



The Watch on the Rhine

The Official Publication of the Society of the Third Infantry Division, United States Army

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“Nous Resterons La”

June, 2001

Post Korean War

Acts of Heroism

As Society member Judge Richard Mills reported in 1996: On 24 June 1954, in the vicinity of Pugo-Ri, Korea, members of the 2nd Battalion, 31st Inf. Reg., 7th Inf. Div., were on a training exercise. Unknowingly, they entered into a mine field and detonated an antipersonnel mine, suffering several wounded. Personnel from the 65th Inf. Regt., 3d Inf. Div., went to assist the wounded and in the process another mine was exploded, resulting in further casualties.

★ Killed: A 1st Lieutenant, Medical Corps, 3rd Bn. Aid Station, 65th Inf. Regt., 3d Inf. Division.

★ Killed: A 1st Lieutenant, Co. G, 2nd Bn, 31st Inf. Regt., 7th Inf. Div.

Please turn to **HEROISM** on page 3



MGen Charles Canham presents the Soldier's Medal for Heroism to Cpl Carroll Bumgarner. On Bumgarner's right is Sgt. Douglas who received the same award for heroism during the same incident. The soldier to Sgt. Douglas's right is not identified. Photo courtesy 3rd Signal Co., 3d Inf. Div. 1954.

Outpost Harry Fitness Facility dedicated at Ft Benning



Posing at the entrance to the newly dedicated fitness center at Fort Benning, GA were (l-r) CSM Julian Kellman, MOH Ola L. Mize (Col. Ret.), Society President Jerry Cunningham, Col Anthony Cucolo, and Lt. Col Gordon Davis. Photo courtesy of Jerry Cunningham.

April 28, 2001 Fort Benning, Georgia

COL Anthony Cucolo, Commander, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division (M) officially dedicated and opened the Outpost Harry Fitness Facility at a ceremony attended by about 500 soldiers and family members, MOH recipient Ola Mize, Society President Jerry Cunningham and members of the Columbus, GA Outpost #60.

Bob Bailey, on behalf of the Outpost Harry Association, presented a plaque of appreciation to Col. Cucolo and another for the fitness facility that they then put in a display case on that wall where everything will go on Outpost Harry.

About 500 Soldiers and family members, and a small but proud turnout from Outpost 60 along with — Lee Mize and Jerry Cunningham — all of whom we treated like the VIP's they are. I asked my

...and the sacrifices made in Korea will not be forgotten.

Soldiers to hang around and talk to the vets, and they did — there's the value in my eyes; passing on your legacy to our young guys.

But here's what I want to tell you...late in the day on Saturday, after everyone had departed the festivities, I was walking to my truck in the parking lot across from Outpost Harry and I saw a lone soldier standing in front of the Outpost, taking the time to read every word of battle history on one of the signs...and read the exploits of King Company and the 15th Regiment and their Greek brethren. You know, that will happen every day here on Kelley Hill...and the sacrifices made in Korea will not be forgotten.

Rock of the Marne!
COL Tony Cucolo



Since 1919



The Oldest Continuous Army Division Association





The Watch on the Rhine

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President's Message

Jerry Cunningham



Jerry Cunningham,
President
Society of the 3rd Inf.Div.

Greetings to all, Spring has sprung and most of you have or are planning on having a great time throughout the spring and summer season. Please do not forget your Outpost, separate Units, and Regimental planned reunions and func-

tions. Some of you might have completed your spring function and some have not. For those of you who have, I do hope you had a wonderful time and those of you have not, I hope this one will be the most remembered one. Do not forget the main event, your Society's 82nd National Reunion in September 2001 in beautiful Phoenix, AZ.

I'd like to send a *Big Welcome Home* Greeting to the Third Battalion, Fifteenth Infantry Regiment (M) and all other dogface soldiers who proudly returned home from Bosnia-Herzegovina. Thanks to all of you for a job well done. *Two Thumbs Up* and *'Rock of the Marne.'*

April 27-28 I was proud to receive an invitation from the Third Brigade Combat Team Commander, Colonel Anthony Cucolo and Lieutenant Colonel Gordon B. (Skip) Davis, Jr. They invited me to attend a retreat ceremony the afternoon April 27, 2001. The ceremony was in Honor of Command Sergeant Major (CSM) Ronnie Porter of the 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery Regiment. And on the morning of 28th April 2001, a dedication ceremony, naming the Kelly Hill Weight Room, "The Outpost Harry Fitness Center". In Honoring those who made the ultimate sacrifice on Outpost Harry June 10-18, 1953. "Wow, What an

The renewals of annual membership are coming in very slowly. June 2001 is the deadline for delinquent members.

As is, many of our member's names will be erased from their Outpost and Society Roster.

honor!" A sledge hammer hit on the head that time!

Colonel (Ret) Lee Mize (Medal of Honor Recipient) and I had the privilege of unveiling the signs and cutting the ribbon to open the new Outpost Harry Fitness Center. Veterans from Outpost #60 joined in for this great occasion. Many young soldiers and their families also attended. They learned the history of the siege of Outpost Harry, presented by Hammer 6, Colonel Cucolo. Sir, both ceremonies were a big success. Thank you and your soldiers for maintaining the Marne Spirit. *Two Thumbs Up* and *'Rock of the Marne.'*

The renewals of annual membership are coming in very slowly. June 2001 is the deadline for delinquent members. As is, many of our member's names will be erased from their Outpost and Society Roster. How sad it is to see one of your comrades fall along the way. Those of you who failed to renew your membership, thanks for your past support, you're still a dogface soldier.

To our comrades and families on the sick list. You are always in our thoughts and prayers. Moreover, we hope for a speedy recovery. God Bless you all.

Please, let us not forget our troops in Bosnia-Herzegovina/Fort Benning and Fort Stewart.

"ROCK OF THE MARNE"
Jerry Cunningham, President

Mail to our troops in Bosnia

Mail to our troops in Bosnia can be sent to any soldier or unit at the following camps using **APO AE 09789**:

Operation Joint Forge

Camp Dobol

Camp Mcgovern

Camp Commanche

Eagle Base-Tuzla

HEROISM from page 1

Sgt. Douglas, a medic with 3rd Bn. Aid Station, and Cpl Carroll J. Bumgarner of HHQ Co., both of 3rd Bn, 65th Inf. Regt., 3d Inf. Div., were awarded the Soldier's Medal for their heroism on that day.

(Editor's note: The following citation speaks for itself.)

Headquarters 3d Infantry Division

General Orders 24 August 1954
Number 142

Award of the Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy to:

Corporal Carroll J. Bumgarner, US25002835, Infantry, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 65th Infantry, 3d Infantry Division, United States Army. During the late afternoon of 24 June 1954, in the vicinity of Pugo-Ri, Korea, members of the 2d Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division, were on a training exercise and unknowingly entered a mine-field, discharging an anti-personnel mine and wounding several personnel. With the aid of mine-detecting apparatus, Corporal Bumgarner fearlessly cleared a path to provide for the safe evacuation of the injured. Disregarding his own personal safety, he aided in the removal of one deceased, who had been mortally wounded as a result of a second explosion, and was lying dangerously near another visible mine. He then assisted in the placement of the wounded on litters in preparation for evacuation. He again cleared a path through the dangerous area for the evacuating party. Corporal Bumgarner's outstanding heroism and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service. Entered the Federal Service from North Carolina.

Carroll J. Bumgarner
2771 Twin Meadow Dr.
Hudson, NC 28638
828.728.7205

Carroll is trying to locate Sgt Douglas. He thinks he was from Idaho. Any information will be appreciated. (Ed.)

An Italian Tragedy

*By Harold Huggins, PO Box 106,
Albany, IL 61230-0106*

I would like to share an experience that I had, discussing the Italian Campaign, WW II, 1944.

I had an interesting conversation with an Italian woman, who originally lived in Italy, before coming to America after WWII. I know that there are a few of you 3d Infantry Division Veterans out there that can relate to some of what follows.

Last summer, Lorraine (my wife of 54 years), and I were on a trip traveling in our motor home, on our way to attend her cousin's reunion, which was to be celebrated in Ortonville, MN.

