

45th Division News

April, 1991

Published in support of the 45th Division Association and 45th Division Museum.

THUNDERBIRD LEGENDS



JAMES CLYDE STYRON

James Clyde Styron was born in Clifton, Texas on 17 June 1898, the son of Harry T. and Mary Styron. He attended schools in Cleburne, Texas and Caddo, Oklahoma. He later entered the Columbian Prep School at Washington, D.C. In June 1916 he was admitted as a cadet at the United States Military Academy and was graduated with the class of 1918 and commissioned as a Second Lieutenant of Coast Artillery Corps.

He attended the Coast Artillery School at Fort Monroe, Virginia in 1919 and was later transferred to the Cavalry and served on the Mexican Border. He resigned his commission in the Regular Army on 1 June 1920 to return to Oklahoma where he entered the cotton business.

In December 1922 he accepted a commission as First Lieutenant in the Oklahoma National Guard and was assigned to the 189th Field Artillery Regiment, 45th Division. He was promoted to Captain in February 1924; to Major, May 1926; and Lieutenant Colonel in August 1940. He attended the Field Artillery NG and Reserve Course at Fort Sill in 1937 and the NGR Course, Command and General Staff School in 1939. He served in various 45th Division assignments prior to induction of the division into action Federal service: XO First Battalion, 189th Field Artillery Regiment, CO Second Battalion, 189th FA Regiment, and XO, 70th Field Artillery Brigade.

Styron was promoted to Colonel on 14 September 1940, two days before the 45th Division was called into active service, and assigned as Division Chief of Staff, a position he held until reassigned as Executive Officer of the 45th Division Artillery in April 1942. He was again assigned as Division Chief of Staff in October 1943 and remained in this position until 23 March 1944 when he entered the hospital at Anzio and was returned to the United States and assigned to the FA Replacement Training Center at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. From July 1944 to October 1945, he was in the Special Planning Division of the War Department General Staff, serving on a committee appointed for the purpose of making a study and submitting recommendations as to the status of the post-war National Guard Establishment. He returned overseas for a short time and was assigned to XIX Corps as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3. On 4 February 1946 he was released from active duty.

He reentered the Oklahoma National Guard on 5 September 1946 and was promoted to Brigadier General and assumed command of the 45th Infantry Division. He was promoted to Major General on 30 October 1946. Major General Styron was in command of the division at the time of its recall to active service on 1 September 1950, taking it into combat in Korea, and remained in command until his return to the U.S. in May 1952. He left active duty in June 1952 and retired from military service in September 1952.

General Styron's decorations include the Silver Star and the Legion of Merit. He was awarded the Oklahoma Distinguished Service Medal in 1952.

He was active in various civic and professional organizations, among them was Board of Directors, Frontiers of Science; Board of Directors, Chamber of Commerce, Hobart Oklahoma; Board of Directors and Past President, Oklahoma State Cotton Exchange; and Board of Directors, American Cotton Shippers Association.

Major General James Clyde Styron died 2 January 1989 at Hobart, Oklahoma, at the age of 90. He was buried with full military honors in Hobart.

General Styron was another veteran of the Thunderbirds whose more than 31 years of military service was marked by outstanding accomplishments and dedication to duty typical of members of this famous and highly renowned division. His distinguished service to his Nation and State will be long remembered and cherished by his friends and comrades.

NEW ADJUTANT GENERAL APPOINTED

Oklahoma Governor David Walters has named Colonel Tom G. Alsip as State Adjutant General succeeding Major General Donald Ferrell, Chandler, Oklahoma.

General Alsip began his career in the Oklahoma National Guard as a Private in 1957. He was commissioned in 1962 and later commanded the 160th Field Artillery Battalion, Chandler, OK and the 45th Field Artillery Brigade, Enid, OK. He is currently serving as vice president of the National Guard Association of the United States.

Alsip and his wife Joyce currently reside in Edmond, Oklahoma.

COMBAT CHRONICLES 157TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

OPERATION HUSKY--the invasion of Sicily. The 157th Infantry Regimental Combat Team (RCT) included the 158th Field Artillery Battalion, Company A 120th Engineers, medical personnel from the 120th Medical Battalion, and attached nondivisional units. The landing plan for the amphibious assault by this RCT was for it to land with two battalions abreast on the right flank of the 45th Division. After landing, the initial mission was to seize S. CROCE CAMERINA and the high ground northeast of COMISO AIRFIELD, protect the right flank of II Corps, and continue to RAGUSA to contact the 1st Canadian Division and thence advance to the corps objective.

On the morning of the invasion, 10 July 1943, the seas were high and wild, causing the coxswains of the naval landing craft to land the 157th RCT on the wrong beaches. Although this caused some confusion, the regiment was quickly regrouped and proceeded without incident toward their objectives. The most serious resistance met this first day was from a series of pillboxes that commanded the roads a few miles inland. These were effectively reduced by Cannon Company and the first objective, S. CROCE CAMERINA, was taken with slight delay after heavy weapons and artillery effectively pulverized it. The Combat Team advanced inland about 13 miles and occupied its next objective--the high ground commanding COMISO AIRFIELD.

