

45th Division News

July, 1990

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

THUNDERBIRD LEGENDS



EDWARD G. WILKIN

Edward G. Wilkin was born in Burlington, Vermont and entered service with the U.S. Army at Longmeadow, Massachusetts. He rose to the rank of Corporal with Company C, 157th Infantry, 45th Infantry Division. Wilkin was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroism during combat in the Siegfried Line, Germany on 18 March 1945.

His citation reads: He (Wilkin) spearheaded his unit's assault of the Siegfried Line in Germany. Heavy fire from enemy riflemen and camouflaged pillboxes had pinned down his comrades when he moved forward on his own initiative to reconnoiter a route of advance. He cleared the way into an area studded with pillboxes, where he repeatedly stood up and walked into vicious enemy fire, storming one fortification after another with automatic rifle fire and grenades, killing enemy troops, taking prisoners as the enemy defense became confused, and encouraging his comrades by his heroic example. When halted by heavy barbed wire entanglements, he secured bangalore torpedoes and blasted a path toward still more pillboxes, all the time braving bursting grenades and mortar shells and direct rifle and automatic-weapons fire. He engaged in fierce fire fights, standing in the open while his adversaries fought from the protection of concrete emplacements, and on one occasion pursued enemy soldiers across an open field and through interlocking trenches, disregarding the crossfire from two pillboxes until he had penetrated the formidable line 200 yards in advance of any American element.

That night, although terribly fatigued, he refused to rest and insisted on distributing rations and supplies to his comrades. Hearing that a nearby company was suffering heavy casualties, he secured permission to guide litter bearers and assist them in evacuating the wounded. All that night he remained in the battle area on his mercy missions, and the following two days he continued to remove casualties, venturing into enemy-held territory, scorning cover and braving devastating mortar and artillery bombardments.

In three days he neutralized and captured 6 pillboxes singlehandedly, killed at least 9 Germans, wounded 13, took 13 prisoners, aided in the capture of 14 others, and saved many American lives by his fearless performance as a litter bearer. Through his superb fighting skill, dauntless courage, and gallant, inspiring actions, Cpl. Wilkin contributed in large measure to his company's success in cracking the Siegfried Line.

One month later, Corporal Edward Wilkin was killed in action while fighting deep in Germany. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor by G. O. No. 119, 17 December 1945.

Edward G. Wilkin exemplified the fighting spirit and courage in battle that typified so many other soldiers in the U.S. Army and especially the Fighting Forty-Fifth Infantry Division, Thunderbirds All, the Scourge of the Boche.

MOVING??? LET US KNOW

The association office has no capability to pre-program address changes. A change of address is required each time a member moves. The post office will not forward the 45th Division news.

COMBAT CHRONICLES OPERATION HUSKY

Operation Husky was the code word for the first Allied amphibious military assault on European soil in World War II - SICILY. The 45th Infantry Division was assigned to II Corps and the newly formed Seventh Army and spearheaded the invasion with the 1st American Division on the left and the 1st Canadian Division on its right. The 157th Infantry was on the right flank of the division, the 179th Infantry in the center, and the 180th Infantry, less one battalion in corps reserve, was on the left.

In addition to the units organic to the 45th Division totaling 15,897 troops, there was an additional 10,924 soldiers and civilians attached to the division for the D-Day assault. In addition, 2,934 attached troops came in on D+4 and 1,152 on D+8, making a total 35,148 troops attached to the 45th Division for the invasion. They included AAA units, Medical surgery teams, tank battalions, MP units, engineer regiments, a broadcasting detachment, a war correspondent, a public relations photographer, a radio team, units from the British RAF, and four American Red Cross personnel.

D-Day was 10 July 1943. The seas that had been calm throughout the voyage from the States suddenly were in turmoil that morning with high waves and were very turbulent. The possibility of postponing the invasion was discussed, but it was decided the element of surprise would be lost and more casualties would result by a delay, so the invasion went on as planned. Embarkation of the first assault troops was delayed from H-Hour of 0230 until 0425.

The initial objective of the 157th Infantry was to seize S. CROCE CAMERINA and the high ground northeast of COMISO AIRFIELD, protect the right flank of corps, and continue to RAGUSA to contact the 1st Canadian Division and maintain contact. The 179th Infantry was to land in the center of the division sector and capture SCOGLITTI and VITTORIA, capture COMISO AIRFIELD with the assistance of the 157th. The 180th Infantry RCT was to seize the high ground about 5 miles inland, capture BISCARI AIRFIELD, block the main North-South highways, maintain contact with the 179th RCT and the 1st American Division.

The 157th quickly reduced the coastal defenses. The most serious resistance met was from a series of pillboxes located on the low hills commanding the roads a few miles inland. S. CROCE CAMERINA was quickly reduced by the Cannon Company and artillery. The regiment then occupied its next objective - the high ground commanding COMISO AIRFIELD. Together with two battalions of the 179th, the 157th captured COMISO AIRFIELD after stubborn resistance from both Italian and German troops. Eighty enemy planes as well as large quantities of bombs and ammunition were captured.

After reducing and mopping-up their assigned part of the beach, the 1st Battalion, 179th continued along the beach to the Southeast and attacked and captured SCOGLITTI by flanking movement. Then the battalion turned North and encountered strong fire from enemy MG and artillery. The 3rd Battalion marched directly to VITTORIA, capturing it during the afternoon after light resistance. Together with the 157th, the 179th captured COMISO AIRFIELD on 11 July.

The 180th Infantry RCT was scattered over a front of approximately 12 miles and met even tougher and better organized resistance than the other RCTs. The troops

opposing the 180th were largely Germans from the Herman Goering Division who were well organized and well led. On 12 July the enemy started falling back and the 180th reached BISCARI where heavy opposition was encountered but overcome, leaving many enemy casualties. Troops of Herman Goering Division fought desperately, slowing the 180th advance to BISCARI AIRFIELD. The airfield was finally taken on 13 July.

The 157th RCT captured RAGUSA on 12 July and gained contact with the 1st Canadian Division. CHIARMONTE was captured; LICODIA and MONTEROSSO were occupied by the regiment. Seventh Army orders were received that limited the advance of II Corps, of which the 45th was a part, stopping them at the VIZZINI-CALTAGIRONE-PIAZZA ARMERINA Road, which was to be used by the Canadians for passage. Later, heavy resistance was met in attacking VIZZINI, but the 157th captured it on 15 July.