Stopping the first night at an RV Camp ground in Iowa, Lorraine went into the office to pay for the pad assigned to us.

On the way out of the office, Lorraine walked into the clubroom where a woman was feeding milk from a bottle to a baby raccoon. The woman started talking to Lorraine and in the conversation the woman told of being born in Italy and lived in Italy before coming to America. With this information, Lorraine told her, that her husband had been in Italy during WW II and she knew that I would love to talk to her.

When Lorraine returned to our motor home, she told me that she had been talking with a woman in the clubroom that I might be interested in talking with. She is Italian, originally from Italy, now her home is in Michigan but she loves to travel in the summer and fall.

Later in the day, Lorraine and I walked up to the clubroom to visit with this woman. We introduced ourselves and she told us her name, Lucia Luigio.

As we started our conversation, Lucia said, to us, when you drove beyond the stop sign near the office, I noticed the Blue and White Army decal on the back window. She said, “When I saw that Blue and White Army patch I got excited and immediately recognized it to be the same insignia that is on the Memorial erected in the Allied Cemetery at Nettuno, Italy, in memory of 3d Infantry Division Soldiers who are buried there.”

Then Lucia told us that she was born at Salerno, Italy in 1936 but her family had

“My father had to work to support our family. This is when our family moved from Avellino to Cassino. Our Grandfather was very upset and cried a lot, making all of us cry.” Grandfather kept saying, “Bad move. Bad move.”

moved to Avellino, in 1941. She was 7 years old when the Allied D-Day landings took place at Salerno.

As the war advanced north, her family, consisting of a Grandfather, two Aunts, Mother and Father and 6 children, with hundreds of other families, started moving to other villages, going north towards places where they believed a safe haven would be afforded to them, so they thought.

The Grandfather, a very wise man, kept telling Lucia's father to keep the family together in Avellino, because he believed that the war would pass them by and that it would be safer for them to stay here. “Grandfather kept telling all of us that the German Army was retreating and would set up a better and stronger defensive position farther north, in already prepared lines, where the Germans will stop the Allied advance at Gustav Line.

Lucia's father worked for the railroad and as the war moved north he was transferred to Cassino. “My father had to work to support our family. This is when our family moved from Avellino to Cassino. Our Grandfather was very upset and cried a lot, making all of us cry.” Grandfather kept saying, “Bad move. Bad move.”

The German Officers at Cassino kept assuring the civilian population that they, (the Germans) had improved and reinforced all their Defensive positions and that no one could break through the Gustav Line.

As the war intensified and kept advancing closer to Cassino, once again many families, including Lucia's family, moved up to Monte Cassino where they believed this would be a safe place, out of harm's way because of

the Holy environment. Some of us went into the Monastery, Lucia told us that this is where she ended up with her family.

Sometime in Feb. Allied planes dropped paper leaflets warning the civilians inside the Monastery that the Allies were going to start shelling the Monastery and for them to evacuate immediately. (Lucia still has some of these leaflets.)

On Feb. 15, 1944 the Allied planes dropped bombs on the Monastery, killing many people. All of Lucia's family members were killed. Her life was spared and she was the sole survivor out of the eleven members of her family.

Another girl and Lucia under the guiding hand of Father Augustino, a priest at the Abbey, led them to the subterranean Chapel, where they all survived by crawling under a fallen altar.

Lucia told us that she experiences nightmares and bad dreams, sometimes she wakes up crying and shaking, never to forget the horrible sights imbedded in her mind, of the explosions and cries of the dying. (I know that most of you Combat Infantry Veterans and others from the

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Lucia Luigio feeds a baby raccoon at camping area in Iowa. (People do things like that in the Midwest.) Ms. Luigio had interesting story about the War in Italy. Photo courtesy Harold Huggins.

Stabilization Force 9 Begins

By Maj. Gen. Walter L. Sharp
Commander, Multinational Division (North)



Greetings from Bosnia! The month of April was a busy month for Multinational Division (North). Stabilization Force 9 began April 5 and we hit

the ground running.

On April 5, we dedicated a new base in the eastern Republic of Srpska near Srebrenica where one of the worst atrocities occurred during the three and one-half year war. The new base provides a more focused presence in a region slow in its post-war progress. Our presence there is already producing results. People displaced from their homes during the war are beginning to feel safe to return. It is our hope that a more stable region will bring economic investment that will lead to an eventual recovery in the region.

The process of returning people to their pre-war homes and economic investment in the eastern region is more a marathon than a 100-meter race though. U.S. Ambassador to Bosnia-Herzegovina, Thomas Miller, visited here April 26 and told us we were at about mile 17-18 and is pleased with what the military is doing here. Amb. Miller stated that the primary goal of the coalition is to ensure transition of programs to the Federation government such that BiH doesn't become a protectorate. The first step in that process were the elections last



TOUCHDOWN- A UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter touches down outside the gates of Forward Operating Base Connor in the Eastern Republic of Srpska. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Roosevelt Iston, Combat Camera)

We named the new forward operating base in honor of Sgt. James P. Connor, a great 3rd Infantry Division Medal of Honor recipient from WWII. The Wilmington, Delaware native and 7th Infantry Regiment soldier earned the Medal of Honor 15 August 1944 while leading the remnants of his platoon across "Red Beach" at Cape Cavalaire, France.

November when responsible citizens desiring self-government were elected.

We named the new forward operating base in honor of Sgt. James P. Connor, a great 3rd Infantry Division Medal of Honor recipient from WWII. The Wilmington, Delaware native and 7th Infantry Regiment soldier earned the Medal of Honor 15 August 1944 while leading the remnants of his platoon across "Red Beach" at Cape Cavalaire, France. His heroic actions with the platoon in advance of the division main body, "insured safe and uninterrupted landings for a huge volume of men and materiel which followed." We are honored to occupy a camp named in his honor.

Units working from Camp Connor are our Georgia citizen-soldier neighbors from the 48th Brigade. National Guard combat forces comprise the majority of the ground task force. They are led by Brigadier General Rob Rigdon, the Assistant Division Commander, and Colonel Tommy Stewart the ground forces commander. We have an outstanding partnership with the Georgia cadre and could not do this mission without them. They bring talent that we otherwise do not have. Many work in the law enforcement and corrections career fields in their civilian employment. These skills were easily transferable to the current peacekeeping mission. Soldiers of the 48th Bde are doing hard work where we are focusing most.

A project spearheaded by the engineer component of the 48th Bde was the rebuilding of a bridge in the 1st Peacekeeping Russian Separate Airborne Brigade sector at Janja. The bridge was a collaborative effort between the Russians and American engineers. The 648th Engineers from Georgia are normally a combat engineer unit. Their civilian

occupations in construction, however, allowed them to transfer their skills to an important project here. We are planning several more joint projects during SFOR 9 to which the 648th will significantly contribute. These road and bridge projects will enable better freedom of movement for the civilian population and allow multinational forces better routes on which to patrol.

We have many other National Guard and Reserve soldiers here for SFOR 9. Units joining the 3d Infantry Division's (Mechanized) 3-7 Cavalry and force enablers from around the 18th Airborne Corps include units from the 39th enhanced Separate Brigade, Arkansas Army National Guard, and the 223d Military Police Company, Kentucky National Guard. Combined with the 48th Bde soldiers, they comprise the largest deployment of National Guard combat ground forces for SFOR and its predecessor, Implementation Forces.

Early in April eleven special guests visited us from the Hinesville and Savannah area. Seven civic leaders, including Hinesville Mayor Tom Ratcliffe, Chatham County Commission Chairman Dr. Billy Hair, and four members of the Coastal Empire media visited at my invitation. They saw firsthand what I see everyday — the outstanding work of our great soldiers and the importance of the mission they perform. They left impressed with the professionalism, dedication and high morale of our soldiers. The 3rd Infantry Division (Mech) has a great partnership with all the communities surrounding Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. They are communities that take care of our families. Many of the civic leaders renewed old acquaintances with friends and sons and daughters of friends of the 48th Bde.