The 3rd Battalion of the 157th Infantry reached the outskirts of the airfield about 1200 hours and in conjunction with two battalions of the 179th Infantry captured the airfield about 1625 hours. The field was stubbornly defended by both Italian and German troops. Approximately 80 enemy planes were seized as well as large quantities of bombs and ammunition.

The 157th RCT captured RAGUSA on 12 July and gained contact with the 1st Canadian Division around noon the same day. The RCT then proceeded North from CHIARMONTE and by nightfall 13 July had occupied LICODIA and MONTEROSSO. By noon on 14 July the RCT was assembled West of VIZZINI with elements across the VIZZINI-GRAM-MICHELE road where light contact was maintained with the enemy.

Orders were received from Seventh Army limiting the advance of II Corps, of which the 45th Division was a part, to the VIZZINI-CALTAGIRONE-PIAZZA ARMERINA road since it was to be used by the 1st Canadian Division. The 157th RCT was directed to contact the 51st Highland Division and make a coordinated attack on VIZZINI; however, heavy enemy resistance was encountered and the attack failed. Later in the afternoon the 157th RCT successfully captured the heights WEST of VIZZINI.

Directives from Seventh Army on 15 July ordered the 45th Division to move across the rear of the American 1st Division and take up combat positions in the left sector of II Corps in order to realign the direction of attack. The 157th RCT completed its portion of the move from VIZZINI to southwest of MAZZARINO late at night on 16 July and started advancing north on PIETRA PERZIA early in the morning of 17 July against slight enemy opposition. On 18 July, the RCT captured CALTANISSETTA, a

(cont'd on page 2)

(COMBAT CHRONICLES cont'd from page 1)

former Fascist stronghold and rail center, and SAN CATERINA against slight opposition. North of CALTAVUTURO the 157th took the enemy completely by surprise by making a swift night combat march and occupied the important strategic point of CERDA on the North Sicilian coast.

On 23 July the 157th RCT effectively cut the coastal road in the vicinity of TERMINI IMMERESE and proceeded east toward CAMPOFELICE. One battalion remained behind to protect the rear of the division. The RCT then captured CEFALU, encountering considerable fire from enemy artillery. At this point the regiment was relieved by the 180th RCT and went into division reserve.

On 27 July, the 157th RCT relieved the 180th and passed through them in the vicinity of CASTEL DI TUSA. The 1st Battalion that had been protecting the division rear rejoined the ECT at this location.

The 157th crossed the TUSA RIVER in the face of heavy enemy resistance and captured HILL 335 that overlooked the river and valley. This was "Bloody Ridge," the last and most determined stand by the enemy in Sicily. Even though all four artillery battalions of the division hammered the enemy positions with a 15 minute barrage prior to the successful assault of the 157th RCT, the infantrymen were met by heavy machine gun and rifle fire. The Germans had to be forced from their foxholes and overcome in close hand-to-hand fighting. Few enemy prisoners were taken.

On 30 July the 45th Division was relieved from combat and placed in Seventh Army reserve. It moved into a rest area between TERMINI IMMERESE and CEFALU.

On 15 August the 157th RCT was attached to II Corps for an amphibious operation behind enemy lines. The RCT was loaded on LSTs and LCIs and moved to the vicinity of FALCONE. The landing was made as planned but the 7th Infantry had already advanced beyond this point; therefore, the 157th saw no action. On 17 August a part of the 1st Battalion, 157th Infantry entered MESSINA with the 3rd Division.

This successfully ended the Sicilian Campaign.

CITATION FOR CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR

(Inadvertently omitted from January 1991 Newsletter)

WILLIAM J. JOHNSON, Private First Class, Company G, 180th Infantry, 45th Infantry Division, for action 17-19 February 1944 near Padiglione, Italy.

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at risk of life above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy. On 17 February 1944, near Padiglione, Italy, he observed and fired upon an attacking force of approximately 80 Germans, causing at least 25 casualties and forcing withdrawal of the remainder. All that day he manned his gun without relief, subject to mortar, artillery and sniper fire. Two Germans individually worked so close to his position that his machinegun was ineffective, whereupon he killed one with his pistol, the second with a rifle taken from another soldier. When a rifleman protecting his gun position was killed by a sniper, he immediately moved the body and relocated the machinegun in that spot in order to obtain a better field of fire. He volunteered to cover the platoon's withdrawal and was the last man to leave that night. In his new position he maintained an all-night vigil, the next day causing 7 German casualties. On the afternoon of the 18th, the organization on the left flank having been forced to withdraw, he again covered the withdrawal of his own organization. Shortly thereafter, he was seriously wounded over the heart, and a passing soldier saw him trying to crawl up the embankment. The soldier aided him to resume his position behind the machinegun which was soon heard in action for about 10 minutes. Though reported killed, PFC Johnson was seen returning to the American lines on the morning of 19 February, slowly and painfully working his way back from his overrun position through enemy lines. He gave valuable information of new enemy dispositions. His heroic determination to destroy the enemy and his disregard of his own safety aided immeasurably in halting a strong enemy attack, caused an enormous amount of enemy casualties, and so inspired his fellow soldiers that they fought for and held a vitally important position against greatly superior forces.

PONCA INDIANS HOLD DANCE HONORING VETERANS

Surviving Ponca Tribe members of Company A, 279th Infantry, 45th Infantry Division from the Korean War hosted a dance in September 1990 honoring all veterans from WWII and Korea.

