

45th Division News

January 1989

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

THUNDERBIRD LEGENDS

WILLIAM SHAFFER KEY



William S. Key was born on October 6, 1889 in Dudleyville, Alabama. He graduated from high school in Opelika, Alabama, and received an LL.B. degree from Oklahoma City University in 1951. In 1907, he enlisted in the Georgia National Guard as a Private and rose to the rank of First Lieutenant, Infantry, in 1910.

He moved to Wewoka, Oklahoma in 1911 and entered the hardware business. He enlisted in the Oklahoma National Guard in 1912; was commissioned Second Lieutenant, Infantry, First Infantry on 9 June 1912; promoted to Captain on 4 May 1915 and served as company commander until 26 June 1916. He was mustered into Federal service on 27 June 1916 and served on the Mexican Border as company commander until March, 1917. Returning to Oklahoma, he was again called into Federal service in 31 March 1917 and served in France until July, 1919. He was promoted to Major, Infantry, on 9 February 1918 and assigned to the 42nd Division staff. On 22 February 1919 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, QM, and assigned as Quartermaster, 7th Division. He served 17 months overseas and was credited with engagement in the battles of Marne Defensive, Chateau-Thierry, St. Mihiel, and Meuse-Argonne.

In July of 1920, Key was reappointed as a Captain of Field Artillery in the Oklahoma National Guard, being promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in 1921 and assigned to Headquarters, 160th Field Artillery, as Executive Officer. He was promoted to Colonel in February, 1923 and assumed command of the 160th Field Artillery. He commanded the Oklahoma City Military District in September and October, 1923 during the martial law declared by Governor Walton. On 18 August 1928 he was promoted to Brigadier General of the Line and assigned to command the 70th Field Artillery Brigade, 45th Infantry Division. He was assigned to command the 45th Infantry Division, composed of National Guard units in Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, and Oklahoma, on 2 February 1937 and was promoted to Major General on 2 April 1937.

General Key commanded the 45th Infantry Division when it was called into active Federal service on 16 September 1940 and served outstandingly as its commander until reassigned on 26 October 1942. He was Commanding General of Fort Sill, Oklahoma, from 28 November 1940 to 28 February 1941 in addition to his duties as CG of the 45th Division. The main entrance to Fort Sill is named Key Gate in honor of General Key's service as Commander of that post.

He was appointed Provost Marshal General of the European Theater of Operation and served in that capacity from 29 October 1942 to 29 May 1943, during which time he served temporarily as Commander of the Theater following the sudden death of General Andrews. In June, 1943 he was assigned as Commanding General of American forces in Iceland. He was awarded the decoration of the Knight Commander, Order of Falcon, Iceland, and the U.S. Distinguished Service Medal for his "exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service in a position of great responsibility as commanding general" of the Iceland command.

In December 1944, General Key was assigned as Commanding General of U.S. Forces in Hungary and chief U.S. Representative on the Allied Control Commission for Hungary. He served in this capacity until August 1946 when he was relieved from active duty and returned to civilian life in Oklahoma. He later served as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army in Oklahoma.

General Key's many military decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Commendation Ribbon, Order of Bath (British),

Order of Falcon (Iceland), and Distinguished Service Medal (Oklahoma).

Shortly after he migrated to Wewoka, Oklahoma in 1911, William Key met Irene Genevieve Davis and they were married 5 May 1914 in Wewoka. In 1927, the Keys moved to Oklahoma City, where he became an independent oil and gas operator. He served as director of a number of business institutions: Security National Bank (1928-29); First National Bank and Trust Company (1929-33); Lincoln Income Life Insurance Company (1938-41); Oklahoma Natural Gas Company (1948); and Oklahoma Mutual Saving and Loan (1954).

Beginning in 1924, Key was drafted at various times to serve in an official capacity. He was Warden of the Oklahoma State Penitentiary from 1924 to 1927 and again in 1935; Chairman of the State Pardon and Parole Board from 1928 to 1932; head of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in Oklahoma from 1935 to 1937 in which capacity he was instrumental in directing a building program that included more than 250 school buildings, 53 National Guard armories, and 20 libraries. In 1938 he was an unsuccessful candidate for Governor of Oklahoma.