Continued on page 12



News From The Outposts

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Sol Lehmann

Miami, FL

Outpost #2, Florida, is in the process of raising money for the erection of a monument in the National Cemetery, Bushnell, FL in memory of all 3rd Infantry Division members and veterans of all wars who gave their all in defense of their country. Anyone who would like to make a donation in memory of a 3rd Infantry Division buddy or a general donation is invited to do so by sending their check made out to; "OP2, Society of the 3rd Inf. Div." and send it to: Frank L. Kane, Sec/Treas, OP2, 12824 Sandcrane Way, Hudson, FL 34669-2633.

The reunion in Tampa, FL of OP2 on 4/22-4/24/2001 was a success and enjoyed by all. On Sunday evening we had a Luau buffet pool side where the men wore Hawaiian type shirts and many women wore mu mu's. A total of 28 persons attended.

On Monday morning, our host George Boyd, arranged for a tour of MacDill Air Force base. The base is surrounded by water on 3 sides and we learned that the base was an all-service command, and is staffed by personnel of most military branches. We had lunch at the Officers Club and returned to the hotel around 2PM and had the rest of the day and evening on our own. Most of us went out for dinner at one of the many restaurants in the large Mall across the street or stayed at the hotel and took it easy and had dinner by the pool.

The meeting was opened by President Jim Tiezzi with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by one verse of a patriotic song. Chaplain Bill Griswold said a prayer and then had a Memorial service for members who had died since our last meeting. George and Maria Teresa Boyd were recognized for having done an outstanding job of hosting the reunion. Special guests, Ed and Mary Jane Hamel from OP 12 were introduced, followed by everyone introducing themselves and wives and naming the unit they served with. The financial report of the OP was detailed by Treasurer Frank Kane and approved by the body along with the expense reports of the officers. We then covered several items of correspondence, i.e., Thank you note for Lynne Wortman, Daughter of John Cole; Letter from The Marne Association of Ft. Stewart, who donated \$100 to our 3rd Inf. Div. Monument Fund; Review of membership distribution by area—69% of membership of OP located in the area of Tampa to Ft. Myers on the west coast and stretching across Florida to the east coast cities of Melbourne and Ft. Pierce.

Old business discussed was the details of the proposed monument to be erected at the Bushnell National Cemetery. Dave Ogelsby, Chair of this committee, was to make the presentation, but because a last minute illness was not able to attend the reunion. The President covered the details of the monuments progress. The Chair of the committee was authorized to enter

into a contract with La Perle Memorials. Our request for donations from members was well received as we have received well over \$1000 thus far, and additional money is expected from other members. It is hopeful that the monument will be ready for dedication in November 2001, on or around Veterans Day, at which time we will have our Fall meeting in the Bushnell area. Please mark your calendar as we would like to have a very large turn out for this important event.

Under New Business we discussed the new By-Laws of the OP, which had been reviewed by the officers and approved for presentation to the membership present. Motion was made and second received, with membership voting on adopting the new By-Laws as presented.

The most important item under New Business was the presentation and recommendation of the President to change the name of the OP. This proposal was approved by all the officers, for presentation to the body. It was recommended that the name of the OP be changed to "John S. Cole, #2, Tampa, FL". John was an active member of the Society for many years and a member of the 15th Infantry Regiment Association since its inception and President of Outpost #2 for several years and was basically responsible for the growth and development of the OP. He died on 16 Oct 2000. Most of our members do not know of the person for whom the OP is now named. All that seems to be known is that he was a WW1 vet from Miami and was the Sec/Treas for several years in the 60's and 70's. In addition, the bulk of the membership has shifted from the Miami area to the Tampa area as was previously reviewed earlier, and this was the area where John lived. For all these reasons it was felt that the name of our OP should be changed. A motion was made by Ed Pfeiffer and seconded by Joe Kolac and was passed unanimously by the members present to change the name of the OP to, "John S. Cole, OP#2, Tampa, FL" effective 24 April 2001. The members felt that naming the OP after him was attribute to his memory and acknowledgment of all the effort and hard work he put into the development of the OP

A closing prayer was said by Chaplain Bill Griswold and then a motion was approved to adjourn the meeting. Jim Tiezzi, President, Outpost #2

3

Lattie Tipton

Ninty Six, SC

Our spring meeting was held in Burlington, NC. Those who attended were Pat and Ola Kirby, James and Kathleen Cooper, Clyde and Anne Clapp, Ruby Redden, Jimmie and Helen Lea, Bobbie J. Anderson, Bob and Joy Farrington, Whitney and Myrtle Mullen, Buck and Pauline Guard, Emory Burkett (his first meeting), Ed Tickle, George Winders, Clyde and Ethel

Easter, Edward Baker, Noel Gusler, and Alta and David Milling.

For those of us who had to travel through Charlotte to get to Burlington where construction often transformed the highway into a parking lot, our wait was well worth it. Our meetings are like a family reunion! Between snacking and eating, we caught up on all the news since our last meeting.



Two OP # 3 members take life easy. Photo courtesy of Alta Milling.

Burlington's flowers were getting ready to bloom. The weather was colder than some of us were prepared for. But in the Hospitality Room, there was lots of hot air and warm friendship. Our hostesses, Helen Lea, Kathleen Cooper, and Joy Farrington had a wide choice of goodies for us.

Outpost members elected new officers. Our new president, Clyde Easter, thanked our past officers for their hard work on behalf of the Outpost. Our new vice president is Buck Guard and our new secretary/treasurer is Alta Milling.

Our next deployment is scheduled for May 16-19 in Williamsburg, VA. This is quite an historic area. We will be in the area where Revolutionary War patriots fought for freedom from England. Those who formed our country met in Williamsburg. Those who forged documents for our country met in Williamsburg. Patriots of the present day will walk in the "footsteps" of those patriots of the past.

Alta Milling

12 Tommy Thompson

Minneapolis, MN

O.P. #12 held its spring meeting in Albert Lea, MN at The Country Inn and Suites, a brand new motel erected over the past winter. Gretchen and Forrie Claussen were the hosts. 21 members and guests were in attendance and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The facilities and buffet dinner were first class!!

We have lost 3 members since our fall meeting, Wayne Erickson, Andy Kalata, and Don Jurgs. Wayne and Don were both very active members.

Please notify me (Jerry Manley) if you have a change of address. A notification given to your local postmaster is not forwarded on to me. If I do not know you have moved, your O.P.

mail will be returned to me, an unnecessary additional expense.

We still do not have a volunteer for newsletter editor. No editor, no newsletter!! The members present expressed the wish to continue making a couple of charitable donations a year to veterans in need as long as our money lasts.

The summer picnic will be held on Saturday, August 4th at Moore Lake Park in Fridley, MN. hosted by yours truly. The fall meeting will be held October 6 and 7 in Monticello, MN. Claire and LuVerne Solien hosting.

Yours in The Third,

Jerry Manley O.P. Sec./Treas.

60 Fort Benning

Columbus, GA

Report from Bob Bailey, on the dedication ceremony of the Outpost Harry Fitness Facility at Ft. Benning recently.

It all came off great. There was a good crowd and you couldn't have asked for better weather. It started out cool, around 48 degrees but got hot real quick. There were 5 members from OP 60. Col. Cucola really did like his certificate. I put it on a solid oak plaque with a smaller frame that was gold in color that the around the certificate would slide under. Jere liked the plaque and the way the certificate looked. It was on solid oak wood. the wood was 14 X 12 if that will give you an idea of the size. The one for the Recreation Bldg. will be hung just inside the door so as everyone that goes in will see it. They will eventually put in a display case on that wall where everything will go on Outpost Harry. Each Society Member received a 3rd Brigade pin & a 3rd Div patch with the number 3 in the center. We also received a 50 year gold Korean Veterans pin.

Bob

Photo file...



Veterans of three Wars discuss Rock Island Arsenal employment possibilities. 2nd Infantry Division Veteran, William Dibbern, listens while Wayne Jens, former 15th Inf. Regt., 3d Inf. Division WWII, explains his machine operation. WW I Veteran Hobart Hendricks also hosted the visit. Soldier Dibbern is recovering from wounds received in Korea and which sent him home. Courtesy Wayne Jens & Quad Cities Times, 1952.

