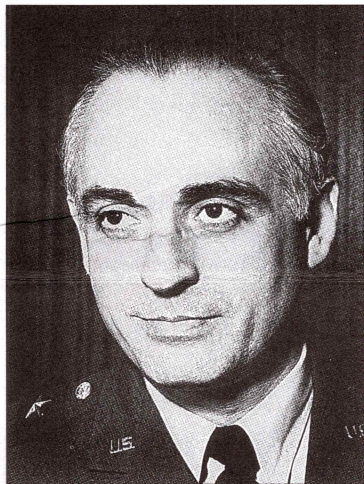


# 45th Division News

July, 1993

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

## REUNION BANQUET SPEAKER



Major General Fred Daugherty, former Commanding General of the 45th Infantry Division, will be the principal speaker at the Saturday night banquet during the reunion 19-22 August, 1993.

MG Daugherty is a native Oklahoman, born in Oklahoma City, graduated from Central High School in Oklahoma City, Cumberland University, 1932-1934, LLB Degree, 1933, Oklahoma City University, 1934-1935 and Oklahoma University, 1936-1937. He was admitted to the Oklahoma State Bar in 1937 and was in General Practice from 1937 to 1940; a member of the firm of Ames, Ames and Daugherty, 1946-

1950; a member of the firm of Ames, Daugherty, Bynum and Black 1952-1955. Appointed State District Judge, 1955, and served until 1961. Appointed United States District Judge, 1961, Chief Judge Western District, 1972, and Senior Judge, 1982 to date.

He enlisted in Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 179th Infantry Regiment, as a private in May, 1934, and was mobilized with the 45th Division in September, 1940, as a 1st Lieutenant. Shortly after returning from completion of the United States Army Command and General Staff College, the Commanding General, Third US Army, requested the transfer of Daugherty to his command, and despite the objections of Daugherty and MG William S. Key, CG, 45th Infantry Division, the transfer was made in December, 1941.

He later served with the Sixth US Army in the Asiatic-Pacific Theatre from March, 1943, to December, 1945. Upon reorganization of the 45th Division in 1946, he was assigned as Commanding Officer, 179th Infantry Regiment, and called to active duty in that capacity in September, 1950. He commanded the 179th Infantry Regiment at Camp Polk, LA, Hokkaido, Japan and in combat in Korea from December 1951 to July 1952. He was promoted to Brigadier General of the Line and served as Assistant Division Commander from September, 1952 until September, 1960. He was promoted to Major General of the Line and served as Commanding General, 45th Infantry Division from September, 1960, until retirement on 20 November, 1964.

He participated in the following campaigns during World War II and the Korean War: Bismarck Archipelago, New Guinea, South Philippines, Leyte, Luzon, 2nd Korean Winter and Korean Spring-Summer, 1951. Military awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit w/2 OLC, Bronze Star with OLC, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Oklahoma Distinguished Service Medal with OLC and NGAUS Distinguished Service Medal.

Daugherty is a member of the following Service, Civic and Fraternal Organizations: Kiwanis Club, American National Red Cross, Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce, United Fund of Greater Oklahoma City, Community Council of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma City Council on Alcoholism, Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, Men's Dinner Club, Oklahoma Heritage Association, Guthrie Scottish Rite, Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Phi Delta Phi.

MG Daugherty was the first Chairman of the 45th Infantry Division Museum Board of Directors, and served from 1974 to 1984, and has served as Chairman Emeritus from 1984 to date. He was the prime mover in organizing and directing the formation and construction of the museum and continues to serve a major role in improving the status of the museum exhibits.

The subject of his address will be "CITIZEN SOLDIERS" and that identifies about 99 percent of all "Thunderbirds".

## THUNDERBIRD LEGENDS



### Preston J.C. Murphy

Preston J.C. Murphy was born in Slocan City, British Columbia, Canada December 5, 1901. He attended High School in Summerside, Prince Edward Island, Canada and Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado. Prior to induction of the 45th Infantry Division in September 1940, Preston owned and operated a clothing store in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Murphy enlisted in Company H, 157 Infantry, Colorado National Guard in 1921. He was commissioned as a 2d Lieutenant in 1925 and served as a unit

commander in the 157th Infantry during the period 1925 to 1939. Preston was promoted to Major in 1939 and assigned to Headquarters 45th Infantry Division as Assistant G-3. He was inducted with the Division 16 September 1940 and assigned as Commanding Officer 1st Battalion, 157th Infantry Regiment in December 1940. During stateside training of the 45th Division he served in this capacity and as Executive Officer of the 157th Infantry under the command of Colonel Charles Ankorn.