General Key's civic activities are many and varied, including President of the Oklahoma City Rotary Club; Director of the Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce; President of Oklahoma State Safety Council; Chairman of the Oklahoma City Aviation Commission (1947-55); Chairman and member of the Salvation Army Advisory Board; trustee of Oklahoma City University, and director and president of the Oklahoma Historical Society. He was a 33rd degree Mason, member Supreme Council Scottish Rite, National Sojourners Committee of 33, Red Cross of Constantine and Shrine, and President of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma.

General and Mrs. Key had three children: William Shaffer, Jr., Irene Genevieve (Mrs. William Lee Harper), and Robert Carleton (1946 USMA graduate).

Major General William Shaffer Key died on 5 January 1959 and was buried with military honors in Oklahoma City.

BRIDGE DEDICATED TO THUNDERBIRD

A Bridge Dedication was held recently, naming a bridge located four miles north of Colgate, Oklahoma in honor of SGT. Curtis W. "Cactus Jack" Garner. Garner was a member of Company B, 180th Infantry, Atoka, Oklahoma, during World War II. He was Killed in Action in Italy shortly after the Anzio breakout.



VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

PRESENTATION OF WREATH BY 1LT JACK MONTGOMERY



A Veterans Day Ceremony was conducted at the 45th Infantry Division Museum on 11 November 1988. The Capitol Hill High School Navy ROTC Unit presented the colors. Music was provided by the Oklahoma Army National Guard 145th Army Band. Estimated attendance was 300.

REMEMBER WHEN . . . ?

by Louis A. Scott

Invariably, when two or more Thunderbird old timers get together they discuss, rehash, and "refight" the war and their days of combat. Rarely do they more than gloss over the hard, but often boring and monotonous days of training that turned the 45th Infantry Division into the "finest combat division under American arms" (Gen. Patton paraphrased) and resulted in the most outstanding combat record of any during WW II. When you think back, those days in the late 1930s and early 1940s, before and after mobilization, were interesting and exciting times—the good ol' days when the Army was undermanned, ill-equipped, and everything was in short supply. But, we persevered, doing the best we could with what we had, improvising where possible, and the results proved it was all worth it. They were fun-filled days when we worked hard, played hard, and learned to soldier. Let me tickle your nostalgia with a few trivia items and see how well you remember them.

Remember...

—the varied, often mismatched and ill-fitting uniforms we were issued in the Guard because the Army didn't have enough money to outfit everyone the same? Wool shirts that scratched; wrap leggings, canvas leggings, Artillery leggings, and laced boots; high-top shoes with the rough side out; campaign hats (you got two if you could), keeping one with the brim pressed flat under books for inspections and the other one for daily use with the brim turned up front and back so you looked like a veteran campaigner; blue denim fatigues (the only way you could tell us from prisoners was the large white P on their back); the British dishpan helmet (that you had to balance on your head); web belts made for rifle ammo when you were issued pistols?

—the variety of individual weapons? 1898 Enfield rifles (that were longer than some men were tall); 1903 Springfield; 1917 Springfield rifles; Cal. .45 thumbbuster revolvers (issued with a Cavalry holster); wooden replica rifles; Thompson cal. .45 submachine guns.

—you never missed drill because the little pay you received was all the pocket money you ever had?

—the \$21 a month we buck privates were paid after mobilization—\$19.75 after laundry was deducted?

—Cigarettes at 5 cents a pack in the PX; movies were also 5 cents, popcorn and coke a nickel each at the post theater; beer was a dime and we had beer gardens on post where you could drink hot beer with no questions asked about age?

—enlisting in the Guard and lying about your age because you wanted to soldier, but you needed the stipend more?

—the old squad drill that was very intricate and difficult to execute, but beautiful to watch being performed? The manual of arms that required precision to execute?

—Federal Inspections you didn't dare miss unless on your death bed or you would surely incur the wrath of the first sergeant?

—the pyramidal tents meant to house four men but more often with six or more? The cone-shaped Sibley stoves that you could never keep lit with the coal furnished? If you did get a fire started, the sparks going up the stovepipes were so thick the spark arresters were useless and holes were burnt in your tent.

