The BULGE BUGLE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION • VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE, INC.

VOLUME XXVIII NUMBER 2 THE ARDENNES CAMPAIGN MAY 2009

Join Us In Tucson...

TUCSON, AZ – 2009 REUNION COMMITTEE
SOUTHERN AZ CHAPTER LIII

Page 16



(Left to Right)
Keith Trantow (PR & Tours); John Swett (Treasurer & Busses);
Laura Dwyer (Secretary); George McGee (Chair); Dianne Baron (Hospitality);
Buck Bloomer (Events & Hospitality); Harper Coleman (Security)
Not pictured – Sam Sharp, Denise Bolinski, Daryl Bloomer

MALMEDY MASSACRE

TOTAL DEATH TOLL: 85 AMERICANS, 1 CIVILIAN

Ralph Storm
Company B
21st Armored Infantry Battalion
11th Armored Division

Page 14

VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE, INC.
P.O. Box 101418
Arlington, VA 22210-4418
703-528-4058

Published quarterly, *THE BULGE BUGLE* is the official publication of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge.

Publisher/Chief Editor:
George Chekan
9th Infantry Division
Contributing Editors:
Robert F. Phillips
28th Infantry Division
Historical Research:
John D. Bowen
Associate Member

*****

ELECTED OFFICERS:
President:
Demitri "Dee" Paris
9th Armored Division
Executive Vice President:
Ralph Bozorth
Associate Member
Vice President/Membership:
Robert F. Phillips
29th Infantry Division
Vice President/Chapters:
John E. McAuliffe
87th Infantry Division
Vice President/Military Affairs:
Resigned
To be appointed
Vice President/Public Affairs:
Resigned
To be appointed
Treasurer:
Neil B. Thompson
740th Tank Battalion
Corresponding Secretary:
Mary Ann D. Bowen
Associate Member
Recording Secretary:
John D. Bowen
Associate Member

*****

Administrative Director:
Nancy Monson 703-528-4058

*****

TRUSTEES:

Three Years:
Thomas R. Chambers
9th Armored Division
Bert Rice
Associate Member
John R. Schaffner
106th Infantry Division
Two Years:
Alfred H.M. Shehab
38th Cavalry Division
Robert Rhodes
Associate Member
Robert F. Phillips
28th Infantry Division

One Year:
James David Bailey
106th Infantry Division
Madeleine Bryant
Associate Member
Kenneth O. McCreedy
Associate Member

*****

HISTORICAL FOUNDATION:
President: Alfred H.M. Shehab
38th Cavalry Division

*****

VBOB PAST PRESIDENTS:

Clyde D. Boden*	1981-84
Robert J. VanHouten	1984-86
George Chekan	1986-88
	2003-05
William T. Greenville*	1988-90
Darrell Kuhn*	1990-92
William R. Hemphill*	1992-93
William P. Tayman	1993-94
Grover C. Twiner*	1994-95
Stanley Wojtusik	1995-97
	2006-07
George C. Linthicum*	1997-99
John J. Dunleavy	1999-2001
Louis Cunningham	2001-03

*Deceased

*****

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

•ALABAMA•

GEN. GEORGE S. PATTON, JR. (XI)
James W. Ammons 205-425-8578
5610 Pocahontas Rd
Bessemer, AL 35022-8316

•ARIZONA•

ARIZONA (XXVI)
Leo Hoffman 480-654-6374
5735 E McDowell #211
Mesa, AZ 85215

SOUTHERN ARIZONA (LIII)
George W. McGee 520-298-3220
7830 E Hampton St
Tucson, AZ 85715-4214

•BELGIUM•

5TH FUSILIERS OF BELGIUM (XXXVIII)
Marcel D'Haese
Boulevard du Souverain 49 Box 4
1160 Brussells, Belgium

•CALIFORNIA•

FRESNO (V)
Arthur Steffensen 559-266-2997
7469 S Cedar Ave
Fresno, CA 93725-9749

GEN. GEORGE S. PATTON, JR. (XIII)
Chapter is now defunct

GOLDEN GATE (X)
Doris Davis 650-654-0101
889 Bauer Dr
San Carlos, CA 94070-3813

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (XVI)
Gordon Hearne 818-784-8980
4363 Hayvenhurst Ave
Encino, CA 91436

SAN DIEGO (LI)
Robert D. Schrell 858-274-5738
2530 San Joaquin Ct
San Diego, California 92109

•CONNECTICUT•

CONNECTICUT YANKEE (XL)
Richard Egan 203-634-0974
79 Alcove St
Meriden, CT 06451

•COLORADO•

ROCKY MOUNTAIN (XXXIX)
A. Wayne Field 719-598-2234
PO Box 7247
Colorado Springs, CO 80933-7247

•DELAWARE•

BRANDYWINE VALLEY CHAPTER (LXVI)
Charles Gaffeney 302-762-3023
907 Shipley Rd
Wilmington, DE 19803-4927

•FLORIDA•

CENTRAL FLORIDA (XVIII)
Contact: Robert L. Stevenson 407-644-9997
2133 Lake Dr
Winter Park, FL 32789

FLORIDA CITRUS (XXXII)
Gerald V. Myers 863-655-2121
320 E Palm Dr
Lakeland, FL 33803-2650

INDIAN RIVER FLORIDA (XLI)
John Gaynor 321-549-3529
901 Culpepper Ave
Palm Bay, FL 32909

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA (LXII)
George Fisher 561-585-7086
3456 S Ocean Blvd #503
Palm Beach, FL 33480

GOLDEN TRIANGLE (XLVIII)
Fred D. Parks 352-589-2109
22 Turquoise Way
Eustis, FL 32726

FLORIDA SOUTHWEST CHAPTER (LXVII)
Vincent Runowich 727-323-3793
4063 10th Ave N
St. Petersburg, FL 33713

•INDIANA•

NORTHERN INDIANA (XXX)
Frank W. Dudash 219-773-5064
775 Savannah Dr
Crown Point, IN 46307-5255

CENTRAL INDIANA (XLVII)
Tim Blakley 317-251-9503
PO Box 50184
Indianapolis, IN 46250

•IOWA•

IOWA (XXXIV)
(Chapter no longer functioning

HAWKEYE STATE (XLIV)
Harold R. Lindstrom 515-278-0081
4105 75th St.
Des Moines, IA 50322-2551

•MARYLAND-DC•

MARYLAND/D.C. (III)
John R. Schaffner 410-584-2754
1811 Miller Rd
Cockeysville, MD 21030-1013

•MASSACHUSETTS•

LAMAR SOUTTER/CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS (XXII)
John E. McAuliffe 508-754-7183
425 Pleasant St.
Worcester, MA 01609

CAPE COD & THE ISLANDS (LVIII)
(President's name needed)

•MICHIGAN•

WEST MICHIGAN (XXIII)
James E. Wibby 231-938-2995
4449 Audubon Dr
Traverse City, MI 49686-3887

GREAT LAKES (XXI)
Chapter now defunct

•MISSISSIPPI•

MISSISSIPPI (XXXIII)
Manning Cooper 601-825-4479
78 Fern Valley Rd
Brandon, MS 39042

•MISSOURI•

GATEWAY (XXV)
W. Kent Stephens 618-344-1616
107 Bluffview Lane
Collinsville, IL 62234

•NEW JERSEY•

PETER F. LESLIE, JR. (LIV)
Gerald E. Mount 973-697-5875
40 Old Hoop Pole Rd
Oak Ridge, NJ 07438

FORT MONMOUTH (LVI)
Edward Turrell 732-264-5447
3 Chestnut Dr
Hazlet, NJ 07730

FORT DIX/MCGUIRE AFB (LX)
Lloyd Orth 856-235-0504
10 Locust Ct
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

SOUTH JERSEY (LXI)
Gus Epple (VP) 609-463-9690
45 S Dosea Dr
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210-2041

•NEW YORK•

CENTRAL NEW YORK (II)
(Chapter no longer functioning)

MOHAWK VALLEY (XXVIII)
Kenneth H. Rowland 315-736-5836
10 Pulaski St
New York Mills, NY 13417

HUDSON VALLEY (IL)
James A. Wilson 518-393-2384
19 Park Pl
Schenectady, NY 12305-1524

STATEN ISLAND (LII)
William Abell 917-299-9766
297 Clarke Ave
Staten Island, NY 10306

GENESSEE VALLEY (LVII)
Richard Brookins 585-586-4642
139 Wood Creek Dr
Pittsford, NY 24534

MID-HUDSON VALLEY (LIX)
Duncan Trueman 845-986-6376
29 Overhill Ln
Warwick, NY 10990-3317

LONG ISLAND (LXIII)
David Saltman 516-221-5096
1252 Campbell Rd
Wantagh, NY 11793-6307

•NORTH CAROLINA•

NORTH CAROLINA (IX)
William R. Strickland 910-897-6295
471 Turlington Rd
Dunn, NC 28334

•NORTH DAKOTA•

NORTH DAKOTA (XX)
Harry Swendson (Secretary) 701-567-2305
PO Box 55
Hettinger, SD 58639

•OHIO•

BLANCHARD VALLEY (XLII)
Richard H. Switzer 419-435-5277
4361 N U.S. 23
Fostoria, OH 44830

OHIO BUCKEYE (XXIX)
John Kalogidis 330-492-2214
2545 58th St NE
Canton, OH 44721-3451

GEN. D. D. EISENHOWER (XXXV)
Richard M. Shape
211 Oakcrest Ct
Russells Point, OH 43348-9508

NORTH COAST OHIO (XXXVI)
Frederic H. Harf 440-234-5732
323 Westbridge Dr
Berea, OH 47017-1562

ALTON LITSENBERGER (LXVII)
Richard H. Wheeler 614-267-7478
191 E Royal Forest Blvd
Columbus, OH 43214-2125

•PENNSYLVANIA•

DELAWARE VALLEY (IV)
Stanley Wojtusik 215-637-4191
9639 Wissinoming St
Philadelphia, PA 19114

SUSQUEHANNA (XIX)
George K. Waters 717-488-6311
303 Honesdale Rd
Waymart, PA 18472

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA (XIV)
Leroy Schaller 724-238-2297
1839 Route 259
Bolivar, Pennsylvania 15923

OHIO VALLEY (XXXI)
Pete Yanchik 724-375-6451
1161 Airport Rd
Aliquippa, Pa 15001

SOUTHCENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA (XLV)
George F. Schneider 717-464-9442
237 Willow Valley Dr
Lancaster, PA 17602-4782

LEHIGH VALLEY (LV)
Morris D. Metz 610-252-3094
125 Richard Garr Rd
Easton, PA 18040-6916

READING (LXIV)
George Moore 610-582-8890
207 Shockley Dr
Birdsboro, PA 19508

CUMBERLAND VALLEY (LXV)
John W. Fague 717-530-8817
306 Lurgan Ave
Shippensburg, PA 17257

•RHODE ISLAND•

RHODE ISLAND (XXIV)
Manuel Riberio 401-253-7369
50 Greylock Rd
Bristol, RI 02809-1631

•SOUTH CAROLINA•

SOUTH CAROLINA (VII)
Leif E. Massing 803-782-5696
4502 Bellefield Ln
Columbia, SC 29206-5695

•TEXAS•

GREATER HOUSTON (XXVII)
(Chapter is functioning--please advise contact again.)

BEN FREEMAN (XXXVII)
Leon St. Pierre 903-561-7116
3325 Bain Pl
Tyler, TX 75701-8871

ALAMO (XLVI)
John Hamilton 210-696-1904
9606 Tioga Drive
San Antonio, TX 78269-1904

LONE STAR (L)
Charles J. Kam 214-324-9200
8042 Hunnicut Rd
Dallas, TX 75228

•VERMONT-NEW HAMPSHIRE-MAINE•

TRI-STATE (XVII)
Edward Deverell 603-485-7464
12 Stevens Dr
Hooksett, NH 03106

•VIRGINIA•

NORTHERN VIRGINIA (XV)
Gene McHale 703-451-1918
8240 Cartleigh Pkwy
Springfield, VA 22152-1728

CRATER (XLIII)
S. W. George, Jr. 804-526-6725
101 Hanover Ave
Colonial Heights, VA 23834

•WASHINGTON•

NORTHWEST (VI)
Arthur P. Mahler 425-746-3923
1821 122nd Ave SE
Bellevue, WA 98005-4623

•WISCONSIN•

NORTHERN WISCONSIN (I)
(President's name needed)

*****

CONTACT THE CHAPTER IN YOUR AREA. YOU WILL BE GLAD YOU DID.
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO START A CHAPTER IN YOUR AREA, LET US KNOW, WE'LL SEND YOU NECESSARY DETAILS.

President's Message



Demetri "Dee" Pari

Based upon my memory, which is proving to be less complete, I am a member of at least seven veterans' organizations and one or two historical groups that publish magazines or periodicals. Each month I scan their reunion listings to find units that were in the Battle of the Bulge. I compare the reunion listing with a list of the major Bulge units--the infantry, armor and airborne divisions. I also compare it with a list of smaller Bulge units such as artillery, tank and engineer battalions.

The reunion listings report the location and date of the units' reunion along with the name of a contact person. I alert associate member Ralph Bozorth, who is our Executive Vice President. Ralph then gets in touch with the contact person by mail, e-mail or telephone and offers to furnish VBOB membership application forms and *Bulge Bugles*.

We've had some favorable response but have not yet analyzed the program to ascertain whether it is worthwhile in terms of the manhours required to review the listings and make the contacts.

One noticeable factor is the diminished number of World War II outfits that are still able to have reunions. Armored divisions often schedule their final reunion to include a visit to Fort Knox where many of their members--tankers, infantry, cooks, gunners, mechanics, and others--received their training. This practice may not continue since the BRAC program is moving the armor operations of Knox to Fort Benning, Georgia, leaving the Patton Museum of Cavalry and Armor, a recruiting office and the gold depository.

As a result, many of the small print reunion listings are for small and specialized groups. We have no way of knowing that this gathering may be four or five die-hard members of a signal operations unit, an IBM machine records outfit, or members of a hospital surgical unit or members of a Camp Punkin basic training class number 12345.

But VBOB is still conducting successful reunions. In 2008, we met in Columbus, Ohio--a centralized location. This year, the 2009 reunion will be in Tucson. Arizona--being hosted by a very active chapter. Many of us on the Atlantic side of the U.S. will be there. There's no reason why every VBOB member living west of the Mississippi should miss this event. Every member and associate member should list the October 6-16 date on their calendar and start planning now. Come with your spouse, a son or daughter, your care-giver or neighbor.

PLEASE CHECK...TO SEE IF YOUR DUES HAVE BEEN PAID. We depend on your dues to keep our organization going. Your cooperation in keeping your dues current will be very much appreciated. Your dues expiration date is on the mailing label of every copy of the Bugle. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY EXPANDING

The Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia, now has 340,000 interments and is continuing to grow as a result of recent wars. This is the only remaining national cemetery operated by the United States Army, all the others were transferred to the Veterans Affairs Department several years ago.

The cemetery was established during the Civil War. Plans call for the addition of 4.3 acres which will allow an additional 3,440 burial sites. Since more than 60 percent of the interments are cremated remains, a new columbarian will be added for 6,500 remains. It will be about six feet high and 1/2 mile long. This addition will bring the total of cremated remains to 46,000.

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have resulted in burial of 531 service members. Enlisted personnel killed in action now receive full military honors for burial or interment.

Every year, on the December 16th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge, the VBOB Historical Foundation conducts ceremonies which include wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns and at the VBOB Memorial.

Shortly after VBOB was started in the early 1980's, permission was obtained to dedicate a tree and install a small marker near the Tomb. An additional, much larger memorial at another location through contributions by the Belgian and Luxembourg Governments.

ORAL HISTORY CENTER ESTABLISHED

The History Department of the U.S. Army Military Academy at West Point, New Yorki, has established a program of personal accounts of veterans of several wars including WWII. Oral histories from both enlisted and commissioned personnel are sought. To participate, you can access their web site: www.westpointcoh.org.

