

Camp Van Dorn



Blood and Fire

63rd Infantry Division Association

ARDENNES / ALSACE • RHINELAND • CENTRAL EUROPE



Vol. 41 No. 3

May 1989

SARASOTA, FLORIDA



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63rd Infantry
Division Association
August 23-27, 1989
41st Annual
Reunion
 SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT **Marriott**



TURN THE '89 REUNION INTO A LONG San Francisco VACATION Family & Friends Welcome...



San Francisco Skyline

Blood and Fire

Published by the 63rd Division Association to perpetuate the memory of our fallen comrades, to preserve the Esprit de Corps of the Division, to assist in promoting an everlasting peace.

Three Issues Annually

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September 1, 1989

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A. DeBliss, 25735 Lorain Rd., North Olmstead, OH 44070	254
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P. Romano, 3 Allendale Dr., #C-8, Newark, DE 19713	Sp. Troops
Charles Summers, 102 N. Foster Ave., Mitchell, SD 57301	Arty.

September 1, 1990

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Col. R. Tucker, 1017 Baldwin Ave., Norfolk, VA 23507	254 Hqs.
N. Douglas, P.O. Box 318, Cecil, PA 15321	255 Hqs
C. Davison, P.O. Box 275, Pahokee, FL 33476	718 FA C
J. Waters, 4917 Greenbrook Dr., Charlotte, NC 28205	563 Sig.

September 1, 1991

M.T. Beer, 2801 Friendship St., Iowa City, IA 52240	253
R.E. Johnson, 173 Leach Ave., Park Ridge, NJ 07656	254
J.W. Finlay, 1014 Idylwild Dr., Richmond, KY 40475	255
G.H. Stewart, 809 W. Palmetto, Florence, SC 29501	Sp. Trps.
C.T. Nugent, 721 Albany Rd., Lexington, KY 40502	Arty.

Editor



NATE SPIEGEL

3715 Lokai Pl. Sarasota, FL 34232
813-371-3078

From the
Editors
Desk



DAUGHTER NEEDS ASSISTANCE

The following letter was received by myself and Daniel Boone Bullock, "F" 253rd Inf...

Dear Friend:

I am seeking anyone that might have known my dad, Staff Sgt. William James (Jimmy) Harris, from Morgan, Georgia, who was a Mess Sgt., and loved to play poker.

He was killed in France in 1944. I was four years old at the time, and I want to know more about my father. I have exhausted all means of trying to find anyone who may have known him. He being an only child, and his mother died in giving birth, I do not know if I have any relatives. The Army claims his records were burned in the Fire in Kansas City.

I loved my father, just lost him to soon. He went overseas in October, was declared "Missing in Action" by Christmas. On Jan. 3rd, "killed in action".

If anyone knows anything about my dad, I would greatly appreciate hearing from you.

Mrs Fay Elliot..Rt 1, Box 147, St. Charles VA 24282...

Editor..I wrote to Mrs. Elliott, requesting a photo of her father, if one was available, it may have assisted many hotshots in trying to recall if they ever met "Jimmy". Not receiving any, I presume none was available. Get those "recall memories" working, maybe a "HOTSHOT" out there can assist Mrs Elliott.



Members of the 63rd ARCOM congratulate veterans of the Bataan Death March at their awards ceremony.

Army Reserve photo by Sgt. James McGehee

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SAN FRANCISCO HERE WE COME!!!

THE SAN FRANCISCO REUNION COMMITTEE AND MEMBER'S OF THE CALIFORNIA-WESTERN STATES CHAPTER, CORDIALLY INVITES YOU, YOUR WIVES, LADIES AND GUESTS TO ATTEND OUR 1989 41ST ANNUAL REUNION IN SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, FROM AUGUST 27TH THROUGH THE 27TH, AT THE SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT MARRIOTT HOTEL IN BURLINGAME, CALIFORNIA.

THE HOTEL INFORMS ME AS OF THIS DATE, THE ROOM RESERVATIONS ARE COMING IN "GREAT". THE HOTEL ALSO KEEPS ME INFORMED ON A MONTHLY BASIS OF OUR TOTAL ROOM RESERVATIONS, SO OUR COMMITTEE MEMBER'S ARE ABLE TO KEEP ABREAST OF THINGS.

OUR 1ST VICE PRESIDENT ANTHONY MUCCILO, HIS WIFE JO WHO ARE IN CHARGE OF OUR EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION AND REGULAR REGISTRATION, INFORMS ME THAT THE EARLY BIRD REGISTRATIONS ARE COMING IN VERY WELL AND THAT A LOT OF THE MEMBER'S WANT TO WIN THE "FREE ROOM", FOR THE DURATION OF OUR 41ST ANNUAL REUNION. YOU STILL HAVF TIME IF YOU HAVE NOT MAILED IN YOUR EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION. THE DEAD LINE IS JUNE 15,1989.

OUR SECREATRY/TREASURER ANDREW DITOMMASO, AND HIS WIFE TINA, INFORMS ME AS OF CURRENT DATE. WE ARE NOT DOING TO WELL WITH ADS COMING IN FOR OUR AD/SOUVENEIR BOOK, IF YOU HAVE NOT SENT IN AN AD AS OF YET. PLEASE! SEND IN YOUR AD AND HELP. OUR COMMITTEE THANKS YOU.

IVAN(SONNY) CHARITAN, OUR PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER IS DOING THE ART AND TYPE SETTING FOR OUR AD/SOUVENEIR BOOK, AND A GREAT JOB HE IS DOING.

THE 63RD ARCOM HAD ITS 21ST ANNUAL BALL ON SATURDAY APRIL 15,1989, AT THE ANAHEIM HILTON HOTEL IN ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA. IT WAS BLACK TIE. THE COMMANDING GENERAL THEODORE PAULSON, 63RD UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE COMMAND, AFRC ROBINSON HALL, LOS ALAMITOS,CALIFORNIA AND THE SOLDIERS CORDIALLY INVITED MY WIFE BETTY SANTANGELO, MYSELF AS THE GENERAL'S GUESTS. OUR EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT LAWRENCE PEDONE, AND HIS WIFE ANNA AND OUR SECRETARY/TREASURER ANDREW DITOMMASO, HIS WIFE TINA, ATTENDED. THE GENERAL HONORED US AND WE WITH HONOR REPRESENTED THE 63RD INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, WITH A SALUTE TO THE GENERAL.

I FELT VERY PROUD AS PRESIDENT, TO REPRESENT OUR ASSOCIATION AS DID MY ASSOCIATES AND OUR WIVES. THE GENERAL, PROMISED TO HAVE THE COLORS AT OUR 41ST ANNUAL REUNION. SO MAKE IT YOUR BUSINESS TO ATTEND. WE ARE GOING TO HAVE ONE "GREAT TIME", THIS WILL BE A MEMORABLE EVENT.

AS YOU MAY ALREADY KNOW, WE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO HAVE MS. DINAH SHORE, THE 63RD SWEETHEART AT OUR SAN FRANCISCO 41ST ANNUAL REUNION. SHE SAID SHE IS VERY SORRY BUT DUE TO OTHER COMMITMENTS SHE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND AND WISHES US ALL THE BEST. SHE ALSO STATED THAT SHE REMEMBERED OUR DIVISION AND REMEMBERS IT WELL.

FOR THE GALA EVENING, DRESS MAY BE BLACK TIE. IT IS OPTIONAL!!

BEST REGARDS,

John Santangelo

JOHN SANTANGELO PRESIDENT
63RD INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
(SER. CO. 253RD)
3339 SO. CANFIELD AVE. # 102
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90034
(213) 204-0440

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41st ANNUAL REUNION COMMITTEE
63rd Infantry Division
Association BLOOD and FIRE
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"HOT SHOTS" WE NEED YOUR HELP

As you may know, the money collected from the Ads in the Souvenir/Ad Book is used to help off-set some of the reunion cost. Most of the money defrays the cost of the band, free beer, soda and entertainment during the reunion

With prices constantly increasing, we are asking for your support to help us keep the reunion cost down for our retired members.

So would you please place an ad in the '89 Souvenir/Ad Book

**Make check(s) payable to:
SAN FRANCISCO REUNION 63rd Inf. Div. Assoc.
and send to:**

**ANDY DiTOMMASO
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WHITTIER, CA 90604**

Note: For any photos sent that are not halftoned, there will be an extra charge.



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Name: _____ Unit Served With: _____

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City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Authorized By: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Letters To The Editor



Dear Nate:

I must say that I deeply appreciate your coined phrase, "Patriotism is contagious, spread it around." This in my estimation is what it's all about. Patriotism!

What the Veteran stands for, what the Flag and Country, Veterans' organizations, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Veterans' Day, Flag Day, all have in common. Patriotism!

How quickly some of us forget the sacrifices that were made, for the good of all, by those Patriots who came to be known as G.I. Joes.

The Freedom we enjoy through the efforts of those who gave in the name of Patriotism, remains still to be acknowledged. John Fitzgerald Kennedy wrote; "In the long history of the world, only a few generations have been granted the role of defending freedom in its hour of maximum danger."

Patriotism! On America's First July 4th, it was Benjamin Franklin who remarked rather humorously, "We must all hang together gentlemen, or we will be hanged separately." This was just prior to the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Patriotism! It speaks to us of the past, of the men and women who went before us, and of the record they wrote. Of the Flag with its stars representing the new States, a fervent display of unity, an expression of Patriotism, Liberty, and Freedom.

Another Patriot Thomas Jefferson wrote; "...and for the support of this Declaration we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, our sacred honour."

Nate, this is the epitomy of Patriotism. How can you not keep your coined phrase in the forefront? What else does our organization have to preserve? As Editor in Chief of the Blood & Fire, I believe it is a duty incumbent upon you to remind us all of our purpose, our very existence. "Lest we forget!"

I get very disturbed over the thought of

a few 63d members wanting to consort with the likes of the 17th SS Panzer. Yes, I can forgive; but, I can never forget. If the few individuals in our organization wish to join hands with the Germans of WWII, then let them do so on their own.

Yes Nate: I do believe we have an innate responsibility not only to ourselves, but also in memory of our fallen comrades, to preserve our sense of Patriotism, the feeling of having walked with the earliest of those Patriots who so boldly proclaimed independence and freedom. As for me, I am proud to be an American.