—the honey buckets in the company street? The last men to fall in for reveille each morning got the dubious honor of carrying the buckets to the latrine and emptying them.

—falling in for reveille in the cold predawn darkness wearing just your overcoat and unlaced shoes because you wanted to catch a few minutes more of sleep and didn't have time to dress? Everyone thought they had the first sergeant fooled because he couldn't possibly see them in the dark, then he would honor your delinquency by holding the formation for an extra long time until you were bone chilled far beyond the teeth chattering stage?

—the flu epidemic at Fort Sill in 1940?

—the rain, mud, and muck of Camp Bullis during summer camp of 1939?

—the rain, mud, and muck of Louisiana during summer camp of 1940 where we heard the first rumors about mobilization and wondered if we would even get back home before it happened?

—the heat, dust, and razorback hogs of the Louisiana maneuvers in 1941?

—the winter encampments of 1939 when all we could do was try to keep from freezing?

—Wings and Picayune cigarettes in our field ration packets?

—the tasty, compact K-ration; first C-rations; the better 5-in-1 and 10-in-1 rations; the chocolate bar D-ration?

—brushing your teeth, shaving, and taking a sponge bath in one helmetful of water?

—the thrill of being promoted to a specialist rating? I was a buck private, 4th class specialist (buck 4th) and I sure appreciated the extra couple of bucks each month.

—being such a lowly buck private in the rear ranks that even the first sergeant couldn't remember your name? For a long time I thought my name had been changed to "Hey You!"

—where you were and what you were doing on Sunday, December 7, 1941?

—our move to "Pneumonia Flats" at Camp Berkeley in 1942 and short stay there before shipping out for Fort Devens?

Ah, yes, I can remember it all so well and I hope the nostalgia of those incomparable days is still strong in your memory, too. Soldiering in the good ol' days during the 30s and 40s was highly eventful and provided experiences that can never be repeated nor matched.

WHO LIBERATED DACHAU?????

The 2 November 1988 issue of *The Stars and Stripes* included an interesting article concerning the presentation of an award to the 20th Armored Division by the United States Holocaust Memorial Council for their liberation of Dachau on 29 April 1945.

Available records indicate the 20th Armored Division was initially engaged on 25 April 1945, passed thru the 42nd and 45th Divisions on 28 April 1945, advanced to Munich 29-30 April, crossed the Inn River at Wasserburg 3 May 1945, and was enroute to Salzburg when hostilities were declared ended on 7 May 1945. This totals 13 days of combat during WW II.

45TH MUSEUM HONORED

There are many places of interest in our state. Recently, when visiting the 45th Infantry Museum, I saw so many things that upon leaving, I felt choked up inside and was very humbled. Many men have fought and died in numerous wars and military engagements so that we might live in a free country.

I cannot understand the reasoning that we should keep peace at any cost. Many people have "sold out" their countries because of promises of peace which ended with their countries under a reign of communist oppression. How can this be called peace?

Take a visit to the 45th Infantry Museum. It's free of charge and is open Tuesday through Sunday. Our freedom did not come without cost. Let us not forget those who died on the battle fields so that we might live. (BETTY LUCKETT, Bethany, Oklahoma)

OVERSEAS TOURS

Franklin Jones, Co. B 179th Infantry, and his wife, Alice, have formulated plans for a 17-day tour of Italy, leaving May 21, 1989 to commemorate the 45th anniversary of the Anzio Beachhead.

The itinerary includes stops at Anzio (3 days), Naples, Capri, Sorrento, Mount Cassino, Milan, Florence, Venice, and Rome for the June 4th Liberation of Rome Parade.

For more information on the planned tour contact Franklin Jones, 3560 Gulf Harbor Ct., Bonita Springs, FL 33923. (813) 947-6128.

★ ★ ★

The 157th Infantry Association will sponsor their final battlefield tour of France and Germany during the period October 1 to 13, 1989. The tour group will leave from Williamsburg, VA after the 157th reunion 26 Sept.-1 October 1989 in that city.