After having captured COMISO AIRFIELD, the 179th continued North and successfully repelled an enemy counter-attack by 30 enemy tanks. During the attack, the enemy used a battalion concentration of artillery for the first time against the 45th.

The 180th on 14 July continued to advance to the high ground running along the CALTAGIRONE-GRAMMICHELE-VIZZINI highway, capturing 6 tanks and a motor pool; the action enabled the British to enter CALTAGIRONE with little opposition.

On 15 July, Seventh Army directed that the 45th Division move across the rear of the 1st American Division and advance in the left sector of the corps. The operation was difficult since the division had been ordered to transfer quite a number of vehicles to the 82d Airborne Division and, also, all of the vehicles of the division had not yet been gathered under its control from the landing operation. The move was accomplished successfully, however, by careful planning and coordination.

On 16 July the 157th advanced on PIETRAPERZIA and on 18 July captured CALTANISSETTA and SAN CATERINA. CALTANISSETTA was a prime objective, having been a Fascist stronghold and rail center. On 20 July the 179th moved through VALLEDOLMO and assembled at CALTAVUTURO. On 20 July the 180th relieved the 157th and captured VALLEDOLMO. On 22 July the 180th captured the largest stockpile of all classes of supplies yet encountered on the island along the railroad Southeast of ROCCAPALUMBA. The 180th contacted the 3rd Division on their left in the vicinity of VICARI and on the 22nd they sent a patrol into PALERMO. The 157th captured CERDA on the north coast.

Captured German soldiers revealed they were reluctant to surrender because they had been told by their superiors that the Americans would torture and castrate them. When they found out this was not true, they talked freely. Many Poles were captured and revealed a deep hatred for the Germans.

On the North coast of Sicily, the 45th Division turned East toward TERMINI IMMERESE and CAMPOFELICE, capturing CEFALU on 23 July. The 179th encountered some of the most difficult terrain in an exhausting and time consuming march to CASTELBUONO, CASTEL di LUCIO, and on to MISTRETTA. The dry rocky hills were so steep that they were almost impassable. The 157th Infantry Regiment engaged in the toughest fighting of the Sicilian Campaign at BLOODY RIDGE near SAN STEFANO and CASTEL di TUSA. Three battalions of the division artillery placed a heavy concentration of about 1500 rounds on the position that enabled the 157th to advance to the crest. Heavy German casualties resulted from the artillery fire and infantry attack. On 27 July the 179th started a very difficult march cross-country with no sign of a road for CASTEL DI LUCIO, which they reached on 28 July. Utilizing mules obtained locally, they moved across difficult country and entered MISTRETTA on 29 July. The 180th moved through the 157th and continued the advance up the coastal road.

On 30 July the 45th Infantry Division was relieved by the 3rd Division and passed to control of Seventh Army Provisional Corps. The division went into rest and recuperation in the vicinity of TERMINI IMMERESE and CEFALU. During August 1943, the division provided rear guard protection for other units and guarded the North coastal areas of Sicily.

After the close of the Sicilian campaign, Lieutenant General George Patton, commanding the Seventh US Army, called all the officers and first three grades of NCOs of the 45th Infantry Division together in an olive grove near BAGHERIA, Sicily to talk to them. In Africa he had been highly critical of the assignment of the 45th Division to his Army for the Sicilian campaign, stating emphatically that he didn't want the division, preferring another division already in Africa, but since he had no choice, the 45th would have to prove itself in combat. The 45th Division proved without a doubt that it was by far one of the greatest combat divisions ever under American arms. General Patton, during this speech in Sicily, apologized as best he could for his remarks in Africa and was highly complimentary of the division.

In closing his speech, Patton said, "Your Division is one of the best, if not the best division in the history of American arms. I love every bone in your heads-, but, be ever alert. Do not go to sleep at the switch- or, someone's liable to slip up behind you and hit you over the head with a sock- of and that's a hell of an embarrassing way in which to die."



SO THE 45th IS IN SICILY . . .

(Reprint of an article in the Watertown Times, Watertown, New York sometime in July 1943.)

NEWS FROM OLD FRIENDS: So the 45th is in SICILY. That is the information that comes to us by way of Hanson W. Baldwin's column in the New York Times. Mr. Baldwin, being most cautious in his writing, is probably correct. He quotes a German broadcast and Berlin would have no reason for reporting this division in action if it was not so.

The 45th Division, as all will recall, was at Pine Camp for about two months. They came just as the leaves were departing from the trees in early November last fall and remained until the middle of January. They were a rugged, rollicking group. They made the 4th Armored which had preceded them, appear as docile as Dagwood Bumstead. It took us a few weeks to get used to them and frankly speaking, the town was considerably quieter after they were shifted elsewhere.

Raw November and December weather never cooled off their spirits. They cut high, wide and handsome capers on our streets. They broke up a tavern or two. They gave local police and MP's a real workout.

Yet we look back with affection upon the 45th. They were fighting men. Woe to anyone who fell in their path. Now, if it is true they are in Sicily, they will find conditions exactly to their liking. If General Eisenhower wants Catania taken, let him shove the 45th into battle. They will deliver any town, mused up perhaps, but thoroughly conquered.

THUNDERBIRD SURVIVORS MEET AFTER 45 YEARS

Forty-five years ago, Surry Shaffer encountered breathing problems during fierce combat actions on a snow covered battlefield in France. Howard Schreiber the first scout of Shaffer's platoon noticed his problem and carried him approximately one mile before he received help in carrying him to safety. Schreiber and Shaffer were members of Company G, 180th Infantry.

Shaffer said of the rescue, "Howard saved my life, I cannot believe he carried me, I did not believe it was humanly possible." Schreiber is 5'10" and Shaffer is 6'3".

Efforts were made by each man to contact the other after the war, and finally assumed that the other had died in battle due to the heavy casualties in that particular combat action.

Late last year Shaffer responded to an announcement of Company G, 180th Reunion and learned that Schreiber had indeed survived and that he lived in Dallas, Texas approximately five miles from Shaffer's residence.

They have now been reunited, visit often and plan on attending reunions together.

(Editor's note: condensed from an article in the Dallas Morning News)

EDDIE COPE APPOINTED MUSEUM BOARD CHAIRMAN

Eddie Cope was recently appointed Chairman of the Board of the 45th Division Museum replacing Edison A. Reber who resigned due to illness. Eddie previously served as Treasurer of the 45th Division Association Gift Shop and as the Museum Treasurer. He currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the 45th Division Association.

