

45th Division News

August, 1994

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

CONGRESSMAN MCCURDY TO DELIVER KEYNOTE ADDRESS

It is with great pleasure the board announces that Congressman Dave McCurdy has agreed to be the keynote speaker for our Saturday evening banquet.

Congressman McCurdy has a very distinctive tie with the 45th Infantry Division Association, in that he was extremely instrumental in the negotiations to ensure the retention of the 45th Infantry Brigade.

As a ranking member of the House Armed Services Committee, Congressman McCurdy is an acknowledged expert on National security. He worked with President Reagan to revitalize America's Military forces after years of neglect. In 1991, he worked with President Bush to gain congressional support of Operation Desert Storm. Last year, he led a group of pro-defense Congressmen who convinced President Clinton to hold the line on defense cuts.

As Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Military Installations and Facilities, he led efforts to maintain our country's military facilities at an appropriate level to ensure the infra-structure was in place to support critical military support installations.

As the former Chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, Congressman McCurdy has a suprburb understanding of critical world situations and the complex roles the military could be called on to perform.

Congressman McCurdy's efforts to bring mainstream values to the nation's capital and to reform the way Congress works have earned him respect in many circles. They have also earned him opposition from the Washington elite. The National Journal has called him one of the most influential congressmen. The New Republic has cited his record on creating a "Speaker's Vigil" and "Foley's

Congressman McCurdy has served in the Congress of the United States since 1980. He holds undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Oklahoma. He was the first recipient of OU's Distinguished Service Award in 1992. In 1984, he was named one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men in American by the U.S. Jaycees.

Congressman McCurdy and his wife Pamela, a child psychiatrist, were married in 1971. They have a son and two daughters: Josh, Cyd and Shannon.

THUNDERBIRD LEGENDS

Harry W. Hughes

Harry W. Hughes was a native Oklahoman. He was born in Greer County, Oklahoma Territory on 22 June 1906. He was one of twin boys, the second and third sons of Roland F. and Alice Hanna Hughes, born on their homestead four miles north of the town now known as Vinson, Oklahoma.

Harry was educated in public schools in Vinson and Norman, OK and earned a Master of Education degree from the University of Oklahoma.

Hughes enlisted in Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 179th Infantry in Norman, OK in March 1926 while a freshman at Oklahoma University. He served in successive grades in that unit and attained the rank of Battalion Sergeant Major. In 1932 he was assigned as First Sergeant of Company D, 179th Infantry, a newly organized unit. Later in 1932 he was commissioned as a 2d Lieutenant in that unit. When the unit was called to Federal Active Duty in September 1940 he had attained the rank of 1st Lieutenant.

In 1942 he was promoted to Captain and assigned as Commanding Officer of Company A, 179th Infantry. He served in this position throughout training in the US until June 1943 when the unit departed for North Africa preparatory to the 45th Division's amphibious assault on Sicily, then to the amphibious landing at Salerno and during the combat actions up the Italian Peninsula until October 1943 when he was assigned as Executive Officer, 1st Battalion, 179th Infantry. Later that year he assumed command of the 1st Battalion when the Commanding Officer was wounded and evacuated. He was promoted to Major during the Italian Campaign.

During the Anzio Beachhead Campaign in 1944 Hughes was ordered back to the US and assigned as an Instructor of Tactics in the Infantry School at Fort Benning, GA. He remained in this assignment until released from active duty at the end of WWII.

When the 45th Infantry Division was reorganized in 1946, Hughes was assigned as Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 179th Infantry. He later became Executive Officer of the 179th Infantry and was Commander of the 3rd Battalion, 179th Infantry in September 1950 when the 45th Division was again called to active duty.

(THUNDERBIRD LEGENDS cont'd on page 2)

COMBAT CHRONICLES

By Louis Scott

WORLD WAR II

Anzio, February to June 1944. The German forces at Anzio suffered great losses from their major offensive in February in their attempt to push the Allies off the beachhead. But, although the drives had all been repulsed, the Germans had no intention of abandoning their ultimate objective of removing the "abscess" at Anzio by pushing the Allies into the sea. They did abandon their attempts at frontal attacks down the ALBANO road, feeling that any more endeavors to drive a wedge in the 45th Division area was futile. So, they turned their attention to the shoulders of the salient, concentrating on the left shoulder, an area defended by the 157th Infantry Regiment, assisted by the 2d Battalion, 6th Armored Infantry. They felt that by wearing down this area they would weaken the Allied forces holding the central beachhead defense sector so that a frontal assault down the ALBANO road could be successfully renewed.

The heavy losses suffered by the Germans in the assaults of 16-20 February resulted in the loss of their offensive punch. By 20 February, the combat strength of the German 65th Infantry Division was only 901 officers and men. Four days later this figure had been reduced to 673. One infantry regiment of the 715th Infantry Division was so decimated that the remnants were assigned to another infantry regiment that was so severely depleted that it had to be withdrawn from the front on 23 February. The Germans had to pause to regroup and replenish

their forces before they could even think about launching another large scale assault.

The 157th and 180th Infantry Regiments had stubbornly refused to give ground on the shoulders of the salient and were a major factor in containing the German drive. They were exhausted and their ranks depleted, so steps were taken to reduce positions.

