



63rd Infantry Division Newsletter

Issue Number 64

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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 another year has passed since I last published this newsletter and not a whole lot has happened of interest to our 63rd Infantry Division veterans and their families. I wanted to prepared this issue for a single happening that I think would be of interest , particularly to the 253d Infantry Regiment veterans and their families.

253d Infantry Regiment General Orders;

Ever since the 63rd Infantry Division Association made an effort to obtain all of the important records of the division there has been a significant void in the records that we were able to find and copy.

Over the years members of our division spent countless hours in the various centers keeping military files copying those files so that we could make them available to members of the Association and their families. The void was the fact that we were never able to find the General Orders for the 253d Infantry Regiment. We had all of the others but for some reason or another the 253d IR orders were not in the Saint Louis Records Center files or in the files maintained in

the records repository located in College Park, Maryland.

I personally went to College Park on several occasions and wrote to that office asking for those files, all to no avail.

Well several weeks ago a family

253d Infantry Regiment General Orders (Continued)

Since receiving the digital orders I have spend quite a number of hours trying to decipher them and enter into our files for the 253d Infantry Regiment the names of the men who were awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge and Combat Medical Badge.

I still have many to go, because it has been a slow process trying to match the faint or distorted names and service numbers with the information that we have already published in the regimental unit files.

Sadly I have found that many of the men awarded to CIB were killed in action after the order was issued and I would guess that the award was never recorded in their final records, thus their families are not aware of that award or the fact that with that award the veteran could be awarded a Bronze Star Medal for Meritorious Service. To further complicate the situation the policy of awarding a Bronze Star Medal to recipients of the CIB or CMB was not published until after World War II was over.

To show you the condition of most of the orders I received I am attaching a copy of one of the pages.

Having said all of this I would like to offer to any remaining members of the 253d

member of one of our 253d IR veterans sent me a notice that our efforts to obtain a Combat Infantryman Badge and a Bronze Star Medal for his father were successful. He also said that the Awards and Decorations Branch, Human Resources Command at Fort Knox, KY had advised him that they had found an order awarding his father a CIB dated April 1945.

Well that peaked my interest- where did they get an order and why weren't they on file in the military archives? I contacted them and talked to the Chief of the Awards and Decorations Branch and he said that they had obtained them from a project conducted by the University of Michigan, where they were contracted to copy orders and provide the microfilm or microfiche to the Adjutant General's Office, Department of the Army. He agreed to send me digital images of the orders that he had but indicated that they were in many cases not legible. He also indicated that the orders were not "General Orders" that were required to be issued for awards, but "Special Orders". (Perhaps this is the reason that they were never placed in the military archives).

Infantry Regiment or their families a chance to complete their military files and if not already done so to apply for the award of a Bronze Star Medal based on the award of a CIB or CMB.

I cannot assure you that I can find or decipher the award for each member, but I will do what I can to make the award happen.

You can find the process for making application for the award of a Bronze Star Medal based on the CIB or CMB at the following address:
www.63rdinfdiv.com/.bulletinboardpage2.html

Should you have any questions concerning the 63d Infantry Division or awards to the men of the division, please contact me at joyclint@comcast.net

This is one of the better copies that I have been working with.

EXTRACTED BY
J. Fernandez
5/31/45
2 May 1945

61

SPECIAL ORDERS)
NUMBER 69)

6. Under the provisions of WW Circular 4405 dated 17 October 1944 the following named PW upon the recommendation of their commanding Officer are awarded the Combat Infantryman's Medal for gallantry, performance of duty in ground combat:

Pvt Lawrence, Thurman Jr 44031300	Pvt Lee, Gerald 44029306
Pvt Legasse, Leroy P 44031403	Pvt Lorraine, David W 44030621
Pvt Mayfield, Claude E 44031400	Pvt Miller, William C 44015621
Pvt Monteleone, Samuel S 44029705	Pvt Mohr, William L. 44029106
Pvt Lull, Joe 44031136	Pvt Myers, Edward W 44029905
Pvt Lelauchlin, Thomas F 44040004	Pvt Nance, Henry D 44030617
Pvt Devin, Jack 44030706	Pvt Newman, John H. 44029006
Pvt Szurgylo, Peter 44018006	Pvt Thompson, Raymond H 44030618
Pvt Willis, Ruben 44030917	Pvt Laramie, Nicholas 44029604

CO-12

Pvt Lase, Lloyd L Jr 44030703	Pvt Lora, John 44030678
Pvt Minetto, Louis M 44030600	Pvt Lott, Peter 44030296
Pvt Broshay, Leonard S 44030600	Pvt Frank, Thomas W 44030370
Pvt Stoker, Vernon A 44030601	Pvt Ole, Frank, Slicker D 44030601
Pvt Comau, Joseph A 44030601	Pvt Lottell, Joseph J Jr 44030607
Pvt Cook, John W 44030601	Pvt Lottell, Clarence E Jr 44030607
Pvt Couch, Ralph A 44030601	Pvt Lottell, John A 44030607
Pvt Cortin, Alvin J 44030601	Pvt Lottell, Robert A 44030601
Pvt White, David W 44030601	

CO-13

Pvt Ahlfeld, Donald W 44030601	Pvt Lottell, Robert A 44030601
Pvt Arnold, Robert E 44030601	Pvt Lottell, Robert A 44030601
Pvt Baggett, William E 44030601	Pvt Lottell, Robert A 44030601
Pvt Barron, Keith A 44030601	Pvt Lottell, Robert A 44030601
Pvt Billings, Dale 44030601	Pvt Lottell, Robert A 44030601
Pvt Borg, Carl E 44030601	Pvt Lottell, Robert A 44030601
Pvt Bregovy, Steve E 44030601	Pvt Lottell, Robert A 44030601
Pvt Britten, Gene R 44030601	Pvt Lottell, Robert A 44030601
Pvt Cahill, James T 44030601	Pvt Lottell, Robert A 44030601
Pvt Coates, Lonnie R 44030601	Pvt Lottell, Robert A 44030601
Pvt Cochran, Willie H 44030601	Pvt Lottell, Robert A 44030601
Pvt Diluca, Charles H 44030601	Pvt Lottell, Robert A 44030601
Pvt Golanbe, Joseph F 44030601	Pvt Lottell, Robert A 44030601

By order of Lt Colonel 44030601

OFFICIAL: *Walter M. Lee*
WALTER M. LEE
Captain 44030601
Adjutant.

WALTER M. LEE
Captain 44030601
Adjutant.

[Internet Newsletter #63](#)

[Internet Newsletter #65](#)

[Home](#)