Cope served in the Army Air Corps during World War II and as a member of the 279th Infantry in Korea. He retired in 1979 from the position of Chief-of-Staff of the Oklahoma Military Department.

We welcome Eddie as Chairman of the Museum Board and pledge our continued support of museum activities.

OKLAHOMA BRIDGES NAMED IN HONOR OF TWO THUNDERBIRDS

Enrolled Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 91 passed by the State Senate 10 May 1990 and by the State House of Representatives 21 May 1990 directed the Oklahoma Department of Transportation to designate two U S Highway 69 bridges over Muddy Boggy River north of Atoka, Oklahoma in honor of two Atoka World War II Veterans; designating the southbound bridge as Dr. Robert C. Dean Memorial Bridge; designating the northbound bridge as First Sergeant James McLeroy Memorial Bridge; directing the Department of Transportation to place appropriate markers.

FIRST SERGEANT JAMES TILDEN McLEROY, an Atoka High School graduate was "Killed-in-Action" at Oliveto, Italy in 1943 while serving as First Sergeant of Company B, 180th Infantry, 45th Infantry Division.

MAJOR ROBERT C. DEAN, former Commanding Officer of Company B, 180th Infantry returned to Atoka after World War II and worked tirelessly for better health care in a distinguished osteopathic career which ended with his death in November 1972. Dr. Dean was instrumental in establishing a County Health Department and promoting rural health care through the local hospital.

Sponsors of Enrolled Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 91 were Senators Mickle, Dahl, Roberts, Stipe and Wilkerson and Representative Thomas.

(Editors Note: Robert C. Dean was a past president of the 45th Infantry Division Association.)

TULSA DEDICATES LIBERATORS MEMORIAL PARK

Several hundred people, including survivors of Nazi death camps dedicated a park in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Sunday 22 April 1990 to Oklahomans who died in World War II helping liberate people from the Nazi Holocaust.

Liberators Memorial Park was the idea of Harry Guterman, who was in two death camps. The second, Dachau near Munich, Germany, was liberated by the 45th Infantry Division.

A thunderbird, Brig. Gen. Felix Sparks, currently a Colorado resident was the principal speaker. Sparks was the Commanding Officer of Third Battalion, 157th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division the battalion that liberated Dachau.

In introducing Sparks, Guterman explained what it was like in the camps. Unless you were a witness, it is hard to understand what it means to be in a concentration camp and to be liberated. When we were liberated there was no one waiting outside the gates, no one to hug. They were all gone. Guterman said those participating in Sunday's dedication ceremony were mourning the ones who didn't survive, the more than six million Jews and the more than 5,000 Oklahoma soldiers who died in World War II.

Sparks said that several years ago he was on radio and television discussing the Holocaust. He recalled all the hate mail and phone calls he received, most denying that the Holocaust ever existed and that it was all a fraud. Tell that to the men who liberated the concentration camps, he said.

The Tulsa park will allow people to remember when the witnesses of the Holocaust are gone, Sparks said.

Harry Guterman was born in 1926 in Lotz, Poland. He spent the years (1940-1945) between ages 14 and 19 in concentration camps. He said he would never forget the tortures, the starvation, the long lines that divided in one direction to yet more agony, in the other to the gas chamber.

When the American troops arrived at Dachau, where Guterman had lived for almost five years and where he nearly died, he said, "I looked up and saw a Thunderbird" the emblem on the soldiers uniforms.

Then and now he says with wonder, "I was full of miracles." One was that the camp was liberated by the 45th Infantry Division, another, that 45 years later, Harry Guterman is able to settle a debt to the men who wore the Thunderbird.

Harry Guterman is a survivor who loves America!!!!

MUSEUM SPECIAL EXHIBIT

The 45th Division Museum's Special Exhibit Room opened with the Memorial Day ceremony conducted on the Museum grounds at 2145 N.E. 36th Street, Oklahoma City.

The Special Exhibit honors Jack C. Montgomery by displaying his four-foot by five-foot oil painting by Brummett Echohawk, Tulsa, an eminent Pawnee Indian artist. Montgomery received our nation's highest decoration for gallantry and bravery in combat, the Medal of Honor, while fighting in Italy in World War II as a member of the 45th Infantry Division, and Echohawk was wounded three times in Italy as a member of the Division. A number of awards and personal items of Montgomery's will also be on display.

The Special Exhibit also honors Harry Eisner, a distinguished sculptor from Callicoon, New York. Eisner was a combat infantryman with the 157th Infantry Regiment in World War II, and on display will be two of his sculptures that specifically relate to his combat experiences in World War II.

★ ★ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ★ ★

I just recently became aware of "our" Association. My introduction came by way of Carmen J. Balzano, 279th Infantry, Korea. Carmen lent me his copy of the April 1990 "News" and I was amazed to read "Combat Chronicles: Anzio." Being there didn't give one the chance to realize all that was happening. It is especially meaningful as we come to another Memorial Day to honor those who fell to protect our Great Land.

I am taking a life membership to keep up on all the news of the 45th Division. Also, hoping to contact comrades served with in the 645th Tank Destroyer Battalion and Reconnaissance Company.

Retired after 36 years with General Electric Company and enjoying life.

KENNETH P. THOMPSON, 282 W. 12th Street, Elmira Heights, NY 14903

"In March 1989, I started contacting members of the AG Section, Hq 45th Infantry Division who served during the Korean War. I have a list of those I have not been able to locate. During the reunion in August, I will have this list and a map of Power Rear near Yongdungpo dated August 27, 1952. I hope to be in the 45th Infantry Division Association's reception room. Stop by and help find one who is missing or identify a location on the map. I will gladly reciprocate if I can."

MAURICE R. "DICK" WAINWRIGHT, 9001 E. Rosewood St., Tucson, AZ 85710-2659; (602) 298-1581.

I was a member of the First Platoon, Company A, 180th Infantry from January 1944 until discharged in 1945. I participated in all combat actions until the push to Rome from the Anzio Beachhead where I was wounded for the third time and relieved from combat duty.

One of my most memorable events was when my platoon made a reconnaissance on Mt. Mallion overlooking the Abby at Cassino. There were three of us that made the top of the ridge and occupied two German fox holes. After a good fire fight we were forced to retreat down the mountain. One of the persons with me was later killed-in-action at Anzio.

ERNEST T. FACHAN, Star Route 1, Box 828, Navajo Dam, NM 87419.

