

45th Division News

July 1988

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

BANQUET SPEAKER FORMER THUNDERBIRD



MAJOR GENERAL JAMES W. WURMAN

Major General James W. Wurman will be the principal speaker at the Saturday night banquet during the annual reunion.

MG Wurman is a native Oklahoman, born in Oklahoma City. He received a BS Degree in Business Administration from Central State University and a MS Degree in Public Administration from Shippensburg State College. His military education includes completion of the Infantry Officer Basic Course, the Field Artillery Officer Advanced Course, the United States Army Command and General Staff College and the Army War College.

He served in a variety of progressive assignments preparatory to his most recent duties. These include his initial assignment as an Airman in the United States Navy, 1952-1953 and enlisted service in Company A, 179th Infantry prior to being commissioned a

Second Lieutenant in the Oklahoma National Guard in 1955. He has held a wide variety of important command and staff positions culminating in his current assignment as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, Administration and Logistics, Headquarters, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Monroe, Virginia.

Awards and decorations which General Wurman has received include the Legion of Merit (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), the Bronze Star Medal (with one Oak Leaf Cluster), the Meritorious Service Medal (with one Oak Leaf Cluster). He is also authorized to wear the Combat Badge, the Senior Parachutist Badge, The Air Crewman Badge and the Ranger Tab.

He and his wife Margaret have five children: Deborah Campbell, Cynthia Hardin, Angela Maddix, James Jr. and Mike.

EDITORS' NOTE: General Wurman submitted a "letter to the editor", which is published in this edition. His letter reflects a more personal view of his military career and his long term ties to the 45th Infantry Division.

REUNION PLANS

First VP and General Reunion Chairman Dale Carney and his committees are busy finalizing plans for the "FORTY THIRD" annual reunion 25-28 August 1988, at the Hilton Inn West, I-40 and Meridian, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

The 45th Infantry Division Association "Hospitality Room" will be open at noon Thursday 25 August. There are several unit/organization reunions scheduled in conjunction with the Division reunion. The main activities of these satellite reunions is conducted on Thursday night, therefore, there are no scheduled activities of the Division reunion until Friday.

Friday activities include registration, evening buffet, followed by a social function, bingo and rehashing war stories in the Gazebo. Organization/ Separate Unit Command Posts will be open at noon.

Saturday morning activities will include a memorial service, followed by the business meeting, ladies luncheon, museum visitation, Command Post visits, followed by the annual banquet and dance.

All necessary forms for reunion registration, hotel reservations, transportation requirements, etc., will be mailed on or about 1 July in a packet which will also contain the 1 July edition of the 45th Division News.

Information on the banquet speaker is included in a separate article in this publication.

American Airlines Offers Discount Airfare for Reunion

First Vice President Dale Carney, General Reunion Chairman for the 43rd annual reunion, 25-28 August 1988, has signed an agreement with American Airlines for "Meeting Saver Fare" discount tickets for air travel incident to reunion attendance.

The following provisions apply to this agreement:

BASIS	RULES/RESTRICTIONS
Cost/Basic agreement	40% discount off full daycoach roundtrip fare.
Valid to/from	Various points and Okla. City within the contiguous 48 states.
Booking Class of Svc	"B" based on availability
Advance purchase required	7 days prior to departure
Stopovers	Not allowed.
Valid dates of travel	24-28 August 1988
Service fee	\$30.00 when applying for refund (full or partial) once tickets are issued.
Additional discounts	5% if available from your departure City and all tariff requirements are met.

The "Meeting Saver Fare" offer is available only through the number listed below for American Airlines Meeting Services Desk.

Call toll free 1-800-433-1790 ask for Star Number **S56183**. The Meeting Services Desk is manned from 7:00 A.M. to 12:00 Midnight Central Standard time, seven days a week.

Items for Newsletter

We need your continuing support in providing information on items of mutual interest for the newsletter.

News items should be brief, one page preferred, and if typed, double spaced to preclude retyping.

You may submit photographs, but submit only copies that you do not want returned. Black and white photos are better than color for copying purposes.

REUNION DATES

25 thru 28

AUGUST

Looking for Buddies. . .

BURTON W. LAMBERT, 123 Estberg Avenue, Waukesha, WI, 53186, would like to hear from any of his former Headquarters Co, 1st Bn, 180th Infantry Buddies.