Nate, you must continue to inculcate, in all our membership, a true spirit of Patriotism. Your efforts in this direction should be applauded. Knowingly or unknowingly you are causing the spark of Americanism to glow again. You are stirring memories within the breasts of us old veterans. How can you not continue to re-iterate your unique phraseology? What would our Medal of Honor recipients, all the heroes, those who have fallen and those who are yet amongst us, say; if we forget, if we fraternize with the 17th SS in a spirit of comradeship? Was it not our own beloved General Hibbs who was so instrumental in the choice of the 63rd Division Patch and accepted the pledge by the United Nations at Casablanca in 1943? The promise, "To bleed and burn in expiation of their crimes against humanity was promised to, and planned for our enemies." The 63d Infantry Division wore the symbol of that promise.

What short memories some of us have. Then again, maybe some of us did not experience the cold winter battles, the physical discomfort of the winter snows and cold.

Keep up the good work Nate. I am sure that the majority of us feel the same way that you do. Just take the time to remember,..."Patriotism is contagious-spread it around."

Respectfully,

SGM. Gerard J. Pepe, AUS Ret.
Co."F" 255th Infantry

You cost your assoc....

money when you move without telling us your new address. If your zip code is other than on the label please, let us know. Thanks!



letters continued on next page...

Letters to Editor continued....

Dear Nate:

Paul Boesch a former "hotshot" passed away on March 7, 1989. Paul was transferred to the 90th Inf. Div., where he attained the rank of Captain. Was awarded the Bronze and Silver Stars, Two Purple Hearts, the Croix de Guere with Bronze. He was a hero both in war and in peace.

Paul started out as a wrestler from Brooklyn, NY. Later in life, he became one of the best known wrestling promoters in the nation. Paul spent over 35 years in the Rotary Boys Club and was the recipient of the Humanitarian of the Year Award in 1988.

He was one of a kind--every-ounce in awhile "God" makes one like that.

My compliments to you Nate on your contribution to the cause of the 63rd Assoc., keep up the "good work".

Sincerely,
Paul Vermillion
Co"A" 253rd Inf.

Dear Nate:

Recently received my copy of the Blood and Fire. It was a superb issue, as well as the previous issue, covering the events of our 40th in St. Louis. The association is mighty lucky to have a person of your caliber and dedication. I worked 32½ years in the Printing and Advertising business, and I know all about the myriad of details and hours of preparation you go through, to have each issue published. Since retiring in 1981, I've had more time to look at, read, etc., everything I subscribe to. Again my personal thanks.

Sincerely,
Joe Falkenstein
1st. Sgt. Co."H" 253rd Inf.

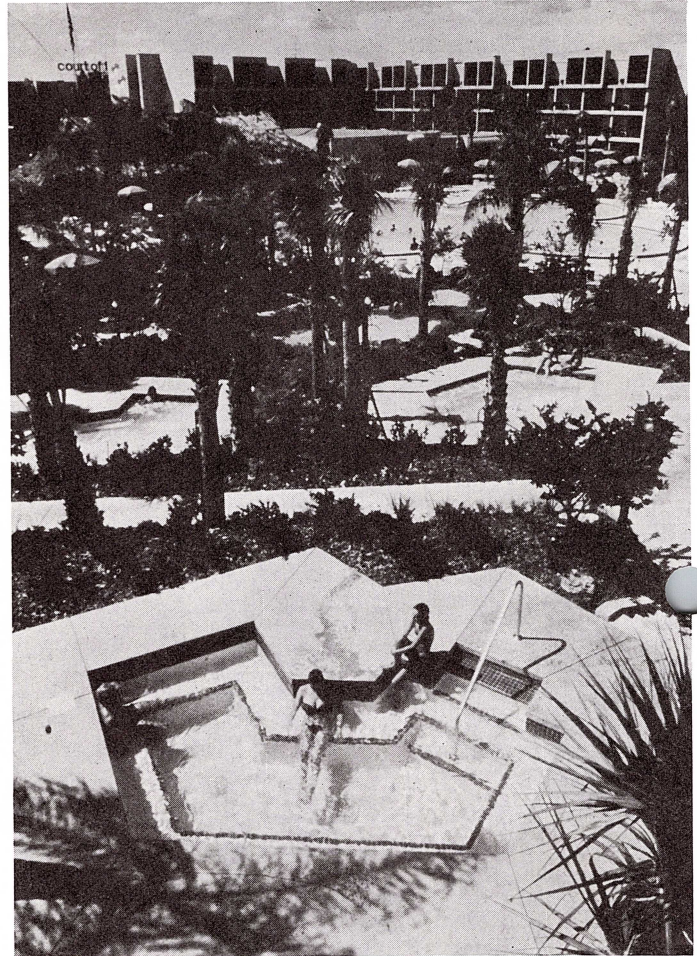
Editors Comment...I do appreciate all those complimentary letters I receive, to many to publish. A "BIG THANKS -- TO ALL OF YOU."

Nate.....

"Yeah... I'm in the Air Force... So what!"



1990 **ORLANDO** 1990
Go for the Magic!



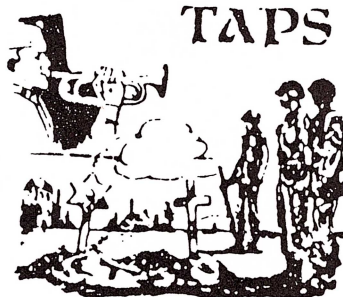
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For information, write: Group Sales Dept., Universal Studios Florida, 5750 Major Boulevard, Suite 500, Orlando, Florida 32819.





So near to grandeur is our dust,

So near to God is man;

That when duty calls to youth "thou must" I

The youth replied, "I can!"

PAUL BOESCH

Died--April 7, 1989.....Co"I" 255th Inf.
1719 Hodge Lake Ln., Sugarland, TX 77478

BERNARD J. GILBRAITH

Died--Jan. 15, 1989.....Co"L" 254th Inf.
8665 Sunset Dr., Williamsville, NY 14221

DON PABLO

Died--Oct. 25, 1988.....63rd Hq's
700 NE 15th Ct., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33304

GEORGE T. MOULDS

Died--Jan. 27, 1989.....Co"C" 255th Inf.
Box 166D, Rose Hill, MS 39356.....

GEORGE E. HIGGINS, Sr.

Died--July 10, 1988.....Co"H" 253rd Inf.
345 S. 53rd, Lincoln, NE 68510.....

HAROLD MICHAELSON

Died--April 23, 1988.Div. Hq's 253rd Inf.
E. 113 Golgoth #202, Colfax, WA 99111...

JIM DISHAW

Died--Oct. 1988.....Hqs. 718 F.A.
96 E. Henrietta St., Oceanside, NY 11572

BILL PITTMAN

Died--July 28, 1987.....Unit N/A
1040-42nd Ave., E. Moline, IL 61244.....

BEN DeBERG

Died--N/A.....Co"F" 254th Inf.
Box 4, Kesley, IA 50649.....

LEON ROBINSON

Died--Dec. 15, 1988.....Co"M" 254th Inf.
8410 Cheswick Dr., Houston, TX 77037....

JOSEPH FERRIGNO

Died--Dec. 24, 1988.....Sv. Btry 861st F.A.
1815 Palmer Ave., Larchmont, NY 10538....

FRANK GILLIAM Sr.

Died--Feb. 28, 1989.....Co"I" 254th Inf.
Rt.1, Box 104, Gate City, VA 24251.....

RAYMOND McSWAIN

Died--Feb. 13, 1989.....Co"I" 254th Inf.
Rt.1, Landrum, SC 29356.....

ANTHONY J. CRISCI

Died Dec. 3, 1988.....Div. Hq's.
21 Mil Oaks Cir., Palm Coast, FL 32037...

MAJOR DAVID H. RIEL

Died April 25, 1989....."A" Btry 861st F.A.
25 Lowell Pl., Fredonia, NY 14063.....

ROGER JOHNSON

Died May 8, 1989.....Co"G" 254th Inf.
173 Leach Ave., Park Ridge, NJ 07656.....

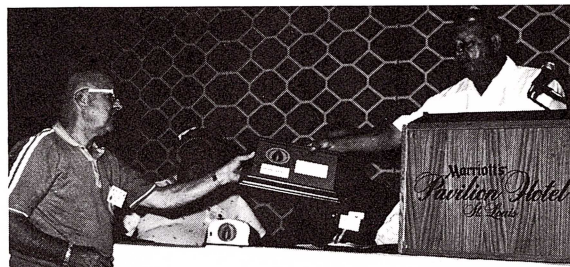
Editors Comment: Roger died suddenly due to a massive heart attack. He became active in our association a number of years ago, in planning a number of tours to Europe, retracing the area where regiments of the 63rd Div. were in combat.

Roger was very active in the "Jebsheim Memorial" in Jebsheim, France. A monument representing the 900 men who died in the "Battle of Jebsheim", from France, Germany, and the United States, to a "Lasting Peace"

In St. Louis, Roger was awarded a Plaque by Mike Baymor for his work with our Assn....

The 12th Armored Div., who supported the 63rd Div. in the Siegfried Line assault, & also in the Neckar Valley down to the Danube River, requested that Roger run a tour for them, which he accepted. It was a "go" and departure date was set for Sept. 1989. Roger, was one who didn't like to procrastinate.

Roger will be missed by us all, and our condolences to Carol, and family.



Roger Johnson and Mike Baymor

Re: 63rd Infantry Division Association
City: San Francisco, California
Date: August 23 - 30, 1989
Reference File Number K14051
Inclusive Travel Dates August 20 - September 2, 1989

Dear Attendees:

Delta Air Lines' Special Meetings Network is pleased to have the opportunity to offer its personalized services for your upcoming meeting. We specialize in coordinating travel arrangements for meetings and provide the best service possible at the lowest applicable fares.

A 5/five percent discount is available to you on Delta's domestic round trip published excursion fares including instant saver fares. If you elect to use this discount, all rules and conditions of the fares will apply.

Also any attendee 65 years or older, a 10/ten percent discount off any published fare will be offered. The Young at Heart fare follow all rules of the fare you are using.

