

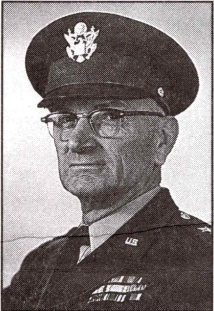
# 45th Division News

May, 1996

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

## THUNDERBIRD LEGENDS

### ROY W. KENNY



Roy Washington "Wash" Kenny was born in Blackwell, Oklahoma, on 10 February 1895, and graduated from high school there. He received a bachelor's degree in Agriculture from Oklahoma A&M College in 1920. While in college, he lettered in football and track four years and basketball three years. After graduation, Kenny remained as head track coach and assistant football coach at the college from 1920 to 1935.

His first entry into military service was in 1917 when he entered the Officers Training Course. Upon graduation in August 1917, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Field Artillery. He was assigned to Battery B 335 Field Artillery Battalion, 87th Division, and served in combat with this organization during World War I; he remained with it until his separation from service on 19 March 1919.

Kenny was commissioned as a First Lieutenant, FA, on 9 August 1925, then assigned to the 70th FA Brigade, 45th Division, Oklahoma National Guard. In 1929, he was assigned as Plans and Training Officer, 70th FA Brigade, a position he held until he transferred to the NG Reserve in 1932. On 11 March 1933, he was promoted to Major, FA, and assigned as Executive Officer, 70th FA Brigade, 45th Division. He retained this position until 2 May 1937, when he was transferred to 45th Division Headquarters for assignment as Assistant Chief of Staff, G4. He still held this position at the time of induction of the 45th Division into active Federal service on 16 September 1940.

On 12 January 1942, he was transferred to the 160th Field Artillery Regiment as Executive Officer. On 21 February 1942, he assumed command of the newly formed 171st Field Artillery Battalion, 45th Infantry Division, and led this organization through combat in Sicily and Italy. On 9 November 1943, Kenny was assigned as Executive Officer, 45th Division Artillery.

He served in this capacity throughout the balance of World War II. On 2 July 1945, he assumed command of the 6th Field Artillery Group in Europe. He returned to the United States on 30 July 1945, and was assigned to the ORP, FARTC, Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He later commanded the 1st Training Regiment ASFPRD, Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

In August, 1946, Kenny was appointed Brigadier General of the Line and assigned as Assistant Division Commander, 45th Infantry Division, Oklahoma National Guard. On 6 May 1947, Governor Roy J. Turner appointed General Kenny to the position of Adjutant General of Oklahoma. He held this position for 18 years under six different governors. He resigned in 1965 at age 70.

General Kenny had a colorful career as a civilian as well as a distinguished military career. In addition to his role as a coach at Oklahoma A&M College, he served as Deputy Warden and Warden of the Oklahoma State Penitentiary from 1935 to 1937. He was area and district supervisor of the Works Project Administration in Oklahoma from 1937 to 1940.

Among his awards are the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in combat and the Oklahoma Distinguished Service Medal.

Major General Roy W. Kenny died in 1978 at the age of 83. He was buried with full military honors at Blackwell, Oklahoma.

## A SPECIAL TIME

by Bob Lamm

"I think a company that earns a Distinguished Service Cross, 12 Silver Stars, 24 Bronze Stars and about 60 Purple Hearts in a period of 75 days has sure established a good record for any unit and is a credit to any and all who either served with, trained, or led the unit into combat." (Excerpt from a letter dated 29 September 1952 written by WO James Clark, Administrator of Company F, 179th Infantry Regiment to 1st Lieutenant Frank Garrison, former F Company Commander, who was recovering from wounds in a hospital in Japan).

My chest kind of swelled with pride as I read WO Clark's words while attending our reunion last September. I had been a member of that unit—we must have been special. Then I looked around at the forty or so former Company F members gathered in the Gazebo Room at the Radisson Inn Hotel in Oklahoma City. What I saw was a group of typical, mostly retired, "sixty-something's", a park ranger, a truck driver, a food broker, an accountant, a realtor, etc., just ordinary Americans. Then what was there about Company F that made it seem special to those who served in it during the early fifties?

Maybe it was the quality and stability of our leadership; a group of officers and NCO's who were with us from the beginning in the fall of 1950 until most of us had left Korea in the summer of 1952. Maybe it was our cadre of National Guardsmen who, during our early days, stayed about one page ahead of us in the training manual. Maybe it was the draftees and reservists, a diverse group from across America.

In reality, maybe we really weren't special at all, but were just typical of all of the units making up the 45th Division at that time. Yes, I am proud to have been a member of Company F, but surely most men who served with us in the 45th Infantry Division, must feel the same about their unit. Maybe, for that short period of time, more than forty years ago, we were all part of something special.

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## REUNION HOSPITALITY ROOMS

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

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

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

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

(REUNION HOSPITALITY ROOMS cont'd on page 2)



Inn, telephone (405) 947-7681.

Assigned hospitality rooms will be required to remain open during hours specified by the Reunion Committee and an assortment of refreshments provided for visitors. Organizations will be responsible for all charges made to the assigned room and the cost of any adjoining rooms used for storage or staff quarters.