Between 17 and 19 February, in the vicinity of PADIGLIONE, PFC William J. Johnston of Colchester, Connecticut, a member of Co. G 180th Infantry, accomplished the heroic acts for which he was awarded the Medal of Honor.

On 19 February, the 6th Armored Infantry and the 30th Infantry (3d Division) were withdrawn to positions near PADIGLIONE and CAMPOMORTO and placed in Corps reserve. Here they were in position to support the 180th Infantry. On 22 February, one battalion of the 30th Infantry reverted back to the 3d Division and the boundary between the 45th and 3d Division was moved 1500 yards west from CARANO. Responsibility for the left shoulder of the salient passed from the 157th Infantry to the 1 and 56 British Divisions. The left shoulder had been held throughout the big offensive by the 157th Infantry and their strength was nearly depleted.

The 1 British Division occupied their new positions without reaction from the enemy, but the 56 British Division was not so fortunate. They immediately became involved in the fight that was to be known as the "Battle of the Caves."

(COMBAT CHRONICLES cont'd on page 2)

"REUNION FORMS INSIDE"

(THUNDERBIRD LEGENDS cont'd from page 1)

In May 1952, Harry was severely wounded-in-action during the Korean War. He was evacuated to the United States through military hospital channels and after recovery was assigned to the Oklahoma Military District, Oklahoma City, where he served as Senior Instructor of US Army Schools in Oklahoma until his release from active duty in 1957. As a reserve officer, he was assigned to the 4155th USAR School in Oklahoma City as an Instructor of the Command and General Course. He was promoted to the grade of Colonel in March 1953.

Hughes was awarded the following military awards: Silver Star, Bronze Star w/cluster, Purple Heart w/silver cluster (he was wounded five times during WWII and one time during the Korean War), Commendation Ribbon, Pre-Pearl Harbor Ribbon and several State awards.

He was a member of the Oklahoma Historical Society Board of Trustees, VFW, Retired Teachers Association, TROA, American Security Council, SW Oklahoma Historical Society, Military Order of World Wars and the 45th Infantry Division Association.

Hughes was married to Hazel Wilson of Newcastle, OK on 8 June 1931. They had two children, Martha Ann Hughes Gillingham, Las Cruces, New Mexico and Harry W. Hughes Jr. of Menlo Park, California. Hazel died 15 May 1935.

In 1942 while the Division was at Fort Devens, Massachusetts, Harry was married to Margaret Williams of Abilene, Texas. They had two daughters, Susan Hughes Willoughby of Oklahoma City, and Shirley Walentiny of Tacoma, Washington.

Harry W. Hughes, Jr. joined Company K, 179th Infantry in June 1950 and served in his father's Battalion during the Korean War.

Harry died 22 October 1993 in a Lawton, Oklahoma Hospital after a brief illness. He was 87 at the time of his death.

(COMBAT CHRONICLES cont'd from page 1)

At the beginning of the German offensive on 16 February, the 2d Battalion, 157th Infantry was covering a front of 2000 yards from a point just east of the ALBANO road into a maze of deep ravines west of the highway. Enemy tanks on the Albano road rolled up the battalion right flank; enemy infantry, infiltrating up the ravines, overran the left flank and completely cut the battalion's supply route to the south. The battalion was finally reduced to a small area 600 yards west of the highway where a series of caves provided a natural fortress.

The Germans attacked this small area, hoping to annihilate the 2d Battalion, but friendly artillery fire called down on the caves successfully stopped the attack and the following night, after a successful attack by the 6th Armored Infantry, supplies were brought up. From then on the battalion was virtually cut off. By preventing the enemy from widening the salient, the 2d Battalion, 157th Infantry had aided materially in saving the beachhead, but fresh troops were needed if the position was to be held.

It was important that the left shoulder not be breached, because once the enemy broke through to the lateral road west of the overpass, he would be in position to cut the main supply route for the troops holding the MOLETTA RIVER line.

The attempt of the 56 Division to relieve the 2d Battalion unfortunately coincided with the German's decision to continue the offensive in an area where rough terrain favored infiltration. When the 2/7 Queens of the 56 Division finally reached the entrapped 2d Battalion, they had been bombed and shelled almost to extinction. The survivors reached the caves without supplies, ammunition, or supporting weapons. They had to be equipped with American automatic weapons.

The enemy attacked again in force; therefore, artillery was called upon again to break up the attack. But the 2d Battalion still could not evacuate the caves. When they were finally able to infiltrate out of the entrapment, only 225 men escaped and of this number, 90 were hospital cases. Whole squads and platoons had disappeared without a trace. For seven days and nights the battalion had fought off a much larger and determined enemy force who were never able to defeat the valiant men of the 2d Battalion, 157th Infantry.

In the last issue of the 45th Division News I quoted a statement from the official War Department account of Anzio and I repeat it here for its important significance: "That any man returned (from the battle of the Caves) is a tribute to the courage and stamina of the American infantry soldiers who have made the battle of the caves an epic of defensive fighting."