In addition provisions have been made to afford a 40/forty percent discount off Delta's domestic full round trip day/night coach fares. These fares require seven days advance reservations and ticketing. Any changes to the outbound reservations must be with seven days advance notice of the new flight. Changes to the return flight may be made at any time. There are no penalties for changes or cancellations when using this 40/forty percent discount fare.

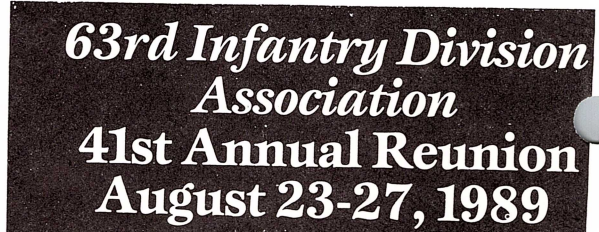
In both cases, seats are limited and we encourage you to confirm your reservations as soon as possible.

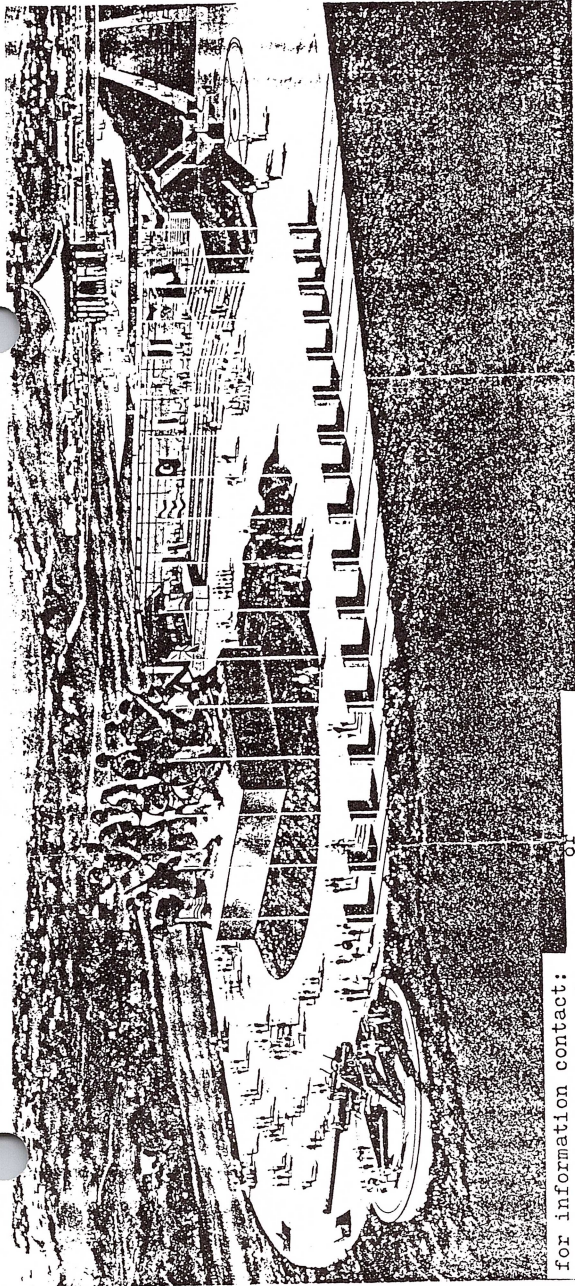
To take advantage of these fares, follow these simple rules:

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- . Refer to Reference File Number K14051.
- . Valid dates of travel are August 20 - September 2, 1989.

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 1757 W 26th St
 San Pedro, CA 90732

Mr. Nick Capalia
 1025 Trotwood Av
 San Pedro, CA 90732

ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING
 GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY
 SUNDAY JUNE 25, 1989

Architectural Drawing by Frank Lounkin

INTERNATIONAL KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL ANGELS GATE PARK - SAN PEDRO, CALIFORNIA

LEO GRZYCH... 363rd Medics...

Times Illiana Amateur winner Dave Vlasic lines up putt at left while seniors champion Leo Grzych celebrates his playoff victory at Woodmar Country Club.



Title makes Grzych's recovery complete

By JOHN HUMENIK
 Times Sports Writer

HAMMOND — For Leo Grzych, the moment couldn't have been any better. He's already knew his share of tough times.

Inks his quintuple heart bypass surgery 96 days ago or his wife being diagnosed as having cancer two weeks ago. Grzych also is bothered by a spinal wound from World War II.

But Sunday, Grzych was moved to tears when beat Len Bednar with a 24-foot birdie putt to win The Times Senior Division golf title. The putt snapped a deadlock at 3-over-par 75.

"Nobody gives you the tournament, you've got to win it," said Grzych, who used only 23 putts on the 19 holes.

"That's what makes this thing so good. I'm going to feel really great tomorrow." Grzych, who won his first Times tournament ever, said he called his wife at Mayo Clinic to tell her the good news. "I just had to call her. She was real happy," he said.

And outside of getting married, he said Sunday's win was the best thing that ever happened to him.

"That's right," he said. "This has got to be the greatest. You think back 95 days I was on the operating table. And to come out and win this, that's great." He said his experience as a medical assistant with Gen. George Patton helped him work his body up to playing again. "I walk hard and I breathe hard," he said. "I've always took care of myself."

He needed a long par-putt on No. 18 to gain a playoff with Bednar, who bogeyed the hole. For Bednar, it was his second straight runner-up Times finish.

On the playoff hole, both golfers drove deep left on the par 3, 140-yard No. 16 hole. Grzych sank a downhill putt, that he said broke only two inches from the cup.

"I was really shook up with all these people watching," he said. "I thought, 'Oh Lord, don't let me/knock it in the pond.' It (his putt) came right at it — to the center of that cup."

"The greens putted extremely true. It was a pleasure to play a golf course where you have nice putting greens," he said. "They held the ball well. I didn't have any trouble stopping them."

Grzych, who also was a low qualifier.

said if his drives improve, he'll make an attempt for the Senior Tour. "He just needs to continue his recovery process."

"I can't explain how good I feel to come in and win something like this," he said. "I tried for years, and I've never done better than third. I'll be back next year. You won't be able to keep me out."

Bednar had to rally after playing the front nine in 3-over. He carded a even-par 36 on the back side after exchanging a bogey at No. 12 for a birdie four holes later.

Third-place finisher P.N. Jaqua carded a 4-over 76. He and Bednar will make an attempt to qualify for the U.S. Open next month at Medinah Country Club.

Defending champion Len Stanley followed in fourth place with a 79, while Nick Seibal carded an 82.



Soldiers of the 3rd Battalion, 255th Regiment search prisoners in a town a short distance from Heidelberg.

Photo by Don Cronan

Family & Friends Welcome... Turn the '89 Reunion into a long vacation

*** IMPORTANT**
If you want to attend these events, you must send in your advance payment by July 1, 1989

IF YOU HAVE ALREADY MAILED IN YOUR FORM, WITHOUT PAYMENT, PLEASE SUBMIT PAYMENT NOW TO GUARANTEE A SEAT ON BUS TOURS.



San Francisco



63rd Infantry Division Association 41st Annual Reunion August 23-27, 1989



Name: _____ Date: _____
 Wife's Name (If attending) _____
 Address _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Guest Name(s) _____

Unit: _____
 Arrival Date: _____
 Arrival Time: _____
 Number of Children Attending: _____
 Children's Age(s): _____
 Phone: (_____) _____

Please Check if this is your first reunion.

Make check(s) payable to: San Francisco Reunion, 63rd Inf. Div. Assoc.		COST PER PERSON	NUMBER ATTENDING	TOTAL COST
RETURN TO: ANTHONY MUCCILO 419 University Avenue Burbank, CA 91504	REGISTRATION	\$ 15.00	MEMBER ONLY	\$ 15.00
	DUES: National	\$ 5.00		_____
	DUES: Lifetime	\$ 40.00		_____
WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 23 Meet Your Buddies. Dance Music, Free Beer & Soda, Cheese & Nuts 8 pm to ?		FREE	()	FREE
THURSDAY DAY, AUGUST 24 (CHOICE OF ONE BUS TOUR)				
<input type="checkbox"/> #1 San Francisco Highlights	8:30 am to 1:30 pm	\$ 18.00	()	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> #2 Sausalito & the Bay	9:30 am to 2:30 pm	\$ 24.00	()	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> #3 Wine Country (WITH FOOD)	9:30 am to 4:30 pm	\$ 35.00	()	_____
THURSDAY EVENING, AUGUST 24 Italian Buffet, Dance Music, Free Beer, Wine, Soda 7:30 pm to ?		\$ 15.00	()	_____
FRIDAY DAY, AUGUST 25 A Day of Remembrance, Memorial Service at the Presidio 6th Army Base. Includes PICNIC LUNCH & FREE BEER 9:30 am to 2:00 pm		FOR LUNCH & BUS \$ 22.00	()	_____
FRIDAY EVENING, AUGUST 25 Social Get Together, Free Beer & Soda 8:00 pm to ?		PER MALE \$ 5.00	()	_____
SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 26 Men's Business Meeting 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Women's Social Meeting (Coffee, Danish) 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.		FREE	()	FREE
SATURDAY EVENING, AUGUST 26 1 Hour Cocktail Party C.O.D. Bar 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Dinner and Dance 7:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.				
CHECK ONE <input type="checkbox"/> New York Steak		\$ 25.00	()	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Filet of Sole		\$ 25.00	()	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Child's Platter		\$ 9.50	()	_____

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GRAND TOTAL

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NEW MEMBERS



Secretary's Corner
Tom Liszka....