— LOST ADDRESSES —

NAME	CITY/STATE	DUES EXPIRE
Bevilacqua, Alfred	Statin Island, NY	1992
Blakey, Albert	Auburn, WA	1989
Blosch, Carol J.	Perry, OK	1988
Bresnahan, William T.	St. Augustine, FL	LIFE
Chazin, Harry	Lauderhill, FL	1988
Curry, Elmer L.	Bentonville, AR	LIFE
Haynes, Burlint	Plattsburgh, NY	1988
Johnson, Albert G.	Marlborough, CT	1992
Jones, William L.	Pauls Valley, OK	1988
Miller, David G.	Ada, OK	1988
Miller, Tomie D.	Tishomingo, OK	1988
Mills, Theodore A.	Orangeburg, SC	1988
Mosby, David B.	Muskogee, OK	LIFE
Pattison, William E.	Springfield, MO	1990
Rhynes, Harley	Bakersfield, CAL	LIFE
Trusley, James A.	Dallas, TX	1988



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.

William G. Evans	President
Wm. Rex Wilson	Secretary/Editor
Herman Wilson	Publisher
Eva Lou Moon	Volunteer Staff
Noma Jo Strickland	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!**



MUSEUM ISSUES

MONOGRAPH NUMBER NINE

"Operations Near Reipertswiller, France"

The 45th Infantry Division Museum has issued Monograph Number 9, entitled "Operations Near Reipertswiller, France, January 14-20, 1945".

The monograph author is Brigadier General Felix L. Sparks, Lakewood, CO. Sparks was the Commanding Officer of the Third Battalion, 157th Infantry Regiment at the time of this combat action and has first hand knowledge of details of the operation.

MUSEUM PASSES

IMPORTANT MILESTONES

The 45th Infantry Division Museum recently passed two significant milestones since its inception.

First— The 200,000th visitor registered at the museum on 29 August 1987, which was also the final day of the 42nd Annual Reunion of the 45th Infantry Division.

Second— The museum has been visited by at least one person from each of the fifty states, Guam and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Attendance has increased each year. The 1977 average daily attendance was 19, during 1987 the average daily attendance was 87.

Support of all Thunderbirds is appreciated.

MUSEUM MILITARY PARK GROWS

The museum currently contains a total of 67 wheeled vehicles, tracked vehicles, tanks, artillery weapons and aircraft. Forty nine pieces of equipment are located in the military park, ten are in the Supporting Forces Hall and four are placed in the Reeves Room.

Enhancement of the military park and the addition of sidewalks and grass has greatly improved the eye appeal of the museum area.

The Remington Park Race Track which is located approximately one mile north of the museum is scheduled to open 1 September 1988. Preparations for the track opening include beautification of all of the surrounding area, which will be completed by annual reunion time.

A museum visit should be placed high on your priority list.



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Certainly, 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 _____ Telephone: _____

Former or Present Thunderbird Unit. Give complete designation: _____

World War II _____ Pre-Korean War _____ Korean War _____ Post Korean War _____

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

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★LIFE MEMBERS★ SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

M.L. Blevins, Jr. Paul Reed
Floyd J. Brown Robert M. Welch
David Starr Jordan Elmore C. (Tim) Wilkins
Angel Lamiquiz Charley R. Willits

★NEW MEMBERS★ SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

10 Year

George D. Bartlett David F. Peck, Sr.
Roland E. Diehl Rankin Orville
Edward Gonzales James S. Rhodes, Jr.
Arthur M. Hansen Edgar D. (Dan) Stark II
Warren A. (Ash) Haworth Charles D. Vaughan
L.O. Huenergardt John L. Wilson

4 Year

Joseph Auito Harris P. Marsh
William J. Ball Bernard F. McElroy, Jr.
Pat H. Baxter William C. Miles
Carl E. Blue Andrew G. Nelson
Merle D. Bradley Andrew P. Pistella
Loren L. Brown Donald W. Powell
Dominic C. Caruana James E. Randel
Eugene Franklin Caudill George F. Robinson, Jr.
William E. Coleman Henry M. Smith, Jr.
James W. Demontigny C. Brad Watson
Raymond M. Griffin, Jr. Gordon Winarick
George B. Hayden James W. Wurman
Edmund N. Jarzembksi John B. Wylie
Henry A. Lemieux William R. Young

1 Year

Kenneth A. Birch Carl Lindwall
Robert D. Bryson, Jr. Kerry K. Mills
John J. Burke, Jr. David J. Morris
Robert V. Cannon R.E. Murphy
Tim F. Carter Richard W. Oldham
James P. Fagans Arthur B. Rodgers
Marvin J. Friedman Rudolph Rogers
Brian D. Godfrey Jerry M. Ross
Buford T. Griggs Charles W. Schieding
Jack B. Heft Gordon F. Slover
Harry V. Hoechten Eugene V. Smyth
James A. Jacobs Joel P. Ward
Stanley M. Jarosz Arnold B. Wass
W.W. Johnson Stephen M. Weber
Thomas E. Jones Garland D. Worrell
James Larken, Jr. Brian W. Wright
William V. Lerro

REUNIONS

157th Infantry Association, 5-11 September 1988, Denver, CO. Contact Felix L. Sparks, Secretary, 7900 W. 23rd Ave, Lakewood, CO 80215.

