

45th Division News

August, 1996

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

THUNDERBIRD LEGENDS



DONALD JEFF HURT

Donald Jeff Hurt was born September 7, 1931 in Bristow, Oklahoma, the fourth of five children born to Evert and Amy Hurt. He attended grades one through eight at Lovett and high school in Bristow, where he was a member of the wrestling and golf teams. He also attended Junior College in Bristow.

Hurt enlisted in Company G, 279th Infantry Regiment of the Oklahoma National Guard's 45th Infantry Division in February 1949. He was inducted into active federal service with the Division on September 1, 1950, for service during the Korean Conflict. After additional training at Camp Polk, Louisiana and Hokkaido, Japan, Hurt moved with the Division to Korea in December, 1951.

On the night of April 10, 1952, Company G, 279th Infantry Regiment, was ordered to conduct a patrol into enemy territory in an effort to capture Chinese prisoners. Sergeant First Class Donald Hurt, as a Platoon Sergeant, led his platoon on this combat patrol even though he was authorized to stay behind since he was leaving for home the next day.

While leading his platoon through an abandoned village near Pokkea Ridge in the Yonchon-Chorwon area, it came under intense fire from enemy automatic weapons located on a small hill. Sergeant Hurt left his platoon in defensive positions and advanced alone to neutralize the enemy weapons. He was seriously wounded by an enemy grenade blast. Ignoring his wounds, Sergeant Hurt managed to hurl several grenades that silenced an enemy automatic weapon located on the forward slope of the hill. He called in artillery fire to neutralize additional enemy positions. Only after all enemy fire had ceased did he consent to be evacuated for medical treatment. He died the next day.

Sergeant First Class Donald J. Hurt was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his heroic action on the night of April 10, 1952 against an armed and aggressive enemy force in Korea.

On April 5, 1996, the "SFC Donald J. Hurt Memorial Bridge" was officially dedicated by State of Oklahoma and military officials. The bridge is located just west of Bristow on historic Route 66. Sergeant First Class Donald Jeff Hurt exemplified the true spirit of the Thunderbird through his gallant and heroic action, his devotion to duty, and his leadership.

Donald Hurt's body was returned to Bristow on July 12, 1952, where he was buried with military honors in the Bristow Cemetery.

OUR BANQUET SPEAKER

Ed Kelsay will be our Saturday night banquet speaker for the 51st Annual Reunion 19-21 September 1996. Ed is a resident of Oklahoma City and a former Thunderbird as a member of the 145th Signal housed in the Lincoln Park Armory which is now the home of the 45th Division Museum.

Ed Kelsay is an attorney, medical association executive, and President of his own medical practice management seminar and consulting firm, Ed Kelsay and Associates, Inc. He also serves as the Malpractice Loss Prevention Manager for Oklahoma's physician owned professional liability insurance company and as a risk management consultant to several other physician owned malpractice insurance companies around the United States.

He served the Oklahoma State Medical Association in various capacities for over 28 years. Most recently he spent 16 years as the Association's General Counsel and Associate Director, until leaving January 1st to become a full time management consultant and a professional speaker. He is the General Counsel to the Oklahoma Society of Association Executives, and legal advisor to eight other associations.

Over the past 25 years he has given hundreds of talks to all kinds of

audiences and conducted numerous leadership training programs and long range planning sessions. In 1986 Ed was one of the first 17 association executives in the United States to be awarded the ASAE Fellow designation by the American Society of Association Executives. He is an adjunct instructor on medical law and practice management for the Department of Family Practice at the University of Oklahoma Medical School and has written 17 booklets on medical office management, medical malpractice loss prevention, listening, leadership training and on several legal topics.

Ed Kelsay is a humorist and motivational after dinner speaker. We are anticipating an enjoyable evening on 21 September.

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51st Annual Reunion: 19-21 September

The 51st Annual Reunion of the 45th Division Association will be held 19-21 September 1996 at the Radisson Inn, Interstate 40 at Meridian, Oklahoma City, OK. President Lonnie Bray and committee members are hard at work. Preston Willoughby is the Reunion General Chairman and all planning is on target. We are anticipating a record turnout this year.

Friday activities include the Business Meeting, a sit down dinner, followed by a Country and Western dance to live music. The ladies plan to visit Indian City USA if there are enough participants. Saturday activities include a Memorial Service, Ladies Breakfast Buffet, The Annual Banquet and dancing to live "Big Band" music. A "Schedule of Events" is included in this newsletter.

