



# The Watch on the Rhine

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

Vol. 83 No. 5

"Nous Resterons La"

April, 2002

■ "Our unit is 100 percent ready to roll,..."

## Hunter troops deploy for Enduring Freedom

By Spc. Rebecca Burt,  
Hunter Public Affairs Office  
Frontline 2002 January 17, 2002

As most of us were busy celebrating the holidays and planning for New Year's, members of Hunter Army Airfield's 159th Aviation Battalion were preparing to join other American forces in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The soldiers from Company B and Company K, 159th Avn., who fly and maintain CH-47 Chinook helicopters,

**Bravo Co. flies and attends to the basic maintenance of Chinooks, while K Co. provides the helicopters with high-level maintenance and specialized component support.**

will be providing soldier support and helping with various humanitarian missions, including transporting water, food and equipment to refugees, according to Maj. Selwyn Jamison, B Co. commander.

Bravo Co. flies and attends to the

basic maintenance of Chinooks, while K Co. provides the helicopters with high-level maintenance and specialized component support. While members of B Co. fly humanitarian missions and face new challenges, including different flying conditions and working among a different culture, soldiers of K Co. will be toiling to keep B Co.'s machines flying high.

"Aircraft, especially in certain environments, get damaged more frequently and take more of a beating. We provide that extra assistance that they'll need along with people who specialize in components and can do higher level repairs," said Staff Sgt. Bob Bryant, K Co. detachment noncommissioned officer in charge.

Both companies say they are fully prepared and ready to face any mission and any challenges that may come their way.

"Our unit is 100 percent ready to roll," said Jamison "I think once we get there we'll be able to show that we can carry our weight."

"Our unit is ready mentally and physically. We have all the tools and manpower that is required and we're ready to do what is asked of us," said Capt. Shawn Ting, K Co. detachment commander.

## Our Friends in France



Julian Mitchell, 7th Inf. Regt. WW II was warmly welcomed to Besancon by members of the Rock of the Marne Association and city officials. Julian is standing near the monument in an army uniform with T/Sgt. chevrons. Michel Marlin on the far right is the person most responsible for the construction and dedication of the monument. Most of the others in the pictures are members of the ROTM. (John Shirley)

Please turn to **DEPLOY** on page 5



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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.

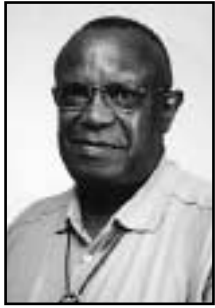
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# President's Message

Jerry Cunningham



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

**G**reetings: The spring season is upon us, I'm sure many of you have your journey already planned for the remaining of the seasons. I do hope you have your Regiment-Association and the Society National Reunion included in your plan. According to our reunion host,

Joe Poggie, there will be standing room only. So, send in your registration form early in order to get a good seat. Reunion registration form is placed in each copy of the *Watch on the Rhine*.

The annual membership renewal drive is underway. Please don't forget to send in your dues today, because we don't want to leave anyone behind. There are many Outposts that have started doing great things toward the Society/Division and their Comrades who have passed on. By dedicating Memorials in National Cemetery's across the country; to name a few, the John S. Cole Outpost#2, dedicated a Memorial at the National Cemetery in Bushnell, Florida on Veterans Day, and the Albert Miceli Outpost #22, Dedicated a Memorial at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, San Diego, CA on February 16, 2002. Its is a great honor to be among so many dedicated men and women who do their best throughout the year in honoring

**The annual membership renewal drive is underway. Please don't forget to send in your dues today, because we don't want to leave anyone behind.**

those they knew and some they didn't, but they wore the blue and white patch and were proud to have served. Thank all of you for being so caring.

There were many Vietnam Veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange during the Vietnam War. Sadly to say I am one of those veterans, my recently hospital visit was because of my ailment from Agent Orange. I just wanted to express a brief view of my health. I don't know how to thank so many of our members, for their prayers, cards, letter and e-mail, during my sickness. All I can say is "Thank you!" I hope to see all of you at a Regiment / Association function or the National Reunion in Buffalo.

Let us remain vigilant at all time because of our evil enemies. To our comrades and family members on the sick list, you are always in our thoughts and prayers, moreover, we hope for a speedy recovery.

Lets not forget our Active Armed Forces.

God Bless America!

**"ROCK OF THE MARNE"**

# Nominations for Annual Awards

The Awards Committee is accepting nominations for the Annual Awards program. The Awards program recognizes and honors those members of The Society of the Third Infantry Division, who have contributed their labor and creativity to the furtherance of the Society's objectives. Nominations must be received no later than June 30,2002 to be considered.

The awards will be presented at the Annual National Reunion banquet in Buffalo, NY on Saturday, September 14th 2002.

Please provide detailed information about your nominee's achievements toward the objectives of the Society, their Outpost, or for the benefit of all veterans. Precise information about a nominee's qualifications for an award will assist the Awards Committee in selecting those most worthy to receive an award based upon the Society By-laws and the established protocol. Only nominees who meet qualifications established under the By-laws and awards protocol will be considered for an award.

Nominations will be accepted in the following categories:

### Audie Murphy Achievement Award

- ◀ Exemplary Military Service Service as elected Society Officer
- ◀ Appointed or elected committeeman or outpost officer .Service to the community
- ◀ Member of the Society for at least 3 years

### Society Service Award

- ◀ Service as National officer or committeeman or outpost officer and/or have contributed significantly to the achievement of the objectives of the Society
- ◀ Member of the Society for at least three years

### Associate Service Award

- ◀ Outstanding service to the Society, Region or Outpost in meeting it's objectives
- ◀ Member of the Society for at least three years

Other awards and certificates may be presented as directed by the President.

Please send all nominations to: James F. Jarboe, Awards Chairman, 903 Crestfield Drive, Duarte, CA 91010-2131

## Check your label

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

\*\*\*\*\*5 Digit  
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# From the Editor

Jim Drury

Last September, during our Reunion in Phoenix, someone heard me talk about visiting school classrooms to talk about the Korean War and Flag Respect. The comrade asked, "What should we talk about?" He slipped away before I could respond. I hope he and other folks read this, my belated response.

Here is what works for me: After introductions I pick up the Flag of our Country, at the front of the classroom. I walk around with it held high and give a brief History of the Flag and the Saviors of Freedom who died while serving under this Flag. I very briefly tell of my small part in serving my country. I go into more depth of my comrades who died under fire. Having thusly gotten the attention of my young friends, I remind them that they probably have mothers, fathers, uncles, aunts, and grandparents who served in like manner.

I go on to explain, that this is a good reason to show respect for the Flag of our Country. I point out that, even though school leaders may just stand during Flag ceremonies and sometimes others do not

even do that as the Flag passes during parades, they (the students) should stand and place their right hand over their hearts and point out to those around them to do the same. This is in respect to those men and women and their loved ones who paid the Supreme Sacrifice in defense of the flag.

I place the flag whence I retrieved it, step back and salute it! Usually as I turn back to the audience, they to are standing with hand over heart. Questions are encouraged and every question, every question, is acknowledged. If time permits I ask a question. "Does anyone feel not liked by their fellow classmates, or that they have no friends?" Usually one hand will be raised. I walk over to that young person, extend my hand and tell them, "You have me as a friend, forever." I then explain to the class that this Country is United by that flag and we should always remember to love one another knowing we are brothers and sisters United under our Flag.

This works for your Editor.  
Jim

## 15th Infantry Regiment Reunion in Buffalo

The Officers of the 15th Infantry Regiment Association courteously invite you to attend, our Regimental Dinner at the Society of the Third Infantry Division reunion, in Buffalo, NY on September 13, 2002.

