



63rd Infantry Division Newsletter

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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.

I just realized that it has been over one year since I prepared a Newsletter. Where does the time go? Since it is Christmas time and the holiday season I thought I would take this opportunity to wish all a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Of course I do have some tidbits of news that may be of interest to you. So here they are----

ANNUAL NATIONAL REUNIONS TO BE DISCONTINUED.

Due to the declining number of 63d Infantry Division Association members who are attending the national reunions, members voted in August 2011 at the Indianapolis National Reunion to discontinue having any more national reunions.

In place and in order to maintain our organizational charter the "Annual" reunions will be conducted at one of the local chapter mini-reunions. Location and chapter to host such a reunion will be announced, although the first such reunion will be conducted by the IMOK chapter. Details will be announced.

POSTING OF THE "BLOOD AND FIRE" ON THE INTERNET.

As you know I have been posting copies of the Blood and Fire publication on the Internet for a year or so. That was discontinued when a decision was made to establish an annual subscription fee for the

SCANNING UNIT MORNING REPORTS AND PLACING THE IMAGES ON A DVD.

A number of years ago one of our association members spent a year or so copying all of the unit morning reports from files at the National Records Center in St Louis. Besides taking hundreds of hours to accomplished it was a rather expensive project since the Association had to pay a fee for each copy made.

A few years ago I scanned, processed and placed on CD's all of the "Combat Months morning reports. (Dec 44-May 45 for Regiments and Jan-May 45 for other divisional units)

Recently Bill Scott, our Association Historian and I agreed that I would scan and process all of the remaining morning reports and place them on a DVD to make them available for anyone interested in seeing reports from Jun 43 to August 45.

Bill sent me the first shipment of those reports in early October 2011. That shipment included reports for Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Nov and Dec 1943 and Jan, Feb 1944. We are not sure why Oct 43 reports were not in the boxes.

Well only two days ago, 7 Dec 2011 I completed scanning, processing and placing on DVDs all of the reports in that first shipment.

During the processing I noticed that there are some periods where morning reports for a month were missing from

publication due to the cost of publishing each issue.

Well during the last reunion the board of directors agreed to continue the posting of the Blood and Fire on the 63rd Infantry Division web site for all to see. So it is still available for your review and enjoyment.

RECENT DISTRIBUTION OF THE HISTORICAL FILES OF THE 63RD INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Recently I received approval to make wide distribution of our historical files that are stored on CD's. With that approval I placed all of our historical files, less the non-combat months morning reports, on two DVD's and sent them to the following Army schools and museums.

The Army War College Library, Carlisle Barracks, PA.
The Army Command and General Staff College Library, Fort Leavenworth, KS.
The United States Military Academy Library, West Point, NY
The Army Heritage and Education Center, Carlisle Barracks, PA
The Artillery Library, Fort Sill, OK
The Artillery Museum, Fort Sill, OK
The National WWII Museum, New Orleans, LA
The Army Maneuver Center of Excellence (Infantry and Armor training), Fort Benning, GA
The Fold3 archival site (affiliated with Ancestry. Com)

By making these donations of our records we hope that the history and legacy of the 63rd Infantry Division will remain available to all to see long after we are gone from this world.

If you have any recommendations for further distribution of our historical files, please contact me at joyclint@comcast.net

the files. I am not sure what the reason is unless they were not available in the archives or what was available had deteriorated to the point where they were no longer legible. The original reports were placed on Microfilm and evidently some of those files are deteriorating rather rapidly due to age.

Anyway I scanned almost 9000 images and of that amount only about 3.6% were what I consider illegible. That is I could not make out any information on the copy that I scanned even after extensive processing with Adobe Photo.

Once I complete all of the files that are available to us (about another 13 months worth of reports) Bill Scott will make the results available for sale . Price has not been determined. Also copies of the completed product will be sent to the many museums and libraries that already have copies of our historical files.

PHOTOGRAPHS AND HISTORICAL IMAGES

Surprisingly I am still receiving photographs and other images that are of historical value and that relate to the 63rd Infantry Division. The latest additions can be view in the latter few pages of each photo section of the web site.

In order to view the latest acquisitions you can go directly to the last page in each photo section and work your way backwards. You can access the last page of each photo section by going to the following addresses:

www.63rdinfdiv.com/miscphotospage125.html
(For Training and recent photos)

www.63rdinfdiv.com/pictorialhistorypage71.html
(For Combat Photos)

www.63rdinfdiv.com/occupationphotospage64.html (For Occupation Photos)

Of course I am still looking for additions to our historical files, so if

you have anything that would be of interest to anyone looking into the 63rd Infantry Division history, please contact me at joyclint@comcast.net.

A Merry Christmas and happy holidays to all and to all "good night".

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