I was assigned to Company I, 279th Infantry in Korea in 1952 for a period of four months and then reassigned to the 45th Recon Company.

Major General Ruffner, the Commanding General of the Division pulled out some ex-paratroopers for special duty with the 45th Recon and I was included in that group.

JOHN T. DUGAN, 3524 N. Cascade Avenue, #64, Colorado Springs, CO 80907.

This note is for any interested person that was a member of Company A, 179th Infantry during World War II.

I have a copy of the Morning Reports for Company A, beginning with the landing in Sicily in 1943 until we were deactivated in Camp Bowie, Texas in 1945.

If anyone needs information about members of Company A during this period, send me a request outlining the information you need.

CHARLES W. TRAWICH, P.O. Box 399, Abbeville, AL 36310.

I joined the Army February 1941 for a one year term of service. I received discharge papers on 7 December 1941 due to age and the years service. Three months later I was recalled and reassigned to my former unit, Battery B, 158 Field Artillery, 45th Division.

I disagree with the presidential candidate who made the statement that all a National Guard Division was good for was to stay home and take care of the women and kids. You can be sure he didn't get my vote, after all, the 45th had more frontline combat days than any other American division.

I remained with Battery B throughout the war in Sicily, Italy, France and Germany. At the Anzio Beachhead my unit was shelled on landing. We lost twenty eight men killed and wounded. I was wounded on the second day at Anzio and spent a month in the hospital at Naples.

I was still with the division at Munich when the war ended. The Oklahoma National Guardsmen who had been in since 1940 were all high point men and on their way home. I was a few points down the line so I was sent to the 103rd Division. I was promoted to Staff Sergeant and put in charge of a gun section. Shortly after that, in October 1945, I was on my way home.

I was in the group of the first ten boys in the State of Oklahoma to be named Junior Master Farmer in 1929. I was a farmer when I joined the Army, and farming was where my heart really was. After the war things were a little slow on the farm so I applied for and received the job of Postmaster in Fargo, a position I held for twenty five years before retiring in 1982.

I have visited the museum in Oklahoma City and I am proud to have been a member of the 45th Division and/or the 45th Division Association for almost fifty years.

I will be 82 years old on 7 December 1990. I have Parkinsons Disease so a friend of mine is typing this as the illness affects my penmanship.

LEE WAUHOE, P.O. Box 105, Fargo, OK 73840.

Enclosed is my application for a Life membership in the 45th Division Association. I served in Battery D, 145 AAA during the Korean Conflict. I left Oklahoma in 1955 and moved to the State of Washington. I have worked construction since that time, most of the projects were Hydro-electric projects, or Nuclear Power Plants.

I was Business Manager of a Carpenters Union in the State of Washington the last 15 years before I retired. Now I travel a lot with my wife in our motor home. We have been to the 45th Division Museum twice since I retired.

DELBERT LONG, 1819 West 10th Avenue, Kennewick, WA 99336.

My entire Army career (1941-1945) was served in Battery B, 160th Field Artillery. I served as a Forward Observer, although other assignments were included such as Shore Fire Control Party in Sicily and Salerno landings which included work with the British Navy who reinforced our landings.

I was wounded at Anzio near the "factory" during a severe counterattack by the Germans. I was later awarded the Distinguished Service Cross by General Mark Clark for combat actions that day.

I spent 2 years in the hospital as a result of my wound and then was retired on disability.

I graduated from the University of California at Berkley in 1939 with a degree in forestry. I worked for the Department of Forestry for 2 years before being drafted. After the war I was able to go back to the department and finish my career there. I retired in 1972.

I have attended the association reunion several times and am planning to be there this year.

DON KNOWLTON, 5544 North Bond, Fresno, CA 93710.

I read in the Knights Templar about the 45th Division Reunion. You don't know how glad I was to find out about the 45th Division Association after 38 years. I had given up and thought they had just folded up and forgotten about the men from the other states that had served so faithfully for the 45th Infantry Division.

I served in the 179th Infantry in Korea and was in charge of the Graves Registration Section. I received some first hand knowledge about WIA's and KIA's and processing their personal effects and other actions related to their disposition.

One of our Commanding Officers was Captain Joe Watson a fine officer from Oklahoma.

In September 1989 my wife and I had the privilege of returning to Korea as a guest of the Korean National Tourism Corporation. We stayed at the Sheraton Walker Hill Hotel in Seoul. We received many gifts and recognitions as a combat veteran. I was very proud to say I had served with the 45th Infantry Division. Retired ROK General Joon Yeol So presented four of us with the Korean Service Medal. We were taken by bus to the DMZ and from there to the ship yards in the vicinity of Pusan. I would like to have traveled to the Chorwon Valley and the Inge River, but it was impossible.

I am applying for a Life membership and I hope to visit Oklahoma before it is all over.

RONALD W. BALL, 90 Sletzer Drive, Zanesville, OH 43701.

Enclosed is my application for membership in the Association. I have two reasons for joining. Although my unit, the Second Battalion, 189th Field Artillery, was "triangularized" out of the division in 1941, I am proud to have been a member prior to that time.

My second reason is that I believe, in view of the present demand for a "peace dividend," people with our experience have an obligation to help prevent a disarmament that reduces our services to the same level existing at the time we were mobilized in September 1940. I think all of us that were members on September 16, 1940 remember the lack of equipment and World War I uniforms which were the only uniforms available for some of the new members that we recruited. We also remember the broomsticks that served as anti-tank weapons on Louisiana maneuvers. Fortunately, there was time to rearm. We will not have this luxury in the future.

I trust that the Association is active in lobbying to prevent disintegration of our armed services, such as occurred after World War II. I especially hope the reduction will not affect units like the 45th, whose importance will increase as the regular services are reduced.

KENNETH RENBERG, 3500 First National Tower, Tulsa, OK 74103.

I enlisted in Battery A, 189th Field Artillery in July 1939 at the 23rd Street Armory in Oklahoma City. The Battery Commander was Wesley Jones, now deceased, and my Sergeant was Raymond McLain, Jr.

I served throughout World War II and was discharged after serving 5 years, 11 months and 21 days. During that period of time I was wounded-in-action near Cassino, Italy and awarded the Purple Heart Medal. Later I was captured by the German Army and was a POW in Stalag 7A in Mooseburg, Germany.

RICHARD MEDINA, 901 S.E. 67th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73149.

