



63rd Infantry Division Newsletter

Issue Number 20

April 2002

All information in this Newsletter is developed by Fred Clinton, Webmaster, 63rd Infantry Division and does not necessarily reflect the views of other individuals and is in no way an Official Publication of the 63rd Infantry Division or 63rd Infantry Division Association.

If you remember, in my last issue I was Virginia with 80 degree temperatures.

Well

better. We had over 90 degree temperatures during the month only to be followed by near freezing temperatures.

I

wore myself out taking plants outside, bringing them in, taken them out,

covering

them and just about everything else you can

imagine. If that wasn't enough a tornado with a rating of "umpteenth" went sailing through the area a couple of days ago

just

a few miles south of us. But, enough of my

good times. If I don't move these fingers fast enough my April Newsletter will be my

May Newsletter. So down to business.

REUNIONS:

Another reminder to check out the details on the various reunions planned for the 63rd Infantry Division Association and some of its Chapters. Go to the Reunion Page for details.

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL PEACE MEETING AT THE CROSS OF THE JESSE MILL, JESSE, FRANCE.

I know that I mentioned this last month, but

I wanted to bring it to your attention

NEW HISTORY PROJECTS COMPLETED

This past month I spent several hundred hours scanning and adding revisions to The 63rd Infantry Division Chronicles and the 254th Infantry History "Trail of 254 thru Blood and Fire".

To the Chronicles I have added up to date

rosters relating to assignments and awards,

a large number of photos, added some changes in the history relating to events that

took place after the Chronicles were written

and have placed all of this on a single CD which also includes a alphabetical listing of

over 62,000 men who were assigned to the

division from September 1943 to September 1945.

The Historian and I are still revising and editing several pages, but for the most part

it is ready for viewing, the whole 818 pages

of it. There are plans to sell this revision as

soon as it is ready, however sales cannot begin until permission is received from the

63rd Infantry Division Association

Executive Council. Efforts are underway

again
in case you plan on being in the Colmar, France area on 23 Jun 2002. If you are don't miss this event, I think you will find it worth while.

Also in connection with my trip to the meeting I will be meeting with the Historian of Ensheim, Germany on 24 and 25 Jun 2002 and with the Herr Meister, Historian for the 17th SS Panzer Division on 26, 27 and the morning of 28 Jun 2002 in Neuenstadt am Kocher near the Jagst/Kocher River. If any of you plan on being in Europe at that time and would like to meet me in either Ensheim or Neuenstadt am Kocher, please let me know so we can make appropriate arrangements.

If any of you have questions or comments to make that would be appropriate for me to pass on to either of these Historians, **DIVISION MEMORIALS:**

In the process of updating the 63rd Infantry Division Chronicles I discovered two additional memorials relating to the 63rd Infantry Division. One is a barracks named after Lt James Robinson, Jr (MOH) 861st FA Bn. The Field Artillery OCS named their barracks after Lt Robinson in that he was , according to them, the only Field Artillery Officer in WWII to receive the Medal of Honor.

The other item is a bust of MG Louis Hibbs, CG 63rd Infantry Division when he was a cadet at West Point. This bust was

to obtain that approval prior to the August Reunion so that the new and revised Chronicles can be sold at that event. I will keep you informed.

The great thing about this format is that we can make changes to the various rosters as new information is found. The Historian is still reviewing copies of morning reports from 63rd Infantry Division units and new additions and changes to status are discovered frequently. Another advantage is that we can now supply the CD to various museums and libraries to ensure that the history of the 63rd Infantry Division will forever be available for researchers, relatives of 63rd Infantry Division veterans and those that are just curious about WWII.

I will add an epilogue to the 254th Infantry History which will include rosters of all men assigned to the 254th Infantry, a list of men who died while the regiment was in Europe , an updated list of awards to 254th Infantry Soldiers and the addition of the Citations for three additional Presidential Unit Citations and the French Croix de Guerre..

The 254th Intantry History CD will also be made available to museums and libraries. Exact distribution has not been determined .

dedicated at West Point in 1978 by the 63rd Infantry Division Association.

Photos of these new additions will appear in the [Division Memorials Section](#) of the Web Site and in the revised 63rd Infantry Division Chronicles.

MEMORABILIA ITEMS FOR SALE:

Don't forget to check out the [Memorabilia Section](#) for new items being offered for sale by the Association Historian and Editor of the Blood and Fire.

AUTHOR SEEKING INPUT FROM WWII VETERANS

Lisa Gold, daughter of Cpl Irwin Gold, AT, 253d Infantry (deceased) would like to make contact with 63rd Infantry Division veterans who would be willing to answer questions about their WWII experiences.

Lisa is currently in the process of writing a story about four(4) WWII buddies who meet each week for a poker game and their WWII experiences are a main part of their discussion during the game. If you were one of those guys who took all of my money at poker you may have something to offer Lisa to help along her story line.

You can contact Lisa by e-mail at the following address: lgold@charter.net

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Both of these CDs are in pdf format and can be read by Acrobat Reader, which is included with the CD. They are organized so that the complete book can be uploaded to the Acrobat desktop and all you have to do to read the book is scroll down page after page.

The Chronicles CD has a detailed index as part of the book so that you can quickly go to any date you are looking for in the history or to any roster you wish to see.

Also this month I have converted the Awards CD files to the pdf format so that they are viewable with Acrobat Reader. As I told you last month, this file contains all Division General Orders, Regimental General Orders, a few special orders and some selected rosters.

History is a living thing.

Speaking of Living History, did you know that there is a "Living History Group" that acts as a 63rd Infantry Division organization? They have WWII uniforms, vehicles and weapons and appear at a number of functions as members of the 63rd Infantry Division..

If that isn't enough did you know that there is now a Internet site that has a wargame ongoing using the 63rd Infantry Division as the main US fighting force?

NEW INQUIRIES

Don't forget to review the new entries on

the Mail Call and Buddy Search pages:

Mail Call Consolidated List

Buddy Search Consolidated List

I'll be in touch next month.

Fred Clinton, Webmaster