The event began at 2:00 PM with gourd dancing, followed by dinner at 5:30 PM, more gourd dancing at 7:00 PM, a parade at 8:00 PM and war dancing following the parade.

Six surviving tribal members from the 180th Infantry Regiment during World War II were honored guests. These members were Bemis Ribs,

Drew Little Warrior, Louis V. Knight, Page Roy, Antowine LeClair and Joe Hairyback.

George White Eagle a Korean War 45th Veteran, said sixteen young Ponca Indians left from Ponca City with Company A forty years ago to participate in the Korean War. Nine of the sixteen survive, they are Leonard Biggoose, Bronson Roughface, Mike Roy, Herbert Eagle, George White Eagle, Claude Haidman, Clifford Walkingsky, Lancelot Primeaux and Henry LeRoy.

45TH INFANTRY DIVISION MUSEUM HOURS OF OPERATION

TUESDAY THRU FRIDAY 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
SATURDAY 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM
SUNDAY 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM
MONDAY **CLOSED**

GERMAN MEDICAL FIELD KITS ON DISPLAY IN MUSEUM

Two German Medical Field Kits are currently included in the Medical display in the 45th Infantry Division Museum Supporting Forces Hall. These items were donated by Dr. C.L. Oglesbee (deceased), Muskogee, Oklahoma.

Dr. Oglesbee was a member of the 45th Infantry Division during World War II and he "liberated" the medical kits early in the war and used them to supplement "GI" Medical Kits. He retained the kits and after release from active military service continued to use the instruments throughout his civilian medical practice in Muskogee, Oklahoma.

After retiring from his civilian medical practice, Dr. Oglesbee donated the items to the museum where they have been a keen point of interest.

46TH ANNUAL REUNION

The Forty-Sixth Annual Reunion of the 45th Infantry Division Association will be held 22-24 August 1991 at the Hilton Inn West, Interstate 40 at Meridian, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

We had a great 45th reunion with 600 members registering for the event and we are hoping for a similar turnout this year. Reunion chairman Bill Wilson is working hard to assure that this is a memorable, enjoyable event for everyone.

Friday activities will include the business meeting followed by a Board of Directors meeting. The business meeting will commence at 2:00 PM. Evening activities will consist of a sit-down dinner followed by a "disk jockey" dance.

Saturday activities will include a Memorial Service, Ladies Luncheon, Banquet and dancing to a live band.

Information concerning American Airlines discount airfare and Hilton Hotel reservation forms are included in this newsletter. Reunion registration forms and detailed information concerning the reunion will be furnished in a separate mailing 1 June 1991.

REUNION NOTICES

45TH DIVISION ASSOCIATION, 22-24 August 1991, Hilton Inn West, I-40 at Meridian, Oklahoma City, OK. Discount airfare information and Hotel Reservation Cards are included in this newsletter.

COMPANY A, 120TH MEDICAL BN, (WW II), 19-21 July 1991. Contact Mrs. Fred Cannon, 702 East Main, Cushing, OK 74023. Telephone 405/225-1034.

SERVICE COMPANY, 179TH INFANTRY (KOREA). Annual reunion will be held September 12, 1991 at Black River Falls, WI. Previous reunions have been attended by as many as 34 members and their wives from all across the U.S. Contact: Daniel Murphy, 1101 Third St. N., Saint Cloud, MN 56303, Phone 612/251-6567.

45 CAVALRY RECONNAISSANCE TROOP (WW II), 11th Annual Reunion will be held September 11-15, 1991 at the George Washington Inn, Williamsburg, VA. Contact Francis P. Accavallo, 775 Scott Drive, River Vale, NJ 07675.

700TH ORDNANCE LM CO. (WWII), biannual reunion will be held in Lawton, Oklahoma on May 31 - June 2, 1991 at the Howard Johnson Convention Center. For further information contact Louis Scott, 5535 Cache Rd 6D, Lawton, OK 73505. (405) 248-0208.

REUNION REPORTS

The 45th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop (WW II), held their 10th reunion at the Rodeway Inn, El Paso, Texas 3-6 October 1990. Total attendance was 54, which included 27 Troopers, two new faces, wives and guests. The event was graciously hosted by Jim and Alvina Parks.

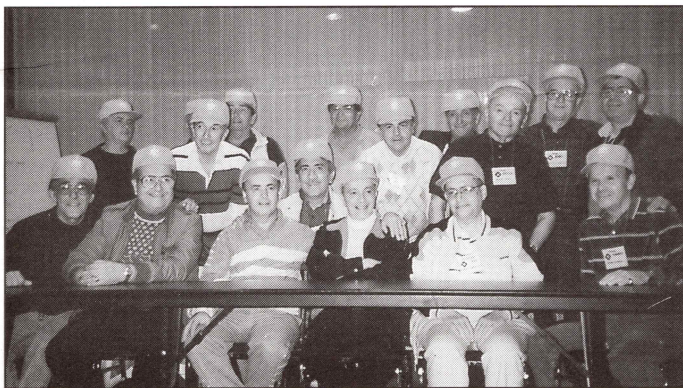
The Barbeque and Western Dance held in picturesque McKelliggan Canyon was a huge success, the food was delicious, the band great and the scenery spectacular. There were two shopping and sightseeing tours, one in El Paso and the other in Juarez, Mexico. (BEN ROSENTHAL, TROOP CLERK

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Company A, 120th Engineer Battalion (Korea) celebrated their 40th Anniversary by attending a weekend in October 1990 at the Nevele Resort Hotel in Ellenville, New York. Nineteen members and guests had a "GREAT" time.