The tour will follow the combat route of the 45th Infantry Division in France and Germany. Places included will be: Ste. Maxime, St. Tropez, Genoble, Moirans, Voirons, Aix-les-Bains, Epinal, Aschaffenburg, Nurnberg, Munich, Dachau. The cost is \$2,081 per person and includes all costs from POE, New York or Washington, D.C. except for a few meals.

For further information, contact Felix L. Sparks, 7000 W. 23rd Ave., Lakewood, CO 80215 (303) 233-2369 or Galaxy Tours, P.O. Box 234, Wayne, PA 19087. 1-800-523-7287 or (215) 254-6600 in PA.

LOOKING FOR BUDDIES

I would like to hear from anyone from the Pioneer Platoon, Headquarters Company 1st Battalion, 180th Infantry, World War II. Especially **Sgt. Jack McFarland**, originally from New Port, Texas. Anyone with information please contact me. **O. Wayne McAtee**, 2720 27th Avenue, Marion, IA 52302.

★ ★ ★

We are looking for personnel from Battery B, 145 AAA Bn during the period 1951-1952 in Korea for the purpose of scheduling a reunion. Please contact me at the following address. **Otis A. Padgett**, 1105 East 7th, Cushing, OK 74023 (918/225-6783).

REUNION NOTICES

Company G 180th Infantry and 180th Infantry Association on 5-7 May 1989 at McAlester, OK. Contact Raul Trevino, 7791 Woodchase Dr. Apt. 1215, San Antonio, TX 78240. (512) 681-9134.

189th Field Artillery and 645 TD BW, 21-23 April 1989, Tulsa, OK. Contact John P. Baker, 123 Country Lane, Plant City, FL 33556. (813) 754-4315.

700th Ordnance LM Co. (WWII). Biannual reunion will be held June 2-4, 1989 in Springfield, OH. Contact Frank Vawter, 4534 Fairfield Pike, Springfield, OH 45502. (513) 323-1273.

ANZIO BEACHHEAD VETERANS OF WWII. May 2-5, 1989 at Mt. Airy Lodge, Pocono Mountains, Pennsylvania. Anyone who served on the Anzio Beachhead—on land, sea, and air—from January 22 to May 25, 1944 is invited to attend. Contact Allan W. Rossel, Public Affairs Officer, 52 Valley Road, Port Washington, NY 11050. (516) 883-7121.

Company A, 120th Engineer BN (WW II) Holds Reunion

Company A, 120th Engineer (Combat) Bn (WW II) held their annual reunion 21 October 1988, at the El Patron Restaurant in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Some members had not seen each other in 40 plus years. Former Commanding Officer Hugh McCullough traveled from Dallas, Texas to attend.

A farewell brunch was held at the Marriott Hotel on Sunday 23 October 1988. The reunion was considered by everyone to be the best one we have had.

Reunion organizers were Ambrose Chavez, A.P. Moraga and E.M. Sanchez.

Reunion Report

Company G, 180th Infantry held its annual reunion in conjunction with the 180th Infantry Regiment Association reunion on May 6 to 8, 1988 at the Holiday Inn, McAlester, Oklahoma. Chairman was Jim Phipps, assisted by his wife, Helen.

The following Thunderbirds and their wives and/or guests answered the reunion roll call: Robert Alexander, Cleburn Brown, Walter Brown, Eugene Capitonoff, Ralph Dunn, Chester Fields, Max Groom, Wilber Hunt, Charles Kilgore, Floyd Mayhall, Howard Palmer, Jim Phipps, Emil Pieski, Edward Roehler, Howard Schrieber, Murray Scott, Raul Trevino, Henry Weinberger, Otis Whatley, and Leland Woods. Special guests at the reunion were Dr. Harry V. Hoechten and his wife, Charmaine. Dr. Hoechten is a former member of Company H, 179th Infantry. The Hoechtens made a special trip from Nacogdoches, Texas to attend the reunion.

Special visitors to the Company Command Post were Jack Montgomery,

Medal of Honor recipient from Co. I 180th Infantry and Mrs. Wanda Jordan, widow of Captain Henry Jordan who was also from Company I. A raffle prize of a Practice Hand Grenade, a cast steel replica of the famous WWII hand grenade, was won by Murray Scott.