Prior to the Sicilian Invasion Murphy was reassigned as Commanding Officer 1st Battalion, 157th Infantry. He continued to serve in this capacity throughout the Sicilian campaign and the Italian campaign until just prior to the Anzio Invasion. Murphys battalion was the only battalion size unit of the 45th Division to enter Messina, Sicily with General Patton prior to the arrival of the British Army and participated in the welcoming committee for Field Marshal Montgomery.

He was assigned as Executive Officer, 179th Infantry just prior to the Anzio campaign. He served as Commanding Officer for a short time at Anzio, between the time Colonel William O. Darby left for the United States and Colonel H. A. Meyer was assigned. He continued to serve as Executive Officer of the 179th Infantry until Colonel Meyer was wounded in October 1944 at which time he was assigned as Commanding Officer and promoted to Colonel. He served in this assignment until wounded in the battle for Nurnberg, Germany in April 1945. He returned to the regiment in Munich, Germany. Following his return to the United States at the conclusion of the war he served at Camp Roberts, CA until April 1946 when he was assigned to Headquarters Mediterranean Theatre of Operations. He returned to the US in August 1947 and was released from active duty.

He received a commission in the Regular Army in November 1947 and served in several assignments including Chief of the Infantry Branch, HQ Army Field Forces, Fort Monroe, VA. In December 1950, at the request of MG James C. Styron, he was assigned to the 45th Infantry Division at Camp Polk, LA and served as Chief-of-Staff at Camp Polk and through training in Hokkaido, Japan. When the Division was alerted for Korea, he was assigned as CO, 279th Infantry Regiment. In September 1952 he was assigned as Chief of Military History, Far East Command, Tokyo, Japan. He returned to the USA in July 1954 and was assigned as Senior Army Advisor to the Texas Army National Guard, Camp Mabry, Austin, Texas.

(THUNDERBIRD LEGENDS cont'd on page 2)

## "REUNION FORMS INSIDE"



Colonel Murphy retired 28 February 1957 and accepted employment with the Texas Army National Guard Armory Board as Contract Agent from April 1957 to August 1977.

Awards and decorations include Silver Star w/OLC, Legion of Merit w/OLC, Bronze Star Medal w/OLC, Purple Heart, Combat Infantry Badge (2 awards) and French Croix de Guerre with Gold Star.

Colonel Preston J. C. Murphy died in 1983. He is survived by his wife Corinne of Austin, TX.

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## DACHAU: NIGHTMARE REVISITED

*By Louis Scott*

Have you ever wondered what people have in mind or what they expect to gain when they pull some stupid stunt? It is especially galling when the stunts they pull could possibly falsify history for a long, long time.

Well, it seems that some people have pulled some pretty stupid and sneaky stunts in recent months with regard to the liberation just before the end of European hostilities in 1945 of the infamous Dachau Concentration Camp. It is a matter of recorded history that elements of the 3rd Battalion, 157th Infantry Regiment of the 45th Infantry Division, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Felix Sparks (now BG retired), liberated this camp on April 29, 1945. Now, suddenly, almost 50 years after the fact, all sorts of people are coming out of the woodwork and claiming that their units liberated Dachau. So far at least three organizations have taken up this chant. Doesn't it make you wonder where these people have been all these years, and why they suddenly have come up with the amazing revelation that they were the ones who liberated Dachau?

### The 42nd Infantry Division

First of all is the claim of the 42nd Infantry Division. The 42nd "Rainbow" Division had an outstanding record in World War I that accorded the outfit with mind-boggling publicity. But, in World War II, their entrance into combat was almost an afterthought. After World War I, the 42nd was disbanded and not reactivated until July 14, 1943. Part of the division departed for Europe in early December, 1944, where it was designated Task Force Linden (commanded by the assistant division commander); it was sent into combat and decisively beaten by the Germans around Hatten, Germany on January 9, 1945. Russell F. Weighley in Eisenhower's Lieutenants wrote that when the U.S. VI Corps commander ordered the 79th Division to "clean out a segment of area around Strasbourg," the 79th CG committed Task Force Linden to the job. Weigley further stated, "...notwithstanding its World War I fame as the Rainbow Division, the 42nd had suffered training difficulties this time around and would not have been given a share of the front without additional training except for the emergency." The 79th Division CG had to phone the VI Corps commander and tell him "that with the 42nd's 'state of training, organization, and operation,' the fight around Gamsheim was developing badly."

The 42nd Infantry Division as a whole finally got into combat on February 14, 1945. The division is credited with 78 days of combat, although much of that time was spent in reserve. In that 78 days their casualties totaled 553 killed and over 2200 wounded, 85 of whom died of wounds. The official U.S. Army record does give them credit for assisting the 3rd and 45th Division to take Nurnburg, the cradle of Nazism, a city that ended up being a pile of rubble. On April 28, 1945, they followed in the wake of the 20th Armored Division toward Munich

and passed through the city on April 30, 1945. Now, remember, Dachau was officially liberated on April 29, 1945...and that Munich is some distance south of Dachau.

