



The Watch on the Rhine

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

Vol. 83 No. 4

"Nous Resterons La"

February, 2002

OP 2 Dedicates 3ID Memorial.

By Jim Tiezzi, President

The John S. Cole Outpost #2, Tampa, FL is proud to report that at their Fall meeting we dedicated a Memorial to all deceased 3rd Infantry Division veterans at the National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL on Veterans Day, Sunday 11 November 2001 at 2PM.

There were approximately 60 people in attendance, many of whom also attended the Annual Veterans Day program sponsored by the Joint Veterans Committee, Florida National Cemetery, which was held at 11AM.

The Master of Ceremony was Jim Tiezzi, OP2 President, who opened the program by "welcoming all that were in attendance. It was explained why most of the dedication program was to be held in Shelter "A" and the final phase of the dedication would be at the Memorial site for the unveiling of the monument.

Please turn to **MEMORIAL** on page 8



Posing at the memorial are (L to R) was Jim Tiezzi, President OP 2, Joe Poggi, Eastern Region Vice-Pres.; Lt. Gen. Robert C. McAlister, Korea; Maj Gen. Maurice W. Kendall, WWII & Vietnam; Leonard L. Lassar, President, 15th Inf. Regt. Association. All are Op # 2 members except Joe Poggie, Pres. OP # 5.

OP 7 Honors Fallen Comrades

Washington DC – Outpost 7 continued its tradition of honoring our fallen comrades by conducting impressive wreath laying ceremonies on a perfect Fall Day at Arlington National Cemetery on Veterans Day Nov 11.

As hundreds of tourists looked on, forty Rock of the Marne Veterans, supported by an equal number of spouses and friends, formed a cordon down the steps leading to the Tomb of the Unknowns where a large wreath with blue and white flowers and a blue and white banner was laid at the Tomb by our National Secretary/ Treasurer, Ray Anderson, and Ray Hergenreder. Following the sounding of TAPS by a bugler from the Army Band, the Marne Veterans moved to and assembled at the Third Infantry Division Memorial in front of the Arlington Amphitheater. A large wreath, similar to that placed at the Tomb, was then placed at the Memorial.

Following a Minute of Silence in remembrance of our fallen comrades, John Insani paid tribute to the Marne soldiers who fought in WW 1, WW II, Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf War and to those who were now wearing the blue and white shoulder patch in Kosovo. Recognition and support was also paid to those serving in the THIRD at Ft Stewart and who were undoubtedly preparing to support our actions in Afghanistan.

On behalf of our Society President, Jerry Cunningham, and Jim Jarboe, Awards Committee Chairman, the Society President's Special Award was then presented to Samuel Smithers. Sam, who was



Ray Anderson and Ray Hergenreder lead the way to the Tomb of the Unknowns. Photo courtesy of John Insani.

As hundreds of tourists looked on, forty Rock of the Marne Veterans, supported by an equal number of spouses and friends, formed a cordon down the steps leading to the Tomb of the Unknowns...

incapacitated recently by a stroke, attended in a wheelchair. He has long been active in planning and coordinating wreath laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery.

The ceremony at the Third Infantry Division Memorial, like that at the Tomb, was observed by hundreds of tourists plus the spouses of several of the Marne participants. Attendees included but were not limited to: Gen "Dutch" Kerwin, MG Jere Sharp, Ray Anderson, Henry Bodson, Ray and Martha Hergenreder and their daughter

Please turn to **HONORS** on page 8



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The Watch on the Rhine

The Watch on the Rhine is the official publication of The Society of the Third Infantry Division, U.S. Army. The Watch on the Rhine is published bi-monthly for members of the Society by Finisterre Publishing Incorporated, PO Box 70346, Beaufort, SC 29902 (Finisterre@islc.net). A subscription may be obtained at a cost of \$8 by applying to the National Headquarters, The Society of the Third Infantry Division-U.S. Army, PO Box 1156, Ft. Myer, VA 22211. Contributions and suggestions are welcome and should be sent to James E. Drury, Editor, 716 9th St., Camanche, IA 52730-1418.

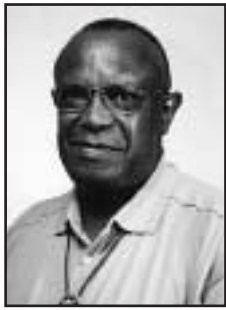
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President's Message

Jerry Cunningham



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

Happy Millennium!

If you are like thousands of others, we are sure your New Year's Resolution takes on new meaning this year. The year 2002 also is bringing on new changes to your society, moreover

the changes are for the betterment and improvement on how we must do our business in the future. I have proposed an issue to the Executive board Committee, on stream lining the present Life Membership. If you have thought about becoming a Life Member, and have not because of a one lump sum payment, well, the Executive Committee is looking at implementing a Life Membership Installment plan.

We also are reducing the Secretary/Treasurer duties by contracting part of his duties to a private firm. The

We also are reducing the Secretary/ Treasurer duties by contracting part of his duties to a private firm. The Secretary/Treasurer, Ray Anderson, has more information on this subject in this issue of the *Watch*

Secretary/Treasurer, Ray Anderson, has more information on this subject in this issue of the *Watch*. A directive was issued to all Outposts hosting the National Reunion, the registration form must state, "In case of emergency, if you are, or not entitled to a refund" As many of you are aware, my term of Society President will end in September 2002. I still have lots of unfinished society work to be done, hopeful without any strife. The nomination Chairman, Robert D. Bailey has started soliciting names to fill positions that will become vacant this September also.

I am asking each outpost president to hurry and submit those super braves warriors names for candidacy.

December the seventeenth 2001. I accepted an invitation from the Third Division Commander and Division Command Sergeant Major, to attend the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club Induction Ceremony and Dr. Mary E. Walker Award Ceremony. WOW! What an honor to receive such an invite. After both ceremonies, MG Blount, invited me to Division Headquarters for a chat, joined, by Colonel David G. Perkins, 2nd Brigade Commander/Marne Association President. We had a fruitful meeting, with the subject reference The Society of the Third Infantry Division. I can assure you, Major General Blount is committed to our great Division and your society, how fortunate we are to have such a leader. Thanks you sir: for your hospitality.

Let us remain vigilant because of our evil enemies, "9/11/01. Our Loss will Not Be Forgotten"

To our comrades and families on the sick list, you are always in our thoughts and prayers. Moreover, we hope for a speedy recovery. Let us not forget all of our Troops.

God Bless America

"ROCK OF THE MARNE"

Feeling Lucky?

A drawing will take place at the general membership meeting in Buffalo for the first 50 reunion attendees. To be eligible please submit your registration forms for the reunion (not the hotel registration) to the Committee.

Two prizes of one free night each at the hotel, with breakfast, to the winners.

Thanks,

Joe Poggi

Check your label

Your Unit Membership Status: LM (Life),
RM (Regular), AM (Associate) Outpost Affiliation

*****	*****	*****	*****	5 Digit
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716 9th Street				
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National Reunion Planning

2002 Reunion

Buffalo/Niagara Falls, NY
Joe Poggi OP 5
610 Poplar Road
River Vale, NJ 07675
(201) 573 0515
iggop@optonline.net

2003 Reunion

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

2004 Reunion

Savannah, GA
Marne Association

Special Notice to All Society Members:

Society Membership Management Contracted to Finisterre Publishing

Your Executive Committee has decided that it is better to collect membership dues and manage the roster with an outside contractor. In the past, this business was accomplished by the local outposts and the National Secretary/Treasurer. This decision is aimed at streamlining our records and improved dues collection methods.

We have chosen Finisterre Publishing Incorporated to provide this service. Finisterre is the same contractor we use for publishing of *The Watch on the Rhine*. We have enjoyed excellent experience with this company. Furthermore, they have been providing this service for other veteran groups and have experience in handling this type of service. Finisterre has received excellent referrals from these veteran groups.