- JACOB STRAUSS**.....Co"F" 255th Inf.
2320 Benson St., Philadelphia, PA 19152..
- ROSARIO J. PALERMO**.....Co"I" 254th Inf.
1729 Empire Blvd.#11, Webster, NY 14580..
- JOE COVINO**.....Co"F" 254th Inf.
250 W. 27th St., New York, NY 10001.....
- ESLIE E. HOWELL**.....Co"B" 254th Inf.
22857 Roth Rd., Decatur, MI 49045.....
- BERNIE HOROWITZ**.....Co"F" 255th Inf.
2326 Alsace Rd., Reading, PA 19604.....
- CHARLES E. MCGEE**.....Co"C" ?
1304 Pennsylvania Ave., Beaumont, CA 92223
- JOHN P. BOYLE**.....SV. Co. 255th Inf.
320 E. 2nd St., Brooklyn, NY 11218.....
- KENNETH E. PEARSON**.....Co"E" 253rd Inf.
13514 Kings Ride Lane, Houston, TX 77079.
- ARCHIE W. BROWN**....Hqs. Btry 63rd Div.Arty
238 Elm St., Walpole, MA 02081.....
- BILLY J. MOSS**.....Co"B" 254th Inf.
Box 607, Bentonville, AR 72712.....
- WILLIAM T. GRAYSON**.....Co"B" ?
777 Ridgedale Dr., Shelby, NC 28150.....
- RICHARD (Dick) Fossum**...AT Co. 254th Inf.
1130 Floweree, Helena, MT 59601.....
- JOSEPH B. MASLOWSKY**.....Co"B" 255th Inf.
5251 W. Galitz, Skokie, IL 60077.....
- ROCCO STANGO**.....Unit N/A
4554 Portadown Ln., Las Vegas, NV 89121..
- THEODORE KATSAVOS**.....Recon Troops
11485 Oakhurst Rd., Largo, FL 34644.....
- CLAUDE A. LARRABEE**.....Co"A" 253rd Inf.
1024 Hasbrook Ave., Kansas City, KS 66105
- JULES M. ROMFH**.....863rd "C"
3149 Brickell Ave., Miami, FL 33129.....
- HOLLIS KNIGHTON**.....Associate Member
P.O. Box 487, Centerville, MS 39631.....

WELCOME BACK INTO THE FOLD "HOTSHOT".....

There are still some Indexes to Col. Hatcher's Book available. If you have the book, you might like one. Please remit \$1.50 to Tom Liszka, 19W 565 Deerpath Ln., Lemont, IL 60439, to cover the printing and postage.

Also, I had available at the Reunion, listings by Regiment and Battalion, of members of our Association. If you would like such a listing of YOUR REGIMENT, please remit \$2.00 to cover the reproduction cost and mailing.

We still have 63rd Div. Assoc. Caps..... and they are still Only \$8.00. Make your checks out to the 63rd Inf. Div. Assoc. and mail to above address. Cost of mailing is in the price.

OLIVE INSIDE SHIELD



HISTORIC NOTES

by Mike Baymor...



63rd Inf, Div. KIA'S & DOW'S

April 9, 1945 Bloodiest Day
 April 8, 1945 2nd Bloodiest Day
 Jan. 3, 1945 3rd Bloodiest Day
 April 7, 1945 4th Bloodiest Day
 KIA-Killed in Action..DOW-Died of Wounds
 Total Battle Deaths..960, KIA..844

HISTORY OF THE 63rd Inf. Div.

We wish to thank the members who have contributed items for inclusion in the "History of the 63rd I.D.", that is now in the process of being written. We hope to include all units with rosters of all personnel, if possible. So if you have orders or other items listing names—we would like to have them. We are particularly interested in the 255th I.R., and Special Troops. If you have any interesting happenings during the war that may be of interest, submit them - they may be included in the book.

I have received the names & serial numbers of 960 Battle Deaths-KIA 844, DOW 126. Over half with dates. Source, Adjutant General's Office, Strength Accounting Branch, 19 May'48.

I also received an update on what seems to be the ETO Historians Report. A 3 page history on the 63rd Inf. Div. Here are some statistics quoted. CMH-2...Distinguished Unit Citations-4...DSC-5...SS-435...Total Battle Deaths 960, KIA 844, Wounded 3,326, Missing 98, Captured 219, Total Casualties-4487. The above lists are available from, **JACK L. PICKON**, 1230 Wallgate Ave., Waterloo, IA 50701. KIA-DOW list, 19 pages, \$15.00.... History, 3 pages, \$4.00...I know we had the most casualties of any Division during the month of April 1945 in the 7th Army. George Parker ("L" 254th), informs me it was the highest KIA-DOW of any Division in the ETO during April '45. (479 KIA & DOW), and 1205 wounded.

I have received the name & citation of one of the DSC holders, **PFC EUGENE B. REICH**, 33662.432 ("K" 253rd), for actions near Lampoldhausen, Germany, 12 April 1945, I am looking for the other 4 names. If you know any of them, please write. I will bringing the above listed items to the San Francisco Reunion except the book.

BILL SCOTT 407 S. Walnut, Sycamore, IL 60178 has now compiled a list of about 13000 names of men who were in the 63rd Div. There were about 25000 men who wore the 63rd patch---

between activation 1943, & it's deactivation in 1945. Bill is looking for more company rosters, Good Conduct rosters, CIB rosters, etc., etc. Send them to the above address.

Battery Press is republishing the original 3 volumes US Army, Report of Operations 1944-45 in 2 vols. Cost \$99.95+\$6.00 P&H. A member of the 63rd, Thurman Haston ("C"-253rd) can make the 2 volume set available to members of the assn. for \$62.00 includes P&H. The book is a handy reference. It covers the 63rd as part of the Army picture in detail. The maps are detailed. It is my standard reference. If you are interested write to: **HASTON'S BOOK STORE, 303 WEST MAIN ST., McMinnville, TN 37110.**


All former **ASTP MEMBERS**, may be interested in a book just published. "**SCHOLARS IN FOX HOLES**", by Louis E. Keefer. 320 PP., cost \$24.95. Write to McFarland & CO., Inc. Publishers, B0x 611, Jefferson, NC 28640., or to the author at, 1503 Farsta Court, Reston, VA 22090.


* * * * *


EDITORS COMMENT: In future issues of the B&F, I will be inserting interesting articles, written by "Hotshots". Some are long, and will be inserted in installments.





ANCIENS DE LA PREMIERE ARMEE FRANCAISE



 11 CORPS U.S. SECTION
 Editor - PUBLISHER
 President (213) 591 4075
 Donald Seedborg
 1915 Cedar Ave #5
 Long Beach, Cal. 90806


 3d Inf


 12th Armored


 28th Inf


 75th Inf



 RHIN-DANUBE
 30 RUE EUGENE FLACHAT
 75017 PARIS
 TELEPHONE 31 735 86 40


Welcome


ALL Ex- 254th INFANTRY Regiment men.


Would you please call or write anyone you still have contact with and give them this information and encourage them to **JOIN-JOIN-JOIN** I am searching for men who served with the 254th Inf. Regt. 63rd Infantry Division WWII and participated in the ALSACE-COLMAR pocket attached to the first-French Army, 20 January-9 February 1945. They are eligible for membership in the XXI Corps U.S. Section Assoc. Rhin et Danube for belated French medals and membership. For information contact:
 President
 Donald Seedborg

Association des Anciens Combattants


 FRENCH
 CROIX
 de
 GUERRE
 1-45


 FRENCH 1st ARMY


 COLMAR 1945
 Medals


 WWII
 VETERANS:

CHAPTER NEWS

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER-Irvin Schlocker, Pres.

The Philadelphia Chapter will hold their annual Fall Mini-Reunion at the Pocomont Lodge and Resort in the Poconos on the week-end of October 20-22, 1989. (Friday to Sunday). Anyone interested in attending please contact; Irvin Schlocker, 935 Princeton Ave. Phila., PA 19111..Phone (215) 432-1488....

"F" Co. 253rd Inf...William "Smitty" Smith

We are planning to hold the next "F" Co. Reunion in Baton Rouge, on April 4-8, 1990 at the Bellemont, 7370 Airline Hwy., Baton Rouge, LA 70805..Toll free # 1-800-535-8486. Room rate \$38.00 per day + Tax.

"H" Co. 253rd Inf..1st Sgt. Joe Falkenstein

"H" Co. is planning to hold next years Reunion in Evansville, IN, at the Executive Inn Oct. 19-22, 1990. Room rate \$40.00 per day. They will visit Camp Breckenridge, KY, where they first trained. ("H" Co. 389th).

PER MIDWEST CHAPTER...Don Reioux...

THIRD ANNUAL MIDWEST REUNION- JUNE 9-11, 1989
Headquarters will be at the Days Inn in Maplewood, MN. Make your own room reservations, by calling 1-800-325-2525. Be sure to mention you are with the 63rd Div. in order to get the special rate.

Itinerary:

Friday June 9th-Hospitality Suite open 2:00 PM until 5:00 PM...5:00 PM Social Hour..6:00 PM Dinner, after dinner a short business meeting.

Saturday June 10th-Morning sightseeing, shopping and relaxation. Dinner will be on your own. We have reserved a block of tickets for the Minnesota Twins game. They play Chicago at 7:00 PM. Transportation to the game will be provided.

Sunday June 11th-Picnic starting at 11:00 AM will be held at the American Legion Recreation grounds.

For further information, write to Don Reioux 1 Island View Lane, North Oaks, MN 55127.. call (612) 481-7934.....

IS YOUR ZIP CODE CORRECT...CHECK YOUR
MAILING LABEL.....

INDIANA-OHIO-KENTUCKY CHAPTER.....

The spring meeting was held in South Bend, Indiana on Saturday, April 22, 1989 at the home of John & Betty Ethier. After lunch they toured the Studebaker National Museum to view the car collection. The evening meal was held at Holly's Landing. A good time was had by all those present.

Anyone interested in future meetings and those who are not getting our meeting notices, contact Ed Fowle, 322 Dayton Ave., Springfield, OH 44506.....

Please Note...The I.O.K. Chapter members will be selling Commemorative Jewelry, in the Registration Area, during our California Reunion. We will have Belt Buckles, Bolo Ties with Div. Emblem, Small Label Pins, & Ladies (Post Type) Ear Rings with Div. Emblem. We will also have miniature Combat Badges, and the 7th Army miniature pins. (Seven Steps to Hell).

Ed Fowle

REUNION NOTICE

43d Infantry "WINGED VICTORY" Division
Sept. 8-9-10, 1989....Holiday Inn.....
Providence, Downtown....21 Atwells Ave.,
Providence, RI 02903..For details contact:
Howard Brown, 150 Lakedell Dr., East
Greenwich, RI 02818.....



