons of rotten vegetables and fruit. Last you doubt the authenticity of this story, I can tell you that years later, living and working in the Chicago area, I was one day discussing this with my boss at lunch. We were swapping stories of our time on active duty.

“Served three years on a destroyer in WestPac. Gunner officer. Stopped in Japan, Korea, Formosa, Hong Kong—” He paused for a moment. “Yeah, Hong Kong. Darnest thing used to happen when we’d put in there. We’d barely have the harbor in sight when a million of these sampans would come out and greet us. Or so we thought. They were led by a little old lady—“

“Hong Kong Mary,” I interrupted.

“I thought you were in the Army,” he protested.

“Yeah, but my Dad was a 30-year Navy man. Know all about Hong Kong Mary.”

I gave him my story of barter from my days in the 3rd Infantry Division, in Germany, in the early-to-mid-1970’s.

There were no large bases in Germany for American Army units. Large scale training exercises were held at training areas known at MTA’s, or Major Training Areas. These MTA’s were in towns named Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels, and Wildflecken. Covering thousands of acres, these areas could give sufficient room for tanks and armored vehicles to maneuver, artillery to fire at long range targets, and infantry units freedom to move almost without restriction. Three or four times a year, a tank or infantry battalion would entrain and ship out to one of the above mentioned MTA’s for 3-to-4 weeks of intensive training. While there, troops would be quartered in “camps,” or cantonment areas which provided barracks for temporary housing. These barracks offered beds, latrines, and the showers troops would use when not on over-night or prolonged exercises. Once training was concluded for that cycle, troops would sweep, mop, scour, and clean their barracks in preparation for occupancy by the next (incoming) unit.

The responsibility for housing and general maintenance of these buildings fell to an office of facilities management. I don’t recall its exact title, but that is essentially what they did. This office, staffed largely by German nationals, oversaw the management, cleaning, and evacuation of the barracks in the camps. Before a unit could be “cleared” from an MTA, these inspectors had to give their blessing. Once a unit passed inspection, it was free to return to its home station at another garrison or kaserne in Germany. Of course an entire infantry or tank battalion’s return was not held in the balance of passing a barracks inspection; no, the battalion returned to its home station as scheduled. Passing the barracks inspection was left usually to a junior officer in the battalion, a sergeant, and a dozen young troops. They would have to scrub and clean and ensure their parent unit was “cleared” to leave the MTA. If this little band of soldiers failed to pass the inspection, well then, by God, they stayed until they did.

How difficult was it to pass this inspection? Depends on who you asked. After a three-week stay in Grafenwoehr in February/March 1975, I was the (un)fortunate junior officer tasked to oversee this clean-up of barracks, but was relieved when I learned that Staff Sergeant Worley was assigned as my assistant. SSgt Worley had multiple tours of duty in Germany, in between combat tours in VietNam, was married to a German girl, and spoke the language fluently. I approached SSgt Worley once I learned he was to be my Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) in charge. Was this “clearance” procedure a real ordeal?

“Well sir, you know there are three ways to do things: the right way, the wrong way, and the Army way. Now if we want to pass the Rads’ inspection, there’s something we gotta do.” (Note here: Germans were referred to as “Rads”, not Krauts. The abbreviation is short for Kamerade. In four years in Germany, I never once heard a GI refer to any German, soldier or civilian, as a kraut.)

“And what might that be?”

“Well sir, we pass the hat and—“

“And collect money,” I interrupted.

He nodded.

“So we bribe these official?”

“No exactly, sir. We take the money we collect and go to the PX and the package store and buy cigarettes and booze. We leave these goodies in the barracks where they can be seen. Sort of a gift to them. Rads love Scotch, Jim Beam, and US cigarettes.”

“But Germany is a prosperous nation.

By Chris Timmers
Surely they can afford to buy these things themselves,” I protested.

“Yessir, but they’re expensive as hell on the local economy and besides, the Marlboros made here for the European market aren’t the same as they are in the US. You can smoke ‘em, but they taste like shit.”

I couldn’t believe what I was hearing. “So this is still a bribe, no matter how you look at it?”

“You can say that, I guess, Lieutenant. But I want to pass this inspection first time around and get back to K-town.”

“We will pass,” I said. “We will make it back, no sweat. The one thing we won’t do is pay a bribe to these parasites.”

SSgt Worley smiled and gave the classical enlisted man’s shrug of the shoulders which was sign language for OK-sir-but-you’ll-be-sorry.

Our battalion returned to garrison on a Tuesday. SSgt Worley and the troops attacked the barracks with a frenzy and cleaned everything to surgical standards. On Wednesday morning, without bribes or blandishments, the “Rads” conducted a walk through inspection and failed us. We had a re-scheduled inspection for later that afternoon. Again a failure. I ordered more cleaning and scheduled a re-inspection for Thursday morning. Thursday morning came. And we failed again. At around lunch time, I was told to report to the MTA commander’s office. I walked into the reception area and a young German lady said to me: “Your commanding officer back in Kitzingen wants to speak to you. You may use this phone to call him,” handing me the receiver. I dialed and was shortly put through to my battalion executive officer. Long story short: he wanted to know where the hell I was and why SSgt Worley and I, plus a dozen young troops, still hadn’t made it back to K-town. I started to explain the whole bribery scheme but was cut short by goddamit-get-back-here and I-don’t-want-to-hear-any-lame-ass-excuses.

I was back in my room in one of the barracks and sent for SSgt Worley.

“You win, Worley.”

His face brightened. “You mean we pass the hat, sir?”

“Yeah, here’s twenty bucks. My portion. Should by a bottle of Scotch and a few cartons of cigarettes.” I paused, “Get to it.”

“OK, Sir, alright. This should get things started.”

“Started?”

He paused and looked at the twenty dollar bill. He closed his eyes tightly, as if in deep thought. “Think I can get two or three bucks apiece from Tate, Staunton, and Livermore. Perkins or lady is pregnant and he wants to get back to garrison—should be good for a couple a bucks. Yes, sir. Things look OK, but we might need a little more ‘financial backing’ if you know what I mean, sir.”

I knew what he meant. “You want me to contribute more money. What are you throwing in, Sergeant Worley?”

“Yessir, you got right to the heart of the matter...right to the heart. See, I might need some assistance. I’m really sorry, el-tee, but my ol’ lady sees my paycheck before I do, and you know how that goes,” he said giving a bizarre conspiratorial smile. I nodded. I also knew he was a notoriously bad poker player and that the allowance his wife paid him every month found its way into the pockets of his fellow NCOs within 24 hours of payday.