We are planning another weekend in October 1991. Anyone seeking information please contact: A DIPALMA, 1430 Thieriot Avenue, Bronx, NY 10460, 212/829-1329.

Attendees are included in the following photo:



LOOKING FOR BUDDIES

I served during the Korean War from September 1950 - September 1952 as a member of Tank Company, 180th Infantry. I would like to hear from any former member of my unit at that time.

RALPH A. MARINACCI, 113 Garden Street, Bridgeville, PA 15017

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I was a member of Medical Company, 180th Infantry from October 1950 to September 1952 and assigned as Company Clerk. I spend 6 months in Florida and 6 months in Boston, MA at my home I was born in.

I would love to hear from anyone in my company, and hope someday to join a group from my unit for a reunion.

JOSEPH O'CONNELL, 1018 Moonlight Court NE, Palm Bay, Florida 32907.

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To my buddies of Company D, 179th Infantry. Wishing you well, write when you have time.

JOSEPH B. PAVLIK, 1738 Pierce Street, Hollywood, Florida 33020.

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I served with Company L, 279th Infantry in Korea from May 1952 to March 1953 and would like to hear from anyone from my unit who remembers me.

NORBERT F. ROBBEN "ROBBIE", 813 Walker Avenue, Victoria, Kansas 67671.

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I served with Company B, 179th Infantry during World War II. The only other person from Company B I know is John Titus, Springville, Utah, an employee of Union Pacific Railroad. I retired in 1982 from the Santa Fe Railroad out of Amarillo, Texas. Would like to hear from anyone who remembers me.

GUY HOUDYSHELL, Route 5, Box 5585, Belton, Texas 76513.

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I noticed in the January 1991 edition of the newsletter that my request in the "Looking for Buddies" section did not include my unit of assignment. I was a member of Battery C, 171st Field Artillery from May 1952 until May 1953 and would like to hear from anyone who remembers me. I hope to be able to attend a reunion in the future.

JOHN A. CARUSO, 626 Warwick Avenue, Warwick, RI 02888.

TAPS

John W. Borelli
Harold C. Caffrey
Frank Eugene Darrow
J.D. Gebhart
Vern Keim
William Korte
William C. LeFurgey
Joe Martarella
George Mathys
Gordon W. Palmer
Bernard Rabinowitz
Carl H. Setterlund
Robert D. Tripp
William H. Williamson

Roy J. Browning
Gennarino H. Cataldo
Arthur C. Faulkenburg
Kenneth E. Godfrey
Albert G. Knapik
William A. Leaprot
Jack Mallan, Sr.
Frank P. Mazurkiewicz
Warren E. Olsen
Harry E. Prall
Joseph M. Santoro
Clarence W. Sturdivant
Hudson M. Vanderhoof

Thunderbird Deaths

JOHN W. BORELLI, Oklahoma City, OK. Deceased in November 1990. John was a member of the 45th Division in World War II and a LIFE member of the association.

He graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1933 and received an ROTC commission in the Army Reserve. John was ordered to active duty in 1941 and served throughout World War II. He remained in the Army Reserve and retired in 1971 in the grade of Colonel.

Borelli was manager of a real estate business in Oklahoma City and operated a farm near Yukon, OK. He served on the Board of Directors of Mid-Continent Co-Op in Yukon for 25 years, most of the time as president.

At the time of his death he was a member of the Board of Directors of the Catholic Foundation Pope Pius XII made him a Knight of St. Gregory the Great in 1949.

John is survived by his wife Margaret, two daughters, one son and eight grandchildren.

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FRANK E. DARROW, Moore, Oklahoma deceased 7 January 1991. Frank was the Regimental Surgeon of the 179th Infantry during the Korean War and a LIFE member of the Division Association.

Frank was a member of numerous medical organizations and was one of the original staff members of South Community Hospital when the hospital started in 1965. He served on various committees for the hospital and the hospital library was named the "Frank E. Darrow Medical Library" in his honor.

Darrow was shot and killed in his home during a bungled robbery by a family friend. His wife and daughter were wounded during the encounter.

Frank is survived by his wife Sharon, five sons, six daughters and twenty four grandchildren.

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KENNETH E. GODFREY, McLouth, Kansas, deceased 6 January 1991. Kenneth was inducted with the 45th Infantry Division in September 1940 as a NCO in Headquarters 90th Infantry Brigade, Durant, Oklahoma.

He was commissioned in the 45th Division during World War II and was serving as a Battalion S-3 at the conclusion of the War.

Godfrey graduated from the University at Oklahoma Medical School and was in general practice for many years at Okarche, Oklahoma and later with the VA Hospital in Topeka, Kansas. He was retired and living in McLouth, KS at the time of his death.