**We're ready
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**To Offer You
a Great
Reunion in
1991**

THE PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

PATRIOTISM IS
CONTAGIOUS!
SPREAD IT
AROUND!





MARCH FORTH - MARCH FOURTH
by a Hvy. Wpns. S/Sgt. Jack Kerins
Co. "D" 255th Infantry

The War Department history of the 63rd Division states "On March 4th at 1500, the 1st. Bn. 255th Inf. is to be attached to the left flank of the 253rd Regiment and cross the Saarguemines River and make their first offensive action against the enemy by taking the high ground to the east."

Much has been written of the successes of the 63rd in combat, and of different units engagements with the Germans, but nowhere have I been able to find any writings of this action, better known by those that were in it as the "Quarry Battle."

From a few notes I made, some of which have become illegible over the years, a somewhat hazy memory, and of course time, I will try to recall some of this action. Spending a great deal of your time either on the ground or in the ground accounts for some of the writing in my notebook being indistinguishable at times.

For almost a month we had maintained a defensive position along the Blies River just south of Saarguemines along a deactivated railroad and west of a little village of Bliesaringen. Being a heavy weapons platoon of .30 Cal. machineguns we were strung out along the railroad, sometimes using the raised rail bed as our defense line. A cut in a hill for the railroad afforded us a fine defoliation to set up our chow lines. We usually ate around 0600 and around 1800 or 1900 after dark.

We had a little movement during the daylight hours for we would draw direct small arms fire across the river. Many times we would receive mortar fire that was laid down along the rail bed but, to my knowledge, no casualties were suffered, but it often played havoc with our communication lines.

It was a cold winter in this sector. We never knew the temperature but it was cold. Many mornings we would have one deep snow covering our positions making it difficult to keep our weapons operational even though we seldom used them. Most of us acquired feather ticks from the houses in the village, enjoyed their warmth and comfort in our foxholes, and then discarded them when they became waterlogged.

We were told that come spring we would

launch an offensive across the Blies and up the long open slope that faced us. We would look across the river and conjecture how we would ever make it up that hill without many casualties.

Suddenly you could feel the warmth of spring approaching, the snow melted quickly, and we knew our "D Day" was near. We were brought back a little ways, given a 2 seconds for soaping and a 3 second rinse and fresh clothes. Was it good to get out of those smelly muddy clothes and feel clean again. It was our first bath in almost a month except our helmet sponges while on the line.

We were then relieved by the 44th Division and brought to Saarguemines. We were billeted in an old institutional building called the Steinbacher Hof and spent a few days relaxing, writing letters and cleaning our weapons.

It was 1400 March 4, 1945, when the platoon leader sent a messenger to come to see him immediately. I had a sick feeling in my stomach as I took off to find him. I knew this was it. MY Lt. gave me little information to take back. "Have your men double-check your weapons, carry all the ammunition you can and see that all of them have "K" rations. No maps, no overlays, no information of what we are to expect, except that we are to depart on our first offensive action at 1500. The only encouraging thing he said was we would be supported by 15 tanks and we should secure our objective by 1700, which as far as we could see, was a wooded area with a rather steep hill beyond.

I shared my enthusiasm with my section when I went back. Everyone was confident that we would overwhelm the enemy, especially when we saw the tanks on the line to help us. Armor gives an infantryman a sense of security and invincibility. That thinking and the reality of close combat was quick to leave indelible scars in our thoughts when we reminisce this action. Within seconds after we started advancing from our line of demarcation I could see 9 of the tanks either disabled or on fire, with some of the fortunate crewmen scurrying out of their turrets, and heading to the rear. A well-placed and camouflaged 88 anti-tank gun quickly brought reality of combat to all of us. Now we were pinned down in the woods by intense small arms fire from a few houses

continued on next page.....

on the level and from numerous positions dug into the hillside in front of us. The hill was very steep, created by the spoils from a quarry on top. The Germans were all dug in, difficult to see, and more difficult to render ineffective. They commanded the top of the quarry where they looked right down on us.

Our machine guns were of little use. We could not establish a line as infantrymen were maneuvering in front of us and their officers were running back and forth trying to organize them. During the remaining daylight hours we were driven back to our departure point several times when the enemy counter-attacked. One time we were just below the Bn. CP and I could see our Bn. CO in their foxholes directing operations. Everytime we were forced back some courageous officers, unknown to me, would rally a group of infantrymen, which by now had lost their company identity, and they would again press forward relentlessly. Throughout the night there was continuous small arms fire and many phosphorous grenades exchanged. At daybreak we could see the hill clearly now as we had advanced to the edge of it. I finally established contact with my Lt. and looked at him in disbelief when he said, "Take your guns to the top of the hill and set them up."

I looked up the hill which was soft shale, I looked to my left and saw a German stick his head out of a hole half-way up the hill, give a burst with his burp gun and disappear. Wait a minute, this was not in our training. We are a support team, not a point team. No time to hesitate--just follow orders. Fortunately my two gunners and tripod carriers stuck with me through the night, but in the confusion earlier I had lost half on my ammo carriers. We started up the hill diagonally away from the dug in German and it was painstakingly slow. We would slide back one step for every two we took. It was most difficult for the men carrying the heavy machine guns and tripods, and that was one of the reasons we acquired light machine guns for future actions such as these.

Almost to the top I glanced to my left to see one of our infantrymen firing his rifle while making his way toward that emplacement, and then seeing a white handkerchief waving frantically. I knew that rifleman had accomplished his mission. We were now at the top of the quarry where there was a track leading into a tunnel in

the quarry, we had cover momentarily and were rejoicing we had made it to the top. I looked around the side of the tunnel opening and could see behind it a flat area of about 200 yds. that overlooked all of the countryside. What a beautiful place to set up our machine guns. Just then my Lt. arrived to order us to go out to the edge of the flat area, set up our guns and fire at anything we could see.

Immediately this flat area came under very heavy mortar fire, so heavy that, when I looked out again, I felt none of us could ever make the run of that stretch. Shrapnel was flying everywhere. I blessed myself, asked the Lord to take care of us, and took off for the edge to set up our guns. Miraculously we made it without a casualty, set up our guns and began firing in every direction to the east where we thought the enemy might be. Suddenly the mortar and small arms fire ceased and we could see many Germans retreating toward another hill to our east. We broke our guns and went down the hill to the north side to join the rest of our men, wondering all the while how we ever routed the enemy from those positions. At the bottom of the hill we found a number of bunker-like structures built above ground and made from very heavy timbers covered with a foot to a foot-and-a-half of sod. Evidences of recent occupancy were visible as the Germans hastily left blankets and loaves of bread in these huts. Apparently these were their winter quarters while facing us across the Blies.

We were hungry and very thirsty, having used all our water and the K rations we carried. Looking around for water, as most of us had swollen lips from being dehydrated, the only water we could find in that vicinity was a small amount in the bottom of holes made by delayed action artillery shells. Filling our canteens, then sterilizing it with the pills we carried, we drank it only because it was wet. It did not taste very good.

Again we were tied down by fire from the high ground to the east and we stayed there until darkness came. And with the dark still no food or water. By now our battalion had become depleted to about 50 or 60 men. At least that was all I could see in our immediate area. Shortly after midnight we assembled and in single file made our way through a mine field and up through heavy timber and gained the top of the hill.

continued on next page.....

Orders were passed down to dig in fast and expect an attack. With so few men available we were cast into the role of riflemen and were strung out to defend the right flank. Exhausted as we were there was little hesitancy to the order. We were at the edge of a woods and a clearing beyond was barely visible in the dark night. No sooner had we finished our digging than to the left of where we were, some 50 yds. a fire fight broke out when a German patrol attempted to infiltrate our positions. They quickly retreated. It was now about 0400 and, as hungry and fatigued as we were, I did not find a man asleep. We all knew what was coming. And it did. Just as the first rays of dawn started to break the night darkness, we could hear a tank to our front. Slowly it rumbled up a grade and became visible as it emerged into the clearing. It began firing directly into the trees over our heads, from side to side, hoping to effectively shower us with shrapnel. All around the tank were German soldiers keeping pace with the tank and firing their own weapons at us. I quickly made a decision. I was not going to die in a hole, and I was not going to go without taking a few Germans with me. I blessed myself and asked the Lord to take care of me. As I grabbed my M-1 and scrambled out of my hole, I spied a bazooka lying on the ground by the next foxhole. Dropping my rifle, I picked up the bazooka, found it loaded, checked the battery, wrapped the wire, and headed for the tank. About 30 yds. away I stood up from an artillery hole and took aim at the side of the tank. It stopped at the same time and I could see him turning his gun toward me. I remember thinking, now take care aim as you only have one shot and one chance to get him. Then all of a sudden all I could see was black in my sight. I quickly looked with both eyes and there not 15 feet between me and the tank was a young soldier in a black uniform with an automatic weapon pointed right at me. I remember yelling, while pointing my bazooka at him, "You throw down that gun you---bad boy, or I'll blow your head off." I guess my bazooka impressed him more than his trigger finger for suddenly he glanced toward the stopped tank, back at me, and then started running toward the tank. Just as quickly the tank reversed itself and disappeared over the hill with many of the German soldiers following the tank. I could hear the buzzes of their bullets aimed at me, but by fate, the grace of God, and their poor markman-

ship, I survived.

With a feeling someone was behind me, I glanced around and My Lt. was there and another very young soldier. Just as I looked at the youngster I saw a bullet strike him in the fleshy part of his nose just above his lip. Blood gushed from the wound and he started choking from the blood draining into his throat. I grabbed him by the shoulders, pushed him down into the hole, made him put his head between his knees, used his compress, and told him to squeeze it over his wound and we would get help. I asked him what unit he was from and I believe he said he was from the 3rd Bn. 253rd.

By now my two machine gun crews had followed me and set up on either side of us. Looking down the hill we could see about 15 or 20 Germans in a group running full steam with their coat tails flying. My Sgt. looked at me and said "Sgt., shall I mow them down?" I looked at them again and said somewhat dazedly, "I think they have had enough, and besides we don't want to shoot them in the back." As it was now two days since we had any food and little water to drink, I said, "I think it would be better if we looked for some chow." The relieving Bn. that came to our aid was now advancing through us.