In all fairness to the men of the 42nd, some historical accounts of the liberation of Dachau do give them credit for being there. If you will read BG Spark's concise narrative about the true facts of the liberation of Dachau in his Monograph 14 for the 45th Division Museum, "Dachau and Its Liberation," he does give credit to a small party of the 42nd Division being present shortly after Dachau was seized. Further on you will see how unmilitary and disorganized these few members of the 42nd were that day. What they did was not very complimentary of the 42nd.

However, members of the 42nd Infantry Division were so intent on gaining credit for Dachau that they convinced a Colonel Robert Sholly, Chief of the Histories Division, U.S. Army Center of Military History, an agency of Headquarters Department of the Army, that liberation of Dachau should rightly belong to the 42nd Division. Not only did he give them full credit, but he went one step further and completely erased the 45th Division from the official history as the liberator of Dachau. When this gross error was called to his attention, Colonel Sholly firmly and adamantly refused to reinstate the 45th as the proper and rightful chief liberator in the Army history.

Wait, now, it gets worse...if possible. The U.S. Army Center of Military History has decided to be magnanimous and allow the 45th co-credit for liberating Dachau, without taking into account that the 45th was undeniably the first on the scene, suffering the brunt of the horrible conditions in the camp, subduing the SS guards, and occupying the place as ordered by higher command. Specifically, the orders were to "...post an airtight guard and allow no one to enter or leave." This is exactly what LTC Sparks did that fateful day.

Let me briefly recount the true version of what happened that eventful day of April 29, 1945. Then I will tell you the comedic and pathetic aspects that occurred...a story that should make the former members of the 42nd, those who are so adamant about their unit gaining credit for Dachau, cringe in their boots and feel shame for what happened. In fact, they should apologize not only to BG Sparks, but to the entire Thunderbird Division and to the U.S. Army, for the antics pulled by members of their division that really were a disgrace to their divisions's fine name.

The camp was first entered at about 1430 by Company I, 157th Infantry, reinforced by a machine gun section from Company M of the same regiment, about 200 men total. LTC Felix Sparks was commander of the 3rd Battalion, 157th Infantry Regiment, and accompanied Company I into the camp. They entered along a spur railway line which led into the camp and avoided the main gate because it was believed to be the most heavily guarded. Progress was slow because of the need to search every building. After about an hour and after having had to kill some German guards, the entrance to the prison enclosure was reached. The men of the 45th immediately surrounded the prison enclosure and took over the various guard towers.

After a terrible ordeal of over an hour, the situation seemed to be under control and the camp appeared to be calming down. Suddenly three jeeps from the 42nd Infantry Division appeared with BG Henning Linden, assistant division commander, in the lead jeep. Gen Linden informed LTC Sparks that he was there to permit a lady reporter, Marguerite Higgins, to interview the prisoners. LTC Sparks informed Ms Higgins that he could not allow her to enter the camp. She defied him and did, indeed, start to open the gates. Two of the 45th soldiers



fired their rifles in the air to stop her, and for a few minutes, total pandemonium reigned.

LTC Sparks then requested Gen. Linden and his party to leave. BG Linden attempted to relieve LTC Sparks and take over the camp himself. Sparks refused and sent a soldier forward to escort the General away from the camp. When the soldier approached BG Linden, the general hit the soldier on the helmet with his riding crop and with raised fist, threatened Sparks with courts-martial and after a few more choice words, Gen. Linden and party departed.

In a statement made later by BG Linden, he makes no reference to the altercation between himself and LTC Sparks. In fact, he stated that a Col. Sparks of the 45th Infantry Division happened to come along while the general was trying to get things organized in the camp and that Co. Sparks helped him with this task. He further stated that he placed Col. Sparks in charge of the camp, exclusive of the stockade, and placed Col. Fellenz of the 42nd Division in charge of the stockade, with orders to both officers to "execute relief of any 45th Division soldiers around the moat as soon as practicable." He had no authority to do any of this.

LTC Sparks reported the incident to his regimental commander, COL. O'Brien and to MG Frederick, 45th Division commander. Division G-3 sent a message to XV Corps requesting a clarification of the territorial problem. The division received the following return message from XV Corps: "With reference to your TWX stating the Fury (code name of 42nd Division) was attempting to relieve your guards at the DACHAU PW Camp (Y765700), the guarding of this camp is your responsibility as it is in your zone."

Surprisingly, or maybe not so surprisingly, none of the 42nd Division officers interviewed by Seventh Army IG even hinted about the presence of the lady reporter, Marguerite Higgins. Obviously they had all been thoroughly rehearsed to leave her out. There is quite strong conjecture that she was the reason for their coming to Dachau in the first place. She wanted to scoop.

