



The Watch on the Rhine

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

Vol. 85 No. 1

"Nous Resterons La"

August, 2003



ROCK OF THE MARNE: Company A, 30th Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division takes one of the fortresses near Besancon, France. Sept. 8, 1944. (From archives of Wayne Jens)

Outpost Harry Hero

Buck awarded Silver Star for Heroic Action

Reprinted from *Frontline* magazine, 6/19/03

By: Sgt. Sam Hoffman ,
Staff Writer

The heroic actions taken by (then 2nd Lt.) Sam Buck at Outpost Harry, during the Korean Conflict, June 11, 1953, have earned him the Silver Star Medal 50 years later. The

"We were overrun by the Chinese; outnumbered at least 30 to 1."

attack was one of the last major offensives of the Chinese during the conflict

Buck brought his family from Iowa to see him presented with the medal June 9, as part of the Outpost Harry Survivors' Association reunion at Fort Stewart.

"On the night of the 11th of June (1953), the company was hit by a reinforced (Communist Chinese Forces) regiment. We had about 150 men up on the hill ... the CCF had 4,000. It was kind of overwhelming and resulted in hand-to-hand combat," said Martin Markley, commander, K Company, 15th Infantry Regiment. "We were overrun by the Chinese; outnumbered at least 30 to 1," Buck said.

He managed to maintain a sense of humility while accepting this honor. "I think that everybody else there did as much as I did," said Buck, who spent 18 months recovering from the injuries

Please turn to HERO on page 6

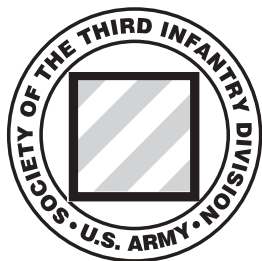


Since 1919



The Oldest Continuous Army Division Association





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 29907 (Finisterre@islc.net). A subscription may be obtained at a cost of \$15 by applying to the National Headquarters, The Society of the Third Infantry Division-U.S. Army, 10 Paddington Ct., Hockessin, DE 19707.

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 Manley



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

Jim Drury informed me in late May that he wished to step down as editor of the "Watch" after completion of this issue of the "Watch". Jim took over as editor from Morris Kirk five years ago and has done an excellent job of putting out a first class newsletter. It's really a small magazine rather than a newsletter. The job requires a fair amount of your time if you are going to do it properly and I think Jim was starting to experience a little "job burn out" after five years.

Alta Milling, Secretary/Treasurer of O.P. #3 has graciously offered to take over as the "Watch" editor starting with the October issue. The entire Society owes Alta a large vote of thanks for her willingness to take on a position that is an extremely important part of the Society structure. If you ever see Alta be sure to thank her in person for volunteering.

In the February and June "Watch" Presidents message I noted that Morris Krepky, because of ill health, had to step down as Sgt At Arms. No one has volunteered to replace him thus far. In the April "Watch" Presidents message I asked for volunteers to take over the position of roster management that Martin Markley agreed to do, strictly on a temporary basis only, until the St. Louis reunion. I have had no takers for that either.

I guess my June "Watch" Presidents message on "doing your duty" fell on deaf ears.

Alta Milling, Secretary/Treasurer of O.P. #3 has graciously offered to take over as the "Watch" editor starting with the October issue.

As I write this article just before the July 10th deadline for the August "Watch" material not one single member has contacted me for either position. To make matters worse I note from the elective officers absentee ballot in the June "Watch" that only one member is a candidate for Eastern Region Committeeman even though there are two vacancies. In addition no one is a candidate for the Central Region Vice President.

It is my sad duty to inform the membership that O.P. #77 is being deactivated and all its members are being transferred to another O.P. of their choice. Secretary/Treasurer Lew Conant's health has reached the point where he can no longer fulfill his duties and no one has volunteered to replace him. Lew has served O.P. #77 and the Society so well for so many years it's a shame that no one is willing to take over for him. "Well done, Lew" you certainly deserve a well-earned rest.

I cannot order anyone to take on any staff or elected job. A democracy just doesn't work that way. Someone has to step forward and take their turn. The entire Society staff; officers and committees, are all volunteers. If we never get any volunteers we won't have any staff left in a few years. I am open to any and all suggestions on how to promote volunteerism.

Awards Committee Chair Open

Alta Milling will be taking over as "Watch" editor from Jim Drury after the August "Watch" is published. I will need to replace her as Awards committee chairperson immediately following the St. Louis reunion.

If anyone knows of any individuals, including yourself, in your O.P. who may be interested in the position please pass their names on to me and I will contact them.

Rock of the Marne!
Jerry Manley

2003 Annual Raffle

The annual raffle tickets have been mailed to all Society members. Extra books were mailed to Chapter Secretaries. It will be necessary for Society members to act expeditiously in order to get their raffle tickets submitted in time for the national reunion. All members are urged to give full support to this very important Society fund raiser.

Money received from the raffle supplements the income received from dues and enables the Society to publish a quality newsletter and maintain membership dues at a minimal level. The annual raffle will be conducted at the national reunion in St. Louis.

This years raffle tickets are in books of 10 at \$2/ticket. Please purchase or sell the tickets and return them in the self-addressed envelope with your check or money order for those tickets purchased. (\$20.00 for 10 tickets)

Prizes

All prizes will be United States Savings Bonds (Amounts are the value at maturity)

- First Prize\$2000.00**
- Second Prize\$1000.00**
- Third Prize\$500.00**
- Next 4 Prizes\$200.00**

The drawing will be held Saturday Sept. 20, 2003

You do not need to be present to win
Return tickets with a check or money order in the enclosed envelope to:
Raymond C. Anderson, Jr., 10
Paddington Ct. Hockessin DE 19707

New Chair for Constitution and ByLaws Committee

Dale McGraw asked to be relieved of his duties as C & BL Chairman effective the St. Louis reunion. Through Dale's efforts I was able to find an immediate replacement for him. **The incoming C & BL Chairman is John A. Wiess**, President of O.P. #4. I want Dale to know how much I appreciate the time and effort he put into a sometimes trying and thankless task. He did an excellent job and I am sorry to lose him. Because of his sincere interest in the good of the Society he found his own replacement with no help from me. Thanks again, Dale.

Rock of the Marne! Jerry Manley



Jim Drury

It is with a feeling of gratitude and sadness that I announce my resignation as your Editor of "The Watch on the Rhine". I am proud that I now join the long list of past editors who have served since 1919. I am grateful you have allowed me to serve for the past five years. I am sad because this means I will no longer be in contact with so many of you fine Veterans. As a Combat Medic in Korea, I knew I walked and fought among heroes. As your editor, I knew I served and associated with heroes. There was no better way for me to spend the last five years of my working life.

Many people have written and expressed their good thoughts about the magazine. To these, I say thank you very much. I must say, however, that it was and is you who sent in the stories and articles that made "The Watch on the Rhine" what it is today. Your support was and is truly

As a Combat Medic in Korea, I knew I walked and fought among heroes. As your editor, I knew I served and associated with heroes

wonderful. I hope you help our new editor, Alta Milling, as much as you have helped me

Another thank you must go to our publisher, Gerald Wadley. Jerry figuratively "held my hand" through good and bad times and is the one responsible for the great appearance of our "Watch." Being without Jerry as our friend and publisher is unthinkable. Also, I would be remiss if I did not thank my wife, Pat, and my family for their support.