We fully expect that the use of Finisterre to collect our dues and manage our roster will greatly enhance our Society's future growth. This decision by the Executive Committee will be reviewed at the General Membership meeting in Buffalo for final approval.

Hereafter, the address for matters concerning dues and membership is: **Society of the Third Infantry Division, PO Box 70291, Beaufort, SC 29902**

*Ray Anderson,
National Secretary/Treasurer*

Call for Nominations

Nominations for Society Officers

Nominations are now being accepted for National President, National Secretary-Treasurer, and a Vice President and two committeemen for each of the three regions. Nominations will be closed on April 23, 2002.

All nominations will be pursuant to Article V (5.2.a) Elective Officers of the Society are: President, Secretary-Treasurer, and one Vice President and two Executive Committeemen from each of the three (3) regions.

Members assigned to outpost will nominate and vote for regional officers within the region of their outpost. Members at large will nominate and vote for the regional officers only within the region they reside.

All nominations shall only be made with the written consent of the nominee. Nominations and or letters of acceptance shall be addressed to:

Robert D. Bailey, Chairman
Nominations and Elections
160 Huguley Road
Opelika, Ala. 36804-1891
or e-mail; Maybob56@aol.com

APRIL 23, 2002 DEADLINE

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Milford, Ohio 45150. Phone: (513) 831-2636 E-mail: cqtopie@aol.com

Constitution and By-laws Proposed Amendments

Constitution and By-laws, Society of the Third Infantry Division, United States Army, (Sept. 1998 edition) Page 4, ARTICLE VII. BY-LAWS, Paragraph 7.1 states:

The Society shall have full power to adopt By-laws, which are not in conflict with the provisions of this Constitution. By-laws may be adopted, ratified, modified or repealed at Society Annual Meetings or any Special Meeting called for that specific purpose, under the provisions of SECTION VII of the By-laws.

ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS paragraph 8.1 states:

This Constitution may be amended, altered or repealed by two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members presented or represented by valid absentee ballot at a National Reunion Meeting, provided notice thereof shall have been given by publication in one issue of The Watch on the Rhine prior thereto.

Pursuant to this, any Society member wishing to propose a change in either the Constitution or By-laws, must submit the same by letter to the Constitution and By-laws Committee postmarked no later than March 15, 2002.

The reason being the committee has to study all proposals submitted, make recommendations, possibly consult the Judge Advocate and/or Executive Committee and forward all material to the "Watch" editor for inclusion in the June "Watch" published previous to the reunion in Buffalo, NY in Sept. 2002.

Direct all your correspondence to:

Dale L. McGraw, Chairman
Constitution & Bylaws Committee
21302 SE 277th Pl. |
Maple Valley, WA 98038-3133

Yours in the Third
Dale L. McGraw

"Watch" Website – <http://www.warfoto.com/3society6.htm>

Fort Stewart Museum Marches On

Jeff C. Reed, Technician
Fort Stewart Museum

Since writing my last article, we have received news that the funds we requested for exhibit improvements are not forthcoming this year. Furthermore, the operating budget for the Fort Stewart Museum has been drastically reduced for the year 2002. Regardless of these setbacks the Museum staff is committed in making some exhibit changes and improvements. The scale of these improvements will be reduced, but Walter Meeks, Museum Director, is confident that he and his staff can produce an excellent product to serve the visitor until funds allow execution of the full-scale project.

This development will not impact the Museum from seeking donations and veteran information. It will simply allow more time to seek out information and artifacts. So far the museum has received a great response. Several people have sent in accounts of their experiences in the 3rd Division. These first person written accounts are exactly what we are seeking. As I said before, we want the words of the veteran to speak to our visitors, not the words of the exhibit designer. After all, the museum is about the soldiers and the veterans of the Division and not a tribute to the education of a museum staff.

We have received quite a few donations since my last article to include gifts from William Strobridge, Claude Billiet, David Adams, Henry R. Bodson, John F. Manning, Frank T. De Angelo and Elisha E. Smith, Jr. In addition to the items donated, both Mr. Billiet and Mr. Strobridge provided a great deal of background information on the objects. It is this detailed information that will make these donations great additions to the Museum collection. I know I said it before, but I am going to say it again. A patch is a patch, but the patch that was cut from Private Dogface's uniform prior to dropping his uniform into QM laundry, so he could take his first shower since landing at Anzio is a great museum artifact.

On another front, with our soldiers returning from the Balkans we anticipate other items entering the museum's collections. Some of the items already here include a packsaddle used to smuggle



Items from our soldiers returning from the Balkans include the packsaddle shown above used to smuggle weapons and the "Task Force Falcon" colors at right.



weapons, bomb fragments and the "Task Force Falcon" colors used by our 1st Brigade while overseas. As of this writing, we have several weapons and uniform articles being shipped to us.

The museum has also received another very significant object from an anonymous source. The receipt of a Nazi army combat tunic will definitely enhance the collections and exhibits. It is the only example we currently have. As a result, this has demonstrated another area of need in the museum collection. The collection contains very little Nazi material. In order to tell the complete story of the 3rd Division it is essential that we have a good sample of the uniforms and equipment of the Division's adversaries. If anyone has any German or North Korean uniform components or other war trophies, it is hoped they will think about the Fort Stewart Museum for possible donation.

In closing I would just like to say that I regret not having been able to attend the reunion, however I guess certain events impacted everyone's plans. Regardless we are determined to move ahead with our mission and that is to support the soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division, both past and present in addition to all our service members overseas.

Rock of the Marne
Jeff

Book Corner



Riflemen: On the Cutting Edge of World War II

by Third Division author,
Earl A. Reitan

The book presents a vivid and realistic portrayal of the role of riflemen in combined-arms warfare in the European theatre. It is based on the experiences of the author, the recollections of his comrades, and research in the National Archives and Center for Military History. The book has 24 illustrations and six maps.

Reitan was a rifleman in Italy and France with Co. F, 7th Infantry Regiment, The Third Infantry Division. He served on the Anzio beachhead, in the landing in southern France (where he was wounded), and in the Vosges and Colmar Pocket campaigns. He received the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

The book includes the breakout from Anzio to Rome, the landing in southern France, the crossing of the Meurthe River, "The battle of the apartments," the Colmar Pocket, and Utweiler.

The price is \$18.95 for softcover and \$32.95 hardcover. Add \$3.00 for orders less than \$24.95. Credit card orders at (802) 447-0313 or www.merriam-press.com.

Contact: Earl A. Reitan, 1319 Chadwick, Normal, IL 61761-1920. Tel. (309) 452-1681. Earlrei@aol.com or ereita@dav-esworld.net

"Riflemen: On the Cutting Edge of World War II" should be ordered from Merriam Press, 218 Beech St., Bennington VT 05201 the publisher. Barnes & Noble will not stock it or order it, although it is available on their website. If you prefer, Earl will send you a copy, but include \$3.95 for Priority Mail, because Media Mail is very slow.

Earl also wrote "I Was a Teenage Rifleman in World War II". This is an action/adventure novel about an American boy in France who has various adventures with the Resistance and then joins up with the Third Division. Do not confuse it with Riflemen: On the Cutting Edge of World War II.

See Sherma Pratt's book review on page 15



News From The Outposts



John S. Cole

Tampa, FL

The Spring reunion of the John S.Cole Outpost #2 will be held at the Best Western Naples Inn & Suites In Naples, FL on Friday & Saturday, April 19 & 10, 2002. The rate will be \$53.10 per night & reservation can be made by calling the hotel direct at 1-800-243-1148 & saying you are with the 3rd Infantry Division reunion.

It is expected that we will be going to the Naples Dinner Theater on Friday evening & the annual banquet & meeting will take place at Silver Spoon Café which is a short distance from the hotel.