Hotel reservation and reunion "REGISTRATION AND TRANSPORTATION REQUEST" forms are included in this newsletter. (HOTEL RESERVATION FORMS "MUST" BE MAILED DIRECT TO THE RADISSON INN. "PLEASE" DO NOT MAIL THEM TO THE ASSOCIATION.

If you plan to attend, please complete the "Registration and Transportation Request" form and mail to: 45th Infantry Division Association, 2145 NE 36th Street, OKC, OK 73111. This will facilitate advance planning and permit the registration committee to prepare registration packets prior to your arrival.

The reunion committee would appreciate a maximum effort by the membership towards "ADVANCE REGISTRATION" AND "PRE-PAYMENT" of the amount due. This will preclude the registration committee from handling large amounts of cash at the reunion site and will permit us to serve you better.

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MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

A memorial day ceremony was conducted at the 45th Division Museum on 27 May 1996. The focus of the ceremony was dedication of a plaque designating Oklahoma State Highway 3 as the 45th Infantry Division Memorial Highway. The plaque will be permanently installed at the entrance to the museum building. The dedication ceremony honored COL John Dahl (Ret) sponsor of the Oklahoma Legislative Resolution designating the highway and Jack C Moses, plaque designer.

BG James Walker served as Master of Ceremonies and COL Jack O Poe, State Chaplain was the Keynote Speaker. COL Poe was introduced by Norman Lamb, State Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

George Wesley Jr presented a medley of patriotic songs. The 145th Army band participated as well as the Governor's Honor Guard and Color Guards from the 45th Infantry Brigade, 45th FA Brigade, 90th Troop Command and from several local military and civilian groups, a total of 16 organizations.

Ceremonies included a concert by the 145th Army Band, a Helicopter Flyover, firing of a Salute with the Mountain Gun by Gene Church and Crew. Refreshments were served at the conclusion of the ceremony and the museum was opened for viewing.

Lady Thunderbirds

Plans are underway for a fun time at Indian City, USA Friday, September 20th. Many thanks to Norma Garman for all her efforts in the planning of this trip. We plan to leave for Anadarko no later than 9:00 AM and expect to return by 4:00 PM. Wear comfortable clothing and walking shoes. However, I cannot predict if you will need a coat, rainsuit, or sunglasses. We will be dealing with Oklahoma weather where it changes by the minute, not necessarily by the seasons. All interested parties should get their reservations in no later than August 16, 1996.

Ladies, your requests have been honored two fold. Number one on the survey results for entertainment possibilities for your Saturday Brunch was a fashion show and number two was anything Native American. Thanks to Ladawn Cope and Norma Garman we have secured an authentic Native American fashion show. Our theme will encompass Oklahoma's native American culture with a western flare "Okie Style".

Change in the auxiliary craft table. We have decided to plan a small "come and go" craft show in one of the hotel's suites beginning on Friday, September 20th. Look for details of when and where at the Gazebo Registration Table.

REMINDERS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Registrations due August 16, 1996 for the Indian City USA trip. Look for the Auxiliary Come and Go Craft Show. (Info-Gazebo Registration Table).

LADY THUNDERBIRD SATURDAY BRUNCH - 21 September 10:00 to 11:30 AM, Palomino/Quarter Horse Room, Radisson Inn.

Don't forget the ANNUAL CRAFT/GIFT EXCHANGE at the Saturday Brunch. Again you don't have to be creative to participate. Purchase something from the Auxiliary Craft Show and experience the fun.

Look forward to seeing you in September!!! (DEBRA CAMPBELL).

Registration For INDIAN CITY USA TRIP

Complete and mail to: 45th Infantry Division Association
2145 NE 36th Street
OKC, OK 73111

NAME.....
(Include first and last names)

ADDRESS.....
(Include city, state & zip code)

GUESTS.....

APPROXIMATE COSTS: Admission \$5.00 - Food \$5.00
(MAIL TO THE ASSOCIATION PRIOR TO 16 AUGUST 1996)

(Refer questions or suggestions to Debra Campbell, 13913 Jeffrey Drive, Edmond, OK 73013 call 405/478-3618)

BAGNOLI REVISITED

Throughout 1995 the 50th anniversary of VE day was celebrated across Europe. Last summer in Bagnoli, Italy a WW II veteran held a private post-war reunion of his own.