IN THIS ISSUE

3. President's Message	22. Saved by a Metal
4. Letters to the Editor	23. Kilroy
7. 9th Armored	25. Msgr. O'Donnell
8. Reunions	26. Nominating Committee
9. Afro-American Soldiers	27. Thomas Commentary
10. Newstonite	28. Donations
12. American PW's	Luxembourg Trip
14. Malmady Massacre	29. Tell It Like It IS
16. Tucson Reunion Info.	30. VBOB Quartermaster
21. Wendell Phillips	31. Certificate

Do you know a Bulge veteran who doesn't belong to VBOB? Ask him to join...we need his support.

VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE
WEB SITE: www.battleofthe bulge.org

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MY MISTAKE...

I really got clobbered in the August issue of *The Bulge Bugle*, due to a slight mistake on my part. It was between the letters "B&C."

In the story that I wrote before the November issue, I mistakenly stated that I was a gunner in third section, Battery B, 591st Battalion 105 MM howitzers, 106th Infantry Division. Actually, I was a gunner in the third section, Battery C, 591st Battalion, 105 mm howitzers, 106th Infantry Division.

My battery commander was Capt. William Black, my first sergeant was Joseph Grass, my chief of sections was Sgt. Lehti. My number one man was PFC Needham, my number two man was PFC Bermudez.

The story that I wrote was accurate except for the difference between Batteries B&C.

I am a long time member of VBOB and always proud of my part in the Battle of the Bulge.

Would you please print that the mistake was made in the next issue and help restore my credibility for my grandchildren and friends.

Eugene Morell
106 INFD 591 BN C

THE 28TH DIVISION WAS NOT THE FIRST

I saw the picture on page 17 [February issue] with the 28th Division marching in a parade in Paris on August 19, 1944--true. The 28th Division was not the first infantry division into Paris.

The first infantry division into Paris along with the French, was the 4th Infantry Division, 12th Infantry Regiment, on August 25, 1944.

I know because I was there.

Richard W. Baker
4 INFD 12 INF

WERETH ELEVEN

On page 25 of the February 2009 *Bulge Bugle*, someone wrote an article concerning the Wereth Eleven.

I would suggest you ask Dr. John McAuliffe about the research done by the historian of Chapter XXII concerning the Massacre of Wereth, Belgium, and also about the special Memorial Monument inaugurated on August 20, 2006, at the Veterans' Memorial Cemetery in Winchendon, Massachusetts. You would be surprised to find out that a member of the National Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge is probably one of the most knowledgeable historian in the United States concerning the Wereth Massacre, which occurred around 4:30 p.m. on December 17, 1944.

It is sad to see names misspelled and events distorted. For the records, I would make sure that the National VBOB files be corrected.

On page 25, line one of the third paragraph, it is mentioned that: "Mathias Langer gave shelter for the night...." When in reality, it is Mathias and Maria Langer accompanied by their 18-year-old daughter, Tina Langer, who took in the 11 African-American soldiers, who were lost, cold, tired and hungry. They were greeted by the Langer family around 3:45 p.m. on December 17, 1944.

These American soldiers of the 333rd Field Artillery Battalion were going to be fed supper, when the German SS officer Major Knitel bashed in the Langer's house. The SS herded the American prisoners out of the home, forced them to sit down in the mud, then shortly after that made the Americans run in front of the German halftracks.

Where did the writer of the article, found on page 25, come up with the false information, namely, that the Langer family gave the 11 soldiers shelter for the night? Also, incorrect is the statement: "...marched the Americans up a small cow path and into the corner of the pasture." The bodies of the murdered soldiers were found where they were brutally tortured and massacred, not in the corner of a pasture but rather along the ditch of this country dirt road.

For your information, the black marble plaque, which can be seen on the center monument of the picture shown on page 25, has been destroyed this past fall by Nazi sympathizers and vandals, who probably came from across the German border.

The inscription on the black marble plaque was engraved in German--it read:

Hier wurden
Am 17.12.1944
Elf U.S. Soldaten
von der SS erschossen

The English translation would be: "Here on December 17, 1944, 11 U.S. soldiers were killed by the SS."

Interesting note: On Friday, May 30, 2008, as I was interviewing Mrs. Tina Heinrich-Langer, the daughter of Mathias and Maria Langer, who was 18-years-old when she helped her parents greet our 11 heroes; she, by the way, is the only living person who talked to these 11 soldiers. She was crying as she was telling us: "The thing I regret the most, is the fact that I used the bar of soap given to me by one of the 11 soldiers. I wish I had kept it, it would be the only link to this terrible day."

Christian W. deMarcken
Associate Member

[Mr. deMarcken included 11 photographs of the recent ceremonies. As we have several times, printed pictures of the memorial, we have not reproduced them. We also received pictures and a letter from Joe Landry, we publish herewith excerpts from Mr. Landry's letter.]

[Excerpts] I just finished reading the February *Bulge Bugle* and saw the articles on the Wereth 11. In May 21st to 31st, I was in Belgium with Francis Gauder of the 30th Infantry Division and three other men--Mr. Chris DeMarcken (historian for Chapter 22 (Massachusetts), and our guide along with Matilda and Marcel of the MM Museum in Clermont, Belgium, which is a "must see."

Thank you for a very good book.

Joe Landry
776 AAA AW BN

SHORTER ARTICLES

On page 15 of the February edition of *The Bulge Bugle,* once again you make an appeal for shorter articles. My first question is: why do you continue to publish such boring articles?

When I first started receiving *The Bugle*, there were many personal stories like those on page 4 (February 2008). Associate Wesley Johnson said all that was necessary on page 4.

After a couple of short stories on page 6, the rest is full of long-winded stories, taken from unit histories or even possibly taken from the National Archives in Washington, DC. There are, of course, a few interesting short stories woven in between.

If you were to eliminate the long articles, you could save on printing costs and avoid a lot of effort that is now required to put *The Bugle* together. You could also l;eave out items that are not related to the Bulge. I still enjoy receiving *The Bugle* but find I am spending a lot of time looking for personal stories.

James H. Burke
299 ECB BN

WERETH 11 UNIT STATED INCORRECTLY

I dislike criticizing, but when facts are not correct, I tend to pursue the matter.

Concerning the article on page 25, "The Wereth 11," the unit stated in the article is incorrect.

The 155 mm howitzer battalion, in the 106th Infantry Division was the 592nd--not the 333rd--as stated in the article.

Secondly, and not to minimize the performance of black soldiers in WWII, this is the first I ever heard of black soldiers in the 106th Infantry Division. Perhaps their unit was attached to the division. Although, I find no reference to the 333rd anything listed in the book *St. Vith Lion in the Way,* written by Col R. Ernest Depuy, Appendix II, Order of Battle, page 236-238.

I am a charter member of the Division, joining the Division Artillery, Headquarters Battery, on March 20, 1943. The division was activated on March 15, 1943, at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. The original artillery commander was Brig. Gen. Ronald C. Brock, who was relieved by Brig. Gen. Leo T. McMahon, in December, 1943. Headquarters Battery is the general's staff. The firing battalions consisted of the 589th 105 mm How., 590th 105 mm How., 591st mm How. and the 592nd 155 mm How. Battalions.

I think you would serve those black soldiers well by at least correctly stating their unit, in the next edition of *The Bugle.*

Robert S. Scherer
106 DIVARTY HQ

MISSING RING FINGER

I'll start this letter by saying that it may not be appropriate for *The Bulge Bugle* because the incident that it describes occurred about the 9th of March, 1945, more than a month after the Bulge officially ended. However, you may be personally interested in the incident, even if it is not publishable. It relates to an incident that John W. Fague, of the 21st Armored Infantry Battalion relates in his article "One Small Corner," in the February issue. The incident is the missing ring finger of the German fighter pilot near Neufchateau, Belgium.

On the 6th of March, 1945, elements of the 11th SS Mountain Regiment began infiltrating positing of the 3rd Battalion of the 302nd Infantry Regiment, 94th Infantry Division, is an effort to throw the division back across the Saar River. The battalion was surrounded for two days, but resisted all German attempts to capture the town. On the 8th of March, the Germans abandoned their attacks and withdrew. The 3rd Battalion received the Presidential Unit Citation for the successful defense of its positions around Lampaden. Our artillery battalion, the 356th FA Battalion, provided supporting fire to the 3rd Battalion of the 302nd in its defense of Lampaden. In fact, we fired more rounds in that three-day period than in any other similar period during the entire war.

On March 9th, two other men from the battery and I walked up a dirt road behind the battery position to see what was up there. We were unaware of what had transpired at Lampaden. After walking about a mile we came up to the town. It had been utterly destroyed. There were a number of German bodies lying around, but no American bodies. The American Graves Registration people had already removed all of the American dead. One of the dead Germans was wearing an SS ring. One of the other men with me tried to pull off the ring, but the ring finger had swelled and the ring would not come off. That soldier pulled out a pocket knife and cut off the ring finger to get the ring. That act appalled me, but I guess that other American soldiers obtained some of their souvenirs by the same action.

My loot was the wrist band of the 11th SS Mountain Regiment, the Reinhard Heydrich Regiment, on the great coat of another dead German soldier. I removed the band from the coat, probably with the same knife that was used to get the SS ring. That band resided several years in our division museum at the former Ft. Deven, Massachusetts. When the 94th Regional Readiness Command was deactivated last year and the museum was closed, the wrist band was transferred with other division memorabilia to a new, to-be-built Army Reserve Museum at Camp Polk, South Carolina.

Larry Sitney
94 INFD 356 FA BN A

FORMER CHAPTER 48 MEMBER

The February 2009 issue of *The Bulge Bugle* was excellent.

I especially appreciated the articles pertaining to the activities of Chapter 48 "Golden Triangle of Florida."

I now reside in Indiana but was a member of Chapter 48 when I lived in Florida. Harry Kirby was the president of the chapter then. I can testify to the fact that Harry's a "Doer." He can get things done.

My thanks and appreciation for all of the fine work that each of you do to perpetuate the memories of a most important time of our lives when we were soldiers.

Thank you.

Wilfrid R. Riley
188 ECB

SOME INFORMATION

As a member of the 81st Engineers from August 1944 serving in H&S Company during the Bulge, I have information about several items in the February 2009 issue:

For Karl W. Jones (pages 4 & 7)--several reference books are:

St. Vith, Lion in the Way - the 106th Infantry Division in World War II. Now available from: C.I.B. Media, 2121 Vineyard Road, Novato, California 94947. Cost is $45.00

Hell Frozen Over - the Battle of the Bulge, by Marilyn Quigley (about her uncle, Olive Coleman, and Company B, 81st Engineers). Published by: Author House, 1663 Liberty Drive #200, Bloomington, Indiana 47403. Telephone 800-839-8640.

The only living full time members of B Company I know to be still living are: Ed Wojahn, Onalaska, Wisconsin, and Ed Krezminsli, Joliet, Illinois.

My recon group was badly shot up at St. Vith and by December 25-26(?), I was assigned to cover the B Company trucks that had returned for supplies December 17 and were unable to rejoin their outfit. B. Company was reformed and I had the 1st Platoon until July 1945.

Ed Carpenter
81 ECB H&S

FROST BITE

I am a BoB veteran and receive *The Bulge Bugle* I enjoy it immensely. It is great to read about the experiences of others at the Bulge.

I was sent in as a replacement to the 99th Infantry Division, 394th Infantry Regiment, Company C in January of 1945. We were at Elsenborn, Belgium.

During my stay there in a foxhole, I froze my feet. We pulled out at night to go back to a rest camp and I could hardly walk.

At the rest camp, we went out the next morning to cut down trees and cut off the limbs. After one day of that I had to go on sick call because my feet were hurting so much. I didn't want to go but some of my buddies said I should go. The doctor examined my feet and ordered that I be evacuated immediately.

From there, I went from one hospital to another until I got back to Haragate?, England, to a military hospital there. I was released the last of March and was assigned to do MP work in Germany and France.

From Christmas of 45 to June of 46, I was with the 822nd MP in Berlin doing guard duty in General Lucias Clay's headquarters. I enjoyed my duty in security there.

Thanks again for a great magazine. Keep it up. Not many of us left. I am 83 years old--was 19 during the Bulge.

Kenneth Hanson
99 INFD 394 INF C

DEFENSE OF ST. VITH

By GLENN FACKLER
38TH ARMORED INFANTRY
7TH ARMORED DIVISION

[The following is excerpted from an interview given by Glenn to the Library of Congress.]

After Thanksgiving, the 7th Armored was attached to the 9th Army with orders to cross into the Ruhr Pocket; however, the German offensive changed those orders on December 16th, as the 7th Armored was ordered to St. Vith, Belgium.

The 7th was asked to hold St. Vith for 48 hours, but they ended up holding off the Germans for six days at a cost of 80% of their men and material. The division absorbed much of the weight of the German drive and was forced to withdraw west of the Salm River, 23 December.

It shifted to Manhay, Belgium, and by the end of December had cleared the town of the enemy. After a brief rest in January, the division returned to positions near St. Vith, attacked, and captured the town.

"In the early afternoon of 23 December, 1944, while I was dug in on the outer edge of some woods about a mile east of St. Vith, I noticed a German Tiger Tank move up on a ridge some 500 yards to my front. I crawled back to a tank battalion FO, and while coming up to check it out he said, 'Hell, Sarge, I wouldn't dare to try to get a tank up here, he'd knock me out before I could get a round off.'

"So, we just sat there and waited. Just after dark, we got orders to go back some 100 yards and dig in, but before we could dig in all hell broke loose with fire from that tank. That Tiger fired tree bursts and APCs, as well as direct fire to get anything and everything that might have been in the woods. As the fire let up, we got orders to return to our original positions.

"I found out my original position took a direct hit. I set up my 30 cal. machine gun to traverse the area in front of me at waist high and waited. I soon heard sounds from the ridge out to my front. I waited for my squad leader to fire, not knowing that he had been wounded by the tank firing and been evacuated.

"Upon learning that I was now the squad leader, I began firing on the enemy troops. I soon heard Pete Andreliwitz on Alpino's fun. After emptying our full box of 1200 rounds, there was dead silence.

"It wasn't until we saw the 'After Action Report,' that we learned that we had wiped out a huge force from the 18th Volksgrenadiers. Orders came down to abandon our crew served weapons and withdraw to friendly lines some two or three miles southwest of St. Vith."◘



Don't be Delinquent... Pay Your Dues Now!

Ben

9TH ARMORED - FOUGHT THREE BULGE BATTLES

"VIII Corps 106th Div with CCB (9th Armd Div) attached. RCTs 422 and 423 completely cut off and Herrensbach P9507 - Heum P9388 and Etchernach P7982 are in enemy hands."

"9th Armd (less CCB CCR in area southeast of Bastogne, with remainder of division in general area between 28th and 4th Divs ... 10th Armd CCB closed in area P9823..."

[12th Army Group Commanding General's briefing on December 18, 1944 for the first days of the Battle of the Bulge as reported by Editor John D. Bowen in the July/Aug 2008 issue of *The Marcher*, the newsletter of the MD/DC VBOB Chapter.'

Two regiments of the 106th Infantry, 422nd and 423rd, surrendered the next day. CCB of the 9th Armd Div continued to delay the main German attack until December 23rd when they were able to withdraw from the St. Vith "goose egg" and join in combat with the 82nd Airborne Division.

CCR of the 9th Armd was in the center of the German attacks and, with considerable casualties and loss of equipment, delayed the German attack at Bastogne until the arrival of the 101st Airborne Division who came from a rest area 100 miles distant.

The CCR troops of the 9th Armd Div infiltrated through German troops to join the 101st and CCB of the 10th Armd Div in the defense of Bastogne until it was relieved by a combat team of the Third U.S. Army.

The Commanding General's briefing states the "remainder was in general area between 28th and 4th Divs...."

This reference was to CCA of the 9th Armd Div which was, initially, south of Beaufort, Luxembourg and then was at Bastogne with the 4th Armd Div.