At the same time that the bitter struggle in the caves was going on, the enemy launched attacks against the right shoulder of the salient held by the

3d Battalion, 180th Infantry. The infantry action was on a lesser scale than that previously encountered in other areas of the salient, but the artillery fire was the heaviest yet experienced at the beachhead.

On 22 February, the enemy assembled a force of 400 men that included elements of three German infantry regiments. The variety of units and the relatively small size of the total force was proof that the Germans were having trouble finding troops to throw into the battle. The 180th called for defensive fires so devastating that the enemy withdrew without making contact. Lt. Jack Montgomery of Co. I, 180th Infantry, saw to it that not all the enemy returned to their lines for it was here that he performed the gallant actions that earned him the Medal of Honor.

The enemy's third and last major assault against the Allied forces on the beachhead was against the 3d American Division from 29 February to 3 March. They failed once again to penetrate the beachhead defenses, so they retired to lick their wounds and regroup.

During the balance of March and throughout April and part of May, action on the Anzio Beachhead was relatively quiet, consisting mainly of skirmishes and forays to test the enemy strength and keep them off-balance. Artillery fire on both sides was still devastating while the enemy continued their harassing air raids by Bedcheck Charlie who dropped antipersonnel bombs that could be irritating, but not too harmful on the whole.

The Allies took this lull to build up their mountains of supplies, bringing in tons each day. Units received fresh replacements and more artillery weapons than you can imagine reached the beachhead. During this period, German strength increased to more than 135,000 troops, which included about 66,000 combat troops, compared to approximately 90,000 Allied troops, the equivalent of six full divisions.

On 23 May, the Allies began the breakout from the Anzio Beachhead in conjunction with an all-out push that had begun 11 May on the southern front against the Winter Line. The 45th Infantry Division was assigned the task of penetrating beyond CARANO as far as the CAMPOLEONE-CISTERNA railroad. The Medal of Honor was awarded to T/Sgt (later Lt) Van T. Barfoot of the 157th Infantry for the heroic and gallant combat actions he conducted near CARANO on 23 May 1944.

Thunderbirds entered Rome on 4 June, although the official entry date was set as 5 June 1944, so that Lieutenant General Mark Clark could arrive and triumphantly enter the Eternal City for photographic purposes.

KOREA

March 1952: The combat situation remained static. The 45th Division retained its defensive mission with the 180th Infantry on the left, 179th Infantry on the right, and the 279th Infantry in reserve. Due to restrictions imposed by higher headquarters, no large raids were conducted. The division maintained an active defensive role, keeping contact with the enemy by aggressive operation of patrols.

On 22 March, an outpost in the 179th Infantry sector was probed and partially overrun by a force estimated at company size. The 179th counterattacked, reoccupied, and secured the position. Enemy had 31 KIA, 1 PW. There were 72 Division casualties in March.

April 1952: The Division continued to defend its assigned sector on Line JAMESTOWN (MLR). The 279th Infantry occupied the left sector of the Division front, while the 179th Infantry held the right sector.

On 11 April, the 20th Philippine Infantry Battalion was attached to the Division and further attached to the 179th Infantry. Battle casualties for April amounted to 102.

May 1952: Division CP at TAEGWANG-NI; Division continues defensive mission. The combat situation remained static although the enemy exhibited a more aggressive attitude and employed artillery in increased amounts.

Combat patrols from the 20th Philippine Inf Bn raided Outpost EERIE on 18-21 May, destroying six enemy bunkers, damaging seven. Seventy-one enemy KIA, 10 WIA; friendly had 10 WIA, 1 MIA.

On 21 May, MG David L. Ruffner assumed command of the Division. Battle casualties for May were 146.

June 1952: Enemy action increased sharply and the need to strengthen the OPLR was clearly indicated. Division forces seized and occupied a series of selected terrain features in Operation COUNTER. This strengthened the OPLR adequately. The enemy reacted violently, particularly in the left sector at Outpost EERIE. Battle casualties for June were 1004.

ANZIO MEMORIES

By Ralph W. Fink

In the January 1994 issue of the 45th Division News, Anse Spears wrote of Company C, 157th Infantry experiences while in one position for 33 days at the Anzio Beachhead in April 1944.

As I read the article I got "goosebumps" as memories came flooding back. I am now positive that Company D water-cooled machine guns were attached to Company C at that time, because the things Anse wrote about are very familiar to me.

We had dug our gun emplacement into the side of an irrigation ditch which was about four feet deep and probably six feet wide with just a small stream of water at the bottom. We built a small hut for sleeping directly behind the gun emplacement, with sand bags and a few boards from the destroyed house. Jim Tobin and I were proud of this "masterpiece" construction, especially because we thought everything was below ground level.

I vividly recall the early one morning I poked my head up just a few inches to scan to the front and immediately a bullet came crashing into the board beside my head. Later while lying on my back, I retrieved the bullet with my pocket knife and I still have it among my souvenirs.

