



63rd Infantry Division Newsletter

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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.

spent it and it's not even the end of April.
As
usual I used Turbo Tax computer program
for
preparing my taxes, but with a new twist
this
year I used electronic filing. It was easy
and
resulted in a quick refund. Is this a great
life,
or what??

DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

The Days of Remembrance Ceremony
was
held on 19 April 2001 in the Rotunda of the
US Capitol building. Although the
ceremony
was not what I had expected, it was
impressive and moving.

I had expected more emphasis on the role
played by US Forces in liberating the many
concentration camps during World War II.
While some mention was made about
liberating forces, most of the comments
made
related to the Holocaust and the suffering
endured by the Jewish community of
Europe.
I came away thinking that most of that
horrible
tragedy could have been prevented had we
and other nations acted more decisively at
the
time. Something to think about when
objecting to our involvement in similar

ESCHRINGEN

A few weeks ago I received a package
from
Mr Ronald Schmidt of Eschringen,
Germany which contained a small book
relating to the war years history of
Eschringen. Eschringen is a small town
just
before Ensheim and the Siegfried Line
and
was the first town that I passed through on
the way to the Siegfried Line on 15 March
1945.

In that the book was in German and the
fact
that my German is limited to ordering
beer
and finding a place to sleep, I was not able
to read and appreciate the war from the
viewpoint of the citizens of Eschringen.

Coming to my rescue was Mr Chris
Munsch, Unit Administrator of the 302 MI
Company, (63rd Reserve Support
Command) in California. He volunteered
to
use the book as a training task for his
German translators. Mr. Schmidt sent
him a copy and only a couple of days ago
I
received the first translated portion of the
booklet. That translation appears the
Eschringen Translation Page

My thanks to Mr Munsch and his

circumstances happening today.

The President was the keynote speaker, but the highlight of the ceremony for me was when

members of the 3rd Infantry (Old Guard) marched into the rotunda carrying the divisional flags of the thirty four (34) different divisions that were involved in the liberation of concentration camps during WWII. I took photos of the flags and in particular the 63rd Infantry Division Flag. Unfortunately our flag didn't seemed to want to unfurl as it was being carried so the pictures don't quite show it in all of its glory. In fact even when mounted on a stand where it stood for the entire ceremony,

the Blood and Fire Patch was not evident. Photos of the ceremony and our flag can be seen on [Page 15 of Miscellaneous Photos Section](#)

I have no idea how many 63rd Division members were there. By chance I was seated next to General Kroesen (E/254) and his wife so I know that they were there.

I am planning to check with the Special Events Office of the Holocaust Museum in a few days to see what progress is being made reference officially installing the 63rd Infantry Division Flag in their Hall of Honor. Based on a discussion with an individual in the Special Events Office a few weeks ago, there is a chance that there will be no official ceremony for that installation.

translators

for their efforts. Mr Munsch tells me that more of the translated book will be forthcoming in the near future.

REUNION

There is still plenty of time for you to make your plans to attend the 63rd Infantry Division Association Reunion to be held at Virginia Beach, Virginia from 28 September to 1 October 2001.

Go to Reunions and get the details.

I hope to see you all there.

BUDDY SEARCH AND MAIL CALL

There have been a number of new entries on the Buddy Search and Mail Call Pages since the last issue. Please take the time to go to those pages or check out the consolidated listings at the following:

Consolidated Mail Call Listings

Consolidated Buddy Search Listings.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP LISTING

The Association Membership Listing has been updated. I have added a number of new members and unfortunately deleted too many names of our buddies who have passed away.

NEW PHOTO OF WAR'S DESTRUCTIVE NATURE-BENNWIHR, FRANCE

I have just added [an aerial photo of Bennwihr France](#) taken after the batttles in

PHOTOS AND MEMORABILIA IMAGES

I know I have brought up this subject many times, but I am getting very few photos and memorabilia images to post in the Photo Sections of the Web Site.

Please check your files and submit your cherished photos to be included for all to see and enjoy. Do you have a special war momento, such as a copy of the shipboard paper, a German propaganda leaflet, a special program or menu? If so, share them with the rest of us.

Send them to me as an e-mail attachment in jpg or GIF format or if you don't have a scanner send the original, I will scan and return the item to you.

You can access the photo sections from the [Division History Page](#).

[Internet Newsletter Issue #8](#)

[Internet Newsletter Issue #10](#)

[Home](#)

that village , January 1945. Take a look and see what a beating that small village took during the war. If you were to visit Bennwihr today you would never know it suffered such devastation.

NEW PHOTOS OF JEBSHEIM, FRANCE AFTER THE BATTLE OF JEBSHEIM.

I have just received a number of photos depicting the destruction of Jebnheim France caused by the Battle of Jebnheim during the latter part of January 1945. I should have them entered in the Pictorial History of the 63rd Infantry Division in Combat section sometime within the next few days. You will be able to access them from the [Pictorial History Photo Section](#)