## LADY THUNDERBIRDS

There were 141 surveys collected from last year's Ladies Activities. Ladies Brunch (10-11:30 AM) won with 68 votes, Ladies Lunch (12:00-1:30 PM) came in second with 30 votes and Ladies Breakfast (9:00-10:30 AM) came in third with 26 votes. The Ladies Brunch will be held in the Palomino/Quarter Horse rooms at the Radisson Inn beginning at 10:00 AM, Saturday 21 September 1996. The traditional "Craft Exchange" will continue, survey results were 87 in favor and 13 against. Some of your comments: "Such a nice way to remember our friends", "It is very enjoyable", "Was a lot of fun getting ready for it". Other comments indicated they either didn't make crafts or didn't know to bring something. If you do not make crafts, you can purchase a gift/craft, maybe something that represents your state. For those of you who didn't know about the craft exchange: HEAR YE, HEAR YE!!!! "Join in the fun and fellowship, bring a homemade craft item or small personalized gift to exchange with some other special lady at the Ladies Brunch, Saturday, 21 September 1996. Survey results also indicated a very favorable response to the Oklahoma National Guard Auxiliary Craft Table. The Auxiliary raised \$250.00 for their scholarship fund. They will again have a craft table located in the hallway across from the "Gazebo" area on Friday afternoon, 20 September. So....for those of you who do not make crafts - purchase one from the Auxiliary and be a part of the "Traditional Craft Exchange" during the Ladies Brunch

Due to requests/interests in Oklahoma's Indian/Native American Culture, we are planning a trip to Indian City, USA, which is located in Anadarko, OK on Friday 20 September. Anadarko is about 65 miles from OKC and will require a 1 1/2 to 2 hour trip each way. Admission is approximately \$5.00 and includes a museum, gift shop, petting zoo and a walking tour of seven authentic Indian villages. Lunch will be served at the "Buffalo Gap" cafe specializing in Indian Cuisine at a cost of approximately \$5.00. Registrations must be received NO LATER THAN 16 AUGUST 1996 to guarantee seating and secure tour and meal arrangements. REGISTRATION FORM is furnished below:

### REGISTRATION FOR INDIAN CITY USA TRIP

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

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ (include first & last names)

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ (include city, state & zip code)

GUESTS \_\_\_\_\_

APPROXIMATE COSTS: Admission \$5.00—Food \$5.00.  
(MAIL TO THE ASSOCIATION PRIOR TO 16 AUGUST 1996)  
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(Refer questions or suggestions to Debra Campbell, 13913 Jeffrey Drive, Edmond, OK 73013 or call 405/478-3618)

## DISCLAIMER

Several inquiries have been received from association members concerning "flyers" received from Kendwil Publications, 1022 Sand Hill Drive, St Albans, WV 25177 relative to sale of a book entitled "Tales of a Thunderbird". Some time ago, the author of this publication queried the association concerning financial assistance in publishing his book, which was denied, as are all other similar requests. We have consistently limited our "Gift Shop" sales to organizational history books and available books from the "Mauldin Collection". The membership roster of the association is not furnished to anyone for any purpose. Our Constitution and By-Laws prohibit this action to assist in protecting the privacy of our

membership. The association staff has no knowledge of the source of mailing addresses obtained by the author of this publication. A roster is available at the front desk within the 45th Division Museum and is also made available during annual reunions for the convenience of reunion attendees.

## REUNION NOTICES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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**COMPANY D, 120TH ENGINEER (C) BN (KOREA):** 6-8 June 1996, Grandview Hotel, Tulsa, OK. POC W B Nell Jr, 120 Beverlee Ave, Hollis, OK 73550.

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

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**COMPANY G, 179TH INFANTRY (KOREA):** 25-27 July 1996, Ramada Limited, Madison, WI. Contact Kip Derge, 414/261-5686 or Penn Rabb 405/357-1796.

## LOOKING FOR BUDDIES

I was in Korea during 1953 and 1954 while assigned to Heavy Mortar Company, 279th Infantry Regiment and would like to hear from anyone who was there. I remember Lacy Manor from North Carolina, John Bogan from Connecticut and Hoy Wine from Virginia, however, I have had no contact with anyone.

WILLIAM ORMAN HAMES, 7345 County Rd # 327, Trinity, AL 35673, 205/450-4335.

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Searching for members who served in Company A, 120th Engr (C) Bn from Camp Polk to Korea. Also, other members in the Battalion who came from the New York metropolitan area. The 7th Reunion will be held in October 1996. For details contact:

ANTHONY DIPALMA, 1430 THIERIOT AVE, BRONX, NY 10460, 718/829-1329.

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I would like to hear from two army buddies who served with me in the 45th Quartermaster Company in Korea during 1952 and 1953. They are: John Welles from Iowa and John Novak from Wisconsin. If you guys are still out there, please get in contact with me.

RICHARD D MOSS, RR2, BOX 357, HUNLOCK CREEK, PA 18621.