“Tell ya what, sir. Loan me a $20 bill and I’ll buy the cigs. OK? Pay you back next month.” I couldn’t believe this whole episode. Nothing at West Point or Infantry Officers’ training at Ft Benning had prepared me for this. Jesus! Disbelief must have overcome every feature on my face.

“Now I know whatcher thinkin’, Sir: OI’ Worley’s a deadbeat! But not when it comes to a debt. A debt...ofHONOR!!! No sir, OI’ Worley’s got his priorities straight! Yessir.” He suddenly stiffened as if at attention. “Within 24 hours next payday, you’ll have a picture of Andy Jackson in your hand, Sir—-from me!”

I sighed. What could I do?

“Thank you, sir! And you won’t regret it. OI’ Worley makes good on his debts.”

The final re-inspection was late Thursday afternoon. SSgt Worley delivered: the inspection party found, upon entrance to the first barrack, a small table festooned with cartoons of Marlboro cigarettes, a filth of Cutty Sark, another of Jim Beam, a bottle Smirnoff, yet another of Peppermint Schnapps, and various mixtures such as soda, quinine, and 7-Up. The inspection commenced at 16:00 hours (4:00 pm). All four barracks had passed inspection by 16:10 hours.

Friday morning we were home bound, back to garrison. I was in a jeep, the lead vehicle in a little three vehicle caravan. SSgt Worley hopped in the back with me as we drove out of the MTA. He was full of the sense of self confidence that comes from a recent victory. “Be home in less than two hours, el-tee,” he told me. We pulled out of the garrison and followed a road that would take us to the autobahn. Worley reached into his fatigue shirt pocket and pulled out a cigarette. I didn’t care; with the top of the jeep was down and the 60 mph winds from the autobahn, I wouldn’t smell the smoke. He snapped back the top of his Zippo lighter, rolled his thumb on the friction wheel, and lit his cigarette. Clink!

He drew in a full breath of tobacco smoke, exhaled, and pronounced: “Like I always say Sir, there are three ways to do things: the right way, the wrong way, ——”

“And the Army way,” I interrupted.

“Zactly! Now back at Graf, you chose the right way. You weren’t goin’ to bribe a bunch of Rads. But we didn’t pass inspection. Now in that case the right way was also the wrong way. So we pass the hat, buy the booze and the cigs, and lo! And behold! We pass the son-of-a-bitch! Just like that,” he snapped his fingers. “So the right way is the wrong way and the Army way is the right way!” He smiled as though he had not just witnessed but experienced a moral contest in which the weaker opponent had won.

I thought back to my Dad’s slides of Hong Kong. Why didn’t the Army have an arrangement with the Germans to clean their barracks the way the US Navy had for the Chinese to paint their ships? Was the Navy smarter than the Army?

By now we were less than one hour from home. We’d arrive late afternoon, turn in vehicles, clean weapons, and be free. Free to shower, slip into civvies, splash on aftershave, and go into town. I had called my wife from the payphone outside the Post Exchange at Grafenwohr just prior to our departure. We made plans to eat that night at our favorite Gasthaus, the Golden Goose. I sat back in the jeep, closed my eyes, thought of my little wife, cold beer, and schnitzel.

SSgt Worley never repaid my $20.
In August, an American family came from Wisconsin to visit the grave of 2nd Lt. Robert Kellett. We spent four days on the road to search places where the brother of Audrey had been. Audrey, now 88 years old, was 16 years old when her beloved brother, Robert, was killed and she never forgot. This year she came to visit her brother’s grave with one of her daughters, Nancy, and a family friend who was in the Navy but is now a university professor in Wisconsin. We wanted to make this visit memorable for Audrey since, due to her age, it is probably the only time she will visit Epinal Cemetery.

Audrey, the sister of Lt. Kellett, at his grave in Epinal American Cemetery.

When the family who adopted the grave and I started to work on her trip, we wanted to make the most of it for Audrey and her family. The French family who honor Robert’s grave has 11 Soldiers that they adopted at EPAC and have received in their home many American families, the last one being the daughter of a soldier who came to visit her dad’s grave. She felt compelled to come because she said she felt at ease and so comfortable with the Stoffel family who adopted her dad.

We knew Lt. Kellett had been killed in a tiny village (only 60 inhabitants) named “Halloville,” and we knew there would be nothing left and nothing for Audrey to see.

When she saw the sign “Halloville,” her eyes misted, and it was quite emotional for her. At the tiny town hall I asked for the mayor of the village; a lady ran her bicycle to find the mayor. Instead his wife came and invited us to her farm where we met her family. Soon the mayor came in shorts and tee shirt (he was in his fields) and we explained our purpose. The mayor went to the town hall and came back with all kinds of information about the battle: how, when and where, maps, and dates, and he took us to the site of the encampment of the U.S. regiment where numerous fox holes are still visible. This family was wonderful to us and our American family, we can’t thank them enough.

The next day was even more emotional when Audrey saw her brother’s grave. Audrey had brought with her soil from different places where her brother used to go, plus a gold star from his Boy Scout days. We brought flowers for Robert and his picture was on his grave. It was a tearful moment; we were all in tears. I realized how many and more that these families have an open scar that will never be healed as they never could come to grips with the death of their loved one—him being gone so far away. They received a telegram one day saying briefly “your son PVT 1 or PFC or LT was killed in France etc.,” but they never saw the casket nor touched it. The notification was too impersonal, and being so far away very few families came or even come 72 years later. The pain is there and we can feel it. In moments like these we feel so helpless when we really want to reach out and ease their pain.

Audrey and her daughter, Nancy, explore the remnants of the 1944 foxholes.

Audrey stayed the whole afternoon with Robert and it was hard for her to leave her brother’s cross. In moments like these, I know what we do is worth it. I know that if we can help an American family that way, then our lives are worth something.

If we know in advance when American families want to come, we will take care of them, where to stay, what to do, and we will take them, if we know of it, to the place where their loved ones left this earth. We have members of our association that are ready, willing, and able to care for American families. They won’t be alone if they choose to rely on us.

In September, I will host Bob Taverni whose dad, Frank Taverni (15th RGT), was killed September 10, 1944, in Quenoche. Bob will be hosted as well by the Bedin family who adopted Frank’s grave. Then we will host James Osborne and his wife. James will follow in his dad’s steps, going where the 7th Infantry Regiment went. During September through November, celebrations of liberations of towns and villages here honor the different divisions of the 7th U.S. Army of 1944.