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JACK MALLAN SR, Cocoa Beach, Florida deceased 18 January 1991. Jack was a native of Pittsburgh, PA and entered the Army in 1942. He was subsequently assigned to 180th Infantry and served with that organization until captured by the German Army 6 October 1944. He was liberated 30 April 1945 by the Third Army.

Awards and decorations included the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, EAME Campaign Medal; Prisoner of War Medal and Combat Infantryman Badge.

Jack is survived by his wife Shirley, three sons, one daughter and six grandchildren. Shirley stated that Jack was very proud of all his military "buddies" from the 45th Division.

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(cont'd on page 4)



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★ ★ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ★ ★

Your article in the August 1990 Magazine was of particular interest to me because I had a brother, William Pullen, who was assigned to the 45th Infantry Division during World War II.

He was "Missing in Action" in France in October 1944. A year later he was declared "deceased".

I would love to hear from anyone who served with Bill and could share some of their memories of him with me. Bill wrote my parents after the Anzio Campaign and declared that he knew he would never go to hell because "He saw his Hell on Anzio".

You are not "forgotten men" of any war as long as I live.

CLARISSA McCURE, 5503 Henderson Way, Suitland, MD 20746

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I am grateful for our Thunderbird News, especially Louis Scott's article in the January 1991 issue (50, 40, Now).

Anyone remember those Louisiana Maneuvers of 1940 and 1941? You bet you do! Having longed to go back for years, I recently meandered my way through forests and found Pitkin, LA, a basic staging area for my part of the 45th. It is still 2 or 3 stores as it was then and the same owner of one is still there. He was delighted to visit with me and said I was the only soldier he ever knew that came back. Unbelievable!

I was in the original call up of the 45th Division in September 1940 as a member of Company C, 120th Engineer (Combat) Battalion, Norman, OK. I have never seen or heard from any of those beloved troops since I departed from Camp Barkley, TX in February 1942 and would like to correspond. I was reassigned to the Army Air Corps Cadets and served in flying and R & D before retiring in 1966.

DARRELD CALKINS, 13334 Oak Hill Loop, SE, Fort Myers, FL 33912

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I have read several articles on Jack Treadwell and have often wanted to write to you about him too, as he was my Sergeant when I was with the 45th Division in Italy.

I have always been proud to have been a member of Company G, 180th Infantry Regiment and will never forget what the company went thru. We had been on the march all night and occupied a hill above the town of Venafrò, Italy. We had dug in and the next morning captured some German prisoners. We saw some movement on the next hill and started firing. Soon after we were hit by German Artillery. Several rounds hit in our immediate area and Jack Treadwell and two other guys were wounded, I believe John Durkin was killed at that time.

I missed the newsletter with the article on Jack Treadwell and would appreciate you sending me a copy.

I took basic training at Fort McClellan, AL in Company D, 14th Training Battalion in February 1943. I shipped out of Newport News, VA to North Africa where I was assigned to the 45th Division and joined them somewhere near Naples, Italy. We went on many patrols, mostly at night.

I hope to be able to make my first reunion this year.

GEORGE H. SISS, 1525 New Jersey Avenue, Lorain, OH 44052.

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Received my issue of the 45th Div. News this week and as always was happy to receive it and I read it from cover to cover. Keep up the good work.

The article by Louis Scott was very interesting because I was one of those first draftees who was assigned to the 45th Div. coming from Camp

Walters, Texas. The Div. was stationed at Camp Barkley at the time and I will never forget the tents and the dust of that area. But like the article said, the morale was high and it didn't take long for we recruits to fit in with the regulars of the 45th.

What I'm writing about though is how much I've enjoyed the 45th Div. Reunions the past nine years. It seems every one is getting better and the last one held in August was the best. We had eight former members of Co. I at that event and had a wonderful time. Some one had to put a lot of time and effort into the planning of it for it to come out so good. From the Registration to the final Goodbyes everything was perfect and again thank you all for making us feel so welcome. The parade held in OK City was a highlight of my trip.

Hoping to see you all again in August for the reunion, I remain, Sincerely,
JOE H. PARZY, 1840 Clark Street, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

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My name is Leslie D. Geurin II, I'm a 2nd Lieutenant in Battery C, 1 BN 158 FA (MLRS). As you may well know at this time our battalion is preparing for the possible deployment to Saudi Arabia for Desert Shield. I have been put in charge of twenty-six soldiers to train and lead them for possible combat in the Middle East. I am confident in the soldiers that I have trained and I am very proud to serve with them in this possible combat situation. I pray that a peaceful solution is made to this problem, but if it can't happen then my platoon and I are willing and able to complete our mission with a successful outcome.

2LT. LESLIE D. GEURIN II, 246 Cedar Avenue, Altus, OK 73523

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I enlisted in the Oklahoma National Guard, 45th Infantry Division on 1 Oct. 1947 at Okeene, Oklahoma and was assigned to Company "L" 179th Infantry at Watonga, Oklahoma.

We were called into active Military service 1 Sept. 1950 at Camp Polk, LA. Attended The Leaders Course, 10th Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kansas from 10 Sept. 1950 to 10 Nov. 1950. I returned to Camp Polk and was Section Leader of Weapons Platoon Company "L" 179th. I also served at Hokkaido Japan.