Activities of the 180th Infantry Association and the City of McAlester Armed Forces Day Celebration which included a street parade, luncheons, and a dinner banquet were enjoyed by the attendees. Plenty of socializing, renewing of old friendships, reminiscing and telling of war stories, as well as a shopping tour for the ladies were enjoyable parts of the agenda. The reunion concluded with a "Reveille Breakfast" held Sunday morning with a see-you-next-year farewell.

All ex-Thunderbirds of Company G, 180th Infantry and widows of former members are invited to attend the next reunion scheduled for May 5-7, 1989. For further information contact Raul Trevino, 7791 Woodchase Drive, Apt. 1215, San Antonio, Texas 78240. (512) 681-9134.

★ ★ ★ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ★ ★ ★

We wish to thank you for your gracious hospitality during our recent visit to the annual reunion of the 45th Infantry Division Association. The transportation you provided us during our stay in Oklahoma was greatly appreciated. The drivers were very accommodating and so polite and helpful. It was our first visit, but I'm sure it won't be our last. We had a great time. Former member of Co. H, 179th Infantry Regiment. **Nicholas and Irene Charros**, 51 Newton Ave., Lynn, MA 01905.

★ ★ ★

I am renewing my membership with tears in my eyes. Not because of division and subordinate units, but because of a death notice in your July 1988 issue. The story as concerning the death of J.O. Smith brought back many memories, such as when he was selected a sergeant in Company D in the early '30s and his closeness to Dorothy and his sons, who were always on his mind. Having been a platoon leader in his company and a close friend while he commanded a battalion in the 179th Infantry left me with one terrific statement that all officers should never forget, "Be a gentleman, in spite of being an officer!" **Robert P. Brinke**, Bay Point P.O. Box 27062, Panama City Beach, FL 32407.

★ ★ ★

I joined the 45th Division 1 May 1944 and was assigned to Company A, 179th Infantry. I served briefly during the Italian campaign and participated in the invasion of Southern France.

I was wounded in action near Lyon, France in October 1944. When I was released from the hospital I was assigned to the Army Air Corps in England where I served from January 1945 until the end of the War.

I would like to hear from anyone from Co. A, 179th Infantry who served with me during that period. **Peter Gaidosh**, 7714 Chateau House, Meadville, PA 16335.

★ ★ ★

I was assigned to Company G, 179th Infantry at Camp Berkeley, TX in January 1942 from Camp Wolters, TX, where I had my basic training.

I participated in four invasions, Sicily, Salerno, Anzio and Southern France. I left the division in Germany. I believe I was the sole survivor of the original members that landed in Sicily.

Captain Howe was our Company Commander. He later was promoted to Major and was assigned as Commanding Officer 2nd Battalion, 179th Infantry. **Edward R. Bartos**, 150 E. Columbia Avenue, Atlas, PA 17851.

★ ★ ★

Enclosed is my check for \$15.00 for a four year renewal of my membership which expires in December 1988.

I have not received any mail from you in quite some time, but have learned that my mailing address has been lost. I was advised of this by a telephone call from Matthew McVey after receiving his last newsletter.

The 45th Division News has been very interesting. I keep looking for names and faces of those I served with in World War II.

I have stayed in touch with two of my WWII buddies since 1945 (Ray Russell and Francis Hylka). I would like to hear from anyone who was in 1st Platoon, Company E, 180 Infantry during World War II. **Harry Chazin**, 2842 N.W. 55th Avenue 1-B, Lauderhill, FL 33313.

★ ★ ★

I received the October issue of the 45th Division News a couple of weeks ago. I was saddened to read of the death of two of my friends, John Embry and Edward T. Pranaitis.

I enjoy reading the letters to the editor even though they are from various parts of the 45th Division. It seems they all contain some news that is dear to me.

As a member of Batteries A and B, 171 Field Artillery Bn from Pine Camp, NY to Munich, Germany I am continually watching for those members from WW II.

Hoped to get to the annual reunion this year, but was not able to make it. We have attended several and hope to make it again next year. **Clement A. Miller**, Box 57 Route 1, Hegins, PA 17938.

