



The Watch on the Rhine

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

Vol. 84 No. 5

"Nous Resterons La"

April, 2003

The 3ID in Kuwait

'Let's get this over with...' 'Let's Roll'

This is a note from a friend who is working as a contractor in the Persian Gulf. His company is providing Logistics Support for Central Command – and he is currently helping equip the US Army and Marine units who are arriving from the States... His description of the military build-up in the Gulf is interesting and encouraging.

Frederick R. Miller, PH1, USN Retired (DAV), Ballston Spa, New York 12020-1041

We've been working round the clock on twelve hour shifts cycling units up to the Kuwaiti border with Iraq. The units fly in with great regularity, are bused to Camp Doha (or to Arifjan), we issue them their vehicles, and in a matter of hours, they are off to their desert encampments.

I'm on night shift, 7pm to 7am. During the last four days, we have cycled through much of the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized). The "Rock of the Marne!" out of Ft Stewart, Georgia.

Under the klieg lights of the hard stands — which are huge concrete grids for staging and issuing the vehicles — I've had the opportunity to ponder the nature of things. The work is physical, and I'm reminded how old and out of shape this retired Marine has gotten. As I compare my own plight with that of the young Americans headed off to do what needs to be done, I can't help but wish I was young again and feeling the vitality and camaraderie that are inherent to the deadly mission of combat. This is not nostalgia for war. It's nostalgia for the ranks; for the 'campfire'; for doing something important.

The chatter about verification and smoking guns and coalitions are mildly annoying to me. I sense, in the determined young faces, that America's soldiers have no patience for the discussion. Though they might be uneasy trying to articulate

it, I believe our men feel righteous indignation that anyone would challenge their purpose. This is a volunteer Army. The sons of liberal elites, and peace protesters are nowhere to be found. It is interesting that the Germans and the Canadians are lagered here at Camp Doha, enmeshed in the high command alongside Czechs and the ever-reliable Brits. But it is America that is under attack, and we need wait for no nation's participation or approval to do what has to be done. The French, of course, are nowhere to be found.

Out under the klieg lights, another Tank Company draws its 60 ton Abrams tanks. All the young faces... Their air journey from Southeast Georgia was long and tiring — but you wouldn't know it from the vigor and care with which they prepare their chariots of war. They have a toughness about them which should reassure Americans, humble our reluctant "Allies," and instill fear in the hearts of terrorists wherever they hide or find sanctuary.

I am reminded of George Orwell's admonition: "We sleep soundly in our beds because rough men stand ready in the night to visit violence on those who would do us harm."

The Company Commander said to me, "Let's get this over with so we can get back home. Let's roll."

It's time for war.

Jeff Cole, Retired Marine

Semper Paratus

■ WITH THE 3RD IN THE KUWAITI DESERT (Dec. 9) — Spewing sand high in the air behind them, hundreds of camouflaged U.S. Army vehicles race across the desert, roaring toward an unseen enemy like some nightmare vision of sand-colored destruction.

"We're close enough for the man in Baghdad to see us."

For now, it's all pretend. But with the Iraqi border less than 30 miles away across open desert, it's

also clear the exercise is a none-too-subtle warning to Saddam Hussein.

"We're close enough for the man in Baghdad to see us," said 1st Lt. Keith Zieber, whose mortar platoon kept to the rear of the attack formation, ready to offer support to forward positions from miles away.

The long-planned war games in Kuwait — along with a command exercise in Qatar that simulates running a full-scale war — are now clearly aimed at Iraq as much as they are designed to prepare U.S. troops for battle.

They are a statement about the fire-power Iraq will face if it does not comply with international demands to account for, and destroy, any weapons of mass destruction.

The exercises come at a critical time. International weapons inspectors are scouring a 12,000-page Iraqi statement on its nuclear, biological and chemical programs. Iraq insists it has

Please turn to **PREPARED** on page 3



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The Watch on the Rhine

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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.

of the Twin Cities.

As many of you probably know our dues and roster management firm chose not to renew their contract on January 1, 2003. Due to the short notice we received, the Excom could not find a replacement in time to take over. Western Region

As I write this article in mid February for the April "Watch" we finally have enough snow on the ground here in the "frozen north" so that it does at last look like winter. We have had our share of cold but little snow until now. All winter the snow storms passed either north or south

Committeeman Martin Markley graciously offered to step in and handle the job until we can appoint a replacement at the September reunion. We all owe Martin a huge debt of gratitude for taking on a very time consuming and thankless position on short notice.

If any Society member wishes to volunteer to accept the position please notify both Martin and Secretary Treasurer Ray Anderson as soon as possible. Otherwise the Excom will be forced to hire an outside contractor to take over.

That will of course raise our expenses quite a bit. A noticeable rise in expenses also almost certainly means a raise in dues will be necessary. It does not make good financial sense to try to operate the Society on a shoestring. Be prepared to discuss a raise in dues at St. Louis in September.

Rock of the Marne!

Jerry Manley

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 energy and creativity to further the Society's objectives. **Nominations must be received no later than June 30, 2003.**

Please provide his or her Outpost, detailed information about the nominee's achievements toward the objectives of the Society 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 on the Society By-laws and the established protocol. Only nominees whose dues are current and who meet qualifications established under the By-laws and awards protocol (as found in the Society's SOP) 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, 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 its objectives

- Member of the Society for at least three years

The Society's President may direct the presentation of other awards and/or certificates.

Awards will be presented at the Annual National Reunion banquet in St. Louis, MO, on Saturday, September 20, 2003.

Please send all nominations to:

Alta H. Milling
Awards Chairperson
4738 Datura Road
Columbia, SC 29205-2109

General Stillwell's Son Dies

Third Divisioners will be saddened to hear of Richard G. Stillwell, III being killed in a tragic auto accident in California in November, 2002. Our condolences go out to his family.

Members who attended the 15th Regimental dinner in Buffalo, NY September 2002 will remember Mr Stillwell and the excellent address he made to our group then.

His father was 15th Regimental Commander from the fall of 1952 to the spring of 1953 and preceded him in death in 1991.

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.

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no programs for developing banned weapons and is challenging the United States to hand over any evidence to the contrary. Washington has released no such evidence, but has repeatedly warned Iraq it must disarm.

"Our presence here is not a mystery," said Col. David Perkins, commander of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team from Ft. Stewart, Ga., which is taking part in the war games that began last week and run into next week. "Part of the calculus is that the enemy is well-aware of our presence and our capabilities."



As we approach Memorial Day Commemorations it is well that we support and pray for our Active duty 3rd Inf. Div. Soldiers who are carrying the banner for peace and freedom for the World. We pray for success in their and their "Comrades in Arms", fight to remove the "cancers" that exist in the areas of responsibility they occupy. Our nation's motto, "In God we Trust", has never seemed more important than today.

We place our trust in God and with the help of such Men and Women as we have in

the 3rd Infantry Division, U.S. Army we are assured, Truth and Justice will prevail.

As your editor, I cannot thank enough, those of you who contribute so much to the success of your magazine, "The Watch on the Rhine." The compliments on the magazine are because of your help. The stories, letters, e-mails and articles you send are preserving the "real history" of our generation. May God Bless you all for saving the Freedom of our great country.