1st Bn, 157 Infantry (WWII), Oct. 19-22, 1988 Hershey, PA. Contact William C. Kuhn, 355 Middletown Rd, Hummelstown, PA 17936.

Company B, 179th Infantry, will meet in Pawnee, OK on Monday Aug. 29, 1988 at 10:00 AM in the Pawnee County Courthouse. One of the activities of the reunion will be to plan for a 50th Anniversary of Company B mobilization to be held in Sept. 1990 in Pawnee, OK.

Company D, 179th Infantry, 5-6 Aug. 1988, Norman, OK. Contact Ray Wall, 8508 S. Ross, Okla. City, OK 73159 or Gary Robbins, 1740 Saddlespur Dr., Florissant, MO 63033.

Company L, 179th Infantry (Korea), 26-27 Aug. 1988, Hilton Inn West, Okla. City, OK. Contact

THUNDERBIRD LEGENDS



LIEUTENANT GENERAL RAYMOND S. MCLAIN

Ray McLain moved from Kentucky to Oklahoma in 1907, the year of Oklahoma's statehood. McLain acquired only six years of formal education, but became one of the most cultured men of his time, an expert in higher mathematics, and proficient enough in French to translate military works into English.

Norma Beall Leeman and McLain were married in Topeka, Kansas in 1910. Two years later in December 1912, he joined the Oklahoma National Guard, which consisted principally of the First Oklahoma Infantry. Ellis Stephenson, a co-worker, recruited McLain for the National Guard. They later became business associates and friends for life. McLain was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in 1914.

McLain was inducted into Federal Active Duty in June 1916 for duty in the Mexican Border Campaign against Pancho Villa. He was subsequently released from Active Duty and recalled again in March 1917 for duty in World War I. He was promoted to Captain in March and was assigned as Commanding Officer, Company M, First Oklahoma Infantry. His unit and other inducted elements of the Oklahoma National Guard were absorbed into the 36th Infantry Division. After the end of World War I, He returned to Oklahoma and became a member of the Reserve Officer's Corps.

In April 1921 he rejoined the Oklahoma National Guard and was subsequently promoted to Colonel and assigned as Chief of Staff, 45th Infantry Division in December 1925.

McLain was promoted to Brigadier General commanding the 70th Field Artillery Brigade in April 1937. He served in that capacity until September 1940 when the 45th Infantry Division was inducted into Federal service.

Reorganization of the 45th Infantry Division in 1941, resulted in McLain being named Commanding General, 45th Division Artillery. He served in that assignment until called to England for assignment as Artillery Commander of the 30th Infantry Division.

The trying times after the "Operation Overload" invasion of France, resulted in the assignment of Gen. McLain as Commanding General, 90th Infantry Division. The 90th was a troubled Division needing leadership. Within 3 months the 90th became an elite Division and established an outstanding combat record during the remainder of the war. McLain's leadership role while commanding the 90th Infantry Division was the basis for a "case study" in 1963 by the Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

McLain was promoted to Lieutenant General and assigned as Commanding General, XIX Corps in October 1944 and served in that capacity until the end of World War II.

Upon return to the United States he was detailed to Oklahoma to help reorganize the 45th Division. He was subsequently assigned as Chief of Information and then as the first Comptroller of the Army. He also served on President Eisenhower's National Security Commission.

General McLain died 14 December 1954 at Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, D.C. at the age of 64. LTG Raymond S. McLain was the first National Guard Officer to be inducted into the Fort Leavenworth Hall of Fame in May 1986.

McLain's combat awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, Bronze Star and several foreign decorations.



CO E, 120th Quartermaster Regiment, Holds Reunion

Seated from left to right are Herman Whiting, Stanley Rooney, Max Allen and Paul Beeler. Standing left to right are Perry Smith, Charles Willits, George Bouse, Harold Mercer, Wilbur McMillan and Vincent Riggs.

Company E, 120th Quartermaster Regiment, 45th Infantry Division, met for a reunion in Oklahoma City, OK, May 29, 1988. Four who attended were one year enlistees at the time of mobilization in 1940. A special

guest was Mrs. Norma Jo Strickland, who's husband John, was the Commanding Officer at the time of mobilization in 1940.

Most of the men stayed with Company E, Quartermaster Regiment, which was redesignated as 700 Ordnance Company and were in all the campaigns throughout WWII.