I joined the Division as a replacement officer on February 22, 1944, on the Anzio Beachhead and reported to Captain Homer Ness, Company Commander of Company F, 179th Infantry the next day. I was assigned as platoon leader of the 2nd Platoon and continued in that assignment until I was seriously wounded 29 May 1944 at Campoleone Station, while attacking toward Rome. I was hospitalized in Naples for four months, temporarily reclassified because of my wound, and assigned to an Engineer unit, ending my service with the 45th Division.

Although my connection with the Division lasted just 96 days, I have always felt that what I did during that period was the most important accomplishment of my life. I have been a heart and soul Thunderbird ever since.

I would like to hear from anyone who was in my platoon during my assignment to the 45th Division.

ARNOLD W. HIRSCH, Box 342, Donora, PA 15033, 412/379-5200.

Thanks to a VFW Reunion Notice I contacted Raul Trevino and he replied immediately to my letter with a membership application. I have also contacted two other former members of the 45th Reconnaissance Company, Ray Asbury, Louisville, KY and Bob Bickley, Stoughton, WI. Bickley is to contact Henry Sterling of Cushing, OK. I have urged Ray and Bob to send in their membership applications and plan on meeting me and my wife in Oklahoma City in August as we plan to attend the 45th Annual Reunion.

Ray was my Assistant Scout Section Leader and Bob was the Assistant Rifle Section Leader under Henry Sterling. We have discussed the four of us meeting and renewing old comradeships from those days at Camp Polk, Chitose and Korea. The reunion in August will be perfect for that meeting.

Hopefully we will meet you in Oklahoma City along with a few other ol' Thunderbirds.

CLIFF RUPNOW, 39618 Edgemont Drive, Sterling Heights, MI 48310, 313/264-2856.

I joined Headquarters and Service Company 120th Engineer Battalion in September 1953 and remained with the unit until the 45th Division was deactivated and the colors returned to Oklahoma. I was assigned to the Bridge Platoon, but we spent most of our time hauling supplies for the Division Engineer Supply Officer to units in the Yangu area.

I was not involved in any combat, but I am still proud to be a Thunderbird.

I will be visiting the museum in the near future and hope to visit with some Thunderbirds while I am there.

ANGUS J. PAULEY, 100 15th Street, C-101, Bay City, MI 48708.

I am proud to join the 45th Infantry Division Association. I was assigned to the 120th Engineer Battalion in November 1950 at Camp Polk, Louisiana. I remained with my unit, Company A, in Japan and later in Korea.

My commander was Captain Sam Magoffin. I would like to hear from anyone who knew me, especially Bill Caddion, Sgt. William Sutherland and Bill Cannon.

I am planning a trip to Japan in September of this year.

LEON SILVER, 100-18 Erdman Place, Apt. 18C, Bronx, NY 10475.

I would like very much to hear from any former members of Battery B, 171 Field Artillery, with whom I served during the Korean War. Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of the 45th again.

JERRY T. McELROY, 6850 Alamo Downs Parkway, San Antonio, TX 78238.

Enclosed is my application for a lifetime membership. I am a native of Claremore, Oklahoma and served as Division Artillery Communications Officer with the 9th Infantry Division in North Africa, Sicily and Europe, during World War II.

I joined the 45th Infantry Division in 1948 as Assistant Division Signal Officer. After mobilization with the Division in 1950 I served in that position at Camp Polk, Hokkaido and Korea, where I was promoted to Division Signal Officer. I remained on Active Duty and retired from the Army in 1961 after service at the Army War College and the Pentagon.

My wife Helen and I have lived in Poway, San Diego County, California for sixteen years, where I re-retired after 25 years in legal and executive positions in the computer industry.

ELBERT C. "BERT" WALLER, 12944 Camino Del Valle, Poway, CA 92064.

45th INFANTRY DIVISION APPRECIATION DAY

The second annual "45th Infantry Division Appreciation Day" ceremony was conducted Tuesday 10 April 1990 in the Senate Chamber of the State Capitol Building.

Concurrent Resolution Number 99, approved 27 April 1988 proclaimed the second Tuesday in April of each year beginning in 1989 as "45th Infantry Division Appreciation Day" in the State of Oklahoma.

The 1990 "Honored Guest" was Ernest Childers, recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor for combat actions while a member of the 45th Division during World War II.

An oil portrait of Ernest Childers was unveiled during the ceremony. The portrait was painted by Brummett Echohawk, an eminent

Oklahoma Artist and "Thunderbird" veteran of World War II. Brummett was wounded in action on three occasions while a member of Company B, 179th Infantry. Echohawk made a brief inspiring speech relating to combat actions of himself and Childers.

The portrait will remain on display in the Senate Lounge on the 4th floor of the State Capitol Building for one year and will then be permanently displayed in the 45th Infantry Division Museum.

MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE CONDUCTED AT 45th DIVISION MUSEUM

Memorial Day was observed at 10:00 AM, Monday 28 May 1990 with a ceremony held outside the 45th Infantry Division Museum at 2145 N.E. 36th Street, Oklahoma City, OK. Master of Ceremonies was Gary Lower.

The principal speaker was Fred P. Snyder, World War II and Korean veteran of the 45th Infantry Division. He was a member of the 179th Infantry during World War II and served as Division G-3 in Korea.

Music was furnished by the 145th Army Band. A wreath in memory of those who gave their lives for their country was presented by two Congressional Medal of Honor recipients, Ernest Childers and Jack Montgomery who earned their medals while serving with the 45th Infantry Division in World War II.

Museum Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Senator John Dahl, Don Livesay, Mary Lou Malloy, Samuel E. Myers and Stanley F. Newman.

An Oklahoma Army National Guard UH-60 Blackhawk was on display at the museum site and available for inspection before and after the Memorial Day ceremonies.

A "massing of the colors" ceremony, sponsored by the Oklahoma City chapter of the Military Order of World Wars was conducted as a part of the observance.

Tours of the 45th Infantry Division Museum and serving of refreshments followed the ceremony.

CHAPLAIN CHARLES H. D. BROWN RETIRES

Information has been received from Lieutenant General LaVern E. Weber that he recently attended a retirement ceremony for Colonel Charles H. D. Brown conducted at Saint Elizabeth's Episcopal Church in Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Charles Brown was, is and has been a great friend to many Thunderbirds. He always had time to listen and render the appropriate therapy, verbal or spiritual.