On a personal note: recently, I was invited to Scotland, by a Scot regiment on the Isle of Mull. They recognized me for what I do for the fallen Soldiers. Believe me; we have a lot of very capable help in achieving our goals. The fallen Soldiers deserve every care we can administer in recognition of what they did for the world.
October 8, 2016: Outpost #13 will meet at Bakers of Milford at noon. The restaurant is on Milford Road three miles north of Exit 155 of Hwy I-96.

October 9, 2016: Outpost #18 will meet at 10:30 AM at The Five Pillars Supper Club, Hwy 57 & Cty Truck Hwy. K. in Random Lake, Wisconsin. This meeting will not interfere with the Packers' schedule.

October 15, 2016: Audie Murphy Outpost #35 will hold its fall meeting on October 15, 2016, at Sushi Japon in Austin, Texas. Members will be sent a newsletter and meeting invitation, with details, one month before the meeting. Contact Lynn Ball for more information: (972) 495-1704.

October 26, 2016: Outpost #57 will hold its fall meeting at Der Dutchman Restaurant in Bellville, Ohio, on October 26th at Noon. The restaurant is conveniently located just east, off Exit 165 on Interstate 71. The cost of the buffet is $16 per person.

November 11, 2016: Outpost #7 will conduct Veterans' Day wreath-laying ceremonies at the Tomb of the Unknowns, Arlington National Cemetery, at 3:15 PM. Members will meet at the 3rd Infantry Division Monument 30 minutes earlier. Members are urged to attend. For more information, contact Dennis M. Barletta (dennisbarletta@gmail.com) or Pat Williamson (army3rdvtanker@gmail.com).

November 11, 2016: Outpost #15 will hold its next meeting in conjunction with its participation in the Phoenix Day Veterans Parade. A potluck luncheon and outpost meeting will be at Curtis Gentry's home, following the parade.

November 11, 2016: (tentative). Outpost Harry members and guests will meet on Veterans Day, when a 30-foot Carillon monument will be dedicated at the Miramar National Cemetery in San Diego. This $300,000 memorial is funded by the Bob Baker Foundation. Bob is a member of the Outpost Harry Survivors Association. All are welcome, and if you plan to attend please call me to confirm the date: Doug Jones: 360-466-1945.

November 12, 2016: Outpost #22 will hold its fall meeting from 1:00 to 2:00 PM in front of the hanger, under the wing of the DC-3 airplane. This is the date of the Airport’s Veteran’s Day Open House “Fly-In.” Please contact Ron Greenwood or check the “Outpost News” article for more details.

November 12, 2016: Kathy Daddato, President of Outpost #2, has selected Saturday, November 12, 2016, for the next reunion for members and guests of Outpost 2. The meeting will be at 1:00 p.m. at Capone’s Coal Fired Pizza www.caponescoalfiredpizza.com 2225 First St, Fort Myers.
While the book, Gettysburg: the Pivotal Battle of the Civil War, by R. K. Beecham, was very interesting and informative, it did not answer all of the questions I developed while reading it. Therefore, I looked into the reasons for the Confederate loss at Gettysburg. There are nine reasons stated by Porter Alexander, then a colonel commanding the reserve artillery for General Longstreet’s corps on the second day of battle at Gettysburg. Alexander later rose to the rank of General in Artillery and became a well-respected military analyst and writer.

**Stuart’s cavalry absence was a hindrance to the Confederate army:** On June 22, 1863, as the Confederate Army moved north from Virginia into Pennsylvania, General Lee gave General J.E.B. Stuart orders that seemed to be that part of his force was to guard the mountain passes into Pennsylvania and the remainder was to screen the right flank of Ewell’s 2nd corps. Stewart, wanting to capture supplies moved too far east and allowed the Federal Army to get between him and the Confederate Army. This caused him to have to ride further north thus delaying his return to the army until July 2. This deprived Lee of a significant part of his cavalry, “the eyes and ears of the army,” for the first two days of the battle.

**The Confederates brought on a “general engagement” too soon.** On June 30th, General Harry Heth’s division was sent to the town of Gettysburg in search of a supply of shoes rumored to be there. It was believed that General Meade’s forces were 15-20 miles south of there. However, the Confederate division discovered a strong enemy cavalry force there. They did not engage them, but returned the next morning with Dorsey Pender’s division in reserve. The strength of the two divisions was 12,000 men. General John Buford’s federal cavalry division (3,000 men) delayed Heth long enough for the 1st and 11th Corps of the Army of the Potomac to arrive. The combined federal corps had about 23,000 men. Heth and Pender were severely outnumbered. Again, the absence of Stuart’s cavalry had a significant impact. Heth’s two leading brigades were almost ruined and his whole division as an effective force was greatly impaired. Thus a significant part of Lee’s force was lost on a side issue.

**The Confederates should have taken the defensive on the second day:** Lee chose to attack because he believed that his army was too far from its base to be supplied properly for an extended time. This is inaccurate because they were at Gettysburg for four days and, when stalled at the Potomac, they were able to forage for over a week. They did not need to attack. And this could not be done safely on the second day at Gettysburg without assaulting the Union force in its strong defensive position. Alexander believes that 60% of their chance for a great victory was lost by continuing the aggressive.

**The point of attack was selected on the second day:** The federal army already had a significant superiority in men and arms. That added to their excel-

![Image of Pickett's Charge, July 3, 1863]

**Alexander's opinion of where the charge should have taken place.**
Confederates charge Federals’ well-defended position atop the hill.

lent defensive position virtually increased their force by 50%. Alexander laments the fact that Meade’s superior position seemed not to influence the Confederate strategy for the next day’s battle. Also a mistake, Alexander thought, was Lee’s order to Ewell’s troops to abandon their original position northeast of Gettysburg in front of Culp’s Hill to a position to the right of town. Alexander’s opinion was that from the ground chosen, the enemy’s position was “almost unassailable.” Although Lee consented to the move, Ewell could not take the position. Alexander notes that no orders were ever given for Ewell to move from his awkward position. Ewell stayed in his position until the end even though his artillery was practically paralyzed and useless by its position during the last two days of battle.