Max D. Allen was a draftee and has been responsible for contacting many of the original Company E members.

Each time we meet, old memories of our training during the cold winter at Ft. Sill, the hot summer at Abilene and the rain, mud and mosquitoes in Louisiana become more vivid.

George E. Sykes, 811 SW 26 Pl, El Reno, OK 73036.

179th Infantry Association, Annual Reunion and Dinner at the "Old Armory", in Edmond, OK. The dinner will be at 6:30 PM Thurs., Aug. 25, 1988. Tickets will be available at the door or at the 179th Infantry CP in the Hilton Inn West.

279th Infantry Association, Oct. 14-16, 1988, Western Hills Lodge (near Wagoner, OK). Contact Lee Fry, 804 N. Main, Broken Arrow, OK 74012. (918) 251-8842.

H & S Company, 120th Engineer Bn, 16-17 July 1988, Shiner, TX. Contact Bernard A. Putksa, Rte. 1, Box 195, Shiner, TX 77984 or Woody Harris, 26 Preston Circle, Stillwater, OK 74075.

191st Tank Battalion, Oct. 4-6, 1988, Hilton Inn, Columbus, GA. Contact Merl B. Stevens, 120 S. Wall St., Van Wert, OH 45891.

45th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, WWII, 5-9 Oct. 1988, Quality Inn International, Orlando, FL. Contact Al Desrosiers, 8602 Veridian Dr., Orlando, FL 32810.

★ ★ ★ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ★ ★ ★

Recently, while going thru several boxes of papers my mother saved during WWII, I came across a couple of things that might be of interest. She saved everything, from the first letter I wrote to the last, and every article she thought was about the 45th Division.

I received my basic training at Camp Wolters, Texas and joined the 45th Division February 18, 1942 and was assigned to Company A, 179th Infantry. I served with the Division until February 18, 1944 at Anzio Beachhead. When I and several others were invited at gun point to visit Germany. I didn't care for it at all. I was there for 14 months.

I believe the 45th was one of the best Divisions if not the best. I sure hope I can get down for another reunion, the last one I made was in 1982.

LESLIE PAPENDORF, 221½ N. 5th Ave, Wausau, WI 54401

EDITORS' NOTE: Items received: Christmas Menu 1942, roster CO A, 179th Infantry December 1942 and a reprint of a newspaper article published by a New York paper after the Division made the Sicilian invasion. (All items were turned over to the museum).

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Can you assist me in locating Charles P. Stockus, originally from Chicago, Illinois? At this late date I finally sorted through some old papers dating back to Feb. 22, 1944 and it brought back some old memories.

Chuck Stockus and I were part of a squad in Company F, 157th Infantry at Anzio. I was acting Corporal in charge of a squad which included 5 new men just assigned to our company as replacements. We were supposed to keep the Germans from coming up a draw. We had 3 fox holes (2 men in each), Stockus and I were in the middle hole. During the period 16-22 Feb. we did keep them down in the draw. Chuck received shrapnel head wounds and I was wounded by machine pistol fire. We were both captured Feb. 22, 1944.

We were in various transit POW camps in Italy, eventually we were separated and transferred to Germany. I was in a work command in Bavaria for 10 months and finally liberated by a tank column on April 17, 1945.

CHARLES W. GOLDSMITH, 9010 35th St. North, Pinellas Park, FL 34666.

EDITORS' NOTE: We have no record of Charles P. Stockus.

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My father, James A. Wurman, joined the Thunderbirds in 1933, the year of my birth. The late Major General Hal Muldrow was his first Battery Commander when he joined the National Guard initially in Okla. City. He was mobilized with the 189th FA in 1940 from Tonkawa. He was a proud Second Lieutenant of Field Artillery at that time. I remember great Thunderbirds such as Dick Northrup, John Cornelius, Tom Lewis, George A. Hutchinson and many others as I passed through the period 1940-1945.

I joined the illustrious 45th Division in May of 1954 after serving in the US Navy from 1952-53. I probably would have joined the 45th earlier, but I was still in high school until the summer of 1951. I will always regret that I was born a year or two too late or I would have experienced some great times with the "Korean Thunderbirds".

After joining the Division, I immediately undertook a speed course in completing the Series 10 and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in Feb. 1955, in Company A, 1st Battalion, 179th Infantry Regiment. The Regimental Commander was Colonel Fred Snyder and Lieutenant Colonel Harold England was the Battalion Commander. What a thrill it was for this Thunderbird brat to be a member of the one and only 45th Division. While attending college at Central State University, I left school early to attend Infantry Officer Basic Course in 1955. I graduated from college in August 1956 and was recalled to active duty in November. I got to go on active duty only after begging Major General Muldrow to let me apply. I told him that I would return if I didn't make it into the Regular Army.