In early 1944 just after participating in three months of intense combat action at Anzio, 19 year old Paramas "Bob" Simonian a member of Company C, 157th Infantry was a patient at the US Army Hospital in Bagnoli. He and other GI's relaxed around Bagnoli park, enjoying the sun and sights. The city park of Bagnoli is a pretty place, a shady, tree lined strip where people stroll and old men gather to talk. For fifty years Simonian carried the image of this place in his mind, but more specifically, of someone he met there. Local kids often hung around the soldiers, joking with them or coaxing cigarettes from them. One lad was peddling apples, and he caught Simonian's attention. He had a sincere captivating manner, but there was something else: he was on crutches because of having only one leg. They passed many pleasant hours together talking in the park. The boy, 9 year old Gennaro Porzillo, told Simonian how he had lost his leg, it was blown off by a land mine the Germans had left on

the Bagnoli beach.

Fifty years passed and Simonian, now 70, is a retiree living in Massachusetts. He started to think about those days again, and wondering what happened to his friend in Bagnoli. In a way, I never did get him out of my mind. Determined to track him down, he wrote to the Public Information Office at AFSOUTH, asking for help. He described the person he was looking for, but couldn't remember his name, but he would be about 60 years old.

Military personnel in the Public Information Office designed flyers and distributed them around Bagnoli. One night Gennaro Porzillo goes to his favorite pizzeria and while he is waiting reads a notice posted on the wall. Curiosity turns to surprise and recognition and emotion stir in his heart as he realizes that the poster is concerning him. I thought what a wonderful thing that he should remember me after all these years.

Contact was made and in August Simonian was on a plane back to Naples after 50 years. The whole Porzillo family met him at the airport and brought him home with them to Bagnoli. Simonian stayed with the family for a week and they spent a lot of time talking and visiting local sights, and of course Bagnoli park.

Bob Simonian is one person who has found that, contrary to what they say, sometimes, you can go back.

Constitution And Bylaws 45th Infantry Division Amendment # 1

ARTICLE II "MEMBERSHIP" is hereby amended to read as follows:

I. ACTIVE MEMBERS: Those persons (or surviving spouses and direct descendants) who have been assigned or attached to the 45th Infantry Division, or assigned to an organization which was attached to or in direct support of the 45th Infantry Division while in a combat zone, and those persons who have served as a member of the 45th Infantry Division at any time and all active and former members of the Oklahoma National Guard are eligible for membership.

Dues Structure	Operating Account	Sustaining Account
4 year	x	
10 year		x
LIFE		x

Funds placed in the sustaining account will be deposited in federally insured accounts such as local money market funds or certificates of deposit. All funds (principal and interest) accruing to these accounts will remain in the accounts until transfer to the general operating account is required to sustain operations of the association. Transfer of funds from sustaining accounts will require approval by a majority vote of the Board of Directors of the 45th Infantry Division Association. This amendment was approved by the association Board of Directors in May 1996 and will be presented to the membership for consideration during the "Annual Reunion" business meeting in September 1996.

(The purpose of this amendment is to delete the provisions for a one year membership).

REUNION NOTICES

45TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION: 19-21 September 1996. The Radisson Inn, 401 South Meridian (I-40 at Meridian), Oklahoma City, OK 73108. POC Rex Wilson, National Secretary, 2145 NE 36th Street, OKC, OK 73111, 405/373-2092.

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE 45TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 51ST ANNUAL REUNION:

COMPANY B, 179TH INFANTRY (KOREA): A memorial will be dedicated on site at the 45th Division Museum to honor those who served during the Korean War in Company B. POC W F Mac Swain, 3474 Bandera Road, Fort Worth, TX 76116, 817/244-0706.

COMPANY L, 179TH INFANTRY (KOREA): Mansell R Garrett Jr, 1051 Linden Street NE, Leeds, Alabama, 35904, 205/699-7342.

180TH INFANTRY (WORLD WAR II AND KOREA): POC Harry W Barnes, Route 1, BOX 278, Tishomingo, OK 73460, 405/443-5397.

COMPANY G, 180TH INFANTRY (WORLD WAR II AND KOREA):
POC Jim Phipps, Route 1, BOX 301A, Rural Retreat, VA 24368, 703/686-5088.

H AND S COMPANY, 120TH ENGINEER (C) BN: Saddleback Inn, Oklahoma City, POC, Woody Harris, 26 Preston Circle, Stillwater, OK 74075-2017, 405/372-4008.