I would suggest; you should make your reservations early for two reasons. The first reason is we would like to have the time, to sit the membership with their friends. And the second reason is; our Speaker for the Dinner. Mr. Richard G. Stilwell Jr. has graciously accepted our invitation to be the speaker at our Dinner. He is the son of

Colonel Richard G. Stilwell who was our Regimental Commander, from October 1952 to mid March 1953. For the membership who didn't serve with the Colonel, let me enlighten you. He was a Soldier's soldier, his MEN came first.

I'm looking forward to Dr. Harry Lee, Medical Co., Major General Boatner, Baker Co., Captain Martin Markley, King Co., Lt. Emory Walker and Lt. Dan Braucher, George Co., Charles Randolph, King Co. and many more of us, that served with Colonel Stilwell, to meet with his son.

I'm in the middle of arranging the menu with Mr. Williams who works at the Adams Mark hotel, in Buffalo NY. Thanks to Mr. Joe Poggi of Outpost 5, and the Chairman of the Committee, of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division reunion, we are receiving a very reasonable price for our Regimental Dinner, at the reunion.

By purchasing *your* activities tickets soon, you are giving Mr. Joe Poggi and his committee a vote of confidence, for the hard work, he and his people are doing on the reunion.

Therefore Gentlemen, September 12, 2002 isn't too far in the future, so come to Buffalo, have fun, visit with your friends. It's not too early to make your reservations.

Hope to see you all at our Regimental Dinner.

*Leonard L. Lassar, President  
15th Infantry Regiment Association*

### Last Call for Nominations

This is your last call for all nominations for the following officers, your National President, your National Secretary/Treasurer, the three Regional Executive Committeemen from each region.

All letters of nomination are required to have a letter of acceptance from your nominee. There are no exceptions. All letters of nomination and acceptance are due in to the Nominating Committee with a postmark no later than April 23, 2002. (This is in accordance with the society By-Laws Section VI 6.4.a) All letters of nomination and letters of acceptance with a postmark after April 23, 2002 will not be accepted by the Nomination Committee. I will accept nomination and letters of acceptance by email with the same rules according to our Constitution.

Mail all letters of nominations and acceptance 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**

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

# On the Road with Carl Duncan



The largest truck in the world. Note its size by comparison with the motor home Carl Duncan drives for the owner.

## ■ Check the tires please.

Here are the photo's of the largest truck in the world. It is in Green Valley, AZ at the Park Corporation Mine and Equipment Division. The truck stands 23 feet high and hauls over 400 tons of ore to a load. It has a 3000 horsepower engine in it to run the generator that runs the electric motors at each wheel. The tires stand 12 feet high and weigh 14000 lbs. per tire. Cost of each tire is \$50,000. Cost of the truck, built in Peoria, IL, is \$250 million.

The trucks belong to Komatsu and Park



Corporation in Green Valley, AZ. Ray Park who has Park Corporation is a member of Outpost 15. The bus alongside the truck is the one I drive. When these photos were taken, I had Mr. Park and his wife on a trip to Green Valley from Las Vegas, NV. It took seven semi trucks to haul the truck from Peoria, IL to Green Valley where it was assembled.

*Carl Duncan, OP 15*

## DEPLOY from page 1

Though the units' soldiers admitted that they would miss their friends and families left behind here in the United States, most could not hide the excitement they felt about experiencing a new area of the globe, exploring new cultures and putting their occupational skills to the test.

"I'm really excited about it," said Pfc. Shermaine Washington, an avionics system repairman with K Co. "I feel like it'll be a lasting experience, and I'm planning to gain as much knowledge as I can of my job."

"(Deploying) is one of the reasons I

made a career out of the Army - I get to do stuff and go places that most people don't ever get a chance to go. It's another adventure," said Bryant.

With his soldiers trained, ready and "biting at the bit" to get to work, Jamison said that he is confident that the units will meet every challenge in their future. "I am supremely confident we will have absolutely no problem accomplishing any mission we're given," said Jamison. "The soldiers that I have are exceptional. We're going to work them hard, but I know that they can handle it."

# 15th Infantry Regimental Dinner

September 13, 2002

The annual 15th Infantry Regimental Dinner will be held on Friday, September 13, 2002 during the Society of the Third Infantry Division Reunion, at the Adams Mark Hotel, in Buffalo, NY.

We will be serving two entrees: A nice piece of Prime Rib at \$30:00—*or* a tasty Baked Haddock Dinner for \$30:00

Prices include all gratuities and taxes. Each entree will include fresh garden salad, fresh vegetables, a baked potato, rolls and butter, desert, coffee and ice tea. Dinner will be served at 7:00 PM and will be followed by a short program.

All Marnemen and their Ladies are *welcome* at this dinner. You don't have to be a member of the 15th Infantry Regiment Association to attend, but you must purchase a meal to be assigned a seat at a table. THERE will not be any meals sold after September 6, 2002.

Please make your reservations by sending the following:

- Your name
- Guest name
- Choice of Entree(s)
- Check or money order payable to:  
Treasurer, 15th Infantry  
Regiment Association.

Please send your reservations and payment to Mr. Lloyd D. Whitmer, 7500 Mose St., Navarre OH 44662.

Reservations and payment must be made prior to September 6, 2002.

The Marnemen and their guests, who make their reservations early and for some reason are not able to attend, will receive a full refund, provided the treasurer is notified prior to September 6, 2002.

Gentlemen, we are going to have a good time at this dinner, so make your reservations early and I hope to SEE you in "Buffalo."

For additional information call Leonard L. Lassar at (603) 742-9195 or e-mail at lenlassor@netzero.net. I'll be glad to answer ANY Questions!!!!



# News From The Outposts

## 1 Midwest

Chicago, IL

Our mid year meeting of the Midwest Outpost # 1 was held April 22, 2001 in Chicago at the Villa D'ors Restaurant on North Milwaukee Ave. For the first time in over ten years, we moved from the south side of Chicago to the far north side.

Sixteen members were present along with a number of wives and girl friends. Pres. Roy Lundsten opened with an invocation, The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and the reading of the Society Pledge.

After the usual reports, Pres. Lundsten welcomed all who were in attendance and had each member make personal introductions. The President made sure all knew of the upcoming National Reunion and to get their reservations in early.

Discussion was held about how to make other area Veterans of the 3rd Infantry Division aware of the Society. Chicago being the size it is, it seemed like a lot of 3rd ID veterans need to be contacted.

Announcing election of officers would be held in the fall, the meeting was closed and the members and guests retired to enjoy their lunch.

*Roy D. Lundsten  
President*

## 12 Tommy Thompson

Minneapolis, MN

The O.P. #12 Spring Social will be held at the Americinn Inn, Kasson, MN on Sunday May 5th 2002. Contact Harold Hibbing, PH: 1-507-289-8916 or Jerry Manley, PH:1-763-571-6963 for further details.

Rock of the Marne!

*Jerry Manley, O.P. #12 Sec./Treas.  
Central Region V.P.*

## 15 Arizona

Phoenix, AZ

Outpost 15 held their meeting and dinner at J.B. Café in Suncity, AZ on Jan. 13, 2002. We elected our new President, Carl Swanson and new Vice President Charles Obee. 17 were in attendance at the meeting. We had a drawing for prizes and a prize for Jack Underwood who came all the way from Yuma, AZ to attend the meeting.

Here in OP 15, we are going to have 30 new members by June 30, 2002. We have 8 so far. I challenge all the outposts to pick up 30 new members by then.

I would like to thank Letha Duncan for all the work she did for our Reunion last year. She handled all the raffle tickets; over 17000 and much more. I also thank Carl Swanson for his help.