★ ★ ★

While reading the 45th Division News of October 1988, I was very interested in a letter from Madame Jeanne Rupp of Epinal, France. She was thanking the "News" for its efforts in helping her locate soldiers her family had entertained in their home during WW II.

Since Dave Crotty, Phil Gaudet and I, all members of Headquarters Company, 179th Infantry Regiment, had been royally treated by the Bettinger family in Epinal during October and November 1944, I wrote to Madame Rupp

asking for assistance in locating Andre' Bettinger. I received a prompt answer saying that she had located Andre' in Golbey, a nearby town.

She and her husband had visited with the Bettingers and had an enjoyable evening reliving the time of their "liberation" by the 45th Division. She also enclosed snapshots of the beautiful town including one of a square dedicated to the 45th Infantry Division. I am enclosing this picture so that other 45th Division veterans may share in the pride that I felt when I saw it. **Donald E. MacDonald**, 31 Ocean Street, Squantum, MA 02171.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Photo of sign published in April 1988 newsletter.

★ ★ ★

Enclosed is an application to renew my membership for a ten year period ending in 1988. I am 72 years old and hope I am around in 1998 to renew my membership for another ten years.

I was a member of Service Company, 179th Infantry during World War II and would appreciate hearing from any of my Army friends who remember me.

Sherman B. "Shorty" Alderson, 1308 E. Okmulgee St., Muskogee, OK 74403.

★ ★ ★

I attended my first reunion of the GREAT 45th Division this past August with my son, Kevin, and the emotional feelings and surges will remain with me for a long time. The two days that I spent with fellow comrades from the 179th Infantry Regiment were far greater than I expected. For the first time since 1953, I was able to speak with others who saw, felt, and lived the experiences of Old Baldy, Luke's Castle, Heartbreak Ridge, Bloody Ridge, and Christmas Hill. Meeting Charles Nace, a fellow member of H Company, was the highlight of the weekend, because he and I could share for the first time in decades—in fact, for the first time since we had left the Mundungni Valley area—events that thrust us, by necessity, from comparative boyhood into manhood. The tears we shed together need no explanation.

On Saturday evening, during the banquet, a Colonel (Forrest) McIntire spoke very briefly to Charles Nace and me. The colonel stated, "Men like you two sergeants made me the Colonel that I became." No higher compliment could have been addressed to two past members of the 45th Infantry Division who know that they had done their best! Colonel McIntire, if you read these words and remember the incident, send me a note; then I shall try to thank you personally. I would like to urge more of the Korean War veterans of the Association to attend next year's reunion—we need you there. **Arthur G. Carle**, 10632 Twilight Drive, St. Louis, MO 63128.

★ ★ ★

I retired two years ago and at last am finding time to look up old army buddies. I was always an infantry dogface with the highest rank of sergeant, although I actually ran a platoon for much of the time because we had seven lieutenants shot out from under us and I was a few years older than the other men. Locally, I belong to the Order of the Purple Heart, the VFW, and the DAV. Old army bonds are the strongest of all. **Louis R. Goetz**, 9235 S.W. 63rd Street, Miami, FL 33173.

★ ★ ★

SFC Curtis R. Maloy was a member of Hq 1st Bn, Infantry Regiment from 1948 to 1952. He was Message Center Chief in Korea in late 1951 and the Spring of 1952. While serving in Korea, he was awarded the Soldiers Medal while under combat conditions.

Curtis still resides in Clinton, Oklahoma, where he is the owner of Maloy Air Conditioning and Heating.

I am a retired LTC and was a member of the 81 Mortar Platoon of Co. D, 179th Infantry, but was usually attached to Co. A, 179th in Korea. Our younger brother, Lynn, is currently a member of the Oklahoma Air National Guard. **Ted L. Maloy**, 10227 Metronome, Houston, TX 77043.

★ ★ ★

I am enclosing two rather poor pictures which nevertheless show that one Thunderbird still proudly wears the patch—and on the same uniform he wore home from Korea 34 years ago.

I am a 34-year member, Life Member, Post Commander and presently Sr. Vice Commander of Barre Post 2, American Legion. One other member of Post 2, Massachusetts State Senator Robert Wetmore of Barre is a former Thunderbird of Korean vintage. Please send me another membership application for him. Is there a published history of the Division—WW II or Korea or both? If so, I would be most interested in obtaining a copy—please advise. **Charles G. Allen**, Murphy Lane, Barre, MA 01005.