160TH FA BN: Thursday 19 September 1996, Radisson Inn, 401 South Meridian, OKC, OK 73108, immediately preceding the 45th Infantry Division Association reunion. POC Cliff Anderson, 800 Thunderbird Drive, Chandler, OK 74834, 405/258-2010.

279TH INFANTRY: 25-27 October 1996, Western Hills Guest Ranch, Wagoner, OK. POC Lee Fry, 804 North Main, Broken Arrow, OK 74012, 918-251-8842.

45TH CAVALRY RECONNAISSANCE TROOP (WW II): 25-28 September 1996, Holiday Inn Northwest, San Antonio, TX. POC Harvey York 405/658-3090.

700 ORDNANCE MAINTENANCE CO (KOREA): 13-14 September 1996, Plantation Inn, Branson, MO, POC George Buhr, 1173 Maynard Rd, Cheboygan, MI 49721, 616/627-7458.

COMPANY M, 179TH INFANTRY (KOREA): 17-18 January 1997, Radisson Inn, Oklahoma City, OK. POC George Brownlee, 1216 Ridgecrest Drive, Kingfisher, OK 73750, 405/375-5272.

LOOKING FOR BUDDIES

I am attempting to find anyone who served in the Counterfire Platoon, Headquarters Company, 179th Infantry during the Korean War. We propose to have a reunion if we can locate enough former members.

ROBERT C ROUSE, 138 County Road 312, Ignacio, CO 81137.

I was assigned to Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 279th Infantry after I completed basic training at Camp Polk, LA. I served with that unit until my discharge from the service in 1952.

When the Division History Book was published in December 1951, my address was inadvertently omitted from the unit roster. I have not heard from anyone since then and would certainly enjoy hearing from anyone that I served with at this time.

GEORGE W SHOTT, RR 2, BOX 278, Waynesboro, VA 22980.

TID-BITS

How to know you are Growing Older

Everything hurts and what doesn't hurt, doesn't work. Your little black book contains only names ending in MD. Your children begin to look middle aged. You know all the answers, but nobody asks you the questions. You look forward to a dull evening. You walk with your head held high trying to get used to your bifocals. Your knees buckle and your belt won't.

For all those born before 1945

We were born before television, penicillin, polio-shots, frozen food, Xerox, plastic, contact lenses, frisbees and the pill. In our time, closets were for clothes, not for "coming out of". Bunnies were small rabbits, and rabbits were not Volkswagens. Having a meaningful relationship meant getting along well with our cousins. We were before house-husbands, computer dating, dual careers and commuter marriages.

I am seeking Korean War Veterans who would agree to complete a questionnaire concerning their service in Korea. I am working on my Masters Thesis and this is the subject that I have selected to pursue. I will appreciate any assistance in this matter.

ERIC PREST, 800 County Highway 12, Marissa, IL 62257.

I was a member of the 120th Medical Battalion during the Korean War. Recently I attended my 50th High School Reunion and met a former

classmate who was a member of the 179th Infantry Regiment in Korea. He sent me a copy of the 45th Division News and I decided that I needed to join the association. Enclosed is an application for a four year membership.

FRANK GATSCHER, 2212 Wyndam Drive, Spring Hill, FL 34606.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 51st ANNUAL REUNION

EVENT	PLACE	TIME
Thursday (19 Sept)		
Registration	Gazebo	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Hospitality Room	403	1:00-10:00 p.m.
Transportation	Rooms 427/429	As Required
Friday (20 Sept)		
Registration	Gazebo	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Hospitality Room	403	1:00-10:00 p.m.
Organization CP's	See Sign in Exhibition Gallery	4:00p.m.-6:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.-Midnight
Transportation	Rooms 427/429	As Required
Business Meeting	Appaloosa Morgan Horse	2:00-4:00 p.m.
Dinner	South Ballroom (casual)	7:00-9:00 p.m.
Country & Western Dance	North Ballroom	9:00-Midnight
Saturday (21 Sept)		
Memorial Service	Appaloosa- Morgan Horse	9:00-10:00 a.m.
Hospitality Room	Assigned Rooms	11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.-Midnight
Registration	Gazebo	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Transportation	Rooms 427/429	As Required
Ladies Breakfast		
Buffet	Polomino-Quarter Horse Rooms	10:00-12:00 Noon
Thoroughbred Racing	Remington Park Race Track	12 Noon-5:00 p.m.
Banquet	South Ballroom (Dree Informal, Coat & Tie)	7:00-9:00 p.m.
Ballroom Dance (Live Band)	North Ballroom	9:00-Midnight
Sunday 22 Sunday		
Hospitality Room	Room 403	8:00-12:00 Noon
Transportation	Room 427/429	As Required
Cash bar will be provided. State Law prohibits individual bottles in public areas.		
"Please Cooperate"		

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I served with a 4.2 Mortar unit in the 45th Infantry Division during 1952 and was severely wounded resulting in a crushed face, the loss of one eye and use of one leg. Needless to say, I am 100% disabled and receive adequate compensation.