In 1950, I came roaring into Japan with assignment to the 24th Infantry Division, scattered all over the Island of Kyushu. I was a young lieutenant, just out of OCS, after being an enlisted man with the 10th F.A., in WW2, from the Fedala, Africa landing to Anzio.

Things were great for the Occupational Forces: Social events, cocktail parties, and trips to the geisha houses (wives included). How little we trained. How ineffective our equipment was. We were ill prepared to defend ourselves, and less for our country.

Suddenly, one bright Sunday morning, came the stunning news: North Korea had crossed the 38th Parallel, and was attacking the City of Seoul. Activity stirred as General MacArthur issued the order: The 24th Division was to prepare to go to Korea. It was to be a "minor policing action." There was little "Intelligence" or idea of what to do when we arrived. President Truman announced to the world that he was sending troops and that our boys would be home by Christmas 1950. Ships were sent to Korea to evacuate civilian personnel, and LSTs that had been given to the Japanese, were commandeered for transport to Korea.

Three LSTs arrived on the beach, pushed up as best as possible, and opened the bow doors. The Japanese crew spoke no English, and waved us on board with our combat loads. Every NCO of experience was out scrounging everything available. Warehouses were opened without keys, i.e., "midnight requisitioning", tents, clothing, boots, field equipment, and whatever else could be "liberated". The loaded LSTs had to wait for high tide to leave the beach. We offloaded in Pusan, transferred to flat bed rail cars, and tied down our vehicles and equipment with rice straw ropes. Then began the long train ride North with troops in the vehicles or hanging feet and legs over the side. The engineers would stop at each bridge crossing to check for explosives.

Arrival in Taejon was sometime around the 4th of July. With no battery commander present, it was left for me to set up the HQ and Battery adjacent to a Korean military barracks. Drawing upon WW2 experience, I set up perimeters, fields of fire, and assigned areas of responsibility. Senior NCOs from other occupation units arrived to help us reassemble a combat unit. A Herald Tribune reporter, Margaret Higgins

Task Force Smith

As experienced by Dean Schlueter, a WWII & Korea Vet. Reprinted from the "10th FA Newsletter", courtesy John Markon.

insisted on using our field shower facilities, two 50 gallon barrels, atop a wooden structure. Her feminist demand was for a curtain, which our GIs eagerly volunteered to hold. Necessity made me both Battery CO and Commo. Officer. Contact with units in the immediate front was hampered by shortage of maps, data and intelligence. Often, Infantry units could not be located, or had already withdrawn. In that first chaotic ten-day period, I recall but 3 or 4 successful contacts. Then after 6 to 8 hours, someone was closing station, march order. The familiar CSMO, or "Haul Ass" became known as the "bug out". Units had been overrun, or withdrew, often no longer a fighting organization. Infiltration then occurred.

Task Force Smith, named after Lt. Col. Smith, CO of the 21st Infantry, arrived in battle positions on July 5th. This Combat Team consisted of 397 enlisted men and 17 officers, Infantry, with 125 enlisted men and 9 officers in the artillery unit. We had 1200 rounds artillery HE and but 6 rounds HEAT (anti-tank). As we from WW2 well knew, HE will not deter tanks, as they have no penetrating power.

The enemy force was led by 33 tanks, of which we could only destroy four. With no anti-tank mines in all Korea, the tanks followed by infantry chose not to attack us but rather to by-pass and envelop in flanking movements. With flanks unprotected, Col. Smith notified the 34th Inf. C.O. and withdrew after heavy casualties. Having just arrived and with little preparation, the 34th

Infantry was nearly wiped out, and later reduced to a mere paper unit.

Casualties defied description. Wandering over the hilly terrain, lost, and having disposed of weapons, ammunition, helmets, clothing and canteens, the troops had to drink from water in the rice patties. Exhaustion, hunger, and fear were rife throughout these unit remnants. All occurred after the Pentagon's conclusion that the small Task Force Smith and the 2 battalion 34th Infantry was capable of defending all of Korea alone. The remainder of July involved much of the same: Stand and hold, withdraw only when positions became untenable or out-flanked.

More shocking were the great losses, KIA, WIA. To be taken prisoner, at this point in time, resulted in almost certain death at the hands of a fanatic enemy. The 1st Cavalry relieved the 24th Division that withdrew to the Pusan Perimeter. We dug in, received replacements and trained and conditioned the 24th Division back into combat efficiency. The 24th fought again with pride to recover territory lost.

With many parallels to Anzio, the Pusan Perimeter brought the best out of the Army divisions that transformed from occupation troops into first line fighting soldiers. New tactics were learned. The enemy's use of disguised refugees with hidden loads of weapons, and utilized in flanking and guerilla activity, was discovered and dealt with.

Finally, the break-out occurred. Our troops had improved enough to deal with the most impossible situations. When the CCF attempted to make an American disaster, by their sacrifice of enormous Chinese losses, the US Army had been trained, organized to full strength, and imbued with courage to deal with the challenge. After nearly being out flanked and surrounded by the hordes at the Yalu, a turn around to a stand and fight position was achieved. Korean War veterans had learned to fight, take care of one another and themselves in the most severe cold climate conditions.

We were now once again an Army with pride and ability. They rotated me after some fourteen months. I was happy to pick up my family and sail from Yokohama in September 1951. Experiencing both Anzio and Task Force Smith, was enough action for anyone's lifetime.

Final days of a long war

Jim Jarboe

I have just reread a couple of my letters home in July '53. The following quote shows that the 3ID was still manning OP Harry as late as July 11, 1953. The letter is dated 11 Jul 53:

"One of the guys here was on OP Harry today. (3rd Signal photographer John Koch.) He went up with a couple of correspondents. One of them was Richard Tregaskis, who wrote "Guadalcanal Diary" and "Invasion Diary" during WW II. John said that the whole place has been rebuilt and there is practically no place that shows the effects of the battle that was fought there a while back. The bunkers are all new and the trenches have been re-dug. If the Chinks ever try again they will take another pounding worse than the last time."

Later I found out that Tregaskis was doing background research for a movie that he was planning to do. The film was called "Mission Over Korea" and released in 1954. (I think John Hodiak was in it) It was apparently a bomb as it is not available on video tape.

I found this in a clipping from the Pacific Stars and Stripes datelined July 23 1953: "Scheduled to go into reserve on July 13, following six months of defensive action highlighted by the successful defense of OP Harry, elements of the Rock of the Marne Division were instead slammed into the breach caused by the recent six division Communist drive in the central sector of the front."

Dear Mr. Heller:

A reliable source tells me that the French authorities at St. Tropez will have a special day August 15, 2001 remembering the landing there August 15, 1944. Would you be interested in trying to find out who is alive now among those who made that landing? Some may be interested in attending the affair at St. Tropez, if it materializes.

Thanks,
John Oppenheimer

WWII Generation Must Wait Longer for Memorial Tribute

■ Construction Delayed by Lawsuit and Procedural Issue

From Website: <http://www.wwiimemorial.com/>
Suggested by: Art Weldon

Construction of the National World War II Memorial has been delayed indefinitely pending resolution of a lawsuit filed by a small opposition group in Washington, D.C., and a procedural issue involving the National Capital Planning Commission, one of the agencies required by law to approve the memorial.

The real victims of these delays are the members of America's WWII generation, who now must wait even longer for their memorial to be completed. Of 16 million who served in uniform during the war, the Veterans Administration estimates that only 5 million are still alive, and we lose 1,100 each day.

National Capital Planning Commission

In accordance with the Commemorative Works Act, the memorial site and design have been the subject of 22 public meetings since 1995. Those meetings resulted in five approvals each from the Commission of Fine Arts and National Capital Planning Commission, an endorsement from the State Historic Preservation Officer of the District of Columbia, and four endorsements from the D.C. Historic Preservation Review Board. Based on these approvals, a construction permit was issued in January by the National Park Service.

Now, however, National Capital Planning Commission decisions of the past two years, including its approval of the WWII Memorial, have been placed in

question because the former NCPC chairman continued to serve on the commission after the expiration of his term. The legislation that established the commission permitted the chairman to serve until replaced, but when the law was amended the language was inadvertently dropped.

Of 16 million who served in uniform during the war, the Veterans Administration estimates that only 5 million are still alive, and we lose 1,100 each day.