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I served in Korea as a member of Company L, 180th Infantry from July 1952 to April 1953 as a Squad Leader of a Machine Gun Squad. I would like to locate my Platoon Sergeant Ken Miller from California and Odell Olson from Wisconsin.



LAWRENCE E GNAU, 4351 OLD RT 14, LYONS, NY 14489

(Editor's note: These persons are not current members of the 45th Division Assn)

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I arrived at the 45th Division Replacement Company located in Yong-Dong-Po, Korea in December 1951. We celebrated Christmas there with a nice dinner, but the kind served by a field kitchen, where turkey and all the trimmings find themselves in one heap on the mess kit.

Shortly thereafter, I was assigned to the Medical Detachment, Headquarters 45th Division Artillery where I served with an astute group of men until my accumulated points allowed me to go home in October 1952. I would like to hear from any of the group with whom I served during those memorable months.

RICHARD L HALL, 10701 WEST P.Q. AVENUE, MATTAWAN, MI 49071

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I am looking for Danny Marshall who was a member of my wire section in the 179th Infantry during World War II. He got hit in France and I never heard from him again. He is a native American Indian from Oklahoma.

ARTHUR STELZER, 7729 MILWOOD AVENUE, CANOGA PARK, CA 91304-5617

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I would like to contact anyone that I served with in the 180th Infantry Regiment from April 1944 until the end of World War II in Europe.

ANTHONY T NASTASI, 7208 PINE PARK DR, WEST LAKE WORTH FL 33467

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I served with the 45th Division Signal Company from May 1953 until the end of the Korean War. We were located behind the 179th and 180th Infantry Regiments and the Field Artillery was behind us in the Yangu Valley. The Division Colors were returned to the United States by a contingent of one thousand men. I was then transferred to the 98th EARP near Seoul. I would like to hear from anyone who served with me during this period.

WILLIAM D BROOKER, 12221 FAIRFIELD HOUSE DRIVE # 100, FAIRFAX, VA 22033

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I would like to contact anyone who served in Headquarters Company, 180th Infantry Regiment during WW II and knew Corporal Robert DeAngelo who was KIA. I served in the 1st Infantry Division during WW II and Company M, 279th Infantry Regiment during the Korean War. I would like to correspond with anyone who served with me during these periods.

CARMEN J BALZANO, 10 ORANGE STREET, WAVERLY, NY 14892.

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When I arrived in Korea I was assigned to Heavy Mortar Company, 179th Infantry Regiment as they were moving into the Yangu area. After the cease fire agreement, I was assigned to Service Company to move ammunition off the line.

I was reassigned to the 73rd Transportation Truck Company when the 45th Division was returned to the US and later was returned to the US with the 40th Infantry Division. I have lost my address book and would like to hear from anyone who remembers me.

FRANK G RADWAN, 13080 HOUTS RD, NEW CONCORD, OH 43762-9729.

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I served with Battery C, 189th Field Artillery during the Korean War and would like to hear from anyone I served with in the Third Gun Section. I retired after 30 years with Federal Civil Service. The trout fishing in Colorado is great.

EUTIMIO SANDOVAL, PO BOX 119, AVONDALE, CO 81022.

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Membership renewal enclosed. I do not intend to ever let my

membership in the 45th Division Association expire. I am proud to have served in Company H, 180th Infantry during World War II and would like to hear from anyone that I served with in that unit.

KENNETH S RUDIS, 129 MANN DRIVE, CHESAPEAKE, VA 23320-5213.

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I am enclosing my application for a "LIFE" membership in the association. I was a member of Company M, 180th Infantry during World War II and served in North Africa, Sicily and Italy. I was wounded 5 December 1943 and would like to hear from any members of my unit at that time. My fellow soldiers who carried me down the mountain under heavy shelling were very brave men and I would like to know who they were.

DALE MCGRAIN, 29450 KEEL WAY, OXNARD, CA 93035. 805/984-7816.

## THUNDERBIRD TIDBITS

Company A, 179th Infantry (WW II) held their second reunion 11-14 May 1995, at the Sheraton Inn, Charleston, SC attended by 19 members and 17 wives and guests, including General and Mrs Michael S Davison. Activities included a cocktail party hosted by Mickey Becket, bus and boat tours of historical Charleston and a dinner-dance. Peter and Mary Ruth Gaidosh served as reunion chairpersons.

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Maui Korean War veterans of the 45th Infantry Division, Robert Fernandez, George Matsunaga and Richard Miyamoto, participated in a 'SALUTE TO VETERANS' on Veterans Day, 11 November 1995 at the Kaahumanu Mall in Hahului, Maui, Hawaii. Their display included photos and materials from dedication of the Hawaii Korean-Vietnam War Memorials and the National Korean War Memorial.

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Joseph A Romano, Company I, 279th Infantry during the Korean War has performed as a volunteer Santa Claus for over 50 years. He began in December 1944 while stationed in France. With sheets, cotton, red vegetable dye and the help of hospital field personnel, Romano fashioned a Santa costume and made a surprise visit to the front lines. You should have seen their faces when I showed up explains Romano.