All 3rd Infantry Division veterans are welcome to attend & can get further information by contacting Jim Tiezzi, OP#2 President at 1-941-466-1214 or by email at ajimmjtiezzi@aol.com or by writing to 14186 Hilton Head Dr., Ft. Myers, FL 33919. The OIP#2 members will be receiving further information in the Newsletter that will be mailed out in later Jan or early Feb 2002.



Lattie Tipton

Ninty Six, SC

Outpost members deployed to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, in force for our meeting in November. This meeting may have set a record for attendance for at least the last five years. We hope this sets a trend for future meetings.



Before we actually began our meeting, we asked all the spouses to join us. We thanked them for their continued support. They appreciated the praise.

During our meeting, members voted to donate \$189 to the Pentagon Relief Fund – that's one dollar for each person killed during the September 11th attack on the Pentagon. We also discussed adopting a platoon from one of the 3rd Infantry Division units. However, since mail has been suspect since the discovery of anthrax, we decided to table this discussion until our next meeting.

Outpost President Clyde Easter appointed Outpost member Tom Twomey to review our By-Laws and to compile changes made since the By-Laws had been last published. Tom asked

other members to help him with his assignment and several volunteered.

Our next meeting is scheduled for March 14-16, 2002, in Greenville, South Carolina, at the Quality Inn — Haywood. We invite any Society member to join us and we especially encourage Outpost 3 members to attend.



Albert Miceli

Southern California

The Albert Miceli Outpost 22 held their quarterly meeting at the home of Andy and Peggy Scullion in Riverside, California on November 17, 2001.

While the members conducted the meeting, spouses and guests were served hors d'oeuvres and had lively conversations.

Following the posting of the colors, President Scullion led members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Ralph Tapp, Nile Stuart, and Al Webber who had not attended recent outpost meetings were welcomed back into active participation. Ralph told of his experiences with the 7th Regiment including serving alongside Sherman Pratt from state-side duty all the way to Berchtesgaden.

Andy Scullion reported that the monument and plaque will be installed at Fort Rosecrans National cemetery in December and a formal dedication will be in February. Jesse Ugalde will host the February meeting in conjunction with the memorial dedication.

Certificates of appreciation were awarded to members Warren Booth, Jim Jarboe, Bruce Monkman, Jack Sneddon and Nile Stuart for their special support that contributed to the success of the September National reunion.

The current outpost officers Andrew Scullion, President, Bruce Monkman, Vice President, Martin Markley,



From left, Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to members Bruce Monkman, Jim Jarboe, Nile Stuart, Warren Booth. Photo courtesy of Andy Scullion.

Secretary/Treasurer were reelected. Al Weber was elected to the office of Sergeant - at - Arms.

Members agreed to hold the annual picnic at the Yorba Regional Park in May 2002.

Following the meeting, a raffle was held with prizes received by almost everyone. Members and guests then adjourned to a local restaurant for dinner.

All Society members interested in attending the memorial dedication in February and/or the annual picnic in May are welcome to join the festivities. The times and dates are not yet determined. Contact either the outpost president or secretary/treasurer after the first of the year for firm information.

Respectfully, Martin Markley

54 Golden Gate

San Francisco, CA

Op 54 held its Fall meeting on Nov. 10 at the Brass Door Restaurant, San Ramon, CA. 42 members and guests were in attendance and a very nice time was had by all. Self introductions are always a highlight of the meeting. We remembered our deceased members and spouses, the victims of Sept. 11, and all our veterans who have died in wars. The following day was Veteran's Day.

Bill Strobridge arranged for a very interesting program. CPT. Anna Fredricks, Commander of the East Bay Recruiting Company, and Sgt. First Class Tony Nance gave a very interesting talk on army recruiting efforts. The army is making its quotas, and have many lucrative



Speakers at Nov. 10th meeting, SFC Tony Nance and Capt. Anna Fredricks.



2001 scholarship recipient, Cadet Col. Daniel Baltazar, Claremont High School, of the Oakland School District. On the left is Sgt. Maj. George Jones (ret.), a former member of the Third Inf. Division, and on the right, LTC (ret.) Vernon Clark. Col. Clark is head of the Oakland District Jr. ROTC Department, and Sgt. Jones is one of his staff members.

inducements for new recruits. Educational opportunities are foremost in the offerings.

OP 54 has its roster up to date, and all members receiving the *Watch* are paid in full.

The pictures with this article show our speakers on Nov.10, and the other picture shows our 2001 scholarship recipient, Cadet Col. Daniel Baltazar, Claremont High School, of the Oakland School District. On the left is Sgt. Maj. George Jones (ret.), a former member of the Third Inf. Division, and on the right, LTC (ret.) Vernon Clark. Col. Clark is head of the Oakland District Jr. ROTC Department, and Sgt. Jones is one of his staff members.

We support our scholarship program with a very successful raffle run by Ric Cardenas. We have more than one gift for each person, but often have members win several gifts, meaning some of us might not win anything. We don't mind since the money goes for such a good cause.

Our next meeting will be held at the Brass Door Restaurant on May 11, 2002.

Members, family and guests are welcome. We will be awarding our 2002 scholarships at this meeting.

*Respectfully submitted
John Shirley, President*

63 Fort Lewis

Tacoma, WA

Members of OP 63 held their annual Xmas dinner party and gift exchange on Dec 9, 2001 at the world famous Poodel Dog restaurant. The dinner was excellent and the gift exchange was enjoyed by everyone. With 36 present to reestablish old and new friendships a good time was held by all.

In attendance were those wonderful people who gave generously throughout the years. Gretchen Brockway, Ward and Jackie Deyoung, who drove up from Portland, a 200 plus round trip, Sam and Louise Fry. E. Douglas and Marge Jones, Vermont and Doris Koistinen, Morris Krepyk and daughter Virginia Frost, Neal and Patti Lettich, Dick and Elva Moats, Charles and Judy Hansberry, Dale and Evelyn McGraw (He is President of OP 4), Margaret Quattrocchi, Wayne and Jan Nelson, Will and Moni-Jo Ross (Recipient of the MOH), Joyce Tongish, Celeste Watson, Sue Wilson. Claudia Westlund (Bernard was unable to attend) Rich and Keri Smith, Robert and Carla West, Bill and Kay Weller, and Morley and Christa Yagen.

In addition, we were visited by two gentlemen; Thomas Then and Joseph Nilo, who were dressed in WWII combat gear and brought a large display of WWII equipment. They are part of a larger complement of WWII buffs and they will be invited to our next event. Joseph served two tours with the 3d Div 4/7th Inf in Desert Storm and 1989 and again in 1992.

All of us that were unable to attend the 82d Reunion to be with our friends will never forget the events of 9-11. We are looking forward to seeing you at our Picnic in July. Morris Krepyk S/T OP 63 .

HONORS from page 1

Col Cath Bacon
USAF, Ernest Clifford,
Raleigh Easter, Arthur
and Mrs Cox, Dennis
Hannon, Bud
Lampert, Jay and
Nonie Lowden, Lee
Lewane, Richard
Maniscalco, Ronald
McCleary, Werner
Michel, Bud Nelms,
Sherman and
Anastasia Pratt, Ted
and Elsie Rowland,
Sam and Tilly
Smithers, Carl
Swickerath and many
others.



John Insani presents Sam Smithers with the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division President's award.

For advance planning purposes, our next meeting and wreath laying ceremonies are scheduled for Memorial Day May 30, 2002 at 11:35 a.m. at the Tomb in Arlington National Cemetery. A social meeting at one of the Ft Myer Clubs will follow the ceremonies. Any and all Marne men and their spouses and friends who are in the Washington DC area at that time are welcome to join Outpost 7 in paying tribute to our fallen comrades.