Throughout the Battle of the Bulge, the three combat commands operated independently and were not under the 9th Armd Div commander, Maj. Gen. John W. Leonard.■

106TH INFANTRY DIVISION COMBAT RECORD

Landed in France December 6, 1944. On December 11, 1944, replaced the 2nd Infantry Division in Schnee Eifel area of Belgium. German Ardennes attack came on December 16th with 424th Regiment of 106st at Winterspelt and 422 and 423rd Regiments in Schnee Eifel area near Schonberg. The 422nd and 423rd Regiments were surrounded and surrendered on December 19th.

The 424th was forced back across the Our River during which they lost most of their equipment. After being reinforced with elements of the 28th Infantry Division, regiment was attached to 7th Armored Division and was involved in combat in Manhay area.

Following this, 424th withdrew and assumed defensive position in the Wanne Wanneranval area of January 9, 1945. It cleared Ennal then assembled at Stavelot. A separate regiment--the 517th Parachute Infantry was attached to 424th on January 17th and during the period January 23-28, it was again attached to the 7th Armored Division and engaged in combat at Meyerode.

On February 7, 1945, the division was reconstituted by the addition of the 3rd Infantry and 159th to replace the two regiments that had surrendered on December 19, 1944. The reconstituted division moved to Germany where it processed prisoners of war while serving as military occupants.

The division returned to the U.S. at New York on October 1, 1945, and was inactivated at Camp Shanks, New York, on October 2nd.

The two regiments that had surrendered, the 422nd and 423rd were again formed in France from replacement troops and, on April 15, 1945, were attached to the 66th Infantry Division for training. They continued in this status until the war in Europe ended on May 7, 1945. The 66th Division returned to New York on November 6, 1945, and was inactivated on November 8, 1945, at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey.

Source: *World War II Order of Battle*
by Shelby L. Stanton

New Web Site Army Gift Program

The Army Gift program was established under Section 2601 of 10 United States Code to authorize the Army to accept gifts on behalf of wounded servicemen, wounded civilians and their families. This is part of an overall program which also includes gifts to Army installations. The program is managed by the Office of Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Army.

A new web site has been established to strealine the process. Information on the "Gifts to Army" is available on:

http://giftstoarmy.army. mil

Source: Army Echoes Sep-Dec 2008
Bulletin for Retired Soldiers and Families

Sending Packages to Troops Simplified

The U.S. Postal Service has made it easier to send packages to troops and even cheaper to send packages overseas.

The USPS will furnish a shipping box free. This is a Priority Mail Large Flat-Rate Box which measures 12" x 12" x 5.5" and can be mailed at a flat rate of $12.95 to any U.S. address. The cost for mailing to an APO or FPO address is $10.95, a $2.00 discount from the domestic rate.

The boxes are available from your local post office or substation. Other sources for the boxes are 1-800-610-8734 and www.usps.com/supplies

Source: Army Echoes, Sep-Dec 2008
Bulletin for Retired Soldiers & Families

SAVE US SOME MONEY!

Check your mailing label on this newsletter. Right above your last name is the date your dues expire. (Year is first, month second, and date is last.)

Mailing reminders is an expensive item in our costs.

REUNIONS

2ND CAVALRY REGIMENT, November 12-14, 2009, Vienna, Virginia. Contact: 2nd Cavalry Association, Newton, Massachusetts 02458.

4TH ARMORED DIVISION (DIXIE CHAPTER), **received too late** for last edition. Contact for information: Ida Neeley, PO Box 560158, Montverde, Florida 34756-0158.

5TH ARMORED DIVISION, August 13-16, 2009, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania. Contact: Jeffrey C. Smith, 404 West 12th Street, Dover, Ohio 44622.

8TH ARMORED DIVISION, 8-11 July, 2009, Louisville, Kentucky. Contact: Sidney Bishop, PO Box 427, Jefferson City, Tennesses 37760-0427. Phone: 865-457-2883.

11TH ARMORED DIVISION, August 3-9, 2009, Lisle, Illinois. Contact: 11th ADA, 2328 Admiral Street, Aliquippa, Pennsylvania 15001.

14TH ARMORED DIVISION, September 5-13, 2009, Green Bay, Wisconsin. Contact: Harold H. Kiehne. Phone: 608-785-1931.

17TH ARMORED ENGINEER BATTALION, September 23-26, 2009, Gettysburg, Pennyslvania. Contact: John A. Shields, PO Box 106, East Butler, Pennsylvania 16029. Phone: 724-287-4301.

26TH INFANTRY DIVISION, June 9-11, 2009, Laconia, New Hampshire. Contact: Robert R. Raney, 27 Forest Street, Peabody, Massachusetts 01960-4138. Phone: 978-531-2257.

78TH INFANTRY DIVISION, August 13-15, 2009, Coraopolis, Pennsylvania. Contact: Tom Streicher, 2411 Cambridge Court, Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania 16066. Phone: 724-772-4466.

84TH INFANTRY DIVISION, August 28-30, 2009, Colorado Springs, Colorado. Contact: Bruce Morrell, 2825 Brogans Bluff Dr, Colorado Springs, Colorado. Phone: 719-592-1523.

86TH CHEMICAL MORTAR BATTALION, April 22-26, 2009, Nashville, Tennessee. *(Received too late for timely notice.)* Contact: George Murray. Phone: 256-820-4415.

87TH INFANTRY DIVISION LEGACY ASSOCIATION, August 25-31, 2009, Arlington, Virginia. Contact: Contact: Joe Mathias, Jr., 87 Stadtmauer Drive, Clifton, New Jersey 07013-2512. Phone: 973-473-7532.

87TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 335TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION, BAKER BATTERY, June 11-14, 2009, Indianapolis, Indiana. Contact: Joe Mathias, Jr., 87 Stadtmauer Drive, Clifton, New Jersey 07013-2512. Phone: 973-473-7532.

106TH INFANTRY DIVISION, September, 2009, Indianapolis, Indiana. Contact: Murray Stein. Phone: 561-499-7736.

300TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION, June 4-8, 2009, Dallas, Texas. Contact: Randy Hanes, 6490 Ridgemont Drive, Dallas, Texas 75214-1619. Phone: 214-363-3826.

501ST PARACHUTE INFANTRY ASSOCIATION, July 1-5, 2009, Kansas City, Missouri. Contact: Jana Jenson, 1304 Holly Court, Liberty, Missouri 64069. Phone: 816-547-6671.

MEMBERS SPEAK OUT

Jan Heykoop recently found dog tags which belonged to **HENRY HOLTZMAN**, who was with the **75TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 289TH INFANTRY REGIMENT,** in the Manhay area. If you have information regarding Henry, please write to: Steve N. Graber, 21 Albert Drive, Troy, New York 12182.

Pearl Garcia is searching for information regarding her grandfather, **FELIX RAMIREZ, 3RD PLATOON, COMPANY I, 2981ST INFANTRY REGIMENT, 75TH INFANTRY DIVISION.** If you can help, write to her at: P.O. Box 465, Somerton, AZ 85350.

Pat Asmussen writes to see if anyone can provide further information regarding her uncle, **EARL DONALD SCHRANK**, from Corsica, South Dakota. He served as a pilot of a B-47 during the Bulge. St. Louis has no records to help them. If you can, write to Pat at: 6513 West Elmwood Drive, Black Hawk, South Dakota 57718.

WILLIAM W. WENZEL, 75TH INFANTRY DIVISION, reports that his new book, *A Time to Remember, A Combat Medic Looks Back--World War II in Europe*, is now available. For information (a brochure/price/mailing charges) contact the publisher: Eagle Cove Press, 675 Grand Avenue, Prairie du Sac, Wisconsin 53578. Phone: 608-743-5156. Twelve chapters, 124 stores, 230 pages, photographs.

Beverly Pangborn writes to hear from anyone who knew: **EDWARD "BUD" BOLDT, 89TH CAVALRY RECONNAISSANCE SQUAD, 9TH ARMORED DIVISION.** Edwas from Duluth, Minnesota. Write to Beverly at: 1660 Lakeside Drive PMB 362, Bullhead City, Arizona 86442.

Andy Fillmore's dad, **M. A. FILLMORE, 87TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 787TH ORDNANCE**, would very much appreciate receiving a copy of the unit citation. His dad is in a nursing home and Andy feels it would be a great up-life for his dad. If you have a copy, please call: Andy Fillmore 352-875-6215.

Bruce Bathurst is trying to locate a friend and former Boy Scout Master: **RAYMOND LOWELL,** a paratrooper with either the **82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION** or the **101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION.** He was last known to have lived in Cridersville, Ohio, where he worked as a chemical engineer for the Ohio Steel Company in Lima, Ohio. If you can help, write to Bruce at: 11450 Short Court, New Port Richey, Florida 34654.

Jean Bradish Lund is looking for information on a childhood friend--**HOWARD KENT WEINBERG**, from Ohio. Jean was told that Howard and one other boy from his unit was singled out for murder by their captors. The remaining soldiers in that unit were captured and later released when our troops overran the area. Write to Jean at: 3159 Burke Mill Court, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27103.

New associate member, Beverly Pangborn is seeking information regarding her uncle--**EDWARD "BUD" BOLDT, 9TH ARMORED DIVISION, 89TH CAVALRY SQD MECH.** Write to her at: 1660 Lakeside Dr PMB 362, Bullhead City, Arizons 86442.

AFRICAN AMERICAN SOLDIERS IN WWII

By **Joseph F. Williams**
4049th Quartermaster Truck Company
Third United States Army

This letter to you is prompted by my reading Mr. Eugene Morell's "Letter to the Editor" in your February 2008 issue which refers to John McAuliffe's account of "The Invisible Soldiers of World War II," which appeared in the November 2006 issue of *The Bulge Bugle.*

I was a truck driver in the 4049th Quartermaster Truck Company, Third Army, under General Patton. Our responsibility was to deliver infantrymen to and from the front lines. Our 2-1/2 ton trucks were traveling day and night. I, like most of those who served under General Patton, state that If I had to go into war again, I would prefer to serve once again under General Patton. He was indeed a warrior. He did not stay in the rear in a safe place. He was always visible, in his jeep, standing up, holding on to the front window and checking on his men.

During the time I was in France, just before the push into the Ardennes, and while we awaited supplies, I met a French family and was reunited with them in 1998 after 53 years. What an experience that was! My wife wrote a book about my life prior to the war, during the war, and how we found the French family.

I thought your readers might enjoy Chapter 3 from that book. Chapter 3 is entitled "The Comedy and Tragedy of War," and is enclosed.

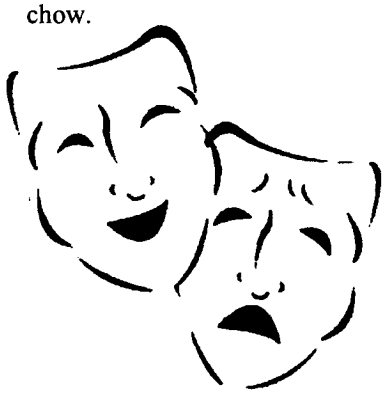
Yes, African Americans were (and still are) the Invisible Soldiers of World War II, and in that regard, I recommend Spike Lee's recent movie, "Miracle of St. Anna." The actual problems experienced by African American servicemen had never been exposed in any American movie until "Miracle at St. Anna." I sincerely refer anyone interested in the history of World War II to view this movie.

Thanks for the opportunity to send this to you.

["Smut"--A Card Game. An African American's Story of War, and the Bonds of War by Diane Williams*]*

Chapter Three
The Comedy and Tragedy of War

Once while in a "rest are," Joe's company kitchen caught up with them. Oh, boy! A hot fresh breakfast, with French toast, marmalade, bacon, and real coffee. What a feast to look forward to!!! Everyone lined up for a great chow." Just as one of his buddies, also named Joe, was walking back to his truck, a German plane decided to strafe them. Joe's breakfast and coffee went one way, Joe the other! The plane also shot up two of Joe's truck tires. The men all got together and finally got the tires repaired and back on Joe's truck. Joe then went back to the chow truck for another serving of French toast and coffee. He got just about to the same place where he was before, when the plane strafed them again. The same thing happened with Joe and the food, and this time they only shot up one of Joe's tires. Joe was one of the best liked guys in the company--about 6' tall and 180 or 190 pounds. He also stuttered. He was so mad, no matter how hard he tried (and he did try) he couldn't get a word out! To this day no one knows what he was saying about that German pilot. Maybe it's best we don't know. Once everyone finished laughing, they fixed the flat tire, and Joe finally got his chow.



Then there was the incident of another friend, Kirk, whose left front wheel of his truck hit a mine. The force of the explosion blew off his combat boot and most of his foot. Kirk was a very handsome fellow, about 5'11" tall, 170 pounds, sandy, curly hair and grey eyes. That was his ticket home. Kirk lived in Minnesota. He visited Joe in Chicago after they were discharged, but they lost contact. So goes the young at heart, sometimes they forget to remember.

Letters from home were one of the most important things to the GI. Joe imagines that it is still true today. Sometimes when were in a rest area, their mail would catch up with them.

One day, two sergeants were sent back for their mail. They were Staff Sergeant Smith and Buck Sergeant Buckner, his driver. Upon returning to the company, for some reason Sergeant Buckner parked their truck into the sun. Sergeant Smith stepped out on the running board of the truck, and hollered, "Mail Call." Seconds later an "88" shell took his head off like you would cut off a chicken's head. His head was lying on the ground while his body flopped around like an oversized chicken.

Joe said, "We got our mail, but the price of the delivery was enormous. We were trained never to park with the windshield in the sun. Maybe the excitement of getting mail dulled Sergeant Buckner's senses; we'll never know. Sometimes in a combat zone you don't get a second chance,l not even to say I'm sorry."

So--some comedy, some tragedy◘

A group of Americans recently went on a tour to France. Robert Whiting, an elderly gentleman of 83, when he arrived at customs took a few moments to locate his passport. "Have you been to France before, monsieur?" the customs agent asked sarcastically. Mr. Whiting admitted he had been to Frence before. "Then you should know to have your passport ready."

Mr. Whiting said, "The last time I was here I didn't have to show it."

"Impossible, Americans always have to show their passports on arrival in France."

"When I arrived on Omaha Beach on D-Day, in 1944, there weren't any of you damned Frenchmen anywhere around to show it to."

ARE YOUR DUES DUE?

NEWTONITE DEFIED RIVER AND NAZIS

Sgt. Yerardi Volunteered to Scout Crossing for 101st on Way to Bastogne

[The following article was reprinted by The Boston Traveler, and was written by Andrew Tully. Date of reprint not provided.]

With the 26th Division in Luxembourg, Jan. 9 (1945)--This is the last of three stories on how the Yankee Division saved the important city of Bastogne from capture during the recent German counter-attack in Belgium and Luxembourg.

Not a Big River

The Sure river is not a big river. It is not especially wide and it hasn't the sudden depths of rivers like the Moselle and the Saar. But it is a swift river, very swift, and it runs through a series of gorges cut into a landscape that looks like a miniature of an Alpine countryside.

Now, after taking Eschdorf and Arsdorf, the path to the Sure lay open to the 26th Division. But it was a path that lay over a cruel system of peaks and ridges, over roads that executed hairpin turns on the brinks of precipices, in a sector coated with a thin, glassy mixture of ice and snow.

The YD soldiers standing atop one of these ridges looked down and across at a beautiful piece of the world. But because he had to fight his way across that gorgeous panorama, it was frightening, too. Actually, nobody stopped to look. The day and night attack schedule was still being sustained and the YD got its breath on the run after the battles for Arsdorf and Eschdorf.

Even as Eschdorf was falling, the third battalion of the 104th Regiment was swung wide to the right and sent streaming through forest lands down to the village of Heiderscheidergrund, just this side of the Sure. There it made contact with elements of the 80th Division, which has been cut off at the river bank, and relieved the pressure on these elements.

Bridge Blown Up

They found the bridge over the river at the point blown, and began to look for a place to ford the stream.

All the YD outfits swept toward the Sure now. The 1st Battalion of the 328th regiment, commanded by Maj. Bill Callahan of East Boston, which has taken Arsdorf with the help of the 2d battalion of the 101st, headed for the river by unimproved back roads, struggling at times over a "road" that was little more than a cow-path. The rest of the 328th came down the almost sheer cliffs to the town of Bonnal, clambering up and down the peaks to rout out enemy snipers and machine-gun emplacements that pecked at them all the was. Before Bonnal was reached a YD soldier has climbed every peak in the sector to flush the last possible Nazi resister.