★★★ THUNDERBIRD DEATHS ★★★

OKLA DALE ALLBAUGH

Del City, Oklahoma. Dale was a member of Service Company, 179th Infantry in World War II and the Korean War. He was a First Sergeant in WW II and a Chief Warrant Officer in Korea. Dale is survived by his wife Mary.

JOHN D. TRUETT

Sapulpa, Oklahoma. John was inducted in September 1940 as a Staff Sergeant and a member of Service Company, 179th Infantry. He was later awarded a direct commission and appointed a Second Lieutenant and assigned to Company C, 179th Infantry.

He was captured shortly after the Salerno invasion and remained a prisoner of war for the duration of the War. He rejoined the 45th Division after World War II and served in the Division during the Korean War.

John served as a Battalion Commander in the 279th Infantry prior to his retirement.

PHILLIP SISSELMAN

Phoenix, Arizona, died 11 September 1988 in a Phoenix hospital. Phillip arrived in Oklahoma City on Friday 26 August 1988 to attend the annual reunion. He was hospitalized with a stroke and later evacuated to a Phoenix hospital.

Phillip was a World War II member of 1st Battalion, 179th Infantry. He was wounded in action during the Anzio campaign.

THOMAS F. WYLLIE

Holly Hill, Florida, died 11 July 1988. Thomas served in the 180th Infantry during the Korean War. He later became a disabled veteran as a result of service in the Vietnam War.

His wife Mary advises that he was proud of his service in the 45th Division and wanted very much to attend an annual reunion, but was unable to do so due to ill health.

NICK STEFINSKY

Streamwood, Illinois, passed away 5 October 1988. Served in Company H, 179th Infantry during World War II. Inducted September 1942 discharged November 1945.

Nick's wife Stephanie advises that he suffered a long battle with cancer. They were married for 41 years. Other survivors include three sons, Nick Jr., Joe and Steven.

KEVIN J. TROSPER

Oklahoma City, OK, died 29 September 1988 at age 62. Kevin was a veteran of World War II. He was a member of the Oklahoma National Guard and an employee of the Military Department for 28 years.

Survivors include his wife Jane, son Kevin Jr., daughters Jane Ann and Shannon.

CLYDE OLD BEAR

Shawnee, Oklahoma, passed away 1 August 1988 at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Oklahoma City.

Clyde was a member of Company L, 179th Infantry during World War II and was also a member of the 45th Division in Korea.

Clyde's wife Florence advises that Clyde was proud of his service in the 45th Division and that he had planned to attend the 1988 annual reunion, but could not because of illness.

Florence said she and Clyde visited the museum and they both enjoyed it very much.

DEVEAUX J. MCAFEE

Oklahoma City, died in October 1988 at the age of 87. Deveau was a member of the 45th Division in World War II. He later served on active duty as a member of the Oklahoma Selective Service System.

He was a long time employee of the Oklahoma Military Department.

CHARLES LYNN CLARKE

San Marcos, Texas, died 12 September 1988 at age 70. Clarke was Commanding Officer of Company D, 179th Infantry in combat during World War II. Information on his death was furnished by General Mike Davisson, former Commanding Officer of 1st Battalion, 179th Infantry.

General Davisson stated that Charles Clarke was a man of great courage and devotion to his country. That he was a sensitive person, concerned about the less fortunate and a warm compassionate leader of the soldiers entrusted to his care. He said that he admired and respected him greatly.

EUGENE MAHANAY

Oklahoma City, died 9 November 1988 at age 68. Gene was a member of the 179th Infantry upon mobilization in 1940. He served for 1 year and was discharged prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor. He later enlisted in the US Navy and served three years from 1942 to 1945.

Gene and his wife Josie were faithful and dependable volunteers for the 45th Division Museum.

BLAINE L. KROH

Butler, Pennsylvania, died 27 July 1988 at age 69. Blaine was a member of the 45th Division during combat in World War II and a "LIFE" member of the 45th Infantry Division Association.