My Lt. and I later walked around the hill and found the abandoned tank and when we went to the east side of the hill we could see why the Germans defended this area so tenaciously--we were looking over the Seigfried Line and into the city of Saarebrucken!

The War Department history of this action took no cognizant of the intensity of this engagement, nor of the many casualties, the sacrifices, and the bravery displayed by these men of the 1st Bn. 255th I.R.

The paragraph on this action of the 63rd history concludes briefly..."On March 7th, the last day of its attachment to the 253rd Infantry, the 1st Battalion 255th Infantry Regiment improved the defense of its sector on the high ground southeast of Gudingen. (Quarry and hill to the east.) It then moved into a reserve position at Steinbacker Hoff (Saareguemines) where it spent the next few days in rehabilitation. (These events are substantiated by a Star Citation.)

Jack Kerins



Hot Shot Mail Bag



LOST SHEEP WHO FOUND THEIR WAY BACK INTO THE FOLD

BENEDICT PARENTI..Co"L" 255th Inf..514 Ripple St., Scranton, PA 18505..Ben joined the 63rd July '44 at Van Dorn, and was with the Div. all the way to Landsberg, Germany. He found out about our assn. from NARFE, a retirement magazine. He recently retired from the Dept. of Army Depot in Tobyhana, after 31 yrs. Works part time as a Security Guard, and also coaches a High School level Girls Softball Team. He would like to contact old buddies but cannot make our reunion this year, due to previous plans, hopes to attend one in the near future. Keep him to his word Marie. Ben is happy to be a "lost sheep who found his way home".

RAY FEUER..Co"E" 255th Inf..11646 Verada Ave. Granada Hills, CA 91344..Ray was with "E" from Sept. '43, to April '44. Was then transferred to Camp Shanks, and arrived in Scotland June 28, '44. Ray was with the 100th Inf. Div. from Dec.'42 to July '43, before joining the 63rd. We expect to see you and Beatrice in San Francisco in August, it's just outside your backdoor.

TIM MALAN..Co"A" 255th Inf..4 Valedero Ln., Hot Springs Village, AR 71999..Tim joined the 63rd at Van Dorn in '44. Went overseas and all through combat until the end of the yr. Later he became part of the 255th Dance Band. Ended his tour in Germany with the 7th Army Special Services. Retired as a manufacturer's rep. Tim and Gwynn are making plans for San Francisco with Bob Kutscher &

Louise. Tim and Bob hadn't seen each other in 46 yrs., until meeting last April.

ROBERT KUTSCHER..Co"A" 255th..46 Alicante Way, Hot Springs Village, AR 71909..Bob left the service in April '46. Was a High School Band Director and Music Dept. Chairman for 36 yrs., in Birmingham, Mich. He later became securities broker, and is now retired. Bob & Louise will be joining us in August. Get those reservations in early.
VERNON R. JOBE..Hqs.1st. Bn. 253rd Inf.... 5345 Miwok Dr., Silver Springs, NV 89429.. Vernon retired in '80. Worked as a union pipefitter since '49. Now raises pgmy goats as a hobby. Belongs to the V.F.W. & American Legion. Vernon, being your a next door Calif., YOU will be taking Marge to our reunion in August. See you both in S.F.

KENNETH E. PEARSON..Co"E" 253rd Inf..13514 Kings Ride Lane, Houston, TX 77079..Ken found out about our assoc. through a Louisville, KY newspaper article. He was assigned as a replacement to "E" Co., and took part in the final push from about Mosbach, to near Munich. After brief occupation duty he was re-assigned to the 2nd Inf. at Camp Swift, TX., and discharged at Ft. Lewis, WA in June'46. Following college, he worked 35 yrs. for Gulf Oil Corp. and retired in '86. Suzanne, Calif. is not far from Texas.

JACOB STRAUSS..Co"F" 255th Inf..2320 Benson, Phila., PA 19152..Jacob joined the Division in August '43, completed his basic training and then sent out as a replacement to Europe.....Jacob should be a member of the Philly Chapter by now, with the information supplied to him by our Secretary.

JOHN J. SIZE..Hqs.Co. 2nd Bn..255th Inf... 4113 Ferrarra St., Jacksonville, FL 32217.. John joined the 63rd at Van Dorn in '44, and was with the 255th until August '45, then was transferred to the 36th Inf. Div. Retired several years ago from the U.S. Army Corp. of Engr's., as a civil engineer. Enjoys retirement and does quite a bit of traveling with wife Mary Alice of 48 yrs. Keep making those traveling plans John for San Francisco in August.

LEO B. SHOEMAKER..Co"D" 254th Inf..22015 Melissa Ln., Harrah, OK 73045..Leo joined "D" at Van Dorn, and was with the unit until it was disbanded. After returning home he worked as a machinist at Tinker Air Base. Enjoying retirement with his wife Ruth.

continued on next page...

MICHAEL GRECUA..Btry."A" 862nd F.A...237 Summit Ave., Mingo Jct., OH 43938..Mike recently retired after 40 yrs. with Conrail, and is married to a wonderful nurse, his wife Dorothy for over 31 years. Mike, you said it all, many more happy ones to you both.

FRED L. GREINER..Co"I" 255th Inf..837 Wallen Rd., Bow, WA 98232..Fred served with the 63rd from Sept. '43 until April '45, when he suffered a shrapnel wound to his left knee near Mockmuhl, Germany. Retired 2 yrs. ago as Safety Insurance Officer with the Lake Washington School District, Kirkland, WA. Spends his time fishing, amateur prospecting, and hiking. Fred, you and Margaret can hike down the trails to San Francisco, and have lots of good company to help you enjoy your R&R.

WILLIAM F. WEAVER..Co"B" 254th Inf..10821 Ridgecrest, St. Ann, MO 63074..Bill joined the Army in 1940, spent 2 yrs. in the No. Pacific, before joining the 63rd. Was discharged Oct. '45. Retired from the Postal Service, Sept. '84. Enjoys golf and shooting. How about throwing in a little traveling with Jane to San Francisco.

KENNETH M. FORSHEE..A.T. 255th Inf..1150 West Middleton Rd., #24, Washington, UT84780 After service Ken went to Brigham Young University. He then joined the Provo City Police Dept., went through the ranks, and at his retirement was Division Commander of Criminal Investigation. We know who the new Division Commander is, don't we Maxine!!!!

BOYD E. STANBRA..Co"D" 254th Inf..12132 Hackamore Rd., Garden Grove, CA 92640.... Boyd is a retired Civil Engr. from Union Pacific Railroad. Enjoys playing lots of golf, fishing, traveling, and his family. He will be attending his first reunion in S.F., and meeting old buddies.

EUGENE W. SOBECK..Hqs. Co. 2nd Bn. 254th Inf..397 Caledonia St., Louisville, CO80027 Eugene ended up as a POW in Germany. He is now retired and would like to contact some of his old buddies who were also POW'S. Charles R. White, Leonard E. Tunnkalo, both of "L" 255th, and Richard R. Hull, "M" 255th. I have no listing of these former "hotshots", Gene. Take Marilyn to our re-union in August, may find someone who can help.

* * * * *

HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR PRE-REGISTRATION FORM?...IF NOT DO SO NOW! WIN A

FREE ROOM.....

WILLIAM G. BARKER..Btry "B" 863rd F.A... 16990 Beech-Daly Rd., Reford Township, MI 48240..Bill entered the service in Dec '43 and was sent to Camp Roberts, CA for training. Joined the 63rd, June '44, was on #2 gun, Btry "B". After the war he was shipped to the 100th Inf. Div., and then to the 3rd Inf. Div. He was discharged in May '46. Wife's name is Marion.

JAMOS A. NESMITH.. Co"C" 255th Inf..Box 3424 H/S Ruidoso, N. Mexico 88345..James went overseas with the 63rd, and was wounded in Jan '45. Retired from the Army in '64. Jamos and Linda still have a 14 year old youngster at home.

THEO MATHIS..Co"E" 255th Inf..6228 Moon Rd. Columbus, GA 31909..After the war Theo was assigned to a General Hospital in Paris where he served until his discharge in April '46. He is presently Clerk of Municipal Court in Columbus. Is Commander of the local Chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, and a member of the American Legion. Theo, take some time out and take Janice to our reunion in August.

WAYNE E. ARMSTRONG..Co"C" 255th Inf..5035 Avalon Ave., Columbus, OH 43229..Wayne retired in '83 from Cols & Southern Ohio Electric Co., after 36 yrs. of service. Was a Real Estate Agent until '86, now he is fully retired. He went back to the old battlefields in Germany in '85 with George T. Moulds who recently passed away. Wife Linda still works, so Wayne is Chief Cook.

RICHARD A. FOSSUM..A.T. 254th Inf..1130 Floweree, Helena, MT 59601..Dick claims he was a "kid" when he joined the 63rd at Van Dorn in '44. In Dec. '44 he was separated from the Division due to a heart condition and missed the troop train to Ft. Meade. Only recently has he become aware that there was an association, and the Blood & Fire. Forty years later, he's happy to catch up and join our assoc. Dick, as for never attending a reunion, boy have I got a deal for you. In the B&F there is a pre-registration form, hotel reservation, and don't forget there is an application for the AD Book. Rosemary, am relying on you to get them into the mails. Dick being a retired banker, should know all about filling out forms.

BILLY J. MOSS.. Co"B" 254th Inf..Box 607 Bentonville, AK 72712..Billy is retiring on June 5th after serving 35 yrs. as a Pastor in the United Methodist Church. He developed trench feet at the Battle of

continued on next page...

of Hill 216, and was evacuated to Nice, France. Was later re-assigned to the Military Police in Wichita Falls, TX, and discharged in Feb. '46. Billy and Jean will be joining us in August.

ARCHIE W. BROWN..63rd Div. Arty. Hqs.Btry. 238 Elm St., Walpole, MA 02081..Archie works part-time as an electronics engr. Moved to Mass. in '66 from L.I., NY.

Since his discharge in Dec. '45, he never met one "hotshot" until now. Hobbies are sailing, gardening, fixing old clocks, etc., etc. I know where you and Florence can meet LOADS OF HOTSHOTS, just fill out the pre-registration form.