*Carl Duncan, Secretary/Treasurer OP 15  
Western Region Vice President*

## 17 Russell Dunham

St. Lewis, MO

On or about Valentine's Day each year, V.A. Hospitals throughout the nation observe National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans. For many years Russell Dunham and I along with Ken Whitteaker have attended these functions at John Cochran V .A. Hospital in St. Louis. Attendance is generally in the neighborhood of 150 or so, including many military from Scott Air Force Base, Ill., and other offices in the area.

There are always introductions of dignitaries and when it came to Russ, it was always followed by "Recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor." A smattering of applause would follow. That was bad enough but the crowning blow occurred four years ago before the program began when an Army sergeant asked what the medal around his neck was. When Russ told her she said, "It sure is cute." That did it for me. The following year I asked for and received permission to be part of the program. I now introduce Russ and then read his Congressional Medal of Honor citation.

At the conclusion there is silence and then the place erupts with applause. People ask for his autograph and to have their pictures taken with him. You see they hadn't the foggiest idea of what Russ did to earn the "cute" thing around his neck.

*Jack Swatske  
OP 17 Activities Chairman*

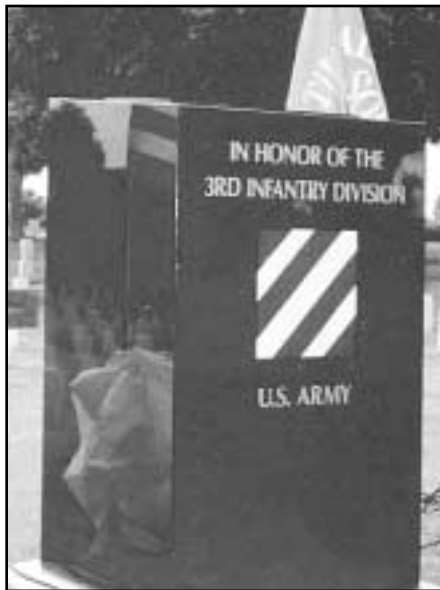
## 22 Albert Miceli

Southern California

### Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, San Diego, California.

The enclosed photo shows the third monument emplaced in the three National Cemeteries of Southern California by the OP 22. Outpost 22 intends to replace the plaque installed in the Wall of Honor at Riverside National Cemetery with a similar polished black granite block in the near future, so that all the National Cemeteries of Southern California will have the same beautiful monument to the men and women who served in that greatest of battle divisions of the United States Army, the Mighty Third Infantry Division.

As you can see the dedication ceremony was well attended with a delegation from Las Vegas Outpost 77, led by Lewis T. Conant, and a very loyal supporter of the Third Infantry Division, all the way from Niederbraun, France, Lise Pommois.



Newly placed Monument to the 3rd Infantry Division at the Ft. Roscrans National Cemetery in San Diego, CA. Courtesy James Jarboe.



This plaque is affixed to the top of the Monument at San Diego. Courtesy Michael Poirer.



Members and guests of Albert Miceli Outpost 22, of The Society of the 3rd Infantry Division participate in the dedication of a 3rd Infantry Division Monument at Ft. Rosecrans National Cemetery in San Diego, CA, Feb 16, 2002. OP President Andy Scullion delivers the opening remarks before the monument was unveiled. Courtesy James Jarboe

The success of this magnificent dedication is due in no small measure to the tireless efforts of Jesse and Judy Ugalde assisted by Evelyn Weldon; they covered every detail with determination and alacrity. Enough cannot be said for their efforts. Another person who was of enormous help in setting this dedication up by first of all, publicizing it in *The Veterans Journal*, of which he is the editor, and by offering great suggestions to make it the success it was, Dave Brown. He was and is, great.

The ceremony was so moving; it brought tears to the eyes of many an attendee. The Honor Guard was composed of veterans of the legendary 82nd Airborne Division led by Gus Tejada, who posted the colors, and fired a three round salute. What a marvelous sight they were. The trumpeter, Clayton Becker, played *Assembly*, and then *Taps* with such feeling and expertise, it took ones breath away. It was perfection.

The Chaplain, who is an active United States Navy Chaplain, Commander Robert Crossan, gave such a moving eulogy about the exploits and deeds of the Third Infantry



Navy Chaplain R. Crossman delivers the Benediction during the dedication of the 3rd ID Monument. Courtesy James Jarboe.



Members of 82nd Airborne Division Honor Guard retire the colors at close of the Ceremony. Courtesy James Jarboe.

Division, including the battles fought, and the casualties suffered, that as I said before, there was many a tear shed.

It is at times like these, that makes one proud to have served in such a great organization, the Third Infantry Division, and to have known the men and women who made it great.

The next OP 22 event will be the picnic, May 19, hosted by Margaret and Martin Markley.

Rock of the Marne,

*Andy Scullion, President, O.P.22*

**Fort Worth, Texas, February 16, 2002  
Minutes of Spring Meeting**

The Audie Murphy Outpost of Texas held its spring meeting at Ryan's Steak House in Fort Worth, Texas, on February 16, 2002, at 11:30 AM, hosted by Ret. Col. Richard and Sarah Addison. Members in attendance were Richard and Sue Sack, Jack and Dorothy Lougheed, Carl Wyatt, Morris Kirk, Ben Elrod, Marvin Brophy, Bill and Dot Harper, Vivian Fife, James and Del Timmens, Clay and Betty Craig, Joe and Lucia Hilderbrand, Richard Addison, and Joe and Lynn Ball. Marvin Brophy joined us for the first time: welcome Marvin. We are very glad to have you in the organization.

Joe Ball, President, called the meeting to order and introduced Ret. Col. Richard Addison, Chaplin, who delivered the



Col. (Ret.) Richard Addison. Courtesy Joe Ball.



Lucia and Joe Hilderbrand. Courtesy Joe Ball.



Bill and Dot Martin. Courtesy Joe Ball.

invocation. Immediate Past Secretary/Treasurer Morris Kirk led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Morris Kirk delivered the Treasurer's report and President Joe Ball led a discussion of the following agenda items.

Old Business: Term limits (2 years); President and Secretary/treasurer to

serve staggered terms (There was general agreement but no motion to vote at this time). Listening Posts: Joe reported on progress toward setting up listening posts (suggested by David Martin). David and Edith are out of the state and were unable to attend this session. Upon their return, David will be asked to chair this important committee.

**Next meeting**

Fredericksburg: Plans for our next Outpost meeting were discussed. Hill College, in Hillsboro, Texas, was suggested for the possible site of a summer meeting but was discounted in favor of Fredericksburg, Texas, during the Veterans' Day timeframe. It was agreed that the November meeting should be a two-day, dinner event designed to allow attendees to tour Fredericksburg, including the Nimitz Museum, LBJ sites of interest, and the city's prolific charms. Details will be announced at a later date (after we hear preferences from the membership-at-large).

Joe Ball and James Timmens will work together to set up the meeting with James doing most of the "leg work" in making arrangements (Thank you, James). Attendees thought it would be advantageous if we could get a package to include discounted hotel rooms and a site for our dinner meeting in hill country. To obtain a discount on rooms, we need a fair number of participants, and we need to know of interest from the membership-at-large rather quickly. Therefore, if any members want to spend a night or two in Fredericksburg, Texas, please let us know your preferences: One, two, or three nights? Saturday, November 9; Sunday, November 10; Monday, November 11 ? Contact Joe with your preferences and/or other suggestions as soon as possible of your interest in joining the membership at Fredericksburg. Once preferences are known, tentative arrangements can be made; we will ask for commitments at that time.