The 328th fought all one night to place fire on the river, in a scene that was something out of a story-book. Bitter cold had descended on the area, and the men suffered from frostbite and chills. The next morning the 101st passed through to relieve the tired 328th, and the stage was set for the crossing, in two places, of the Sure.

In between, however, the enemy threw its air at the struggling Yanks. In a roaring air-ground battle on the day after Christmas the 390th anti-aircraft battalion destroyed 15 hostile planes and claimed three other "possibilities." Strafed and bombed and hammered by artillery, the Yanks kept their eyes on the Sure and continued their preparations for its crossing.

Light Snow Falling

It was cold and a light snow was falling when a combat team of the 101st swung up before the Sure to try the crossing. Immediately, it was met by a storm of enemy life and patrols were sent to probe up and down the river bank for a weak spot in the enemy defenses. A mile to the west they found the site they wanted.

A spearhead company--composed of companies K and L--was moved up and rubber assault boats were carried to the bank and tied fast against the pull of the stream. Everything was set for the crossing-everything except the unknown quantity which was Jerry on the far side. Col. Scott, of Washington, CO, of the regiment, studied the far bank with glasses. Nothing stirred. No manmade noise could be heard above the sound of the rushing river.

The "Old Man" looked around him. He didn't say a word. He didn't have to--every one knew he was asking: "Who's going to be first?"

A chunky kid with a growth of beard shambled forward. His name is Sgt. Joseph Michael Yerardi, of 34 River Street, West Newton, and he is Col. Scott's bodyguard. His buddies shuffled uneasily. Yerardi reached for the automatic rifle of a nearby rifleman. "Well," he said, softly, "Let's go."

Pushes Off in Boat

Then when the company lined the bank and covered the river with its weapons this boy laid the rifle on the bottom of the little rubber boat, looked around him slowly, let his own round bulk into the craft and pushed off into the torrent.

Still no noise. Still just the gurgle of water. Boyd held their breath as the swift current carried the tiny craft 200 yards down the river, while Yerardi paddled furiously. He made it. Made it at last.

The boat crashing against the opposite bank made a loud noise and the boys tightened their fingers on triggers. Yerardi leaped out, stumbled on the slippery bank, then was up onto the top of it. His rifle poised for firing, he disappeared into the under-brush and the boys waited.

Twenty minutes later the chunk that was Yerardi suddenly appeared a few yards from where he had last been seen. He whistled, held up his hands, like a winning prizefighter. The bank was clear.

Before the day was over, not only this 101st combat team, but the first and second battalions of the 104th had crossed the Sure. And the next day the hardy engineers had two bridges across the stream. "Bridgehead secured," the message in the "action against the enemy" report said.

The German force holding up the Fourth Armored in its attempt to drive toward Bastogne, which was under heavy siege, fell back quickly, fell way back to the northeast. The Fourth Armored tanks began to spit[sic] and move north to break the siege of Bastogne. Line company men of the 16th Infantry

(Continued)

NEWTONITE DEFIED (Continued)

division ate C Rations in the dark, rolled themselves in their four blankets apiece, and went to sleep in their snowy foxhole.

Nobody new then that Yankee Division had saved Bastogne. All they cared about was that for the first time in more than a week they weren't going to fight at night. Tomorrow, they would push on, of course, push on to towns with names like Mecherdunkrodg, Kaundorf and Bavigne, and the Sure would be far behind them. But tonight they were going to sleep.

In a town named Berlin, in Germany, supreme headquarters learned that the Bastogne affair was not going well.

[DEL BORDNER, 26TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 328TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, COMPANY C, sent us the Andrew Tully article along with the following excerpted information.]

The date line January 9, 1945, of Andrew Tully's article was a very significant date in the lives of Floyd E. Brown and Del Bordner of Company C, 328th Regiment, 26th Division.

We were both inducted into the Army on the same day in January 1943. We met for the first time in July 1943 at Boston College where we were assigned to the Army Specialized Training Program (ASTP). We were dorm roommates and classmates with identical schedules.

In March 1944 when ASTP was eliminated due to critical manpower shortages in the Army, we were reassigned.

We joined the 26th Division, which was on maneuvers in Tennessee. We were assigned to two different squads of the same 60 mm mortar section. We trained at Fort Jackson, SC. We earned the expert infantry badge at the same time. Our division became a part of Gen. Patton's Third Army in October 1944. We were both promoted to squad leaders about the same time and received our Combat Infantry Badges in November 1944.

On January 9, 1945, we were near Wiltz, Luxembourg. The forest was so thick we could not use our mortars. The mortar squads became bazooka teams.

Our luck was about to run out. Our regimental history book indicates the 1st Battalion made an advance of 1000 meters against determined enemy resistance.

I had only advanced about 25 meters when I got a bullet in the neck and was evacuated. It was sub-zero. I rejoined the company in two months.

Later on that day, Floyd was very seriously wounded by shrapnel. He was evacuated back to the States and was hospitalized for over two years.

Our company morning reports indicate that I lost my entire squad between Christmas Eve 1944 and January 9, 1945. Maurice Akers was killed Christmas Eve and the rest of us were wounded in that period.

Floyd died in July, 1979, after a bout with cancer.

It was an honor to know and serve with him and the other gallant men of Company C, 328th Infantry, Yankee Division.◘

EDUCATE THE KIDS REGARDING THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

WWII CHRISTMAS CARDS KEEPING LEGACY ALIVE

*[The following article was written by Leslie Richardson. It is believed the publication is **Republican Herald**--date not provided.]*

A Christmas card from 1944 found creased in the pages of a family Bible has helped continue the legacy of a group of Schuylkill County World War II veterans.

Russell Ruch, 84, secretary/treasurer of the Broad Mountain Chapter, 159th Engineer Combat Battalion, World War II, Inc., sent the card to his mother while stationed in Luxembourg.

"When my mother died in the '80s, I found this while going through her Bible, Ruch said.

The card became one of the methods he and other members of the veterans group used to spread well wishes to those currently serving in the armed forces.

Using church bulletins to ask for names, this year, 43 men and women received the single sided copy of the original card printed in red ink.

"I always semd the same card and I write a little something on the back," Ruch said. "I wish them well and I end by saying an old World War II expression, 'Keep your head and and your butt down."

Ruch and the group of three active members also prokduce a monthly newsletter filled with meeting notes and updat3es and mailed to 92 veterans and 106 honorary members.

The "labor of love" to preserve the unit's story also led to a book filled with p[hotos and written memories from members.

"After the war was over, we went to every library, historical society and highschool where these men were involved and presented them with a copy of the book that tells the story of our unit." Ruch said.

Ruchy's desire to preserve history also led to a correspondence with a former German prisoner of war, Hermann Klink.

Through a series of meticulously handwritten letters, Klink has told Ruch his story, before, during and after the war.

It's more than interesting, it's history," Ruch said.



JACQUELINE DORMER/STAFF PHOTO

WWII veteran Russell W. Ruch, secretary/treasurer of the Broad Mountain Chapter, 159th Engineer Combat Battalion, WWII, Inc. shows a photo of himself in Luxembourg.

AMERICAN PW'S

Reprinted from YANK Weekly

The Germans paid no attention to the Geneva Convention; they beat our men with rifle butts, failed to feed them, took away their clothes and occasionally refused them medical aid.

By Sgt Ed Cunningham
YANK Staff Correspondent

With 104th Division, Germany--The MP sergeant was apologetic. He said he was sorry but there was no other kind of transportation.

"I'll have to send you all back to corps headquarters in a six by six. It's the best I can do now. The truck will be ready right after chow. The rations are short, because of the long supply lines but we'll make supper as good as possible."

Two or three of the 12 soldiers sitting around the room laughed.

"We're kinda short to rations by now," one said.

"Yes," remarked the soldier on the sofa next to him, "the Germans never spread any banquets for us."

"I know that," said the MP sergeant, Ray Bunt, of Lafayette, Louisiana. "That's what gripes hell out of me every day when I have to feed these kraut prisoners. Because of the Geneva Convention or some goddam thing, I have to give those bastards a C-ration at nine o'clock in the morning and another at four in the afternoon. Besides that, they can have all the water they want."

"The Germans who had us never bothered about the Geneva Convention," said another of the men. "They walked us two days and nights without food after they took us at St. Vith. And the only water we had was what we could get in the ditches when the snow melted."

That started the rest of the stories. Sitting there in the parlor of a German home which had been requisitioned as MP billets, the dozen Yanks who had been released from German PW cages when the 104th Division over-ran it told what happened to them during their captivity.

The "dean" of the prisoners had spent two years and eight months in a PW camp. He had been captured in August 1942 and had been shot in the ankle and thigh by a German sniper just before he was taken prisoner. Despite his wounds, the Germans made him walk 12 miles to a prisoner camp without giving him medical attention.

After a week in the French prison, he and 1,500 other Allied prisoners were herded into French 40 by 8 cars and taken to Stalag 8-B at Lamsdorf in Ober Silesia. The ration for each man for the four-day and four-night train ride was a load of bread, a third of a tin of meat and a quarter pound of margarine.

"When we got to Lamsdorf," he said, "they put all the prisoners in a compound by ourselves. We couldn't have any contact with the other Allied prisoners there. There were 400 men in each hut which was built to hold only 200. And just to make sure we weren't too comfortable they tied our hands with binder twine from eight in the morning until eight at night. Later, they used handcuffs instead of the twine. That went on for a whole year. Sometimes, some of the boys managed to slip out of their manacles but if they were caught they got five days solitary confinement in the bunker with no food at all.

Despite temperatures that dropped to 10 and 20 below zero, the Germans made no effort to heat the prisoners' barracks. The men had to sleep in their clothes with their overcoats for blankets. Many had frozen feet and fingers which were amputated by Allied military doctors in the prison.

"The food at Lamsdorf was terrible," he said, "They gave us a loaf of bread for seven men and it was usually green with mold. Sometimes we'd get about a quart of watery soup made from the water the Germans boiled their own potatoes in with a few cabbage leaves thrown in to make it look like soup. I lost about 50 pounds in my two years and five months at Lamsdorf."

Along with the 8,000 other Allied prisoners at Lamsdorf, he was evacuated from the Silesian prison camp on January 23, 1945, because the Russian Army had advanced to within five miles of the Stalag. All men who were able to walk were forced to do so. The seriously sick were transported in freight cars. He marched with the column for 13 days until frozen feet forced him to drop out about 60 miles east of Leipzig. "I was lucky," he said. "They put me on a train and sent me here. But some of the other boys who had frozen feet and hands never made it. Their guards clubbed them with rifles and left them laying there along the roadside in the snow and zero temperatures when they dropped out because of bad feet. God knows what happened to them."

"The bastards did the same thing to our guys," another soldier said. "They beat them with rifle butts when they couldn't walk any further. And if any of the stronger ones tried to help a guy they saw getting weak, the guards clubbed them too. Besides that, they egged on the German kids in the towns we went through to throw stones at us. Another trick they had was taking our personal pictures of our family and girl friends from us and stomping on them or tearing them up. When some of the fellows got sore, seeing their mothers or girls' pictures stepped on, and stepped out of line to do something about it, the guards beat them with rifles or the blunt edge of their bayonets."

This man, an infantryman from the 14th Armored Division, was captured at Biche on January 2, during the German breakthrough in Belgium and Luxembourg. Along with 200 other Americans, he was loaded on a freight train and sent to Eastern Germany. They had neither food nor water on the trip, which took four days and five nights. Their overcoats, blankets, field jackets and shoes were taken away from them, together with their watches and other personal belongings.

"We licked the ice that formed on the hinges of the box car for water," he said. "There were 60 or 70 of us in each car with no blankets, or warm clothes or even straw to sleep on. And just to make sure we didn't get any sleep, the German guard would stop outside the car several times during the night and fire a couple of rounds in on us. They weren't trying to hit us, because they always fired high, but they must tried to keep us awake so we wouldn't have the energy to try to escape."◘

FLORIDA MONUMENT ARTICLE CORRECTIONS

We received the following information from Harry E. Kirby, of the Golden Triangle Chapter of Florida.

"I greatly appreciate your running the article about our Florida Golden Triangle Chapter 48 monument dedication on Veterans Day, 2008. You used the material I had mailed you verbatim. Thank you.

"However, there were glaring errors on page three of the issue in the item concerning the Florida Governor's Proclamation. It was initiated by the Florida Southeast Chapter, not our Chapter 48.

"First, this information did not come from Harry Kirby of the (Southeast) Chapter.

"I did not submit this information, nor have I ever been a member of George Fisher's Southeast Chapter 62. I am a member, and Past President of the Golden Triangle Chapter 48.

"Secondly, in the third paragraph of this article, our Chapter 48 monument dedication was confused with the Southeast Chapter also. The Southeast Chapter did not have a monument dedication of any kind. I think you were referring to our Chapter 48 dedication, which is covered on page 24.

"I phoned Southeast Chapter President, George Fisher, a friend of mine, to explain the errors; however, he had not yet received his copy of the February issue."◘

Colin Powell attended a large conference in England, and was asked by the Archbishop of Cantgerbury, if our plans for Iraq, were just an example of empire building by the United States.

Powell replied, "Over the years, the United States has sent many of it's fine, young men and women into great peril to fight for freedom far beyond its borders. The only thing we have ever asked in return is eno ugh land to bury those who didn't return."

It got very quiet!



Christmas 1944
86th Chemical Mortar Bn.

TUCSON, AZ REUNION
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2009



RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 9/14/09

See Page 20

MALMEDY MASSACRE

Ralph Storm
Company B
21st Armored Infantry Battalion
11th Armored Division

[Ralph Storm has contributed several times to our newsletter. We found this enlightening article in the 11th Armored Division newsletter, dated April, 2009.]

Six months after the invasion in June, 1944, Allied armies were entrenched along the edge of Germany. Confronting the GIs and British troops was a line of forts known to the Germans as the West Wall. GIs called it the Siegfried line. In the north, First Army troops had attempted a break through in the Hurtgen Forest, but had failed. Farther south, the Third Army had been heavily engaged at Metz, France. The front between, the area in Luxembourg and eastern Belgium was a lightly held area of steep gorges and fir forests. The front line which separated the GIs from the Wehrmacht was a twisting front line that worked its way in and out of Belgium and Germany. The GIs suspected that the people of eastern Belgium were predominantly pro-German. Before World War I these people had been German and when the Germans invaded Belgium in 1940, more than 8,000 men had been called up to serve in the Germany army. In the early winter of 1941, GIs in the crossroads villages of the Ardennes heard rumors about German soldiers that would steal into the American held area at night to visit their girlfriends.

Before the Americans were to begin their assault on the West Wall, heavy artillery pieces were towed into the forest and positioned for firing. Anticipating counter-battery fire from the Germans which would endanger the civilian residents, the army evacuated some ten thousand civilians leaving only a few men in the Ardennes villages to tend the animals.

The German offensive began in the third week of December 1944. The offensive was originally named after the commander-in-chief, Field Marshall Von Rundstedt, but after the war it was revealed that Adolph Hitler had planned the campaign. The offensive was aimed at the Meuse River and Antwerp, the main allied supply port. The distance between the Ardennes and Antwerp was 100 miles as the crow flew!

Adolph Hitler had survived an assassination attempt by regular army officers in July, 1944. Therefore, to spearhead the German thrust toward the Neuse, Hitler chose SS Panzer units. Hitler could trust the SS, as newly recruited SS members had taken a solemn oath not to God, not to Germany, not to the German Army, but to Adolph Hitler. An elite bodyguard, the Leibstandarte would lead the way to the Meuse and beyond. But five years of fighting had thinned the ranks of the SS. By May, 1943, the SS was recruiting future SS men from various occupied countries. From Holland, Rumania, Hungary, Norway, even a Belgian, Leo Degrelle, became commander of an SS regiment. The younger SS men were less controllable and more likely to commit savagery upon civilian populations. One well-known example of SS ruthlessness occurred at the village of Oradour-Sur-Glane in Southwest France in July, 1944. SS men burned every house and most of the population after resistant fighters had shot an SS officer. This was typical east-front warfare.