Blaine's wife Alberta said that he was very proud of his service in the 45th Division and they had planned to attend the next annual reunion.

HOMER CLAY KNOWLTON

San Antonio, Texas, died 1 August 1988 at Brook Army Hospital, San Antonio, Texas. Homer was inducted with the 45th Division in September 1940 as a member of the 158th Field Artillery Band.

He was later commissioned and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1967 with 29 years of Army service.

After World War II, Knowlton was assigned to Europe to form an Army Band to work with the Voice of America.

45th Infantry Division Reunion 24-26 Aug. 1989
Hilton Inn West- Oklahoma City ★ Reunion packets will be distributed with 45th Division News July 1989.

★ NEW MEMBERS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER ★

LIFE MEMBERS

Kent F. Cochran
Louis R. Goetz
Penn V. Rabb Jr.

John M. Meek
Arthur G. Shields
Roger F. Willette

1 Year

Jimmie E. Dunn
Cecil Jackson

Dale C. Andrews
Warren S. Barger
Randall Beene

4 Year

Joseph M. Cochran
Lewis A. Cronce
Richard O. Fletcher
John D. Gough
Woodrow Harmon
Don V. Hester
William L. Kueser

William Bellis
Charles F. Booze III
Robert O. Brooke Jr.
Clitis Burrow
Kelly Cawood
Harvey J. Christie
John W. Click
William J. Curran Jr.

Timothy Davis
John A. Dovyak
Howard L. Edwards
Larry D. Fletcher
Sammy J. Ford

Nathan D. Franke
Peter Gaidosh
Gaston Garcia
Michael B. Garman
Welcome "Duke" Gaskill

John C. Gibson
Jerry L. Gilbert
Mark Goforth
Ethel Hahn
Dennis R. Hartman

David Hawkins
Brett Himes
Jimmy G. Humphrey
Lloyd A. Hughes
William F. Jennings

Thomas Jesse
Wesley Jones
Leo Keenan
Charles LaCelle
Terry Lauderdale

Norman W. Lawless
Curtis R. Maloy
Richard L. Martinez
James H. Meredith
Bradley P. Merritt

John McKinley
Robert J. Moore
Robert L. Morgan
R.A. Morton
James D. Onyon

Richard Pawlas
Bernard W. Posch
Michael D. Price
James M. Ricks
Richard L. Sackett

Howard White
Garmy W. Scott
Charles E. Smith
Paul M. Stout
Ricky W. Streight

Jimmy L. Swarer
Joe D. Tate
Michael Thompson
Michael C. Thompson
Jesse C. Trillo

Ronald Tyhurst
Leo Tyrrell
John F. Valmis
Keith D. Vandeveld
David Williams

Howard J. Wills
Michael D. Wolf
Billy R. Wood
Elmer E. Ziegler

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Taps

★ Dale Allbaugh ★
★ Samuel L. Carson ★
★ Jim Chavel ★
★ Charles L. Clarke ★
★ David J. Crawford Jr. ★
★ Howard B. James ★
★ Harry Vernon Johnson ★
★ Wesley H. Jones ★
★ Homer Clay Knowlton ★
★ Joe F. Koucherik ★
★ Blaine L. Kroh ★
★ Stanley A. Laska ★
★ Heraclio Lucero ★
★ Leopoldo Lucero ★
★ Eugene Mahanay ★
★ Deveau J. McAfee ★
★ Clyde Old Bear ★
★ John Palmer ★
★ Philip Sisselman ★
★ Nick Stefinsky ★
★ William (Bill) Stewart ★
★ Kevin J. Trospier ★
★ John D. Truett ★
★ Thomas F. Wyllie ★
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

45th Division News

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

Dale E. Carney **President**
Wm. Rex Wilson **Secretary/Editor**
Herman Wilson **Publisher**
Eva Lou Moon **Volunteer Staff**
Noma Jo Strickland **Volunteer Staff**
Louis A. Scott **Volunteer Staff**

Address news contributions and other correspondence to Editor, 45th Division News, 45th Infantry Division Association, 2145 NE 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

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.
PERMIT No. 964

EXP 1991

POTTS ROBERT
5321 DAVIDSON SE
ALBANY, OR 97321