Jim

DUES NOTICES

National will send dues notices during April to all "Annual" members except members of Outposts 5, 15, 35, 60 and 88. Members receiving the notice from national are to send their payment in the amount indicated on the notice to:

**The Society of the Third Infantry Division,
1601 W Woodcrest Ave.,
Fullerton, CA 92833-4531.**

Members of Outposts 5, 15, 35, 60 and 88 are to send their payment to their outpost. Please make payment when the notice is received to ensure continued society membership.

Members Donate to Support New Society Roster

I would just like to take this opportunity to thank all of the members who have made donations to the newly published roster. I am always amazed at the generosity of the membership. Your donation will certainly help contribute to reducing the cost to produce this fine publication.

If any fellow members are still contemplating on sending in a donation, this is to let you know the window is still open. Thanks again. Raymond C. Anderson, Jr., National Secretary/Treasurer

Note from Past National President: This information is to let everyone know that I am still hard at work trying to stay in close contact with our Marne Division. And willing to do what ever it takes to support our troops and society. Will keep you posted. "ROCK OF THE MARNE". —Jerry Cunningham

You Now Have Choice of 3ID Decals

1. Long lasting inside car window silk-screened self-clinging.
 2. General all purpose outside round, blue & white vinyl, 3.25 inches, and has a permanent adhesive. It can be used as a bumper sticker, or on books, suitcases, etc.
- Order either or both
 Donations Accepted : Make checks payable to the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division. Send a #10, stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Carl Q. Topie, 27 Apple Lane, Milford, Ohio 45150.

For Conspicuous Gallantry...



President John Kennedy presents the Medal of Honor to Wilburn Ross, May of 1963. Courtesy Jim Jarboe.

The President of the United States in the name of The Congress takes pleasure in presenting the Medal of Honor to:

ROSS, WILBURN K.

Rank and organization: Private, U.S. Army, Company G, 350th Infantry, 3d Infantry Division. Place and date: Near St. Jacques, France, 30 October 1944. Entered service at: Strunk, Ky. Birth: Strunk, Ky. G.O. No.: 30, 14 April 1945. Citation:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at risk of life above and beyond the call of duty near St. Jacques, France. At 11:30 a.m. on 30 October 1944, after his company had lost 55 out of 88 men in an attack on an entrenched, full-strength German company of elite mountain troops, Pvt. Ross placed his light machinegun 10 yards in advance of the foremost supporting riflemen in order to absorb the initial impact of an enemy counterattack. With machinegun and small-arms fire striking the earth near him, he fired with deadly effect on the assaulting force and repelled it. Despite the hail of automatic fire and the explosion of rifle grenades within a stone's throw of his position, he continued to man his machinegun alone, holding off 6 more German attacks. When the eighth assault was launched, most of his supporting

riflemen were out of ammunition.

They took positions in echelon behind Pvt. Ross and crawled up, during the attack, to extract a few rounds of ammunition from his machinegun ammunition belt. Pvt. Ross fought on virtually without assistance and, despite the fact that enemy grenadiers crawled to within 4 yards of his position in an effort to kill him with handgrenades, he again directed accurate and deadly fire on the hostile force and hurled it back. After expending his last rounds, Pvt. Ross was advised to withdraw to the company command post, together with 8 surviving riflemen, but, as more ammunition was expected, he declined to do so. The Germans launched their last all-out attack, converging their fire on Pvt. Ross in a desperate attempt to destroy the machinegun which stood between them and a decisive breakthrough. As his supporting riflemen fixed bayonets for a last-ditch stand, fresh ammunition arrived and was brought to Pvt. Ross just as the advance assault elements were about to swarm over his position. He opened murderous fire on the oncoming enemy; killed 40 and wounded 10 of the attacking force; broke the assault single-handedly, and forced the Germans to withdraw. Having killed or wounded at least 58 Germans in more than 5 hours of continuous combat and saved the remnants of his company from destruction, Pvt. Ross remained at his post that night and the following day for a total of 36 hours. His actions throughout this engagement were an inspiration to his comrades and maintained the high traditions of the military service.

Citation Courtesy of www.HomeOfHeroes.com.
Submitted by Joe Ball OP 35

National Order of Battlefield Commissions

Is trying to locate all men, WWII, Korea and Viet-Nam, who on the field of battle against an armed enemy received a commission from enlisted or Warrant status to commission status. It may be you or someone you know. Contact: J. Angier, 678 Ocean Dr., St. Augustine, FL 32080; 904.471.7695. e-mail, jnbc@aol.com or, for more info, www.battlefieldcommissions.org

George Jackson Awarded Silver Star

In a ceremony on December 6, 2002 at Ft. Mc Pherson, Georgia, General Larry Ellis, Commander, Forces Command presented Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) George Jackson with the Silver Star.

Captain George D. Jackson, 027821, Infantry, Company "G", 65th Infantry Regiment, 3d Infantry Division, United States Army.

Captain Jackson distinguished himself by heroism in action against the enemy in the vicinity of Manyon-ni, Korea.

On the afternoon and evening of 27 October 1952, Captain Jackson was in command of Company "G" approximately two kilometers forward of the MLR (Main Line of Resistance). At about 1800, after intense artillery and mortar fire the enemy attacked the outpost. Constantly exposed to enemy fire, Captain Jackson moved among his men, coordinating the defense of the outpost and encouraging them until the enemy assault was stemmed. One of his troops had his foot blown off by incoming artillery, Captain Jackson with complete disregard for his own personal safety, went to him under heavy shelling and evacuated him to a defilade position. At 2100 a tremendous



General Larry Ellis, Commander, Forces Command presents Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) George Jackson with the Silver Star. Photo courtesy of Bart Soto

artillery barrage pounded the outpost for 30 minutes with an estimated battalion of enemy attacking through their own artillery fire to storm the outpost.

Captain Jackson's courageous actions and coolness under fire inspired and rallied his men. Captain Jackson's outstanding gallantry in combat and his devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

North Africa Landing, 1942

I am writing about several things that would interest at least some of the WWII Veterans. I thought I would see an article in the paper about the landing in North Africa 60 years ago last November 8th. It made history because it was our first landing in the War.

I live in Washington, DC and there was nothing in the *Washington Post* or the *Washington Times*. The 3rd Division was there along with the 756th Tank Battalion, partially. Somebody dropped the ball on that deal.

The October edition of the *American Heritage* has a great article on General Lucian Truscott. The paper says of the lesser known General, "He was the greatest!" It says whatever he was placed in charge of, he made it a success. The magazine goes on to say, he was smart and never let anything get by him. This is where the "Truscott Trot"

came from. WWII 3rd Division men will remember that.

Our April issue of "The Watch on the Rhine" had a nice article about James Harris of the 756th Tank Battalion and how he was awarded the Medal of Honor for his action in Vagny, France. Within the same article, a soldier wanted to know if Ray Getyn was still alive. I spoke to Dave Redle at our reunion, who knew Ray best. Dave said he felt Ray was dead.