He was so touched by the excitement he created he vowed to continue his work. During the next 50 years he would don a red suit, black boots and white beard to bring smiles to thousands of children, veterans and senior citizens in Germany, Japan, Korea and the United States. Over time he was dubbed the "Happy Santa" for his volunteer efforts and relentless good cheer.

Romano a Missouri City, Texas resident makes an annual appearance with Mrs Claus at the annual Missouri City Snowfest and carnival in early December. In 1994 Romano was honored for his many years of community service with a special award from his home town.

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Our article in the February newsletter concerning the 45th Division Museum's need for a wheelchair has produced results. Jack and Ann Lacefield, Yukon, Oklahoma have donated a wheelchair in memory of Ann's father COL Erman E Winner. Erman was a member of the US Marine Corps during World War II and a member of the 45th Division during the Korean War.

He was a Post-Korea member of the Division and was an employee of the Oklahoma Military Department. Wilbert B Buchman, a member of the 157th Infantry during World War II donated \$50.00 towards the purchase of a wheelchair. He stipulated that if we had already received a wheelchair, to put the funds to good use. We accomplished this requirement by depositing his check in the Association Educational Fund. This fund is dedicated to support of the 45th Division Museum and can be used for no other purposes. Actions by these individuals are a true reflection of the "Thunderbird" spirit!!!



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I am proud of having been attached to the 45th Infantry Division during World War II as a member of the 40th Engineer battalion and participating in the amphibious landings in Italy and Southern France. I can look back on some good and some not so good memories in my younger days. This last year we had our 50th Reunion in Eau Claire, WI and as years go by our members are getting fewer. I hope to be able to attend a 45th Division reunion in Oklahoma sometime in the not too distant future.  
ARNOLD H DRYSDALE, PO BOX 2530, WHITE CITY, OR 97503.

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My sincere thanks for your very rapid and informative response to my recent inquiry. My service in the 180th Infantry was brief, 15 December 1951 to 1 April 1952, from Hokkaido to the relief of the 1st Cavalry Division, two and one-half months on line and then to Division reserve, but it was a very good time, and my distinct pleasure to be with and amongst the "dog-face soldiers" THE VERY FINEST MEN IN THE WORLD.

I started out as an eighteen year old marine in the Pacific in 1943, carrying a BAR in Company G, 22nd Marines and wound up as a squad leader on the third and fourth islands we fought on in 1944. After WW II I returned to Dayton, Ohio and attended the University of Dayton and received my degree and an army commission in April 1950.

I went on active duty shortly thereafter and remained so until my retirement as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1968. I served with many different units around the world, but I will always have a special place in my heart for Second Platoon, Company G, 180th Infantry where I served as Platoon Leader for a very brief, but very satisfying time in my life.

THOMAS E DUFFY, 1796 YARDLEY CIRCLE LEXINGTON MEADOWS, CENTERVILLE, OH 48459-6941

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This last summer I took all the members of our family, daughters, their husbands and grandchildren, (a total of 13 persons) to France and Germany to tour some of the areas in which I had fought as a member of the 179th Infantry Regiment during WW II.

When the Mayor of Vimenil, France heard of our arrival, he came to greet us and was most cordial, bringing friends to meet us. He had fought in the French First Army, as part of the US Seventh Army, so we exchanged memories of those wartime days, and much different from the pleasant visit we were now experiencing. It was a memorable meeting.

As part of our tour we visited the military cemetery in Epinal, the city where I had joined the 179th Infantry as a replacement. It was a tremendously moving experience for all of us to see the rows of white crosses and Stars of David, knowing of the buddies who lay under the sod, every one of them a hero. There was many a poignant moment when one of our grandchildren would call out, as they wandered among the markers, "here's another grave, Grandpa, of a man who was in your outfit." These were moments that brought home the terrible tragedy of war: These young men who would never know the joy, as I did at this time, of the love of a good wife and the youngsters who called out to Grandpa as they found the eternal resting places of fallen former comrades. It was the perfect place to urge them all to spare no effort in their lifetimes to work for the cause of peace.

Every member of the 45th can understand what this visit to old battle-grounds meant to me, as I recalled the horrors of the terrible times we spent fighting in these areas. How precious is peace to those of us who have experienced the tragedy of war.

EUGENE B GLICK, 8330 WOODFIELD CROSSING BOULEVARD, PO BOX 40177, INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46240, 317/253-3606.

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I received your address from Hugh Foster III, Carlisle, PA. He probably informed you that you may expect a letter from me concerning (what my American friends prefer to call) the "Battle of Wingen-sur-Moder", Alsace. In January 1945 I belonged to the 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, 6th SS Mountain Division (Nord). I was a Lieutenant assigned as Adjutant of the Battalion which from 2-7 January together with the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry formed the "Combat Group Wingen." I was born in 1922 and am the last living officer of our battalion.

After retirement I started to collect all available data about the fight for Wingen, from our veterans from both battalions (we still have annual reunions), from Wingen civilians and from veterans of the 70th Infantry Division who were involved at Wingen. I have revisited Wingen about 20 times.