THAD JOHN PRYBOR..Co"B" 253rd Inf..6251 Hathaway Rd., Garfield Hts., OH 44125... John was with the 63rd from the very beginning to the very end. He was transferred to the 36th Inf. Div. to be sent back to the states. Has been married to Helen for 45 yrs., and worked as a steel worker for 33 years.

ROY E. FELTNER..2nd Bn. Medics 253rd Inf. Box 8391, Columbus, OH 43201..Roy is still working as a plant mgr. of a corrugated box company. Claims he's a avid and expert(?) golfer. I'm not touching that one; I don't play golf. Beverly is he really that good?? Roy, read that insert on Leo Grzych in this issue about golf. Anyone got a golf ball handy?

JOE COVINO..Co"F" 254th Inf..250 W. 27th St., New York, NY 10001..Joe is retired, was the Director of a large Library and Youth Center. Joe and Annette will be attending our reunion in August.

CHARLES MOSKOWITZ..Co"A" 253rd Inf..#5 Dumarton Dr., Olivette, MO 63132..Charles was in the service from Nov.'42 - April '46. He was a rifleman replacement and fought in Central Europe & Germany. Due to all those by-gone years, he cannot remember the names of old comrades, as there was always new replacements. Is retired from the Post Office. Charles take Norma to San Francisco, I'm sure you will find many old buddies.

JOHN G. PRIBRAM..Medics 254th Inf..5397 E. 26th St., Tulsa, OK 74114..John was wounded in '45. He studied at Harvard, and later went back to Germany, working on the Moral & Spiritual Reconstruction of Post War Europe. He then participated with the "Up People Program", teaching social studies in their traveling High School. He and Agnete have been doing a lot of traveling for the last 18 yrs. How about keeping your bags packed and continue on to San Francisco.

LLOYD E. BUNKER..Hqs. 254th Inf..6018 Mauritania Ave., Oakland, CA 94605..Lloyd found out all about the assn. through the V.F.W. magazine. He joined the Div. at Van Dorn, and was assigned to the I & R squad. Lloyd will be joining us in August.

ROBERT K. DOBSON..Hqs. Btry. 718 F.A..4625 Jacques St., Torrance, CA 90503..Bob joined the 718th as a replacement Field Wireman, on Easter Sunday 1945. His battalion moved rapidly S/E passing "Dachau", and ended up in Munich. He contracted "yellow jaundice" the first week in May and evacuated on May 8th. Spent 6 weeks in the hospital in Paris, before returning to the U.S.... Was later transferred to "B" Btry 718th FA, who were training for the South Pacific duty, when the war ended. Received several promotions and returned to the states as a S/Sgt. At the time of his separation, Bob joined the Army Reserves, and remained active in the Reserve until '78. He worked for a local Areospace firm, from which he is now retired. Bob ended his service as a Sgt.Major. He will be joining us in August. His son is a Major in the Marine Corps.

"WELCOME HOME HOTSHOTS"



Pres: John Santangelo, Exec. V.P. Lawrence Pedone, Sec./Treas. Andrew DiTommaso, Col. Chief of Staff-Albert T. Finnerty, Betty Santangelo, Anna Pedone, Tina DiTommaso Annette Finnerty...



.....
MOVING TIME!
LET YOUR SECRETARY
KNOW...YOUR
NEW ADDRESS.....
.....

MAIL BAG CONTINUED.....

JACK MATHEWS..Co"M" 254 Inf..50 Onteara Blvd., Asheville, NC 28803..Jack has been very ill, had two strokes, also fell and broke 3 ribs. Is now home from the hospital and always thinks about his old buddies. Wife Geneva, is his own private nurse, and taking good care of him. How about you men from Co"M", getting those pens & pads out am sure Jack would be glad to hear from his "old buddies".....

ANTHONY DeSANTIS..Co"H" 254th Inf..1443 Gables Ave., Spring Hill, FL 34608..Anthony has been unable to attend the 4 previous reunions, due to his wife's health. He retired in '88, build a home in Florida, enjoys retirement. Sends his best to the Philly Chapter and Irv Schlocker.

HENRY H. LAUCHLEY, Jr..Hqs. Btry. 718th FA 5915 Belrose, Houston, TX 77035..Henry corresponds with Lloyd Short, Herb Hinkel, Joe Bavasso, Elmer Hall, Frank Imperl and (Schonberger) Kemeny. Is retired and involved in the Lions Club. Henry and Carlee, send their best to San Francisco, as they doubt if they will be able to attend.

ROY W. PETERSON..Hqs. Co. I&R Plat. 254th Inf..3258 N. 100 East, No. Ogden, UT 84414 Roy and Merlene, had a surprise visit last year from Hearl & George Hager from Ohio, who were on their way home from an Alaskan vacation in their motorhome. They hadn't seen each other in 43 yrs., and re-fought the war again. Roy, Hearl is not a member of our assoc. How about signing him up, and letting him know about our reunion.

ROBERT S. GOODMAN..861st F.A..5818 N.W. Lincoln Ave., Vancouver, WA 98663..Bob has been retired for six years, and has been enjoying it, to the fullest. He and Evangeline do a lot of traveling, flying, fishing, and ride motorcycles. Mount up folks and cycle down to our reunion in August.

MAURICE L. LIBERATORE..Co"E" 253rd Inf... 8 Rushmore Dr., Brick, NJ 08724..Maurice & Camille enjoyed our St. Louis Reunion. they won't be able to make this years reunion, as they expect another grand-child this summer. Maurice, you have to tell your children to plan ahead, can't be interfering with your reunion schedule. Only kidding, you probably can get yourself in trouble without my help. Maurice sent a little extra, as he enjoys reading the B&F. Thank you! All of us from Co"C", wish you all, "loads of good health and happiness.

WARREN W. GREER..Co"A" 253rd Inf..33454 Chestnut Ridge, N. Ridgeville, OH 44039.. Warren is retired and a avid golfer. Also enjoys boating, and fishing. He and Beatrice, will be married 44 yrs. this August. No better way than to celebrate that happy occasion, then among friends in San Francisco among friends, folks. Warren is active in the V.F.W., Masons & Shriners. Plenty of "Camels Milk", at the reunion.

ROGER MOODY..Co"C" 363rd Medics..310 S. Cherry Ln., Granbury, TX 76048..Roger keeps in touch with 12 men from his company, and would like to hear from others who were part of the unit. If anyone needs any information on Chaplain Robert Wallet (now deceased), to get in touch with him. If anyone can furnish Roger with the full name and address of Eddie, the Chaplain's jeep driver & assistant he would appreciate it.

LOUIS E. FANGMAN..Co"I" 255th Inf..Rt.2,Box 261, Sequin, TX 78155..Louis writes that he is still alive and kicking, but hasn't seen or remember anyone that he served with when he was transferred from the 79th Div. to the 63rd, back in '45. He left the lines on March 8, '45, at Neinkirchen, Saar.... Louis, you and Delores can kick up your heels in August, and have a ball.

HAROLD W. KRULL..Co"M" 254th Inf..7245 Nash Rd., No. Tonawanda, NY 14120..Harold is semi-retired, and drives a school bus part time. They won't be able to join us this year, but plan to make our Florida Reunion.

IRY J. LAPEYROUSE..Co"C" 255th Inf..Rte 1 Box 383, Chauvin. LA 70344. Iry joined the 63rd Jan. '45, in Southern France, and stayed with the Div., including the Colmar Pocket, Siegfried Line, and up to April 30, '45, when it reached Landsberg, and later disbanded. He was then transferred to the 36th Inf. Div.

RALPH M. MORALES.. Co"A" 254th Inf..P.O.Box 8483, Chula Vista, CA 92012..Ralph has been trying to locate Bennis Marshak 255th. If any of you hotshots, have any information, please send it to Ralph. Bennis is not on our mailing roster. Ralph, San Francisco is right next door, from where you live, make your reservations now for August, Frances will assist you, and you make come across someone who can give you information on Bennis, and have a good time as well.

HAVE YOU NOTIFIED OUR SECRETARY OF YOUR NEW ADDRESS.....

continued on next page....

MARY A. SUTFIND..WAC Det. Van Dorn..9701
Dee Road #4J, Des Plaines, IL 60016..Mary
served in the WAC Detachment in '44-45, and
served at the Station Hospital. She had been
a Social Worker at a civilian hospital, and
did much of the same work in the Army. As
the outfits were pulling out, she was sent
to a General Hospital at Camp Butner, NC.
Mary always wondered, whatever happened to
the 63rd. We are still here Mary, and still
going strong. She joined our assoc. as an
"Honoray Member", and sent a little extra
with her dues. Thank you! Her husband Tom
trained at Camp McCaine, MS. and was sent
to No. Africa and France.

RICHARD D. KOGLER..Co"M" 254th Inf..1555
Castlebury Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70815..Dick
retired as V.P. of Engineering and Con-
struction for Borden Chemical, a Div. of
Borden Inc. Remember Elsie the Cow? He now
spends his time making furniture-his hobby,
and traveling. Dick & Alice will see you
all in August.

NEIL TALCOTT..Co"F" 254th Inf..3778 Little
River Rd., Glide, OR 97443..Neil has a cat-
tle/sheep/logging timber ranch, also that
the coyotes are back in the sheep again,
but no cougars this year. Neil, get those
sheep back into the fold, we sure don't
want to loose any. Three "tiny" grandsons
help Grandpa, and Grandma Jane puts togeth-
er a terrific chow. Messkits everyone!

ROBERT E. RALLISON..A.T. 254th Inf..Rt 3
Box 1105, Kemmer Rd., Beaverton, OR 97007
Robert & Loraine, hope to make our San Fran-
cisco Reunion, and enjoy the Blood & Fire.

J. KENNETH LARSON..Div. Hqs. Co..168 L St.,
Salt Lake City, UT 84103..An old friend
Marion Huntington died in '84., and he would
like to know what happened to another buddy
Henry A. Gardner. Ken, Henry is not listed
on our mailing roster. If anyone can assist
Ken, please do so, thank you.