The house where Company C had their headquarters was probably 150 yards to our right and set back a short distance from the ditch. The house was almost totally destroyed, but the beam at the peak of the roof was still in place. One night, after midnight Jim and I were awake on guard, when we spotted movement on the roof of the house. We both saw a formless, ghost-like figure moving back and forth along the beam and we both saw it for probably two minutes. The only possible explanation we could think of was that perhaps a light from a distant flare was reflecting from a low hanging cloud. With proper alignment, this illusion may have been possible, but to this day I am not totally sure that we did not see a real ghost on the peak of that roof.

By: Don Knowlton

This is a submitted in accordance with your invitation to submit a article about any interesting activity associated with the Anzio Campaign. The activities concern a "Forward Observation Party" from the 160th Field Artillery Battalion, deployed in support of the 179th Infantry Regiment.

The landings on Anzio were the easiest that we had made since the practice landings in North Africa. Resistance was light following us to go ashore without any opposing fire. As I remember we disembarked on our landing craft and had to wait a while before we could get out.

The battalion went into position first on the right (South) of the front line, but were shortly moved to a position near the center of the line. For about a month only periodic shelling, patrols, etc., took place, but we continued to stay in the same position. During this time my FO party and I took our regular turn at FO duty about every 3 or 4 days in support of the 179th Infantry.

Our turn came up on 15 February and we went through the usual procedure of getting the necessary grub from the kitchen and radio batteries, etc., that we would need for 3 or 4 days.

My party consisted of Sgt Kaline Bayouth of Collinsville, OK, Cpl. Harold Green of Savannah, GA, Pvt. Harold Perkins of McAlester, OK and my driver Sory from Kentucky.

After dark, we proceeded to our designated spot in the line. We took our position behind an outside structure next to a building that was used in peace time for baking, etc. There were some rabbit hutches or chicken coops on each end of the structure which made it about 15 feet long and 6 feet high. Good enough to hide a jeep behind as well as provide plenty of cover for all of us. It was also made of sturdy brick which gave us a sense of security.

Nothing exciting happened during the first part of the night, but at about 4:00 AM we started hearing all kinds of noises coming from the German lines, like tanks moving around and trucks moving into the area, dropping tail gates and letting troops out, etc. Soon all the mechanical noises stopped, but then all the men started tailing loudly, cheering, etc., like they were psyching themselves up for something to come.

Well, it did come. First at daylight a great artillery barrage which knocked out our telephone line. Soon after we saw the men and tanks coming our way. I believe this was all taking place just in front of the "Factory" area. We started firing artillery and made several target hits using radio communications. The German tanks and men kept advancing toward our position. I told Sory to take his jeep and make a dash for it and head back to the unit area, but he didn't get very far before his vehicle was knocked out and he was hit either with small arms or a tank shell.

We continued to direct artillery fire but shortly after Sory left our batteries ran down and our spare batteries were in Sory's jeep that had been destroyed.

The attack soon got worse and some of my men crawled in the lower part of the brick oven like structure. I was firing my carbine at the approaching enemy from the corner of the structure. Suddenly a German tank directly in front of us decided that there must be someone behind the oven, so he took a shot at us. The projectile came through the brick work and came to rest between two of my party.

I continued firing my carbine until some Germans who had crawled up behind me through a shallow irrigation ditch, put a couple of shells in my head. I must have appeared dead, but later a slight wiggle of my feet indicated to my boys that I was still alive, so they drug me into the alcove of the oven and put sulfa in my wounds. It still looked like I was dead, so the next smoke shell that came in blew the smoke towards our lines and they ran with it and eventually got back to our lines.

I think I was unconscious most of the day, which probably saved my life. Just about dark I regained consciousness and groggily started to crawl toward our lines. At one point I stood up briefly, then I heard some GI holler, "get down you --, you will draw fire". I did get down and after dark those same GI's packed me back to an aid station. These 179th men were led by Sgt. Jack Walker of Stevensville, Texas.

I was removed to an evacuation hospital where they removed the two bullets and sewed the wounds up and used some metal clips to hold my skull together, which I still have today.

After a few days in the hospital I was presented with the "Distinguished Service Cross" by LTG Mark Clark.

I was treated in military hospitals for about 2 years before being discharged and returned to my old job as a Forest Ranger with the California Division of Forestry.



Plaque Presented to Mayors of Anzio and Nettuno, Italy
(Photo courtesy of Ed Thomas, Sixth Armored Division)

HELP US MAKE YOUR EXPERIENCE A PART OF THE 45TH'S HISTORY

Bring your notes, diaries, orders, citations, maps, etc., to the Division Reunion. Most importantly come with your memories of service as a "THUNDERBIRD" be it in war or peace. It is your personal knowledge of events that adds "flesh and blood" to the "bare bones of history".

Look for the notices of ORAL HISTORY OF THE 45TH INFANTRY DIVISION which will be posted at the Reunion and make an appointment for a private, uninterrupted, recording session with the "Historian". Help us at the Museum to expand this important part of THUNDERBIRD history.

Your valued contribution will be added, as a permanent part, to the 45th Museum Archives.

(Styron Douthit, Chairman, Oral History Department, 45th Infantry Division Museum)

LADY THUNDERBIRDS

This year we are planning a "Breakfast Buffet" during the annual reunion, 29 September thru 2 October 1994. The ladies breakfast will be held in the Palomino/Quarter Horse rooms at the Raddisson Hotel beginning at 10:00 AM, Saturday 1 October 1994.