My earlier attempts to contact veterans of the 45th Division were not too successful, which is surely my fault. I would certainly appreciate such communication, all the more so, as it was an element of the 45th (probably Company C, 180th Infantry) that put an end to my military activities at 1100 hours, Sunday 7 January 1945.

Even after 51 years I still remember vividly a multitude of encounters with

elements of your Division during the period 2-7 January. I would like to hear from any veterans that would care to swap information and tell their side of the story. I have excerpts from the 179th and 180th regimental histories pertaining to the Wingen area.

WOLF T ZOEPEF, HERDER STR 23, D-25421 PINNEBERG, GERMANY.

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When my wife Mary and I decided on a "cruise" aboard a canal barge in the Alsace region of France, part of the reason for choosing this particular trip was that it was quite close to the hamlet of Fremifontaine, just north of where I received my million-dollar wound in the Vosges forests fifty years prior in October 1944 while a member of Company E, 180th Infantry. We had determined that whatever the circumstances, we would dedicate one day to searching out this little town. So, while the world was concentrating on the fiftieth anniversary celebration of the Normandy invasion, we piled into a minivan and accompanied by the barge captain and his wife, off we went armed with some local area maps and combat situation maps copied from the 180th regimental history.

Berend, our captain-guide was a Dutchman who spoke several languages. He seemed as excited as I weaving along narrow roads, some of them unpaved, my heart leaped as we saw a sign pointing to Rambervillers which my combat map indicated was just north of the hamlet we sought. Then all of a sudden there it was—Fremifontaine, with an arrow pointing up a narrow road, thick forest on either side. I just had to get out and walk in the woods, and the sounds of war came flooding back, the whistle of artillery, the crack of rifle fire and the fast firing machine guns. Someone called from the van, "Was it like this?" and the spell was broken.

But, this wasn't wartime, a beautiful day, I got back into the van with my thoughts and we drove slowly into the cluster of stone houses. There were the unmistakable bullet holes in many of the houses, which brought back memories I had totally forgotten.

We saw an old woman in her garden next to the road, and Berend asked her in French if she remembered this American boy from fifty years ago. She returned a smile, pointing at me, saying, "Ici? Ici?" and when I nodded she came over and in high speed French said that she remembered us very well, thanked God I survived and so on. She was delightful.

We drove thru the town and stopped at a house where a gray-haired man and his family were working in the yard and Berend went thru his routine again. Oh yes, the man said, I remember the Americans very well. I was only eleven at the time and we all hid in the cellar. The American chaplain used our house for his duties for a few days. We absolutely had to come in for a drink, and we did. It was a great day.

JAMES E HILDEBRAND, 506 FOLLOW THRU DRIVE, YAKIMA, WA. 98901

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I am interested in stories, reports, journals, diaries, etc., dealing with the invasion of Sicily 10 July 1943, in which the 45th Infantry Division participated. During the early hours preceding the amphibious landing, paratroopers of the 82nd Airborne Division were dropped behind the beaches. During the night of 11 July paratroopers of the 504th Regimental Combat Team were dropped behind the American lines to reinforce their fellow troopers who had landed the previous night.

As they approached the beachhead, they unknowingly fell in behind a group of German planes that were dropping bombs and drawing intense anti-aircraft fire and ground fire from the troops who erroneously thought that the transports were dropping German paratroopers. 23 of the 144 C-47 Aircraft transporting the 504th were shot down.

I am a member of the Historical Section of the Liberation Museum 1944 at Groesbeek. The museum is dedicated to the liberators of this region, which includes the 82nd Airborne Division.

JAN BOS, DUKAATSTRAAT 5, 6532 RE NIJMEGEN, HOLLAND.

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I served with Company I, 180th Infantry in Korea. I was wounded in action on 7 June 1952 near Sokkogae, North Korea. I was sent to Osaka Army Hospital in Japan and then flown to the USA. I was treated at Fort Hamilton Hospital for war trauma experiences.

My squad leader and two other members of my squad were wounded in this action, however, when I reached the first medical station I was informed by my squad leader that the two other persons did not survive.

My squad leader advised me that I had been recommended for award of the Silver Star Medal, however, I have not received the award and am wondering what happened to the recommendation. If my squad leader is out there somewhere, I would appreciate hearing from him.

GENNARO A SAFFIOTI, 154-32 20TH AVENUE, WHITESTONE, NY 11357.

(Editor's note: The 45th Division Association does not possess combat or personnel records pertaining to the

Korean War and has no authority concerning awards and decorations).