The NCPC believes that all actions taken during the former chairman's second term were "in conformance with all past practices and policies." Nevertheless, the NCPC has scheduled yet another public hearing on the memorial for June 14 "to ensure the integrity of the commission's approvals of the WWII Memorial." During its May 3 public hearing, the NCPC will publicly announce the procedures it will follow at the special June hearing. Information about the June 14 hearing will be posted on the NCPC web site at www.ncpc.gov.

Letters supporting the memorial and urging the NCPC to ratify its previous approvals may be e-mailed to info@ncpc.gov or mailed to:

Richard L. Friedman, Chairman
National Capital Planning Commission
401 9th Street, NW
North Lobby, Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20576

Report on the Chateau Thierry Monument

The Monument at Chateau Thierry is almost done and is looking much better. All of the work has been completed except:

- We want to do a little more cleaning to get some of the stubborn stains off.
- The bronze stars have not yet been received from the supplier.

The weather here has been terrible for

over two months now, which has slowed us down a bit.

I think you will be very pleased when you see it. I will let you know when the work is completed.

Lil Pfluke
France

As reported to John Shirley.



Letters to the Editor

Jim, I wish I could send you more printable material. I think there is a bigger story on the series of 3 stamps issued in 1985 honoring veterans. The first stamp in that series related to WW I, and showed U.S. troops advancing in the Argonne. These have been identified as 3rd Division units, so I have been told. The second stamp related to WW II, and again, the stamp supposedly showed an action photo selected at random, ending up with a combat photo from the 3rd Inf. Division. Someone ought to follow these stories up with the Post Office Dept. The Korean stamp does show men of the 65th Infantry (from Puerto Rico National Guard), which was one of the 3rd Div regiments during the Korean War. They were part of the 3rd Div force that sheltered the escape channel for the 1st Marine Div and the 7th Inf. Div, which embarked at Hungnam. Sherm Pratt ought to know the facts about that one!

With best regards from an ex-editor,
George Goldstone

It was with much interest that I noted the death of Frank Toscani published in the April 2001 "Watch." I was acquainted with Frank through business for many years and knew of his being the model for "Major Joppolo" (hope I spelled that right) in John Hersey's "A Bell for Adano." But never had I heard that he served in the 3rd Infantry Division. His name does not appear in Taggart's "History Of the 3rd Division in WW II". He was American Military Government (AMG) as far as I knew. I was with United Van Lines for 30 years and conducted many seminars for its agents. Frank was vice-president of one of United's oldest agents, Santini Brothers in New York City, and that is how our paths first crossed. Santini was also known as The Seven Brothers and were widely respected in the household goods moving industry.

Frank was a terrific person.

"Rock of the Marne"
Jack Swatske
7449 Grant Village Dr. #402
St. Louis, MO 63123

NEW VETERANS STAMP

The U.S. Postal Service will release a first class 34-cent, stamp in May featuring a billowing flag against a blue sky background framed by the words "Honoring Veterans" at the top and "Continuing to Serve" at the bottom. The stamp, unveiled in a Department of Veterans Affairs ceremony in Washington, D.C., just before Veterans Day, 2000 will serve as a "thank you" to the nation's veterans".

There currently are an estimated 25 million military veterans in the United States. Carl Herrman of Carlsbad, CA, designed the stamp. The stamp is one of 65 new designs unveiled by the postal service as part of its "A New Century of Stamps" program for 2001 and the only one with a military theme. More information about the "Honoring Veterans" stamp can be found at the USPS website, www.usps.com

Stamps can be ordered by calling: 1-800 STAMP24. First-day postmarks of the "Honoring Veterans" stamp can be mail-ordered within 30 days of the date of issue.

*Courtesy of Dan Killelt, OP #18
newsletter editor.*

April 18, 2001

Colonel Anthony A. Cucolo, III
114 Eames Avenue
Ft. Benning, GA 31905-6542
Colonel Cucolo,

Thank you for all your efforts in having the facility at Fort Benning dedicated to the men who defended Outpost Harry during the Korean War. Remembering the deeds and actions of the Third Infantry Division is of utmost importance for the soldiers today as well as for future generations.

I thought that you might like a personal account as background to the operation. As commander of K Company 15th Infantry Regiment, I had the good fortune to be blessed with outstanding soldiers of all ranks. At the end of May, Regimental Commander Akers visited the company and told the men that he considered the company by far the best.

With the war nearing an end, the Chinese launched a massive offensive in hopes of gaining critical terrain. Outpost Harry which was forward of the 3rd Division's Main Line of Resistance was the controlling position between the Chinese and Seoul, the South Korea Capitol.

The 3rd Division built the defensive position on Outpost Harry to accommodate an infantry company. The months before June 1953 were devoted to manning the outpost and strengthening the position.

When it became apparent that a major attack was imminent, the 15th Regiment, considered combat experienced, well trained and noted for its high esprit de corps was quickly assigned the responsibility. On the night of June 5, K Company 15th Regiment relieved the 65th Regiment on the outpost.

During the days between June 5 and June 10, K Company remained on 24 hour alert. Between sporadic enemy attacks and shelling, work by the engineers continued to improve the positions. Outstanding forward observers from the Artillery and the Heavy Weapons units reregistered all supporting fires. Individual final protective fire responsibilities were impressed upon everyone.

The "Siege" has been well documented and credit belongs to every person involved and every unit, thus enabling the outpost to be held, in the face of such fanatic efforts by the Chinese.

The defense of Outpost Harry was accomplished in the same manner as when the division earned its nickname, "The Rock of the Marne." In Korea the division was the Rock of the Iron Triangle. The motto of the Outpost Harry Survivors is "We Held."

Martin A. Markley

wars, can relate to this statement.)

I asked her this question. "Did the Germans use the Monastery for defensive positions?" She replied, "The Monastery was not used to garrison the German Soldiers. It was used by a few German observers, who could watch your Army movements, plus one Medical Unit. The German Army did have very good defensive gun positions outside and away from the Monastery."

"After the bombing by your planes, the German soldiers then moved into the rubble of the Monastery, setting up defensive positions with good protection for their soldiers. When the German soldiers moved into the rubble, they evacuated the living and wounded civilians and took us to Rome. There were great welcomes from the people of Rome to the fugitives from Monte Cassino when we arrived in Rome."

"After the war was over," she continues, we were all informed that there had been 10,000 civilians killed by the Allied shelling and bombing in and around Cassino.

When the cities and villages were rebuilt and our lives were getting back to normal with her new adoptive family and friends, they moved from Rome to the Anzio area and settled in Nettuno.

Once again Lucia told us why this 3d Division patch on the motor home, was very familiar to her. On various occasions, Lucia, with some of her friends would get together and discuss various ways that they could show their appreciation and thanks to the Allied Soldiers that had sacrificed their lives for their buddies and who liberated them from the Fascist and dictators, giving Italians freedom. The group agreed on one project, to volunteer and help prepare for the Memorial Ceremonies that are conducted at the Allied Cemetery at Nettuno, Italy.

Lucia continued to talk about her growing up years, without her real family members, during and after the war. A living "hell", loneliness, always expecting and praying to see my family alive, many tears and heartaches! With tears she said, "If only my father had listened to my grandfather it is possible that

some of them would be living today.

Before Lorraine and I left, Lucia said, "It has been a privilege and has given me much comfort and a better understanding of why your Armies did the things that you had to do to defeat the enemy.

"I know, Mr. Huggins, that you went through some of the same "hell", when you lost many of your close buddies and friends on the battlefield, the same as me, when I lost all my loved ones." More tears.

Talking and listening to each other and telling bits and pieces about our war experiences, gave me much pleasure and something good to remember. Sometimes it helps to talk about these memories that are all stored up inside of our minds.

Lucia said, this talk with you was even better because I could relate to the 3d Inf. Division and to someone that had actually participated in the deadly Italian Campaign and you for being one of our liberators.

"Thank you, Mr. Huggins, and to all the Veterans of your Blue and White 3d Infantry Division, for our freedom and liberation."

Notes from Harold Huggins: During our conversation, Lucia and I had a good discussion pertaining to various activities that took place around Avellino that both of us remember. Of course her family had already moved to Cassino before our attack on Avellino.