My problem is, I do not know which unit I was in, it was either Heavy Mortar Company 179th or 279th Infantry, or what happened to me. I was evacuated in an unconscious state and was returned to the US in that condition.

If there is anyone out there who remembers me and/or the incident involving my injuries, I would appreciate hearing from you. I am not seeking additional compensation or awards, I would just like to know what happened to me.

WALTER O STACEY, PO BOX 57, SCHUYLER FALLS, NY 12985, 518/643-2822.

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I was a member of Company M, 157th Infantry during the battle around Reipertswiller, France and was hospitalized from wounds suffered during this encounter. When I returned I discovered that most of my company as well as other units in the battalion were mostly wiped out. After recovering from my wounds I returned to fight with the 157th and was there when the 3rd Battalion liberated the Concentration Camp at Dachau.

VINCENT PRESUTTI SR, 824 Oakmont Ave, Sun City Ctr, FL 33573-5139.

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I am pleased to join your association since the division I was a member of, 26th Infantry Division, Massachusetts National Guard was disbanded in 1995. My father who retired as an Army Major, was a member of the 3rd Army during World War II.

I attended the Field Artillery School at Fort Sill, OK in 1950 and met a lot of Field Artillery personnel from the 45th Division. I hope to some day be able to return to Oklahoma for a visit. I visited the Korean War Memorial during construction, but was unable to attend the official dedication.

GENE A MCNEIL, 9 Athol Street, Allston, MA 02134.

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I am grateful for your decision to allow me to join the 45th Division Association as an associate member due to my service in the 540th Main Support Battalion, 40th Infantry Division, California National Guard. Can anyone tell be about my relative Alton Ashley, who was a First Sergeant in the 157th Infantry Regiment, Colorado National Guard from 1937 to 1940? I know a lot about him, but not much about his time in the 45th Division.

Does anyone know about a book called "The Gentle Infantryman", by Boyd? I believe it is about the 45th. I like it very much and wish to correspond with Mr Boyd.

I also read the book "When the Odds were Even" by Keith Bonn. It features the 45th Division and is very good. I would be very grateful to any WW II veterans of the Vosges Mountains who can write to me about it.

THOMAS L JONES, 7186 Benares Street, Downey, CA 90241.

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Just celebrated my 76th birthday this year, was born on 29 February 1920, making me a leap year baby. I am a Life member of the Association and served as a Sergeant in Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 180th Infantry Regiment throughout World War II.

I wanted to let the Thunderbirds know that I am still hanging in there kicking and am in good health. Couldn't make the last two reunions because of deaths and illness, hopefully the good Lord will let me make the next reunion.

When I was last in Oklahoma City I felt like I was at home. You could call me an Okie from New York City. I met some of the greatest guys from all over the country who served with me in the 45th. There are several 45th veterans living on Staten Island where I live and many others died in combat. I always look forward to the mail man arriving when it is about time for the "45th Division News" to arrive.

ANGEL LAMQUIZ, 76 Chapin Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10304.

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My wife and I attended the reunion of Anzio Beachhead Veterans at Norfolk, VA this past week end and had an enjoyable time. Roughly one third of the participants were from the 45th Division, one third from the 3rd Division and one third from various other units. The spectrum of attendees was from Private to Colonel.

MG Carl F Ernst spoke at the Saturday evening banquet about the differences in training during World War II and now. General Ernst is assigned to the US Army Training and Doctrine Command at Fort Monroe, VA. He brought sufficient copies of several army publications pertaining to Anzio to permit distribution to every veteran present.

COL Van T Barfoot, a Thunderbird veteran and one of the twenty three Anzio veterans awarded a Medal of Honor was in attendance.

JAMES R BIRD, 57 Bella Road, Medford, NJ 08055-4201, 609/267-5520.