God Bless All, "Rock of the Marne," and with the deepest respect to the Society.

Jim Drury

Anzio Tour Planned

As you well know, Next year is the 60th anniversary of some of your bitter battles in Italy and the liberation of Rome. The Anzio Beachhead Veterans Association and the First Special Service Force are planning tours to join in the 60th anniversary ceremonies there and we hope that members of the 3rd Infantry Division and other Italian Campaign veterans will join us. If your division does not sponsor a tour we would welcome your members to join either of ours.

For the Anzio Beachhead Veterans tour Contact John Boller, telephone (631)691-



John Boller visits the 3rd Infantry Division Memorial at Anzio, Nettuno, Italy in June 2003. Photo courtesy John Boller

5002. e-mail juniorjlb@msn.com. For the Force tour contact Ed Thomas (704) 366-0204, e-mail edthomas08@aol.com

AntiTank Reunion

The Antitank Company Reunion will, as announced in the A TCO Newsletter, be held at the Drury Inn and Suites, 610 East County Line Road, Ridgeland, MS Oct. 9 -12, 2003.

The phone number published in the ATCO newsletter for placing hotel reservations, however, is *incorrect* The correct number is {601} 956-6100.

Please remember to mention that the reservations are for Antitank Company Reunion to get the special rate published on page 3 of the latest newsletter. We hope as many as possible can attend.

Kenneth Robb (210) 822-5171

Marilyn Jordan (202) 463-4171

(work)

(703) 750-1444 (home)

(703) 477-4576 (cell phone)

30TH INFANTRY REGIMENTAL DINNER

The 12th annual regimental dinner will be held on Friday, September 19th, 2003. The dinner will be held during the reunion of the Society of the Third Infantry Division at the Airport Marriott Hotel, St. Louis, Mo.

There will be a no-host reception beginning at 5:45 p.m. followed by the dinner in our banquet room at 6:45 p.m. The menu will be a choice of pan seared chicken breast with pan gravy, or roasted pork loin with apples. It will also include garden salad, fresh vegetables, and selection of potato, rice, or pasta, cheesecake, rolls, iced tea, and coffee.

The total cost will be \$29 per person, which includes the gratuity and tax. In making your reservation, include your name, guest name, and choice of entrée(s)

Please make your reservation by sending a check made payable to Carl Q. Tople, banquet chairman, 27 Apple Lane, Milford, Ohio 45150. Phone: 513.831.2636. E-mail: cqtopie@aol.com

Reservations and payment must be made prior to September 12th, 2003. There can be no walk-ins.

Society of the 3rd Infantry Division

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS AND FUND BALANCES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

CASH RECEIPTS			
ANNUAL DUES		\$25,626	
LIFE MEMBER DUES		5,677	
RAFFLE TICKETS		11,935	
ROSTER DONATIONS		7,316	
WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL FUND		861	
DECALS, DONATIONS & GENERAL FUND		3,578	
INTEREST		<u>413</u>	
			<u>55,406</u>
CASH DISBURSEMENTS			
WATCH—PRINTING & POSTAGE			25,065
HEADQUARTERS EXPENSE:			
Postage, Copies, Stationery & Supplies, Etc.		2,127	
RAFFLE EXPENSE		4,290	
ROSTER MANAGEMENT		10,623	
DUES & DONATIONS TO OUTPOSTS		10,684	
DECALS, MEMBERSHIP & ADS		2,501	
PUBLIC RELATIONS EXPENSE		236	
MEMORIALS EXPENSE		376	
WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL FUND		755	
AWARDS		490	
EDITOR EXPENSE		337	
HISTORIAN		100	
ACTIVE DIVISION COORDINATOR		<u>738</u>	
			<u>58,322</u>
DISBURSEMENTS IN EXCESS OF RECEIPTS			(2,916)
FUND BALANCE-JULY 1, 2002			
CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$ 4,866		
SAVINGS ACCOUNT	<u>44,426</u>	49,292	
			<u>\$46,376</u>
COMPOSITION OF FUND BALANCE-JUNE 30, 2003			
CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$ 4,987		
MARKET INDEX SAVINGS ACCOUNT	<u>41,389</u>	<u>\$46,376</u>	

MARK W. SNEDDON
6355 Topanga Canyon Boulevard
Suite 225
Woodland Hills, CA 91367

To the President and the Executive Committee
The Society of the Third Infantry Division

I have reviewed the accompanying Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements and Fund Balances of The Society of the Third Infantry Division for the year ended June 30, 2003. My review consisted of reviewing, on a test basis, the cash receipts and disbursements as well as the cancelled checks, deposits, bank statements, bank reconciliations, general ledger, and the resulting statement.

Based on my review I am not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying statement in order for it to present fairly the financial activity and condition of The Society of the Third Infantry Division for the year ended June 30, 2003.

Sincerely,
/s/ MARK W. SNEDDON
National Auditor
July 10, 2003

Ready for War

Retired General Frederick Kroesen, (a former Rutgers ROTC classmate), authored a recent article in the Army Times and quoted in the Winter 2002 Cottonbaler. It included the following paragraph:

"The American soldier is second to none in his ability to cope with the demands of an, crisis. But have we taught them that war is a dirty, ruthless endeavor that requires each individual who finds himself in the combat zone be prepared to take lives, establish control and accomplish the mission even at the cost of his own life? We hope that his first thoughts when he meets the enemy will not be of "consideration of others," toleranc and diversity training, but rather the hair bristling of the hunter spotting his quarry. We hope he realizes that his enemy's intent is his destruction, that the enemy's indoctrination and training are designed to produce a fanatical determination to destroy him."

It's a message I had heard 58 years before, but in much more earthy tones. It was my first night on the Anzio Beachhead in Italy in February 1944. I was one of a group of 21 Infantry 2nd Lieutenants reporting for duty with the 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division. We were given our company assignments by the adjutant,

Captain Richard Young, and were then addressed briefly by the Regimental Commander, Colonel Harry B. Sherman. We were in a small barn attached to an Italian farmhouse. The windows were blacked oReady for Warut with army blankets and the barn was dimly lit by the light of a hissing Coleman gasoline lantern, which cast ominous shadows on the floor and walls. The Colonel said, "You're going up as replacements to the best damn Regiment in the United States Army. You'll be expected to live up to the traditions of that Regiment and that Division. You're going to suffer. You came here to suffer. You're going to suffer in everything the Boche can throw at you and you're going to take it like men. Listen to what the men up there tell you about how to kill Germans. You're new but as far as we'r, concerned, you're every bit as good a man, each one of you, as the best men in this Division - until or unless you show us otherwise."

After four years of ROTC, three months of OCS, and several months of stateside training, it all came together and I suddenly understood why I was there, what I was to do, and how I was to do it.

Russ Cloer, WWII Cpt., 7th Infantry, 3rd Division



Sam Buck was awarded the Silver Star for Valor for his actions on OP Harry June 10/11, 1953 at a ceremony held at the Marne Garden, June 13th. As shutters click Buck proudly displays the certificate. The Medal was pinned by Col. John Kidd (right), Ft. Stewart Garrison Commander. Col. Kidd was assisted by CSM Carl Smith (left). Photo by Freeman Bradford

he sustained defending the outpost.