I told her about our night attack made by our 3d Infantry Division on Avellino in September 1943. The morning action was minor and Avellino was occupied with only light casualties. (I think I am right.) I remember Lt. Pittinger from "C" Company being wounded. He was an excellent Officer and Army friend. We still stay in contact.

From what I know now about the battle to capture Avellino, I believe that the Luigio family could have survived, or at least would have had a better chance for survival if only their father had done what the Grandfather wanted them to do. Stay put in Avellino. What would you or I have done faced with this decision, Leave or stay?

Bad move!

Were you at Majonni?

A brief background history; The 3rd Division landed at Wonsan, North Korea, the 11th of November, 1950. Upon landing, all of the various units were given specific assignments. The 1st Battalion of the 15th Regiment was given the task of going 25 miles into the Taebak mountains, to a little Village called Majonni to relieve the 1st Battalion of the 5th Marine Regiment, who then joined the 1st Marine Division and on to the Chosen Reservoir. After making the relief on the 13th of November, the 1st Battalion was subjected to many vicious attacks by North Korean units hiding in the surrounding mountains. Our supply convoys, as well as patrols from the perimeter, were the victims of many ambushes. We lost many good men as a result, some of whose remains are still unrecovered. We abandoned the perimeter on or about the 30th of November, and returned to Wonsan and then up to Hungnam. I have read two accounts by the Marines of their heroic actions at Majonni but not a word of the 1st Battalion's actions. What added insult to injury was a statement by one of our Army Generals who praised the Marines for their actions.

I ask anyone who was at Majonni during the period of November 13 to November 30, to contact me so that I can gather personal reflections and information from those who were there. Other units involved, that I know of, were "A" Battery of the 39th Field Artillery Battalion, and B Company of the 10th Engineers. We also had a tank company attached, but I don't know the unit number.

I have already gathered much information on our stay in the mountains, but I need much more as I hope to either write a long article, or possibly a book, if enough material is gathered. This action of the 1st Bn of the 15th was our baptism of fire and despite that, the Battalion performed with honors as evidenced by the award of two DSCs and two Silver Stars. It has gotten to be a crusade with me to tell the story from the Army view and not that of the Marines. I need your help if you were at Majonni, 13 Nov. - 30 Nov. '50.

I thank you sincerely,

Ed Dojutrek: Historian

3303 Fairview Drive

Austin, TX 78730

(512) 343-0900 <edoju87742@aol.com>

Trick or Tree? Christmas on Hill 117

Lendon P. Pearson

These events happened on hill 117 in Korea. We had some trees show up on it one morning. Spied them at day-break when I went out to the OP and got on top of the command bunker. Picked them up through my glasses and asked the Lt., our FO, to verify that they were there. He did so and said he could hit them with V.T.

I told him to go ahead and it exposed an enemy tank with its guns pointing right at me. Co A, 64th Tank Bn. was attached to Co A, 15th Inf. They and the artillery fixed at the same time and the tank burned about 4 hours. It was the only enemy tank we saw in the area.

Lt. Col. Hatfield, the 1st Bn. CO called, after a spotter plane verified the knocked-out tank and said to have Sgt. Bailey use demolitions and blow it over the cliff into the river. Bailey did so. Hill 117 was a busy hell.

I will send Sgt. Delgado recommendation for the Silver Star as soon as I have it all together.

Early on the morning of Dec. 25th, 1951 on the Imjin River a beautifully decorated Christmas tree was observed on Hill 117 in front of OP Nori. The tree contained numbers of brightly wrapped packages. The platoon on the OP wanted to know if they could go out and get the "gifts" (packages). My answer was "No!" No Able Company men were to go near the tree and orders were verbally issued to that effect.

The Belgian Commander, whose Bn. in blocking position to our left rear, called on the landline, and wanted to know if my company was going out and get the Christmas offering the Chinese were making. My answer was "No! Any Able Co. men who got near that tree would be violating my orders. That offering is a booby trap."

The Belgian Commander informed me that I did not have any Christmas spirit. "The Chinese are making a Christmas peace offering." Furthermore, if I did not want to take advantage of the good will offering, could he send a detail through my lines and "gather the gifts?"

I informed him: "Colonel, I will permit your men to pass through Able Co. OP Nori to the tree, however, I would not send

Early on the morning of Dec. 25th, 1951 on the Imjin River a beautifully decorated Christmas tree was observed on Hill 117 in front of OP Nori. The tree contained numbers of brightly wrapped packages.

my men out to gather your dead when the tree exploded, Sir." He told me his men would accept the Chinese good will gesture.

Therefore, about one hour later, about 20 of his men passed through OP Nori out to the tree. When the first package was pulled on, that entire area exploded, killing a majority of the detail and the remainder came back through OP Nori.

About an hour later, a platoon from the Belgian Bn. passed through OP Nori and retrieved their dead and wounded. Actually, the story should have stopped with the dead and wounded. However, it did not. Our Bn. under Col. Hatfield called on the landline asking could we teach the Chinese a lesson? I told him I would let him know in about 30 minutes. I got Sgt. Bailey, who had been a Canadian Commando, and we came up with an idea that had a chance of working. Our 1st Bn. was informed that we thought we could get revenge. We would need about a 20 foot, 2 inch metal pipe, 50 lbs of composition 2 explosive, and the pull type detonator, and a quart of axle grease and an American flag.

These items were supplied. Sgt. Bailey, 4 other men and I went out to the Hill 117 that night, filled the pole carrying the American flag, with C2 and greased it. We buried it in a 3-foot hole loaded with C2 and the pull-type fuse attached to it. The next morning approximately 20 Chinese soldiers and an officer appeared on the hill, tried to climb the pole to get the flag, but could not. The Chinese officer had his men attempt to pull the pole up. It blew up, killing and wounding most of the Chinese. I was glad revenge was the day after Christmas, and not Christmas day.

Lendon P. Pearson.
A Co. 15th Inf. Regt. 3rd Inf. Div.
2831 Lakeview Dr.
Canyon Lake, TX 78133-3450
830.899.2586

SHARP from page 5



BRIDGE—Two Russian soldiers (above) place decking on bridge spans during a bridge re-construction in the town of Janja, while Staff Sgt. Steven McMinn, 648th Engineer Battalion (below) lowers a beam in place over the bridge.

(Photo by Sgt. David Lietz, 318th PCH)

All the training we conducted for this mission paid immediate dividends. On April 6, The Office High Representative launched bank raids on nine branches of the Herzegovacka Bank throughout Bosnia-Herzegovina, including the Orasje branch in MND(N). Soldiers from Company D, 1st Battalion 153rd Infantry (Arkansas National Guard) who are assigned to Task Force 3/7 Cav at Camp McGovern provided perimeter security and a quick reaction force. OHR suspected hardline nationalists within the Croatian Democratic Party who want separation from the Muslim-Croat Federation, of funneling money through the bank to fund illegal separatist activities. Due to the speed, surprise and discipline of the soldiers, the operation was complete and documents secured in a relatively short period.

Shortly thereafter, Bosnian-Croat war veterans who claimed they had not been paid for several months began demonstrating in the area. Also, several hundred Bosnian Croat soldiers left their barracks and weapon storage sites near Orasje to support the Bosnian-Croat separatist, essentially leaving the Federation Army. Lt. Col. Terry Ferrell and his TF 3/7 Cav soldiers worked tirelessly for several days to avoid confrontation and an escalation of violence. They consolidated several weapons storage sites for better accountability and control. In the end, peaceful persuasion and compromise prevailed.

ARTHUR S. TOZAR MUSEUM American Historical Center Project



Members of Company D 1st Battalion 153rd Infantry secure the perimeter during an UNOHR raid of the Orasje branch of the Hercegovacka Bank, April 6. (Photos By Spc. Curtis Hargraves, Combat Camera)

We also continue to eliminate hazardous weapons and munitions throughout the region. Since the new year began, we removed 325 weapons, 167,919 rounds of ammunition, 91 land mines, 1535 hand and rifle grenades and over 1300 kilograms of explosives from the civilian population. We continue to ensure a safe and secure environment through the collecting and disposing of these items.