JOHN R. LEWIS.."C" 263rd Engrs. H&S..450
Kent Rd., Riverside, IL 60546..John is now
fully recovered from a hip replacement op-
eration, and is making up for lost time. He
and Lorraine toured Amsterdam, Vienna, Sals-
burg in March. They will be going to St.
Paul, MN in June for the Mid-West Chapter
mini, and then on to San Francisco Reunion.

POWE W. MAXWELL..Combat M.P. Plt..1211 Huff-
n Ave., Dayton, OH 45403. About every two
years, Rowe goes by Camp Van Dorn, and
states, "Mother nature has done a good job
of reclaiming the land, but can't erase the

friends we made there". (Touche Rowe!)
Claims he is tired, and re-tired, hopes to
get out more. Sera start filling out those
forms in the B&F, and you know where you
would like to take you in August.

JAMES F. CLARK..Co"A"-Hq&Hqs Co. 255th Inf.
6023 Burger-Dearborn Heights, MI 48127...
James retired from the Evening News Asso-
ciation, parent company of the Detroit
News. Stayed active in the Michigan Army
National Guard, and retired as a LTC. He
joined the 255th at Camp Blanding, FL,
accompanied Regiment in motor move to
Camp Van Dorn. Was with unit in move to
France & Germany. Remained with the 255th
until after VE Day, joined HQs. 7th Army,
and was Director of Seventh Army Radio
Center near Heidelberg, Germany. James, I
know where you can take Marcia in August.

REV. JAMES A.M. HANNA..Co"I" 254th Inf...
The Manse, Box 277, Oak Hill, OH 45656...
Have begun my 39th year of Ministry here!
That does not seem possible! Rev. Hanna
will be attending Co"I's" reunion in May
1990, at Capt. Clement Coss's residence
in Franklin, NC. Rev. Hanna continues,
this will be a "home coming" for many of us
as we still consider Capt. Coss to be one
of the 63rd finest. It's been a long time
since Camp Van Dorn, France & Germany. Yet
the spirit of comrade-ship is still bright.
God Bless the Lads!

Editor's comment..Have to conur with Rev.
Hanna's comments regarding Capt. Coss. I
have corresponded and spoken to Clement a
number of times on the phone. He is a fine
gentlemen, and even though he is up in
years, early 80's, that spirit of comrade-
ship is kept alive these many years by his
leadership. They always have a huge turn-
out at their mini's, and this is only a
"I" company reunion.

CALVIN F. FISHER..Hq.Co.3rd Bn. 253rd Inf.
73 Blue Ridge Rd., Penfield, NY 14526....
Calvin his happy to report the health of
his family and himself is good, "Our cup
runneth over". He ordered a tape from
Shorty Meyers, and hopes to see some ac-
tion shots of the 253rd, especially his
unit. Calvin was original cadre, trans-
ferred from the 389th Inf. 98th Div., Camp
Breckenridge, KY. Wife Betty is the other
half of the other couple.

GEORGE GARNDER..Co"K" 253rd Inf.15 Lothrop
Ave., W. Warwick, MA 02671..Due to Georges
wife Elsie being ill with cancer, he will
not be able to attend our reunion. Will
continue on next page...

miss seeing Murray Moore, and other Co"K" men. George, our "Prayers are with you both"

MARVIN W. FERGUSON..Btry "C" 863rd FA.... 13318 Dixie Hwy. Lot #1, Holly, MI 48442.. Marvin retired 8 yrs. ago as a R.R. Engr. with Canadian Natl. R.R. He had a heart attack 1½ yrs. ago, and is doing pretty good. Wife Myrtle published a "Family Cook Book", and has become known in the area for her "Strawberry Pop Pie". Marvin still has many memories of Van Dorn. He and Myrtle see Ralph & Sally Early quite often. Due to his health, he can't do much traveling this year. Hopefully next year Marvin.

WILLIAM R. CREAMER..Hq&Hqs. Co.255th Inf.. 326 Cedar St., Mooresville, NC 28115..Bill retired 4 yrs. ago, after 45 yrs. with Duke Power Co., was in management. Enjoys good health, golf, gardening & church-community service. Bill & Joan also enjoy traveling. Besides his own dues, Bill sent in dues for one of his old buddies who served with him in Hqs. Co. Thank you!

STANLEY A. UNGHAJER..Co"B" 253rd Inf..P.O. Box 847-430 Hoff St., Carnegie, PA 15106.. Stan joined the 63rd as a replacement in Feb. '45. Is retired from Norfolk & Southern Railroad, after 37 years of service. Has been a Volunteer Fireman for 30 yrs. and is still an active member. Stan & Evelyn enjoyed the St. Louis Reunion, and are planning to join us in August.

T.C.TRAPP,Jr..Co"G" 254th Inf..Box 20,RR 2 Beverly, KS 67423..T.C. joined the 63rd at Van Dorn, a month before being shipped overseas. He was with the company until it was disbanded, and feels fortunate that he was never sick or wounded.

FRED NELSON..Co"A" 255th Inf..1020 Muscogee Rd., Cantonment, FL 32533..Fred won't be able to attend our reunion, as he had lung surgery in March for cancer. He was in the 1st Pltn., 3rd squad as a B.A.R.man. Fred would like to hear from some of his old buddies. Come on guys, start writing.

JOHN T. STRZELECKI..Co"I" 254th also 763rd Ord..4014 Ash Hollow Dr., Houston, TX 77082 John retired from the Ford Co. in '83. He is very active in Co."I" reunions, (Capt. Coss). He sent me the names of buddies from his company that recently passed away. (Taps column). John & Julie will be attending our reunion in August, and is trying to get a good company turnout.

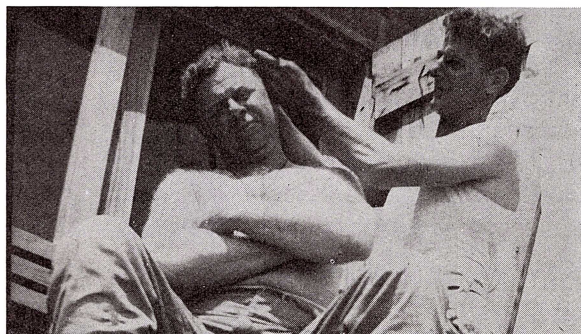
MARK B. NOWAKOUSKI..Co"G" 255th Inf. 201 Freeport Rd., Butler, PA 16001. Mark is retired from Armco Steel, after 35 yrs. in the carpenter shop. Is enjoying good health and retirement. After Division disbanded, Mark went to the 29th Regt. at Frankfort. He sent our secretary some photos, as usual, Tom take out the loot, & send the rest to (ye editor). One photo is in this issue. Thanks for those kind words regarding the B&F, but you didn't mention if you and Irene will be joining us in August.



L-R: C. Adkins, Blivens?, Litt, V. Vento Walker, Scoggins, Mark



ENSHEIM....John Jackson HQ. Co. 254th



Herb Sink..Sitting, Bill Goldschmidt-Barber Herb paid 50¢ for the clipping. Where's the bowl, Bill?

DUES ARE DO...HAVE YOU PAID YOURS?

A SALUTE !

This story can never fully explain or convey the horrible feelings and experiences, a front line Infantry Soldier goes through in Combat, day after day.

Hundreds of split second decisions can end your life or those around you. Seeing men of your Company wounded, killed or go crazy, (Battle Rattle), grates on a person and leaves an indelible place in your memory.

The first time you look at another Human being through the sights of a weapon, squeeze the trigger and realize, you are sending another Soul into Eternity, stays with you the rest of your life.

Ditches, Slit Trenches, Foxholes, K-rations and D-bars are not a very good way to exist. As you live, eat and sleep out in the Elements, whether it is freezing, snowing or raining, the War must go on!

The continual Guard Duty goes on day and night, whether you sleep or not, until in the darkness, you imagine things that may or may not be out there and hope they are not -- but sometimes you are wrong.

In the attack, you may throw away a Blanket or Raincoat, you wish you had that night, when your teeth start chattering uncontrolled, with the cold and rain or both.

Your Clothes get so slick from the dirt, they can't hold anymore!

Can you imagine taking only three Baths in a five month period? One time, we stripped down naked and waited our turn in about six inches of Snow, to take a three minute Shower. One of those goes a long way!

In short -- a person can never really convey what the Infantryman goes through in Combat, unless you experience it all -- and once you go through it -- you will never be the same person again.

So -- here is a Salute -- to the men who gave their lives; (34 men from our Company) and others who gave their Blood.

Today -- some of us still endure the pain and carry the physical scars of Battle, and all of us still carry the mental agony.

A SALUTE -- TO THE BRAVE, NOT SO BRAVE AND EVEN THE COWARDS, BECAUSE EVERY MAN HAS HIS OWN BREAKING POINT, BEYOND WHICH, THE HUMAN MIND REFUSES TO GO!

MacArthur quoted an old Military Ballad that says, "Old Soldiers never die, they just fade away." So before we fade away.....

A SALUTE !

From: Company A, 253rd. Regiment
63rd. Division - Infantry

Paul Vermillion

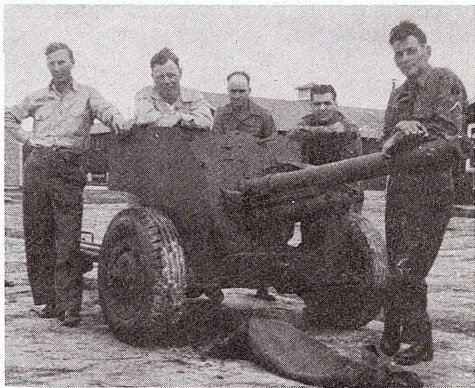
**63rd Infantry Division
Association
41st Annual Reunion
August 23-27, 1989**



GOTCHA!



Shorty Meyers-Incognito



L-R: Wheeler, Sink, Hergesheimer & Dalpota

TO: TOM LISZKA
19 W. 565 Deerpath Ln.
Lemont, IL 60439

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RESERVATIONS RECEIVED AFTER 7/31/89 are accepted on a space available basis only!



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- TRIPLE . . (3 people, 2 beds) \$55.00 per night
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Arrival Date

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Arrival Time

Month.	Day	Year

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Blood and Fire
63rd Division Association
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