Longstreet delayed his attack on the second day: The second day attack did not start until 4:00 PM. General Longstreet had asked Lee to postpone the attack until the arrival of his final brigade. Then Longstreet’s troops took an unnecessary four hours to get into position. Alexander suggests the delay allowed the Federal 5th Corp to occupy Little Round Top, the key to the whole line.

There was uncoordinated and poor artillery strategy on the third day: While Alexander was in charge of the main bombardment, there were other artillery units available that were not in his control. Alexander was ordered to “Try to cripple the enemy.” Longstreet’s expression was “drive off the enemy or completely demoralize him.” When the artillery had accomplished that, the infantry column of attack was to charge. The lack of a central artillery commander led to a key tactical loss. Each chief artillery officer of each corps was left to his own devices. At first, Alexander had been given 9 howitzer canons from overall artillery commander General Pendleton. Alexander planned to use them as an aid to the artillery as the infantry charged. However, when the charge commenced, the canons were nowhere to be found. Pendleton had repossessed some of the canons and the remaining were repositioned without his knowledge. Second, Alexander notes that A.P. Hill had 65 guns in action on Seminary Ridge that were not properly used. Further, Alexander does not believe that he advanced any guns either before, during or after the charge, even though the left flank of the column (Pickett’s) was in Hill’s front. Alexander is also critical of a morning artillery duel Hill’s artillery had with the Federals. It expended a good deal of ammunition but gained no advantage. Alexander reserved his greatest criticism of artillery leadership for Ewell’s corps. The battle line was in the shape of a fishhook. The Federals were on the inside of the hook; the Confederates were on the outside. One advantage of the Confederates’ positions was to enfilade parts of the enemy line. That was not done. Alexander feels that a central commander was needed. Individual artillery chiefs cannot possibly know what is going on in all parts of the field. For instance, only one of Ewell’s five fine battalions participated in bombardment. That neglect was a serious one.

The point selected for Pickett’s Charge was badly chosen: There is disagreement as to where the charge was directed, but all suggestions are within 300 yards of each other. Alexander says it was at the shank of the fishhook. This exposed the entire Confederate line to enfilade fire from the whole length of the Union line. The position also subjected the assaulting column to rifled cannon fire. The advance had very little cover and no support from artillery. Alexander believed the better spot would have been the bend of the fishhook. Further, he believed these reasons sufficient to commend a different strategy however he did admit that he never examined the ground.

Pickett’s Charge was not properly supported: Apparently Lee thought that Pickett’s division was to be supported by additional troops. Alexander deduces who those troops were: Wilcox’s brigade (2,000) and Anderson’s division (6,000). There can be no answer. Alexander places no blame for these troops not being started, but he does say they should have started simultaneously with Pickett’s and Heth’s men. Hall backs him up. Hall’s and Webb’s brigades were defeated and were being driven back, when their reinforcements saved them. Alexander believes that had five more Confederate brigades been at hand, the Confederates would have had chances to drive a piercing projectile into Meade’s body and stood a fair chance of precipitating a panic. Both Lee and Alexander thought that proper support might have produced a different result.

A lack of well trained staff officers caused failure: Somebody on Lee’s general staff should have ensured that Lee’s orders were carried out. Although the Confederates lacked expert military engineers and the general weakness of staff had, Alexander believes, the effect of having many things done by verbal instructions. These should have been in writing. Historians still wonder what General Lee meant when he told General Ewell, Take that hill, “if practical.” Alexander believes that no one was directly designated to launch Anderson’s division to Pickett’s support, and Wilcox was left to judge for himself. Alexander does not believe that anyone would disregard or neglect orders if he knew he were responsible.

Alexander gives us much to think about. However, the reasons for a victory or a defeat do not usually consist in something as simple as one man’s decision or indecision, but in several inter-connected events. When looked at individually, events may not seem important, but when taken as a whole, they often shed light on what really happened.
Last Call

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

In Memoriam

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

LIFE MEMBERS

ANTHONY F. KOVACS, 15INF/D, WW2, PVT
DOD - July 18, 2016 Reported by Mary Kovacs and Tom Heitzer

MELVIN R. SALTER, 15INF/K, WW2, PFC
DOD - August 11, 2015, Reported on the Internet

DONALD C. DINGEE, 15INF/B, KOREA/
Apr53-Jul54, PVT2
DOD - May 1, 2016 Reported by James Hafer

ROBERT M. HOOKER, 15INF/B 82ND AIRB,
KOREA, CPL
DOD - May 6, 2016 Reported by James Hafer

OLAF LARSEN, 30INF/H, WW2/Jun43-Jan46, PFC
DOD - December 5, 2015 Reported on the Internet

ALEXANDER PAPAJOHN, 7INF/F/HQ, KOREA, CPT
DOD - July 1, 2015 Reported by Senior Citizen home

EDWARD J. HAYES, 30INF/B1BN HQ, WW2, CPT
DOD - October 18, 2007 in Germany
Reported on the Internet

GEN CURTIS H. O’SULLIVAN, 645TD/BN, WW2, GEN
DOD - April 30, 2016 Reported by the Internet

JAMES W. COOPER, 15INF/B/HQ, WW2, 2LT
DOD - September 17, 2009 Reported on the Internet

PAUL E NIEVAR, 39FA/C , WW2, PFC
DOD - July 3, 2016 Reported by his wife Jennie

HOWARD L. WALKER, 15INF/K & BTL PTRL,
KOREA/Nov52-May53, CPL
DOD - February 15, 2015 Reported by Sean Walker

GEORGE R. PILKINGTON, 15INF/2BN/G,
Reported by the family of George R. Pilkington

HENRY A. TERMMER, 3RD I.D. MP, WW2,
Mar45-Nov46, PFC
DOD-June 2016 Reported by Kathy Termmer

ANNUAL MEMBERS:

CLIFTON HALL JR., 7INF/A, KOREA/
Sep51-May52, MSGT
DOD - July 13, 2016 Reported by John L. Insani

PATRICK D. HEAGERTY, 15INF/I, WW2/
Mar44-Dec45, SGT
DOD - August 16, 2016 Reported by Tom Heitzer

THEODORE (Ted) HERLINGEN, 2nd Battalion 11th Gp/
387INF/30INF, CW/Dec60-Dec63, PFC
DOD - March 21, 2015 Reported by Ron Greenwood
and the Internet

MEMORIAL from page 13

II, a number matched in Korea and Vietnam. Conflicts in the Middle-east and the War on Terror have only escalated that heritage, as have those who served with police agencies and as therapy dogs to include companionship for veterans suffering from post traumatic stress disorder.” “Ever since September 11, the use of canines has tripled,” Weitlauf said.