Anyone wanting to reach Dave: Dave Redle, 549 Orlando Ave., Akron, OH, 44320. Dave can tell you more about Ray.

Denis T. Hannan
756 Tank Battalion, 3rd Inf.
Division WWII
5705 Chevy Chase Pkwy, NW
Washington, DC 20015-2521

Water Purification in Korea

The purpose of this article is to get some recognition for the guys who were in "Water Purification" like myself. We arrived in Inchon, Korea sometime in November 1953. I was assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division, 3rd Engr. Bat. Stationed near the 38th parallel. We were a team of six to eight men. Our duties consisted of purifying and supplying drinking water to the different companies and also to the different countries like Greece, Belgium and Australia who were near our outfits. They would drive through our waterpoint daily and we would pump from 250 gallons up to a 1000 gallon

tanker truck. The 250 gallons were small trailer tanks towed by smaller trucks.

We were an engineering team who provided for ourselves. Guard duties by night, work team by day. We were separated from our main company up to five miles sometimes because we had to be where it

We were an engineering team who provided for ourselves. Guard duties by night, work team by day.

was handy to find water to be drilled, pumped and filtered into our big prefab tanks. We were trained to set up or tear down within an hour to be moved to another location if need be. At night it was a different story because we were raided constantly, so it was touch and go many times. The truce had already been signed but it didn't stop the raids by the South or the North Koreans. It was hard to tell sometimes which side was raiding us. Good thing we had a few spare pre-fab tanks for the water. We were lucky in most of the raids because they would do most of the damage to our company five miles past us. I will not go into any details about the raids.

During my 17 1/2 months in Korea I was on at least four different waterpoints with a great bunch of guys from 1953-1955. We moved to Japan in late 1954 and we thought we were out of Korea, but we were ordered back within two weeks and told that our battalion had to replace a Marine battalion who was pulling out of Korea. Also, a bunch of us were transferred from from the 3rd Infantry Division to the 24th Infantry Division, 3rd Combat Engineers. We took over a Marine waterpoint when we returned.

I would like to see some recognition for the Water Purification Units that served in Korea back then, and after. Some names of the guys I served with were Robert Taylor, James Buckley, Jim Hartzell and last names only of Szada, Camp, Wyss, Lesley, O'Leary and Richards (1955).

Donald E. Putnam
5 Brookside Ct
PO Box 96
Gt. Barrington, MA. 01230-0096
413-274-3736



Clockwise from top left:
● Don Putman at water purification unit in the 3rd Infantry Division in Korea.

● Don Putman with a 3rd Division water tanker in Korea.

● Don Putman and Pfc Richards while with the 24th Division.

Errata

Joe Poggi and Larry Driscoll were improperly listed in my report on the Korean War Veterans reunion, printed in our Feb. "Watch". It was a case of mistaken identity, for which I am sorry, and apologize for the error —Martin Markley

Please note there was an incorrect spelling of two names listed as new members in the February issue of the "Watch.. The correct listings are:

- #6116 GARGIULO, ALPFONSO P OP5
- #6122 GARGIULO, RENATO A OP5

National Reunion Planning

2003 Reunion

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

2004 Reunion

Savannah, GA
Marne Association



News From The Outposts

3

Lattie Tipton

Ninty Six, SC

Members of the Lattie Tipton Outpost gathered in Columbia, SC, for their annual meeting February 12-14, 2003. Eighteen members and family members enjoyed a busy time.

We met at Lizard's Thicket, a local family-owned chain of restaurants, for our Valentine's Day dinner on the 13th since some members had to leave the next day. Buck and Pauline Guard bought a long-stemmed red rose for each lady - what a nice surprise.

On Friday those who remained were taken on a "windshield tour" of Fort Jackson complete with historian, Mr. Fred DeMag. Mr. DeMag passed out aerial photos of Fort Jackson taken in the late 1940s. Tank Hill seemed to be the only thing that hadn't moved. Some of us were fooled by the name "tank." It turned out to be a large water tower.

We stopped for lunch at the NCO Club and were visited by several members of Fort Jackson's Audie Murphy Club. They learned some things from us and we learned what is required to be recommended for induction into the Club.

Next we went to a World War II era chapel for a ceremony to remember those Outpost 3 members who have gone on ahead. Outpost chaplain Jimmie Lea recited the 23rd Psalm, Bob Farrington and Coker Price read the names of those on our honor roll. Chaplain (LTC) Linda George provided music for us and sang the most touching song about another soldier going home which brought tears to the eyes of most of us. Chaplain (LTC) Avi Weiss gave us a lesson on the value of life. The program included posting and retrieving the colors and we had a sharp-looking color guard in freshly pressed fatigues. The color guard also posted a POW/MIA flag, sitting it by itself as if in a place of honor.

Next we went through the museum. Last we stopped at the PX for a short time before boarding our bus for the trip back to the hotel. Our bus driver for this adventure was Drill Sergeant (SSG) Scott Linder. He was awed by some of the things he learned on the tour. For example, a parade ground named after Colonel Darby of Darby's Rangers brought forth some "Oh, yes. We know him. We had to rescue him and his rangers once near Anzio." Sergeant Linder didn't let us off the bus until he talked to us. He told us he was very glad to have had the honor to meet us and spend the day with us. He told us that he was going to pass along his experience with us to his soldiers. As we left the bus, most gave SSG Linder a tip in way of saying "thank you." He gave each of us his dazzling smile but snagged Outpost Secretary/Treasurer Alta Milling before she could get too far away. He said he didn't want to embarrass anyone but couldn't take the money. He asked if we had a fund for Outpost because

he'd like to put the money into that fund. Alta thanked him sincerely.

We presented certificates of appreciation to each person who helped with this tour and also presented one to Judie VanPatten of the AmeriSuites where we stayed. We highly recommend the hotel.

Our next gathering will be in Pigeon Forge sometime in May.

Alta Milling

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 Veterans Day Nov 11, 2002.

As hundreds of tourists looked on, Rock of the Marne Veterans, supported by a number of spouses and friends gathered at the Third Infantry Division Memorial in front of the Arlington Amphitheater. After laying a wreath at the Memorial, and after a minute of silence in honor of those Marnemen who are buried in Arlington and in other national cemeteries around the globe, John Insani assisted by George Otis and Thomas Twomey paid tribute to the Marne soldiers who fought in WW 1, WW II, Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf War and to those who were now wearing the blue and white shoulder patch in Kosovo. Recognition and support was also paid to those serving in the THIRD at Ft Stewart and who were now preparing to support our actions in Afghanistan. John then announced that the National Headquarters had recently recognized the outstanding and continuing support and dedication of Gen Walter "Dutch" Kerwin to Rock of the Marne activities and had granted him an Honorary Membership. That announcement was met with a loud round of "Rock of the Marne" applause. Gen Kerwin, who was in attendance, is a WW II Marne veteran who was wounded at Anzio.