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## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 51ST ANNUAL REUNION

45TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION  
19-21 SEPTEMBER 1996

EVENT	PLACE	TIME
<b>THURSDAY (19 SEPT)</b>		
REGISTRATION	GAZEBO	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
HOSPITALITY ROOM	403	1:00 - 10:00 PM
TRANSPORTATION	ROOMS 427/429	AS REQUIRED
<b>FRIDAY (20 SEPT)</b>		
REGISTRATION	GAZEBO	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
HOSPITALITY ROOM	403	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
ORGANIZATION CP'S	SEE SIGN IN EXHIBITION GALLERY	4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
TRANSPORTATION	ROOMS 427/429	9:00 PM - MIDNIGHT AS REQUIRED
BUSINESS MEETING	APPALOOSA-MORGAN HORSE	2:00 - 4:00 PM
* DINNER	SOUTH BALLROOM (CASUAL)	7:00 - 9:00 PM
* COUNTRY & WESTERN DANCE	NORTH BALLROOM	9:00 PM - MIDNIGHT
<b>SATURDAY (21 SEPT)</b>		
MEMORIAL SERVICE	APPALOOSA - MORGAN HORSE	9:00 - 10:00 AM
HOSPITALITY ROOMS	ASSIGNED ROOMS	11:00 AM - 5:00 PM 9:00 PM - MIDNIGHT
REGISTRATION	GAZEBO	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
TRANSPORTATION	ROOMS 427/429	AS REQUIRED
LADIES BREAKFAST BUFFET	PALOMINO-QUARTER HORSE ROOMS	10:00 AM - 12:00 NOON
THOROUGHBRED RACING	REMINGTON PARK RACE TRACK	12:00 NOON - 5:00 PM
* BANQUET	SOUTH BALLROOM (DRESS - INFORMAL, COAT & TIE)	7:00 - 9:00 PM
* BALLROOM DANCE (LIVE BAND)	NORTH BALLROOM	9:00 PM - MIDNIGHT
<b>SUNDAY (22 SEPT)</b>		
HOSPITALITY ROOM	ROOM 403	8:00 AM - 12:00 NOON
TRANSPORTATION	ROOMS 427/429	AS REQUIRED
* CASH BAR WILL BE PROVIDED. STATE LAW PROHIBITS INDIVIDUAL BOTTLES IN PUBLIC AREAS. "PLEASE COOPERATE"		

Thank you for the fine article in the February 1996 newsletter concerning the Red Cross "Doughnut Dollies". I am sad to report that Sally Stauffer passed away on 20 January 1996.

I joined Company D, 157th Infantry Regiment as a replacement shortly after the Salerno invasion in Southern Italy. Luckily I survived with my machine gun platoon to the end of the war, although being off the line twice with battle wounds.

I first met the "Doughnut Dollies" somewhere in Southern Italy as we were coming down a mountain trail for a few days in a bivouac area. I recall being amazed that these women would endanger themselves so close to the front lines to serve coffee and doughnuts. Their friendliness and banter, along with the food and coffee, were very much appreciated by all.

Sally and I had immediate rapport when we learned that we were from neighboring counties in Pennsylvania. Afterwards when our paths would meet we usually greeted each other with a "Hi Dutch". We did stay in touch after the war and Sally attended several of our Battalion and Regimental reunions.

Several former Thunderbirds in this territory have stayed in touch and news circulated that she was in failing health, but we did not realize the gravity of her condition.

Sally always spoke lovingly of her association with the Thunderbirds.  
RALPH W FINK, 19 WILLIAMSBURG, HERSHEY, PA 17033.

\*\*\*\*\*

I was a replacement assigned to the 45th Signal Company during World War II and participated in three campaigns. I retired from General Motors in 1979 and started a part-time business installing seamless aluminum guttering which I operated until last year.

I survived heart surgery (4 bypasses) in 1989 and will be 75 years old in August. I feel great and hope to be able to attend the reunion this year.  
MARTIN STOCKMEYER SR, 9988 OVERTON, REESE, MI 48757.

\*\*\*\*\*

I served as a medic in Korea with Company E, 180th Infantry during 1952 and 1953 and would like to hear from Sgt Rhodes from Indiana whom

I treated one night when he lost part of his hand. This was a result of throwing back numerous grenades that were thrown into his bunker by the Chinese.

Also would like to hear from anyone who remembers the same night when I led a patrol out to our listening post to treat the wounded and pick up the KIA's. After so many years I have forgotten names, but would enjoy hearing from anyone who remembers me or this incident.

JOHN KEANE, PO BOX 396, DOWNSVILLE, NY 13755, 607/363-7162.

\*\*\*\*\*

My husband, James Paul Clark began his career with the Oklahoma National Guard and was called to active duty 16 September 1940 with the 45th Infantry Division, as a member of the Signal Company. After World War II he remained on active duty and retired after serving 30 years in the Signal Corps.

Jim has been an invalid for the past six years. His brother Phillip Clark who served with the 45th Division during the Korean War, sends him his copy of the 45th Division News. We finally decided it was time for Jim to join the association so that he could receive his own copy.

Jim would appreciate hearing from any person out there who remembers serving with him. MRS JAMES P (JEAN) CLARK, 1226 ENCANTADA AVE, LAS CRUCES, NM 88001.

\*\*\*\*\*

I served with Company L, 179th Infantry during the Korean War. I see Dick Fink once or twice a year, he was "next door" on Heartbreak Ridge as a member of Company K.

In 1989 Dick and I accompanied by our wives, returned to Korea on the Re-visit Program. We rented a car and drove to the East Coast, thru Inje and to Mt Sarah just south of Heartbreak Ridge which is still in the DMZ and is now a huge Ski Resort.

