



63rd Infantry Division Newsletter

Issue Number 22

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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.

Well I'm back from the history tour of France and Germany, all in one piece, more or less.

It was a wonderful trip, I met many great people and saw things I could have never seen on my own. So now that I am back home and finally adjusted to the time zone I am ready to go.

REUNIONS:

Don't forget our Annual Reunion being held in Branson, Missouri beginning on 13 August 2002. [Go to Reunion Page for details.](#) See you there!!!

NEW HISTORY ITEMS AVAILABLE FROM THE 63D INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN:

As mentioned in my past newsletters I have been busily preparing several CD's that contain historical data relating to the 63d Infantry division. That project is now "finished". I say finished, but in fact it is an ongoing project that I guess will never really be finished. By using the CD technique to record historical data we are able to add to those CD's information as it is uncovered or

TRIP TO FRANCE AND GERMANY:

I arrived in Frankfurt Germany in the afternoon of 20 Jun 2002. I picked up my rental car and drove to Kaysersberg, France where I would stay until Monday 24 Jun 2002. In Kaysersberg I was joined by Angelo Christopher, D Company 254th and his son-in-law. We toured the area and attended the International Peace Meeting at the Cross of the Jebbsheim Mill on Sunday 23 Jun 02. The ceremony as usual was impressive and was followed by a wine reception and luncheon in the Jebbsheim Community building. The highlight of the day was when four (4) members of a French parachute Battalion jumped from a plane high above the ceremony site and gracefully landed within 10 feet of a designated spot near the Cross of the Jebbsheim Mill..

On the 24th I drove to Ensheim, Germany where I was met by Herr Erich Wolf and four of his associates, Herr Keifer, Herr Schweitzer, Herr Norbert and Herr Adt. These kind gentleman remained with me all during the remainder of the day and all of the next day while they showed me what

received. In the meantime there are several CD's that are now ready for distribution and sale: These are:
(All prices include shipping and handling)

1- The World War II Blood and Fire Newspaper CD. Contains all available copies of the war time Blood and Fire newspapers. Includes Camp Blanding, Camp Van Dorn and overseas copies.
Price: \$10

2- General Order CD- Includes all available General Orders issued by Headquarters, 63rd Infantry Division and organic organizations of the division. (Note some orders are not too clear, but are legible) Price \$10

3. Revision of The 63rd Infantry Division Chronicles. The Chronicles was originally issued in a hardback edition in 1991; was printed again in 1996 and has now been revised to include updated rosters, awards lists, new photos and other added historical features. The original publication consisted of around 400 pages. The revision consist of 853 pages and over 300 photos. The CD also includes a photo tour of Camp Van Dorn, Ms, A view of Germany's West Wall and a 1073 page alphabetical roster of all men known to have been assigned to the 63rd Infantry Division from June 1943 until August 1945.
Price for this CD is \$15

4. Separate CD's have been prepared for each Infantry Regiment of the 63rd Infantry

was left of Germany's West Wall (The Siegfried Line). During this time I also had the opportunity to visit with Herr Helmut Jung of Assweiler, Germany. Herr Jung has an extensive collection of WWII weapons, material and ammunition and he delights in showing it to anyone who wishes to spend the time looking at his collection. If you are ever in the area and want to see his collection you can contact him at the following address: Helmut Jung, Jahn Strasse 8, D 66440 Blieskastel-Assweiler, Germany

On the 26th of June I continued on to Sindringen, Germany near the Buchhof/Stein area where I met up with Herr Rolf Meister, the historian of the 17th SS Panzer Division.. Herr Meister spent the next two days with me while we toured the battlefields of the Jagst/Kocher River area. This is the area where the 253d Infantry Regiment was engaged in a life and death struggle with elements of the 17th SS Panzer Division during the early part of April 1945. While there Herr Miester and I visited Prince Hohenlohe-Waldenburg in his castle at Waldenburg.. During the time I was in this area I had the opportunity to visit the F Company, 253d Infantry Memorial in the Buchhof area. It was well maintained and in good condition. The person responsible for the maintenance of that memorial is Herr Hermann Belz of

Division. These CD's contain historical documents that relate to each regiment as well as rosters, awards, photos and personal experience accounts from regimental veterans.

a. The 253d Infantry Regiment CD: Contains over 419 pages of history, rosters, and other information. Includes over 90 photos. Price \$12

b. The 254th Infantry Regiment CD: Contains over 927 pages of history, rosters and other information. Includes over 200 photos. Price \$12

c. The 255th Infantry Regiment CD: Contains over 517 pages of history, rosters and other information. Includes over 95 photos. Price \$12

All CD's are viewable on Windows and are in pdf format which requires Acrobat Reader to read. Acrobat reader is a free download from the Adobe web site and it is also included on the CD.

If you wish to order any of these CD's you can do so by contacting Bill Scott, Historian- 63d Inf Div Assn, 407 S. Walnut Street, Sycamore, IL 60178 or by e-mail wjs631@attbi.com

If you are sending a check with your order please make check payable to the 63d Inf Div Assn History Fund.

SEARCH ENGINE FOR THIS SITE:

Don't forget to make use of the Search box at the lower part of the Index Page. Just type in what you are looking for and if it is on the site its location will appear in the

Buchhof. Herr Belz has unselfishly devoted his time, free of charge, to maintain this memorial to the men of the 253d Infantry who lost their lives in the battles of that area. I think it would be a nice gesture if those of you in the 253d Infantry or their relatives would drop Herr Belz a line to tell him how much we appreciate his efforts.

Herr Belz can be reached in Buchhof, D74196 Neuenstadt-Stein Germany. Also while in the area I visited a Herr Gosbert Trabold of Stein. Herr Trabold has had in his possession for over 50 years, a US Army WWII steel helmet that belonged to T/Sgt Willie Overfelt. T/Sgt Overfelt was killed in action in that area on 7 April 1945. Herr Trabold gave the helmet to me in hopes that I might find the next of kin of T/Sgt Overfelt and give them his helmet. That search is underway.

All in all it was a very interesting and enjoyable trip made so by the men named above.

NEW PHOTOS

Take the time to check out all of the new photos and the new section on "A view of Germany's West Wall (The Siegfried Line)"

- a. [New Combat Photos\(Pages 22 to Last Page\)](#)
- b. [New Miscellaneous Photos\(Pages 25 and 26\)](#)
- c. [New Occupation Photos \(Page 13\)](#)
- d. [A View of Germany's West Wall \(The Siegfried Line\)](#)

results of your search. (I hope) [Go to Search](#)

See you in Branson, Missouri at the Annual 63rd
Infantry Division Association Reunion

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