Soldiers of Multinational Division (North) are conducting their nation's business in a competent and professional manner. The soldiers are proud of the mission they are performing and the progress that has been made here during their tour. Our job here is made easier knowing we have supportive veterans. We thank you for all you did and continue to do in the service of your country.

Rock of the Marne!

Maj. Gen. Walter L. Sharp

Notice to all Outposts

A notice to all local Outposts concerning delinquent dues paying members.

As previously mentioned in the Watch, all delinquent members **who have not paid their dues up to 6/2001, are dropped from the roster.** Do not refer these members to the National. They are to be reinstated by the local Outpost and so noted on your copy of the "Personnel Action & Activities Report."

Thank you,
Ray Anderson

You will find below the first report on the latest activities (meetings, donations etc....) concerning our project of American Historical Center in Meuse-Argonne:

The members and descendants of the 80th Infantry Division sent us important documentation on the commitment of their Division during the WWI. Promises of donations and loans concerning equipments, uniforms etc.... were also made.

We received on behalf of members of Society of the 3rd Infantry Division several documents on the history of their Division to complete our archives.

On April 3rd, we were in Paris to assist with the annual meeting of the American Overseas Memorial Day Association. At Mr Porter and Mr Vasquez's invitation, the Mayor of Fleville representing the French authorities of the department of the Ardennes explained our project to the present assembly. We were able to speak with the American Battle Monuments Commission : Brigadier-General (Ret.) William J. Leszczynski, new Director European Region and LTC Walter L. Frankland III Deputy Director. All these persons brought their support for our project. Since this meeting, we received official mail confirming their support.

On April 9th, I had the privilege to speak in Brugge, Belgium with Major-General (Ret.) Robert H. Appleby, member of the 28th Infantry Division Association. I was accompanied by Mr John Centner, WW2 Veteran of the 1st Infantry Division. General took advantage of this time to donate to our archives the Diary and a photo of his Grandfather who fought in this Division during the WW1 and during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive. We also received books and objects which will join our future exhibitions and our archives. General was delighted by this meeting and very interested in our project. So, he decided to help us and to bring us his official

support.

On April 12th, we were invited to a meeting to Charleville-Mezieres (in the French Ardennes) to participate in an exhibition dedicated to Lafayette and to the French-American friendship since 1775. At present in Rochefort, France, we are reconstructing the exact replica of Lafayette's ship which helped the Insurgents and which will cross again the Atlantic Ocean in 2007 to Boston. For more information you can connect to their Web site: http://www.hermionelafayette.com/index2_e.html. In this exhibition a part will be dedicated to the WW1 and WW2 and especially to the liberation of the French Ardennes by the American troops.

We have just been sought as advisers for the shooting of a film "The Lost Battalion" which will tell the history of the soldiers of the 77th Infantry Division lost near 'Charlevaux Mill' during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive in WWI. This movie will be filmed partially in Luxemburg in May and June.

Our future (confirmed) program:

- A meeting on May 4 in Paris with various American associations.
- A presentation of a small part of our collections to the public on May 19 and 20 to Grandpre, in the French Ardennes.
- The organization and the inauguration of a new American monument in Normandy on June 14th dedicated to the 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division.
- The visit on September 22nd and 23rd, 2001, in the Argonne Forest by a group from the Smithsonian Institute.

To conclude, we thank all the persons and the associations mentioned above for their unconditional support. This project is also yours!

Sincerely,

Frederic Castier, Project Manager
Arthur S. Tozar Museum
a.s.tozar-museum@wanadoo.fr

"Watch" Website

<http://members.home.net/3rddiv/3rdsociety6.htm>



Looking for...

Did you make the Brolo landing?

On August 11, 1943, the 2nd Bn 30th Inf, reinforced with engineer and artillery units, commanded by L TC Lyle M. Bernard, landed 10 miles behind the German lines at Brolo, on Sicily's north coast. Despite the gallantry and determination of the task force, it was impossible to prevent the much larger enemy force from escaping east along the coastal road to Messina. George Goldstone, of 3rd Signal Co, (then Division Radio Officer) has several pages written by Harry B. Snyder, the survivor of two radio operators from 3rd Sig. who accompanied the task force, narrating the operation of their jeep-mounted radio from the beach until that area was overrun. George needs help in filling in the gaps in Snyder's account and preparing it for publication.

George has been trying to locate **Capt. Walter K. Millar**, of Div. HQ, (an ADC of Gen. Truscott), who landed with the task force, and who, according to Snyder, "always seemed to know what was going on". Do any Watch readers know whether Walt Millar is still alive, and if so, his present address? And are there any men who made the Brolo landing around who would like to discuss it with George? Contact him at

George H. Goldstone
101 0 Burnham Road
Bloomfield Hills, MI
48304(248) 642-7673.



When separating from the service in late 1945 I purchased this bound book "**The History of the 30th Regiment in WWII**" that had the Regimental Crest on the cover. I loaned the book to an ex squad member living in Baltimore, who for whatever reason never returned it. Now I would like to know if anyone out there can tell me where I might obtain a copy. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

Harry D. Barney
SSgt K Co. 30th Inf. Regt.,
3d Inf. Div. WWII
984 Tarrson Blvd.
Lady Lake, FL 32159
352.753.1083



I am still doing research on my father's service with the 15th Infantry Regiment WWII. Do you know if the US Army or the Society of the Third Infantry Division ever published a **pictorial history book of the 3rd Inf. Division WWII**? If so where may I obtain a copy? I am most interested in the Invasion of Southern France all the way to Austria.

There was some talk awhile back about a T.V documentary which may be produced about the 3rd Division in the Invasion of Southern France, The Colmar Pocket, Rhineland and Central Europe. Do you know if this will ever come about?

It is past time that the 3rd Division gets it's rightful recognition for the sacrifices it made in the Colmar campaign while Patton and the 3rd Army got the spotlight at The Battle of the Bulge.

Should you have any information on either of these matters please advise me.

Marvin Normand
4128 Pelican St.
Hessmer, LA 71341



My Uncle **Dominic Giovinazzo** was in the Company B, 15th Inf. Regt., 3d Inf. Div. in Europe. He was killed in action December 26th, 1944. Company B was involved in the fighting since December 23rd. He was under the command of 1st. Lt. George W. Mohr. They encountered heavy firefight en route, coming under machine-gun and small-arms fire from well dug-in and concealed positions. This pocket was eliminated and the company proceeded. I would like to know of anyone who knew Dominic or was in that battle.

Any information would be appreciated. Please contact President Jerry Daddato, Giovinazzo-York Op. #18 Milwaukee, WI., W 4150 County Road K, Random Lake, WI. 53075.(920)994-2962.



My father was in the **10th Engineers WWII**. The information that I have on hand at this moment is that he served and

spent 3 years in Europe, sometime between 1941-1945. He told stories of landing in Africa and heading towards Cannes, France, taking Rome and returning to Naples. He also spoke of Anzio beachhead and Colmar Pocket, European theatre of operations. He was part of a platoon walking ahead and checking for land mines and having to disarm them. These stories were often difficult for him to talk about since he witnessed many of his buddies being blown up and so we often would get only bits of unfinished stories. I hope the little info I provided is helpful to you and please e mail me to let me know if any information comes your way about any one who can relate to this experience. My father is presently in the hospital with prostate cancer but any queries can be sent via my post box address:

Matthew Diabo
P.O. Box 879
Kahnawake, Quebec,
J0L 1B0 Canada
kwaseti@axess.com



The **National Order of Battlefield Commissions** is trying to locate all men, WWII, Korea and Viet-Nam, who on the field of battle against an armed enemy received a commission from enlisted or Warrant status. It may be you or someone you know. Contact J. Angier, 67 Ocean Dr., St. Augustine, FL 32080 904.471.7695 <jnobc@aol.com>. Or for more information, visit www.battlefield-commissions.org

Sharing

Over the years we have had calls from members who want to attend the National Reunions but cannot afford everything. They are looking for others willing to share a room.

Please let Carl Duncan (623-977-2347) know if::

- You have a room you would like to share.
- You would like to share someone's room.