That is the real scoop on the liberation of Dachau. The only other thing to note is that evidently BG Linden did make some charges, or at least complaints, because LTC Sparks was ordered to appear before General George Patton, commander of the Third Army. General Patton informed Sparks that some very serious charges had to be lodged against him, but that he, General Patton, considered them to be a "bunch of crap," therefore dismissing the whole unfortunate affair.

That's the true version, now let's look at some of the other aspects that border on the ridiculous and ludicrous, to say the least. BG Henning Linden was 52 and 1/2 years old at the time of the Dachau incident and any way you look at it, that's a bit old for an effective front-line combat commander. Not much is written about Linden that this author can find, but the Army Register does give some insight about this character, and indeed, he must have been quite a character. What officer in his right mind, especially a combat general, would carry a riding crop in combat? George Patton excepted. That speaks of a true "dandy" (as BG Sparks described him) and a flamboyant throw-back to the swashbuckling days prior to WWII. Bill Mauldin would have had a field day with a character like Henning Linden.

Linden was commissioned as a 2nd Lt. in the Organized Reserve Corps on Aug. 15, 1917, but is was vacated on Nov. 14, 1917. No mention is made of any combat time in WWI. Evidently he remained in the Reserve, was promoted to Captain on July 1, 1920 and then to Major on Aug. 1, 1935--15 years as a Captain? He was promoted to

Colonel, AUS, Dec. 24, 1941 and evidently had been recalled to active duty at that time. His promotion to BG was dated June 22, 1943, and it was terminated on March 5, 1946. To his credit, though, he was awarded the Legion of Merit w/oak leaf cluster, the Silver Star, and the Bronze Star Medal w/oak leaf cluster.

OK, so much for Henning Linden. Now, there was another character involved in the Dachau Incident from the 42nd Infantry Division by the name of LTC Walter Fellenz, commander of 1st Battalion, 222nd Infantry. His version is very confusing, obviously filled with visions of grandeur, and ludicrous to the extreme. He refers to his battalion as "the Fighting First." I would imagine the First Division might take umbrage at such a far-fetched concept. I won't write further about him in this article, because I want to spend some time on the most ridiculous and comedic of all the versions, that of Marguerite Higgins. But, you can read all about LTC Fellenz in detail in BG Spark's Monograph 14, "Dachau and Its Liberation."

## Marguerite Higgins

Now for the really silly, ridiculous, absurd, laughable, and even hilarious version of the liberation of Dachau. This should make your day.

Marguerite Higgins was a certified War Correspondent during World War II, working for the New York Herald Tribune. Her days as a War Correspondent lasted for only about six weeks, but during that time she evidently made quite a name for herself in more ways than one. This woman was a one-woman army if you put any credence in what her memoirs say about her, but in reality she was without a doubt a glory-seeking fraud and a total farce.

A biography of Marguerite Higgins, *Witness to War: A Biography of Marguerite Higgins*, was written by Antoinette May and published in 1983 by Beaufort Books. According to the book, Ms. Higgins took up with Peter Furst, a photographer for Stars and Stripes, who offered to share his jeep with her. Apparently, these two drove into the town of Dachau and were told that there were white flags flying on the southern edges of the large camp (Dachau Concentration Camp) in the area of the main administration buildings. Evidently, the two decided to detour around the fighting and head for the administration buildings.

The book states that Marguerite and Peter were joined by two jeeps from the "Forty-second Infantry" and that the jeeps followed them to the main gate where an SS general stood holding a large white flag. Beside him was a German civilian who claimed to be a member of the Red Cross. Supposedly, the woman explained to them that the American officers in the jeeps behind them would accept their surrender. She and Peter were anxious to get to the barbed wire enclosure where the prisoners were confined.

They asked the SS General to assign an officer to escort the two of them to the enclosure and open its gate. Now, can you imagine BG Linden sitting complacently in his jeep and allowing this to happen?

According to her memoirs, Marguerite hopped out of her jeep and ran toward the gate. When the watchtowers with German soldiers pointing their rifles and machine guns at her was pointed out to her, she supposedly called out, "Kommen Sie her, bitte. Wir Sind Amerikaner." (Come her, please. We are American.) Presumably, twenty-two guards walked out with their hands in the air and Ms. Higgins and Sgt. Furst "cooly" accepted their surrender. Again, can't you just see the military allowing this to happen?