Following the ceremony at the Third Infantry Division Memorial, the veterans moved to the tomb of the Unknown Soldiers where they formed a cordon down the steps leading to the Tomb where a large wreath with blue and white flowers and a blue and white banner was laid at the Tomb by John Hudson, Arnold Fieldman, Leonard Lewane and Bud Nelms. TAPS was then played by a bugler from the US Army Band. Other attendees included but were not limited to: Gen Kerwin, Hank Bodson and June Kalbach, George and Mrs. Cox, Harold Davis, Janet Hudson, John Insani, Werner and Mrs. Michel, George Otis, Sherman and Mrs. Pratt, Thomas Twomey and Alta Milling and Leonard and Hedy Werth.

For advance planning purposes, our next meeting and wreath laying ceremonies are scheduled for Memorial Day May 30, 2003 at 11:35 a.m. at the Tomb in Arlington National Cemetery.

A social meeting at one of the Ft Myer Clubs will follow the ceremonies. Any and all Marne men and their spouses and friends who are in the Washington, DC area at that time are welcome to join Outpost 7 in paying tribute to our fallen comrades.

John Insani

15 Arizona Renegade

Phoenix, AZ

There were 18 OP 15 Members at the recent dinner meeting held at Brother's Café in Glendale, AZ. The Members voted unanimously to rename the OP, "Arizona Renegade OP 15".

Six members intend to be at the Reunion in St. Louis, MO this coming September. Member Don Gosset is visiting from Iowa.

Charles Obee is still ill but Carl Swanson is on the mend.

Carl Duncan

17 Russell Dunham

St. Lewis, MO

Our Christmas dinner/quarterly meeting was held on December 14, 2002 at the Shrine Restaurant at Our Lady of the Snows. The meeting was called to order by President Roger Lochmann. The minutes included discussions about the planning of the upcoming reunion, which now has been finalized. After we enjoyed our delicious dinner, we exchanged our gifts. The food was great, the atmosphere was full of holiday cheer and the staff was friendly and accommodating. Could this be the restaurant for our annual Christmas party? Your opinions are appreciated.

In attendance: Paul Ambro; Jim Beckman; Don Coats; Earl and Doris Duckworth; Maggie Fears; Ray and Susan Feltmeyer; Billy and Ursula Gray; Ralph and Emma Hall; Ann Hindman; Carol Iven and daughter Patty Iven; Wimpy Kenner and Marilyn Wallace; Esley and Bernadine Kronk; Roger and Pearl Lochmann; Lay and Nattie Lovitt; Bob Meeker; Matthew and Becky Riester; John and Helen Schneider with son, Dave; Tony and Joan Sokol with daughter Donna Johnson; Winfred and Jerri Stafford; Cindy and Mark Stobie; Jack Swatske; Mike Swatske; Jerry and Maxine Tomes; Neil and Maryann Van Dermuelen; Jack and JoAnn Wells; Ken and Julie Witteaker and my mother Reta Wilhelm. A total of 47 were in attendance. What a great Christmas party! I would like to thank everyone for making it a most enjoyable Christmas.

Well a new year is upon us and quite a year it is going to be for Outpost 17! The Annual National Reunion plans are finalized and can be found in the February Watch on the Rhine. All Outpost 17 members who wish to attend need to fill out the registration form in the Watch on page 29 and send it to the address provided prior to August 15, 2003.

Looks like our itinerary will make for a most enjoyable reunion. And for any member who has never attended a reunion, a real memorable experience awaits you. It's a time to reunite with old buddies and make new ones. Becky and I have always enjoyed them since we started attending the reunions in 1997. A hearty salute to the Reunion Committee for a job well

done. (P.S. did you note the nice layout on page 28 of "The Watch on the Rhine" for our reunion? Great job!!) More info to follow in future newsletters.

Matt Riester

22 Albert Miceli

Southern California

Outpost 22 February meeting The February 22nd meeting at Art and Evelyn Weldon's lovely home in the hills of San Diego was well attended with thirty plus people in attendance. As usual the meeting was a very lively one with topics ranging from installing an additional monument at Riverside National Cemetery to the annual picnic at Yorba Regional Park in May.



Members of OP 22 in attendance at the February meeting were, (l-r) Jim Jarboe, Jesse Ugalde, Art Weldon, Jack Sneddon, Martin Markley, Roy Holder, Andy Scullion (OP President), Peggy Scullion (acting Sec/Tr), Jim Hoff, Warren Booth, Fred Scherning and Dave Martin. Courtesy Jim Jarboe.

One of the highlights of the get together was the introduction of Dave Martin and his Korean War sidekick Fred Schernig, both of whom served in combat with M. company, 15th Regiment. Although not on outpost Harry, they supported with a battery of 75mm Recoiless Rifles, Captain Martin Markley's K company who were defending outpost Harry.



We meet again after 51 years. Fred Schernig, Martin Markley and Dave Martin enjoyed one another's company at the OP 22 meeting in San Diego, CA. Both Fred and Dave served under Company Commander Markley with M Co., 15th Inf. Regt., 3d Inf. Div. In late 1952 in Korea. Courtesy Jim Jarboe.

Dave brought lots of photos from over there to share with the membership including a Chinese propaganda banner the ill advised Chinese hung in front of their positions. They must have been drinking too much rice wine to hang that in front of the 15th (Can Do) Regiment-or could it be that they have a warped sense of humor? Anyway Dave and his mates had a good laugh at it, and Dave brought it home with him. Dave just transferred to op 22 from op 35 in Crockett, Texas, and is a very welcome addition.

We had been looking forward to having Carl Duncan and Carl Swanson from op 15 in Phoenix, Arizona honor us with their presence at the meeting, but due to them both being under the weather ,they had to regretfully cancel. However Carl Duncan with whom I spoke to on the phone promised me that he and his wife will be at our annual picnic in May.

Lise Pommois from France was at our get together. This lovely lady is one of the 3rd Infantry Division Society's staunchest supporters, and travels all the way from France to be with us at just about every reunion. She is a very welcome guest-as she was at our February 22, 2003 meeting.



Margaret Markley and Lise Pommois enjoy the conversations during social time at the OP 22 meeting in San Diego in February. Lise, an Associate Member of the Society, was visiting from her home in Niederbronn, France. Courtesy Jim Jarboe.



Art and Evelyn Weldon hosted the February 22, 2003 OP 22 meeting at their home in San Diego.

Jim Jarboe showed the membership photos he has taken of our various dedications. Jim is a considerable photographic talent as evidenced by his display. Jim absorbs the cost of pho-

tographing the history of op 22 out of his own pocket and never asks to be reimbursed, which says a lot for him.

My wife Peggy has been standing in for want of a secretary/treasurer, she is doing such a good job I'm afraid the fellows are reluctant to volunteer. Hopefully someone will at the picnic when all the offices-including mine-will be open for election.

The Weldons were as hospitable as usual, and put on a sumptuous catered Chinese feast. I can't remember the names of all the Chinese dishes let alone spell them, but there was more than enough for everyone with Evelyn going around trying to coax everyone to eat some more. Art and Ev are wonderful folks, and a great time was had by one and all.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew M. Scullion



Audie L. Murphy

Crockett, TX

Founder Honored for Part in Liberation of France

Dallas, Texas, June 6, 2002: Bill R. Harper, one of the founders of Audie Murphy Outpost #35 of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division, was honored at a ceremony in Dallas, Texas, on June 6, 2002, for his participation in the liberation of France from the Nazi occupation during World War II. Bill was attached to the 3rd as a member of the 601 st Tank Destroyer Battalion. The 601 st performed admirably working with the 3rd in WW2. Bill is currently Secretary-Treasurer of the 601 Black "Y" Boys, which is a unit of Sledgehammer #333, Society of the 3rd Infantry Division.