Chaplain Brown served a total of 42 years, June 1948 to March 1990 in a variety of assignments and a mixture of active duty with the Army and Air Force, the Army National Guard, United States Army Reserve, Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserve.

His initial assignment was with Company K, 180th Infantry, 45th Infantry Division.

He was inducted in August 1950 with Medical Company 180th Infantry and served from August 1950 to July 1952 during the Korean War as a Platoon Sergeant in that unit.

Chaplain Brown was assigned as Staff Chaplain, 77th Army Reserve Command at the time of his retirement.

VETERANS WILL RETURN TO KOREA TO MARK 40th ANNIVERSARY

Veterans of battlegrounds from Pusan to the Yalu plan to return to Korea September 30 to October 6, 1990 to mark the 40th anniversary of that three-year conflict and their numbers will include commanders and grunts of that virtually forgotten war.

The returning veterans will be accompanied by General Raymond G. Davis, USMC (Ret.) (and Mrs. Davis) now of Stockbridge, GA, recipient of the Medal of Honor for his role in leading elements of the 7th Marines of the 1st Marine Division out of the Chinese encirclement at Chosin. Veterans will visit the historic Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) and will be guided into the tunnel labyrinths dug into the South by North Koreans since the 1950-1953 war.

"Although returning to the old battlefields is not unusual," said General Davis, now (Presidential appointment) cochairman with General Richard G. Stillwell, USA (Ret.) of the Korea War Veterans Memorial (slated for 1991), "these veterans of Korea are returning to a warm, friendly and prosperous land that they helped to make possible. The Koreans have done magnificent things there, and it is where the veterans are loved and admired. They are greeted like returning princes."

The "Return to Korea" is being arranged by Colonel Warren H. Wiedhahn, USMC (Ret.), a mortar squad PFC at Pusan and on the Inchon landing and who also took part with the 5th Marines in the breakthrough at the Chosin Reservoir.

"It's back where we lost our youth," said Colonel Wiedhahn. "Those hills, valleys and rice paddies seen again will rekindle a kind of reverence in us aging warriors."

Plans are set for a reunion with U.S. and ROK (Republic of Korea) veterans at the war memorial at Inchon. Two days are slated for Hawaii on the way home.

Tour members can extend their trip to Australia, Japan, Hong Kong

and points in the Orient. The tour is open to veterans of all services, their friends and families. For information, contact Colonel Wiedhahn at 1-800-222-8668 or 144 Maple Avenue East, Vienna, VA 22180, Ideal Travel, which is handling details and arrangements.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Published for information only. The 45th Infantry Division Association is not sponsoring this trip)

SEEKING INFORMATION

I am seeking information from anyone who knew my brother James M. Mizell, Company L, 179th Infantry, who was "Killed-in-Action" near Nancy, France on 6 October 1944. BILL MIZELL, 2042 Farmsville, San Antonio, TX 78245.

I am trying to locate anyone who knew my Father-in-Law, Burt Ederley, a member of the 179th Infantry during World War II. Burt's platoon occupied the building where Hitler's apartment was located in Munich at the end of the War. He obtained a Nazi photo album that depicts the German Army of Occupation of the Sudetenland of Czechoslovakia in 1938. I am hoping to find someone close to Burt who might know the circumstances surrounding this photo album. DR. KENNETH B. ALLEY, 216 East 7th Street, York, NE 68467.

I would like to hear from anyone in the 45th Division who might have known my brother, James E. Hahn, unit unknown, who was "Killed-in-Action" near the German border. CHARLES HAHN, 1905 Karen Drive, Nashville, TN 37217. Telephone 615/366-4325

I would like to contact anyone who knew my uncle Edward Willens, Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 179th Infantry who was "Killed-in-Action" 5 January 1945 near Strasbourg, France. I would particularly like to hear from Glen Telander, Company F, 179th Infantry who contacted Sidney Willens (now deceased) shortly after the conclusion of World War II to explain the circumstances of Edward's death. EDWARD J. WILLENS, 18 Jackson Terrace, Newton, MA 02158. Telephone 617/964-0237.

REUNION NOTICES

HAWAII VETERANS. Veterans who served with the 45th Infantry Division in Korea from December 1951 to July 1953 are planning a reunion for 27-28 July 1990 in Honolulu, Hawaii. Interested Hawaiian Thunderbirds are asked to contact Louis Baldovi, 46-150 Nona Loop, Kaneohe, Hawaii, 96744 or call 808/247-0747.

189 FIELD ARTILLERY BN (KOREA). 23-25 August 1990, at the Hilton Inn West, Oklahoma City (in conjunction with the National Reunion of the 45th Division). For further information contact Robert Faken, 1613 Richway Drive, Ponca City, OK 74601.

COMPANY B, 179TH INFANTRY. Will hold a reunion 22 August 1990 at Pawnee Bill's State Park in Pawnee, Oklahoma. We will have a Command Post at the National Reunion 23-25 August in Oklahoma City. For further information contact Charles "Hook" Johnson, 3501 East 30th Street, Tulsa, OK 74114. 918/747-6804.

H&S COMPANY, 120TH ENGINEER BN (KOREA). Tenth Biennial Reunion, 23-26 August 1990 in Oklahoma City. Contact Woody Harris, 26 Preston Circle, Stillwater, OK 74075. Telephone 405/372-4098.

279TH INFANTRY. A reunion for all former and present members of the 279th Infantry will be held 19-21 October 1990 at the Western Hill Guest Ranch, East of Wagoner, Oklahoma. Contact Reunion Chairman Lee Fry, 804 N. Main, Broken Arrow, OK 74012. Telephone 918/251-8842.

45TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION. 23-25 August 1990. Hilton Inn West, I-40 and Meridian, Oklahoma City, OK.

REUNION REPORTS

Company G, 180th Infantry held its annual reunion in the Holiday Inn at McAlester, OK, May 4-6, 1990, in conjunction with the 180th Infantry Association reunion.

The reunion was hosted by Jim Phipps and his wife, Helen. The reunion was a great success with 25 members attending. Counting wives and guests there were 44 persons attending the Company gathering.

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. In addition, there was 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 reunion.

By a unanimous vote, the members elected Jim Phipps to be the permanent President of Company G and Helen Phipps, the Secretary/Treasurer. Elected positions are for life terms. After accepting the nomination, President Phipps nominated Raul Trevino as the Company Recruiting Sergeant. In addition to his new duties, Trevino is the Public Relations Officer for the Company.