John L. Insani

3rd Infantry Division Honours from Greece

Chryssoun Aristion Andrias (Bravery Gold Medal of Greece), Streamer embroidered KOREA

- ♦ Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3d Infantry Division
- ♦ Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade, 3d Infantry Division

Cited Department of the Army General Orders 2, 2 February 1956 (along with attached units):

In accordance with the Royal Order dated 15 June 1955 CHRYSSOUN ARISTION ANDRIAS (BRAVERY GOLD MEDAL) is awarded to the Colors of the 3d Infantry Division U.S. Army because, during the long period of the war in Korea, the above unit positioned together with the Greek Expeditionary Forces, with which the latter was assigned, took part in the hard fought battles in which the fluidity and the maneuvers experienced by the American and Greek soldiers, who falling together in the field of honour, won battles and succeeded the final victory, defending their colors, and the Freedom of Humanity.

*Courtesy of Pat Scarpato
PAT1903PH@webtv.net*

MEMORIAL from page 1

The group joined me in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and sang one verse of the National Anthem, followed by the invocation by OP#2's Chaplain Bill Griswold. A newspaper article was then read by the President about Elmer F. Hurst, a 3rd Division veteran and OP2 member, who was the first person to be buried in the new Florida National Cemetery on Memorial Day, 31 May 1988. We then had the posting of the Honor Guard who started with a 3 volley gun salute, followed by Taps and the folding of the flag by the Honor Guard Captain and then presented it to the President, who accepted it on behalf of all 3rd Infantry Division veterans.

The President acknowledged the efforts of Dave Oglesby, Chair of the Monument Committee for all his committee's hard work in making this Memorial possible. Because of his dedicated leadership in following through on each step of the long process from initiation to completion, this memorial is a credit to his tireless efforts in getting the job done. Other officers, members and all that contributed financially to

the Monument Fund were acknowledged with a big "Rock Of The Marne" Salute.

Our first speaker was Lt. Gen. Robert C. McAlister, an OP2 member, who served with the 3rd in the Korean War with the 10th Field Artillery who spoke of some of his experiences in the early days of the war. He was then followed by Maj. Gen. Maurice W. Kendall who also is an OP2 member and served with the 15th Infantry (Can Do)

Regiment in WW2. He paid tribute to all the men of the division who served in the European Theater, as he did, especially the ones who were killed in action.

The next speaker was Joe Poggi, a former President of the Society and current Vice-President Eastern Region, as well as President of OP#5 and served with the 15th Infantry Regiment during the Korean War. Joe's remarks were about the "Rock Of The Marne" motto. He was followed by OP2 member Mitch Chockla, who read a poem entitled, "Three Soldiers from the Third" which was written several years ago by

another OP2 member, CWO Robert L. Coppock.

Lenny Lassar, President of the 15th Infantry Regiment Association was introduced as was Douglas Worley, a Desert Storm veteran, who is our newest Society and OP2 member having signed up that day. They were thanked for their presence.

Some coverage of the highlights of the actions of our great division in the major wars, WW1, WW2 and the Korean War, were presented. I then recited the number of honors and medals awarded to the members of the division as well as the number of KIAs' in each of these wars. This brought us to the reason for our program, which was to dedicate a memorial to honor our comrades killed in action as well as all the other deceased 3rd Infantry Division veterans.

At this point we retired to the monument site for the unveiling and official dedication of the Memorial. A final prayer was said by the Chaplain and everyone was invited to look at the monument close up and take photos.

Profile

Major General Buford C. Blount III

**Commanding General, 3d Infantry Division (Mechanized),
Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, GA**



Major General Buford C. Blount III

Major General Buford C. Blount III took command of the 3d Infantry Division (Mechanized), Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield October 19, 2001.

He came to Fort Stewart from Saudi Arabia where he was the Program Manager for the Saudi Arabian National Guard Modernization Program. Major General Blount commands units stationed at Fort Stewart, Hunter Army Airfield, and Fort Benning, Georgia.

Major General Blount has served in a variety of command and staff positions. His command assignments include commander, Combat Support Company and B Company, 3rd Battalion, 77th Armor, 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized), Fort Polk, La.; commander, A Troop, 15th Cavalry, 197th Infantry Brigade, Fort Benning, Ga.; commander, 3rd Battalion, 64th Armor, 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized), USAREUR and Seventh Army, Germany; commander, 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized), Fort Carson, Colo.

Between command assignments he has served as the operations, plans and training officer, 2d Battalion, 69th Armor, 197th Infantry Brigade, Fort Benning,

Ga.; Chief, Test Support Division, U.S. Army Infantry Board, Fort Benning, Ga.; Armor Plans and Operations Officer, Office of the Program Manager, Saudi Arabian National Guard Modernization Program, Saudi Arabia; Executive Officer, 2d Brigade, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized), Fort Stewart, Ga.; and Division Chief of Staff, 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized), Fort Hood, Texas.

Major General Blount is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi and was commissioned an armor officer in 1971. He is a graduate of the Armor Officer Basic Course, the Infantry Officer Advanced Course, the United States Army Command and General Staff College, and the United States Naval War College where he earned a Master of Science Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

His awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Meritorious Service Medal (with six Oak Leaf Clusters), and the Army Commendation Medal (with two Oak Leaf Clusters.)

Office of the Commander
3d Infantry Division (Mech)



“ROCK OF THE MARNE”

November 13, 2001

Dear Mr. Anderson,

Thank you for sending the new membership card and book, but more importantly for allowing me the honor of presiding as the Honorary President of this prestigious organization. I'm doubly honored – first, being selected to command this great Division and then to be included among the many veteran soldiers who have served so admirably. I look forward to the opportunity to meet many of you at the Society Reunion in New Jersey next year.

Although we don't know what the future may hold, the 3d Infantry Division stands ready to do whatever we are called to do, and, as in the past, accomplish it in the tradition that has been established by those who fought before us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Buford Blount".

Buford C. Blount
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding

Mr. Raymond C. Anderson
National Secretary/Treasurer
Society of the Third Infantry Division
10 Paddington Court
Hockessin, Delaware 19707



Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

This letter is in response to some inquires about MIAs and Kill.s at a hell hole called Huksu-Ri Korea on or about Dec. 3, 1950.

Yes, there was a battle there. It started about 5.00AM and overran our lines by about 10 or 11:00AM. We were in a snow storm where one could hardly see. The attackers were the Chinese. We were in a holding position, guarding the roads for the Marines and other Allied Troops to re-deploy to Hungnam. We were on the high ground straddle the highway. For some reason, unknown to me, there was an aid station right in front of our G Co. lines. The Chinese attacked right thru our aid station, then thru our lines.

The Chinese troops were wearing white uniforms which made it more difficult to see them. Before the attack occurred, many of our boys reported on sick call with frostbite. This was the day before the attack. I will have to say. ...all who were at the aid station. Doctors, aid men, drivers, wounded, sick or whatever ... were killed by the Chinese. I say this because we could hear the Chinese killing our wounded as they charged thru us; our men were pleading for mercy. G Co. was nearly wiped out that morning-from that day-we showed no mercy, until we were ordered to start taking prisoners.

Hoping this will be of some assistance to you, I am
Sincerely

J.A Smith, MSgt. G Co. 7th Inf. Regt. 3rd Div.
montaesmith@aol.com

Dear Jim,

There are only 6 of us Reg. Army of Co. D, 7th Inf. Regt., 3rd Infantry Division. They are Jack Cheever of Littleton, CO, L.P. Smith of Pipestone, MN, John Beck of Canton, OH, Edward Sochachi of Parma, OH, Marion Thrune, Hume, MO, and Kenneth D. Smith, Rapid City, SD. We are all in our 80s at this writing. I don't know of anyone else left from our Company. We were on Anzio Beach.

Ken Smith
3108 Lynwood Ave/
Rapid City, SD 57701

Anyone who was in H & H 1/68 in the late 50s/early 60s might be interested in having a copy of the menu for Christmas dinner 1959. It includes a complete company roster. Just email or write to me.

