



63rd Infantry Division Newsletter

Issue Number 59

December 2015

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.



Dear Friends of the 63rd Infantry Division (World War II-edition). I was thinking about preparing another Internet Newsletter and I decided that today, the 8th of December, would be a good day to start it. Today is the 71st anniversary of the arrival in Marseilles, France of the three Infantry Regiments of the division. They would move to an area near Sarreguemines, France and be billeted in a French Calvary Post, Camp Oberhofen in Bischweiler, France. The three regiments would, by the end of December, proceed in different directions and make military history unlike the others. They would not go into combat under the command of Major General Hibbs, the 63rd Infantry Division Commander until they rejoined the division on 6 February 1945. In the meantime the three regiments made a separate history fighting along side of elements of the 44th, 100th and 3d Infantry Divisions

IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO RECEIVE THE AWARDS THAT YOU HAVE EARNED AND DESERVE:

At the risk of being repetitive I am again bringing your attention to two awards that are available to veterans of the 63rd Infantry Division.

The Bronze Star Medal for Meritorious Service:

Any WWII veteran that earned and received the Combat Infantryman Badge or Combat Medical Badge are eligible to apply for the award of a Bronze Star Medal for Meritorious Service. Details for making application for this award can be found at www.63rdinfdiv.com/bulletinboardpage2.html. If the veteran is deceased their closest next of kin can make the application. Assistance in obtaining necessary documentation can be had by contacting me at joyclint@comcast.net.

The French Legion of Honor:

The French government has authorized the award of this prestigious medal to veterans of World War II who had a part in the liberation of France. Details for making application for this award can be found at the following site:

www.63rdinfdiv.com/LegionofHonorpage1.html

Recently several veterans of the 63rd Infantry Division or their next of kin have received these awards:

A Bronze Star Medal was awarded to Pfc Alf L. Crutchfield, I Company 254th Infantry Regiment and was accepted by his widow. (See

63rd Infantry Division soldiers still listed as Missing in Action

Recently I was able to review records of the Defense Department relating to US military and civilian personnel that were still listed as Missing in Action from WWII.

Surprisingly I found that sixteen (16) men of the 63rd Infantry Division were still listed as Missing in Action. Seven(7) from the 253d Infantry Regiment, seven(7) from the 254th Infantry Regiment and two (2) from the 255th Infantry Regiment.

Of the 16 men still listed as missing, six(6) from C Company 254th Infantry Regiment were listed as MIA on 3 March 1945. On that day while in the attack during the Hartingshof/Bliesranbach raid, twelve (12) soldiers from C Company were reported as Missing in Action. Those not still listed as MIA were later reported as KIA. Also on 3 March 1945, 27 other soldiers of C Company were wounded.

The complete list of those still Missing in Action appears on [Page 10 of the 63rd Infantry Division Honor Roll](#).

63rd Infantry Division and 254th Infantry Regiment Challenge Coins:

I still have a few 63rd Infantry Division and 254th Infantry Regiment challenge coins. Details of these coins and their cost can be found at www.63rdinfdiv.com/memorabiliapage3.html

Historical prints, CDs and DVDs:

If you interested in obtaining historical prints or want to know more about the 63rd Infantry Division and its subordinate units take a look at what is available in the Memorabilia Section of the 63rd Infantry Division Website. You can access the index page of the Memorabilia Section at

www.63rdinfdiv.com/memorabiliapage1.html

All monies received from the sale of these items goes toward costs involved in preparing and shipping the items and if there are any excess funds they are sent to the Camp Van Dorn Museum in Centreville, MS at the end of each year.

63rd Infantry Division photos or images:

As usual I am letting you know that it is not too late to

www.63rdinfdiv.com/miscphotospage137.html)

The French Legion of Honor was awarded to Pfc Amedeo Petronglo, G Company 253d Infantry Regiment. (See www.63rdinfdiv.com/miscphotospage137.html)

The Soldiers Medal and the Bronze Star Medal were awarded to Sgt Richard Perry, G Company 255th Infantry Regiment. Sgt Perry was not aware that he had been awarded the Soldiers Medal in August 1945 for his heroic action, not involving an enemy force, in April 1945.; (See www.63rdinfdiv.com/miscphotospage135.html)

WWII Drawings by CWO (Retired) Waldo Schumacher:

Got a few minutes, take a look at the WWII drawings of CWO Waldo Schumacher, Cannon Co, 255th Infantry Regiment. Some are amusing. www.63rdinfdiv.com/miscphotospage136.html

send in photos or images relating to the 63rd Infantry Division and the soldiers who served with the division. You can send them to me as attachments to e-mail in pdf or jpg format. My email address is joyclint@comcast.net.

If you would prefer, you can send them to me on a CD or in the original format. My mailing address is Fred Clinton 102 S. Jenkins Street, Alexandria, VA 22304. All photos sent in the original format will be returned after processing.

Please try to include captions for all photos and images sent in. Once processed they will appear in the appropriate photo section of the website and in the historical records of units involved.

So- go through all of those old cigar boxes, albums, etc and make sure those treasured photos are included in the 63rd Infantry Division Historical Files. Periodically updated photo histories are sent to a number of libraries, schools and museums where they can be reviewed visitors and students. To see a partial list of places receiving the historical files of the 63rd Infantry Division go to [Internet Newsletter #50](#).

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

[Internet Newsletter #58](#)

[Home](#)

[Internet Newsletter #60](#)