Those of you who enjoy the craft exchange are reminded to bring a "hand crafted item".

Transportation will be available for shopping, tours and the horse races at Remington Park.

Look forward to seeing you all again!

DEBRA CAMPBELL (Ladies Activities)

49TH ANNUAL REUNION
45TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
<u>THURSDAY (29 September 1994)</u>		
REGISTRATION	GAZEBO	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
HOSPITALITY ROOM	ROOM 403	1:00 PM - 10:00 PM
TRANSPORTATION	ROOMS 427/429	No Schedule
<u>FRIDAY (30 September 1994)</u>		
REGISTRATION	GAZEBO	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
HOSPITALITY ROOM AND ORGANIZATION CP'S	ROOM 403 See Sign in Exhibition Gallery	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM 9:00 PM - MIDNIGHT
TRANSPORTATION	ROOMS 427/429	No Schedule
BUSINESS MEETING	APPALOOSA-MORGAN HORSE ROOMS	2:00 - 4:00 PM
* DINNER	SOUTH BALLROOM (Dress - Casual, C & W)	7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
* C&W DANCE (live band)	NORTH BALLROOM (Dress - Casual, C & W)	9:00 PM - MIDNIGHT
<u>SATURDAY (1 October 1994)</u>		
MEMORIAL SERVICE	APPALOOSA-MORGAN HORSE ROOMS	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
HOSPITALITY ROOM AND ORGANIZATIONAL CP'S	ROOM 403 See Sign in Exhibition Gallery	11:00 AM - 5:00 PM 9:00 PM - MIDNIGHT
REGISTRATION	GAZEBO	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
TRANSPORTATION	ROOMS 427/429	No Schedule
LADIES BREAKFAST BUFFET	PALOMINO-QUARTER HORSE ROOMS	10:00 AM - 11:45 AM
THOROUGHBRED RACING	REMINGTON PARK RACE TRACK	12:00 NOON - 5:00 PM
* DINNER	SOUTH BALLROOM (Dress - Informal, Coat & Tie)	7:00 - 9:00 PM
* DANCE	NORTH BALLROOM	9:00 PM - MIDNIGHT
<u>SUNDAY (2 October 1994)</u>		
HOSPITALITY ROOM	ROOM 403	8:00 AM - 12:00 NOON
TRANSPORTATION	ROOMS 427/429	As Required

* CASH BAR WILL BE PROVIDED. STATE LAW PROHIBITS INDIVIDUAL BOTTLES IN PUBLIC AREAS. "PLEASE COOPERATE"

Worldwoveterans.org

CHURCH HONORS KOREAN VETERANS

The First Presbyterian Korean Church of Oklahoma City conducted a "CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM" on 18 June 1994 honoring Korean War veterans and their families.

The celebration consisted of an introduction to Korean Culture, Food, Song, Costumes and Dancing. Entertainment was provided by Las Vegas Entertainment Kim Brother. Kim is a master musician, playing a total of sixteen instruments.

Reverend Won Pei, Pastor of the church worked very hard in putting together this event which was enjoyed by all who attended.

LOST RECORDS FOUND

National Archives has sent notice to the Veterans Administration that nearly ten million "lost" service medical treatment and hospital records have been found. These records cover the years 1942-1945 and 1950-1954. They involve individuals who served in the Army and the Army Air Corps and may include personnel from other branches of service who were treated in Army hospitals.

Veterans who have had claims denied are now advised to contact the US Department of Veterans Affairs for reopening their VA claims. For information write to the Records Center. Inquiries will be processed more efficiently if a copy of the last DD 214 is included. The address is: National Personnel Records Center, NPRC/NCPMF-C, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63132-5199

TID BITS

I was a member of Company A, 180th Infantry during World War II. During the Sicilian Amphibious Assault I was assigned duties as a "Beach Marker", consequently, we were the first ones to land on the beaches.

Later in the war, I was captured by the German Army and spent the remainder of the war in a "Prisoner of War Camp".

I visited the 45th Infantry Division Museum this past summer and enjoyed it very much.

SHILTON HOLLINGSHEAD, 2815 Vernon Street, Sacramento, CA 95818

Have you ever wondered why Louis Scott looks and acts so young? I was the cook in his unit during WWII and that might be part of the reason!

I always enjoy reading the news and look forward to the next issue.

AMOS L. BRYANT, 1002 National Highway, Thomasville, NC 27360

I desire to locate a Battalion Crest for the 120th Medical Battalion and would like to hear from anyone who served with Ambulance Company, 120th Medical Battalion while on active duty in Japan and Korea, up to August 1952.

BOB RICHMOND, P.O. Box 60, Sanford, FL 32772-0060

LOOKING FOR BUDDIES

Jerry L. Smith, 9414 Poinciana Court, Fort Pierce FL 34951-2946, Sergeant Major of the 145th AAA BN in Korea from August 1952 to April 1953 would enjoy hearing from anyone who was in Headquarters Battery during that period. He would also like to contact Bill Lucas who was a Sergeant in the S-1 Section at Division Artillery Headquarters.