“Sam was in the command post bunker with the (executive officer) and me. On several occasions, grenades were thrown in the bunker, knocking me unconscious and the XO unconscious. Sam stayed there by the door and fired on the Chinese as they tried to come in. He probably killed 10 or 15 every time. “Finally, he was knocked down. His hand was torn up pretty bad and so was his leg, so he lay on top of me and kind of protected me at that time too ... and administered some first aid.

“The Chinese came in. The XO came to and started coughing, and they shot him dead ... Sam stayed up there, ... called in the artillery and effectively stopped the advancement until reinforcements came up.

“Sam stayed up there on that hill until a replacement came for him ... he wouldn't leave until he had a replacement,” Markley recalled. Buck was the forward observer assigned to K Co. and recalled the siege, which occurred nearly 50 years earlier.

Buck also talked about the wounds to

his former commander. Motioning an arch over his head, he said, “His head was split from ear to ear, and his eyeball was out of its socket, lying on his cheek. I cleaned out his socket, put his eyeball back in, and he still has that eyeball today!”

The association holds annual reunions all over the country. One hundred forty-four veterans and family members from all over the country were present for this year's reunion. The group received a tour of Fort Stewart, beginning with the Noncommissioned Officer Academy.

Command Sgt. Maj. Albert D. Newton, commandant, welcomed the pilgrims with a briefing and slide show. Immediately following that, the group saw demonstrations of lessons and facilities at the academy, and then they ate lunch at the Phillip A. Connelly Award winning dining facility. The award denotes the Army's best food-service facilities.

After they left the NCOA, the reunion went to the 1st Battalion, 64th Armor motor pool to see the evolution of Army mechanized vehicles. The static displays were open for the survivors sit in or take pictures on. Soldiers assisted by answer-

ing questions about the Humvee, Bradley Fighting Vehicle, M1 Abrams tank, and M1078 truck..

The next stop for the tour was the Fort Stewart Museum via “Warrior's Walk,” a paved walkway lined with trees commemorating the 35 fallen 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) soldiers from Operation Iraqi Freedom. The 15th Inf. is part of the 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) and held special significance to the survivors, they said. At 4 p.m. the group arrived at Fort Stewart's Marne Garden for the presentation of the Silver Star.

“It should've happened a long time ago,” said Markley. He and Buck were evacuated separately. Subsequently, they completely lost contact with each other until 12 years ago, when the association began holding its meetings.

Three years ago, Markley found out that it was still possible for Buck to be acknowledged for his heroism and gallantry at Outpost Harry. Markley said for three years he pushed for the award to go through.

At 4:30 p.m. Markley got his wish. In front of a color guard, association members, Col. John Kidd, garrison commander, Command Sgt. Maj. Carl T. Smith, garrison command sergeant major, and many family members, Buck was pinned.

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Society of the 3rd Infantry Division

Battlefield Tour

September 24 - 30, 2003

Seoul, Uijongbu Corridor, and
the Iron Triangle; special visit to
OP Howe to view OP Harry.

Roy & Yongshin Montgomery
California Pacific Tours

1475 Huntington Ave, Ste 101
South San Francisco, CA 94080

888.822.5258

info@cptours.com

Website: www.cptours.com



News From The Outposts

3 Lattie Tipton

Ninty Six, SC

Outpost members spent several wonderful days in Pigeon Forge, TN, in May. The weather was great and the hospitality at the Apple Valley Comfort Inn was even better.

Our hosts were Ed Tickle and Bobbie Anderson. Bobbie promised this time not over do it. Last year she served us on china! We wanted her to enjoy her stay—not spend all her time doing dishes. But Bobbie just can't seem to entertain without decorating! She also donated two World War II Marne Division GI Joe sets for a raffle. When tickets were drawn, Clyde Easter and Pauline Guard were the lucky winners and the Outpost gained over \$50.00.

We had a good meeting. Our new president, "Buck" Guard, is getting the hang of things. He presented certificates of appreciation to Clyde Easter, our immediate past president, and to James Cooper, one of our remaining Outpost charter members. He also appointed "Bim" Snipes as Outpost Historian.

Henry Parker, who lives near Pigeon Forge, dropped by after the meeting. He gave our secretary/treasurer dues to convert him from a regular member to a life member and donated \$30 to the Outpost. Congratulations on making this commitment, Henry.

We were blessed by a visit by Bobbie's newest grandchild—a beautiful boy. We invited him and his mom (Bobbie's daughter) and dad along for dinner that night. He was so well behaved. Except for all the admirers, including the wait staff, no one would have known we had a future Marne Division soldier with us.

Members participated in a rousing game of bingo one afternoon. Gleeful winners left with smiling faces and prizes bulging from torn wrapping paper. Three members went AWOL from the games. George Winders, Emory Burkett, and Alta Milling visited a military museum just up the hill from the motel. They were impressed with the displays. One was a life-sized bronze sculpture of a World War II platoon on patrol. The artist portrayed his father as the platoon leader. In fact, his father had been a platoon leader during that war. George, Emory, and Alta highly recommend a visit to this museum if you're in the area.

Outpost 3 members will head for the beach in October. No, this isn't an assault on a beachhead. Many of our members have been there and done that at Anzio and they're not interested in doing it again. This time, we'll be visiting Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, arriving at the Landmark Hotel on October 21 and departing on October 24). Our hosts will be James and Kathleen Cooper, Jimmie and Helen Lea, and Coker and Johnnie Price. Society members are welcome to join us if any are at the beach during that time.

7 Washington, DC

Washington, DC

Outpost 7 continued its tradition of honoring our fallen comrades by conducting impressive wreath laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Day May 30. As hundreds of tourists looked on, 33 Rock of the Marne Veterans, supported by an equal number of spouses and friends, assembled at the Third Infantry Division Memorial in front of the Arlington Amphitheater where they laid a wreath at the base of the Memorial. Following a Minute of Silence in remembrance of our fallen comrades, we paid tribute to the Marne soldiers who fought in WW I, WW II, Korea, Vietnam, Kosovo and who were now performing so magnificently in combat in Iraq.



John Insani, George Otis, Len Werth, & Fred Pechin, placing the wreath at the Third Infantry Division Memorial, Memorial Day 2003.



OP 7 Memorial Day 2003. Photo courtesy Hedi Werth.

Special tributes were also paid to the Marne vets who worked so long and so diligently to get governmental approval for the installation of our division memorial in such a prestigious spot in Arlington. That group included Carl Bernard, Richard Maniscalco, Carl Swickerath, Len Werth, Walt Tardy, Gen Ramsey and many others. That was not an easy task. The group overcame many administrative roadblocks and finally got an Act of Congress passed approving the installation of the Memorial.

After the service at the Third Infantry Division Memorial, the group moved to the front of the Arlington Amphitheater where they formed a cordon down the steps leading to the Tomb of the Unknowns. They then placed a large wreath with blue and white flowers and a blue and white banner at the Tomb. The impressive ceremony was concluded by a playing of TAPS by a bugler from the Army Band.