At the special June 6th ceremony, Consul General of France in Houston, Denis Simonneau, joined Texas Governor Rick Perry at the Dallas V A Medical Center to honor approximately 40 Texas veterans in attendance. Shown in the photograph depicting the presentation of the certificate, from left to right, are Governor Rick Perry, Bill Harper (recipient), and Denis Simonneau.



From the left, Governor Rick Perry, TX, Bill R. Harper & Denis Simonneau, French Consolat. Courtesy Joe Ball.

Perry served as the keynote speaker and joined Simonneau in presenting the veterans with "Thanks You, America" certificates on behalf of the French Government. These certificates expressed the appreciation of the French people for the sacrifices made by the Allied soldiers, sailors, and aviators.

A panel of four veterans of the D-Day invasion participated in a discussion, describing some of their experiences. Serving on the panel were Maj. Gen. Harold Parfitt (USA Ret.), awarded the

Purple Heart as a combat engineer at Omaha Beach on D-Day; Lt. Col. Russell Darkes (USA Ret) who served in the Southern France invasion with the 36th Infantry Division (Texas Army National Guard); Robert Cash (Army Air Corps), who is a former prisoner of war and who flew a bombing mission over Normandy on D-Day as a B-24 Liberator crew member; and Lewis Bryan (US Navy), who served offshore Utah Beach on D-Day as Commanding Officer of YMS-377 (minesweeper).

Outpost #35 will hold its Spring Meeting at Hill's Restaurant in Austin, Texas, hosted by Ed and Jane Dojutrek on March 22, 2003.

Members will be called to their seats with a recording of "Dog Face Soldier" from To Hell and Back, suggested by James and Del Timmens. The meeting will open with the Invocation, by Chaplin Richard L. Addison, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The agenda will begin with a message from the Outpost President, Joe Ball, followed by the introduction of our Outpost Secretary, Lynn Ball, and the Treasurer's Report, by Richard Sack. Meeting minutes, old business, and new business will be presented in accordance with the Rules of Order. Those in attendance will then set the date, time, and location of the next meeting. Speakers: Kathy Kirk, a well-known local artist, will speak on art and display some of her works, which we saw at our Fall 2002 meeting in Fredericksburg, Texas. They are absolutely great. Dick Sack, will speak on his experiences as a medic in Divarty in WW2. Meeting invitations were mailed to all members as a part of our March Newsletter.

*Lynn Ball,
Secretary, Outpost #*



L to R Clarence Draine OP 88 WWII & Korea, 15th Inf., Regt., 3rd Inf. Div. and Andy Maffucci, Sec/Treasurer OP 88, 39th FA, 3rd Inf. Div. Korea. They were participating in the Veteran's Day parade in 2002.

Andy Maffucci, the Outpost Sec/Treas. reports his outpost participated in the Veteran's Day Ceremonies in Colorado Spring in November, 2002.

Swatske on Duty

Around Valentine's Day each year the Veterans Administration pays tribute to hospitalized veterans (National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans). As usual, Russell Dunham, Kenneth Whitteaker and I attended the program at John Cochran V.A. Hospital in St. Louis. For reasons previously published in "The Watch," I introduce Russ to the assembly and then read his citation for the Congressional Medal of Honor. It so happened that this year was the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Women's Marines and a few of those ladies were being honored including one who had enlisted in 1943.

Quite a few male Marine veterans were present also. As a couple of the ladies sang the women's Marine song, Russ nudged me and said maybe ought to sing "The dogface Soldier." I said, "Not me, buddy." The upshot was that after I introduced him and read his citation, Russ said a few words and then told everyone that I would sing the 3rd Division song. What could I do? Well, I sang "The Dogface Soldier" and gave it all I had. Now this was a day for the Marines and there I was singing, "I wouldn't give a bean to be a fancy pants Marine!" Wow!

Jack Swatske

Editor's note: Way to go Russ and Jack!

57 Western Reserve

Ohio

Only a short bit of news from here: OP #57 meets every May and November for fellowship and to discuss any and all issues that have been reported to us concerning the Society of the Third Division and veterans' affairs in general. Also of interest, occasionally one of our members will present a program relating to his experiences while serving on active duty with the Third.

Our next meeting will be held Tuesday, May 6, 2003, at 12:00 noon. We meet at Troyer's Dutch Heritage Restaurant at Bellville, Ohio, 720 St. Rt. 97, at I-71, exit 165, approx. 12 miles south of Mansfield, Ohio. It will be a family style lunch (Amish Style Cooking) with 2 meats, usually chicken & roast beef with all the "trimmings" & pie. If a person leaves hungry, it is his fault. The price is \$13.00 per person. If any members will be in our area at that time, by all means come eat with us.

If any members plan to attend the luncheon, please call 4 or 5 days in advance; the restaurant needs your reservation. Call either Don Wingerberg in Cincinnati at 513-738-3901 or Lloyd D. Whitmer in Navarre at 330-756-2803.

Normally 20 of our members plus guests and/or spouses attend for a total of 40 to gather around a well-laden table.

We are always interested in any Army memorabilia that you would care to bring and share with us.

*Lloyd D. Whitmer,
Sec & Treas OP #57*

84th Annual Reunion

Sept 18-21, 2003 ★ ★ ★ St Louis MO

See pages 28-29

Memories Outside of War

By Harold Taylor

I was a radio communication Sgt with the 15th Inf. Regt. and participated in all the 3rd Inf. Division campaigns and amphibious landings, yet within these days of combat were some very memorable days.

After the fighting ceased with the taking of all of French Morocco and Casablanca did the time come that I would have an opportunity to go into Casablanca. Spent the afternoon there with a few soldier friends, followed by a luncheon with a couple fine French ladies.

Casablanca was also a memorable time with the Casablanca Conference attended by Winston Churchill, President Roosevelt, and by French, American and British Generals. That conference decided future action against the Nazi War machine, that of unconditional surrender.

In our move toward Tunisia we traveled across N. Africa passing through Oran and then making a brief stop at Phillyville, a small port town on the far northeast corner of Algeria. There at a prominent hotel courtyard I enjoyed a cup of tea with some British lads that occupied the building.

Another memorable moment took place on July 10, 1943, The landing at Licata, Sicily under the cover of darkness. On hitting the beach I kicked a small object, picked it up and stuck it in my pocket. At daybreak in viewing what I kicked, I found it to be a small Italian prayer book. I still have it as I carried it with me for the remainder of the war and then home.

When Rome fell to American forces I wound up setting up operations near the famous Coliseum. Our stay in Rome gave me an opportunity to visit St. Peters and take in a stage show at the Rome Opera House. It was Erving Berlin's stage show "This is the Army".

I still have among my artifacts the program for that event. On our move into northern France, the taking of Strasburg provided me an opportunity to visit it's famous Cathedral with the famous Rose Window.