Thanks,

Joe Roberts, O.P. 12
PO Box 312
Goshen, MA 10132
Rob41097@cs.com

Hello Dear Veterans:

I turned in my final paper on Thursday night and came home and stared at Fox News for two hours - just watching Geraldo Rivera reporting on the war in Afghanistan and listening to the commentators talk about terrorism. And then I poured myself an eggnog and

bourbon, because after all it is the Christmas season. I worked on the paper each day for hours since the draft I sent to you - so I made additional changes.

This semester I learned a lot about Anzio. I also learned a little bit about each of you. What I learned more than anything is that I want to learn more about Anzio and more about you.

Yesterday I talked to a professor who has agreed to chair my graduate committee. I told him about my project this semester and that I wanted to continue the project and write my graduate thesis on Anzio and the veterans that I've already interviewed and additional veterans that I did not have the time to contact.

My professor was thrilled. I've so far met with three professors to be on my committee and each of them is so excited and yes, thrilled, at the prospect of an extended paper on Anzio. They say there is no project at the university like this one. My purpose in writing a graduate thesis on Anzio is not to market it, but to interview each of you again and to be able to include more of what you lived, in my paper. I imagine the paper I wrote to be the equivalent of a chapter in my thesis. When one professor asked me what the context of my thesis would be, I simply told her that I just wanted to tell about your lives at Anzio. I feel that I just barely scratched the surface. I *know* that I just barely scratched the surface. There is so much more I want to describe about Anzio, and so much more I want readers to know about you gentlemen who served your country.

My professor said to me yesterday and I quote "Judy, you know something special. You know how dignified your veterans are. You know they are a dignified generation - we don't see that kind of dignity and grace in the world anymore. I can think of no project more worthy than the one you propose."

So, friends, that's where I'm at now. I am going to write my master's thesis on you all and the battle at Anzio. I can't tell you how proud it makes me feel when these professors tell me that it's a great project and one that needs to be done. I will be doing additional research and contacting you periodically to talk to you more about the War and about Anzio. That is, if you are in agreement, and wish to be a participant. Watching Geraldo on the news doesn't bring the war in Afghanistan to a level I can understand, but show me where a marine is living in Afghanistan and under what conditions and maybe I can begin to somewhat understand what is going on. I have to have the war reduced to people - to human lives - to really grasp what happened.

I have made copies of my final paper for each of you, complete with maps, and if you haven't sent me your address, please do, and I will send you a copy. Sometimes I wonder what attracted me to this particular project, and sometimes I think about it a lot, wondering out of all the topics I could have chosen, why this one pulled at me the way it did. I truthfully can't answer that question, all I can say is that I'm sure this is what I want to do.

It has been a remarkable experience for me to study this particular battle and to have the opportunity to get to know a little bit about each of you. I put my heart into this project and it has been such a pleasure.

Judy <jawood@soltec.net>

Editor's note: The above letter is self explanatory and was sent to several of our Anzio Veterans. Anyone who would like to share their Anzio experiences is earnestly invited to e-mail Judy so she may continue your "story".

They All Aren't Home Yet!

Mr Drury:

Hello. I hope you are well. Just wanted to take a few moments to wish you and your family a nice Thanksgiving holiday, and to update you on what I have been doing.

I finally made contact with Mr. Nayler in Washington. He was extremely nice to me and gave me some new info. Uncle Ted was in the 2nd Battalion F co. Also, Hungnam 2 is a beach burial unknown location. That's a problem; it seems that they need to locate it and the damn North Koreans will not let them go near Hungnam from Dec 12 thru 24.

Some 500 men were buried in Hungnam 1 and 2; 410 in Hungnam 1, and 50 in Hungnam 2. 48 identified. Seems they think they have an idea where it is. But they have no maps or can't locate any. I asked about grave registration...no map. I also sent an e-mail to Mr. Poggi thanking him for his letter of welcome. I mentioned you to him, but he has not replied to date.

I'm a little disappointed that I didn't find anyone that served with Uncle Ted (Jerz). Just the one call from a medic who did not know him but told of the conditions and of some losses of men. But I will not give up yet! I will keep trying to find someone, and I wont forget how much you have helped. I can't express enough how much I appreciate you and what you do for me, so enjoy your holiday and stay well.

I will keep in touch and if something breaks you will be the first to know.

Sincerely and respectfully always,

Andrew Pawlick

Martin,

Today I got my first *Watch on the Rhine* since moving from Ft. Stewart to D.C. nd read it with great enthusiasm. A welcome reminder of all the good we did together for vets and soldiers during our association these past two years.

Like so many others who have passed through the division over the years, my current office at the Joint Staff J-4, may seem like a mini-shrine to Marnemen everywhere, but to me it is home. Not surprising perhaps. What might be of interest to you is that we have Marne MPs guarding the Pentagon since September 11, 2001. It's great to know the Army has sent its best, and quite pleasurable to be greeted in the morning with an enthusiastic "Rock of the Marne." Hooah!

All the best to you and the society at large. Merry Christmas from another "not so distant" outpost here in D.C.

Warmly,

Rick

COL Rick Schwartzman

Past President, Marne Association Outpost



Events and Meetings

Society of the 3rd Infantry Division

Anzio Beachhead Veterans' Reunion

March 20 - 24, 2002

The Anzio Beach Veterans' of 1944 WWII Reunion will be held March 20-24, 2002, in Savannah, GA. Contact: Clyde E. Easter, 299 Panorama Drive, Fancy Gap, VA 24328 (540) 728.7293.

Anzio Beachhead Veterans of WWII

April 11 - 13, 2002

23rd Reunion, Jacksonville, FL. Contact John W. Hohl, 2633 Loretto Rd., Jacksonville, FL 904.268.5002. John L. Boller, Secretary, Hq Co 1st Bn 7th Inf. Regt., 3rd Infantry Division.

OP Harry Survivors Association

June 13 - 16, 2002

Recently received OP Harry Survivors Association Newsletter from Jim Jarboe. He does an excellent job with it. The next OP Harry reunion will be held June 13 to 16, 2002 at The Four Points Sheraton Airport Hotel at New Orleans, LA. Room rates: \$69.00 plus 11.75% tax. For further information please contact, Jerry Cunningham, 803.783.4491.

Society of the 3rd Infantry Division

September 12 - 15, 2002

For Immediate Release: The Third Infantry Division Society and attached units in war and in peace-time, will hold their 83rd reunion September 12 through September 15, 2002 at the Adam's Mark Hotel, 120 Church St., Buffalo, NY 14202. (800-444-2326). Room rates are \$83 per night plus tax. (Single, double, or triple.) Parking is \$3 per day. The airport shuttle is free.

For additional reunion information, contact: Joseph M. Poggi, reunion chairman, 610 Poplar Rd., River Vale, NJ 07675-6431. (201) 573-0515. E-mail: iggop@optonline.net.

A wide choice of activities are planned for those attending the reunion. Visit our Web site at: <http://www.warfoto.com/3rdiv/htm>

Editor's note: Carl Topie suggests all members have the above placed in their local newspapers. Good idea, not so?

Send to your paper with your name and phone number and a short history of your service in the Third if you desire.

Murphy's Laws of Combat

- 46. Weather ain't neutral.
- 47. If you can't remember, the Claymore is pointed towards you.
- 48. Air defense motto: shoot 'em down; sort 'em out on the ground.
- 49. 'Flies high, it dies; low and slow, it'll go.
- 50. The Cavalry doesn't always come to the rescue.



Looking for...

I am interested in locating two people that served with me in 15th RCT, 1st Bn Hq I & R Section , Korea 4/51 – 10/51: **SSgt Benoit, Cpl Haddox** (I do not remember their first names). Could you ask around or direct me as to who might have information on these two? Thanks, Jim. I am a member of OP 13. I see you are quite active in the 'Watch'

Do you have a source that I could contact to verify my outfits and dates ?