*(Dachau: Nightmare Revisited cont'd on page 5)*

REGISTRATION APPLICATION FOR 48TH ANNUAL REUNION

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

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
(INCLUDE CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE)

UNIT: WW II \_\_\_\_\_ KOREA \_\_\_\_\_ POST KOREA \_\_\_\_\_

GUESTS \_\_\_\_\_  
(FIRST AND LAST NAMES)

CIRCLE APPLICABLE EVENTS AND AMOUNTS AND COMPLETE APPROPRIATE BLOCKS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>CHARGE BASIS</u>	<u>PREPAID</u>	<u>PAYMENT AT DESK</u>	<u>AMOUNT DUE</u>
REGISTRATION	MEMBER	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00
LADIES LUNCHEON	PERSON	5.00	5.00	\$
FRIDAY	MEMBER	20.00	25.00	\$
	GUEST	25.00	25.00	\$
SATURDAY	MEMBER	25.00	30.00	\$
	GUEST	25.00	30.00	\$
TOTAL PREPAID				\$

(ENCLOSE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER)

TOTAL DUE AT DESK: \$

PREPAYMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 11 AUGUST 1993 TO QUALIFY FOR PREPAYMENT RATES.

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TRANSPORTATION REQUEST

I WILL BE ARRIVING IN OKLAHOMA CITY AT \_\_\_\_\_ HOURS \_\_\_\_\_ AUGUST 1993  
\_\_\_\_\_ AIRLINES, FLIGHT # \_\_\_\_\_. THERE WILL  
BE \_\_\_\_\_ PERSONS IN MY PARTY REQUIRING TRANSPORTATION TO THE HOTEL.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(NAME)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(PLEASE PRINT)



The story gets more ludicrous as the following quotes form the biography state: "As the officers and men of the Forty-second and Forty-fifth Divisions began to stream into the encampment some of the attention shifted from Marguerite and she was able to get on to her story. While she stood in the midst of a crush of former prisoners all speaking at once, an American officer reached through the grillwork of the main gate, grabbing her by the collar. 'What the hell are you doing in there?' he demanded to know. 'Don't you realize the place is raging with typhus? Get out of there!'

"Marguerite was at first baffled and then furious. Her body, already battered from the enthusiastic greetings of the prisoners, was now being buffeted against the gate. For a moment she looked back at him with pain and astonishment and then she shouted. All the fear, the anguish, the intense emotions of the past hours erupted into rage. 'Goddammit to hell! I've had my typhus shots! Lay off me! I'm doing my job!'

"Marguerite as well as Peter were able to assist the occupying forces. When the prisoners were told that they would have to be screened for typhus before being allowed to leave the camp, rioting broke out..."

Felix Sparks will tell you emphatically that neither he nor any of his men ever touched Ms. Higgins and that she never got into the camp. The true facts of what happened that day at Dachau can be read in the Monograph by BG Spark, "Dachau and Its Liberation."

If this is the 42nd Infantry Division's claim to fame and fortune, decide whether you think they should legally and rightfully be credited with a part in the liberation of Dachau. Without a doubt, the officers and men of the 42nd Infantry Division were honorable, courageous, and gallant soldiers. They cannot be held accountable for poor leadership.

### 761st Tank Battalion

It was not the fault of the 761st Tank Battalion that they became involved with the liberation of Dachau. They were the victim of an overzealous writer and the producers of "Liberators: Fighting on Two Fronts in World War II," a documentary prepared for Public TV and first broadcast over WNET, Channel 13, in New York City. The documentary was among those recently considered for an Academy Award.

The 761st Tank Battalion was a black outfit with an excellent

combat record. They did not need the misrepresentations stated in the documentary or the book to embellish their war record. In fact, these untruths are very embarrassing to the surviving members of the battalion.

The documentary was first aired on Veterans Day, November 11, 1992. The 761st was given credit for liberating the Buchenwald Concentration Camp on April 11, 1945, and the Dachau Concentration Camp on April 29, 1945. Both events are falsely presented. Buchenwald was liberated by the 6th Armored Division and Dachau by the 45th Infantry Division.

Bill Miles and Nina Roseblum, the co-producers of the documentary, when confronted with the facts, stated that the complainers were nothing more than "racists and extremists." Improving Afro-American and Jewish relationships was the underlying reason for the fallacious accounts. It is doubtful that either element is happy with the false description.

At the time Dachau was liberated, the 761st Tank Battalion was from 50 to 60 miles away, attached to the 71st Division, part of the Third Army. Dachau was in Seventh Army territory. Former members of the 761st have vociferously attested to the fact that their unit was not even near Buchenwald or Dachau at the time of liberation.

The 761st was correctly credited by combat records with assisting a unit of the 71st Division with liberating a large subcamp of the Mauthausen complex at Gunskirchen, located near Lambach.

Evidently, neither the producers of the documentary nor the authors of the book thoroughly researched their material. Accurate records are available that would have provided the true facts.