Outpost Charter: Joe announced that the original, Outpost charter would be retained by the president of the organization throughout his term of office. The original charter will then be passed to the new president, who will assume responsibility for it. Joe presented framed copies of the original charter to Bill Harper and Evelyn Whitaker. Richard and Sue Sack accepted the charter on Evelyn's behalf and will deliver it to her. Bill and Evelyn's late husband, James WJltaker, were original signatories on the charter. Copies of the charter were also sent to

Original Signatories, Raul Martinez and Leonard Coble.

“Black ‘y’ Boys”: Bill Harper enlightened us about the “Black ‘Y’ Boys” and provided pins representative of the unit’s crest for everyone. The 601st Tank Destroyer Battalion (“Black ‘Y’ Boys”), originally from the 1st Division the oldest (Alexander Hamilton) Army unit, was formed, in 1942, to combat the German Blitzkrieg. This was an anti-tank unit that began operations in North Africa under the banner of the 1st Infantry Division. The unit then went to Salerno, Italy, to support the 36th Infantry Division for the invasion of Italy. When the 36th Division was relieved by the 3rd Division, the unit became attached to the 3rd and remained with it throughout the war. As a tank destroyer battalion, the 601st supported various units as needed. That is why they did not have a specific unit insignia. The Germans recognized them by their identification markings, a yellow square with a black “Y” in it. It was the Germans who called this unit the “Black ‘Y’ Boys.” The unit won a Presidential Unit Citation for a difficult and heroic mission at El Guettar. There will be more about Bill’s story in future communications and in his soon-to-be-published biography.

3rd Division Rings: Richard and Sue Sack discussed the availability of 3rd Division rings. Sue recently had a die cut to replace Richard’s ring. If anyone is interested in obtaining one of these rings (proud heirlooms), please contact Richard and Sue Sack (addressing information appears below). It is possible that the price of the ring could be reduced with the order of multiple rings through the jeweler who cut the die for- Sue. This could be a valuable family heirloom.

News Updates Needed: Joe requested that the officers of



**Top:** Richard Sack, newly elected Secretary/Treasurer with Joe Ball President OP 35 on the right.

**Below:** Morris Kirk on the left, Immediate Past Editor of “The Watch on the Rhine,” and retiring as Secretary/Treasurer of OP 35 poses with Richard. Sack. Photos courtesy of Joe Ball.

Outpost 35 be informed of any good or bad news received about members. The Outpost needs to know when a member is ill, passes away, or loses a spouse. Conversely, we would like to know good news as well {new grandbabies, new house, new puppy, awards, honors, proud moments}.

Biographies: Joe announced that he has received three more biographical drafts, which will be processed in the near future. He urged the membership to send their biographies in chronological order, to him. Each biography will be prepared for publication and

then submitted to its original author for approval prior to publishing it for our membership and then submitting it, for inclusion in the 3rd Division Archives. Please use the form we used for Paul and Morris.

Poem by Audie Murphy: Richard Sack read a wonderful poem by Audie Murphy. Thanks, Richard. This poem will appear in our next Outpost Newsletter.

Richard Sack was nominated to serve as Secretary/Treasurer and elected by acclamation by Joe Hilderbrand. Morris Kirk seconded the nomination. Congratulations Richard. We are delighted that you have agreed to serve the Outpost in this capacity and look forward to your innovative participation in organization business.

Special Thanks to Morris Kirk: Thanks, Morris, for a11 of your years of faithful service to the Outpost. You are greatly appreciated. We will continue to show our appreciation in the future for your contributions to building the Outpost.

Smile for the Day: One of our waitpersons thought that we were a fan club for the, “Western actor, Audie Murphy”. It is nice to know that the young folks watch old movies however, one of our spouses gave the young man a ten-minute history lesson, which he absorbed with mouth open and then expressed appreciation for his enlightenment.

Benediction: Ret. Col. Richard Addison delivered the benediction and the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.

*Richard Sack, Secretary/Treasurer*

## Baker Company Reunion



Baker Company, 15th. Regiment, 3rd. Division Korean War Veterans. The “Can Do” troops.

**M**embers of Baker Company, 15th Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division at their eighth annual reunion. We had 73 members including guests at the reunion. The reunion was held in Daytona Beach, Florida November 4-8. A highlight of the reunion was a visit to the Emory Bennett Memorial Veterans Nursing Home. The home was named after a Baker Company soldier, Emory Bennett, a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient.

The Ninth annual reunion will be held September 29 to October 3, 2002 at Fort Bragg, NC. For information contact Dick Ashton, 448 Stemmers Run Road, Essex, MD 21221 (410-686-1197) Gc7gd6gs1@aol.com or Wilbur Dickson, 13545 E 53rd Drive, Yuma, AZ 85367.

Sincerely,

Dr. Donald Sonsalla, Secretary



# Letters to the Editor

Mr. Drury,

I received a letter from Presidio Press informing me that General (Retired) William W. Harris' book "Puerto Rico's Fighting 65th U.S. Infantry" has been reprinted and is now available for purchase. I am trying to get a copy for review purposes. You should let your readers now.

Also, I am sure that you are aware that the book "Third Infantry Division in Korea" which was edited by Captain Max Dolcater and printed originally in 1952 is available from Turner Publishing Company in a hardback glossy format. It is a brilliant book on the division and the various regiments in Korea. I do hope the members of the 7th and 15th Infantry aren't feeling slighted by all the attention the 65th is receiving (and will receive). It is just a matter of a great many wrongs being righted after so many years.

All the Best,

Gil Villahermosa, Col USA

P.S. Does Colonel Hackworth attend the 7th Infantry or 3rd Infantry Division reunions?

Dear Alicia,

Your request concerning information about your Great Uncle Clarence Bloodsworth was forwarded to me by Martin Markley for inclusion in the next Newsletter of the OP Harry Survivors Association. The name Bloodsworth was familiar to me. I quickly found that we had published a newspaper article sent to us by F. Walden Storie, who is Vice President of our Association, in our April 2001 issue. The article seems to answer your question but you may want to contact Walden directly. He has the original clippings and perhaps other material that may be of interest to you. His address is:

F. Walden Storie  
1705 Ryan Road  
Springboro, OH 45066-7737  
(513) 748-1681

He does not have an e-mail address.

\*\*\*

I would like to publish your letter and any follow-up information in the newsletter. (It is published quarterly) There may be others in the Association who might wish to contact you. I have your e-mail address but your mailing address and/or phone number would help those respond who may not have Internet access.

Sincerely,

Jim Jarboe

The article, as published in the *OPHSA Newsletter* follows:

## **Korean War Veteran helps Iowa family find closure**

By JIM WANKE  
Staff Writer (Star Press)

"We were in a machine gun bunker about six-foot square with one

automatic weapon on June 11, 1953." With that simple, declarative sentence, Springboro's F. Walden Storie related a wrenching incident from his Korean infantry combat experience, adding "and after being overrun during the night the Chinese rolled in two grenades. Then we took artillery rounds on top of that and the bunker collapsed in on top of us and we couldn't get out. Our guys found us the next morning. Another man and myself were wounded but still alive, and the other two men, whom I remember clearly, were Kaye Francis and Clarence Bloodsworth. They were dead."

"There had been six of us in that bunker the night before", Storie added, "a Republic of Korea soldier, whom we told to get help because he knew the terrain, and one of our communications guys. They left and didn't come back.

Storie said there was no doubt about Bloodsworth being killed because "my foot was touching his foot. I looked in his face the next morning and he had died of a concussion and probably shrapnel too."

But in spite of Storie's first-person account, for more than 40 years the Army has listed Bloodsworth as "missing in action" and Francis as "killed in action"

I wasn't until an MIA meeting in 1999 that Bloodsworth's Pella, Iowa family began to learn the truth from Springboro's F. Walden Storie. For 46 years Bloodsworth's family believed Clarence Bloodsworth had been captured and was a prisoner of war.