For information on this organization and its reunion, contact Jim Phipps, P.O. Box 347, Clarcona, FL 32710.

AMERICAN AIRLINES DISCOUNT AIRFARE

An Agreement has been signed with American Airlines for "MEETING SAVER FARE" discount tickets for air travel incident to attendance at the 45th Annual Reunion of the 45th Infantry Division Association 23-25 August 1990.

The following provisions apply to this agreement:

BASIS	RULES/RESTRICTIONS
Cost/Basic Agreement	40% Discount Off Full Daycoach Roundtrip Fare.
Valid to/from	Oklahoma City from Various Points in the Contiguous 48 States, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.
Booking Class of Service	"M" Based on Availability
Advance purchase	7 Days Prior to Departure required
Stopovers	Not Allowed
Valid Dates of Travel	21-27 August 1990
Service Fee	\$30.00 when applying for a 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 S0280QY
The Meeting Services Desk is manned from 7:00 am to 12:00 Midnight Central Standard Time, seven days a week.

THIRD PARK NAMED IN HONOR OF THUNDERBIRDS

Martha L. Yates, City Manager of Atoka, Oklahoma has announced the renaming of Penny Park as 45th Division Memorial Park. This action was taken at the regular Atoka City Council meeting held 16 April 1990. Bob Cates a former thunderbird was instrumental in accomplishing this action.

This is the third Southeastern Oklahoma Park named or renamed in honor of the 45th Infantry Division. Other parks are located in Coalgate and McAlester, Oklahoma.

WEBER SPEAKER AT COALGATE CEREMONY

LTG LaVern E. Weber, former Adjutant General of Oklahoma, former Chief of the National Guard Bureau, Washington, D.C. and currently Executive Director of the National Guard Association of the United States, Washington, D.C., was the Special Guest Speaker at a ceremony conducted in Coalgate, Oklahoma, Saturday 4 May 1990. Weber was a member of the U.S. Marines in World War II and a member of the 180th Infantry during the Korean War.

The ceremony was conducted preceeding an Armed Forces Day Parade and dedication of a Mural in Downtown Coalgate. The 180th Infantry Association was conducting their Annual Reunion in McAlester, OK on that weekend, and several members were in attendance at the ceremony and parade.

Weber stated that the best way for America to honor the veterans was to remain vigilant. He reminded those present that this year was the 50th anniversary of the mobilization of the 45th Division prior to World War II; The 45th Anniversary of Victory in Europe and the 40th Anniversary of the mobilization of the 45th Division for Korea.

He included some remarks about the scope and quality of the 45th Division Museum and the many individuals who worked diligently to put it together, and concluded that the museum was one of the finest in the nation.

★ ★ ★ THUNDERBIRD DEATHS ★ ★ ★

FRANK L. ADAMS, Wichita, KS, deceased 1 April 1990. Adams served in Company L, 180th Infantry from January 1940 to May 1945. His original enlistment was in Marlow, OK.

Awards and decorations included the Legion of Merit and the Combat Infantry Badge.

After release from Active Duty, Frank was involved with Dairy Cattle and farming, prior to moving to Marlow, OK where he was employed as a driver for Cooper Farms.

He and his wife, Elizabeth later moved to Wichita, KS to be near his children and grandchildren. He is survived by his wife, 3 sons, 4 daughters and 7 grandchildren.

CARL W. CRICKENBERGER, Rockport, TX deceased December 25, 1989 at Corpus Christi, TX. Carl was born in Dustin, OK 13 August 1920.

He enlisted in the Regular Army in June 1940 and was later assigned to the 180th Infantry as a Staff Sergeant. He served with the 45th Division throughout World War II. Carl received a battlefield commission and was subsequently promoted to First Lieutenant.

Crickenberger served in eight campaigns, a total of 511 combat days and participated in four amphibious assault landings.

Awards and decorations included, two Silver Stars, two Bronze Stars, four Purple Hearts, Combat Infantry Badge and he was recommended for the Distinguished Service Cross.

Survivors include his wife Frankie Lee, one son, three daughters, nine grandchildren and one great grandchild.

WILLIAM D. DUGAN, Hamburg, NY. Died Sunday 25 April 1990 in his Hamburg home after a brief illness. He was 76 years old.

He was a life member of the 45th Division Association and a member of 120 Medical Battalion during World War II. Awards received include a Purple Heart for combat wounds.

Dugan was an Orthopedic Surgeon and practiced medicine at Buffalo General, Mercy and Children's hospitals in Buffalo, and Lady of Victory Hospital in Lackawanna from 1949 to 1978.

Survivors include, two daughters, three sons, twelve grandchildren and one great grandchild.

RAYMOND A. EMDE, Stillwater, OK, died 19 February 1990. Ray was a member of the 120th Engineer Battalion in Korea.

He began his military career 30 May 1945 at the Induction Center in Oklahoma City. He served in the Army of Occupation in Germany from November 1945 to September 1946 and was discharged in October 1946 due to Post War Demobilization.

His service in the 45th began in August 1950 and continued until December 1960, during which time he attained the rank of Warrant Officer. After a fourteen year break he rejoined the Oklahoma National Guard in July 1974. He was employed as a Military Technician with First Battalion 179th Infantry until his retirement in February 1989.

CLEM V. GRIFFIN, Park Hill, OK, deceased 17 February 1990. He was a member of the 45th Infantry Division during World War II and the Korean War. Clem served in the 180th Infantry Regiment in World War II and the 279th Infantry Regiment during the Korean War.

He was the President of the 279th Infantry Association at the time of his death, and was a member of many civic, military and educational organizations. Clem was an educator and served as a teacher and administrator in several schools in Easter Oklahoma including Shidler and Tahlequah. He was elected to the Alumni Hall of Fame of Chilloco, OK High School where he graduated in 1938.

Survivors include his wife Joyce, three sons, two step-sons, one step-daughter and seven grandchildren.

JAMES F. HINSON, Chickasha, OK. Deceased 21 March 1990. James was a member of the 158 Field Artillery Battalion in Korea.

He was an employee of Bond and Rainbo Bread Companies for a total of 30 years prior to his retirement in 1982.

He was a member of New Life Christian Church and a founding member of Parkview Christian Church.

Survivors include his wife Elsie, three sons and three grandchildren.

CHARLES W. HOWARD, Greenwood, IN, deceased 7 March 1990. Charles was a World War II member of the 179th Infantry.