### 20th Armored Division

The 20th Armored Division also claims the liberation of Dachau in conjunction with the 42nd and 45th Divisions, although there is no concrete date of liberation, but their combat record makes no mention of the fact.

The division attacked through the 42nd and 45th lines toward Munich on April 28, 1945 and continued to Salzburg, Austria when hostilities ended on May 7, 1945. The division is credited with 1 month and 4 days of combat in World War II.

(Dachau: Nightmare Revisited cont'd on back page)



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ATTN: RESERVATIONS





## REUNION NOTICES

**45TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION:** 19-22 August 1993, The Radisson Inn, I-40 at Meridian, Oklahoma City, OK.

**HHB 45th DIVARTY (KOREA):** 19-22 August 1993, The Radisson Inn, I-40 at Meridian, Oklahoma City, OK. Contact Tommy Griggs, Route 14, Box 251, Lake Charles, LA, 70605-9111, 318/477-1937.

**BATTERY C. 189 FABN (KOREA):** 19-22 August 1993, in conjunction with the 45th Division Association reunion at the Radisson Inn, I-40 at Meridian, Oklahoma City, OK. Inviting Batteries Headquarters, A, B and Service to join in the fun. Contact Robert L. Faken, 1801 NE Woodland Road, Ponca City, OK 77604, 405/762-2826.

**COMPANY B. 179TH INFANTRY (WW II) AND COMPANY B. 279TH INFANTRY (KOREA):** Will hold a joint Mini-Reunion Wednesday, 18 August 1993, at 10:00 AM, on the Pawnee County Court House Square, Pawnee, OK and will then participate in the 45th Division Association reunion in Oklahoma City, 19-22 August at the Radisson Inn.

**COMPANY D. 179TH INFANTRY:** 13-14 August 1993, Norman, OK. Contact Russell Haight, 1921 Beverly Hills, Norman, OK 73072 or Ray Wall 8508 South Ross, Oklahoma City, OK 73159.

**ANTI-TANK COMPANY. 180TH INFANTRY (WW II):** Will hold its fifth Mini-Reunion 10-12 September 1993 at Dayton, OH. Interested persons contact Paul Bailey, 8523 Scipio Road, Nunda, NY 14517.

**45TH CAVALRY RECONNAISSANCE TROOP (WW II):** 13th reunion will be held 7-9 October 1993 at the Days Inn, Northwest, Oklahoma City, OK. Contact Harvey York, 812 North 2nd Street, Marlow OK 73055, Phone 405/658-3090.

**COMPANY I. 179TH INFANTRY (KOREA):** The next reunion will be held 5-6 August 1994 at Perry, OK. The reunion committee is extending an invitation to all Korean veterans of Company I to attend. The second reunion was held 19 August 1992 at Perry. Point of contact is Robert L. Kasper, 633 Delaware, Perry, OK 73077, First Sergeant of the unit until April 1952.

THE ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS REQUESTS THAT UNITS/ORGANIZATIONS SCHEDULING REUNIONS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE 45TH DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION 19-22 AUGUST 1993 REFRAIN FROM SCHEDULING ACTIVITIES THAT CONFLICT WITH ASSOCIATION EVENTS/ACTIVITIES.

## LADY THUNDERBIRD ACTIVITIES

"HELL THUNDERBIRD LADIES", my name is Debra Campbell and I will be your hostess for Lady Thunderbird activities during the annual reunion 19-22 August 1993. The ladies luncheon will be conducted at the Radisson Inn in the Palomino/Quarter Horse rooms beginning at 12:00 O'clock Noon Saturday 21 August 1993.

I would like to encourage those of you who are craft oriented to donate a "hand crafted item" to be utilized as a door prize at the drawing which will be held during the luncheon.

Transportation will be available for shopping tours as you desire.

I am pleased to serve as your hostess and am looking forward to personally meeting each of you.

"PLEASE" remind your husband to order your luncheon ticket when he completes the reunion registration form to assure that we will have a fairly accurate count for planning purposes.

## SEEKING INFORMATION

Would appreciate receiving copies of orders, rosters, documents, etc., that will assist in completing my research of Headquarters, 45th Infantry Division during the Korean War. Will gladly pay for copies and postage if you will contact me stating your information. Also, looking for a printed copy of the 2nd update of "The Story of the 45th Division Actions in the Korean Conflict" that was written by the Division G-3 Section while in Korea.

If you served in the AG Section during Korea and are not on my mailing list, I would like to hear from you.

(DICK WAINWRIGHT, 9001 E. Rosewood Street, Tucson, AZ 85710, (602)298-1581)

Your address was given to me by members of the 157th Infantry, 45th Infantry Division when they recently visited Sicily on a tour. One of the many soldiers that landed in Sicily on July 10, 1943 was "Tony Lonerio" and he was given hospitality by some of my relatives. Unfortunately from that date on all contact was lost.