"We were on the central front near the Iron Triangle, close to the Khum-wah Valley, about 20 miles north of the 38th parallel," Storie said. "I was in the 3rd Division, 15th Infantry, 1st Battalion, Baker Company. We had three outposts that some joker had named 'Tom, Dick and Harry.' I was on Outpost Harry".

Storie said their job was to be forward controllers observing enemy movements in the valley.

"Although the night of June 11, 1953 was the worst, that was only part of it. The siege on our hill lasted from the 10th to the 18th and I was told we lost a total of 1,780 KIA and MIA," he related. "In Baker Company we had 160 men...27 of us walked off the hill on June 12th." (Attrition rate: 83 percent.)

Fast-forward 40 years.

When Storie attended the "OP Harry" reunion in 1993, a Baker Company medic named Ed Hanrahan showed him an article in a Third Division Army publication containing a poem written by Rhonda Bradley McAuliffe of Plattsmouth, Neb. Her father, Ronald Bradley, was also listed as MIA and was on the same hilltop in Korea with Storie but in a different bunker. Not only that, Storie had known Bradley and gone on patrol with him a few days before his death.

"After thinking about it for a week or so, I wrote her a letter and she called...later, in 1996 she came to our reunion in Chicago," Storie said. "In 1999 she learned about a Pentagon-sponsored MIA meeting and there she met Elma Beyer and Virgil Bloodsworth—the sister and brother of Clarence who died in the bunker with me. Rhonda told Elma and Virgil about me and the rest is history."

Storie said there were a lot of strange things about these tales.

"Bradley told me before he died that he had not told his family where he was because 'they would just worry.' He said he had just gotten married and that his wife was pregnant. I know now that the child was Rhonda. She was born in August 1953." Storie said he found out later that the day Bloodsworth died was his 20th birthday.

"I'm not sure how Bradley got it. He was in a bunker about 50 yards away. I think it exploded from artillery rounds. And I believe his is KIA not MIA like the Army says."

Storie said a man "from the Pentagon" came to their last reunion and talked about ongoing efforts to get permission to dig for remains of U.S. soldiers north of the 38th parallel. "So I told him some things that were left in that bunker with those two guys... my .45 caliber pistol for one thing, and a .38 in a spring-loaded shoulder holster that had been sent in the mail to Clarence Bloodsworth by his family. It's a long shot but if I thought I could see that bunker again I would go over there.

"I came away from all this thinking I have to forget things and get on with my life. But some of these men I met in Korea gave everything and I can't forget them," Storie concluded. There's a quote in the May issue of the VFW magazine, "When you go home, tell them for us and say; for your tomorrow we gave our today."

In this case it was June 11, 1953. And the brother and sister of Clarence Bloodsworth of Pella, Iowa are glad F. Walden Storie of Springboro came home.

This story was originally published in the Springboro, OH 'Star Press,' June 6, 2000. It was sent to the *OP Harry Newsletter* by F. Walden Storie.

Dear Sir,

With my comrades of the French association "Rock of the Marne", we took part to the commemoration about the Audie Murphy monument at Holtzwihr. It was last Sunday, 2002 01 27. There were French VIP, and the mayor of Holtzwihr. The ceremony was very impressive. There were not a lot of people, but we knew that it was for a great soldier, it was for a great division! I was and I am very proud to belong to your association. I'll develop photos very soon! I'll send to you some copies... Rock of The Marne!

Eric Vandroux  
eric.vandroux@cefc.caisse-epargne.fr

PORTERFIELD JOHN D

Rank: CPT

Serial Number: O-0955698

State of Record: PA

County of Record: Allegheny

Race: 1

Year of Birth: 1921 Branch=Infantry

Military Occupation Specialty=1542

Assigned Unit: 65th Inf Regt-3rd Inf Div

Place of Casualty: N Korea

Date of Casualty (Year/Mo/Day): 1952/10/28

Casualty Description: MIA to KIA

(Letter to Martin Markley)

Forgive me but I feel compelled to write this all of you who helped me find the "who" that my Father was. I make no excuses for sounding melodramatic about my emails to you. I mean them. I write them as I feel them from the bottom of my heart. I sit here, 50 years after that terrible battle of Jackson Heights, and wonder at the courage, the bravery, and pain that was on that bloody hill. I move on. I can't remember my Father, but over the years, I believe I have felt him near me. He was not around to teach me how to fish, play baseball, or how to box down the bullies that tormented me in my youth. I carried his dogtags around my neck from the time I was fourteen until I was 35. The burden became too much to bear at that time. I just figured I would never know who he was. I had to cast it aside.

The years droned on. I found the Korean War page one day and put a note out there regarding my father. Things began to happen. I open up my email one night and there is a note from a gentleman who wants to know if I am the son of John D. Porterfield, Jr. who was with his brother in law in Korea. He says that something my father wrote is on his brother's memorial. Suddenly, I can't hear anymore. I then remember letters written from brother to brother during that terrible conflict. I find them.

The name that is spoken in the email, stares back at me in a letter 50 years old, yellow and tattered. I then get an email from the son of the co of the other company stuck on that terrible rock on that terrible day. He gives me his Father's phone number. We leave several voice mails and then we connect. I am not ashamed to say that after speaking with this hero, I hang up and call my brother, Gary, who was six months old when our Father was killed, and was unseen by the man who gave him his name. I made it through about half a sentence and I can't talk anymore. My wife picks up the phone and makes excuses. I then get an email from Col Clark, whom I speak with and correspond with to this day. I then talk with the soldier, who with my Father, went out under enemy fire to rescue their comrade, whom they found dying.

They brought his body back and mourned him greatly. I have listened to the voice of this dead hero's sister, who misses him. He taught her to fish when they were smaller. She has not been whole without him, for these many years. But have any of us, who have lost friends and loved ones during that awful time? I think not. I fly to Little Rock and spend the day with Bud Cronhkite, who shared that bloody ground with those heroes on that day. I think of him often. I have spoken several times with the forward observer, who felt that awful shell whistle over him and strike the command post and make heroes, orphans, and empty men for the rest of our days. In the past week, I have spoken with the radio man who was several feet away when what was a man vanished before his eyes. I have become aware that all of you that survived that war, somehow feel guilt that you did. I would reply to you....that it was not your time. You were left behind to have families, teach your sons and daughters to play baseball, fish, and knock down bullies. I am glad that you had this gift of life to do those things. I am glad that you had this time to talk to me.

Best,

John Scott Porterfield  
johnscot90@hotmail.com

Dear Jim:

Just a little story I thought was of interest. Awhile back I became acquainted with an Army veteran here in the Los Angeles area and we had lunch together recently.

During our visit, he mentioned that when he was in the U.S. Army Pacific Theater during the Korean War that their commanding general had a standing order to all units that they must play, when possible, a song titled (Dog face Soldier).

I perked right up and asked the general's name. He said he was called (Iron Mike) O'Daniel. Remember WW II vets? Iron Mike was our general in Europe at one time in the 40s.

This fellow I was with was not in the Third Infantry Division but in two different units at different times. The 11th Airborne and the 187th Airborne during 1950-51. He said they really liked that song. I filled him in that that song was written for the 3rd ID during the era of WW II. He appreciated the information and said that it was not only a great song for the 3rd but for the rest of the Army as well.

Small world isn't it?

Bruce Monkman

.....  
This may seem strange admitting that I saw a UFO in Central Korea one night in December 1952, or January 1953. Did any of you guys see any "flying saucers" in Korea? I sure would like to know. I was with a M/Sgt at the time and he told me to get his binoculars but by the time I found them the UFO was gone.