On December 16, or Day One of the Wacht am Rhein, a German infantry unit broke through the thinly held American line near Losheimer, Germany. From that point, Joachim Peiper (picture at left) was to lead the Leibstrandarte battle group made up of 5,000 men equipped with Panther and Tiger tanks, plus an armored infantry battalion. Peiper's plan was to move rapidly to the west, avoiding fights by using firebreaks through the fir forests. Peiper planned to turn south at Baugnez crossroads, thus avoiding the city of Malmedy, two miles north.

Meanwhile First Army would be sending three armored divisions down from the north to confront the German columns. A bulge, some sixty miles long, from eastern Belgium extending south into Luxembourg, was appearing on American battle maps. The first of these armored divisions, Seventh Armored, had just passed through the Baugnez crossroads on its way to St. Vith. Sandwiched into the Seventh Armored columns was Battery B of the 285th Field Artillery Observation Battalion. Battery B was not a combat outfit, but a technical unit, a sound-and-flash unit. Their task was to monitor enemy artillery fire and transmit information back to the firing batteries. No one knew how the 285th Battery got into the Seventh Armored column, but on that day, Sunday, December 17, Day Two of the bulge, most of the men in Battery B would be executed by the SS at Baugnez.

Historian Charles MacDonald told of the premonition of a victim that morning when the Battery men were boarding their trucks near Aachen, Germany. "The batteries had 33 vehicles, numbered B-1 to B-33. Cpl. Ernest W. Bechtel was one of the men assigned to a 6x6 numbered B-26 one only of a few that had no tarpaulin over the top. As the men were loading, Bechtel spied his best friend, Cpl. Luke B. Swartz. He was standing with his head bowed just behind the next truck, B-25. "Hey," called Bechtel, "Why don't you ride with the with the men on B-25?" "No," replied Swartz, "It's beginning to sleet. I'll ride on one of the trucks with a tarp." It was his last day anyway. "Ernie," he said, "I'll not be going home. Something terrible is going to happen to most of us today, but you'll be going back. Tell the folks back home that I love them."

"What the hell are you talking about?" demanded Bechtel. Without further word, Swartz climbed into B-25. Just as the convoy got underway, Bechtel boarded B-26.

When the Battery B convoy reached the Baugnez crossroads, German tanks fired on the convoy setting a number of trucks on fire and scattering the occupants. Some were hit, the survivors were rounded up and marched to a meadow where they were bunched together. The men stood with their hands up. When a Panther tank came by and stopped. Joachim Peiper stood up in the turret. Peiper spoke several languages. He called out to the prisoners: "It's a long way to Tipperary!" None of the GIs replied. Peiper's tank moved on. A number of German tanks pulled up onto the meadow and confronted the prisoners. A single Rumanian soldier came up, cocked his pistol and shot two of the GIs. Then another SS man shouted, (Continued)

MALMEDY MASSACRE (Continuation)

"Machen alle Kaput," (kill them all). Machine guns began to chatter. Prisoners began to fall singly and in groups. The officer shouted, "Stand fast," then fell dead. Some men made a run for it but were cut down. Others played dead. Homer K. Ford, a military policeman who had been directing traffic at the crossroads, was sounded in the massacre.

"Men were lying around moaning and crying. When the Germans came over they would say, "Is he breathing?" And would either shoot or hit them with the butt of their guns. The closest they came to me was about ten feet. After they fired at us I lay stretched out with my hands out and I could feel the blood running out.... I was lying in the snow and got wet and I started to shiver and was afraid they would see me shivering. But they didn't. I had my head down and they couldn't see, but they were walking around the whole bunch and they went over right next to me. The men were moaning and taking on something terrible. I also heard the butt hit their heads and a squishing noise."

The total death toll at the Baugnez crossroads was 84 Americans and one civilian. The civilian was Madame Bodarwe, who kept the crossroads cafe. The SS men burned the cafe and Madame Bodarwe simply disappeared.

The people of the Belgian Ardennes were mostly made up of French-speaking Walloons, but in the northeast corner, before the Versailles Treaty of 1919, most residents were ethnic Germans. American soldiers who entered the border area homes noticed photos of young men in Wehrmacht uniforms. Madame Bodarwe had three sons in the German Army.

One witness to the massacre was Henri Lejoly, a local farmer. When SS m,en alleged that Lejoly was a "terrorist" and spy, "Lejoly declared emphatically, "Ich bin doch Deutsch!" (of course, I'm German). In another village, SS men interrogated an older villager who had served in the First World War. Was he another "terrorist and spy?" The older man denied the charged and pulled out his Wehrmacht paybook which showed a list of the battles he had fought during the Great War. But in a number of nearby villages there were multiple murders committed by Peiper's fanatical SS troopers employing the East Front behavior.

When a group of three wounded, bloody survivors were fleeing toward Malmedy, they were met by a patrol from the 291st Combat Engineer Battalion. The engineer party took them to medics at Malmedy and then notified First Army headquarters at Spa. At First Army, the Inspector General of First Army ordered that maximum publicity be given to the massacre story. By that night, the story of the Baugnez massacre was getting down to division commanders. Front line soldiers were soon hearing that the SS men were shooting American prisoners. The Army newspaper, *Stars and Stripes*, ran the story on their front page the next day. There were some units in which written orders were sent to the troops. One order was given to the men of the 328th Infantry Regiment: "No SS troops or paratroopers will be taken prisoner, but will be shot on sight."

No exact records were kept on the number of German prisoners shot by American soldiers after the Baugnez massacre. However, the historian James Tent estimated that the SS soldier's East Front behavior in the West cost the lives of thousands of German prisoners who otherwise might have survived." One mass shooting was reported by historian Max Hastings, who wrote of "some sixty German POW's who were killed by the U.S. Eleventh Armored Division."

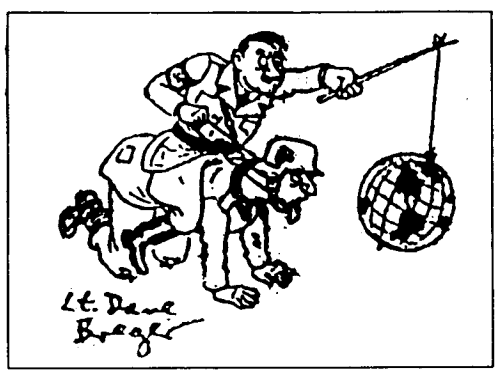
At the same time when the Baugnez killings were announced, Supreme Allied headquarters began a search for the unidentified SS unit that had perpetrated the war crime. By May, 1946, the U.S. Army in Germany had rounded up some 74 men who allegedly had massacred American prisoners of war as well as Belgian civilians in December, 1944. Heading the list at the trial was assigned Colonel Willis Everett, an Atlanta, Georgia, attorney. The trial ended in July with death sentences for all of the accused, but not before Everett discovered that the prosecution had used "rough methods of interrogation." This included beatings, mock trials, simulated executions, and forces confessions.

One troubling aspect of the trial was that for the most part, Americans and Germans had endeavored to follow the limitations imposed by the Geneva Convention in regard to prisoners of war. However, there had been some violations, and one of these occurred in July, 1943, near Biscari, Sicily. Here, troops of the 45th Infantry Division had killed seventy-five italians and Germans. After an investigation, a sergeant was convicted and sentenced to life in prison, but was reinstated after one year. Also, before D-Day; in Normandy, General Maxwell Taylor, of the 101st Airborne Division, ordered his troops to take no prisoners after the Normandy landings.

The *zeitgeist*, the national mood in America had changed with the coming of the Cold War. But former SS man, Joachim Peiper, did not fit easily into German society. He took jobs with Porsche in Frankfort and with VW in Stuttgart, but was dismissed each time. He was too well known in Germany to be acceptable. In 1957 he moved to a somewhat remote area in Alsace, France. But if Americans had been in a forgiving mood toward peiper, there were French men with long memories of the SS and their murders in France. Peiper lost his life in a firebomb attack at his home in France in 1976.

There are dozens of battle monuments and markers in Belgium and Luxembourg. Possibly the best known is the Mardasson, a magnificent stone structure built near Bastogne. The Mardasson has the shape of a five point star, after the white star on U.S. military vehicles. The town of Houffalize has a Panther tank on the main avenue. At La Gleize is a King Tiger tank in front of a war museum. It arrived there after the battle when some Americans were clearing vehicles from a nearby field. There was a question as to what should be done with a monstrous German tank.

Roger Marquet recalled: After the battle when the Americans decided to clean out the abandoned vehicles, a woman of La Gleize attended the operation. When the tank arrived on the square, the driver was uneasy to go on. The woman had a great idea. She would give the driver a bottle of cognac. He would park the Tiger on the spot. Nobody ever claimed the Tiger back after the exchange."◘



VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE, INC.
THE HOTEL ARIZONA AT THE TUCSON CONVENTION CENTER
TUCSON, ARIZONA
OCTOBER 6-11, 2009

REUNION PROGRAM

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

2:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Registration headquarters, The Hotel Arizona
6:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Margarita, chips & salsa reception. (compliments of the Hotel AZ)
	Hospitality room will be open
	Dinner on your own. The hotel has a great restaurant.

Wednesday, October 7, 2009

12 noon – 5:00 pm	Registration headquarters The Hotel Arizona
10:00 am	Memorial Wreath Laying in Presidio Park. An easy walk from the hotel including wheelchairs.
	Spend the afternoon visiting shops on Convention Plaza or rest.
	Lunch on your own.

Wednesday Night, October 7, 2009

5:30 pm – 10:00 pm	Bus departs for Gaslight Theater. Board the bus after the show.
	Dinner on your own before or at the theater

Thursday, October 8, 2009

9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Bus departs for The Pima Air and Space Museum and the AMARG. Tour both facilities. Return to hotel about 3:00 pm.
	Lunch on your own at Sweet Tomatoes. Dinner on your own.

Friday, October 9, 2009

10:00 am – 3:00 pm	Bus departs for the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum Tour. Return to the hotel about 3:00 pm. Lunch on your own at museum 4 cafes.
6:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Mexican Fiesta buffet dinner with Mariachi's and dancers.

Saturday, October 10, 2009

	Free time and enjoy Tucson Meet Yourself. Lunch on your own.
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	General membership meeting.
6:00pm – 7:00 pm	Reception (cash bar)
7:00 pm	Annual Banquet - Reenactors Color Guard

Sunday, October 11, 2009

7:30 am	Farewell Breakfast

Hospitality Room: Location and times will be posted in the registration room.

See "Highlights and Schedule Information" sheet for details

VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE, INC. ANNUAL REUNION

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

Division: _____ Regiment: _____

Wife/Guest Name: _____

Signature: _____

Airline: _____ Flight Number: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Arrival Time: _____

Departure Date: _____ Departure time: _____

	People	Cost per Person	Total Cost
Registration Fee (all attendees must register)	_____	$20	$ _____
Tuesday, October 6, 2009 Margarita, chips and salsa reception (compliments of hotel) Dinner on your own	_____	Free	
Wednesday, October 7, 2009 Memorial Wreath Laying – lunch on your own Bus to Gaslight Theater – dinner on your own	_____	$30	$ _____
Thursday, October 8, 2009 Pima Air Museum and AMARC - lunch on your own Dinner on your own	_____	$45	$ _____
Friday, October 9, 2009 Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum – lunch on your own	_____	$30	$ _____
Mexican Fiesta (catered by Hotel)	_____	$30	$ _____
Saturday, October 10, 2009 Visit "Tucson Meet Yourself" (food fair in Presidio Park) General Membership Meeting Reception (cash bar) Banquet (indicate preference)	_____		
☐ **Prime Rib** ☐ **Salmon**	_____	$40	$ _____
Sunday, October 11, 2009 Farewell Breakfast	_____	Free	
Total amount enclosed (all taxes and gratuities included) See Highlights and Schedule Information Sheet for details			$ _____

Mail registration form and check to:
Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, PO Box 101418, Arlington, VA 22210-4418

REGISTRATION FORM DEADLINE - SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

(Refunds for cancellation, will be honored in whole or in part, depending on availability of funds)

DISCOVER TUCSON AND THE SOUTHWEST
VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE 28TH ANNUAL REUNION
HOSTED BY SOUTHERN ARIZONA CHAPTER LIII
OCTOBER 6-11, 2009
TUCSON REUNION HIGHLIGHTS AND SCHEDULE INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION

We are planning to have people from the Southern Arizona VBOB Chapter VII, Tucson, and from the Arizona Chapter XXIII, Phoenix, assist people at the airports when they arrive. Therefore please fill in the blanks about arrival time, etc. on the Registration Form.

Our Annual VBOB Reunion will convene at The Hotel Arizona at The Tucson Convention Center to continue with the 65th Anniversary Celebration.

The Hospitality Room is there for you to socialize and enjoy the many exhibits, photo books and Battle of the Bulge memorabilia. The Hospitality Room hours will be posted in the lobby of the hotel

REGISTRATION FEE

All who attend the VBOB Reunion must pay the registration fee. Wreaths, nametags, programs, table decorations, hospitality room, etc., are paid for from this fee. The Quartermaster will also be available for your purchase of BOB items.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2009

Welcome Margarita, chips & salsa reception, (6:30 – 7:30) Compliments of The Hotel Arizona. Dinner on your own. Hotel has an excellent restaurant.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2009

Memorial Laying of the Wreath at the Southern Arizona Chapter VIII Monument in Presidio Park with Army band from Fort Huachuca and color guard. An easy walk from the hotel. Lunch on your own. Visit Convention Plaza shops and hospitality room.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 7, 2009

Enjoy a great evening at the Gaslight Theater. Thrill to foot stomping musical comedy, melodrama with honky-tonk piano. Cheer the hero and boo the villain. The show is "The Legend of Cronan the Barbarian" or "Take My Sword For It". Enjoy mountains of free popcorn with the show. Dinner on your own or at the theater, which features pizza, sandwiches, beer, wine, soft drinks, etc.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2009

Explore aviation history at The Pima Air and Space Museum and the Aircraft Maintenance & Regeneration Group (AMARG) More than 260 aircraft are on display including all WWII planes, JFK's Air Force One, X-15, SR-71 and more. Some are in hangers but the majority are an outdoor exhibit. The AMARC on the grounds of the Davis-Monthan Air Force Base contains over 6,000 "mothballed" planes. Lunch at Sweet Tomatoes on your own and dinner own your own.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2009

Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum exhibits the living, outdoor world of nature found in the Sonoran Desert region. More than 200 different living animals and 500 kinds of plants are on display in naturalistic settings. This region has more species of hummingbirds than anywhere in the United States. This will be an unforgettable experience .Lunch at your own, 4 different eateries on the grounds.

FRIDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 9, 2009

A Mexican Fiesta in the hotel banquet room. A full Mexican Buffet and entertainment by the Mariachi Azlan de Pueblo High School. There are 12-15 students who will knock your socks off with their excellent Mariachi music in full costume. They have played around the world and also with the Tucson Philharmonic Orchestra. Beautiful dancers included.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2009

Tucson Meet Yourself. A once a year event and it takes place during our reunion. Wander through hundreds of ethnic foods from Vietnamese fish dishes to Columbian empanadas. Five stages filled with traditional dances and song. This takes place in Presidio Park and back of the hotel in the Community Center.

General Membership Meeting (2:00-4:00 PM)
Location will be posted in the lobby.
Reception (6:00 PM) Cash bar.
Annual Battle of the Bulge Military Banquet (7:00 PM)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2009

Farewell Breakfast (7:30 AM) Say farewell to all.

The Hotel Arizona at the Tucson Convention Center

181 West Broadway – Tucson, Arizona 85701

Tel. 520-624-8711 – Fax 520-622-8143

Toll free – 1-800-845-4596

www.thehotelarizona.com

WELCOME

VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

October 6-11, 2009

HOTEL INFORMATION

The hotel is offering a three-day window before and after the reunion dates at a rate of **$101.00** per night, single or double occupancy. This rate includes all taxes, a full American breakfast, and free covered parking.