The "Can Do" Regimental Chaplain

Father Richard F. Wersing tended his flock in battle



From left to right are: Janet Tiezzi, Jim Tiezzi, Pres. OP#2, Father Richard F. Wersing, Becky Colin & Dick Colin, enjoying sunny Sarasota, FL. Photo courtesy of Jim Tiezzi.

Father Richard F Wersing was an Army Catholic Chaplain for many years and has been retired for quite some time.

During his extensive tour of duty throughout the world, I was fortunate to meet him during his tour of duty in Korea in 1951-1952 where he served as Regimental Chaplain of the 15th Infantry Regiment (the CAN 00 Regiment). We had met several times, on the front lines of Hill 355 (Little Gibraltar), in the reserve area for a little rest and getting cleaned up with a hot bath and good food, and also while on R & R in Tokyo, Japan. Wherever he went he always gathered as many GI's as he could to say Catholic Mass, sometime there were only a few and sometimes 50 to 100+.

On one occasion he said Mass on the reverse side of Hill 355 in a cut-out in the hillside and his "flock" was gathered in a

long trench behind him. All of a sudden the Chinese started to shell our position and all of us GI's had been trained to duck and put our helmets back on, if we had them off. Our helmets were off because we were in "church", so we did put them back on and kept them on for the remainder of the service. As I looked up at Fr. Wersing, there he was still standing up continuing to say Mass like nothing else mattered except the completion of the Mass. Some enemy shells had landed nearby and fortunately no one was hit, however some dirt and mud had splattered his garments. He was later recommended for the Bronze Star for this action.

After leaving Korea in September 1952 and returning to my family and my civilian occupation, I lost contact with Fr. Wersing, except for a card he had giving me of a prayer he had composed and which I have carried in my wallet from about February

1952 to the present day. Every so often I would read the prayer and think of him and wonder how he was doing and where he was. In September 1997 at the national reunion of the Society in Pittsburgh, PA, I found out that he was in attendance, and so after 45 years we saw each other again.

Fr. Wersing is in residence at Duquesne University, Trinity Hall, Pittsburgh, PA 15282 and if there is anyone that would like to write to him, I am sure he would be happy to hear from you. He is now 92 years old and still as sharp as a tack. Each year for the past several years he comes to Florida for two weeks and stays at his Holy Ghost Order's R & R home in Sarasota, FL. He usually gives me a phone call to let me know he is there and asks me, "When are you coming up to visit?" So each time he is here in Florida we make a date and my wife and I go up to visit him and talk about old times. We also usually take him out for a ride to see the attractions and country-side, and then end up taking him out for dinner after a nice day together. This year we saw him on Friday, 9 March 2001 and met two other friends of his, Dick and Becky Conlin, who were visiting him also. They had met him while Dick was in the Army in Europe and Fr. Wersing was the Chaplain at his base. Since we visited so long in his quarters we went across the bay to a fine restaurant and we all had a pleasant time and then went our merry way back to Ft. Myers. We hope he is well enough to come down to Florida again next year as we look forward to seeing him again.

Jim Tiezzi, President,
Outpost 2, Florida

National Reunion Planning

2002 Reunion

Niagra Falls, NY
Joe Poggi OP 5
610 Poplar Road
River Vale, NJ 07675
(201) 573 0515
j.poggi@worldnet.att.net

2003 Reunion

St. Louis, MO
Roger Lochmann OP 17
1616 Frederick
Collinsville, IL 62234
(618) 345 1067

2004 Reunion

Savannah, GA
Marne Association

Check your label

Your Unit

Membership Status: LM (Life),
RM (Regular), AM (Associate)

Outpost Affiliation

*****5 Digit
MedCo/15Inf LM OP 17 *4
JAMES DRURY 320
716 9th Street
CAMANCHE IA 52730-1418
DELIVERY POINT BARCODE

Important: If bar-code does not extend across full label, your zip code does not have 9 digits and your address is not correct according to the USPS. Contact your local Post Office for proper format.

Check your name and address (Apt./Bldg/Lot No.). Notify the Membership Chairman if you find an error. **If your zip code does not contain 9 digits (zip +4)**, your address is not correct according to the USPS. Contact your local Post Office for proper format.

Maureen Dowd
New York Times

Dear Maureen,

I read your article this morning on the Greatest Generation becoming the gabbiest. You are certain correct there are lots of memoirs being written, reunions attended, oral histories given, etc. That is natural as the veterans age and pass on memories to their families, etc.

Most of what you wrote about is the result of commercialism of WW II. Movies, books, TV, etc. are big money items for the authors and producers. Steven Ambrose recycles the same information over and over into books with different titles. Spielberg and Hanks did well with Private Ryan, and now have produced Band of Brothers. Ambrose wrote the book, but used a blatant falsehood in the book and in its promotion. It has been picked up in the promotion of movie and was included in your article. Ambrose claims Easy Company, 506 Parachute Infantry Regiment (PIR) of the 101 Airborne Division fought their way into Berchtesgaden and were the first to arrive at that historic location. That is not true. They were not even second into Berchtesgaden. The 7th Regt of the 3rd Inf. Division was first. There was very little, if any, fighting as they entered the city and Hitler's compound, although about 3,000 prisoners were taken. Four hours later elements of Gen. Le Clerc's 2nd French Armored Division was second, and 18 hours later elements of the 101 Airborne Division arrived.

Several veterans of the 3rd Inf. Div. have written Ambrose and Spielberg about this falsehood but get no response from any of them. It is not right for them to use false information in their promotion of the movie. I will enclose copies of letters and information we have sent the two men.

As an infantry veteran who fought in Italy, France, and Germany and was wounded once, I must tell you I do not like the use of the words, "The Greatest Generation". We did our duty the best we could, but my sons (your generation) and grandsons would serve equally as well if faced with a similar danger to our nation's freedom. We were a fine generation, but we made plenty of mistakes over the years as well as doing lots of things right. I have always thought my father's generation was a great generation. They fought in WW I, a truly terrible war, did their best to raise families and carry on in a terrible depression that saw unemployment as much as 50% in a lot of places, and then had to send their sons and daughters off to another terrible war while staying home to produce all the food and war products that insured victory in WW II. As a father who had a son in the service during the Vietnam War, I believe it is much harder sending your children off to war than going yourself.

I have asked other reporters and columnists who have been critical of Ambrose's inaccuracies in other books to look at the enclosed material, but they have not wanted to take him on. If Ambrose had just read the history of the 101st Airborne Division, he would have learned from the Division Commander, Gen. Maxwell Taylor, they were not first into Berchtesgaden. Perhaps he did read the book, and ignored the truth for commercialism sake. I hope you find this letter and information of interest. If I can answer questions or provide more information, please let me know.

With best wishes,

John Shirley

4218 Drake Way, Livermore, CA 94550-4914

Phone 925-447-2256 Fax 925-4478835

E-mail jbshirley@home.com

*The following is courtesy of Dan Killett,
OP #18 newsletter editor.*

'I Am Your Flag'

By MSgt. Percy Webb

I am your Flag

I was born on June 14th, 1777.

I am more than just cloth shaped into design.

I am the refuge of the World's oppressed people.

I am the silent sentinel of Freedom.

I am the emblem of the greatest sovereign nation on earth.

I am the inspiration for which American Patriots

gave their lives and fortunes.

I have led your sons into battle from Valley Forge to the

bloody swamps of Vietnam.

I walk in silence with each of your Honored Dead, to their final resting place beneath the silent White Crosses, row upon row.

I have flown through Peace and War, Strife and Prosperity, and amidst it all I have been respected.

My Red Stripes....symbolize the blood spilled in defense of this glorious nation.

My White Stripes....signify the burning tears shed by Americans who lost their sons.

My Blue Field....is indicative of God's heaven under which I fly.

My Stars....clustered together, unify 50 states as one, for God and Country.

"Old Glory" is my nickname, and proudly I wave on high.

Honor me, respect me, defend me with your lives and fortunes.

Never let my enemies tear down from my lofty position, lest I never return.

Keep alight the fires of patriotism, strive earnestly for the spirit of democracy.

Worship Eternal God and keep His Commandments, and I shall remain the bulwark of peace and freedom for all mankind.

I am your Flag