My service time was 10/48-10/51. I am not sure, now, if I was with the 30th or 15th at Ft Benning and if it was Co A or not. My memory has failed me on this point. I am not even absolutely sure if I was with Co A or C in Korea. However, I do remember it was 1st Bn/15th in Korea. Landing at Wonsan, N. Korea around the 16th of Nov 1950, after training ROK's in Japan. I was a 57 Recoil Rifle Squad leader and transferred around Mar 1951 to 1st Bn HQ as the Non-com leader of Bn. I & R. until my departure around 10-1-51 to the States for Honorable discharge.

I see you belong to the Can Do membership, as I am. Thanks for your offer for assistance.

Bill (William) Strong
Brighton, MI
billstrong98@yahoo.com

Bill Strong is a member of the Society. -Ed



Saw posting on 3rd Division website. My father was in the 7th Regiment, **Walter Morowski**. I don't know what company. Is there anyway I could find out? He passed away in 1990.

Ed Morrows Ocean Grove, N.J.
emorrows@monmouth.com



I am trying to find anyone who may have known my father and hero, **James M. Love, Jr.** He was captured on 1-31-44 near Anzio, Italy.

Gary Love
(225) 291-5357



To Whom it may concern:

I'm interested in finding out some information about my Grandfather or more so what he did in WWII. I believe he served in the 3rd Infantry during WWII. I don't really know where to look so I'm looking for some direction/guidance. His name was **Roland Jerome**, from Wisconsin. Things I'm curious about are the unit he was in (infantry, artillery, etc.) where they went in the war, etc... Anything to let me know a little more about him. I Hope I'm asking the right person, sorry if this is directed to the wrong area, or is an inconvenience. I too serve our military and am curious as to my Grandfather's history. Thank you,

Randall, Jerome
W6930 Fern Rd
Oxford, WI, 53952
608 589 5046

Pfc. Randall Jerome is listed in the History of the Third Infantry Division in World War II as a member of the 30th Infantry Regiment I'm sure that his grandson would appreciate hearing from you. E-mail him at rjero221@uwsp.edu



Dear Jim:

Thank you for returning my e mail. I was active duty in the 8th Inf Div before they were disbanded. Anyway I would consider it an honor to join the 3rd as an Associate Member, to honor my father's service in Korea. Could you please explain to me how to join? Also I am wondering if you have any leads on someone who may have known my father. Again it was first as battalion surgeon for the 2nd Bn 7th Inf Regt. 3rd Inf. Division, and then as commander of the medical company, 7th Inf. His name was **1st Lt. Earle M. Davis** and he was in Korea 1952-1953. Thanks again and God bless.

Sincerely

Matthew N. Davis
506 Ellison Way
Augusta, GA 30907
706.869.9901
newcomb007@msn.com



Dear Mr. Drury,

I am trying to find out information on my great-uncle, **SSGT. Lester W. Travis**, who served with Co. B., 15th Infantry Regiment, during World War II. I had a couple of questions I was hoping you could answer. First of all, do you know any organizations or individuals who have pictures of soldiers and/or the company from the war? I have tried to get help from the National Archives in Maryland, and the Army War College in Penn., but they have found nothing. My great-uncle was with the company before the war, so I guess I was wondering if group company photos existed someplace, or individual photos too.

Second, I have received copies of my great-uncle's medals, his IDF file (he was killed on 1/26/45—the same day Audie Murphy would win the Medal of Honor), grave photos, selective service info, and some morning reports. Is there anything else you know of that I could get my hands on that would be relevant?

Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,

Mark Travis
165 Bittersweet Drive
Farmington, NY 14425
315-986-2160
mtrav24@hotmail.com



Hi, my name is Philip G. Le Donne. I like to know if you could help myself and the family of Joseph Di Maria MIA June 11 1953. In 1954 moved to KIA. Was killed on Out post Harry, 3rd Div. 15th Inf Regt. We're trying to find out what Bn. and Co. Joseph was with at the time he was killed.

Editor's note: Di Maria may have been a medic.

Sincerely,

Philip G. Le Donne
pled346019@aol.com



I am looking for information on a

Clarence (Dick) McClendon, he was killed in France the year was 1944. He was in the us army 3rd division infantry thanks.

Harry Holt|
2212 Tommy Robinson Rd.
Jasper, Al 35504

Editor's note: Clarence McClendon is listed in the "History of the Third Infantry Division in World War II" in the 7th Infantry Regiment.

✉

I was with the **3rd Division, 7th Infantry, Dog Company** in Korea in 1952. Can you give me some hints how to locate some buddies.

Thanks,

Ken Hartman
51144648
Tele: 770-234-9779
Fax: 770-234-0474
EA_hartman@msn.com

✉

Nickname – **Nolo, Perez, Perez-Jimenez** battle-wounded January 10, 1952. 65th Infantry 3rd. Platoon, 3rd Infantry Division. Hq S Hq Co 760 4th or Hq S Hq Co 750 4th at ROTC Camp Tortuguero P.R

During an ambush on January 10, 1952 my father was wounded. He and another man were the only survivors. This man was wounded on both legs. He used to tell us how he carried this man to safety. My father died in 1981 at the age of 54 due to illness. We, his children, would like to find this PR soldier and information about the place and circumstances of the battle. Durante una emboscada en enero-10-1952 my papa fue herido. El y otro companero fueron los unicos sobrevivientes. El nos contaba como el cargo este hombre en la espalda hasta llevarlo a salvo. My papa murio en 1981 a la edad de 54 anos por enfermedad. Nosotros, sus hijos quisieramos conocer a este soldado PR e informacion del lugar y las circunstancias de la batalla.

Maria Perez
mrosale@cs.com

✉

I am looking for former members of the 3d Infantry Division **NCO School in Larsons Barracks, Kitzengen,**

Germany; time: 1966-1969

Please contact.

PSG- Stan Dougherty Ret.USA
15410 25th Ave. E.
Tacoma, WA 978445
253-537-3274
Sedougherty@aol.com

✉

I just recently found this web page and will join the membership within the next couple of weeks. However I do have a question for you that I hope you can clear up for me.

Do you have any idea what happened to **1/76th FA**? I was assigned to C Battery from 6/72 to 12/74 and have maintained contact with 2 other people from the battalion over the years. And neither of them could provide any information on the batalion.

I also lived in Georgia for 2 years and prior to moving out to where I currently reside I went to Fort Stewart, Ga. and attempted to garner information from 3rd Infantry Division Artillery and the 3rd Infantry Division museum. No one can recall the battalion that I was assigned to nor or there any records as to what became of the battalion. Any help you could provide would be reatly appreciated.

Thanks,

Ed Schimpf
Tankmgr@aol.com

News From Dallas, Nov. 26, 2001

First woman to earn Silver Star dies at 87

Mary Roberts Wilson, an Army nurse who was the first woman to earn a Silver Star for courage under fire during WWII, died Nov. 19 of a heart attack. She was 87.

Wilson, who was profiled by NBC news anchor Tom Brokaw in his 1998 book "The Greatest Generation," was decorated for her valor on Feb. 10, 1944, when German shrapnel tore through the surgical tent in Anzio, Italy, where she was supervising several operations.

"You could say I was fearful but not scared," the woman who was called the "Angel of Anzio" told the Dallas Morning News a few weeks ago. "There were so many soldiers depending on you."

Wilson served more than two years overseas before returning to Dallas, where in 1946 she became the operating room supervisor at the local Veterans Administration hospital. She held that post for more than 25 years.

Courtesy: Lew Conant — Many Marnemen will remember Mary.

Thanking those who serve

Submitted by Sam Renzi, retired Seventh-day Adventist pastor, Combat Medic in WW II.