Well, I made it, and will complete 35 years of commissioned service in June 1991. There are two Thunderbirds who are proud of being Thunderbirds, me and my Dad. Dad passed away 7 June 1986, but he was conscious long enough after I returned from my assignment as Chief of Staff, Combined Field Army, ROK/US in the Republic of Korea to know that his Thunderbird son had been selected for Major General in our great Army.

Thanks Oklahoma National Guard for letting my father and me serve in the great 45th Infantry Division and be a little part of your history.

My best to the Thunderbirds, wherever they may be.

JAMES W. WURMAN, Major General, United States Army

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During my two years of service with 2nd Bn, Hq Co, 180th Inf Regt, I was fortunate to make many friends and I think often about the good times we had together.

In 1952 I returned home, completed my education, raised a family and after 35 years retired as Vice President and Region Manager of the First National Bank of Atlanta.

During this time I have lost contact with many of these friends. I would like to hear from friends and pals from the 45th. **JAMES W. COODY**, 1797 Tilling Way, Stone Mountain, Georgia 30087

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I was initially assigned to Company D, 179th Infantry and later reassigned to the Division Finance Section.

I retired from Union Carbide Corp., South Charleston, WV. Now doing university and college teaching on a part time basis.

Recently won second prize in a West Virginia writing contest, describing the unbelievable events that occurred when COL. Ross H. Routh's Finance Section made an assault landing in Sicily with two million dollars in cash.

KENNETH D. WILLIAMSON, 1022 Sand Hill Dr., St. Albans, WV 25177

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I was a member of the 45th Infantry Division during WWII, however, I am unable to recall my unit of assignment.

I was captured on the Anzio Beachhead Feb. 18, 1944 and was retained in Italy for 7½ months before being evacuated to Germany and placed in Stalag 17 B. During my time as a Prisoner of War, I worked in a cement factory and on various farms.

I know it might seem strange that I do not remember what unit I was in, but I have forgotten so much. I really never wanted to remember much about those awful times. Now I would like to get all the information I can, not only for myself, but for my wife and children as well.

HOWARD B. TAYLOR, Whitley, Kentucky.

EDITORS' NOTE: Howard B. Taylor was not a member of the Division at the time of the invasion of Sicily, therefore, he must have been a replacement subsequently assigned. Any information concerning Howard should be forwarded to Raul Trevino, 7791 Woodchase # 1215, San Antonio, TX 78240.

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After many years I have finally found your Association's address. I happened across it by chance a couple of weeks ago while I was reading Howard Buechner's, "Dachau". He has your association and address listed as one of his references. Picking it up from there, I am sending you a check for a 10 year membership.

I joined the 45th in May of '42 while they were stationed at Fort Devens in Massachusetts and was with them up until the day of my misfortune. I was taken prisoner in Southern France and spent a few months in Stalag III C which was over near the Polish border. After roaming around through Poland and the Ukraine, a few of us wound up back in Naples where we were shipped back to the "States" for rehab. After my discharge on points in July of '45, I spent my remaining working years in and around Hartford, CT, my hometown. Having been retired for two years now, I find the weather and economic conditions very amenable here in Florida.

I would like to contact former members of the S-2 Section of the old H & S Company of the 120 Engineers for a possible reunion or correspondence.

Thank you for keeping alive the memories of the best Division the US Army ever had.

WARREN ASHTON HAWORTH, 215 S. Tyler St, Beverly Hills, FL 32665.

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I was reading the April edition of the Thunderbird News and noticed that my membership is about to expire so please find my enclosed check for \$15.00 to cover my dues for the next four years.

I went into active service with the Illinois 44th Division in Jan. 1952, was sent to Korea in late Aug. or early Sept. of that year where I was assigned to Btry A, 160th Field Artillery 45th Division, until Sept. 1953 when I was sent back to the States to be discharged.

Over the years, I have lost track of nearly all those I served with, but would like to renew acquaintances if anyone who served with me would be interested. I believe the last commanding officer I had was a LT Sheppard who was a very fine officer to serve under. I have quite a few color slides of our various positions and of the men I served with and hope in the near future to transfer them to video tape and hopefully will recall many names.

After returning home, I married my high school sweetheart and we started farming near Cambridge, IL. We farmed there until 1982 when we rented the farm out and now I am involved in managing farm properties.

In past years, we have been to Oklahoma City several times, but somehow never have been to the 45th Museum. Hopefully, in the not too distant future, we will be able to attend a reunion.