Separated from the Armed Forces as Sgt. 1st Class and was Honorably Discharged from the National Guard of Oklahoma 27 Sept. 1951.

I retired as Controller of the Kingfisher Cooperative Elevator Assn. in August 1989 and My Wife Billie and I currently live at Kingfisher, Oklahoma.

WILLIAM H. (BILL) MARCOUX, 409 Hill Drive, Kingfisher, OK 73750

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I was a section leader for the 81mm Mortar Platoon, Company M, 180th Infantry Regiment attached to Company K, 180th Infantry during the Southern France Invasion in August 1944. I would like to know what happened to 1st Lt. James P. Keefe who also was a section leader and attached to Company I, during the invasion. There was no more illustrious duty than my time served in Company M, 180th Infantry.

The 45th Division was not one of the best, but the very best Division I have had the glorious opportunity to serve with. I served as First Sergeant Company A, 22nd Infantry, 4th Infantry Division, Gunnery Officer in Heavy Mortar Company, 9th "Manchu" Regiment, 2d Infantry Division in Korea. I also served as Company Commander, Heavy Mortar Company, 224th Infantry, 40th Infantry Division in Korea. I later served as Adjutant for the

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NAME OF GROUP				45TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION				THE DATES FOR THE MEETING ARE LISTED BELOW. ANY VARIATION IS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.			
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same Regiment and later retired from the California Army National Guard as Administrative Assistant.

ALBERT J. BARRON, 6667 Pavagalia Way, Paradise, CA 95969

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I am the person who was listed in the January newsletter as attempting to prove that he was in the US Army and a member of the 45th Infantry Division in Korea.

During the period 1952-1955 I was a member of Company M, 179th Infantry Regiment and sang with the "Willie Peter Trio" consisting of myself, Howard Southern, Seattle, WA and Henry Lovett, Toledo, OH. Our special song was "Down by the Riverside".

My First Sergeant's name was Mitchell and my Commanding Officer was a Captain Peters.

I would appreciate any information or documentation that would assist me in my effort to prove my military service.

EARL M. TAPP, 516 Putnam Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46808

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I have been doing research on the US 4th Armored Division in World War II, and have been corresponding with veterans of the German 11th Panzer Division who fought the 4th Armored in Lorraine in 1944.

The 11th Panzer had also fought the 45th Division in the Rhone Valley Campaign. Jurgen Von Pflug, at the time Adjutant of the 1st Battalion/11th Panzer Grenadier Regiment in particular recalls the fighting around Meximieux with the 179th Infantry Regiment on 31 August/1 September, and a German counterattack in which, utilizing a captured Sherman tank, the panzer grenadiers took a castle overlooking the town, capturing a number of GIs.

Herr von Pflug is anxious to make contact with any American veterans who experienced that action. Could you direct this letter to any of your members who might correspond with Herr Pflug? I might note that the 11th Panzer has annual reunions at Kotzting, Bavaria, usually in May.

A HARDING GANZ, Ohio State University, University Drive, Newark, OH 43055

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

In the last war I was serving as a lieutenant in the German 11th

Armored Division, taking part in the Rhone Campaign between 15th August and the beginning of September 1944. I was personally very close involved in the fighting between the 179th Regiment of the 45th US Infantry Division on the 31st of August 1944 around the village of Meximieux, France. Unfortunately reports about these events are not available in the German Military archives. Therefore, I ask your support in supplying copies of documents of personal accounts of such documents, which I need to complete my own life story.

JURGEN VON PFLUG, 8201 Bad Veilnbach 2-Au, Dettendorf Strasse 28, Germany

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

During 1953 in Korea, I served in Service Company, 180th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division. At that time I believe General Paul D. Ginder, Division Commander was still a Brigadier General. I got as far as Corporal in a three-year enlistment.

I have always been proud of my service with the Thunderbird Division and was surprised and disappointed, angry too, that the cover of the VFW magazine's special issue about Korea for June/July 1990 did not include the Thunderbird patch. Therefore, I was very pleased to see your letter, together with the patch, published in the August issue.

Call Direct 405/947-7681

TOLL FREE (Oklahoma Only) 1-800-522-6620

I arrived at Inchon, Korea on 9 June 1953 and was assigned to the 45th Division Replacement Depot, Chunchon. Between 10 June and 23 July 1953, I was on casual status as a replacement and during that time spent 33 days working on a supply truck, loading and unloading, riding shotgun and sometimes driving. The route was usually between Chunchon and the 45th Division headquarters at Yanggu, but also to Injee and Towa-ri at the "Punchbowl" and to Hwachon and Kumhwa on the "Iron Triangle".

From 24-29 July I was at the School of Standards at Chunchon, when the cease-fire was signed on 27 July 1953. Thereafter I served in Service Co., 180th Infantry until 17 February 1954 when I was transferred to the 300th AFA Battalion at Sanyang-ni in the Kumwha Valley, because I didn't have enough points to rotate to the United States.

My name was Paul H. LaPanne then, nickname "Frenchy". I remember John P. Recend, Donald W. Link, David "Buff" Hendrickson, William E. Land, Lieutenant Foltzenlogel and Captain Chance. I wonder if anyone remembers me.