Courtesy of the Korean War Veterans Association we were taken to the DMZ on the east coast where there is a large tourist complex, virtually unknown to western visitors. I hope to get back to Korea again, in view of what they've done, it was certainly worth our fighting for.

I just retired from the Fork Lift truck business after 42 years, the last 37 with Yale where I was the manager of Government sales for the last 13 years.

ROBERT G BECKER, 101 EAST OAK AVENUE, MOORESTOWN, NJ 08057.

\*\*\*\*\*

I enjoy reading the "Letters to the Editor" in the newsletter and decided I might as well participate. I was a member of the 179th Infantry Regiment, Military Police Platoon during World War II and served during the period July 1943 to April 1945 when I was wounded.

My buddy James H Lewis from Booneville, Mississippi served in the MP Platoon with me. I lost track of James after the war and didn't locate him until February 1986. We have been corresponding regularly since then and are wondering how many of our MP Platoon are still around? I am proud to have served in the 45th Division.

Keep up the good work!!!

EUGENE J SICKLES, 45 SCHOOL ROAD, VOORHEESVILLE, NY 12186.

\*\*\*\*\*

I am not in agreement with the wording of Louis Scott in his article "Unsung Heroines" in your February issue. He states that many American women served their country during World War II and that they were 'all' volunteers. Some of us were not volunteers and we felt we did some service that rivaled handing out doughnuts.

I was an Army Nurse at that time and went to dangerous areas in the South Pacific. I was not a volunteer and received \$76.00 a month.

DOROTHY SCHWARZKOPF, 1500 NUECES WAY, EL PASO, TX 79925-2521.



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

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

NAME:.....

ADDRESS:.....

(include City, State and Zip Code)

UNIT: WW II.....KOREA.....POST KOREA.....

GUESTS:.....

(FIRST AND LAST NAMES)

CIRCLE APPLICABLE EVENTS AND APPROPRIATE AMOUNT BLOCKS:

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>BASIS</u>	<u>PAYMENT</u>		<u>AMOUNT DUE</u>
		<u>PREPAID</u>	<u>AT DESK</u>	
REGISTRATION MEMBER		\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
LADIES BUFFET PERSON (Saturday)		\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$.....
DINNER (Friday) PERSON		\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$.....
BANQUET (Saturday)	PERSON	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$.....
		TOTAL PREPAID-----\$.....		

(ENCLOSE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER)

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

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

\*\*\*\*\*

TRANSPORTATION REQUEST

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

RETURN FLIGHT

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

(COMPLETE APPLICABLE BLANKS)





401 SOUTH MERIDIAN AVENUE • OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73108

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

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

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

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

CALL: 405-947-7681

800-522-6620 (OK ONLY)

(PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN LOWER HALF)

CHECK-IN TIME 3:00PM

CHECK-OUT TIME 12:00 NOON

Name of Meeting: 45TH INFANTRY DIVISION REUNION

Name of Group: 45TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

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

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

PLEASE PRINT

Name Worldwar2veterans.org

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Indicate: ☐ Home ☐ Business

Phone #: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

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

ARRIVAL DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

DEPARTURE DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK TYPE OF ROOM DESIRED

SINGLE - 1 PERSON ☐ \$52.00  
DOUBLE - 2 PERSONS ☐ \$52.00  
TRIPLE - 3 PERSONS ☐ \$52.00  
QUAD - 4 PERSONS ☐ \$52.00

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

SPECIAL REQUESTS:

PLEASE LIST NAMES OF THOSE SHARING ROOM:

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



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

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

\_\_\_\_\_ \$75.00 for a Life Membership  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$35.00 for a 10-year Membership  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 for a 4-year Membership  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$ 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.)

cut here



# MEMBERSHIPS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

## LIFE

Brooker, William      Hammond, Rodney W.      Lander, Richard E.      McGrain, Dale      Plunk, Eric F.      Whiteley, George A.

## TEN YEAR

Abbott, Norman R.      Garner, Larry      Martin, Albert C.      Ranahan, Claire M.      Snyder, Donald B.      Williams, Leroy F.  
 Anderson, Howard D.      Gnau, Lawrence E.      Mitchell, Harlen M.      Rossdeutscher, Rodney      Stanley, Frank H. Jr.      Younger, Louis W.  
 Becker, Robert G.      Hambrick, Earnest V.      Muha, Steve      Schiffman, Jimmy J.      Theriot, Whitley J.  
 Botsford, Ronald L.      Herring, John A.      Oberkramer, Louis G.      Seibel, Kenneth G.      Thesman, Herbert V.  
 Daniel, Robert G.      King, James A.      Pollock, Sidney      Sides, Jimmy      Vanstuck, William