He was an employee of Diners Club International prior to his retirement in 1983.

Survivors include his wife, Roxie, two sons and five grandchildren. Roxie advised that Charles passed away while they were on a Cruise between Mexico and Key West, Florida.

ELMER E. KIRKPATRICK, Jacksonville, FL, deceased March at age 84. Kirkpatrick was a member of the 189th Field Artillery, 45th Infantry Division from 1923 until 1925 at which time he entered the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY. He graduated from West Point in 1929 and retired from the Army in 1958.

He was an Engineer Officer and was involved in constructing the Manhattan Project which developed the atomic bomb. He was also the Chief Inspector of Construction of the facility on Tinian Island from which the B-29 airplanes took off to drop atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. After retirement from the Army he was professor of building construction in the Architecture School at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

Elmer was the brother of Admiral John E. Kirkpatrick who was also a former member of the 189th Field Artillery and is a supporter of the 45th Infantry Division Museum.

WILBUR R. McMILLAN, Midwest City, OK, deceased 3 May 1990 in San Antonio, TX at age 72. He mobilized in 1940 with Company E, 120th Quartermaster Regiment, 45th Infantry Division and later was assigned to elements of that organization that served in the China, India, Burma Theatre of Operations.

He is survived by his wife, Marie, two daughters, one son, eight grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

DENNIS W. MITCHELL, Joplin, MO, died 19 March 1990. Dennis was a member of the 179th Infantry during World War II. After the war he remained in the USAR and retired with the rank of Major.

Dennis was a member of the Board of Directors of the 45th Infantry Division Association and was planning to attend the board meeting scheduled for the day of his death. He called the president, Frank McGilbra on Sunday 18 March and indicated that he wasn't feeling well and would not be able to attend the board meeting.

Helen Mitchell his wife, stated that Dennis was proud of his military service and was particularly honored to be on the board. She said they would have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this year and that she missed him terribly, but it was comforting to know that he had lived his life to the fullest and was prepared to meet his maker.

TERRANCE S. "HUCK" RICE, Kingfisher, OK, died 30 April 1990 at Kingfisher Regional Hospital.

Huck was a Lieutenant Commander in the Navy in World War II and served in the South Pacific. After World War II he joined the 45th Infantry division and served during the Korean War as Commanding Officer of Company M, 179th Infantry. He moved to Mineral Wells, Texas in 1958 and was employed with Southern Airways as a primary helicopter instructor. He retired from military service in 1974.

Award and decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Combat Infantry Badge.

Survivors include his wife Gladys, three sons and one daughter.

NEW MEMBERS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

FOUR YEAR MEMBERSHIPS

Forest Ray Ashbury
Joel Balsam
Harold R. Barbagelata
Milton Becket
George F. Bewley
Ken Burke
Boyed H. Burnley
Darreld Calkins
Fred Cavanaugh
Melvin D. Chapman
Nicholas A. Ciarlante
William T. Craig
Robert Depue
Luke Dixon
Harry Eisner
Edward P. English
Arnold V. Fort
Henry A. Freeman
William E. Freiburger
Kenneth R. Garrett
Harry B. Hueston
Alfred Kramer
Hector H. Landry
Irvin D. Luisier

Randall A. MacDonald
Charles J. Maine
Jerry T. McElroy
Richard Medina
Albert J. Melisko
Roy E. Micha
Richard E. Morgan
Thomas J. Nagele
Albert F. Norman
John B. Reeves
Cliff Rupnow
Frederick A. Schramm
Merrill L. Shearer
Clyde L. Shelton
Robert D. Sheppard, Jr.
Leon L. Silver
Link Smith
Joe E. Steverson
Warren K. Thurston
Arnold C. Usitalo
Darrell W. Vonnahme
Paul E. Walker
Edward Willins

TEN YEAR MEMBERSHIPS

Arnold F. Decker
Adrian F. Dinges, Sr.
Ernest T. Fachan
John Fuentes
Page H. Gearhart
Arthur r. Kohlberger
Daniel E. Latimer

John R. Link
Clayton Murakami
Olaf M. Norbye
Thomas Pradetto
Kenneth Renberg
Ellis (Ted) M. Smith
John A. Stansell

LIFE MEMBERS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

Ronald W. Ball
John T. Dugan
Richard F. Fast
Robert J. Fox
Guy G. Geiger
Russell K. Haight
George C. Hechimovich
Charles M. Hill

Loyd A. Hughes
Kenneth R. Little
Delbert L. Long
Luther L. Steed
Kenneth P. Thompson
Clifford Wright
Glenn D. Wootten

LADY THUNDERBIRD CORNER ...

Start packing your bags, and get ready for a wonderful time at our 45th Reunion this year. We have started making plans for you to have a good time while you are in OKLAHOMA CITY. As you know, we'll be doing things a little different this year, and in case you come in a day early we'll be there to "WELCOME YOU" at the registration table in the lobby, on Wednesday.

THURSDAY, we are trying to make arrangements to take a bus to Cimarron Pottery, and The Outlet Malls of America. Our luncheon will be on Friday this year, and we are going back to the Lincoln Plaza, Star Room. We have started working on the entertainment, which will have a 40's theme and if you feel like it please dress as they did then. So start planning now and remember to get your luncheon ticket early, (they are sold separate). We are really looking forward to seeing you.

Lois Batey, Chairperson
Ladies Activities

TAPS

Frank L. Adams
Carl W. Crickenberger
Lawrence J. Dipaolo, Jr.
William D. Dugan
Raymond A. Emde
William Thomas Goyne
Clem V. Griffin
Charles Hardin
James F. Hinson
Charles W. Howard
Hamilton M. Jarman

Elmer E. Kirkpatrick
Charles Kosanke
Wilbert L. Kruse
Robert Max Mahon
Wilbur R. McMillan
Dennis W. Mitchell
Louis Nevitt
Edward J. Platt, Sr.
Terrance S. "Huck" Rice
Edgar D. Swope
William B. Tallant

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.

Allan F. McGilbra	President
Wm. Rex Wilson	Secretary/Editor
Louis A. Scott	Associate 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!**



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

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

_____ \$75.00 for a Life Membership
_____ \$35.00 for a 10-Year Membership
_____ \$15.00 for a 4-Year Membership
_____ \$ 5.00 for a 1-Year Membership

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

Your Name (Please Print) _____

Address (Street or P.O. Box) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Thunderbird Unit. _____

World War II _____ 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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