On November 17, I was at Bank of America near the Riverside Plaza. It was about 5:15 p.m. It was dark, I was tired and my uniform had passed its 12-hour maximum. I am an Air Force reservist.

While I stood at the ATM waiting for my cash and wondering why I continue to give up my weekends year after year, the young man using the machine next to me glanced over and very quietly said, "Thank you for serving." As I took my cash from the machine and I looked at him and said, "Thank you."

As I drove home, I noticed tears were running down my cheek. In the 24 years that I have served my country, I had never received such a personal thank you from a total stranger.

At that point, I understood why I continue to give up those weekends. The price for preserving our way of life has always been high and the sacrifices great. Someone has to pay. Just ask any vet.

Thank you for supporting your guardsmen and reservists. We all appreciate it.

MSgt. LAURETTA KING
March Air Reserve Base

Attack Platoon Clobbers Reds

■ Vet, Machine gunner Key To Pasting

With U.S. 3d Div in Korea , early April 1952. Society member, Charles Randolph was on this patrol. Repinted from *Army Stars and Stripes*

Take a World War II veteran who has returned to his old outfit, add a plucky machine gunner who fires from the hip, mix them with a platoon of spirited Infantrymen and you have a recipe for combat success.

Company K, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3d Infantry Division, recently sent its men on a combat patrol to rout an estimated enemy reinforced company from strategic outpost positions beyond their main line. SFC Manuel J. Silva, Livermore, CA, was leading the platoon.

The sergeant served with the company during WWII in the desert fighting of North Africa. This was his first combat patrol, however, in almost ten years.

Before the night ended his men had accounted for 15 enemy killed and an estimated 20 wounded.

The night-long action that took place in a moon lit valley was sparked with the chattering machine-gun of Pvt. Loren Ybanez, Bakersfield, CA, and the heavy fire concentrations of both friendly and enemy forces.

The mission of the platoon was to ferret out about 60 Chinese, armed with burp guns and reported to be some of the best fighters the Communists had on the line.

No artillery softened up the enemy outposts; the element of surprise was important.

The first contact was made when Ybanez, still cradling the .30-cal. Machine gun in his arms, opened fire on a squad of Chinese. He had lost his tripod and now he was firing from his hip.

Leaving four dead Chinese, Ybanez and the sergeant pulled off the hill after a 15 minute skirmish and regrouped the men for an assault on the main body of the enemy force. This time the Reds were ready.

First Lt. Robert G. Horne, Exeter, NH,

Ybanez was still firing his machine-gun from the hip and by now his left hand was getting severely burned.

platoon leader of the raiding force, set up his base of fire group and the assault group moved out again.

The platoon, half veteran, half green with new troops, started up the hill.

After creeping to within 15 yards of the first enemy bunker and still no firing, the platoon sergeant held up his men and screamed to the Chinese: "Come on out and fight, ya dirty . . ."

Immediately, the hellfire of battle let loose and lasted 20 minutes. Ybanez was still firing his machine-gun from the hip and by now his left hand was getting severely burned. The rest of the men hurled grenades and held the enemy down.

Before the fight had ended, seven Chinese were dead and others were wounded. Now the mortars from a flanking hill came in on the men. Their supporting elements opened fire on the Chinese mortarmen.

As the moon began to settle in the west and the valley darkened, the flares and shellbursts of the mortar began to light up the valley. The Can Do soldiers of the 15th's 3rd Battalion started to withdraw to the main line, their mission completed.

They were escorted by a barrage of enemy mortar that followed them through a draw. The heavy mud in rice paddies absorbed most of the impact, though, and the men retired safely.

At a critique held following the raid, Lieutenant Horne and Sergeant Silva had nothing but praise for the men. They acted like "regulars" the Sergeant said.

The mission of neutralizing the enemy outpost turned out to be one of the fiercest patrolling actions along the UN front. It had been accomplished with no major casualties and had routed the enemy, inflicting more than 35 Chinese casualties.

Cutting edge of combat readiness

By: Spc. Mason T. Lowery, Staff Writer
©Frontline 2001

Soldiers from 2nd Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, participated in Spartan Focus field training starting Nov. 5 and continuing through Friday. While in the field, soldiers simulate battle situations and learn to work as teams. Leaders see how their troops function, and get the chance to put the different companies together to form an efficient fighting machine. The focus of the exercises is on company team training, according to Col. David G. Perkins, 2nd Brigade commander. "The company level is the first time we bring together the combined arms aspect of it. Prior to this week, we've had platoon training where platoons have gone out and trained, and now we're bringing together our company teams. We task organize. We have infantrymen, we have armored forces, we have artillery, we have apaches, and engineers putting in and breaching obstacles. So we're bringing in the whole combined arms aspect to conduct company level training throughout the brigade," Perkins said.

Third Battalion, 15th Infantry soldiers trained, wearing Multiple Integrated Laser Equipment Systems, which are electronic devices on the soldiers' kevlar and load bearing equipment that detect simulated wounds from enemy firepower. The soldiers are issued casualty cards before each simulation that tell them their wounds. The soldiers change their strategies depending on casualties. They practice buddy aid and continue with their mission.

According to Spc. Chris Payne, 3/15 Inf., "We're doing attacks on those guys that were set up on the defense. We came down and attacked them. They told us we were going to attack, we got out and did our thing." "It's pretty fun. This is what we get paid to do, and we're doing it," Spc. Dexter Blackwell, 3/15th Inf., said. "Training like this is the capstone of all of the training that we do and really puts us on the cutting edge of combat readiness. With this time of crisis in our country, the Spartan Brigade, along with the rest of the Third Infantry Division is extremely well trained. We are always ready and training to sustain readiness," Perkins said.

RIFLEMAN: On the Cutting Edge of World War II

by Professor Earl A. Reitan,
Illinois State University

A book review by Cottonbaler Sherman Pratt:

One of the most costly and darkest experiences of World War II for any Marne Division unit was that of the Second Battalion of the Seventh Infantry on March 15, 1945, almost at the end of the war when the 3rd returned to combat and jumped into Germany through the 44th Infantry Division then on line.

Almost immediately heavy losses were incurred from mines and all kinds of fire, but the Second Battalion, led by F company and followed by E and G Companies, managed to reach its initial object, the little village or a Uweiller, just inside the German border and about 20 miles southwest of Kaiserslautern.

The troops then paused to catch their breaths, snacked their cold C rations, congregated in the German houses of the villagers, and awaited further orders. About 8:00 a.m., however, the Germans counter attacked with armor supported by foot troops and quickly surrounded the village. The American troops of the 2nd Battalion, with most of their armor lost before daylight in the mine fields, resisted as they could but soon ran out of bazooka ammunition and found that small arms were useless against the enemy tanks. In less than an hour the Second Battalion was destroyed as a fighting unit and were left with no alternative but to surrender. The casualties were 21 dead, 72 wounded, 17 missing and 222 men taken prisoner.

Professor Reitan describes the Utweiler disaster in graphic and realistic detail as a climax to his knowledge and exposure to the dramatic record of his battalion of the 7th in

the war. He writes professionally with an impressive control of the English language and an easy to read and understand skill. His narrative of his wartime service begins with his arrival on the Anzio beachhead just at the breakout in May of 1944 and continues through his hospitalization for wounds and return to battle in the Vosges and the Colmar Pocket. Included is his Stateside induction and training before shipment to Italy, and his brief enrollment in an educational program in Scotland after the war.

Professor Reitan describes many famed officers and troopers he served with, including Staff Sgt Joe Hodgins, who was pictured on the cover Yank Magazine in December 1944 as "Man of the Year". The cover is familiar to most 3rd Division vets and shows Hodgins with his M1 Rifle, dangling cigarette, and Third Division shoulder patch peering from a blown hole in what appears to be a French house.