When calling in to make your reservation use either the hotel phone number or their toll free number and say you are with the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge group. We suggest you guarantee your reservation with a charge card.

In the event you need to cancel your reservation, please inform the hotel 48 hours prior to the day of scheduled arrival. Reservation requests received after September 21nd will be confirmed on a space available basis.

Check-in time is 3:00 PM and checkout is 12:00 noon.

Complimentary shuttle service to and from Tucson International Airport

Hotel amenities: Complimentary shuttle service within a 5 miles radius of the hotel based upon availability. Large heated outdoor pool, full service restaurant and lounge, gift shop, secured and covered parking.

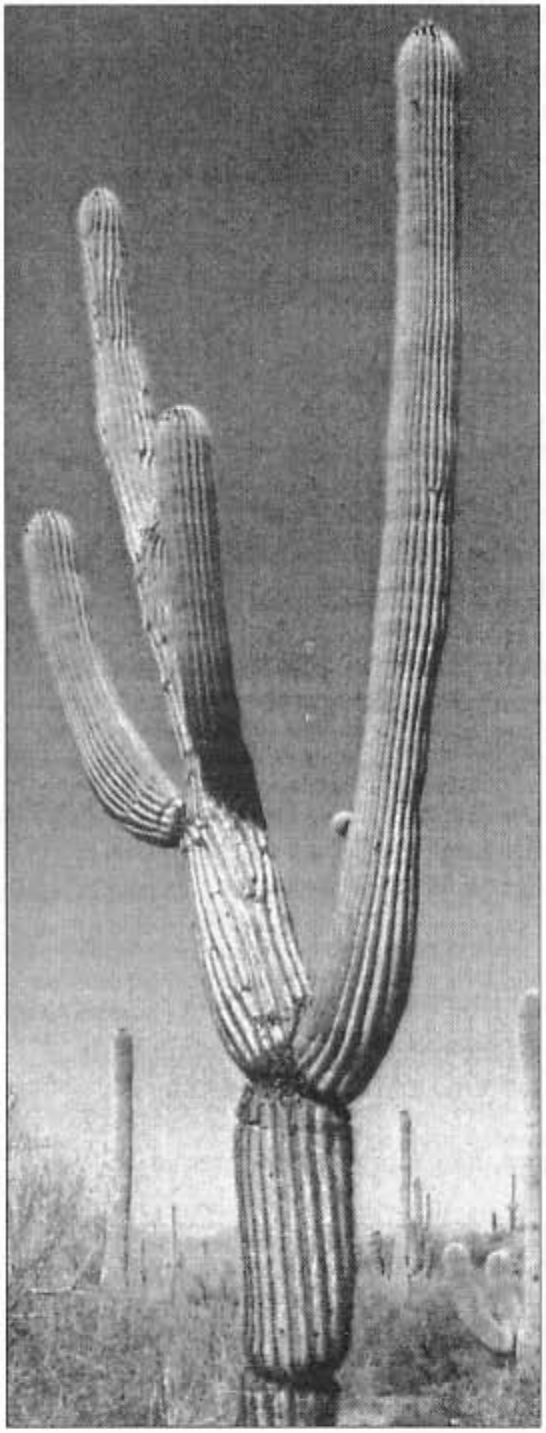
Sleeping room amenities: Coffee maker, hair dryer, iron and ironing board, FREE high speed internet, TV.

DIRECTIONS TO THE HOTEL

FROM WEST: Exit I-10 (#254) on Prince Road. Take Frontage Road past I-10 construction, turn left (east) on Congress St. (underneath the highway) about one block to Granada Ave. The Hotel Arizona is on your right. FROM SKY HARBOR AIRPORT, PHOENIX: We recommend you take the Tucson-Phoenix Shuttle to Tucson. Fare is approximately $65, round trip.

FROM EAST: Exit I-10 (#259) on 29th Street. Stay on Frontage Road past I-10 construction, turn right (east) on Congress St. through Granada Ave. The Hotel Arizona is on your right.

FROM TUCSON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT: (about 9 miles) Exiting the airport parking lot you are on Tucson Blvd. Continue on Tucson Blvd. (north) to Valencia Road (about one mile). Turn left (west) and go about ½ mile on Valencia to Campbell Ave. Turn right (north) on Campbell and go about 6 miles to Broadway Blvd. (NOTE: Campbell changes name to Kino Blvd. about half way to Broadway.) Turn left (west) for about 2 miles on Broadway (which boulevards and becomes Congress). You can either turn left at the median break to the Hotel or do a U-turn left at the light at Granada Ave. and the Hotel will be immediately on your right.



Enjoy a great evening at the Gaslight

TUCSON, AZ REUNION
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2009



THE LEGEND OF CRONAN THE BARBARIAN or "Take My Sword For It!"

Explore Aviation History

TUCSON, AZ REUNION
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2009
AMARC "THE BONEYARD" 4,200 AIRCRAFT



Plus... **Receptions, Fiestas, Ethnic Foods, Exhibits, Traditional Dances, Desert, Museums and VBOB Camaradie are in store for you at VBOB's Tucson Reunion. Make your reservations now! (Check the center spread for complete details)**

RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 9/14/09

Wendell Phillippi - A General Look Reprinted from WWII TIMES

No "good war" for those on front lines

Anyone who calls World War II a "good war" is nuts. It is a damned shame that historians, publishers, noncombatants and some of the general American public have ever accepted Studs Terkel's title for a book.

It is doubtful if he invented the term because a lot of people who put on a uniform in the rear areas or at a desk job no doubt did have it good. I never heard a GI on the front lines talk about a good war. Or since.

GIs knew then and many now know that war is dirty, cruel, and a horrible experience — so horrible that many families of veterans who served up front never heard much from their loved ones about war when they came home.

Webster defines war as a "state of open, declared armed fighting between states and nations, a state of hostility, conflict, antagonism." As for good, Webster says: "Of a favorable character or tendency." Terkel, a one-time disk jockey, even says in a preface note that the terms "good" and "war" are incongruous.

So the good boys are illiterate besides being wrong — and attack the moral fibre of those who served and died in war.

Just think of it — only one in 15 in uniform actually fought in World War II. So the fighter is outnumbered and his rear area veterans can sit back, rub their fat bellies and call it a good war.

Occasionally I go to reunions and I enjoy seeing old friends and soldiers who fought the good fight — different than the good war. But we seldom talk about a given battle unless we are talking about tactics. If someone starts talking about how many machine guns he knocked out or the number of enemy he killed, you can almost guess that he either heard it from someone else, made it up, or has read too many novels.

The only thing that could be considered good is the common camaraderie that fighting units create and experience. Without a family type adhesion units are not effective — be it a squad, platoon, company, battalion or regiment. The fighter sometimes wore a division patch but that was a high level operation compared to his lowly fire fight at the front. After the war one finds out about his division but by and large the fighter is on a very low level. He only wishes that his fellow regiment or other neighbor on his flanks would fight harder so the battle could be won sooner.



General Phillippi

The "good war" concept is a slap in the face to Gold Star Mothers. Obviously they are small in number today and are seldom remembered except at Memorial Day or some special occasion. They have no big lobby in Washington, only bad memories in the loss of a loved one. And someone they had only with them for a few years before the call to arms.

It is impossible for most of us to even begin to realize what goes on in their minds and hearts when they see the enemy nations of the "good war," Hitler's Germany and Hirohito's Japan, emerging as two of the strongest nations in the world.

Another reason that Americans have tolerated the term, "good war" is that our country has never been occupied. Our country has never been nearly destroyed by enemy weapons. Is it any wonder that Russians have been so defensive, having had their native land ravaged by war for centuries?

The overwhelming majority of Americans have no idea what war is about. And unfortunaltely few of them care. Some only worried about their overtime in a defense plant or the shortage of sugar and gasoline.

So as we celebrate the end of World War II, we should never forget the war dead or the lads who suffered wounds that have prevented them from leading the good life. We should remind our leaders, historians and phrase makers that we no longer care for the term, good war.

The gallant thing would be for Terkel and his publishers to change the title of the book in future editions.

The famous cartoonist, Bill Mauldin, is quoted in Terkel's book thus: "I didn't feel we accomplished anything positive." He adds that we got rid of a negative, Hitler. But the world knows we did not get rid of the other negative, Hirohito.

If you really want to get mad, get a copy of the book from your library and then write the publisher what you think.

The best thing we can do as we observe and thank God for the possible end of the Cold War, let's knife the concept of a good war. There ain't no such thing, as any real fighter of World War II knows. It would give the observation of the Big 5-0 a new meaning.

Phillippi, a former managing editor of the Indianapolis NEWS, is a retired Army major general.

VBOB. Inc. is non-partisan. It encourages candidates of all political persuasions and incumbents to support legislation important to: National Defense and to Active, Reserve, National Guard, retired members of the uniform services, other veterans, their families, and survivors.

SAVED BY A GERMAN MEDAL

by George H. Jackson
5th Infantry Division
2nd Infantry Regiment
2nd Battalion
Company F

In Luxembourg mid--morning December 24, 1944. It was a sunny day and our Company F was on the road to take over positions of the 4th Infantry Division, 12th Infantry Regiment.

My platoon was bringing up the rear on a paved road in the m mountain area. The Germans opened fire on us on our left from the woods. My squad leader, Dengel, headed for a bolder down a slight slope. As first scout, I was behind him. While behind the boulder someone hollered, "Dengel take your squad around the left flank." I tried to determine whose voice it was as I was sure we didn't have a platoon officer or platoon sergeant with us. I started to move because I heard so many times, "scouts out, Jackson." Something in my head said check your rifle and make sure you have a full clip. As I did, Dengel moved out in front of me and a German behind the boulder shot him with a burp gun. It spun him partly around. I dropped down and crawled backwards to go around the other side of the boulder to shoot the German.

As I was crawling, my heart started beating hard. I looked and realized I was over a camouflaged foxhole. In inched backward and with one hand lifted a limb of a branch and a German lifted it up with both hands. He had a blood spot on his nose between his upper life. I figured that took the fight out of him. I motioned for him to go to the road. I continued to crawl to the other side of the boulder. There was a mound of dirt there that was from the foxhole. I kneeled behind the mound and about ten yards in front, I saw a German run from right to left. I shot at him. I started shaking my head as my ears felt stopped up. Many, many years later, I realized that the bullets were causing the feeling.

Then a bullet hit me on the left side of my chest. It knocked me back on my heels. I could feel the blood and pain. I dashed up the road and could see puffs of dirt as I did. I figured they were shooting at me. I heard someone holler, "Jackson's hit." Dawdle, our medic, started cutting through my jacket, sweater and shirt with his scissors. My dog tags fell out and I reached out and grabbed them, fearing that if I died without them nobody would know my name. Dawdle poured some sulphur powder on it and patched it up. Dawdle told me to go to the aid station.

I started walking back the way we came, hoping to find an aid station. Someone hollered, "take this prisoner with you." As we were walking, I was in a hurry to find the aid station. I told the prisoner in German to move faster. He said, in German, "I don't understand." I told him or asked him in German, "Do you understand shooting." He said, "Ya." and I told him faster in German.

He was around 40 years old and I figured he didn't want to take orders from a 19-year-old. As we walked, I heard someone holler, "Where are you going with that prisoner?" Across the road under a cliff was a lt. colonel with about eight prisoners. I left the prisoner and thought--we're up there fighting and he's back here guarding prisoners.

I kept walking and looked across a field and saw an ambulance and some buildings. I walked over and into a small one-room shack. There were two doctors treating two or three wounded soldiers. I noticed along the wall there were cartoons of blood plasma and most of the bottles were busted from the cold weather.

As I waited, the door opened and they brought a soldier on a stretcher. I looked and it was a soldier from my squad with his guts handing out. I walked outside and sat down on the ground and thought--what am I worried about. The soldier was elderly when he us recently. He told me had been a ground observer with the air force. He also told me he was a half brother to Jack Benny.

I lit a cigarette and a German prisoner came over and motioned for a cigarette. I motioned him away. Years later, I regretted not giving him a cigarette as he could have shot me in the back. I recognized him as the one I routed out of the fox hole.

I went inside and the doctor looked at my wound and called the other doctor over who I thought looked as if it was his first day there. He was told it was a "lucky wound or something to that effect." The doctor put a patch on it and have me a "blue hornet" which we called a sleeping pill and told me to go back to my company kitchen and take it.

I walked further back and saw a barn and our kitchen was inside. I talked to one of the cooks and showed him the pill and asked him where I could go after taking it. He pointed to the jay loft. I went up the ladder and slept until the morning of the 26th of December. I had slept through Christmas Day. The evening of the 26th, I was told that in the morning of the 27th, I was going back to my squad before daylight.

Some months earlier, back in France, as some of us were standing around, one guy said he was pinning a German medal on my chest. "This is for bravery" or something to that effect, he said. The ribbon was a littler larger than say, our Good Conduct Ribbon and had a pair of miniature crossed swords on it. When I looked at some time later and saw one edge bent, I realized that it had deflected the bullet and saved my life. I think was a German cavalry ribbon.

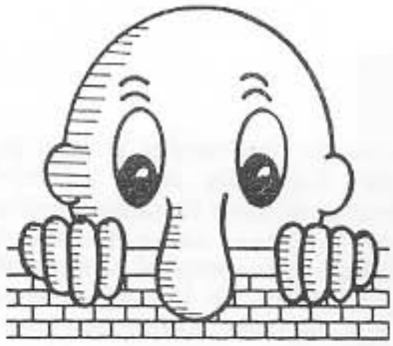
I was evacuated to England later in February, 1945, and in a repo depot tent, I laid it on a table beside my bunk and someone stole it.◘

LITSINBERGER CHAPTER VETERANS HONORED

Richard Wheeler, President of the Litsinberger Chapter, advises us that Friday, August 22, 2008, was the Day of Honor for their chapter veterans and the Orange High School in Delware County, Ohio. The chapter donated a 12' x 18' American flag to be flown from the school's new flag pole (60'). The flag pole was donated by the Ohio State University. The occasion was the first football game for the 2008 season.◘

REUNIONS ARE SUCH A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE--
See you at the next
VBOB REUNION
Tucson, Arizona
Oct. 6-11, 2009

Kilroy Is Here



In the initial invasion of a certain Pacific atoll during World War II, Marines in the first wave were greeted on the beach by the sign: "Kilroy was here." A group of amphibious sailors moored overnight just offshore in a landing craft were the suspected perpetrators.

Kilroy is one of a few genuine American legends. Some say he's the twentieth-century Paul Bunyan for whom no place is inaccessible and no deed impossible. "Kilroy was here" was lettered 305 feet atop the torch of the Statue of Liberty, for example, and scribbled on the high girders of New York's George Washington Bridge. It was also neatly carved into the handsome wooden railings of the old luxury liner "Queen Elizabeth."

Kilroy's story begins during World War II, where, on faraway islands and in forgotten ports, his name greeted GI's and fliers. In Europe, Africa, Australia, New Guinea, the Philippines and on hundreds of islands on the farthest rim of the Pacific, Kilroy endorsed his former presence.

Wherever GI's kicked up dust or slogged through mud, Kilroy's trademark was sure to appear. He was often the first to hit the beach, and he certainly reached some places even the toughest avoided.

The impudent announcement that "Kilroy was here" decorated walls and any other handy surface from Hitler's "Eagle Nest" at lofty Berchtesgaden to the depths of a volcanic crater in Hawaii.

There's even a Kilroy Island somewhere in the far Pacific. Since its discovery in 1944, the island has given cartographers nothing but headaches. No two maps show it in the same location, and some don't show it at all. It seems to lie somewhere in the open sea between Hawaii and the Soviet Union — accuracy is not for Kilroy.

Kilroyisma are spread over the world from Brazil to Pakistan — the mark of Kilroy became the symbol of the speed and scope of global warfare. Kilroy phrases have been spotted on the Capitol dome in Washington, D.C., and the battleship "Pennsylvania," on which the puckish words were found after it had been blasted by the atomic bomb test at Bikini.