R. KEITH EVERETT, RR2, Box 212, Cambridge, IL 61238.

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In the last 45th Division News, I read about a reunion of CO A 120 Engr, 45th Division, which I have not seen or heard of. It gave a name, A.D. Palma, New Your, NY. I wrote him that the next one I would like to attend. He wrote me back and said he was sorry that the 45th News did not mention that this was for the Korean Vets. I was in WWII, but anyway, he gave me no information on who I could contact.

In the same paper, I read about a CO A 120 Reunion that was held in Albuquerque, NM, Sept. 25, 1987 and that was organized by two men that I served with. Ambrose Charez and Alvaro Morago. I sure would like to attend the next one. I went to two of the 45th Reunions and saw no one from CO A 120 Engr. I would appreciate any help you can give me.

F. MAZURIEWICZ, 949 Hawthorne, St. Paul, MN 55106.

★★★ THUNDERBIRD DEATHS ★★★

CLARENCE L. SMITH

Newark, Delaware, died of cardio pulmonary arrest on Feb. 13, 1988, at the VA Hospital, Elsmere, DE, following a stroke. During WWII, he was a M/Sgt in the US Army 45th Division Headquarters and was stationed in Italy, France and Germany. He supervised maps work, drafting, and all technical work to do Division tactical operations. He left the service Dec. 6, 1945 because of demobilization and injuries suffered in Germany while on active duty. He was a life time member of the Disabled American Veterans. In 1985, he attended an entire summer semester at the Sorbonne in Paris, France and received a Certificat De Langue Francaise. During the last 10 years, Mr. Smith accompanied by his wife traveled to Russia, England, France, Italy, Yugoslavia and Budapest. Mr. Smith is survived by his wife Margaret R. of 45 years; a son Craig M. Smith of Elkton, Maryland and a daughter, Carol Ann S. Guerke of Dover, Delaware. There are three grandchildren. Funeral services were private and burial was in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA.

J.O. "COTTON" SMITH

Okemah, OK, died May 7 1988, while attending a Military Reunion of the 180th Infantry in McAlester, OK. He was born near Wetumka, OK, on Dec. 20, 1910. His military career of 32 years included service in WWII through the Korean conflict. During WWII he was a unit commander in the 180th Infantry and commanded 2nd Battalion, 179th Infantry. In Korea, he commanded the 180th Infantry Regiment. He retired in 1962 from the Oklahoma National Guard. Also the former owner and operator of S & S Hardware store in Okemah. Civic involvement includes a charter member of the Okemah Utility Authority, Okemah Chamber of Commerce, Elder in the Church of Christ, member of the American Legion & VFW & a life member of the 45th Infantry Division Association. Survivors include his wife, the former Natalie Dossey of the home in Okemah, 3 sons, Jerry & Mac Smith, Okemah, Larry Smith of Tulsa, one daughter, Mrs. Cheryl Foster, Hutchinson, KS, 12 Grandchildren and 12 Great Grandchildren.

JACK S. McCLANAHAN

LT COL (Ret), age 69, born June 26, 1918 in OKC; died March 14, 1988; lived in OKC area most of his life. Jack was mobilized with the 179th Infantry in September 1940 and later transferred to the Army Air Corps. He rejoined the Division after WWII and received a commission prior to the Korean war, where he served in the 179th Infantry as the OIC in a Battalion Aid Station. Jack was a "LIFE" member of the Association and a faithful Museum volunteer. He had an appropriate story to fit every occasion and his wit and humor will be missed by his many friends and fellow volunteers.

THOMAS PICKINPAUGH

Thomas E. Pickinpaugh of Salinas, KS died Monday evening, March 28, 1988 at Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital after a lengthy illness. He was 64. Mr. Pickinpaugh, a native of Alton, KS, had lived in Salinas 27 years. He retired from the US Army in 1961 with the rank of Captain, following 22 years of service. He was a member and past commander of American Legion Post No. 31, past commander of the 28th District of the American Legion. Tom was a member of the 189th Field Artillery in WWII.

KATHERINE MEYER

Wife of Col Harold A. "Ham" Meyer, passed away in her home in Sonoma, CA, Friday, March 18, 1988. A native of St. Paul, Minnesota. She had been a homemaker all of her life, and had been a resident here since 1957. She was an honorary member of Soroptimist International of Sonoma Valley, a life member of the Sonoma League for Historic Preservation. Former member of the Sonoma Valley Historical Society and a member of Trinity Episcopal Church, Sonoma. COL Meyer commanded the 179th Infantry Regiment in combat during WWII-2 May-6 October 1944. He has been a dedicated supporter of the Association and the 45th Infantry Division Museum.