## FOUR YEAR

Adams, Edward L.	Buchanan, John V.	Dawson, Carroll W.	Hinkle, Robert D.	Moss, Richard D.	Schuster, Leland W.
Alley, George T.	Busalacchi, Thomas F.	Demarzo, Peter J.	Hitt, Bobby L.	Mossburg, Roy N.	Schutt, Willard A.
Amos, Arthur L.	Busick, Robert A. Jr.	Donovan, George M.	Hosmer, Everett L.	Myers, Charles E.	Scott, Oren E.
Anderson, Robert S.	Bustin, William G.	Drysdale, Arnold H.	Hughes, William R. Sr.	Nastasi, Anthony T.	Shaw, James S.
Andruss, Gene	Campbell, Helen L.	Dull, Lawrence R.	Hunter, Richard O. MD	Nell, W. B. Jr.	Slayton, Garland L.
Baldock, Floyd L.	Campbell, Walter J.	Dzurovcin, John	Jackson, Eugene B.	Nemec, Rudolph J.	Smith, James E.
Baldwin, Gerard D.	Cantwell, M. L.	Edwards, Edgar E.	Jennings, William H.	No, Johnny H.T.	Smithers, Donald C.
Ball, William J.	Charros, Nicholas	Elkins, Paul N.	Jordan, Eugene C.	O'Neill, James P.	Sparks, Carl R.
Battigaglia, Antonio P.	Chase, Lance E.	Fairbairn, Tom N.	Joyce Charles F. Sr.	Orlowski, Walter	Stamper, Joe A.
Berlet, Travis M. Jr.	Cherry, Joseph C.	Farnsworth, Floyd D.	Keane, John	Patterson, John C.	Stern, Herbert Jr.
Berry, Bill D.	Clapper, Hubbard G.	Fedorsic, John	Kirby, Fred H.	Patterson, Vercil L.	Stewart, Marion H.
Blauser, Francis C.	Claycomb, William C.	Fleiner, William J.	Kudner, William	Perduto, James V.	Stine James C.
Blevins, Roy O.	Codd, Bernard P.	Forshee, Vernon E.	Lawrence, Lloyd	Perry, Lewis G.	Stockmeyer, Martin J. Sr.
Boudreau, Richard W.	Conley, Patrick A.	Goad, Carl R.	Lebrun, Ivan J.	Phelps, Ivan R.	Stone, Cliff A.
Brauback, John H.	Conley, Ronald F.	Gray, Bobby C.	Lenagh, E.R.	Piazza, John L.	Stone, Vraine L.
Brazinski, Frank	Coody, James W.	Haidacher, Warren F.	Lewis, J.B.	Pietroviato, Jeremiah	Tamashiro, Melvin S. Sr.
Brooks, Earl E.	Cordova, Pedro A.	Hall, Richard L.	Lewis, Robert H.	Pratier, Carl E.	Terry, Jimmy M.
Brown, David W.	Crothers, Norman F.	Hames Milton E.	Lundager, Donald C.	Raney, Rex	Thomas, Warren J.
Brown, Irvin A.	Culbertson, Floyd M.	Harlow, Thomas F.	Mach, William	Ratner, Al	Triggs, Coit W.
Browne, Robert M.	Culbertson, Robert E.	Hartnitt, Bruce D.	Mallory, Cecil F.	Ravenstein, Ted	Vogel, William F.
Broyles, Alfred C.	Dahlberg, Paul A.	Henninger, Stanley	Malone, Ray L.	Ray, George W.	Wallace, Kendall W.
			Marlow, Francis G.	Reahard, Richard S.	Walsh, William P.
			Marshall, Joe	Rucker, John H.	Webb, Evelyn
			Matthies, Orville A.	Rudis, Kenneth S.	Weidner, Harold A.
			Mayson, John A.	Saari, Robert S.	Wilkerson Robert L.
			McClary, Lewis A.	Saffioti, Gennardo A.	Wilson, William R. Jr.
			Meckel, Leonard J.	Samo, John J.	Wrobel, Paul R.
			Meyer, Raymond M.	Sanders, Daniel L.	Wurman, James W.
			Miller, Harold G.	Sandoval, Eutimio	Wylie, John B.
			Minor, Samuel M.	Scalzo, Natale	Yakshe, John R.

## 45th Division News

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

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**DO NOT SEND ITEMS THAT MUST BE RETURNED!**

45th Infantry Division Association  
 2145 N.E. 36th Street  
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**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

## TAPS

Baana, Arley J.	Harrison, Emil B.	Phillips, Proctor E.
Bennett, L.G.	Hatcher, Jack L.	Pietila, Lauri H.
Bickford, Franklin E.	Holloway, E. Elroy	Prieto, Arthur
Billingsley, A. W.	Hoyo, Joseph R.	Richie, Bob
Bopp, John H.	Hromas, Ernest L.	Schneider, Benjamin F.
Cacy, King W. Jr.	Jevas, William	Shapira, Jake
Caputo, Bruno	Johndrow, Edward A.	Stauffer, Sally A.
Chupco, Louie	Lindsay, James M.	Sturgeon, Jim D.
Cornwell, Fred	Moore, Charles B.	Walker, Billy
Eleford, Jack F.	Morris, Clarence W.	Webb, Arley J.
Fitzsimmons, John L.	Morris J.D.	Weil, Stanley B.
Fleming, Lawrence	Niler, Martin	Wood, Alvin G.
Floyd, Clarence E.		

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