Gil Conner, B Co. 15th Inf. Regt.,  
3d Infantry Division Korea 52 - 53  
6229 Heberton Dr.  
Verna, P 15147-3527

Dear Jeff,  
getz1@llnl.gov

I'm sorry to say that I did not know your Dad. I hope he is alive and well. He is listed in the 3rd Division History as Cpl. Ray Getz, having served in the 756th Tank Battalion in WWII. As a 7th Infantryman, I was always glad to see our tanks, but we rarely got to meet the men inside. The best I can do, I'm afraid, is to attach one of the stories in my memoirs which mentions the 756th Tank Bn. It took place in Vagney, France and was a sad day. Lt. James Harris of the 756th received a posthumous Medal of Honor for repelling an enemy attack on the 7th Inf. 1st Bn. Command Post. Three of the four men in his tank were KIA and the 4th badly wounded. The story follows:

Russ Cloer, WWII Capt.,  
7th Inf., 3rd Inf. Div. (Now 81 years old!)

### Vagney, France

From Maxonchamp, the 7th Infantry cleared Remiremont and pressed on toward Vagney, France in the foothills of the Vosges Mountains. The six week "Champagne Campaign" was over. In early October 1944, our CP was established in a large two story stone house in an open field on the edge of Vagney. A two-lane road on our left led into the center of town. To the left of the road was heavily wooded high ground. Fighting had been heavy and we had-

n't moved in several days.

Early one morning, I was ordered to lead a small patrol into the center of town and check the condition of the 1st Battalion CP, since all communication had gone out during the night. This was vitally important because with no communication from the Battalion CP, the rifle companies had no direction and the Field Artillery could provide no support. I was also ordered to be on the lookout for "stragglers," a term used to describe men who had become separated from their company, for one reason or another, and were in no hurry to get back. Some were careful to not go far enough to the rear to be considered deserters, just close enough to be able to claim that they were trying to find their way back. They wanted a few days to collect their senses. Thankfully, I wasn't called upon to do this very often because I hated it! It was a Military Police function but there were no MPs this close to the rifle companies.

I took PFC Bigler, my platoon runner, and another man with me and we went in on foot. We crossed the destroyed bridge leading into town, which was lying on the bottom of the shallow stream bed. Soon thereafter, we came upon a storefront with all glass gone from the windows. I looked inside and saw about a dozen GIs sleeping on top of six foot long restaurant tables. It was cold and they were all covered with their blankets. They hadn't even posted a guard! I walked inside and noticed that they had pulled the blankets over their heads and since the blankets weren't long enough, their combat boots stuck out the bottom end of the blanket. This was a very disagreeable assignment I had been given and I would have preferred to walk right on by. But, I couldn't ignore it. It was my duty to find out what was going on here. I drew the blanket back from the head of the nearest man and as I stared at his face, I realized that he wasn't sleeping. He was dead! I checked one more with the same result. I then realized that the Battalion was using this restaurant as a collecting point for KIAs so that Graves Registration would have no trouble finding them. Here were a dozen men who had given their lives for their country and I had suspected them of malingering! That was a hard fact to live with and I never looked for stragglers again, orders or no orders!

We continued on through to the center of town. There was an American Sherman tank motionless and silent in the middle of the street and three or four GIs wandering around where the CP was supposed to be. One of the men was a sergeant and seeing the silver bar on my helmet, he told me what had happened. A German patrol, consisting of a Mark IV tank and an estimated 30 infantrymen, came into the town during the hours of darkness, right down this same street. A firefright erupted and the GI's could hear, but not see, the German tank which moved forward in the darkness and stopped repeatedly. An American Sherman tank (756th Tank Bn.) was hidden behind a house around the corner behind the CP. The tank platoon leader, 2nd Lieutenant James Harris, came forward on foot in the darkness to investigate. He was severely wounded by a burst of enemy machine gun fire and the man with him was killed instantly. He crawled back to the corner and directed his tank forward. He didn't have the strength to climb aboard. When the two tanks were head to head in the middle of the street, about thirty yards apart, they still couldn't see each other. A German light machine gun, off to one side of the street, opened fire on the American tank. The Sherman tank machine gunner immediately fired his machine gun at the source of the German tracers. The German tank, having now located the

American tank by the source of its tracer bullets, fired three quick rounds from its high velocity 75mm main gun using armor piercing shells. (See photo: [www.members.aol.com/JFJmuseum/Cloerbio.html](http://www.members.aol.com/JFJmuseum/Cloerbio.html)) The three projectiles went clean through the heaviest armor plate on the Sherman, killing three men inside and severely wounded the fourth. Other GIs, firing from the street and windows, were hit by the Kraut small arms fire from other members of the Kraut patrol. The Kraut tank then began firing at the CP building with its main gun. There were further casualties and all communication was knocked out. Their job done, the Krauts then withdrew.

A medic found Lt. Harris in the street between the two tank positions, still conscious. The Lieutenant insisted that the medic look after the men in the tank first, only one of whom turned out to be still alive. The medic later returned to the Lieutenant in the dark and found that his leg was shot off at the hip and he was bleeding profusely. Lt. Harris, (756th tank battalion), was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously for saving the Battalion CP from destruction, with all of the attendant effects on the battle.

I found the Battalion CO and he confirmed what the sergeant had told me. He said he had wire men stringing wire back to the Regimental CP and expected to be in communication with the Regimental CO shortly. I returned to the Regimental CP and reported. We used to say that the American Army had the best tanks in the world, except for the Germans, the Russians and the British. It was true!

When I got back to the Regimental CP, I beefed up the defense and made arrangements with the 601 TD battalion, to get a Tank Destroyer (an armored vehicle that looked like a tank but had a more effective 90mm antitank gun, rather than the Sherman's 75mm gun) and stationed it out of sight behind the CP building. I was concerned that the Krauts, after their success at the 1st Battalion CP, might decide to take a crack at the Regimental CP. Late that afternoon, we came under attack. We were hit with mortar fire first and then machine gun and rifle fire from what appeared to be about one under strength Infantry platoon. My platoon was dug in, in positions surrounding the CP building, and we returned the fire with our rifles, BAR's and two light machine guns.

The Krauts were firing from the edge of the woods about 150 yards away. Suddenly, a German "flak wagon" poked its nose out of the woods and opened full automatic fire on us with its 20mm exploding shells. The "flak wagon" was a self-propelled vehicle with four 20mm antiaircraft guns which the Krauts used with equal effectiveness against ground troops. The crew was protected by a single sheet of armor, effective only against small arms fire. Our tank destroyer, (601 T.D. Bn.), which had been hidden behind the building, lumbered around the corner and scored a direct hit on the "flak wagon" with the first shot from its 90mm gun, tearing the "flak wagon" to bits. It then reloaded with HE (high explosive) shells and went to work on the enemy Infantry. The fight was over in minutes and the remaining Krauts withdrew into the woods carrying their wounded with them. We remained in our defensive positions throughout the night, but they didn't choose to challenge us again.

Russ Cloer

Dear Jim,

I have been e-mailing with Dan Champagne who is in Europe writing articles on Hill 351 and Audie Murphy. The first article appears in the May issue of World War II Magazine. He is examining the history of Company B, 15th Infantry Regiment for articles and a book. He is studying the history for a three-year period in Germany. Could you please mention this in the newsletter so the members who are in the 15th can read and enjoy his writing. He also has an article submitted to the magazine on the battle of Hill 351 and the Colmar Pocket, which he considers equal to the Battle of the Bulge. This article should be coming out soon. We have read it and it is exceptional. Do you subscribe to this magazine?