Plans to renovate the cemetery have become much more ambitious. Volunteer clean-up has grown to include placement of plaques to honor dogs that have seen combat duty, and plans are underway for a walking “Path of Honor” to salute our four-legged heroes. Some of the upgrades were on display for the April 16th event, at the Memorial located at 28805 Milford Road. The program included an honor guard escorted by eight German Shepherds, a tribute from the Rock and Roll K-9s, and remarks by K-9 officers with the Oakland County Sheriff’s Office and the National Association of Professional Dog Handlers. “Tapo” was sounded to conclude a memorial to our fallen friends, including a Shepherd squad trained to howl on command. For more information or to volunteer or to donate, contact Weitlauf at pweitlauf@gmx.com or 248-685-8307 or visit www.mwwdm.org.

These folks are moving faster than I can write. They are now involved in erecting a Vietnam Wall of Honor for the 3,800 dogs that were left behind in Vietnam when our Soldiers returned (a bureaucratic decision). Mr. Weitlauf has obtained the names and too numbers of all of the dogs left behind. The wall will have their names and identification numbers engraved on one side of the black granite wall and scenes of war dogs in action on the other side. Cost: $40,000. They are collecting money for this project now. All people associated with the Michigan War Dogs Memorial are volunteers so all money donated goes to the development of this project. Mr. Weitlauf will be pleased to talk with anyone who wants more information.

(Editor’s Note: This is a marvelous undertaking. Joe and I have sent a donation to help with the wall. This is money well spent as we can share in recognizing the service of these important Canine Soldiers. We sent our check to Michigan War Dogs Memorial, 542 S. Pleasant Valley Road. Milford MI 48380.)
'Raise A Glass'

The annals of American Military History overflow with the illustrious achievements of our nation’s finest soldiers and the individual units in which they served. This is especially true when it comes to the “Rock of the Marne”, the United States 3rd Infantry Division. One of the most decorated and successful of all American military units, the 3rd Infantry Division serves as a standard for all other American military units. The core of the 3rd ID has traditionally been composed of three infantry regiments. The regiments of the 3rd ID are the 7th, 15th and 30th. While each infantry regiment retains its own illustrious history, this article focuses on the history and accomplishments of the 30th Infantry Regiment.

The 30th Infantry Regiment, formed in the summer of 1813, has been involved in nearly every military action undertaken by the United States with the exception of the Mexican War of 1844-1847. Temporarily designated by President Lincoln as the 12th Regular Infantry Regiment, the 30th IR would participate in the American Civil War and gain recognition in places like Bull Run, Antietam, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg. At the conclusion of the American Civil War, the 30th IR would be deactivated. It would remain deactivated for 37 years. In 1901, the country once again called upon the 30th. Its task was to participate in the Philippine Insurrection on the far side of the world.

Unfortunately, by the time the 30th was in position to see combat action, the rebellion had come to an end. Instead of returning the United States, the 30th was pressed into service building roads all over the southern end of Mindanao. The 30th would remain in service in the Philippines until its return to U.S. Soil in 1909.

The 30th would again be deployed as part of the American Expeditionary Forces being mobilized for service in World War One. Along with the 38th Infantry Regiment, the 30th would join the 3rd Infantry Division’s 6th Infantry Brigade. It was in this conflict that the 30th Infantry Regiment, along with the 38th IR, would be instrumental in gaining the 3rd Infantry Division’s nickname, “Rock of the Marne.” The 30th would participate in actions like the Champagne-Marne Defensive, the Aisne-Marne Counteroffensive, where General John “Blackjack” Pershing would dub the 3rd ID with its nickname, the St. Mihiel Offensive, and the Meuse-Argonne Offensive. After the cessation of hostilities in 1918, the 30th IR would return to the Presidio in San Francisco where it would remain until 1941. It is here that the 30th would gain its own nickname, the “Frisians.” During the interwar years, the 30th would often train with the 2nd Marine Division and therefore become the principal authority, within the U.S. Army, on amphibious tactics and procedures.

With the outbreak of World War Two, the 30th infantry regiment would again deploy to meet the defense needs of the United States and the rest of the free world. The 30th would participate in Operation Torch, Operation Husky, Operation Avalanche, Operation Shingle and Operation Anvil. Once permanently ensconced in Southern France, the 30th would see significant action in the Vosges Mountains and the Battle of the Colmar Pocket. After securing the western side of the Rhine River, the 30th would find itself attached to the newly formed XV Corps tasked as the “Spearhead” across the Rhine into Germany. The 30th would remain in Germany on occupation duty until 1946.

From 1950-1953, the 30th would see duty in a replacement capacity for the 7th and 15th Infantry Regiments and did not see action as a unit during the Korean War. At various times since 1953, the 30th Infantry has been deactivated, activated, and reorganized. The 1st Battalion of the 30th went back to war in Iraq in 2003. The 2nd Battalion, 30th Infantry is now attached to the 10th Mountain Division currently serving in Afghanistan.

Throughout its history, the 30th Infantry Regiment has received its share of unit and individual recognition. The 30th IR’s motto of “Our Country, Not Ourselves” is reflected in its battle history and awards. The 30th Infantry Regiment can be credited with 531 days of combat operations while sustaining 8,308 casualties. Individual awards number 12 Congressional Medals of Honor, 39 Distinguished Service Crosses, 854 Silver Stars, 1,068 Bronze Stars, 29Legions of Merit and 28 Soldier’s Medals.

It is with great honor and humility that I call upon all citizens of our great nation to “Raise a Glass” to the 30th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division. The service of the 30th IR reflects great credit upon itself and is in keeping with the highest standards of the United States Army. Long will the 30th Infantry Regiment be remembered and revered.

—Jay Thackston, Grandson of Pvt. Charles Lawrence Wiseman, K Company, 3rd Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment

Please contact Jay at 1444 Fairmont Ct, Clovis NM. 88101, 575 693 4464 (Cell #), or at Jaythackston@gmail.com
The 7th Infantry Regiment: the Cottonbalers

[Some of the following account of the 7th Infantry Regiment was verified against the excellent article posted on the 7th Infantry Regimental Association’s website at www.cottonbalers.com/about/history.asp.]