Both ceremonies were observed by hundreds of tourists. Attendees included but were not limited to: Gen "Dutch" Kerwin, Henry Bodson and June Kaulbach, John Everton, Arnold and Sheila Fieldman, Fred Pechin, Ray and Martha Hergenreder and their daughter Col Cathy Bacon USAF, Arthur and Mrs. Cox, George Cox, Denis Hannon and his son, , Ron McCleary, George Houck, Werner and Joan Michel, Bud Lampert, Ron Conaway, John Everton, Bob Klebart, Jay Lowden, George Otis, Richard Maniscalco, Jim Steiner, Len and to Hedi Werth and John Insani. Following the wreath laying ceremonies, the Marnemen moved to Fort Myer for a social meeting and luncheon at Spates Hall.

For advance planning purposes, our next wreath laying ceremonies are scheduled for Veterans Day Nov 11, 2003 at 2:30 p.m. at the Third Inf. Div. Memorial followed by a wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns at 3:05 p.m. 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. Construction of the WW II Memorial on the Mall in Washington DC is well underway. Dedication is presently scheduled for May 28/29, 2004. Coordination is underway to ensure that arrangements will include accommodations, representation and attendance by our Marne Division WW II veterans.

35 **Audie L. Murphy** Crockett, TX

Enclosed is a copy of the program of June 20-21,2003, in Greenville, Texas. There was also a program in Farmersville, Texas on the evening of the 20th. No published programs were available for that event; however, I have provided an overview in the attached article submitted for publication in The Watch. The Farmersville event featured recognition of each veteran in attendance, by name and branch of service. We took 127 pictures and will send you a couple of the best ones in the near future. Lynn just re-built our computer and does not yet have photo processing up and running. (As you know, Farmersville is considered Audie's hometown.)

Outpost Treasurer, Richard Sack, spoke for the Society and Outpost #35 at the Greenville Museum event. I was asked to speak but felt Richard was the more appropriate speaker due to his WW2 service. My service was in Korea. I did, however, pro-



At the March meeting (l-r), OP Secretary Lynn Ball, OP President Joe Ball, OP Treasurer Dick Sack and his wife Sue.

vide my comments to Richard and these were incorporated into his speech, also included. Outpost #35 was well represented at the programs. We had 14 members and spouses in attendance.

Clyde Easter spoke at the gathering on Friday morning, 6/20/03, in Greenville. He was not supposed to be the keynote speaker; however, his words were spoken with such honesty and sincerity that he was the only speaker to receive a standing ovation at the conclusion of his remarks. Mr. Easter is quite a man.

Audie Murphy Days in Texas

In 1966 the Texas State Legislature set aside Audie's birthday, June 20th, as the annual "Audie Murphy Day" in Texas. In 1999, George W. Bush delivered his Governor's Proclamation to emphasize the Day's importance. Two events honoring Audie are held annually, on Audie's birthday: one in Farmersville, the other in Greenville, Texas.

In Farmersville, on June 20, 2003, a program, honoring all WWII veterans, included a parade with honor guard at 6:00PM and a fly-over of T38s and T39s from Sheppard Air Force Base at 7:00Pm. The program also featured recognition of each veteran in attendance, by name and branch of service as well as a concert of patriotic music performed by the Garland Chorale and Caledonian Pipes and Drums Band and choir presentations delivered by local vocalists.

In Greenville, earlier on June 20, the Audie Murphy American Cotton Museum conducted a program at Fletcher Warren Civic Center featuring events including a military honor guards from FT Hood, TX, and speakers such as Texas Senator Robert Deuell, Leslie Mc Cullough on behalf of State Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson, District Court Judge Joe Bobbitt, Greenville Mayor Jim Morris, former Hollywood associates of Audie's, Paul Picerne (who played Valentino in "To Hell and Back"), and Ben Cooper who starred in western movies with Audie. Both actors were available for photo signings following their speeches. Society of The Third Division speakers included Richard Sack, Treasurer, Outpost #35, and Clyde Easter, President, Anzio Beach Head Organization. During a reception on the afternoon of June 21, The National Order of Battlefield Commissions presented Audie Murphy's Medal of Valor to the Museum. That evening, "Movie Night at the Museum," featured a western movie starring Audie, followed by a closing ceremony at the Audie Murphy statue unveiled and dedicated during the 2002

annual event at the Audie Murphy American Cotton Museum. The statue depicts the event in which Audie earned the Medal of Honor.

Outpost #35 members in attendance at this two-day, two-city event included Leonard and Lula Coble, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Jordan, Ron and Marilyn Miloch, Joe and Lucia Hilderbrand, Mike West, Outpost Treasurer Richard Sack and Sue Sack, Outpost President Joe Ball and Secretary Lynn Ball.

Yours in the 3rd, Joe Ball

54 Golden Gate

San Francisco, CA

May Meeting:

Forty six members and guests greeted our two recipients of our annual scholarship for the outstanding students in the Oakland and San Francisco Jr. ROTC Brigades. They were accompanied by four family members and the two heads of the ROTC departments. C/L TC Roxanne Kelly received the award for being the outstanding cadet in the Oakland Brigade and C/Col. Genaro Negrete was the outstanding cadet in the San



OP 54 scholarship raffle in full swing.

Francisco Brigade.

The awards are given in memory of the 30th Inf. Regt to the San Francisco cadet, and in memory of veterans of the 3rd Infantry Division to the Oakland cadet. The awards are for \$350 each accompanied by the Outstanding Cadet plaques. Our scholarship program is very much appreciated by the two school districts, and OP 54 takes great pleasure in making the awards. Both students will attend college next year and Genaro is planning on becoming an army officer.

Please insert photo # 2.

We were very sorry to hear reports that Bill Strobridge and Ric Cardenas may not be able to attend meetings in the future due to illness. Bill suggested and led our scholarship program for a number of years. Ric handled our OP raffles that support in great part the program. We missed both men very much. These two men received battlefield commission the same day from Regimental Commander Jim Bosweil during the Korea War. Both had distinguished careers in the army, service in Vietnam,

and both retired as Colonels.

We reported on the upcoming reunion in September and the 60th anniversary tour in Aug. 2004. Our next meeting will be held at the Brass Door Restaurant in San Ramon, CA on Nov. 8th.

John Shirley



Cadet Colonels Roxanne Kelly and Genaro Negrete with awards.

Korean Hills

The rugged battle field in Korea,
contained many hills with well known names.
Deadly fighting took place on their slopes,
but sometimes all in vain.

Jackson Heights was such a place,
where a lot of blood was spilled.
The end result was many deaths,
and the enemy controlling the hill.

Outpost Tom and Outpost Dick,
were places of much lesser fame.
Yet, there too men suffered and died,
When shells came down like rain.

Outpost Harry was a critical hill,
one to be held at all costs.

And so men went to their maker,
To insure it would not be lost.

History books on the Korean War,
will have a paragraph that tells.

About the men who defended Outpost Harry,
and how they defended it well.

Donald A. Chase
15th Infantry, 3rd Division

BUENA PARK They were brothers long before they were heroes.

Farm boys who grew up wrestling. Laughing. Rolling wagon-wheel hoops with sticks. And joining the Army.

Through Africa and Sicily, they fought side by side. Then came D-Day and the bloody beaches of Normandy. One survived. One did not.