This book is one that should be owned by any veteran for a unique inside look at the conduct of the war at the lower levels but especially by veterans of the Third Division and the 7th Infantry.

I found it to be an enjoyable and vital reading experience. As Marnemen read the book, many may see themselves with a view of their own painful sacrifices in other battles at other times.

Available from Merriam Press, 218 Beech Street, Bennington VT 05201, or (802) 447-0313 and at many book stores.. \$18.95 for softback, \$32.95 for hardcover. Add \$3.00 for orders less than \$24.95. The Utweiler battle, with quotes by Professor Reitan, is also recorded in my own book *Autobahn to Berchtesgaden*, available for \$24.95 (\$14.95 to 3rd Division vets) from Pratt Pursuits, 1512 So 20th St., Arlington VA 22202.

Former 3/15 Soldier speaks at Infantry Ball

By: Pfc. Katherine Robinson, Associate Editor, "The Frontline".

A World War II veteran and former member of 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment visited Fort Stewart Friday to speak at 3/15's Infantry Ball.

Pfc. Whitney Mullen was a member of 3/15 at the age of 24, when the unit was in France in 1945.

Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Stephen M. Twitty spoke to Mullen about the mission of 3/15, the training schedule and the things that had changed in the 56 years since Mullen was a part of the battalion.

Mullen and his wife, Myrtle, were also treated to a tour of the barracks and the motorpool where he explored one of the battalion's Bradley Fighting Vehicles.

Twitty said Mullen was invited to guest speak at the ball at the request of the enlisted soldiers of 3/15, who wanted to see someone they could relate to on a day-to-day basis, as opposed to an officer.

"I feel so honored that I've been asked to come and be at the ball tonight," Mullen said. Mullen said he was amazed by all the changes that had occurred in the battalion. "You guys are leviathans compared to the giants that I stood on the shoulders of," he said.

"Everything is totally different," he added. "When I joined the outfit, I was assigned the bazooka. I did that based on my prior experience; I had fired the bazooka twice in Basic Training. I knew which end the ammo went in, and which end it came out.

"Subsequently, I was given a .45," Mullen continued. "In the first action I was in, I emptied the .45 and didn't know how to get the slide back after I put in a new clip. I think that varies a little from today's training." Mullen said when he joined 3/15 in 1945, the unit was down to roughly 40 men. The others had all been captured, killed, wounded or were on leave, he said.

"What you have here is just mind-boggling. The training that the men have and so forth," Mullen said. "I stand in awe of you."

Excellent Accounting of Korean War Activities

65th Infantry in Korea

by Villahermosa, Gilberto Col CMH Gilberto. <Villahermosa@hqda.army.mil>
Article: *Army Magazine*

The *Army Magazine* is on the Internet. <http://www.ansa.org/www/armymag.nsf>

Editor's note: This article by Col Villahermosa, answers a lot of questions our members have asked in the past. The Col. has a forthcoming book on the War in Korea that will be printed in the near future. For further information on the book please e-mail at the top address. Jim

■ **In Infantry OCS we had been taught to exercise initiative and to be decisive. “Even a bad decision is better than no decision at all,” we were told.**

Initiative

In May of 1944, during the Breakout from the Anzio Beachhead in Italy, the Third Infantry Division suffered twenty-eight hundred battle casualties in the first three days of the attack.

The ancient town of Cisterna, which controlled access to NS Highway 5 (The Appian Way), was the initial objective. Having taken that objective, the next problem was to move northeast through the Alban Hills that surrounded us on three sides. Only in Italy would these have been called hills. They reached 3,000 feet, were wooded, and had only a few unpaved roads running EW on which to bring our tanks, artillery and supply vehicles forward. The entire Beachhead force, some seven Divisions and their supporting units, took to the few roads available and conditions quickly became chaotic.

As Platoon Leader of the Intelligence and Reconnaissance (I & R) platoon, I was ordered to patrol to the northeast and report on road conditions, traffic and the fighting. At dusk, I left the 7th Infantry CP, which would soon be abandoned on the basis of my report on conditions ahead. Before we reached the first rise in the ground, my jeep was stopped by a line of traffic all trying to move eastward on the single, narrow, unpaved road to Ardena. Field artillery, tanks, antitank guns, engineers, medics, wiremen, and service company trucks carrying ammo, rations, water and gasoline were parked in a seemingly endless line at the side of the narrow, unpaved road. I was impressed with the training and discipline of the drivers. Although there was no traffic coming toward us, not one of the hundreds of eastbound drivers tried to move up by driving on the left side of the road. They all pulled over and turned off their ignition switches. We waited like everyone else.

Around midnight, we saw and heard a small airplane with a muffled engine coming toward us from up ahead. As we watched, I could trace the trail of a

Feisler Storch, a German light reconnaissance aircraft similar to our Piper Cub, by following the tiny blue flames from its single engine's exhaust stacks, a few hundred feet overhead. The Storch was easy to recognize because of its two unusually long landing gear struts, which gave it the appearance of a stork in flight, hence the German name Storch. It was flying very low, very slow and very quietly. It flew directly above the road headed west, no doubt counting the tanks, trucks and artillery pieces of the advancing American Army. When it had disappeared from sight, I thought to myself, “He's got to come back this way to get to his base. He'll probably come back down the same road for a second look.”

I told my driver to move the jeep about 50 yards into the cleared field on our right and park it. The jeep had a 50-caliber machine gun mounted on a pedestal in the center of the vehicle. I checked to be sure it was ready to fire and that the feed had a full box of ammunition. I then pointed it at the spot over the road where the Storch was likely to reappear, if he did in fact come back. And I watched and I listened and I waited.

About five to ten minutes later, I began to hear the same muffled engine noises as before. Then, the blue exhaust stack flame became visible. I took careful aim, leading the target by a plane length to compensate for its forward speed. I fired about 30 rounds while swinging the muzzle to the right. The Storch went into a violent left bank and disappeared in the darkness. I didn't bring him down, but I may have put some holes in his airplane and apparently terminated his observation for the night.

Next morning at daybreak, the column began to creep forward slowly, in fits and starts, as we climbed into the hills. The

narrow, unpaved road, through the wooded hillside, was littered with dead Germans, dead horses, wagons and equipment of every description. (A German Infantry Division at that time had more horses than men. They were draft horses, not riding horses.) I vividly remember seeing my first German Mark VI Tiger tank up close. It was huge! The tracks seemed at least three feet wide and its fearsome 88mm gun, with its characteristic muzzle brake, seemed impossibly long. The tank appeared to have been abandoned at roadside because of mechanical failure or lack of fuel. Those were the only things that could stop the 72-ton Mark VI Tiger with its eight inches of armor plate! After another half mile, the column stopped again and the drivers dutifully pulled over, turned off their engines and settled in to wait.

Even though, only a 2nd Lieutenant at the time, I felt I should be doing something to help untangle this mess, but I didn't know what. I was reluctant to go forward, to pass all the stopped drivers doing what they had been trained to do. Fortunately, there was no air threat, or we would have been strafed. Our Air Corps had complete air supremacy. In fact, there was a story going around at that time about a Kraut replacement being indoctrinated by his sergeant. “Look up,” he was told, “always look up! If you see silver airplanes, they're American. If you see camouflaged airplanes, they're British. If you don't see any airplanes, it's the Luftwaffe.”

In Infantry OCS we had been taught to exercise initiative and to be decisive. “Even a bad decision is better than no decision at all,” we were told. I decided to have my driver take me forward in the left lane, despite standard operating procedure. My objective was not to get a better place in line, but to see if there was anything I could possibly do to help break this logjam.

Steele pulled out and we made our way forward past some pretty mean looks from the parked drivers, who were now spending their second day in line. “Lookit that smart-ass 2nd Lieutenant movin' up to the head of the f---in' line! Who the f--- does he think he is!” One more mile and the woods