The rich heritage of the 7th Infantry Regiment spans 200 years and 12 wars with 76 campaign streamers earned and 14 unit decorations received. The Regiment has served in more campaigns than any other Infantry unit in the United States Army. It was initially organized in response to the “quasi-war” with France during the summer of 1798. The first major conflict in which the Regiment was engaged was the Indian War of 1811 where it fought under General William Henry Harrison in Ohio and Indiana. Its first encounter against foreign troops took place in the War of 1812 where the 7th Infantry saw action in Canada, Florida and Louisiana.

It was the Battle of New Orleans in 1815, while being commanded by Andrew Jackson, who later became President of the United States, that the 7th Infantry was dubbed the “COTTONBALERS”. During that battle the 7th successfully held their position against the British forces from behind a breastwork of cotton bales. The nickname “Cottonbalers” was proudly accepted by the Regiment and a cotton bale was incorporated into the Regimental Coat of Arms and to the Distinctive Unit Insignia. Subsequent to the War of 1812 the 7th Infantry Regiment served in Florida and on the Arkansas frontier. Thereafter, it saw action in the Mexican War in such famous battles at Monterey, Cerro Gordo, and Vera Cruz. Following the Mexican War, the Cottonbalers were busy with such frontier tasks as building forts and roads, and protecting settlers. Between 1815 and 1846 the 7th Infantry participated in several campaigns to contain the Creeks, Seminoles, Nez Perces, and Utes, that climaxed by the Florida War against the Seminole Indians.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, the Cottonbalers went into action, fighting in actions at Fredericksburg, Murfreesboro, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Atlanta, and more. By 1865, the 7th had added 14 campaign streamers to their Regimental colors. In 1898, the Spanish-American War began, and the 7th Infantry was sent to fight in Cuba at El Caney and San Juan Hill. In 1901 the Regiment was shipped to the Philippines to quell the insurrection there, serving in Samar and Luzon.

During World War I, a well-prepared 7th Infantry landed in France as part of the newly formed 3d Infantry Division. It participated in the Aisne Defensive, the struggle at Chateau-Thierry, the Champagne-Marne Defensive, and proceeded onward to offensive actions at Aisne-Marne, Meuse-Argonne, and St. Mihiel. Following distinctive action in seven campaigns, the French Croix de Guerre with Star was added to its ever-increasing number of unit honors.

With its outstanding record of achievement stretching out over almost half a century, the Cottonbalers plunged into World War II by being among the first to land in North Africa in 1942 with their assault on Morocco. This was the beginning of a series of victories during WWII that added ten more battle streamers to their colors. The 7th Infantry pushed onward from North Africa through Italy and France to Germany, where the Cottonbalers capped their efforts by capturing Berchtesgaden, Adolph Hitler’s mountain fortress.

Five years after the end of WWII, the 7th Infantry was deployed from Fort Devens, Massachusetts to action in Korea where it rejoined the other elements of the 3d Infantry Division. Landing at Wonsan, North Korea on 17 November 1950, the Cottonbalers fought northward having much success against the North Korean Army. On December 3rd the Regiment was attacked by an overwhelming force of well-trained, well-armed units of the Chinese Army. Taken completely by surprise, the U.N. positions were overrun and this necessitated a situational change of all U.N. Forces in Korea. The 7th was ordered to reach the Port of Hungnam. Orders were changed in route. Two battalions were ordered to turn west and open an escape route for the 1st Marines and Army 7th Division besieged near Chosin Reservoir. “Willing and Able” completed this task and moved to set up a defense perimeter around the Port of Hungnam. Hundreds of thousands of troops, civilians, and vehicles passed through the perimeter and were evacuated by sea. The Cottonbalers, the last U.S. unit, left the beach on 12/24/50, were bound for Pusan. The Seventh joined, as a unit of the 8th Army. The regiment fought on for the remaining years of the war, returning to Fort Benning after the truce was signed.

Vietnam era: the 3rd Battalion was formed and served in Vietnam for four years attached to the 199th Infantry Brigade.

In 1990 the 2d and 3d Battalions deployed to Saudi Arabia as part of the 24th Infantry Division, attacking into Iraq the following February as it lead the 24th into the Euphrates River Valley. Victorious, the 24th moved back into Saudi Arabia on 9 March 1991 and subsequently redeployed to Fort Stewart.

In early 2003 the 2d and 3d Battalions returned to the Middle East as fighting resumed in Iraq, distinguishing themselves once again as elements of the Army’s Premier Regiment. Today, as ever, the 7th Infantry Regiment stands by its motto, “Willing and Able,” to defend freedom at a moment’s notice, anywhere in the world.

2003-2004: Operation Iraqi Freedom: The Regiment deployed to Iraq and participated in the famed “Thunder Run,” capturing and occupying the prized Baghdad Airport. By 2009, the Regiment had deployed to Iraq four times. The fourth deployment was an advise and assist mission.

Operation Enduring Freedom: From September 2012 through May 2013, the Regiment deployed to numerous locations in Afghanistan as part of a Combined Joint Operation Task Force.

VOLENS ET POTENS (Willing and Able)

By Joe and Lynn Ball
Operation Atlantic Resolve: The 2/7th has been participating in Operation Atlantic Resolve since April 2014. There is a troop rotation serving as the European Rotational and N.A.T.O. Response Force. U. S. Army Europe has led the U.S. Military’s land forces in multinational training and security activities. The 2nd Battalion is serving, in July 2016, in the Baltics, Central, and South Eastern Europe.

The 7th Infantry ranks first on the Army’s Order of Merit List in terms of date constituted, awards and decorations received, and campaign streamers earned.

The Association’s Historian, Dr. John McManus, has written a two-volume History of the 7th Infantry Regiment. Both of these volumes has been reviewed in earlier issues of The Watch on the Rhine. We highly recommend both books.