I do hope that you can help me and trace him so that we could get in touch again after 50 years' silence.

(FRANCESCO BIAZZO, Via Esperanto 3, 97100 Ragusa, Italy)

## MUSEUM HOSTS MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

David Walters, Governor of the State of Oklahoma was the principal speaker for the annual Memorial Day Ceremony conducted at the 45th Infantry Division Museum. The Master of Ceremonies was BG Jim Walker and the Governor was introduced by MG Gary Maynard, Adjutant General of Oklahoma.

The program was opened with a gun salute accomplished by Gene Church and Crew firing the Hotchkiss Mountain Gun. Massing of the colors was performed by color guards from twenty seven different organizations and featuring the "Caledonian Pipes and Drums of India Shrine Temple".

Patriotic Songs were sung by the Poe family and appropriate music was provided by the 145th Army Band. The "Thunderbird" memorial wreath was presented by Congressional Medal of Honor recipients Jack Montgomery and Ernest Childers who were escorted by Tom Feuerborn.

Refreshments furnished by museum volunteers were provided at the conclusion of ceremonial activities.

## LOOKING FOR BUDDIES.

I served with the Communications Section, Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 180th Infantry Regiment throughout World War II, and would like to hear from anyone that served with me during that time.

I am still in contact with Everette Easton who live in Buffalo, New Yorkk.  
JOSEPH HENCHIR, 2764 Glenny Lane, West Mifflin, PA 15122

NAME OF GROUP  45TH INFANTRY DIVISION			THE DATES FOR THE MEETING ARE LISTED BELOW. ANY VARIATION IS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.	
			ARRIVAL: 8-19-93	
			DEPARTURE: 8-22-93	
			ARRIVAL	DEPARTURE
LAST NAME			MONTH	MONTH
FIRST			DAY	DAY
MIDDLE			HOUR (IF LATER THAN 6:00 P.M.)	
FIRM			CREDIT CARDS	
STREET			NAME	
CITY			NUMBER	
STATE			SIGNATURE	
ZIP CODE			ROLLAWAY BED IN ROOM \$10.00 PER NIGHT. CRIBS-FREE. UPON AVAILABILITY. CHILDREN IN SAME ROOM WITH PARENTS-FREE.	
SHARING WITH				
LAST NAME			FIRST	
MIDDLE				
PLEASE CIRCLE TYPE OF ROOM REQUESTED AT RATE REQUESTED			PARLORS & SUITES ARE RESERVED UPON REQUEST. SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. PLEASE CALL DIRECT.	
SINGLE			TRIPLE	
1 PERSON 44.00			3 PERSONS 44.00	
DOUBLE			QUAD	
2 PERSONS 44.00			4 PERSONS 44.00	
LAST DATE FOR RESERVATIONS IS 8-5-93			REMARKS	
AFTER WHICH RESERVATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON THE BASIS OF AVAILABILITY AND AT REGULAR HOTEL RATES.				



## 48th ANNUAL REUNION: AUGUST 19-22

The Forty-Eighth Annual Reunion of the 45th Infantry Division Association will be held August 19-22, 1993, at the Radisson Inn, Interstate 40 at Meridian, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Committee appointments have been made by President Danny Marler, and committee members have been busy since their appointments during the January Board of Directors meeting. Michael Jackson is the Reunion General Chairman and all planning is on target.

Friday activities are the same format as last year, including the business meeting and the sit-down dinner, followed by a Country and Western dance to "LIVE" music.

Saturday activities include a Memorial Service, Ladies Luncheon, the Annual Banquet and dancing to live music.

Hotel reservation and reunion "REGISTRATION AND TRANSPORTATION REQUEST" forms are included in this newsletter. Hotel reservation forms "MUST" be mailed direct to the Radisson Inn. "PLEASE" do not mail them to the association.

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

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

## KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL

Currently the Korean War Veterans Memorial in the Nation's Capitol is programmed for unveiling and dedication on 27 July 1995, the 42nd Anniversary of the cessation of the armed hostilities and signing of the truce agreement.

The following events have been scheduled commensurate with construction and dedication of the Memorial:

1. April 28, 1993. First bulldozer work at the site. This program consisted of a Continental Breakfast at the Site at 8:00 AM. Posting of the Colors at 8:10 AM. Introduction of special guests by General P. X. Kelly, USMC (Ret), followed by playing of the National Anthem. General Kelley then introduced Secretary of the Interior, Bruce Babbitt, who after a brief speech gave the command "Gentlemen start your engines", and the bulldozers started to work.