PAUL H. GABORIAULT, 1204 Hammond Avenue, Superior, WI 54880

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I am sorry to inform you that my Dad passed away on June 17, 1990. He had struggled courageously since he became quadriplegic after an accident on June 27, 1984. He fell off the dry side of a dam in Arkansas while hiking with his grandson, and broke his neck. His death came while he was hospitalized at Hines VA Hospital here in the Chicago area.

My Dad was very proud of his service to our country during World War II, and was particularly proud of his affiliation with the 45th Infantry Division. He donated some of his war memorabilia to your museum in Oklahoma prior to his accident. I hope someday to go and see his name there.

I wish you and your membership good health. I am grateful to you for all you have done for our country, and my prayers are with those who are again valiantly serving the cause of justice in the Middle East. I also thank you on behalf of my Dad for your friendship and loyalty.

GEORGEEN MATHYS IBARRA, 419 Winnemac, Park Forest, IL 60466
(Editor's note: Georgeen Ibarra is the daughter of George Mathys a member of the division during World War II).

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I have been completely retired from Podiatry for the past year. Podiatry was somewhat different than being an Aid Man and a Litter Bearer, although relief of pain was the name of the game.

Still doing my 30 pushups every morning. Harold Cullen, Crisfield, Maryland stopped in to see me sometime ago, and when I told him I kept doing pushups ever since I was discharged, he thought I was kidding. So I did 30 for him, that was 60 that day. Harold was platoon sergeant, 2nd platoon, Company A, 180th Infantry. Later received a battlefield promotion to 2nd Lt., and transferred out of the Battalion.

Received a christmas card from Benson Gabbert. He also was in 1st Battalion Medics, 180th Infantry Regiment. He is now living in Macedon, NY.

Hope the entire staff has a Happy & Prosperous New Year!!!

DAVID H. SUMMERS, DPM, 2598 Brandywine Lane, York, PA 17404

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I was a member of Company B, 180th Infantry from 1950-1952 serving in Korea and later served a second tour in Korea with Company H, 19th Infantry, 24th Infantry Division from August 1955 to August 1956.

I have been with American Airlines the last 34 years. My wife, my son and I thoroughly enjoyed the 1990 reunion. Hope we can have one just as good this year. The parade was great, as was everything else.

J. C. REEVES, 219 Thrush Avenue, Duncanville, TX 75116.

(cont'd on page 7)



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My wife and I had a thoroughly enjoyable time at the 45th annual reunion of the association. We were the guests of my father-in-law, Raul Trevino, San Antonio, Texas. We met some very nice people and certainly hope we will get to see them again.

I found the reunion, the discussions and the visit to the 45th Infantry Division Museum to be very educational. I am fascinated with history; all the pieces, the things you never really read about in books. I was also amazed by the deep patriotism of the Oklahoma National Guard personnel and the local citizens I observed during local newscasts.

COMMANDER DAVID GERVAIS, US NAVY, Patuxent River, Maryland

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Burning the American flag is a shame for all Americans. Shame on the Supreme Court, that is the lowest shot yet.

We were taught in school to respect our flag, also in the military service it could not touch the ground, if it did it couldn't be flown again.

Is burning the flag fair to all those who fought and died in the wars for our great country so our flag could wave over the land of the free and the home of the brave?

For your tomorrow, they gave their today. I was a machine gunner in World War II and served with Company K, 180th Infantry, 45th Infantry Division in Sicily, Italy and France. I was wounded in France near the German border and spent 26 months in Army hospitals undergoing surgery 12 times.

Can we wave the flag too much? I don't think so!!!!

D. C. RILEY, 1301 Lehman Avenue, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42103

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Enclosed is my membership renewal for the 45th Infantry Division Association. I am still proud that I was a member of the Military Police Detachment, 179th Infantry during World War II. Thanks, and keep up the good work you volunteers down there are doing.

EUGENE J. SICKLES, 45 School Road, Voorheesville, NY 12186.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Please sign me up for a ten year membership in your association. I was recruited by Bill Moran, a friend that I see about once a month. He was a former member of Company F, 179th Infantry. I also visit with another former F Company member John Pope.

In reading the 45th Division News I saw the name of my Uncle, Russell K. Haight. About two years ago my mother gave me a box with memorabilia in it including a letter from Russell postmarked in 1953. I would like to contact Lt. Capelli, he was a great leader and an outstanding person.

JOE A. ROSS, 9465 "B" Wells Chapel Road, Dallas, TX 75220

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

We are having our regular winter here in Michigan, currently about eight inches of snow on the ground. We are looking forward to attending a reunion at some future date. We wish you a happy holiday season and a prosperous new year.

HAZEL & JOE KIWALA, 524 N. Hayford, Lansing, MI 48912

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I worked for Samedan Oil Corporation for 43 years before retiring in 1980. My main interest is golfing, I have a club membership, have my own golf cart and some nice guys to play golf with.

I have made nine holes-in-one in my lifetime, one in 1937 and one every other year from 1979 to 1989 and I expect to make another in 1991. I carried a 2 or 3 handicap for 40 years until I had a heart attack in 1982.

I have 10 children, 5 boys and 5 girls, 12 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. My wife of forty three years passed away in 1989.

Would love to hear from any former 179th Infantry members who remember me. I am 72 years old going on 30.