Today, in a small way, they will be reunited - if only in vinyl. Because the newest action figures to hit the streets are of World War II heroes Walt Ehlers, 82, of Buena Park, and his older brother, Roland.

"Brothers in Arms" they are called. One hundred dollars a set. Accurate down to the working bolt action of the M1 rifles, the entrenching shovel that took a bullet during one of the four times Walt was wounded, even the smile on Roland's face.

The one-sixth-scale replicas are the main attraction at this weekend's convention of military action figures in Ontario that has buyers flying in from Switzerland, Australia, Germany, Japan and England.

"Well, I feel kind of honored," said Ehlers, who is the Normandy campaign's only surviving recipient of the Medal of Honor, presented by the president on behalf of Congress. "I just hope it doesn't give other Medal of Honor men the feeling it's cheapening their honor by doing that, because I'm very respectful of the medal."

And, people learn about history from them, he says. "They start researching it, and I think it helps."

The world of action figures has undergone a revolution since G.I. Joe first landed on American toy shelves 39 years ago. Today it is a \$1.7 billion industry, according to Wall Street estimates.

One niche of that market is military action figures. And of the thousands of models available, only a handful are modeled after real servicemen.

"It's extremely rare," says convention organizer John Lu, whose show last year attracted more than 2,000. "They're all generic. They all have names, but they're not based on a real hero."

Collectors are sometimes called "hard-core Joeheads," a reference to G.I. Joe.

Today's collectors are adults who spend thousands on collections, preserved in dust-proof cases. And they expect accurate

Hero a Living Doll

By **TOM BERG**
The Orange County Register

cy right down to the grenade pins.

About 30 live in Southern California, including Chris Benson, 43, of Irvine, vice president of Fedchex, a finance company. He owns 365 military figures and 33 vehicles - all one-sixth scale - that fill two rooms and a garage.

When word of the Ehlers action figure hit chat rooms four months ago, he says, "It was literally a frenzy, probably five or six hundred e-mails, messages, going back and forth saying, 'When? Where? How much?'"

One reason for the frenzy lies in the remarkable story of Walt and Roland Ehlers. Kansas farm boys, they joined the Army together on Oct. 4, 1940. Roland

LASTEST ACTION HERO

Height: About 1 foot.

Uniform: Made of cloth. Also, canvas leggings, leather boots, and web belt that can hold pistol and canteen.

Action: Can be posed to hold their gear.

Weaponry: An inch-long pistol with a magazine that slides out; hand grenades; knife; bayonet; an M1 Garand rifle with functioning mechanism and an M1 carbine.

Other details: The kit has about 100 parts, including gloves, first aid kit, steel helmet with liner, backpack and shovel.

was 23; Walt was 19.

The brothers joined Co. K, 30th Infantry Regiment of the 3rd Division. They trained together, shipped out together and stormed the beaches of North Africa together. They fought across Africa for eight months. Walt was a mortar man in the 3rd Platoon; Roland a scout in the 1st Platoon.

"I used to see him about a half-mile in front of us," Walt says. "I had a lot of worries because I knew they had guns pointed at him, but he was a good scout and survived."

On July 10, 1943, they made their second beach assault together, taking Gela, Sicily. A few weeks later, a mortar wounded Roland, sending him back to Africa. But by year's end, the brothers reunited in England to train for D-Day.

Three months before the biggest beach invasion of the war, a commander called the brothers into his office to tell them they should increase their life insurance because casualties could reach 50 percent. And the Army was separating brothers after five died on one day, so Roland would remain in Co. K, but Walt would move to Co. L.

On June 6, 1944, more than 57,000 Americans stormed the beaches of Normandy to repel Hitler's invasion of Europe. More than 6,000 fell.

Walt and his 12-man squad were supposed to join the second wave, like his brother did. But the first wave took so many casualties - half died - that Walt was ordered in early.

"The beach was 10 times worse than in 'Saving Private Ryan,'" Walt says. "We weren't prepared for what we saw - chaos, men in the water, lying on the beach and hugging the obstacles. There were boats hit by mines. There were a few vehicles on the beach, all hit, and guys huddled around them, and people lying on the beach, not going anywhere."

His 12-man squad desperately wanted to dig in, but Walt knew better from beach invasions in Africa and Sicily.

"You gotta get off this beach," he told them. "Otherwise you'll get killed."

They made it up 100 yards of beach to some German trenches where they were able to take a German pillbox. All 12 were alive.

Roland wasn't so lucky. His landing ship was hit by artillery. He never made it ashore.

"I used to have nightmares about him," says Walt, now a genteel grandfather. "I had nightmares for 50 years about that. He'd come into my dreams every night. He always showed up immaculately dressed, and he had that smile, and we'd talk. And when I'd wake up, he'd be gone."

In most of his stories, Walt is able to stay upbeat, to laugh - even giggle. Not now.

"He just was always my hero," he says. "And he was my hero up to the day he died."

Walt would receive the nation's highest award for his actions over the next four days. In the hedgerows of France, he took out three machine-gun nests and two mortar positions almost single-handedly, at times with a bayonet.

On June 10, 1944, he and another man

got shot while providing cover for the rest of their company. Shot in the back, Walt first carried his buddy to safety, then returned to get an automatic rifle.

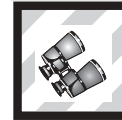
For such "conspicuous gallantry," Ehlers received the Medal of Honor. He is saluted by presidents. Revered by veterans. Invited to hundreds of events. He also holds three Purple Hearts, two Bronze Stars and one Silver Star.

When Dragon Models Ltd. asked him to approve the action-figure prototypes, Walt had but one suggestion.

"They had a real stern look on my brother's face," he says. "But he never did look that way. He had red hair, blue eyes, a kind-of pinkish, ruddish complexion and a beautiful smile. He was happy-go-lucky. I said, 'Put a smile on his face.'"

And so they did.

Contact us: (714) 796-6979 or tberg@ocregister.com



Looking for...

My father, **David J. Dazé**, was very proud to be a member of the 3rd Infantry Division. He would tell me stories of various engagements. I was wondering if anyone had any information on my father (he died in May 1994). His first campaign was in Anzio and he was wounded on January 23, 1945 (he was hit in his eyes with fragments from a land mine). He raised 10 children in Los Angeles, Ca. I understand that he was a 2nd Lt. but may have been a 1st Lt. Anything would be great.

Thanks, *Tim Dazé*

DAZE, D *TIMOTHY tdaze@lawa.org*

David Daze is listed on page 514 of the book, The History of The Third Infantry Division in W.W.II by James Taggart as a 2nd Lt. in the 30th Infantry Regiment.

WYOMING COWBOY POETRY

Jake, the rancher, went one day to fix a distant fence. The wind was cold and gusty and the clouds rolled gray and dense, as he pounded the last staples in and gathered tools to go. The temperature had fallen and the snow began to blow.