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I was an air observer for the 160th Field Artillery Bn during operations on the Anzio Beachhead. On 18 February 1943, the Piper Cub in which I was flying, was shot down by enemy aircraft. We crashed in an area which was not too far from "The Factory". Patrols from both the 45th Division and the "Jerries" were trying to get to us at the same time.

Lt Collard, the pilot, had lost his left eye and had numerous scalp lacerations. I carried him until the American patrol reached us—barely ahead of the German patrol. Hopefully, there will be some "Thunderbirds" who will recall this incident and can let me know just which regiment was able to reach us before the Jerries could capture Chuck Collard and myself.

If you have any recollections of this incident, please write to me.

FLOYD G CRAFT, 9011 E Bellevue Street, Tucson, AZ 85715.

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I am searching for anyone who knew my brother Pvt Joseph Rey who served in Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 157th Infantry Regiment during World War II. He was "Killed-in-Action" near Carano, Italy on 26 May 1944, when I was an infant. He was 19 years old and from the state of New York.

BARBARA CARLSON, Rt 1, BOX 674, Astoria, OR 97103, or e-mail: barbc@acenter.astoria.k12.or.us.

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I was a member of Company C, 157th Infantry Regiment during World War II. During the first week of April 1944 I was sitting in an evac hospital waiting to be further evacuated for treatment of a leg injury. A young soldier was sitting next to me when we were suddenly subjected to shelling by enemy artillery. He was mumbling and not talking coherently. I grabbed him and pulled him with me into a ditch. After the shelling ended, a jeep came along and the occupants took us to a hospital.

I have often wondered who the soldier was, and whether he remembered this incident as I do. What a long shot it would be if this person is still around and we could correspond concerning this subject.

PARAMAS "BOB" SIMONIAN, 94 Appleton Road, Auburn, MA 01501.

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My late father, Robert L Wrone, was a member of Company D, 180th Infantry Regiment during the Korean War. He served until late December 1952 and soon thereafter was returned to the US and honorably discharged.

I am attempting to locate and correspond with any veterans who served with my father during his tour in the Forgotten War (an aptly devised term, I dare say). A letter in my possession identifies my father's regimental commander in December 1952 as C A DeOrsa.

DAVID G WRONE, 6430 Alamo "A", Clayton, MO 63105.

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I was an Army Nurse serving during World War II and was labeled as a "Bedpan Commando" by the troops, as I served with a Mash Hospital in North Africa, Sicily, Italy, France and Germany in direct support of combat units.

I started a "round robin" with several of our nurses after the war. There are three of us still flying. I will be 76 on 25 June and the other two are 76 and 93 years old.

It seems like only yesterday that a 94th Division 2d Lieutenant I had for a patient at Fort Custer asked for a transfer to the 45th Division so that he could see me again as I had gone to North Africa.

Please say hello to Charlie Johnson and Brummett Echohawk for me.

JUNE WANDREY MANN, 5240 Mapleridge Drive, Portage, MI 49008-3535, 616/344-8371.

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Recently I received a copy of your newsletter and an application for membership from Eliot Callender of Dublin, California who is a member of your association. My membership application is enclosed.

I enlisted in the Company I, 179th Infantry 45th Infantry Division while attending Oklahoma A&M in Stillwater, OK in the late 30's and was a member of that unit when inducted into Federal Service on 16 September 1940. I transferred to Service Company just before the Division left Camp Barkeley, Texas. Shortly after the Anzio Campaign and the fall of Rome, I was hospitalized, reclassified, and returned to the United States where I continued to serve until 2 September 1945.

Am now retired from the State of California where I served as a Tax Auditor and later as a Tax Administrator. I would enjoy hearing from anyone with whom I served.

RALPH A "HAWK" GOSSETT, 2115 Lydia Court, Escalon, CA 95520.

(Editor's note: I am the person who moved into the "underground" hoochie with you after Keith "Red" Harmon rotated home from Anzio).

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My mother's first cousin Robert Downey was a member of Company F, 180th Infantry Regiment during World War II. He was killed-in-action the night of 27 July 1943 during the Sicilian campaign.

I am wanting to talk to anyone who served with Robert either stateside or overseas. I especially want to talk with anyone who was in combat with Robert. Even though you may have only a small amount of information, please call me collect or write to me.

RAY MCCLAIN, 2417 Edinburgh Street, Arlington, TX 76018, 817/465-6960.

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When I arrived in Korea in July 1953 I was assigned to Company L, 279th Infantry which was located in the Yangu Valley, North of Chonchon. When the 45th Division was rotated to the United States for return of the colors to the State of Oklahoma, I was reassigned to the 92nd Field Artillery.