ARTHUR EUGENE PETERS

Age 78, died June 2, 1988 in Edmond. He was born August 30, 1909 in Edmond, OK. Art was retired from the Armory Maintenance Service of the Oklahoma Military Department. He entered the Oklahoma National Guard in the early 1930's and was called to active duty on September 16, 1940 and was active with the 45th Infantry Division during WWII. He rejoined the 179th Infantry and again was called to active duty in 1950 in Japan and Korea. Art was one of the volunteers who helped set up the 45th Infantry Division Museum. Survivors include his wife, Sybil Tee Peters of the home; sons, Donald Eugene Peters and David Robert Peters. A photograph of Arthur laying on Hitler's bed in his Munich apartment was featured in a Life Magazine article near the conclusion of WWII. This photograph is included in the Germany Exhibition Area in the 45th Division Museum.

WILBERT W. MERCER

Bellingham, WA, died April 22, 1988 at age 74. He was born Feb. 20, 1914, in Foraker,

OK. He served in the 45th Infantry Division, Hq Co, 179th Infantry during WWII.

PAUL DEWITT ADAMS

General, USA Ret., died on 31 October 1987 at the Canterbury Towers Health center, Tampa, FL. A 1928 Graduate of West Point, General Adams served with distinction for 38 years in a variety of command and staff positions culminating as commander-in-chief, US STRIKE Command. During WWII, he commanded the 143d Infantry of the 36th Division in the Mediterranean and European theater and served as Assistant Commanding General of the 45th Division in Europe.

WILLIAM A. (BILL) DAWSON

Sapulpa, OK, died of a heart attack March 4, 1988 at age 65. He was a member of HQ Co. 179th Infantry during WWII. He was well liked and will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Sent by a good buddy and friend, Oscar L. Renfrow, Pawhuska, OK.

FRANK BURSKEY, SR.

Riverside, CA, passed away December 27, 1987. Survived by wife Mary, son Frank and two Grandchildren, Michelle and Eric Burskey. Frank was a member of the 45th Division during WWII.

IRA S. HAYES

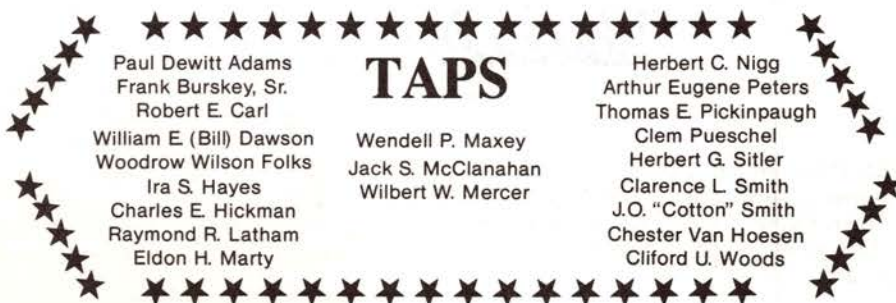
Marlow, OK, died December 28, 1987. He was a member of Service Battery, 158th FA Bn, WWII. He continued to be interested in the former members of Service Battery and had an active role in planning the annual gatherings of the unit. He was a member of the First Baptist Church, Marlow, OK, and is survived by his wife, Bonnie and one Son.

WENDELL P. MAXEY

Oklahoma City, OK, died May 15, 1988. He was a retiree of the Oklahoma Military Dept. and served as Chief Warrant Officer with the 45th Infantry Division.

CHARLES E. HICKMAN

Baltimore, Maryland, died 14 October 1978 at age 63. He was a former employee of the US Postal Service and the Social Security Administration. He operated an independent law firm from 1971 until the time of his death. Charles was a member of Company E, 180th Infantry during WWII. He and his wife Flora enjoyed a tour of Europe in 1974, where they visited many sites of 45th Infantry Division combat actions. Flora reported that Charles fought a courageous battle with cancer from 1976 until the time of his death in 1978.



OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE HONORS 45th INFANTRY DIVISION

45th INFANTRY DIVISION MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

Resolution

ENROLLED SENATE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 93

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE OKLAHOMA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION CONSIDER DESIGNATING OKLAHOMA STATE HIGHWAY 3 AS THE 45th INFANTRY DIVISION MEMORIAL HIGHWAY; AND PLACING APPROPRIATE MARKERS

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WHEREAS, many of the units of the 45th Infantry Division who served with distinction in World War II and/or the Korean Conflict lived and were stationed in cities which were located on or were served by Oklahoma State Highway 3 as it stretches from Ada to Broken Bow, including the cities of Idabel, Hugo, Antlers, McAlester, Hartshorne, Eufaula, Atoka, Durant, Tishomingo, Sulphur, Ada, Konawa, Holdenville, Wetumka, Wewoka, Allen, Roff, Pauls Valley and Shawnee; and