When he finally reached his pickup, he felt a heavy heart, from the sound of that ignition, he knew it wouldn't start So Jake did what most of us do, if we'd have been there He humbly bowed his balding head and sent aloft a prayer

As he turned the key for the last time, he softly cursed his luck, They found him three days later, frozen stiff in that old truck Jake had been around in life and done his share of roamin' But when he saw Heaven, he was shocked -- it look just like Wyomin'

Oh, there were some differences of course, but just some minor things, One place had simply disappeared -- the town they called Rock Springs The BLM had been shut down, and there was no grazin' fees, and the wind in Rawlins and Cheyenne was now a gentle breeze

The Park and Forest Service folks -- they didn't fare so well, They'd all been sent to fight some fire in a wilderness called Hell Though Heaven was a real nice place, Jake had a wondering mind, So he saddled up and lit a shuck, not know'n what he'd find

Then one day up in Cody, on a cold fall afternoon, He saw St Peter coming, and he knew he'd be there soon

Of all the saints in Heaven, his favorite was St Peter, Now, this line, it ain't needed but it helps with rhyme and meter

So they set and talked a minute or two, or maybe it was three, Nobody was keepin' score -- in Heaven time is free "I've always heard," Jake said to Pete, "that God will answer prayers, But one time I asked for help, well he just plain wasn't there

Does God answer prayers of some, and ignores the prayers of others? That don't seem exactly square -- I know all men are brothers Or does he randomly reply, without good rhyme or reason? Maybe, it's the time of day, the weather or the season

Now I ain't trying to act smart, it's just the way I feel, And I was wonderin', could you tell -- what the heck's the deal? Peter listened very patiently and when Jake was done, There were smiles of recognition, and he said, "So, you're the one! That day your truck, it wouldn't start, and you sent your prayer a flying

You gave us all a real bad time, with hundreds of us a trying A thousand angels rushed to check the status of your file, But you know, Jake, we hadn't heard from you in quite a while

And though all prayers are answered, and God ain't got no quota, He didn't recognize your voice, and started a truck in North Dakota.



Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir:

I am a recent member of the Society of the Third Infantry Division and was pleased to receive my first copy of *The Watch on the Rhine*. I was very impressed with it and read it with great interest.

Your Editor's column indicated that you invite submissions to your fine publication. So I am submitting the enclosed article in the event that you hadn't previously published anything on the subject. If you have, please ignore the submission.

I was a member of the Medical Detachment, 30th Infantry Regiment, Third Division, from April 5, 1941, to October 2, 1944, and participated in the landings in North Africa, Sicily and Italy with it. After the fall of Rome, I transferred from the division to The Stars & Stripes as a staff correspondent. I served in that capacity until being rotated back to the United States for discharge in July of 1945.

I subsequently joined the South Dakota National Guard and became commanding officer of the 129th Public Affairs Detachment (recently mobilized for duty in the Persian Gulf), retiring in 1980 as a Captain with twenty years combined active and Guard service. My highest enlisted rank as a Third Division soldier during World War II was Tech 3.

I am now a retired newspaper editor, author of several regional history books and an historian. I am looking forward to reading future copies of *The Watch on the Rhine* and am sorry I just missed being included in the Society's roster of members published earlier this year.

Thank you.

Robert H. (Bob) Lee
12189 US Highway 14-A
Sturgis, SD 57785

PS: At 83, I have a hard time recalling the enlisted pay schedule, including those of the technicians, of World War II. It might be interesting to other readers beside myself if you publish the pay rates sometime.

Editor's note: Perhaps our readers would care to provide the above information.

July 5, 2003

To All Good Machine Gunners Everywhere

This letter is in defense of all machine gunners.

When I was in Korea with K Co., 15th Inf. Regt., 3rd ID, we had a machine gunner whose name was Larry Yubanus (spelling?). Larry was a wiry Mexican/American about 140 pounds from Bakersfield, CA.

When Larry went on Patrol he carried his gun in his arms or over his shoulder, laded with a half belt of ammo. Twice in a four month period while he was on patrol with us and we were ambushed, he

fired his gun from his hip and burned his hand severely. Larry was a quick thinker and a man of action. This is not an overblown "War Story". Beside myself there are two other people that can attest to this. They are William Jeffrey and Dale Geise.

Robert Veino
80 Washington St., Apt. E14
Biddeford, ME 04005
207 284 0384

Hi,

My name is Bernard Perry. I served with King Co 15th Inf. 3rd Inf. Div. in the Chorwon area. I recall when we were pulled off line to attend the Bob Hope show, I believe it was Spring of 1953, but it could have been fall of 52. Bob put on a show that has lasted me a lifetime. I do believe it was miss MONROE who called me on stage and after a little talk produced an egg, which she had me put in my fatigue shirt pocket and as you would guess slapped me in the chest, breaking the egg and breaking up thousands of hardened combat vets. She then paid me off with a phony \$1000.00 bill to pay for the cleaning of my shirt. I no longer have the \$1000.00 bill but I have the memories of that one beautiful day in Korea when I was part of putting a smile on many brave and honorable men's faces.

So Mr. Hope with a hardy "Can Do" from me to you, may you have no less than 100 more *Happy Birthdays*. Take care, God Bless and again *Thank You For the Memories*. Bernard E. Perry Sr. 1547 Lakeshore Rd. Chazy, N. Y. 12921-3406

Ed's note: Bob Hope and his show performed in Oct. or Nov. of 1952.

To all Society Members:

The memory of America's World War II generation will be preserved within the physical World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. and through the World War II Registry of Remembrances. This is a listing of Americans who contributed to the war effort and any US citizen who helped to win the war, whether a veteran or someone on the home front, is eligible. There is no charge to register your name. When completed, the list will be available for viewing on the World War II web site. It will also be available for viewing electronically on the grounds of the Memorial once it is dedicated.

To enroll as a member of America's W.W.II generation in the Registry, visit the web site at: www.wwiimemorial.com or call 800-639-4992 & ask for a registration form be mailed to you. It is suggested that this information be given to any of your buddies so that everyone possible is aware of this.

Jim Tiezzi, ERVP

Dear Mr. Drury;

Enclosed is a photo of the 3rd Division Patch displayed on the front lawn of Society Member Bill Harper. Bill Is Secretary/Treasurer of the 601st T.D. "Black Y Boys."

As you know, the 601st was a battalion. Due to a declining membership, the 601st will surrender its flag to the 3rd Division Archives at the 2003 Reunion In St. Louis.

Lynn and I have met with Bill and Dot several times in the last year. Dot's health is not good at this time. I have never seen Bill when he was not wearing his 601st Crest and the 3rd Division Patch on his jacket and cap. We joined Dot and Bill at a church meeting recently, and Bill still wore his crest and the 3rd Patch. Bill wears the Purple Heart and Silver Star Medals, as well.



Bill Harper, of Op 35 proudly shows his 3d Infantry Division sign in his front yard. Courtesy Joe Ball, OP 35

Yours In the 3rd,

Joe Ball, President Outpost #352
2010 Worcester Lane
Garland, TX 75040

Contacting the Veterans Administration

Contact the veterans administration & get the information you need with these toll free numbers.

- Veterans Administration Benefits1-800-827-1000
- Life Insurance1-800-669-8477
- Education (Gi Bill)1-888-442-4551
- Health Care Benefits1-877-222-8387
- Income Vertification & Means Testing1-800-929-8387
- Mammography Helpline1-888-492-7844
- Gulf War / Agent Orange Helpline1-800-749-8387
- Status Of Headstones & Markers1-800-697-6947
- Telecommunications Device For The Deaf-1-800-829-4833

Thanks to Jim Tiezzi for the above.