He is also going to video for me the area around Hill 351; then we will always have a record of where my Uncle Dominic Giovanazzo fought and gave his life.

Well Jim we think of you often and all of the work that you do for the Third Division, and we thank you. Hope to see you soon along the road of life.

God Bless and take care,

Jerry and Kathy Daddato  
daddy@execpc.com

The article, "Attack Platoon Clobbers Reds," in the February issue of the *Watch*, brought to mind, a night 50 years ago almost to the day. At the time, Lt. Robert G. Horne's K Co. platoon of the 15th, returned from a patrol, with almost half his platoon as casualties. The platoon I was assigned as a medic, was called on to fill the gaps in the MLR, caused by the casualties. At the time there was an unwritten rule, that combat medics were exempt from any fatigue duty or details. Lt. Horne had 2 men digging a hole as punishment. Having lost many of his NCOs, he spotted me with my corporal stripes and immediately assigned me to supervise the detail. I was about to point out to him, that as a medic, I was exempt from this kind of detail. On second thought, I reasoned that this was not a good time to bring this up to a platoon leader, who had just lost half his platoon. I stayed on the detail until relieved. I don't know to this day, what those men did, to deserve that punishment. For Lt. Horne to make it his first order of business coming back from patrol, meant it had to be pretty bad.

John Battaglia  
3rd Bn 15th Inf.

I was in Korea with Co. B, 7th Inf. Regt., 9/50 – 6/51. There was a German Shepherd dog that took a liking to me and stayed with me while I was there. My squad leader, Sgt. Raymond was KIA. The last place we took was Panmunjom. Is there any Society member who can relate to anything I have said? If so please contact me.

Sincerely,

Leo C. Jackey  
PO Box 3264  
Anderson, IN 46016-3264

I was with the 7th Inf. Regt., 3d Infantry Division on Anzio starting the 4th of Feb. 1944. I stayed from Anzio all the way to Rome. I became a Company runner and I will tell you it is the worst job you can have.

When we went back to Naples, I joined the Division "Battle Patrol". When we made the southern France invasion I think we went in at Cavalaire and I fought all the way to Strasburg, near the Rhine River. Then it happened! Too many shells put me out of combat. I then went through 12 "head shrinkers". Latter I landed in and outfit called Railway Traffickers and automatically became a 4F. How about that? When I came out of combat I became a French interpreter in Loos, France at a repl. Depot. This is just outside of Lille, France.

The Division Battle Patrol was attached to the Recon Group and was started in the combat zone. We had our own special chest patch. It was a Black Panther over the 3rd Division patch.

I don't know if you were familiar with this outfit. I never hear anybody talk about the outfit or see any writing about it. I suppose we were a secret. It consisted of 40 men, a Sgt. and a Lieutenant.

Sincerely,

Reginald E. Richard  
216 Saint Joseph Ave.  
Fitchburg, MA 01420-5158

Mr .Art Lajeunesse  
73 Broadway  
Latham, New York 12110

Dear Art:

I saw your letter in The Watch asking for information about "G" Co, 2nd Battalion, 7th Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division in the fight at Huk-Su-Ri, North Korea, in December 1950. I do not have any specific information about George Company, but I was there and can give you some general information about that particular engagement. I was on a Forward Observer team in "H" Co, 2nd Battalion of the 7th Regiment at that time. We adjusted 81 mm mortars in support of the infantry companies. I was attached to a rifle company and went up the hills with them in any assault. I spent most of my time up in the hills with the riflemen.

As nearly as I can recall, we were up in the mountains set up on the reverse slope. As we found out later, the reverse slope was not the best place to be. There was a narrow road cut through the mountains~ about halfway up the side of the hill. We were pushing north very fast against the North Korean troops, and we all thought the war would be over by Christmas. This was not to be.

We set up with about 550 GIs ready to move out against what we thought was a unit of the North Korean Army. Instead, we were jumped by a Chinese regiment of about 3.000 Chinese regulars, who had pack artillery, anti-tank guns, and heavy machine guns. Things turned bad really fast.

Tanks came down the narrow road to help us but were knocked out one at a time by the Chink anti-tank guns. The disabled tanks were pushed over the edge of the road. and tumbled

down the mountain, by our follow-up tanks. The tanks finally gave up and backed up the narrow road, leaving us alone. We were told to retreat back south, up the mountain road we had just captured the day before. The Chink machine guns worked us over pretty well, and a lot of guys went down.

I don't know anything about the MIAs, but there had to be a lot of them. We got out as many as we could. I only remember the frozen bodies of the KIAs stacked on jeep trailers and taken out. The rifle companies were overrun by a very large Chinese force. Frankly, I'm surprised that ~ of them 0£ us got out.

We moved back and set up on the crest of the next mountain. About midnight, we were told to move out further south. One rifle company and a machine gun section stayed

behind as a rear guard. This could very well have been George. Most people don't know (or don't care) that these G.I.s covered for the rest of what was left of the 2nd Battalion, during the withdrawal.

I hope this is helpful. I don't know about any specific guys we lost: MIAs or KIAs. This account of the events at Huk-Su-Ri is to the best of my memory. If anything is incorrect, it is not intentional.

Best Wishes,

Joe Ball, President  
Audie Murphy Outpost #35 3rd Infantry Division

### "THE BATTLE OF MONTELMAR"

#### Call For Stories and Snapshots!

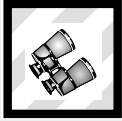
Veterans are invited to discuss their experiences of the liberation of southern France to help prepare a book on the 'Battle of Montelimar'. Do you remember Montelimar, La Coucourde, the Rhone river, Grenoble, Valence, or Lyon? There are very few articles on this battle, so if you would like your WW2 efforts and sacrifices to be remembered, you can write, Email or call. Copies of snapshots taken in southern France will also help a lot.

The Project: A book entirely devoted to the battle of Montelimar near the Rhone river in southern France, in August-September 1944. The idea is to describe Your battle of Montelimar and give the GI's view of the fighting based on veteran accounts, unit journals and photos. There are few veterans of this battle and your recollections are sorely needed. Pass the word around!

The Author: Olivier Blanc-Brude, Ph.D was born in southern France near the battlegrounds. I am captivated by military history and this project, which is entirely self-funded and put together on my spare time, and is the high point of 20 years of research dedicated to the liberation of my home area. I am a bio-medical research scientist at Yale University.

Olivier Blanc-Brude, Ph.D, 111 Park St (Madison 8-H), New Haven, CT 06511 Email: oblancbrude@hotmail.com Phone + Message: (203) 787.9016

Thank you very much for your consideration.



# Looking for...

I'm looking for anyone who remembers **Captain James W. Coles**, who commanded Company L 15th Infantry Regiment from approximately May 1944 to mid - September 1944. He was a strong man—over 6 feet tall and approximately 200 pounds. He had red hair and was known as “Red.” He was beloved by his men and known for his aggressive command style. He literally “led” his men into battle by being the first one out in front of everyone else.

He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross at Allan, France (near Montelimar) on August 27th, 1944. This was during the same battle where my grandfather was killed. Coles was captured in mid-September 1944, taken to a POW camp in Poland, and was “liberated” soon after by the Russians. He escaped his Russian “liberators” and made his way down to the Black Sea where he caught a ship back to Naples. He returned to the 3rd Battalion of the 15th about a week before the Germans surrendered. Prior to becoming the CO of Company L, Coles was a Lieutenant with the same Company. He was awarded both the Silver Star and the Bronze Star in 1943 while fighting in Italy.