Beside a chow line at a naval base in the Philippines was inscribed: "Kilroy starved to death waiting in this line." On a latrine door on Leyte Island was marked" "Kilroy, personal." The last page of a Paine Field library book in Everett, Washington, bore the terse reminder, "Kilroy read it first." Even one of the Okinawa airport jeeps, used to bring planes to designated hangars, couldn't escape the phantom scribber. Below its checkerboard "Follow me" sign on the back was scrawled, "to Kilroy."

So it was really no surprise when a CBI tractor turned up on a Guam with a name like "Kilroy's Kat," or when a "Kilroy Station" started broadcasting to United Nations forces during the war in Korea. The station began life somewhere south of Seoul with nine enlisted men under the charge of one officer. It operated from a 2½ ton truck, and was probably the only mobile station in the world set up to broadcast commercial programs. It was nicknamed "Kilroy Station," because neither its staff nor its listeners knew where it would be located next.

On the wall of a small room at Canton Island Airfield, way out in Pacific waters, a pilot scribbled a triumphant "I was here before Kilroy" on the flight tower. What happened? After returning from his next flight, this cryptic taunt had appeared beneath his own bit of wit: "Like hell you were, I was here when this was only a gleam in the CO's eye. Kilroy"

Others tried. On Kwajalein Atoll, newcomers read: "No grass atoll, no trees atoll, no water atoll, no women atoll, no liquor atoll, no fun atoll." But then came the needle — the next day "he" had written a P.S.: "I just didn't pause atoll. Kilroy."

According to the story from an American air base in Japan, the ubiquitous, legendary veteran had the last say there, too. Someone had rhapsodized on a barracks wall,

Slap your hands and jump for joy.
For you were here before Kilroy.
Beneath it quickly appeared,
Sorry to spoil your little joke.
I was here, but my pencil broke.
—Kilroy

Only John Rogers Airfield in the Hawaiian group succeeded in combating the graffiti menace, and even there it was a passive sort of resistance. Nailed on the administration building door was a slotted box, a pad of paper, a pencil stub and a sign. The sign stated, "Kilroy has been here. Don't comment on the walls. Write what you have to say on the tab and drop it into the box."

Although records are, as you might guess, a bit sketchy in details, the Army was quick to grab credit for Kilroy's exploits. They claimed he started his World War II writing career after landing in South Africa. He later appeared in the Indian city of Karachi (now in Pakistan) and, near the end of the war, he surfaced in China after flying "The Hump" from India.

The Air Force was not going to let the Army take all the glory for Kilroy's adventures. They claimed an Air Force sergeant named Kilroy was responsible for scrawling the message on all those beachheads, just to keep the infantry in its place. The Air Force never could explain, however, what one of its sergeants was doing hundreds of miles from the nearest airbase.

Yet the infantry did find "Kilroy was here" drawn on the beaches at Casablanca, Gela, Anzio, the Philippines and Okinawa. They also found his marks in hundreds of French towns and on Alpine mountaintops.

When the 4th Infantry Division stormed Utah Beach at Normandy, they found Kilroy's name emblazoned on a German pillbox. More than 10 miles away at Omaha Beach, and at the same time, the 1st Infantry Divi-

(Continued)

Kilroy *(continued)*

sion found that Kilroy had beaten them to another troublesome pillbox. Kilroy could move quickly when the situation demanded.

On at least one occasion, he managed to make monumental good sense. When American troops scoured the blasted ruins of Hiroshima after the war, they discovered several signs proclaiming, "Kilroy doesn't want to be here!"

But the washrooms of the world provided Kilroy with his most fertile environment, and few in the United States haven't born Kilroy's well traveled signature. When President Truman, the Soviet leader, Stalin, and Great Britain's Prime Minister Attlee sought relief from the pressing demands of the Potsdam Conference in 1945, they found that their top security washroom had already been visited by Kilroy and his markeer.

Kilroy lore contains vague hints of a whirlwind romance with the Indian princess who now rests in the Taj Mahal, although evidence suggests that Kilroy preferred to devote his heart to the glories of American womanhood. He must have spread his heart rather thin because thousands of American homes during the war bore the proud motto, "Kilroy's girl lives here."

How did the redoubtable Kilroy get his start? The explanations are almost as varied as tales of the mystery Warrior's exploits. An Air Force version makes the first Kilroy a frequently missing man whose irate commander was foiled in tracing him by means of the "Kilroy was here, there and everywhere" technique.

Still another story has the original Kilroy as missing from a special detail. When the missings' names were posted, he indignantly wrote a denial under his name with the now familiar phrase.

So many people wrote the U.S. Army's Adjutant General in Washington asking who Kilroy was that he announced to the Associated Press in 1946 that, after combing through the Army's files on 10 million ex-GI's, he could only conclude, "As far as we're concerned, Kilroy doesn't exist."

Of course, the verdict is open to dispute. Especially since a large percentage of those 10 million ex-GIs claim to have some personal knowledge of the original Kilroy and how he started his literary career. There is, however, one piece of factual evidence.

When the war came in 1941, a shipyard inspector in Boston wanted to make sure that his boss knew he was on the job. To show his superiors how efficient he was, he chalked his name on the side of all the tanks, planes, ships and crates of material that were his responsibility. And all of this war material, bearing the proud autograph of the diligent James I. Kilroy of Boston, found its way to every corner of the earth. The soldiers took up this catchy signature — and soon the watchful eye of Mr. Kilroy covered the globe.

It's possible that we may never know the identity of "Kilroy." But one thing is for sure: Wherever you go, you'll find that he was there first.

This article was written by Nick Reston and Robert Loefelbein. Reprinted with permission of Off Duty/America.

****

CHECK PRESENTATIONS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2009

'Welcome kits' receive warm response

Volunteers at the VA Medical Center in West Palm Beach have created a program to create 'welcome kits' for returning U.S. troops. The kits contain toiletry articles, and the program is funded by donations. George Fisher, president of Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, Florida Southeast Chapter No. 62, presents a donation on behalf of the chapter to Charlene Szabo, (left) director of the VA Medical Center, and Mary C. Phillips, chief of Voluntary/Recreation Therapy Service.



****



I WANT YOU
At the
VBOB REUNION

The Hotel Arizona
At the Tucson Convention Center
Tucson, Arizona
October 6-11, 2009

Come and be with us for this exciting event.
You'll make new friends and may find some old ones.
There are no strangers.
We all shared an experience like no others.

VBOB CHAPLAIN DIES

Regretfully, we note the passing of our National VBOB Chaplain, Monsignor William F. O'Donnell, 87, on Thursday, 23 April 2009. He was the oldest of ten children.

Msgr. O'Donnell was a graduate of Infantry Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning GA, where he was commissioned as a 2nd Lt. He served in the Battle of the Bulge as an Infantry Platoon Leader in the 87th Infnatry Division, 346th Infantry Company L and was the receipent of the Silver Star, Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster and the Combat Infantryman Badge. He was discharged from the service as a Captain and is the only Priest to be enshrined in the OCS Hall of Fame at Ft Benning GA.

He did not enter the priesthood until 1962 when he was ordained as a priest for the Archdiocese of Washington. He had an interesting path to the priesthood. He was born in Washington DC. He attended Gonzaga College High School and graduated from Georgetown University after which he entered the Army. Upon discharge from the Army, he entered the United States Foreign Service and was vice-counsel at Hamburg, Germany from 1946-47. He then returned to Georgetown to attend Law School and after graduation served as a trial lawyer for the United States Justice Department.

In 1957, his brother, Father James O'Donnell, a priest of the Archdiocese of Washington died. Msgr Awalt remembers William O'Donnell sitting across the desk from him and asking, "Do you think I can take his place?"

Father William O'Donnell had a number of assignments in his priestly career serving at a number of parishes. From 1966-78, just four years after being ordained, he served as Editor of the *Catholic Standard*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Washington. He then served as Pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Bethesda MD and St Hugh's Parish on Greenbelt MD. He then was given the task as Priest Director of the Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Washington.

He was a vigorous advocate for the Church and traditional morality," said Tom Rowan, who worked with Msgr at the *Catholic Standard* and later became the paper's editor. "He had strong convictions about what was right and wrong and would happily take on all comers."

During a 2004 interview of Msgr O'Donnell by the *Catholic Standard*, he said his faith was a source of strength to him and other soldiers. "It was something there with us, that comes to the fore when the situation is very difficult and dangerous," he said.

With his typical humor , he joked about trying to say the Act of Contrition one day when he was a platoon leader, with the 87th Div, pinned down on a hillside as German guns zeroed in on his position. As he stumbled over the words of the prayer, shells kept hitting closer and closer. Finally, he said to himself, "The heck with this, " and he got up to look after his platoon. His friends later teased him that was the best prayer he ever said.

As a platoon leader he knew all of his troops by name, and over the years he continued to pray for those who had died in battle. "So many of them met the challenges that led to their deaths, because they knew they had to do it. That was their makeup," he said.



Monsignor William F. O'Donnell

Years after his bravery in the Battle of the Bulge , he served as our VBOB National Chaplain, forever sharing a bond with those who survived the freezing temperatures and deep snow of that battle on the border of Germany, Belgium & Luxembourg.

For nearly 50 years as a Priest he wrote the following about the lessons of World War II:

"I have never forgotten my military experiences. Although I would not wish what I experiences on anyone else, it was all worth it for the opportunity it presented. As young men, we were to assume responsibilities that we would never have had, at least for many years to come, in civilian life. We learned the importance of teamwork, and of looking out for each other. We learned that most of the officers who reached high command were brave, intelligent and dedicated men. Above all, I think we learned to have confidence in ourselves, and we took this confidence back home with us.

We, the survivors of the war known as World War II, and those who did not survive, are part of a nation worthy of all our sacrifices. May we never fail this great nation, in war or peace."

May he rest in peace.

This article in most part was taken from an article written by Mark Zimmerman, Editor of the Catholic Standard newspaper of the Washington Archdiocese on 30 April 2009.

CHECK TO SEE IF YOUR DUES ARE DUE.

THE DATE THEY WERE DUE IS JUST ABOVE YOUR LAST NAME ON THE MAILING INFORMATION USED TO MAIL THIS NEWSLETTER TO YOU.

MAILING DUES REMINDERS HAS BECOME A VERY EXPENSIVE ENDEAVOR.

YOU CAN HELP BY SENDING YOUR DUES PROMPTLY.

• • •

The military don't start wars. The politicians start wars.

GENERAL WILLIAM WESTMORELAND

NOMINATING COMMITTEE APPOINTED

President Demtri "Dee" Paris has appointed the following members to the 2009 Nominating Committee: John D. Bowen, Chair; Ralph Bozorth, Member; George Chekan, Member; Louis Cunningham, Member; Alfred H. M. Shehab, Member. The Committee will present to the membership as a whole a slate of candidates for office for the annual election, which will be held in Tucson AZ on Saturday, 10 October 2009 at the Annual Membership Meeting.

As stated in the present Bylaws, a slate of candidates for office shall be presented by the Nominating Committee and publicized separately, or in the Bulge Bugle, or other Corporate publication at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the election. The Nominating Committee shall consider recommendations for nominations made by any Chapter or by petition from at least five (5) active members received forty-five (45) days prior to publication of the slate of officers; the assent of the nominee shall be indicated." Publication is scheduled for 14 July 2009.

Recommendations for consideration should be mailed to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee at 613 Chichester Lane, Silver Spring MD 20904-3331, so as to arrive before the 14 July 2009 date.

According to the Bylaws Nominations shall be presented by the Nominating Committee for:

President
Executive Vice President
Vice President for National and Regional Coordination
Vice President for Membership
Vice President for Military Affairs
Treasurer
Recording Secretary
Corresponding Secretary
Three Three-year Trustees

Those seeking condideration by the Nominating Committee should be aware that meetings of the Executive Council are held in the Washington Metropolitian Area, presently at Fort George G. Meade, MD Golf Clubhouse. Executive Council Members pay their own travel and lodging expenses. Traditionally there is no reimbursement of expenses related to meeting attendance. All Living Past Presidents of VBOB are automatically members of the Executive Council.

99th InfD 60th REUNION

The 99th Infantry Division Association will hold their 60th Annual Reunion , 24-27 June 2009 at the St. Louis Marriott West, St. Louis Missouri. The special rate for the Convention is $89/night. Hotel reservations can be made at 1-800-352-1175 with a cut-off date of 3 June. A full range of tours and activities have been arranged including a Military History Tour, Rollin' on the River Dinner Cruise, History of Flight, Taste of St Louis, Explore St Louis, St Charles Past & Present and a Saturday St. Louis Cardinals Baseball Game. For a Registration Form, contact 99th InfD Assn., PO Box 99, Marion KS 66861, Telephone 620-382-2922 or E-mail donna@99div.com

BOB 65th COMMEMORATION Dec 2009

VBOB and the Battle of the Bulge Historical Foundation, Inc. who traditionally hold Annual Commermoration events on the 15th and 16th of December each year in the Washington area have been asked to expand the events for the 65th Anniversary to four or five days.

Normally, the Historical Foundation has a tour and a banquet on the 15th of December and VBOB has wreath laying in Arlington Cemetery, a Luncheon and installation of next year's officers on the 16th.

Your help is needed to see if there is sufficient interest to do so and whether or not you would attend. We must begin negotiations with the DoubleTree Hotel, in Crystal City to acquire the blocks of rooms for the various evenings 12, 13, 14 & 15th of December. Generally our rates have been about $100. Normally we only have a block of 20 rooms for the evenings of 14, and 15 Dec.

Some of the events under consideration, if there is sufficent interest are:

- A tour of the White House, which is especially lovely this Holiday time of the year.
- A bus tour of Washington and visit the WWII Memorial (bus cost).
- A possible Memorial Service in one of the Wash. Cathederals.
- A possible event with the US Army at Ft Myers, since this still is the greatest land battle the US Army has fought.
- A tour of the new Newseum, one of the great places to visit. Maybe they will waive the $18 rate as they did last Dec 15th since you guys fought to preserve First Amendment Rights, followed by Union Station shopping (bus cost).
- A tour of the International Spy Museum ($16 Admission+bus cost).
- Coordinating with the Embassies of Belgium & Luxembourg to participate in our events.
- A December 15th 65th Anniversary Gala Banquet.
- The annual Dec 16th VBOB wreath laying ceremonies at the Tomb of the Unknowns and VBOB Monuments in Arlington Cemetery and the VBOB Luncheon ($15 bus, about $25 Lunch)

If you would be so kind to fill out the information below or on a separate sheet to let us know by **15 June** and mail it to the **BOB Historical Foundation, Inc. PO Box 2516, Kensington MD 20891.** We can see if we have feasible numbers.

Yes I would plan to attend for 4 nights (12, 12, 14, 15 Dec)

and need _____rooms with _____people, or only ____nights.

Name:_____

Address:_____Tel:_____

City:_____ST:____ZIP_____

E-mail:_____

UNIT:_____

Remembering the GIs Who Fought Battle of the Bulge

Guest Commentary by:
Peter Thomas
1st Infantry Division

*[The following commentary appeared in the Naples Daily News on December 16,2008, and was sent to us by **Frederick I. Jones, Jr.**]*

December 16, 1944: Even though it has been 64 years, the memories are still vivid and overwhelming.

Unfortunately, relatively few Americans are aware of the Battle of the Bulge in World War II. Nineteen thousand American soldiers were killed with more than 70,000 casualties. It was the largest combat action in the history of the American military.

On December 12, we were pulled out of the miserable Hurtgen Forest. We had been in constant combat since D-Day. The green, dark hell of Hurtgen was filled with a network of fortified bunkers that no shell could penetrate. It was a horrible place, with dense fir trees. It rained constantly--mud was everywhere. We lived in cold, wet foxholes like animals. We put logs over our holes to protect us from artillery shells bursting above the trees, showering us with fragments.


Thomas

Hurtgen was one of the most costly, ill-advised battles we ever fought. Many historians have said it was an awful mistake--and of little strategic value. We could have gone around that dark fortified forest. Thirty-thousand American GIs were killed or wounded.