With the crossing of the Rhine River and viewing the Danube river became a reality, that before I could only dream about. I feel extremely fortunate for having had this privilege that so many were denied.

Book Corner



3rd Printing

The History of the Third Infantry Division in World War II

The Battery Press is pleased to announce another printing for the History of the Third Infantry Division in World War II. First published in 1947 and reprinted by The

Battery Press in 1987, this massive (575 pages) history traces the division from its early wartime days at Fort Lewis to initial combat in North Africa, the bloody battles in Italy, to victory in southern France and Germany. It is the most comprehensive history for any unit in WWII. It has 286 photos/drawings and 38 maps in a large 8 1/2"

by 11" format.

Copies are available at a retail price of \$59.95 plus \$4.00 for shipping (it weighs almost five pounds). To order, send a check or money order for \$63.95 or credit card details (name as it appears on the card, card number, expiration date, shipping address) to the address below. Credit card details can also be faxed or emailed.

The Battery Press

PO Box 198885, Nashville, TN 37219

Phone or fax: 615-298-1401: Web page – <http://www.sonic.net/~bstone/battery>: Email – batterybks@aol.com

Autobahn to Berchtesgaden

When recently ordering a reprinting of my above book I over ordered (The larger the number ordered, the cheaper each individual book). The surplus copies now sit in my garage - and, unless distributed,

FREE BOOKS

will just go to waste and be a burden on my widow when I expire.

My story in WWII is much the same as the experiences of any other of my Marne Division, comrades and will provide the best account available of the campaign routes and battles that we all struggled through. If my comrades have not written their own accounts and want to leave behind for their progeny a record of what they did in WWII, a copy of my book will come closest to meeting that need.

I will provide free a copy, or copies to any WWII 3rd Division vet who will let me know the name, or names of their children so long as my stock remains (remit only \$4 per book for postage and handling). I will sign as desired.

My book with the true and authentic account of the capture of Berchtesgaden in May 1945 by the Third Division, is particularly poignant and compelling now after the false account by the late historian Stephen Ambrose in his Band of Brothers, that a Bn of the 101st Airborne was first there.

Send orders to: Sherm Pratt
15121 S.o 20th St,
Arlington V A 22202.

In Support

(Messages to our Active Duty 3rd Division Troops)

To: First Sergeant
Co. B, 10th Engr. Bn.

"Go get 'em, guys!"

Dan Griffith
Co. B, 10th Eng. Bn. 1957-59
Box 2054
Covington, KY 41012
.....

To our men and women of the 3rd Div.:
As a vet of WW2, being overseas and away from your love ones is not a good

time in your life. I know that you will do what is expected of you and you will do it well. You will hear about people against committing our troops in a war but they are in the minority. The people of America will support you in what you are doing. As an old dogface, I respect you all and hope for your safe return home. May God Bless all of you.

Pete Buongiorno
30 Reg. Co L
Toms River, NJ



Letters to the Editor

I am conducting research for a book on African-American world war veterans and would like to conduct interviews with those (vets and their families) willing to share their experiences. Please contact Lisa Daniels at (916) 455-5816 or e-mail me at: sweetiepiepress@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your participation.

From: As we enter the new year, the 3rd Infantry Division is again being called on to distinguish itself in time of crisis. President Bush has appeared numerous times recently at the Fort Stewart, the home of the 3rd. It appears his reason for such visits has led up to the 3rd Division being called to serve in the Persian Gulf. I receive the Fort Stewart daily paper so know President Bush has visited more than just a few times. Whether or not the Division's service in past wars had anything to do with



Harold Taylor holding a book he recommends for reading, "The Greatest War", Americans in Combat by Gerald Astor

The President's visits is hard to say but could have been a major reason. What all this is going to entail depends on what direction Iraq takes. If it is war the 3rd will be deeply involved. If negotiations can result into some understanding, then I believe the Division being their had a lot to do with a peaceful solution.

As I served with the 3rd in WWII, I retain great interest in our 3rd Division. They have distinguished themselves in past wars and I

know that whatever is asked of them, they will do the same in the Persian Gulf.

Over the years, I have watched many war stories that were televised on the History Channel and more recently on Oliver North's War Stories on the Fox News channel. Many of those I watched, I felt I was there participating. What bothers me is there is very little footage about the 3rd Infantry Division and the action seems centered around some other division. As an example, I recently watched a war story by Oliver North on Sicily and the Italian campaign. It was a tremendous showing and so realistic, I felt a part of it because I was with the 3rd in all of it. The

entire episode was centered on the 45th Division. Outside of Audie Murphy's "To Hell and Back," there seems little information about the 3rd's involvement in the War, yet their record is unsurpassed.

Yours truly,

Harold J. Taylor
6641 Hazelett Rd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46835-9799

Jim Drury,

Pictures I took prior to entering Germany were taken with a small plastic, "point and shoot" camera with no focus or exposure controls. Censorship regulations prohibited mailing undeveloped film home. So I had to find a local photographer who had the materials to develop and print the negs in a "war zone," so I could mail them home. I traded rations in exchange for the



TOP: PFC Steele in Southern France (Razor sharp shell fragments on the roads tore up tires). BOTTOM: Champagne Campaign - Southern France. Courtesy Russ Cloer.

service when I could find it. Some film was lost. Scratched negatives and under or over development added to the poor quality. Most of the prints were about 3x4 on matte paper.

In the 58 years since then, we have moved four times and all of the negatives were lost. But I still have most of the 2x3 original prints. I have a good scanner and printer with which I can make copies of the old prints or I can scan them and send the image by Email. "Half a loaf is better than none at all!"

I enclose two prints, scanned and copied on glossy paper.

Russ Cloer

The Ambush of K Co. 15th Infantry

This is more about the ambush of Co. K as told in our August 2002 "Watch."

We were ready to leave the MLR as soon as it got dark that night but the Chaplain didn't show up on time to give us his blessing. They made us wait well over an hour, therefore we got a real late start.

I have forgotten the real name of the fellow who got killed but he was a well liked guy who everybody called Red. Red had enough points and was going home in a few days. Red didn't have to go out with us that night but did because he wanted to stick with his best buddy, Amburgy.

Red got hit when the Chinese opened fire on us. We fell back a few feet and lined up on the edge of a rice paddy and returned fire. A parachute flare went off: Amburgy went and picked Red up in his arms faced the Chinese and started cussing. Both sides stopped firing. The flare went out. We got our group together and started back to our MLR.

We ended up in a mine field in another outfit's sector of the MLR. We stood in the mine field until they sent somebody down to lead us through the mine field.

The next morning, about 10 AM, M/Sgt Curry volunteered me and three or four others to go back out where we were ambushed and retrieve a few weapons that were left behind.

Robert N. Veino
108 Pool St. Apt 3B
Biddeford, ME 04005
207-284-0384

Editor's note: The above is written as a continuation of John Battaglia's report in the August, "Letters to the Editor" column.

Nettuno Landing Remembered

Dear James,

It is a long time that I don't write you but I "The Fighting Paison" am always present at every ceremony of the War Cemetery of Nettuno.