Decorations Awarded to the 7th Infantry Regiment

- Presidential Unit Citation (Army), Streamer embroidered COLMAR
- Presidential Unit Citation (Army), Streamer embroidered CHOKSONG
- Presidential Unit Citation (Army), Streamer embroidered SEGOK
- Presidential Unit Citation (Army), Streamer embroidered KOWANG-NI
- Presidential Unit Citation (Army), Streamer embroidered IRAQ 2003
- Valorous Unit Award, Streamer embroidered SAIGON - LONG BINH
- Valorous Unit Award, Streamer embroidered BAGHDAD 2005-2006

- Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army), Streamer embroidered IRAQ 2010-2011
- Army Superior Unit Award, Streamer embroidered 2001
- French Croix de Guerre with Gold Star, World War I, Streamer embroidered AISNE MARNE
- French Croix de Guerre with Palm, World War II, Streamer embroidered COLLAR
- French Croix de Guerre, World War II, Fourragere
- Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, Streamer embroidered UJONGBU CORRIDOR
- Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, Streamer embroidered IRON TRIANGLE
- Chryssou Aристов Andriес (Bravery Gold Medal of Greece), Streamer embroidered KOREA (7th Infantry cited; DA GO 2, 1956)
- Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, Streamer embroidered VIETNAM 1968
- Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class, Streamer embroidered VIETNAM 1966-1970

Company C additionally entitled to: Valorous Unit Award, Streamer embroidered IRAQ 1991

2016 Society Awards

Awards Chairman Joe Herron did an excellent job of presenting the following awards at the Society Awards Banquet. His plaques were beautiful and everyone was very pleased with his performance. Thank you, Joe, for a job well done.

“The Soldier of the Year” award went to Spc Tomas De Jesus Perez, 1ABCT, for distinguished Military Service and personal achievement, continuing in the long tradition of the 3rd Infantry Division.

“The NCO of the Year” award was presented to SGT. Christopher Horstmeyer, 2IBCT, for distinguished Military Service and personal achievement continuing in the long tradition of the 3rd Infantry Division.

Society Service Award was presented to Sonya Frickey in recognition of her loyalty and dedication to the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division while completing the duties of National Roster Manager in an exemplary manner.

Outstanding Associate Member Award was presented to Jerome D. Daddato in recognition of his dedication to the families of our fallen members expressed through the many messages of sympathy he sends and for his loyalty and dedication in carrying out his duties as Chaplain of The Society of the 3rd Infantry Division.

The Majour Murphy Achievement Award was presented to Thomas R. Maines in recognition of his service to the 3rd Infantry Division in WWI and as a Tank Commander in Korea, for service as Society of the 3rd Infantry Division National President 1996-97, as a Trustee on the board of the Society Scholarship Foundation, as Public Relations Chair, and for his work with government and Veterans’ groups to further the cause of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division and the United States Army.

The President’s Special Award was presented to Doris Duckworth in Recognition of her loyal, faithful, and dedicated Service to the Society of the Third Infantry Division and to all its Members and for presenting the program at the Ladies’ Event at the reunions in 2015 and 2016.

Past President’s Award presented to Joe Ball for his excellent service to the Society during his two-year term: 2014-2016

We congratulate all award recipients for their outstanding service to the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division. Many of our members contribute daily to the success of our outposts and our Society Thanks to all for your help as we recognize the “Best of the Best.”

—Submitted by Lynn Ball

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Update Your Contact Info

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Your ID Number

5902

LYNN BALL
2010 WORCESTER LANE
GARLAND, TX 75040-3331

June 2017

OP 35 CR

13 Digit

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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
The Raiders of 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team continue to train throughout eight countries in Europe as the Regionally Allocated Force for U.S. European Command and in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve. From the Baltic to the Black Sea, Soldiers train alongside our NATO Allies in Eastern Europe in multiple exercises to increase interoperability, reassure Allies of our continued commitment to the collective defense of Europe, and deter any possible aggressors who may try to destabilize the region. From July to August, Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment took part in the exercise Saber Guardian in Romania. During Saber Guardian, more than 2,700 Soldiers from 11 nations trained together to increase interoperability with NATO allies and partners, to include National Guard and Reserve Soldiers from five states. Following Saber Guardian, Combined Resolve VII took place at Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels Training Areas in Germany from August 8 to September 15 with over 3,500 participants from 16 nations. The exercise included a command post exercise (CPX), a Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise, and a combat training center rotation at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center, where the brigade formed a multinational task force. The training focused on improving the brigade’s ability to operate alongside NATO allies and partners in Europe.

With the successful completion of the training exercises and another valuable European rotation, the Raiders started turning in the European Activity Set of equipment to prepare to redeploy back to Fort Stewart. The entire brigade will return home mid-October where they will continue to build readiness in preparation for the brigade’s rotation to the National Training Center in April 2017.

Spartan Brigade Soldiers from 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team continue to support missions and training activities on three continents. As the regionally aligned brigade to U.S. Africa Command, the Spartans provide mission and training support to U.S. Army Africa. Gila Soldiers from 9th Brigade Engineer Battalion provided total support and participated in exercise Southern Accord 2016 in Malawi. The exercise consisted of two parts, a CPX and a disaster-relief-tabletop exercise. The CPX scenario required African, U.S. Army Africa and European partners to lead a peacekeeping force in support of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo, a real-world ongoing mission for the Malawi Defense Force. The Battle Boars from 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment conducted an exercise in Senegal, called African Readiness Training (ART) 2016. ART 16 brings together U.S. Army Soldiers with African allies to increase U.S. and partner readiness through tough and realistic training, including combined live-fire events, counter-IED detection, and combat casualty care. This year’s exercise culminated with a combined arms live fire exercise, where Senegalese and U.S. Soldiers maneuvered together under the same commander. On the European continent, Mustang Soldiers from 6th Squadron, 8th Cavalry Regiment continue to train Ukrainian forces at the International Peacekeeping and Security Center in Yavoriv. The Mustangs are responsible for training Ukrainian ground forces as part of Joint Multinational Training Group-Ukraine, and the Mustangs designed the training to reinforce the defensive skills of Ukrainian troops in order to increase their capacity for self-defense. Back at Fort Stewart, training continues to move forward as the Spartans are focused on improving readiness and honing the various combat skills that Soldiers, leaders, and organizations need to be proficient in if called upon to deploy. These training events include CPXs, communications exercises, weapons ranges, and live fire training.

The Falcons, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB), spent the summer hosting various veteran and community relation tours on Hunter Army Airfield. The Falcon Brigade held its annual Marne Air Day on July 29 to demonstrate their immense appreciation of the support from the greater Savannah Community and the Falcon families. The CAB provided static displays of all of the CAB’s aircraft, as well as an M1A2 Abrams tank, for public viewing. In addition to important community events, the Falcon Brigade continues to focus on readiness while training at the brigade level, throughout the fall, in preparation for the division WFX in October.