We left that terrible place completely exhausted and battle weary and headed for the first rest period since Normandy six months earlier.

We went to Spa, Belgium. It was like going to heaven--hot food, new uniforms, a warm place to sleep out of the weather.

While there, our beloved Sgt. Stamborsky, who had been wounded in Normandy, came back to us. He chose to return to his outfit rather than go home. He jokingly said, "I knew you guys couldn't win the war without me!" He was like a father to us--we were teenagers; he was 30, an old man to us.

Those few days in Spa were wonderful: mail from home, hot showers, a movie.

It all ended on December 16. Out of the fog and snow and bitter cold, three German armies crashed through our lines on a 50-mile front. Nineteen hundred pieces of heavy German artillery bombarded the Ardennes. Two hundred and fifty-thousand German soldiers and 1,000 tanks and associated guns attacked, defended by green American troops with no combat experience. Shells shrieked overhead, mortars and machine guns fired, search lights stabbed through the morning light. V1 buzz bombs dropped to the ground. It was a complete surprise, and we were completely unprepared.

We climbed into trucks and headed for the Ardennes. After a few hours, we could hear the noise of battle, and as we got closer, we something we had never seen before--American soldiers streaming to the rear, retreating, full of fear and panic. These were the green troops who had replaced us.

We went into that unbelievable hell. The cold was unbearable. The wind cut like a knife. Our buddies in the sky couldn't help us. The fog was so thick, there was no chance to fly. We couldn't dig foxholes. The ground was frozen, the roads like ice.


Thomas, 1944

It was the worst winter in Europe in 20 years. Our 1st Division had fought the Germans in Africa, Sicily and Europe. "No mission too difficult, no sacrifice too great--duty first." We know what to do.

The Germans were now up against a tough, seasoned, combat-ready division. We made our stand and there was no retreat. On December 17 the word went though the line that Kampfgruppe Peiper (part of the 1st SS Panzer Division* had executed 120 American prisoners in a field in Malmedy, Belgium. That made us even more determined to beat the enemy. We fought like demons.

On Christmas Eve our Sgt. Stamborsky stepped on a mine and was killed. We felt unbelievable grief. We spent the night in an old barn with the sound of battle all around.

On Christmas Day the skies cleared, and our bombers and fighter planes came to help. We saw the first German jet streak across the sky. We all felt we were lucky that plane hadn't been available to the Germans earlier.

On December 27, I was hit by German shrapnel. The wounds were not life-threatening and I rejoined my platoon in a few days.

The German advance was stopped by the middle of January--the enemy was on the run. The rough, battle-hardened American troops had stopped the German advance. If we hadn't succeeded, the war could have gone on for years, or we could have been defeated.

As we moved forward in early January, 1945, we saw thousands of our buddies lying dead in the snow. That memory will stay with me always. How can we ever forget what they did?

The Battle of the Bulge will always be an heroic, tragic, sad memory. Every December 16 my mind goes back and remembers. The freedom we enjoy today is because of the dedication and sacrifice of the men and women of the second world war, who fought not only in the Battle of the Bulge, but in all the battles around the world.

We owe them so much.■

[An additional commentary by Peter Thomas appeared in the same paper on December 24, 2008.]

On December 24, 1944, as a 19-year-old private with the First Infantry Division, I found myself in the middle of the Battle of the Bulge.

On Christmas Eve five of us moved into the village of Sourbrodt, Belgium. The weather was terrible--snow and ice and a deep fog.

(Continued)

THOMAS COMMENTARY (Continuation)

We came upon a little farmhouse. Half of it had been blown away by shells. Looking out at the snow-covered fields, in the distance behind a clump of trees, we saw two German Tiger Tanks. (We found out the next day they had run out of petrol and were abandoned, but we didn't know that then). So we ran to an old barn, hoping they hadn't seen us.

We listened for those tanks, afraid they might start up any time. We couldn't build a fire because the Germans would see it. So we ate cold C-rations and drank water from our canteens.

Huddled in the dark, freezing barn, we shared memories of Christmas Eve at home with our families: Christmas trees, sparkling lights, presents and turkey.

Out of the blackness, one of my buddies whispered, "Some Christmas!"

Another asked, "Hey, Pete, your dad's a preacher. Can't you give us something for Christmas?"

Dad was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Pensacola. He was born in Swansea and carried on the Welsh tradition of speaking and music. Saturday nights was when he prepared sermons for Sunday mornings.

But with three noisy boys in the house, he found that difficult--almost impossible. So he came up with an ingenious plan.

On Saturday nights he would give us memory work to be recited to him on Sunday afternoon--memorized, not read--with research done of the subject and meanings of words looked up.

He assigned poetry, Shakespeare, the Bible. It was very quiet on Saturday nights.

So, on Christmas Eve, with the wind howling outside, mixed with the rumble of German artillery, I started reciting from memory Luke II: "And it came to pass on those days that there went out a decree...." I remembered every verse perfectly."

Then I gave them Clement Moore's "*T'was the Night Before Christmas.* It meant so much to my buddies. One of them said he felt as if he were in church on Christmas Eve.

All our minds were back home that night.

Now, 64 years later, I have many memories of Christmases of the past, but the Christmas Eve I can never forget is the one in that old barn in the Ardennes in 1944.



"PURTY DRESS, AIN'T IT!" -Plc. Jay Brown

LUXEMBOURG DEC 2009

The Luxembourg Government would like to invite 6 Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, who fought in Luxembourg from 16 December 1944 to 31 Jan 1945 and received the Ardennes Campaign Credit. They have asked that the end date be extended to 31 Jan 45 since fighting continued in Luxembourg past the US Army's official date of the end of the Ardennes Campaign of 25 Jan 1945. The invitation includes one additional escorting person of his choice (spouse, son, daughter, relative or friend) to accompany the veteran.

The Luxembourg Government will pay for flight reservations, hotel stay amd full board and transfers from date of arrival in Luxembourg which should be Dec 13th and date of departure on Dec 18th. Hotel stay will be provided in Wiltz. That way, you we will be closer to the key Dec 16th commemoration at Schumann's Eck, 4 KMs from Wiltz.

Those meeting the qualifications should provide a letter of interest to the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, Inc., Luxembourg Dec Trip, PO Box 101418, Arlington VA 22210-4418 by **1 July 2009**. Your letter of interest should list your name, address, city, state and Zip code, telephone number and e-mail address if you have one. You should also furnish the unit that you served with in Luxembourg during the stated period and a copy of your discharge that shows that you received the Ardennes Campaign credit.

In order to be fair, after verification that the qualifications are met, your name will be entered on a card and placed in a container from which the six names will be picked as well as six alternates, in order, in case any of the first six selectees find later that they will not be able to attend. This drawing will be done at the VBOB Executive Council Meeting on Tuesday, 14 July 2009 at the Fort Meade Golf Course Club House between 10 AM and 12 noon. You do not have to be present. Selectees and alternates will be advised later that day by telephone and/or other means of communication.

At that time further details from the Luxembourg Government will be furnished you. You do not need to provide the name of your escorting person with your letter of interest, at this time. If you have questions about the procedures you may contact our Recording Secretary John Bowen at 301-384-6533.

DONATIONS

We wish to thank those who sent a contribution in response to the article about Donations in the February Bulge Bugle. We were overwhelmed with the response and the size of some of the donations. With the many deaths of our VBOB members our dues revenue has declined accordingly and these donations are a big help.

In appreciation, all Donors Names and Chapters will be acknowledged in the August issue of the Bulge Bugle.

If the people raise a howl against my barbarity and cruelty, I will answer that war is war, and not popularity-seeking. If they want peace, they and their relatives must stop the war.

GENERAL WILLIAM SHERMAN

Tell it Like it Is...

He was getting old and paunchy
And his hair was falling fast,
And he sat around the Legion,
Telling stories of the past.

Of a war that he once fought in
And the deeds that he had done,
In his exploits with his buddies;
They were heroes, every one.

And 'tho sometimes to his neighbors
His tales became a joke,
All his buddies listened quietly
For they knew where of he spoke.

But we'll hear his tales no longer,
For ol' Bob has passed away,
And the world's a little poorer
For a Soldier died today.

He won't be mourned by many,
Just his children and his wife.
For he lived an ordinary,
Very quiet sort of life.

He held a job and raised a family,
Going quietly on his way;
And the world won't note his passing,
'Tho a Soldier died today.

When politicians leave this earth,
Their bodies lie in state,
While thousands note their passing,
And proclaim that they were great.

Papers tell of their life stories
From the time that they were young
But the passing of a Soldier
Goes unnoticed, and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution
To the welfare of our land,
Some jerk who breaks his promise
And cons his fellow man?

Or the ordinary fellow
Who in times of war and strife,
Goes off to serve his country
And offers up his life?

The politician's stipend
And the style in which he lives,
Are often disproportionate,
To the service that he gives.

While the ordinary Soldier,
Who offered up his all,
Is paid off with a medal
And perhaps a pension, small.

It's so easy to forget them,
For it is so many times
That our Bobs and Jims and Johnnys,
Went to battle, but we know,

It is not the politicians
With their compromise and ploys,
Who won for us the freedom
That our country now enjoys.

Should you find yourself in danger,
With your enemies at hand,
Would you really want some cop-out,
With his ever waffling stand?

Or would you want a Soldier--
His home, his country, his kin,
Just a common Soldier,
Who would fight until the end.

He was just a common Soldier,
And his ranks are growing thin,
But his presence should remind us
We may need his like again.

For when countries are in conflict,
We find the Soldier's part
Is to clean up all the troubles
That the politicians start.

If we cannot do him honor
While he's here to hear the praise,
Then at least let's give him homage
At the ending of his days.

Perhaps just a simply headline
In the paper that might say:

"OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING,
A SOLDIER DIED TODAY."

VBOB QUARTERMASTER
ORDER FORM
May, 2009

Please ship the following items to:

Name: _____
(first) (last) (phone #-will call only if there is a problem)

Address: _____
(no.) (street) (city) (state) (zip)

Item Description	Price Each	Quantity	Total Price
VBOB Logo Patch - 3"	$ 4.50		$
VBOB Logo Patch - 4"	$ 5.50		$
VBOB Logo Decal - 4"	$ 1.25		$
VBOB Windshield Logo - 4"	$ 1.25		$
VBOB Logo Stickers - 1⅛" (in quantities of 10)	10 for $1.25		$
Baseball Cap w/3" VBOB Logo Patch - *Navy only*	$ 10.00		$
Windbreaker w/4" VBOB Logo Patch - *Navy only* ***Please circle size (they run a little snug):*** S M L XL XXL XXXL *(XXL and XXXL - see prices)*	$ 25.00 *(S, M, L and XL)* $ 26.00 *for XXL* $ 27.00 *for XXXL*		$
VBOB Logo Lapel Pin - ½"	$ 5.00		$
Miniature VBOB Logo Medal w/Ribbon (pin on type)	$ 8.50		$
VBOB Logo Belt Buckle - *Silver tone* or *Gold tone* *(Please circle choice)*	$ 16.00		$
VBOB Logo Bolo Tie - *Silver tone* or *Gold tone* *(Please circle choice)*	$ 16.00		$
VBOB License Plate Frame w/Logos - White plastic w/Black printing	$ 5.00		$
VBOB 100 Sheet Notepad w/Logo - "*This Note Is From... A Veteran of the Battle of the Bulge*" - White paper with Blue printing	$ 4.00		$
BACK IN STOCK Large VBOB Logo Neck Medallion w/ribbon Ideal for insertion in medal shadow box	$ 25.00		$
VBOB Tote Bag--SOLD OUT			$

Only Cash, Check, or Money Order Accepted
Make checks payable to: "VBOB" - and mail orders to VBOB-QM, PO Box 101418, Arlington, VA 22210-4418

DO NOT INCLUDE ANY OTHER MONIES WITH QM PAYMENT

Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery

Shipping and Handling:
$0.00 to $5.00 - $ 2.00
$5.01 to $10.00 - $ 3.00
$10.01 and over - $ 4.00
Please add $1.00 to for all items shipped outside the USA.

Cost of Items: $_____
S&H: $_____
Total: $_____

Office Use Only - Do Not Write Below This Line

Date Received:_____ Date Mailed:_____

Payment: Cash Check MO Check No.:_____

VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE CERTIFICATE

Have you ordered Yours?

Over 6,500 certificates have been purchased by Battle of the Bulge Veterans. If you haven't received yours then you might want to consider ordering one to give to your grandchildren. They are generally most appreciative of your service now. They make excellent gifts for that buddy that you served with in the Bulge. The Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge Assn. is proud to offer this full color 11" by 17" certificate, which may be ordered by any veteran who received credit for the Ardennes Campaign. It attests that you participated in, endured and survived the greatest land battle ever fought by the US Army.

You do not have to be a member of the VBOB Assn in order to order one but you must have received the Ardennes credit. This beautiful certificate is produced on parchment-like stock and is outlined by the full color WWII insignias of the major units that fought in the Battle of the Bulge starting with the 12th Army Group followed numerically with Armies, Corps and Divisions and the two Army Air Forces. We wished that each unit insignia could have been shown but with approximately 2000 units that participated in the Bulge it was impossible. However any unit, which served in the Bulge, would have been attached to or reported through one of the unit insignia depicted. You may want to add one of your original patches to the certificate, when you receive it. . Please allow approximately 3-4 weeks for delivery, they are normally printed at the end of the month. The certificate will be shipped rolled in a protective mailing tube. Please be sure to place your **name, service number and unit, as you would like it to appear on the certificate.** The unit name should as full as possible as you want someone reading it to understand what unit you were in. We will abbreviate it as necessary. It is important that you type or print this information. The unit must be one of the 2000 units authorized for the Ardennes Campaign credit in the Official General Order No. 114 for Units Entitled to the ARDENNES Battle Credit and will be the basis for sale of this certificate. **The cost of the** certificate **is $15.00 postpaid.**

We no longer have frames available but if you have an A. C. Moore Craft Store near you they sell a 16 X 20 Inch Floating Glass Frame which these certificates fits into nicely and are quite attractive. They also sell an 11 X 17 Inch frame with a slim plastic black border which can also be used. The 16 X 20 Inch frame normally sells for $20.00 but is sometimes on sale for $15.00.

VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE CERTIFICATE ORDER BLANK

I request an 11" x 17" Certificate and certify that I received credit for the Ardennes Campaign. I have enclosed a check for $15 00 for the Certificate. Please include the following information that I would like on the certificate:

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Serial Number _____

Rank : Unit: _____

Organization: usually Company, Battalion and/or Regiment, & Division

Signature: _____ Date: _____

I certify that I have received the Ardennes Credit

MAILING INFORMATION:

NAME: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

VBOB Member: __ Yes __ No (not a requirement). **Make checks out to VBOB for $15.00. Orders should be mailed to VBOB Certificate, PO Box 101418, Arlington, VA 22210-4418. Questions can be directed to John D. Bowen, 301-384-6533, Certificate Chairman. Or by e-mail to: johndbowen@earthlink.net**

10/18/2008

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Arlington, VA
Permit No. 468

VETERANS of the BATTLE of the BULGE

P.O. Box 101418
Arlington, Virginia 22210-4418

LOOK! ARE YOUR DUES DUE?

A018090 090812
RALPH W. BOZORTH
608 TREATY RD
PLYMOUTH MEETING PA 19462-2317

MAY, 2009



THE POINT IS...
WE WANT YOU TO ATTEND
THE TUCSON MEETING
COMPLETE DETAILS IN THIS ISSUE

Detach and Mail

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Do not write above this line

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

PO Box 101418, Arlington, Virginia 22210-4418

Annual Dues $15

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Do not write above this line

❑ **New Member** ❑ **Renewal - Member #** _____

Name _____ Birthdate _____

Address _____ Phone ( ) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

All new members, please provide the following information:

Campaign(s) _____

Unit(s) to which assigned during period December 16, 1944 - January 25, 1945 - Division _____

Regiment _____ *Battalion* _____

Company _____ *Other* _____

Make check or money order payable to VBOB and mail with this application to above address:

Applicants Signature _____

RECRUITER (Optional)