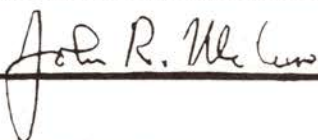
WHEREAS, All members of the 45th Infantry Division are deserving of a memorial for their service in national defense and those in the ranks of the 45th Infantry Division who made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom, democracy and the pursuit of happiness are entitled to be specially memorialized; and

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that a State Highway in Oklahoma be memorialized for the 45th Infantry Division and its members in recognition of the courage, bravery and sacrifice exhibited in many battles, including those in Italy at the landings on Sicily, near Salerno and at Anzio and the battles that followed; the landing in Southern France and combat on to Nurnberg and Munich, Germany, and combat in the Korean Conflict, including engagements on Old Baldy, the T-Bone and Heartbreak Ridge.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 41ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Oklahoma State Legislature recommends that the Oklahoma Transportation Commission give consideration to designating Oklahoma State Highway 3 from Ada to Broken Bow as the 45th Infantry Division Memorial Highway and that appropriate markers be placed on said Highway.

Correctly Enrolled

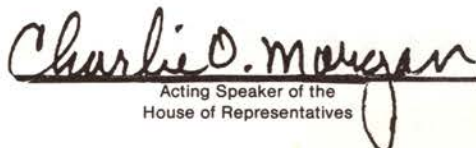


Adopted by the Senate the 18th day of April, 1988.



President of the Senate

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 20th day of April, 1988.



Acting Speaker of the House of Representatives

EDITORS' NOTE: Dedication of the 45th Infantry Division Memorial Highway is scheduled at 12:00 Noon, July 23, 1988, on the grounds of the County Courthouse in Atoka, Oklahoma. This dedication is preceded by the "Lovinggood" Bridge Dedication at 10:00 A.M. (See accompanying article for details).

45th INFANTRY DIVISION APPRECIATION DAY

ENGROSSED SENATE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 99

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING 45th INFANTRY DIVISION APPRECIATION DAY IN THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA; ENCOURAGING SCHOOLS TO HIGHLIGHT ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF 45th INFANTRY DIVISION; AND DIRECTING DISTRIBUTION.

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WHEREAS, the units of the 45th Infantry Division served with distinction in World War II and the Korean Conflict; and

WHEREAS, all members of the 45th Infantry Division are deserving of proper recognition for their service in national defense and those in ranks of the 45th Infantry Division who made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom, democracy and the pursuit of happiness are entitled to be specially remembered; and

WHEREAS, the 45th Infantry Division and its members displayed courage, bravery and sacrifice exhibited in many battles, including those in Italy at the landings on Sicily, near Salerno and at Anzio and the battles that followed, and the landing in southern France and combat onto Nurnberg and Munich, Germany, and combat in the Korean Conflict, including engagements on Old Baldy, the T-Bone and Heartbreak Ridge.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 41ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature hereby proclaims the second Tuesday of every April beginning in 1989 as 45th Infantry Division Appreciation Day in the State of Oklahoma.

THAT all schools in the State of Oklahoma are hereby encouraged to highlight the deeds of bravery, courage and sacrifice exhibited by the members of the 45th Infantry Division on this particular day.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, Major General Donald F. Ferrell, the adjutant general of the Oklahoma National Guard; Brigadier General Donnie Smith, commander of the 45th Infantry Brigade; and Major Generals Jasper N. Baker (retired), James C. Styron (retired) and Frederick A. Daugherty (retired), former commanding generals of the 45th Infantry Division; and Dr. John Folks, State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Adopted by the Senate the 27th day of April, 1988.

THUNDERBIRD HONORED BY COAL COUNTY, OKLAHOMA BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Board of County Commissioners of Coal County, Oklahoma adopted a resolution on April 4, 1988 dedicating a bridge in the Name and Memory of Private First Class CARL V. LOVINGGOOD, Lehigh, Oklahoma. Lovinggood was a World War II member of Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 180th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division who was "KILLED IN ACTION" June 11, 1944 in the vicinity of Anzio, Italy.

The "LOVINGGOOD BRIDGE" is located across Muddy Boggy Creek, two miles east of Lehigh, Coal County, Oklahoma. Dedication of the bridge is scheduled to be conducted at the bridge site at 10:00 A.M., July 23, 1988.

All THUNDERBIRDS are encouraged to attend the dedication. **EDITORS' NOTE:** Dedication of the 45th INFANTRY DIVISION MEMORIAL HIGHWAY is scheduled at 12:00 Noon, July 23, 1988, on the grounds of the County Courthouse in Atoka, Oklahoma.