The Thunder Soldiers of 3rd Infantry Division Artillery continued to advance the fires warfighting function as the Force Field Artillery headquarters for the division this summer and they are clearly prepared for the start of the division WFX. In addition to focusing on home station training, Soldiers of the Thunder Brigade deployed to Europe and the Horn of Africa, training with our allies and strengthening partnerships. Artillerymen from 1st Battalion, 41st Field Artillery Regiment trained with our NATO Allies (Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Portugal, and the Ukraine) in Lithuania for the exercise Flaming Thunder, in August, in order to train and assess the indirect fire supporters’ ability to deliver effective fires and support maneuver units on the ground. The Battle Kings from 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery Regiment provided total support for the 200 military personnel from 10 participating countries at U.S. Army Africa’s exercise Eastern Accord 2016 in Dar es Salaam, in Tanzania. The exercise brought together partner nations from the East Africa region to focus on an African Union peacekeeping scenario. Marne Thunder continues to play a major role in the 3rd Infantry Division’s operations and aggressively attacks every mission they receive.

As we move into the fall, the Providers of 3rd Sustainment Brigade have remained focused on readiness while supporting all of the division’s sustainment needs in preparation for the division WFX and current deployments. The Providers continue to improve their
tactical proficiency executing multiple CPX jumps in an austere challenging environment to ensure a well-trained and expeditionary unit. Meanwhile, our 87th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion is still working hard overseas on the Sinai Peninsula, ensuring the coalition stays strong and well-supplied to complete their mission in support of Operation Spartan Shield.

While the Marne Division remains engaged and prepared for our Division WFX, I know it is important to recognize our unit's history and build comradery through unit competitions. November 14 through 18, we will conduct our annual Marne Week to celebrate our historical triumphs, past and present. I cordially invite all of you to participate and share in our storied history and events during our Marne Week. As we reminisce on our history, I ask you to remember all of our Soldiers currently deployed and the incredible sacrifices Soldiers and their Families make in defense of our freedom. Please take time to reflect on the freedoms we enjoy as Americans and what it costs to gain and maintain them. I also ask that we continue to honor all Gold Star Families and their service members who made the ultimate sacrifice, by keeping them in our thoughts and prayers.

Rock of the Marne! Army Strong!
James E. Rainey, Major General, U.S. Army, Commanding

Remembrance to Old Buddies
By Robert "Bobby" Callahan

Bob passed away November 13, 2015. He was a long-time member of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division. Recently, his brother, Dan, also a Society Member, sent Bob's obituary and some other items that Bob wrote near the end of his life. Bob served with the 3rd I.D. in WWII. He was wounded in Italy on December 31, 1943, and in France on September 5, 1944. He was awarded two Purple Hearts and five Battle Stars. In civilian life, he was a postal worker and loved the outdoors as an underwater diver, photographer, and orchid gardener. He received internment with honor guard and “Taps,” in Miramar National Cemetery, San Diego, California.

[I found his Memories very touching and want to share them.]

Campfires: "Much can be read into campfires: recreational, barbecues, comfort, lifesaving, and more. I would like to relate a special campfire memory I had, many years ago.

We (the 3rd Infantry Division) were chasing the German army up the Rhone Valley. They were moving fast, wanted to get back to the "Homeland." After walking ten miles, then riding tanks for ten miles, we stopped for the night, wet, cold, and hungry. Of course, in a forested area, fires were a no-no. Well, our bodies instincts said otherwise. Most comforting was that fire. It warmed body and soul.

Say what you will, but I recall that fire to this day. I believe whenever I see a campfire, it brings back those memories of long ago. I still remember the astes/ales and heroes of that time period. I can still remember their names.

Sgt. Crouch guided us up to Mt. 357, Mt. Rotundo. He was KIA November 1943. Eight hour night march, past Mt. Camino. Chris Chiamack, Altoona, Pennsylvania, foxhole buddy, Grave 49, Epinal. Al Ennis: You crazy SOB: Thanks for bringing dried figs. I kept your feet out of the fire-pit when you sh.*/—heads came back drunk. We should all have died of smoke inhalation.

The memories are stirring tonight. Why? Possibly a liberation or two helps. Curious to me is why dwell on past history when nobody give a sh** anymore? Answer: It's called "Remembrance" to old buddies."

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

Specific objectives are:

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

Pledge

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

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

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

General Information

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

The Society is divided into chapters, called outposts, which members are entitled to join. Outposts, at their discretion, may charge a small additional amount for outpost activities. At Large members do not belong to outposts but are referred to as "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 addition fee beginning with the second year’s dues, making the total annual dues for Outpost #3: $230.00; Outpost #12: $240.00; Outpost #4, #7, #60: $25.00; Outpost #22: $22.00. All other outposts pay $20.00 annually; all new members pay $20.00 for the first year.

Dues for Special Life Membership

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

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

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<th>Domestic</th>
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<td>80 and over</td>
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Annual dues are payable before July 1st each year. Life dues are applicable for Regular and Associate Members. Life Member dues can be paid in one lump sum or in four quarterly payments over a 12 month period.

For information, please contact The Society of the Third Infantry Division, 510 W. York Street, Blue Hill, NE 68930-7488.

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

Date: ____________________ □ New Regular Annual or Life Member □ New Associate Annual or Life Member (Circle Annual or Life)

Name ____________________ ____________________ ____________________ Date of Birth ____________________ (Required for Life Members)

(Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

Phone No ____________________ E-Mail Address ____________________

Home Address ____________________ (Street) ____________________ (City) ____________________ (State) ____________________ (Zip+4)

Unit(s) Served with: ____________________ Served From ____________________ To ____________________ Rank: ____________________

Current/Former Occupation ____________________ Spouse’s Name ____________________

Amount Enclosed: ____________________ Referral by: ____________________

Please print clearly, detach, and mail this application for membership along with a check or money order payable to Society of the Third Infantry Division to: The Society of Third Infantry Division, 510 W. York Street, Blue Hill, NE 68930-7488

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 [39 Medals of Honor]
- Algeria-French Morocco (with arrowhead)
- Tunisia
- Sicily (with arrowhead)
- Naples-Foggia
- Anzio (with arrowhead)
- Rome-Arno
- Southern France (with arrowhead)
- Ardenne-Aisace
- Rhineland
- Central Europe

KOREAN WAR [13 Medals of Honor]
- CCF Intervention
- First UN Counteroffensive
- CCF Spring Offensive
- U.N. Summer-Fall Offensive
- Second Korean Winter
- Korea, Summer-Fall 1952
- Third Korean Winter
- Korea, Summer ‘53

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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3rd Infantry Division - 98 Years of Service