James M. Ricks, 15399 Putman, Rogers, AR 72756 would like to hear from anyone who was with Clearing Company, 120th Medical Battalion during the Sicilian and Italian Campaigns.

Charles E. Carpenter, 712 Barbra Lane, Burleson, TX 76028, says it has been 42 years since Company E, 179th Infantry was on Hill 347 overlooking Baldy, Alligator Jaw, Pork Chop Hill and the rest of our outposts. We lost lots of good men as did the rest of Second Battalion. Still trying to get as many as we can find to come to the reunion. Looking for Charles A. Mitchell, Decatur, GA, James Phillips, Dallas, TX, Howard Bannister, Dallas, TX or any one from Dog, Fox or Easy Companies.

Marvin J. Lewis, 225 Bixley Heath, Lynbrook, NY 11563, 516/593-8087, Company B, 180th Infantry, WWII recently visited the 45th Infantry Division Museum while traveling through Oklahoma. He said that nostalgia took first place on his list of emotions, while going thru the museum. He is still living in the New York City area, but is recently retired and traveling extensively. He would enjoy a phone call or letter from any of his company members, just to reminisce.

REUNION NOTICES

45TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION: 29 September-2 October 1994, the Radisson Inn, 401 South Meridian, Oklahoma City, OK 73108. Reunion Registration and Hotel Reservation forms are included in this newsletter. The following units and organizations are conducting reunions in conjunction with the association reunion:

45TH SIGNAL COMPANY (KOREA): Contact George T. Nolan, 888 North Benton, Helena, MT 59601 or John W. Macagnay, 29 Watervliet Avenue, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442.

COMPANY B, 179TH INFANTRY WWII: POC Charles "Hook" Johnson, 3501 East 30th Street, Tulsa, OK 74114-6109.

COMPANY B, 279TH INFANTRY (KOREA): Contact Eddie Sneed 918/367-6858 or John Harshbarger 405/372-9769.

COMPANY G, 180TH INFANTRY WWII & KOREA: POC Jim Phipps, Rt 1, Box 301A, Rural Retreat, VA 24368, 703/686-5088.

180TH INFANTRY (WWII AND KOREA) POC Harry W. Barnes, Rt 1, Box 278, Tishomingo, OK 73460, 405/443-5397.

45TH FINANCE SECTION (WWII AND KOREA): POC Donald E. Oldham, 2712 North Sterling Avenue, OKC, OK 73127, 405/942-6597 or David Rose, 808 Grove Avenue, Waukegan, IL 60085, 708/336-7248.

COMPANY E, 179TH INFANTRY (KOREA): POC Marshall G. Gifford, Jr., 101 Linden Street, Leeds, AL 35094, 405/99-7312.

COMPANY F, 179TH INFANTRY (KOREA): POC Frank Garrison, PO Box 27412, (Bay Point), Panama City, FL 32411.

279th INFANTRY (ALL UNITS): 7-9 October 1994, Western Hills Guest Ranch, near Wagoner, OK. POC Lee Fry, 804 North Main, Broken Arrow, OK 74012, 918/251-8842.

700 ORDNANCE MAINTENANCE COMPANY (KOREA): 8-9 October 1994 in the St. Louis, MO area. POC George A. Buhr, 1173 Maynard Road, Cheboygan, MI 49721, 616/627-7458.

H&S COMPANY, 120TH ENGINEER (C) BN: 29-30 September, Saddleback Inn, Oklahoma City, OK. POC Woody Harris, 26 Preston Circle, Stillwater, OK 74075-2017, 405/372-4098.

COMPANY D, 179TH INFANTRY ASSN: 12-13 August 1994 at the Quality Inn in Norman, OK. POC Ray Wall, 8508 South Ross, OKC, OK 73159 or Clyde Antrim, 1175 Gowa Lane, Pueblo, CO 81006.

SERVICE COMPANY, 179th INFANTRY (KOREA): 9-12 September 1994, Arrowhead Lodge, Black River Falls, WI. POC Daniel Murphy, 1101 North 3rd Street, ST. Cloud, MN 612/251-6567

189TH FA AND 645 TD BATTALIONS: Saddleback Inn, Oklahoma City, OK 20-22 April 1995. POC T.J. Hunker, PO Box 127, Wheatland, OK 73097, 405/745-2433.

REGISTRATION APPLICATION FOR 49TH ANNUAL REUNION

COMPLETE AND MAIL TO: 45TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
2145 NE 36TH STREET, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73111

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

(INCLUDE CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE)

UNIT: WW II _____ KOREA _____ POST KOREA _____

GUESTS _____

(FIRST AND LAST NAMES)

CIRCLE APPLICABLE EVENTS AND AMOUNTS AND COMPLETE APPROPRIATE BLOCKS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>BASIS</u>	<u>PREPAID</u>	<u>PAYMENT AT DESK</u>	<u>AMOUNT DUE</u>
REGISTRATION	MEMBER	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
LADIES LUNCHEON	PERSON	10.00	10.00	\$
FRIDAY	MEMBER	20.00	25.00	\$
	GUEST	20.00	25.00	\$
SATURDAY	MEMBER	20.00	25.00	\$
	GUEST	20.00	25.00	\$
TOTAL PREPAID-----				\$
(ENCLOSE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER)				

TOTAL DUE AT DESK-----\$ _____

PREPAYMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 20 SEPTEMBER 1994
TO QUALIFY FOR PREPAYMENT RATES.