My two brothers arrived in Korea and were assigned to my unit. We served together for eleven months on Hill 1005, next to OP # 5 on the DMZ. I received my discharge from the service in January 1955 in Chicago. Two other brothers served in the Marine Corps.

I never received my medals and I wonder how many other Korean veterans were treated in the same manner. I have written to the records center in St Louis, MO three times in the past 43 years. I was advised each time that my records were burned in the "great fire" and they couldn't help me. I am a Past Commander of our local American Legion Post # 593.

I would like to hear from anyone that I served with.

MARVIN D DUNN, 509 South Riverview Court, Lacon, IL 61540.

REGISTRATION FOR 51ST ANNUAL REUNION
(19-21 SEPTEMBER 1996)

COMPLETE AND MAIL TO: 45TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
2145 NE 36TH STREET, OKC, 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 APPROPRIATE AMOUNT 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 BUFFET PERSON (Saturday)		\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$.....
DINNER (Friday) PERSON		\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$.....
BANQUET (Saturday)	PERSON	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$.....
TOTAL PREPAID-----				\$.....

(ENCLOSE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER)

TOTAL DUE AT DESK-----\$.....

(Prepayment must be received no later than 10 September 1996 to qualify for prepayment rates)

TRANSPORTATION REQUEST

I will be arriving in Oklahoma City at _____ hours _____ September 1996 on _____
Airlines, Flight # _____. There will be _____ persons in my party requiring
transportation to the hotel.

RETURN FLIGHT

My return flight departs at _____ hours _____ September 1996.
I want to leave the motel at _____ hours from Room # _____ Lobby _____ or
Transportation Room # 427.

(COMPLETE APPLICABLE BLANKS)



401 SOUTH MERIDIAN AVENUE • OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73108

To assist us in processing your reservation please provide all requested information. Should you wish your reservation guaranteed for late arrival, after 4:00PM, an advance payment guarantee of the first night's room and tax is required. This advance payment guarantee may be made by check or money order, or by providing the entire number of one of the following major credit cards: AMERICAN EXPRESS, DINERS CLUB, VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER, CARTE BLANCHE, ENROUTE, JCB, OR MÖVENPICK. Do not forget to provide the card's expiration date and the signature of the card holder.

Advance payment guarantees will be refunded only if a reservation cancellation notification is received by 4:00PM on the scheduled day of arrival.

NOTE: If rooms are not available at the rate requested your reservation will be made at the nearest available rate. Check-out time is 12NOON, Check-in time is 3:00PM. All reservation requests must be received at least two weeks prior to arrival. Please allow ten working days for confirmation of your reservations.

Please notify us if you require any special accommodations or services.

CALL: 405-947-7681

800-522-6620 (OK ONLY)

(PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN LOWER HALF)

CHECK-IN TIME 3:00PM

CHECK-OUT TIME 12:00 NOON

Name of Meeting: 45TH INFANTRY DIVISION REUNION

ARRIVAL DATE: _____

Name of Group: 45TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

DEPARTURE DATE: _____

Official Dates: 9/19 - 9/21/96

Last day reservations may be
accepted at special group rate: 9/5/96

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Firm: _____

Please Indicate: ☐ Home ☐ Business

Phone #: (____) _____

Name of Credit Card
Number
Expiration Date
Signature
<input type="checkbox"/> Check or Money order enclosed
Amount \$

PLEASE CHECK TYPE OF ROOM DESIRED

SINGLE - 1 PERSON ☐ \$52.00

DOUBLE - 2 PERSONS ☐ \$52.00

TRIPLE - 3 PERSONS ☐ \$52.00

QUAD - 4 PERSONS ☐ \$52.00

PARLORS & SUITES RESERVED UPON REQUEST, SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY-PLEASE CALL THE HOTEL DIRECT. ROLLAWAY BED IN ROOM \$10.00 PER NIGHT, CRIBS-FREE, UPON AVAILABILITY. CHILDREN 16 AND UNDER ARE FREE IN SAME ROOM WITH PARENTS.