Effective immediately, submit all material for publication in the "Watch" to :

Alta H. Milling, Editor
4738 Datura Rd
Columbia, SC 29205-2109
(803) 787-7134
e-mail: altav007@aol.com

15th Inf. Regiment Association Dinner

The 15th Infantry Regiment Association invites all Marnemen and their guests and visitors to our 11th Annual Regimental Dinner that will be held at the "Society of the Third Infantry Division" Reunion, in the Airport Marriott Hotel, St Louis, MO on September 19, 2003, at 7:00 P.M.

Our Treasurer, Lloyd D. Whitmer, must have your reservation before September 12, 2003. There will be no tickets sold after that date.

All who have purchased meal tickets may pick them up at the Fifteenth Infantry Regiment Association table in the hotel.

We will have a short program following the dinner. This is an excellent opportunity to visit with your friends, buddies and to make new friends.

Make out the Reservation Form printed below!!!

Will be looking forward to seeing you in St. Louis

Edward E. Dojutrek, President
Fifteenth Infantry Regiment Association

RESERVATIONS

ELEVENTH ANNUAL REGIMENTAL DINNER 15th INFANTRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

AIRPORT MARRIOTT HOTEL
ST LOUIS, MISSOURI
7 PM, 19 SEPT. 2003

YOUR NAME _____

UNIT _____ WWII KOREA
OTHER? _____

GUEST NAMES _____

Choice of Entrees (s)

Rosted Pork Loin @ \$29.00\$ _____

Tender Pan Seared Chicken @\$28.00.....\$ _____

TOTAL\$ _____

Check Number _____

Dinner reservations and payment must be made prior to September 12, 2003 – There can be no walk-ins.

Members of other units are welcome!!

Make Check or Money Order payable to: Treasurer, 15th Infantry Regiment Association and send your dinner reservations and payment to: Lloyd D. Whitmer, Treasurer, 7500 Mose Street, Navarre, OH 44662
330-756-2803 <whitmerld@ssnet.com>

Room reservations must be made with the hotel.

The *USS Hugh L Scott*

The Hugh L. Scott performed a standard of service that exemplified the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States, and did great honor to the exceptional soldier for whom it was named.

By Bob Lee

For many years as a former Third Infantry Division soldier during World War II, I often wondered about the identity of *Hugh L. Scott*. That name was solidly stuck in my memory for two reasons: First, it was the name of the troop transport that carried me (and many others of the Third Division) across the Atlantic for the invasion of North Africa. And, secondly, I watched from the beach as the ship sank after being torpedoed by a Nazi U-boat four days after the initial landings on the coast of French Morocco.

The ship, I subsequently learned, had been built by the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Co, of Sparrows Point, MD, in 1921 and originally named the *Hawkeye State*. It sailed as a passenger liner until taken over by the U. S. Army on July 31, 1941. It was transferred to the Navy in August of 1942 and converted to an attack transport. Recommissioned on September 7, 1942, the ship was renamed the *Hugh L. Scott*.

The *Hugh L. Scott* was assigned as part of Task Force "A" of "Operation Torch," the giant amphibious assault force that crossed the Atlantic under the command of Maj. Gen. George S. Patton, to launch the first offensive move of the war in the European-African Theater. The ship left Newport News, VA, on October 24, 1942, with elements of the Third Infantry Division, including my unit, the Medical Detachment, 30th Infantry, aboard.

It wasn't until we had been at sea several days that the soldiers aboard the many ships in the miles-long convoy were informed of their destination. On October 27, we were given a mimeographed message from General Patton that was marked **S E C R E T** and stated, in part:

"Soldiers:

"We are to be congratulated because we have been chosen as the units of the United States Army best trained to take part in this great American effort. "We are now on our way to force a landing on the coast of Northwest

Africa. "Our mission is threefold:

"First, to capture a beachhead and secure an airport; "Second, to capture the city of CASABLANCA and secure its harbor for our use; and "Third, to move against the German wherever he may be and destroy him."

(See inset for complete message)

I have few mementoes of my two years and eight months of overseas duty that started when the *Hugh L. Scott* sailed out of Newport News to join the convoy headed for North Africa. But General Patton's enlightening message to the troops aboard the many ships in the convoy is one that somehow survived among my souvenirs of that long-ago era. I assume that it was declassified at some point during the past sixty-one years.

The *Hugh L. Scott* approached the beaches at Fedala, French Morocco, early on the morning of November 8th and landed its troops. That's when the vigorous amphibious training the Third Division soldiers had undergone for so long, starting in San Diego Bay months earlier, was put to the test. Those who scrambled down the rope ladders with full packs into the LCI's (Landing Craft Infantry) bobbing in the waves below them hit the beaches minutes later under a barrage of covering fire. The rush to get off the beaches and into defensible positions was hectic despite the relatively light enemy resistance, but largely successful.

Meanwhile, according to Naval records, the *Hugh L. Scott* "then cleared the immediate invasion area, and did not return until 11 November, when she entered the refueling area and then anchored in the exposed Fedhala [cq] roadstead to unload her supplies." "During the evening of 11 November," the Naval records continue, "German submarine U-173 slipped inside the protective screen to torpedo transport Joseph Newes, tanker Winooski, and destroyer Hamberton. *Hugh L. Scott* and the other

transports went to battle stations the entire night, and resumed unloading the next day. "That afternoon, 12 November, another submarine U-130, stalked the transports and torpedoed *Hugh L. Scott*, *Edward Rutledge*, and *Tasker H. Bliss*. *Hugh L. Scott*, hit on the starboard side, burst into flames and floundered, but owing to the availability of landing craft for rescue, casualties were held to a minimum – 8 officers and 51 men. U-173 was later sunk by destroyers, but U-130 escaped."

Our Medical Detachment had set up first aid stations just off the beaches near Fedala and we combat medics could plainly see the burning *Hugh L. Scott* rushing its wounded sailors to shore in its landing craft. However, our first aid stations could provide only limited emergency medical services. So the Navy wounded were hurried past us to the field hospital at nearby Casablanca that had already fallen to our troops.

I often wondered about the fate of those wounded sailors long after I had left the Army after four years and four months of combined domestic and overseas service. Just as I had often wondered about the fellow whose name graced the transport ship that carried me and others of the Third Division to North Africa.

My service with the Third Division following the subsequent invasions of Sicily and Italy ended shortly after Rome was liberated on June 4, 1944. The fall of Rome came after many elements of the Third had spent four grueling months on the Anzio beachhead before smashing the German defenses and moving into the Italian capital.

That historic event, of course, was overshadowed in the war news the next day when Allied troops crossed the English Channel and launched the decisive campaign on the European continent that eventually brought the war to an end. Neither was I with the Third when it took part in the landings in Southern France

that carried it into the heart of Germany by war's end.

It was during the short period that the Third garrisoned and guarded Rome that I transferred to the Mediterranean edition of *The Stars & Stripes* as a staff correspondent. The newspaper sent me to cover the liberation of a cluster of concentration camps around Linz, Austria, in April of 1945 at about the same time that the Third Division was capturing Nurnberg, Germany.