For instance also this year "Fighting" against cold I was there honoring our fallen Comrades buried. I was the only US Veteran attending the ceremony with the Italian Officials. I was alone, but I represented all the U.S. Veterans that fought with me at the Beachhead landing there on January 22nd 1944 at 2:00 AM and crossing that gelid waters.

While the Taps played by the Band of Carabinieri my heart

jumped to remember our Fallen Comrades who gave their lives for the cause of Liberty.

Followed the ceremony of placing a reproduction in marble of the "Two Towers" and the Two Mayors of Anzio and Nettuno with their speeches exalted the sacrifices of the Americans soldiers buried there, con Saddam's obstinacy to hide dangerous weapons. Again I urge Veterans of the 3rd Infantry passing through Rome to not hesitate to call or write me at Via Pasquale del Giudice nr.15— 00175 Rome. I am honoured to take them at the Beachhead Frontlines where they fought.



Alfonso Felici with Major Emile Kowal Assistant to the Military Attache at the American Embassy of Rome, stand alongside the reproduction of "The Twin Towers" placed in front of the American War Cemetery of Nettuno during the commemoration of the 59th Anniversary of the landing at the Beachhead, 1944. Courtesy Alfonso Felici.

I am sending my regards to my comrades John Shirley, Fred Scarpa, Mario Lucido, Chester L. Hunter, John Fagan, and all U.S veterans hoping to see them in Rome.

I assure you until I live I will be present at every Ceremony at the Cemetery of Nettuno representing you all.

Best wishes Yours at the 3rd,

Alfonso Felici F Co,
30th Inf. Regt., 3rd Inf. Division
Via Pasquale del Giudice, 15
00175 ROME, Italy
Tel. 06 7108459

Please insert Photo # 8, Courtesy Alfonso Felici.

Editor, Watch on the Rhine

As you are well aware, the Division was called upon to furnish replacements for units which had been over run at Kasserine Pass in February 1943.

I landed with the Division at Fedala on 8 November 1942 and participated in the taking of Casablanca as a Battery Executive Officer. (I had been called to active duty on 14 June 1941.)

All officers of the 39th FA Bn. were interviewed and given the opportunity to volunteer rather than to be selected to fill a quota. I DID volunteer. At any rate, I joined Battery C, 2nd Bn, 17th FA as the Battery Executive and fought with it thereafter in Tunisia, Sicily, Italy, Southern France, the Rhineland and eventually Germany. I had commanded the Battery as CO since sometime in

Italy, and of course, made Captain. The 17th FA Bns were a part of the 13th FA Brigade, a National Guard unit. Though we transferees from the 3rd Division were integrated into those units, as well as into supported Infantry, and others, it is my belief that an underlying resentment of those transferees existed within all ranks of the Guard initially and, in many instances, continued throughout the conflict. (A sort of hometown crowd against new arrivals.) I think it would be interesting to ask how widespread that feeling existed. It did. (Though perhaps un-politic to ask?)

And, in addition, would you please provide me the address of the DOD office to which I might communicate as to awards made, un-made, et cetera?

Be assured of my appreciation for an early response.

Alfred August Joseph, LtC USAR (ret.)
6330 Islandview Terr
Gig Harbor, WA 98335-2056
253-851-8203

.....

Hello

I have just a question. I want to know the name of the veteran who was in the pic with us...

Three Frenchmen who want to know who the American soldier, veteran of WWII, is, in the middle.



Thanks

Mitchy
MichelMITCHY@aol.com

Please insert electronic photo # 11.

.....

Dear Mr. Drury,

Yesterday, I received the Society of the Third Infantry Division Membership roster. I saw Walter's (Juopperi) name in it and then realized that I had over-looked sending you notice of Walt's passing on March 29th, 2001. He had congestive heart and pneumonia. I am sorry and apologize.

I will be sending a donation for the membership roster.

I would also like to be an associate member of the Society of the Third Infantry Division.

Walter and I had great times attending the past reunions, meeting old friends and new ones.

I'm so thankful, that I was able to write Walt's WWII Memories and to hand them down to our children and grandchildren. Amazing stories.

Sincerely,

Ms. Enith Juopperi

Dear Editor,

Enclosed is a picture taken April 1946 in Kassel, Germany at the Bahnhof Hotel, the 30th Inf. Special Services Grill.

This Bahnhof Hotel was located next to the railroad station in Kassel. It was a German air raid shelter.

I was a member of the Bahnhof Hotel.



Standing is Lt. Roseburg, seated in front of him is Cled Sadler, and to the far right is Ned Salzman. Far left rear is Smith. Were any other of our Society Members there and/or can you identify yourself in this photograph?

Were any other of our Society Members there and/or can you identify yourself in this photograph.

Ernest D. Smeltzer Sr.
120 Maylyn Ave.
Dallastown, PA 17313-9208
717.244.5607

A member of The Society: Co. E., 30th Inf.,
3rd Inf. Division, WWII

.....

First a little background. I entered the US Army Sept. 1957 and trained at Ft. Benning, GA with D Co. 1st B/G, 30th Inf. Regt., 3d Inf. Division. We went to Schweinfurt, Germany, March 1958 to July 1960.

I am trying to locate some of the guys I was with. However, not much luck. Could someone refer me to a government source that would provide me some information, or could anyone help me?

Sincerely,

Don Baker
511 Miller Ave. NW Apt. 3
New Phila, OH 44663

.....

Groupe de Reconstitution de la 3eme Division d'Infanterie
American 3rd Infantry Division
Reenacting Group Association
Loi 1901

Strasbourg,
January 28th 2003

Dear James,

There has been quite a while since we last talked at the Buffalo Convention. But what a great event, thinking back to it: For the three of us who came to join all of you Veterans, it has

been a great honor & pleasure to meet you & sharing time with you.

In addition, the Award our Association was offered by the Society is greatly appreciated by all of us & is as significant as the Colors of the 3rd Division we have been offered in Wurzburg, 1996, during the Reflagging Ceremony.

Giving news of our ROTM Association, we had our annual assembly on January 25th, in Holtzwihr, place of Lt. Audie Murphy & 3rd Division Monument. Since the Monument was dedicated in January 2000, we are welcome by the Vincinity to have our assembly as well as a ceremony for the Liberation of the Village, on January 27th.



Part of our members during Ceremony at Holtzwihr monument, with our Good Major, past President Hermann Eichler, & the Staff during 2002 Commemoration. Courtesy of Christophe Viller

Some changes occurred in our Group: President Hermann Eichler retired from his post after 12 years of a wonderful job he did, since he created the association in 1991. Fortunately, he'll stay along with us & we all are grateful for his job accomplished. Hermann.eichler@franconigrob.ch . New officers are as follows:

- President: Christophe Viller, christophe.viller@coe.int
- Vice- President: Jean-Pierre Cremailh, jeanpierre.cremailh@free.fr
- Treasurer: Frederic Marchizet, Fredizet@J1otmail.com
- Assistant-Treas: Evelyne Bourquin, Samuelbouraun@hotmail.com
- Secretary: Michel Pascal, MICHELMITCHY@aol.com
Editor of our Newsletter
- Assistant-Sec: Cyril Rey, cvrilvinnv@wanadoo.fr
- Veteran & Public Affairs: Gilles Guignard, gw~dglenat@bluewin.ch

Soon you'll be able to follow our activities on the new internet site of the ROTM: <http://pageperso.aol.com/ROTMWWII>

As new President, I'm proud to represent this group of well motivated people. Our Association includes now 34 members, all together active, associate, & honorary members. Many of us are

as well associate members of the Society of the 3rd Division, & I think that's a good point for the future events.