SPECIAL REQUESTS:

PLEASE LIST NAMES OF THOSE SHARING ROOM:

1. _____	Arrive _____	Depart _____
2. _____	Arrive _____	Depart _____
3. _____	Arrive _____	Depart _____



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

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 II _____ Korean War _____ Past Korean War _____

(SPECIAL NOTE: You 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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REUNION HOSPITALITY ROOMS

The following policy has been established on a "PERMANENT" basis concerning assignment of "Hospitality" rooms (CP's) during annual reunions:

Hospitality rooms listed below will be available to assigned organizations without action by their personnel, except for checking out the room upon arrival at the Radisson Inn:

ROOM # ASSIGNED ORGANIZATION(S)

403	45th Division Association, Division HQ, HQ 45th Infantry Brigade, HQ STARC
404	Troop Command, Special Troops, Engineers, Military Police, Ordnance, Medics, Quartermaster, Signal and Reconnaissance Troop/Company
615	179th Infantry Regiment
101	180th Infantry Regiment
102	279th Infantry Regiment
201	HQ 45th Division Artillery, 158 FA, 160 FA, 171 FA, 189 FA and 145 AAA

Other hospitality rooms may be rented from the hotel on a first come, first served basis. All reservations for these rooms must be made with Betty Ramsey in the Sales Department at the Radisson

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.

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.

Lonnie M. Bray President

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Wm. Rex Wilson Secretary/Editor

Louis A. Scott Associate Editor

Neal E. Dodds Treasurer

Robert L. Henthorn Accounting & Records

Eva Lou Moon Recorder

Address news contributions and other correspondence to Editor, 45th Division News, 45th Infantry Division Association, 2145 N.E. 36th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73111.

DO NOT SEND ITEMS THAT MUST BE RETURNED!

45th Infantry Division Association
2145 N.E. 36th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73111

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

LIFE MEMBERS

SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

Gonzales, Michael L.	Teal, John	Weaver, Charles J.
Phillips Thomas J.		

Ten Year

Ascolillo Joseph William	Dobush, Henry	Merriman, Earl L.
Chiri Gabriel A.	Gierhart, William R.	Stelzer, Robert L.
Coursey, Charles F.	Lonsdale Jr., Clarence H.	Werner, Charles R.

Four Year

Balzano, Carmen J.	Goeden, Wm. A.	Minicucci, Louis
Barnett Sr., Leslie	Gossett, Ralph "Hawkeye"	Paddock, James E.
Bienvenue, William J.	Gray, Bobby Charles	Potts, James R.
Broekhuizen, Adrian	Guidroz, Frank L.	Potts, Roy R.
Cacchioli, Alfred B.	Hamilton, Frank O.	Powell, Donald W.
Cassidy, Edward	Handy, Donald F.	Rogers, Davis T.
Clark, Robert D.	Hutson, James E.	Sandridge, Gary A.
Cook Sr., Donald M.	Irby, John D.	Shott, George W.
Crabtree, Crawford L.	Isom, James M.	Slusher, Jack C.
Craft, Floyd G.	Jagielski, John W.	Smith, Elvis E.
Duensing, Marvin A.	Johnson, Samuel L.	Stover, Fred D.
Duffy, Thomas E.	Jones, Bronell Buck	Terral, Thomas A.
Dunn, Marvin D.	Jones, Thomas L.	Vissa, Leo M.
Evans, Robert F.	Liberta, Carmelo R.	Wells, Millard E.
Gatscher, Frank J.	Mann, June Wandrey	Whitson, James E.
		Winter, Dale R.

TAPS

Ashley, Alvin	Krape, John G.	Roby, Bernard
Barrett, Walter Don	Larken, James	Scott, Richard Henry
Berger, William M.	Losey, Vernon L.	Sharer, Lee Dale
Burkhart Sr., Peyton H.	Martin, A. V.	Shifflett, James I.
Clark, William Henry	Mason, Edward T.	Sitarz, Mitchell J.
Cunningham, Richard A.	Matthews, David C.	Stuller, Noel
Dartez, Randolph "Frenchy"	Moore, Clifford	Ulmer, Frank P.
Dominquez, Jose Andres	Narcomey, Bill	Walker, Jack
Dougherty, John M.	Neil, Fred R.	Watson, Elizabeth
Feigler, Jack C.	Noel, Charles R.	Winstead, Joe G.
Green, Jack D.	Ormiston Sr., Lloyd R.	
Guthrie, Robert J.	Padgett, Harold L.	
Henry, Lowell L.	Pesce Peter	
Hightenbaugh, Ray	Prieto, Arthur	
Jennings, Clarence R.	Quintana, Martin	
Klopp, Elmer Henry	Rich, Charles Ray	

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