I completed my overseas service as a *Stars & Stripes* reporter and was sent home for discharge in June of 1945. I had been a Tech-3 when I transferred from the 30th Infantry Regiment. But I had to take a voluntary bust to Private "without prejudice" to do it since the newspaper's TO&E did not have a vacancy for my rank at the time. Having come onto the Army's daily newspaper from an Infantry regiment, as its star cartoonist Bill Mauldin had also done, we were among the first staffers to be rotated home on the point system.

I still treasure the drawing that Mauldin made for me of "Willie" of his famous war-time cartoon characters on the trip back to the States. The disheveled "Willie," like his buddy "Joe," brightened the tension-packed lives of the front-line "grunts" while infuriating the spick-and-span Patton, and won him the coveted Pulitzer Prize when he was only 23 years old.

Mauldin drew the cartoon he gave me on a three by five-inch card and auto-graphed it. Like countless other former GIs who admired the talented Mauldin greatly, I was deeply saddened when he died of complications of Alzheimer's in a California nursing home on January 23, 2003, at the age of 81. He had come onto *The Stars & Stripes* from the 45th Infantry Division which also saw considerable combat in the Mediterranean and European theaters.

Although I had been a reporter on a small Minneapolis neighborhood weekly prior to the war, it was my brief stint as a *Stars & Stripes* correspondent during the war that gave a decided boost to my post-war career in journalism. It enhanced my resume and helped me obtain reporting and editing jobs on daily newspapers in Minneapolis, Denver and Rapid City, SD, as well as eventually becoming editor and

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS TASK FORCE "A" OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL

Soldiers:

We are to be congratulated because we have been chosen as the units of the United States Army best trained to take part in this great American effort.

We are now on our way to force a landing on the coast of Northwest Africa. Our mission is threefold:

First, to capture a beachhead and secure an airport;

Second, to capture the city of CASABLANCA and secure its harbor for our use; and

Third, to move against the German wherever he may be and destroy him.

In making our landing, we may be opposed by a limited number of Germans. It is not known whether the French African Army, composed of both white and colored troops, will contest our landing. It is regrettable to contemplate the necessity of fighting the gallant French who are at heart sympathetic toward us, but all resistance by whomever offered must be destroyed. However, when any of the French soldiers seek to surrender you will accept it and treat them with the respect due a brave opponent and future Ally. Remember, the French are not Nazis or Japs.

In our landing, we will be supported by the full might of the American Navy and our own Air Force, both from the sea and from the air. You have been carefully trained in landing operations in conjunction with the Navy.

When the great day of battle comes, remember your training, and remember above, all that speed and vigor of attack are the sure roads to success, and you must succeed — for to retreat is as cowardly as it is fatal. Indeed, once landed, retreat is impossible. Americans do not surrender.

During the first few days and nights after you get ashore, you must work unceasingly, regardless of sleep, regardless of food. A pint of sweat will save a gallon of blood.

The eyes of the world are watching us; the heart of America beats for us; God is with us. On our victory depends the freedom or slavery of the human race. We shall surely win.

/s/ G. S. PATTON, Jr.,

Major General, U. S. A. Commanding.

Reproduced Hq. RLG, aboard *USS Hugh Scott*. October 27, 1942.

S E C R E T

The above is retyped from an original copy supplied by Bob Lee.—Editor

part owner of three weekly newspapers in South Dakota.

The experience also served me well as press secretary to Joe Foss, the Marine ace who earned the Medal of Honor by shooting down 26 Japanese planes in World War II, during the two terms he served as Governor of South Dakota. Foss also died early this year after a spectacular career that included stints as Commissioner of the American Football League, president of the National Rifle Assn., and star of a nationally-syndicated TV show on outdoor sports.

However, it wasn't until after I had retired as a newspaperman in 1986 that I finally learned about the man whose name was on the troop transport that carried me to North Africa so many years earlier. In retirement, I began writing regional history books. One of them was *Fort Meade and the Black Hills*, published by the University of Nebraska Press in 1991. Fort Meade, located one mile east of Sturgis, SD, was established in 1878 and remained an active military post for sixty-six years before being converted (by German POWs from Rommel's elite Afrikan Korps) in 1944 to a VA Hospital. The average age of most frontier military posts in the West was twenty-two years.

In researching that book, I found that it was Second Lieutenant Hugh L. Scott, Seventh Cavalry, who had laid out the boundaries of Fort Meade in 1878. Scott, who had graduated from West Point in June of 1876, was assigned to the Seventh Cavalry on the 26th of that month. That was just one day after the Seventh had been whipped by the Sioux and Cheyenne so decisively at the Battle of the Little Big Horn in Montana, better known as "Custer's Last Stand."

In 1878, the rebuilt Seventh Cavalry under Col. Samuel D. Sturgis, whose son was among the sixteen officers who died with Custer and 192 others of the regiment, was assigned to garrison the newly-established Fort Meade. Lt. Scott, serving with Troop "I" in 1878, later became the regiment's expert in the Indian sign language. He had given sugar, coffee and other rations to a captured Cheyenne chief in payment for teaching him the hand signals used by the Northern Plains Indians to communicate with each other. The lessons were given while the Seventh

It was because he [Maj Gen Hugh Scott] had been an outstanding soldier for almost forty-three years that a troop ship was named for him in 1941.

Cavalry was stationed at Fort Abraham Lincoln near present-day Bismarck, ND, prior to changing stations to Fort Meade.

In the 1890s, the Army launched an experiment of enlisting Indians into fifty-five man companies and one of these companies was assigned to each of the Cavalry and Infantry regiments west of the Mississippi River. These companies, Troop "L," if Cavalry and Company "I," if Infantry, were headed by white officers. Scott commanded the Seventh Cavalry's Indian Troop "L" recruited among the Comanches and Kiowas. This unit completed its service at Fort Sill, OK.

"Ironically, considering "the regiment's" record of fighting Indians, it was Scott's Seventh Cavalry troop that outlasted all of the Indian units." His troop was the last to be discharged in 1897 when the experiment was abandoned. The Secretary of War described the experiment "a failure." Scott, however, considered his own troop to be a success. But only because he remained as its commander during its entire term of service.

In his book, *Some Memoirs of a Soldier*, published in New York by the Century Company in 1928, Scott wrote "Its officers could not be changed around as in white troops." Besides, he added, many white regimental commanders did not want the experiment to succeed. He explained that most of them were angry because two companies of their regiments had been "skeletonized" and converted to

Indian units.

"Innumerable obstacles were thrown in my way by unthinking officers," Scott charged in his book, "and support in Washington was withheld by a change in the Secretary of War." He also boasted that many of the Indians who had served in his troop afterward became leaders on their respective reservations as a result of their training as soldiers.

Scott subsequently rose in rank to become a Major General. He served as Army Chief of Staff in 1914-1917, retired and later returned to active duty during World War I. He retired again on May 12, 1919, at the age of sixty-four and died in 1934. It was because he had been an outstanding soldier for almost forty-three years that a troop ship was named for him in 1941.

It took me a long time to find the man behind the name on the transport I saw sunk off the coast of North Africa so many years ago. Now others of the Third Infantry Division who crossed the Atlantic on that fateful voyage with me know who he was too, if they didn't already know. In any event, in the parlance of Army accolades, the *Hugh L. Scott* performed a standard of service that exemplified the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States, and did great honor to the exceptional soldier for whom it was named.

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