TRANSPORTATION REQUEST

I WILL BE ARRIVING IN OKLAHOMA CITY AT _____ HOURS _____ SEPTEMBER
1994 ON _____ AIRLINES, FLIGHT # _____. THERE WILL BE
_____ PERSONS IN MY PARTY REQUIRING TRANSPORTATION TO THE MOTEL.

RETURN FLIGHT

MY RETURN FLIGHT DEPARTS AT _____ HOURS _____ OCTOBER 1994. I WANT
TO LEAVE THE MOTEL AT _____ HOURS FROM (CIRCLE ONE) *ROOM* *LOBBY*
TRANSPORTATION ROOM # 427.

(NAME-----PLEASE PRINT)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks very much for the information you recently sent to me following our telephone conversation. As you will recall, I indicated that five former Company F, 179th Infantry Korea War veterans attended the 1993 reunion. While they were visiting the 45th Museum, they had the honor of visiting with their former Regimental Commander, Fred Daugherty. They had such a wonderful time that they asked me, as their former Company Commander, to initiate a drive to get as many Company F, 179th Korean veterans to attend the 1994 reunion.

I am pleased to announce that as of this date we have located about forty former members. Obviously, this has been a major task, as we are working from a 1952 roster. We are sure that we will be able to locate many more prior to the reunion.

Eddie Speairs, our former Battalion Commander, will also be in attendance.
FRANK GARRISON, P.O. BOX 27412 (Bay Point), Panama City, FL 32411

In a recent casual conversation with Jack Wambaugh, a friend whom I have known for several years, he mentioned that he had been a soldier in the 157th Infantry, 45th Division. What a surprise it was to discover this after all these years. This morning he stopped by my house to give me a copy of the 157th Infantry Associations' Newsletter, which contained a reference to the existence of a 45th Division Association.

On occasion I have wondered is such an organized might exist and I am interested in knowing more about it. I was a medic in the 189th Field Artillery, later a medic and Motor Sergeant in the 179th Infantry and finally acting Operations Sergeant in 45th Division Headquarters (after Master Sergeant Stansell was shipped home from Italy) in which post I remained until the end of the war. I was in the first group shipped home from Munich, Germany. I was registered in the military as Jack Suttman from Enid, OK.

JOHN P. "JACK" SUTTMAN, 8608 Aztec NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111, 505/299-6754

I served with Company G, 157th Infantry Regiment in Italy and sometime after leaving Germany I was taken to a Field Hospital in a jeep. Later I discovered that my .25 caliber automatic pistol and holster had been taken from my belt while I was being transported to the hospital. It was never returned, which was a big disappointment because I had purchased it from another GI to bring home as my only souvenir. I have always wondered who found it and dream of its return, even to this date.

ALLAN E. GURNEY, RFD 4, Box 297, Laconia, NH 03246-8903

I served in the 45th Signal Company in the US, Japan and Korea from 1950 to 1953. After discharge from the Army I completed my BS degree at California State University and graduate studies at Oklahoma Baptist University. I was

employed by North American Rockwell during the Apollo Space program and later employed in hospital administration. I retired in 1992 and currently reside in California.

DENNIS L. SPENCER, 10316 Pangborn Avenue, Downey, CA 90241

I was a Sergeant with the Division Headquarters Public Information Office in Korea in the latter part of 1952 and the first half of 1953. Our primary job was to publish the 45th Division News. As far as I know, we were the only front-line Army newspaper in Korea printed in Japan on modern presses.

We wrote the stories in the PIO and in the field, sometimes in the thick of an artillery exchange, and flew the copy to Japan where the pages were made-up and the papers printed and flown back to Korea where they were delivered to the troops. My beat was the 180th Infantry Regiment.

My last assignment before returning to the States was to cover "Operation Little Switch" at Panmunjom. Following the war, I was a reporter with a number of newspapers including The Arizona Republic in Phoenix.

I would like to hear from any of my fellow staffers on the News during the era.

CLYDE A. MURRAY, 514 Weir Road, Willis, TX 77378

While thinking about our coming trip to the battlegrounds of Sicily and Italy, my mind went back to years to July 10, 1943 the day of the 45th making its first invasion and our initial combat.

If my memory is correct, we had breakfast at 3:00 AM and the Navy served us steak--it was a long time before we had solid food again.

I was a gunner on a 81mm mortar at the time and I had a 45 cal pistol as a side arm. Upon getting up for breakfast, Lo and Behold, no side arm. The holster was bare. After doing my share of swearing I was advised that since I was in the 3rd wave, I could pick up a rifle on the beach, which I did. I knew in my heart that none of my fellow 'thunderbirds' would leave a fellow GI in this tough spot so I was only concerned that I need four Navy guys getting in a scuffle and be employed it.
B.B. MCGEE, 400 Bayview Avenue, Waukegan, IL 60087, 815/491-1184 Inf.