2. May 30, 1993. The National Symphony Orchestra gave a 90 minute concert on the west lawn of the Capitol. Veterans of all US Wars were honored. About 20 minutes was devoted to honoring the Korean War Veteran.

3. July 27, 1993. This will be the 40th Anniversary of the Armistice which ended the armed hostilities. This Armistice is now credited with the beginning of the end of Communism that is evident today. At 8:00 AM near the site, a commemorative painting dedicated to the Korean War and the Memorial will be unveiled. The work of art was commissioned by Coors Brewing Company. The artist is George Skypeck. The first high quality numbered lithograph prints will be presented to Ambassadors of the 21 Nations who joined the UN coalition in Korea.

4. October-December 1993. Laying of the Cornerstone at the time that Phase II contract starts. A time capsule, to be coordinated by KWVA and other veteran organizations, will be put in place to be opened at the time of the 100th Anniversary of the Armistice, July 27, 2053.

5. July 27, 1995. DEDICATION OF THE MEMORIAL, 42nd Anniversary of the Armistice. The Memorial should be completed earlier in the year, but dedication will be held in July because of the significance of the date. OPEN INVITATION. All veterans and public invited and welcome!

## LOST ADDRESS/LIFE MEMBERS

WILLIAM T. BRESNAHAN	ST. AUGUSTINE, FL
WILFRED DUBE	PELHAM, NH
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M.D. GILBERT	RENO, NV
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JAMES "BUDDY" RYAN	PHILADELPHIA, PA
RUSSELL E. SWEETEN	
KENNETH MEYER	OAK FOREST, IL

(PLEASE ADVISE THE ASSOCIATION IF YOU KNOW THE CURRENT ADDRESS OF ANY OF THESE MEMBERS)



## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

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

\_\_\_\_\_ \$75.00 for a Life Membership  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$35.00 for a 10-year Membership  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 for a 4-year Membership  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$ 5.00 for a 1- year Membership

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

Your Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address (Street or P.O. Box) \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Former or Present Thunderbird Unit \_\_\_\_\_  
World War II \_\_\_\_\_ Korean War \_\_\_\_\_ Post Korean War \_\_\_\_\_

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

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## 442nd Infantry Regiment

The 442nd Infantry Regiment (Separate), a Nisei (Japanese-American) outfit, had one of the best combat records of any small, separate unit in the European Theater during World War II. Most of their fighting was in Italy, although the antitank company participated in the invasion of Southern France on August 15, 1944. The rest of the regiment followed in October and was attached to the 36th Infantry Division.

So, with the excellent record that this unit had, why would former members want to tarnish it by relating lies about their involvement in the liberation of Dachau? Reportedly, members of the regiment were told by the Army to never speak of their having been in on the liberation of Dachau. Why? What would have been the point? No such restrictions were placed on any of the units that legitimately liberated concentration camps.

In reality, the 442nd Infantry Regiment was not even in Germany at the time Dachau was liberated on April 29, 1945! The regiment had been returned to Italy at the request of General Mark Clark on March 25, 1945, placed under Fifth Army command, and attached to the 92nd Infantry Division! Therefore, it was impossible for the 442nd Infantry Regiment to be even remotely involved in the liberation of Dachau, or any other German concentration Camp!

## Conclusion

Other individuals and units lay claim to having been in on the liberation of Dachau and other concentration camps, but they are minor players in the big picture and their stories have not received enough attention to be discredited here.

The Holocaust was a travesty of humanity and so inhumane that such occurrences should never be allowed to ever happen again.

Perhaps all of this bickering after all these years about who liberated which camps is beneficial in some negative way, because it does keep alive the fact that barbarianism in its cruelest form did exist during the Nazi

regime in Germany, not only affecting the Jews, but nationals of other European nations under the thumb of the Nazi warlords. Maybe, in some small way, these controversies may aid in the prevention of such catastrophic events every occurring again.

Everything written here to refute the claims of many is factual. Neither the events nor the facts have been embellished. Record and publications of that time in history state that the 45th Infantry Division liberated the Dachau Concentration Camp. The 45th Infantry Division Association is not out to win further laurels to add to the outstanding and exceptional record of the Division by contradicting the claims of others. We just want the true facts to be known.

### LIFE MEMBERS

#### SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

Andy W. Anderson Peter W. Eckhardt Eddie L. Sneed  
Joseph Patrick Callaghan Robert M. Morgan Walter J. Stubeda  
Fred A. Caudle

### NEW MEMBERS

#### SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

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## 45th Division News

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Danny G. Marler ..... President

### VOLUNTEER STAFF

Wm. Rex Wilson ..... Secretary/Editor

Louis A. Scott ..... Associate Editor

Neal E. Dodds ..... Treasurer

Robert L. Henthorn ..... Accounting & Records

Eva Lou Moon ..... Recorder

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

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

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