Strangely, no one I have interviewed seems to know much about his civilian life before or after the war. Several have told me that they believe he passed away in the 1950s. His DSC citation says he reported for military duty at Endinitar, California-but nothing more. I am very interested in learning all that I can about this remarkable man, especially in regards to his life before and after the war. He seemed to have been the embodiment of the “Can Do” spirit...

Anyone who can tell me more about Captain James “Red” Coles, please contact me.

Jeff Danby  
 (Grandson to 1st Lt. Edgar R. Danby” 756th Tank Bn)  
 1299 Normandy Dr.  
 Newark, OH 43055  
 (740) 344-4417  
 jeffdanby@msmisp.com



Hello.

My name is **Steve Brown**. I was with the C co 3rd of the 63rd from 1975-1977. I have been trying to find out what happened to the unit for some time now. The 63rd was a tank battalion and I was stationed in Augsburg, Germany when I was with them. If you have any information or could point me in a direction I would be very grateful.

Thank you in advance

Steve Brown  
 saspurs2@netscape.net  
 990 Stanger Ave.  
 Idaho Falls, Idaho 83404  
 (208) 523-8560



Dear Editor:

I just recently learned about (and joined) the Society of the 3rd Infantry Div. I wish I had known about this years ago, for I would have been among the first to join.

Looking now for an old comrade 15th Inf. Company D, **Daniel K. Connors**, listed as 1101 Lewiston St, Franklin Square, N.Y. 11010. I've made several attempts at this address with no luck. Can anyone help me?

Pat Berardi  
 113 Highland St. Milford, Ma.  
 01757. 1 (508)473-2506  
 highlandflingl@netzero.net



I served as a medic with the 15th Inf. 3d Infantry Division in Korea, from December, 1951 to October 1952.

I was a medic for the 75mm Recoilless Rifle platoon, of M Company and later was assigned to the Third Battalion aid station. Would like to hear from anyone I served with.

**John A. (“Doc”) Battaglia**  
 Long Island, NY  
 (718) 356-3199  
 JBatta5670@aol  
 Korean War



Jim,

I wonder if you can help me on this casualty from the 7th. Inf. Rgt. 3rd. Inf. Div. He was KIA while serving with the 7th. near Sanchong, North Korea. I am trying to find what company he served in when KIA. Let me know if you can help.

Regards,

Art Lajeunesse  
 N.E.N.Y. Chapter. KWVA

**COOK, John E**

Rank=PFC  
 Serial Number=RA12351634  
 State of Record: NY  
 County of Record: Albany  
 Race:1  
 Year of Birth: 1933  
 Branch:Infantry  
 Military Occupation Specialty:  
 (4745) Light Weapons Infantryman  
 Assigned Unit 7th Inf Regt-3rd Inf Div  
 Place of Casualty: N Korea  
 Date of Casualty 1950/11/29  
 Casualty Description: KIA

Art, This is all I have found so far. I will post in our April “Watch on the Rhine”. Jim

*Editor's note: If anyone can help Art, please do so.*



Looking for **Capt. Max Etkin** who commanded the 3rd Recon. Company, 3rd Infantry Division in Korea or ANYONE who was in that unit 1951-1953.

The 3rd Reconnaissance company was a M-24 Tank unit. Anyone who was in this unit, please write to me.

Thank you,

Jon Heich LM # 1368  
 % West L. A. VA Med Center  
 Bldg 213, Room 310  
 11301 Wilshire Blvd.  
 Los Angeles, CA 90073”

## 7th Infantry Regiment Memorial under consideration for Chalmette National Historical Battlefield Park

■ **Update: The long standing matter of erecting a monument or memorial to the 7th Infantry Regiment in the New Orleans Battlefield National Park to commemorate the regiment's decisive role in the Battle of New Orleans on January 8, 1815.**

Yesterday, on February 7th, I was surprised to receive a most welcomed phone call from Mr. David Herrera in the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve office of the National Park Service in New Orleans. That office has jurisdiction over the Chalmette National Historical Battlefield Park where the battle took place. We visited the Park a few years back during our annual reunion. Mr. Herrera advised that he was the deputy working for or under Superintendent, Geraldine Smith with whom we have had contact and unsuccessful negotiations in the past. He said, as I understood him, that there was now a project underway to review overall the status and condition of the park with a view of determining what capital improvements could and should be undertaken. He considered that some structure or other item to recognize the 7th Infantry would be in order and extended an invitation for representatives of the regiment to meet and explore the matter further.

He said he had familiarized himself with the file on our memorial efforts over the past years but he did not seem very much aware of some of the developments to include the letter from past Senator Bennet and the Louisiana House of Delegates resolution, and some others, urging that we be permitted to place a marker of some sort in the battlefield, preferably at the ramparts where the regiment was in position during the battle. Also he did not seem to be aware that we had finally gone for

help to the Congressman Sonny Tauzin, in whose district the battlefield is located. I told him that I had met with Mr. Tauzin's deputy chief of staff Garret Graves and asked that a brief insertion be made in some appropriate piece of legislation, such as the annual Defense authorization bill, directing the Park Service to allow us to place our marker in the battlefield. I listed all the support we had from Louisiana officials to include the legislature and New Orleans City Council. I told Mr. Herrera that Mr. Graves seemed very receptive and indicated such action could be done.

The action we requested of Mr. Tauzin has not yet been achieved but of course in the interim we have had the September 11th disasters which also disrupted the Congress, and now Mr. Tauzin it seems is deeply involved in congressional hearings on the Enron matter. So our project and wishes are somewhat stalemated it seems. I did not ask Mr. Herrera but I wondered if somewhere in the back ground Mr. Tauzin or his staff has let the Parks or Interior people know of the possibility of Congressional action in the matter and if so did it stimulate some forward movement to our benefit.

At any rate, Mr. Herrera's call and information is surely a great cause for rejoicing for us and we should be ready and willing to do what we can to assist and encourage him and his improvement plannings. He suggested that representatives of the Cottonbalers meet with him and the New Orleans staff at an early date - say about mid April after the Mardi Gras activities in N.O. are over and some calm has returned. We finished with the understanding that I would report the conversation to my fellow Cottonbaler Association members and would get back to him in due course.

I told him also that we were quite modest in our desires and would be content with a simple stone marker similar to the once place at Vancouver Barracks

WA a few years back by Lee Perkins and his team. I also said that we would not object, of course, if in the process of drawing up a capital improvement program the Park Service suggested something more elaborate or informative. I plan to provide Mr. Herrera with a copy of this message via snail mail with a photo of the marker in Vancouver Barracks. I am also attaching a copy of the photo herewith for the benefit of newcomers or old comers with short memories. (Mr Herrera told me that the Park Service has been enjoined for the present by court order from e-mail activity following a suit by American Indians that objected to some of the messages being transmitted - I don't know all the details of that but it is not pertinent to our business here).

I suggest that anyone who feels they can travel to N.O. for a conference in Mid April let our President Rich Rhodes know ASAP. I will make every effort to attend but at this moment am unsure whether or not I can do so - for some personal and family reasons. I mentioned also to Mr Herrera that we had one very articulate and dedicated Cottonbaler not too far away in Monroe, LA - Joe Ben Jones - who could perhaps attend a conference with the least inconvenienced caused by distance....

Will away response from all....good news, but requiring some thought and planning. Please feel free to forward this message to any of our members that you feel will be interested and that I have inadvertently in haste omitted.

If anyone wants to contact Mr. Herrera directly the address of the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park Hdqrs is 365 Canal St., Suite 2400, New Orleans, LA 70130-1142 - his telephone number is 504-589-3882. I confirmed President Rhodes telephone number and suggested he give our president a call also.

*Sherm Pratt, Chairman  
Monument Memorial Committee*