My wife Marilyn and I are interested in attending the Association reunion 29 Sept-2 Oct., so please send details so we can make necessary reservations.

I was a member of Company M, 179th Infantry from 1937 to 1940 at which time I transferred to the 179th Regimental Band. I served in the 179th Band until December 1943 at which time the 157th Infantry Band and the 179th

(LETTER TO THE EDITOR cont'd on back page)



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
- _____ \$35.00 for a 10-year Membership
- _____ \$15.00 for a 4-year Membership
- _____ \$ 5.00 for a 1- year Membership

SEND TO:
45th Infantry Division Association
2145 NE 36th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73111

Your Name (Please Print) _____
Address (Street or P.O. Box) _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Former or Present Thunderbird Unit _____

World War II _____ Korean War _____ Post Korean War _____

(SPECIAL NOTE: Your are invited to submit a paragraph of current information or 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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(LETTER TO THE EDITOR cont'd from page 7)

were combined to form the Division Band. CWO James B. Rounds commanded the 179th Band and also the Division Band. Is he still living in Oklahoma City? WOJG Bernhard G. Fred of the 157th Band was also assigned to the Division Band when it was organized. He was from St. Louis, MO.

I continued in the Division Band as Company Clerk and Clarinetist until the end of the War.

I finished college at OCU and acquired a Masters Degree in Library Science at the University of Denver in 1954 and retired as a Catalog

REUNION HOSPITALITY ROOMS

The Following policy is established on a permanent basis concerning assignment of Hospitality Rooms (CP's) during annual reunions.

Hospitality rooms listed below are assigned on a permanent basis and will be available to assigned organizations without action by their personnel, except for checking out the room upon arrival at the Radisson Hotel:

ROOM #	ASSIGNED ORGANIZATION (S)
403	45th Division Assn, HQ 45th Division 45th Brigade HQ
404	Special Troops, Troop Command, 120 Engr, MP Co 700 Ord, 120 Med, QM, Signal Co, Recon Trp/Co
615	179th Infantry
101	180th Infantry
102	279th Infantry
201	Div Artillery, 158 FA, 160FFA, 171 FA, 189 FA, 145 AAA

Other hospitality rooms may be rented from the hotel on a first come, first served basis: These rooms will be available at a reduced rate to be determined by the hotel management. All reservation for these rooms must be made with Betty Ramsey in the Sales department, telephone (405)947-7681.

Assigned hospitality rooms will be required to remain open during hours specified by the Reunion Committee and an assortment of refreshments provided for visitors. Organizations will be responsible for all charges made to the assigned room and the cost of any adjoining rooms used for storage or staff quarters.

Librarian from California State University, Long Beach in May 1986.

My history of the 45th Division Band, written right after the end of World War II was never published.

ROBERT E. BRASHER, JR., 6855 Driscoll St., Long Beach, CA 90815-4808.

LIFE MEMBERS

(Since Last Newsletter)

Dempsey L. Jackson	Luther B. Rogers
James Matlack	Marshall M. Strout

NEW MEMBERS

(Since Last Newsletter)

10 - YEARS	Quentin C. Jurgensen
Bob Craft	Leory P. Rube
William T. Epperson	Joseph C. Tranchita
Jospeh L. Hooley, Jr.	John D. Wilson
Bill Louthier	

4 - YEARS

Howard K. Arnett	James G. Lageson
William Blake, Jr.	Donald P. Mariner
Don Burns	Raymond J. Maritnez
Barbara R. Clark	William K. McAfee
Kenneth R. Cordell	John W. Minns
Wiley B. Dickerson	Richard E. Morrie
John H. Farris	W.F. Palmer
Glenn W. Filler	Lester H. Ramsey
Richard H. Hammaker	Irbam A. Schrage
George L. Hammontree	Wilber D. Smith
Martin Hechter	Dennis Spencer
Raymond J. Hilgart	Arthur E. Turner
Sheldon S. Hollingshead	Victor VanHook
George L. Holmes	Paul D Van'tVeer
Howard L. Karnes	Arvel E. Wall
Thomas Joe Key	Paul L. Webber
Robert L. King	

TAPS

Carl C. B... ..	Justin Jones
Joseph F. Brhet	Frank A. Lanz
Francis M. Cole	Jen O. Leader
Tony Cussimonio	Patrick H. Mackey
Ivol Lee Cypert	Kenneth Mathews
Rudy E. Derosa	Carl A. Marchese
Samuel P. Divine	Marshall E. "Smokey" Martin
John W. Farrell	L.O. "Dutch" Rhodes
Clarence E. Flesche	Orvil R. Smith
John S. Frandina	Orville E. Stephens
Jeff L. Gentry	Joe E. Stevenson
Jack Gibbs	Marion Utley
Stanley Greenwood	Charles T. Vesey
Wilburn Hagood	Darrell W. Vonnahme
Dennis W. Huggins	Eldon B. Watson
John C. Huseby	Bob R. Woods
Lowell R. Hutson	

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2145 N.E. 36th Street
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