We are all looking forward meeting those coming back to France in August 2004, & of course at any possible Event we could join your activities. Several of us are keeping in touch with John Shirley in order to accomodate Ceremonies & visits along the route of the Tour. Mainly from Besancon to Strasbourg, where our members are living. We'll try to have our Color Guard quite close to your itinerary, in as many places as requested. Some of us might even already be in Cavalaire on August 14th, depending on the needs for the organization of the following days.

Our Planned Activities for 2003, are as follows:

- VE-Day: participation of our Group in a big Military Show in Burgundy involving several reenactment Groups, Tanks & Miscellaneous Military Vehicles, & a Tent Camp with a Castle in background.

- May 25th : Memorial Day at US Epinal Cemetery (3rd Div. Wreath) -During the summer we might organize a reenactment on either:

Engineer or Signal Corp activities in ETO (not confirmed).

- September 14th : in Besancon Area ceremony of liberation by the 3rd Div.

(to be confirmed)

- During December our X-Mas Reunion (to be confirmed)

All our best wishes to the Marnemen & their Families,

PS. Please notice that my address has changed and is now:

Christophe Viller, 32, rue des Veaux 67800, Bischeim, France

If you remember I was telling you about GI's signatures on the wall of an old Fort in Strasbourg, & I was guessing whether those soldiers could be from the 3rd Division. Enclosed are 2 photos of such signatures.

Meanwhile I found a helmet with both 3rd Div. insignias painted on sides, & a hearth painted on back (if I'm right 7th Rgt Combat patrols).

Inside the helmet is stamped part of serial number of the owner in 1944/45: R-8305 would it be possible to identify the previous owner?

Christophe

.....

Jim,

Just received this letter along with a donation to the roster fund from Brig. Gen. Marinus Flux. Perhaps you might want to report it in the *Watch*:

Dear Mr. Anderson:

I just heard from Gen. Wm. Rosson, that one of his and my, old comrades, Elam Wright passed away from a heath attack on Jan. 30, 2003. Elam was in the battle of the Bulge and the Colmar Pockett. We were all together in Kassel, Germany where he served as Provost Marshall office 30th. Gen. Rosson, then Lt. Col. was the CO. Elam Wright was a Capt. Then. His name is not listed in the 3rd. Div. membership roster you sent. He was retired as a regular USA Colonel and lived in Texas. Gen. Rosson wrote also that funeral services were at Arlington National Cemetery. I assume Elam Wright was a member of

the 30th. Infantry organization.

I did not know who to write to, but perhaps you can pass this along. Almost forgot, he did have the Bronze Star and the Silver Star and I believe the DSC from the Colmar Pocket operation. Elam was a real warrior!

Sincerely,

/s/ Brig. Gen. Marinus Flux

LTC John D. Harding
Commanding Officer 1st Battalion 10th FA
Officers Non Commission Officers and Men of the
1st Battalion of the 10th Field Artillery

On behalf of
Colonel Bobbie
Brashears Retired
Honorary Colonel of
the 10th Field Artillery
Association and all
members and friends of
the 10th FA Regimental
Association we wish to
express a deep sense of
pride on your impending
mission to the
Middle East.



Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Torbert, 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery Regiment, hugs his son, Alexander, 7, goodbye. Unfortunately, we've all been here and we sincerely hope the conflict will be over soon and our young men and women will be reunited with their families.- Larry Driscoll

Never has the 1st Battalion of the 10th Field been better trained and prepared for possible conflict. We would also like to praise and thank your wives and family for their support especially after recently having completed a six month tour in Kuwait which ended less than three months ago.

Best wishes and every success. God be with you and never has the motto ROCK SUPPORT been more appropriate.

Sincerely,

Larry Driscoll

President of the 10th Field Association

Excuse if I write in French, but my English is très bad.

I was a 8 year old boy in August 1944, and my family and me were released by from G.Is of 3rd ID. With the entry Is town of Aix, the evening of 19 Aout.(date dubious). Après my research, they was probably elements of 30th Infantry Regiment, or 3rd Reconnaissance Troop. Mecz.

My parents invited to dinner, in evening, on our terrace, several soldiers, who have brought the first white bread to us for 4 years. The guns drew, any meadows of us, and the shells passed to the top our heads during this meal, which was prolonged in the night.

The following days, a military camp with tents settled, with the entry of Aix, on the right of the road and downwards. This place is currently a park. My mother carried out me to this camp, to ask to an army medical officer to cut a metal ring that I had done to the finger, and that one could not remove any more.

We returned in the same camp, when my 2 year old little brother was bitten with the face by a dog. And we returned third once when our young person (and pretty) friendly burned himself with the face with an oil lamp. Perhaps that the doctor who helped us will remember it, if it reads these lines.

I wrote a book where I tell my testimony on our meeting with our liberators of the 3rd ID. If this text (in French) interests you, please let me know it, and make known me the address to which I must send it.

My affectionate memory; of a French who did not forget.

Robert Cohen

145 Dead End of Provence

06510 Gattières, France

Thanks to Martin Markley for translation-Ed

Heroism Recognized at Last

Department of the Army
U.S. Total Army Personnel Command
Alexandria, VA 22332-0471

Permanent Orders 235-6 23 August 2002

RICHARDS, GEORGE E. RA 065 883 First Lieutenant, Company K, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, Republic of Korea
Award: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device for Valor (Posthumous)

Date(s): 10 June to 11 June 1953

Authority: AR 600-8-22, Paragraph 3-13

Reason: For heroism in ground combat

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

ROBERT L. WHITE, JR. LTC, AG Chief Military Awards Branch

For heroic achievement in action against the enemy on the night of 10-11 June 1953, during the successful defense of Outpost Harry in the Republic of Korea. While under a massive barrage of high explosive rounds from Chinese Communists Forces, Lieutenant Richards inspired his men to fortify the company's hill position in anticipation of a forthcoming assault by a reinforced regiment of Chinese Infantry. In spite of the company's defensive fire, the enemy reached the trenches. Lieutenant Richards sounded the alarm and without regard for his personal safety, engaged the enemy in close combat, killing several with deadly carbine fire. He held the enemy at bay long enough for the forward observer to request friendly artillery to open fire on their own position. An enemy grenade severely wounded Lieutenant Richards, rendering him unconscious and was subsequently killed by an enemy soldier. Lieutenant Richard's self-sacrifice helped to ensure that Outpost Harry remained in the hands of the United States Eighth Army. His unflinching courage and good cheer in the face of overwhelming odds was an inspiration to his soldiers and in the highest traditions of military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the 15th Infantry Regiment and the United States Army.