



63rd Infantry Division Newsletter

Issue Number 8

March 2001

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

IS IT SPRINGTIME YET?? Well if it is

I guess my system just doesn't want to don't know how it is where you are, but the wind and temperature here in the Northern

Virginia area certainly don't let you feel as if it is Springtime. I am ready for some warmth. !!!

TAPS

I must start the newsletter off with some sad news. Cpl Irwin Gold, Antitank Company, 253rd Infantry passed away the morning of 18 March 2001. As you recall Cpl Gold was one of our buddies listed in last month's newsletter as needing some encouragement and support to bring cheer to him during an extended illness. . I don't know what burial arrangements have been made, but condolences can be sent to Irwin's daughter at e-mail address: lgold@charter.net or by regular mail at: Lisa Gold 3955 E. 3rd Street, Long Beach, CA 90814.

I must also sadly announce the death of my friend LTC Mike Myers, Platoon Leader, G Company 254th Infantry. Mike passed

READ THE BULLETIN BOARD-

There are several new items of interest on the Bulletin Board this month. A brief summary of the subject matter follows:

The French Government is in process of preparing Thank You Certificates to all members of the American Forces that had a hand in its liberation in WWII. Details of the certificate and how to apply are shown on Bulletin Board Page 8.

Details for requesting replacement medals are contained on Bulletin Board Page 9.

A Concentration Camp Survivor is trying to make contact with the 63rd Infantry Division Soldiers who liberated the prisoners of his camp. Bulletin Board Page 9.

A US Air Force Major, a scholar of Italian-American history, would like to contact Italian-American veterans of World War II. Bulletin Board. Page 9

Like to talk by e-mail to other veterans? Check out the Yahoo Group Infantryman e-mail discussion group. Bulletin Board.

away on 19 March 2001. Mike was also one of our buddies listed in last month's newsletter as needing encouragement and support to bring cheer to him during an extended illness. Mike's widow, Mary advises me that burial arrangements have not been finalized ,but that Mike will be buried in Arlington National Cemetery on a date to be determined. Condolences can be sent to Mike's widow at e-mail address: mary653@mymailstation.com or by regular mail at: 8714 Curtis Ave, Alexandria, VA 22309. Telephone: 703-780-4930. Men of the 63rd who want to attend Mike's interment at Arlington National Cemetery can contact Mary or the family for details and date. I will be unable to attend because I will not be in the Washington area for the next couple of weeks. I hope that 63rd Infantry Division veterans in the Washington area will take the time to honor our friend and comrade at the time of his burial.

FRENCH CROIX DE GUERRE WITH PALM I get many questions from

254th veterans and members of their families about the French Croix de Guerre with Palm won by the Regiment for their heroic actions in the Colmar Pocket area.

Mostly they want to know what kind of a medal or decoration they should have or can wear to show receipt of the award.

Unfortunately, there is nothing that the individual member of the 254th can wear to show award of the French Croix de Guerre with Palm.

Do not despair--As a member of the

Page 9

The 63rd Reserve Support Command is seeking 63rd Infantry Division veterans to speak at their monthly luncheons in the California area. Bulletin Board- Page 9

The George C Marshall Foundation is seeking letters, stories and memorabilia from World War II and the Korean war to be filed and protected forever in their library. Bulletin Board Page 9

I have updated the Association Membership Roster as it relates to 63rd Infantry Division veterans. This roster changes almost daily due to deaths and new members.

Unfortunately it appears that we are losing more than we are gaining, but we are still strong in numbers. We are fortunate to have hundreds of Associate Members who actively support the Association. Our thanks to them

PARTICIPATION IN THE TORRENCE CALIFORNIA ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE.

The Commanding General of the 63rd Reserve Support Command has extended an invitation to all 63rd Infantry Division veterans to ride on their float during the only Armed Forces Day Parade sanctioned in the West. The parade will be held on 19 May 01. Those interested in participating can contact Robert Sullivan at the following e-mail address: Robert.Sullivan@usarc-emh2.army.mil

If you have difficulty making contact,

254th

Infantry Regiment during the time the Regiment was in the Colmar area you are eligible to [join the American Order of the French Croix de Guerre](#). As a member you

are then eligible to apply for, at a cost, a rather nice certificate attesting that you were a member of a unit receiving the French Croix de Guerre. The certificate is

in color, in French and suitable for framing. I have included a partial image of

the certificate at the bottom of this newsletter. Partial because the certificate is

16" X 12" and my scanner couldn't capture

it all. Just below the American Order of the

French Croix de Guerre membership information on the website there is also a description of a Blazer Pocket Badge you can buy and wear if you want to impress your friends and relatives.

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

The US Holocaust Museum recently invited

63rd Infantry Division veterans and their families to join them in a Day of Remembrance to be held at the US Capitol

Building in the Rotunda on 19 April 2001.

This is a day to give thanks and recognition

to the many American soldiers that played a part in the liberation of the concentration camps in Europe. The 63rd Infantry Division flag will be among the many divisional flags to be displayed during the

ceremony. Unfortunately the invitation list

has been prepared and submitted based on

the response to my message several

please
let me know.

PICTORIAL SECTIONS OF THE WEB SITE.

If you haven't taken the time to review the

Pictorial Sections of the web site, the next

time you have some time on your hands log

on and go to the [History Page](#). Who knows, you may see someone you know.

If you don't see yourself or someone you know, now might be the time to send in those pictures, with captions, to be included

along with the photos shown now.

REUNIONS

Now is the time to make your plans to attend the [53rd annual reunion of the 63rd](#)

[Infantry Division Association to be held at](#)

[Virginia Beach, VA from 28 Sept to 1 Oct 01](#). Details of the reunion can be found

on

the Reunion Page of this web site.

ANNUAL ASSOCIATION DUES

The Association Secretary has advised me

that several hundred members have as yet

to pay their annual dues that were due in January of this year. Please don't lose

your

membership and contact with your buddies

and friends. They become more valuable and scarce as each day passes.

weeks ago. Written invitations should be forthcoming from the US Holocaust Museum within the next few weeks based on the list submitted. As I recall there were some Fifty (50) 63rd Infantry Division veterans and their guests that were included. Pictures of the ceremony will be included on the website sometime around the end of April 01.

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size is 10" X 12". The extreme sides and bottom of the certificate were not