MARVIN T. MOREHEAD, SR., 601 K Street NW, Ardmore, OK 73401

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

It is a pleasure to renew my membership for 4 more years. My family and I have made several trips to the museum and are very proud of what you have accomplished there. I regret to say we have never been able to make the big reunion, tho we have tried.

I have traveled the country in an RV and tried to locate my old buddies from Company E, 179th Infantry in World War II in Germany. They are Grady Hargrove and William Singley both from Georgia.

I have moved around some since 1945, Connecticut, Maine and Florida, so they may have done the same. If anyone knows of their current whereabouts, please drop me a line.

GEORGE R. "YOUNGIE" YOUNG, RR #1, Box 588, West Paris, ME 04289

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I had big plans to attend the reunion last August, but last spring I developed chest pains which resulted in open heart surgery (4 by-passes). I feel great now and the Lord willing I will be there in August.

MARTIN STOCKMEYER, SR., 9988 Overton Street, Reese, MI 48757

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Enclosed is my membership renewal for four years in the Division association.

During my last visit to the 45th Division Museum I discovered that the only division Medal of Honor recipient during the Korean was from my unit, Company C, 179th Infantry; however, he was assigned to the unit after I was rotated back to the United States.

Company C (Korea) held a reunion in Elk City, Oklahoma in April 1990. The next reunion is scheduled for 1992.

NORBERT GLODOWSKI, N 11856 Cty K, Waupaca, WI 54981

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

45th Division News

Published four times yearly by the 45th Infantry Division Association to support the work of the association and the 45th Division Museum.

Christopher Bills	President
Wm. Rex Wilson	Secretary/Editor
Louis A. Scott	Associate Editor
Eva Lou Moon	Volunteer Staff
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Address news contributions and other correspondence to Editor, 45th Division News, 45th Infantry Division Association, 2145 N.E. 36th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73111

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I wish to be a member of the 45th Infantry Division Association. I enclose my dues for:

_____ \$75.00 for a Life Membership
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(SPECIAL NOTE: You are invited to submit a paragraph of current information, or a news item about yourself or another former or present Thunderbird, for possible use in 45th Division News. Please submit it on a separate sheet of paper, identifying each person mentioned by present location and former Thunderbird unit.)

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Thunderbird Deaths *(cont'd from page 3)*

FRANK P. MAZURKIEWICZ, St. Paul, Minnesota deceased October 1990. Frank was a member of the 120th Engineer (C) Battalion during World War II. He was a mine demolition expert and was awarded a Bronze Star for his role in clearing a minefield and permitting the capture of 275 German soldiers.

Frank was employed for 33 years by the 3M Company as a tool and die maker. He was a longtime labor leader in the St. Paul area.

Awards and decorations in addition to the Bronze Star included two Purple Hearts for wounds received in combat actions.

Survivors include his wife Nellie, two sons and four grandchildren.

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BERNARD RABINOWITZ, Baltimore, Maryland, deceased in October 1989. Bernard was a member of the 45th Infantry Division Band during World War II and served in combat in Sicily, Italy, France and Germany.

After release from the army, he was in the men's clothing business until retirement in 1982.

Survivors include his wife Lillian, two daughters and four lovely grandchildren whom he loved very much.

Lillian's maiden name was Levine, and her brother Albert L. Levine (deceased) was also a former member of the Thunderbird Band. She stated that Bernard and Albert were very proud of their service in the 45th Division.

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CLARENCE M. STURDIVANT, Muskogee, Oklahoma. Deceased September 1990. He was a member of the 179th Infantry during World War II. Due to wounds received in action at Anzio he was returned to the United States early in 1944.

After graduation from High School in Beggs, OK he joined the 45th Division and remained a member for 14 years prior to mobilization in September 1940. Clarence lived in Independence, KS after retirement and later lived in Garden City, KS prior to moving to Muskogee, OK.

Awards and decorations include, Bronze Star w/2 oak leaf clusters, Purple Heart w/oak leaf cluster and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

Survivors include one son, one daughter, six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

HUDSON M. VANDERHOOF, Arnetown, New Jersey. Deceased 20 January 1991. He was a former Executive Officer, Battery A, 160th FA during World War II. Hudson died at the VA Hospital in Lyons, NJ and was interred at Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veteran's Memorial Cemetery, Arnetown, NJ.

Vanderhoof was a significant contributor to "A TIME TO HONOR", a history compiled by Colonel John Embry. This book commemorated members of the 160th Field Artillery and other 45th Division members for their activities during the battle for Anzio.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

WILLIAM H. WILLIAMSON, Bethany, Oklahoma. Deceased 22 February 1991. Bill was a machine gunner in Company E, 179th Infantry from 1940 to 1945. He served in the US Marines in Peking, China from 1945 to 1947 and in the Air Force during the Korean War. He retired from military service in 1960. He was employed at Tinker Air Force Base prior to retirement in 1976.

Awards and decorations include the Purple Heart for combat wounds, Bronze Star with oak leaf cluster, EAME Campaign Medal, American Defense Medal and Combat Infantryman Badge.

Survivors include his wife of 43 years, Freda, two sons and four grandchildren.

45th Infantry Division Association
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Oklahoma City, OK 73111

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