

45th Division News

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WINTER, 1983



Harlos Hatter (right) outgoing president of the 45th Infantry Division Association, visits at the reunion with Ernest Childers, one of the division's Congressional Medal of Honor recipients.

1983 Division Association Reunion Is Set for August 25 through 27

Mark August 25-27 on your calendar for the 1983 reunion of the 45th Infantry Division Association.

The reunion will be held in the Hilton Inn West at Interstate 40 and Meridian in Oklahoma City with pre-reunion activity beginning Thursday afternoon preceding the meeting. Fun will continue until all our out-of-state guests have left Sunday.

Although the program is not complete, Friday's activity will include fellowship, visitation, tours of the city and visits to the 45th Division

Museum.

An informal buffet dinner, bingo and dancing are scheduled for Friday night.

Saturday morning the Thunderbirds will hold their annual memorial service followed by the business meeting.

Saturday night there will be a dinner, entertainment, a speaker and a dance.

You will hear more details in your spring issue of the 45th Division News.

Military Park Develops Around 45th Infantry Division Museum

A military park, displaying vehicles, aircraft and weapons, now surrounds the 45th Infantry Division Museum at NE 36 St. east of Eastern in Oklahoma City.

Approximately thirty-five pieces of equipment, all identified with metal plaques, are in place around the museum. All vehicles and weapons are placed on concrete pads, while aircraft is mounted on metal poles in the air.

Included are tanks, personal carriers, howitzers, light planes and helicopters.

Future plans include landscaping of the entire area, under the chairmanship of Board member Bruce Rey.

The park area surrounding the museum is the property of the City of Oklahoma City on loan to the museum for display and landscaping purposes.

Hal Adamson, Jr. Elected President

Hal Adamson, Jr. was elected president of the 45th Infantry Division Association at the 1982 Reunion, succeeding Harlos V. Hatter.

Adamson lives in Edmond, Oklahoma, and is retired from the Oklahoma Military Department in the rank of colonel. At the time of his retirement, he had 44 years total active duty and National Guard service, setting what probably will be an all-time service record in the Oklahoma Guard, since current restrictions would make it virtually impossible for a 16 year old to sign up.

He served in the 179th Infantry in World War II and Korea. Later he served as division quartermaster and commanded the Supply and Transportation Bn. He served two years as a vice president of the association before being elected president.

Named first vice president of the association was Paul Robinson, while Pendleton Woods was elected second vice president.

Leon Shackelford was elected secretary of the association, replacing Robert Armstrong. Norris Hart was re-elected treasurer.

Adamson and Woods were elected to second three year terms on the association's board of directors.

Elected to first terms on the board were Steve McNabb, William B. Newberry, Mike Jackson and Kenneth Spurgeon.

Anzio Beachhead Vets Will Meet

The fourth annual reunion of Anzio Beachhead Veterans of World War II will be held March 10 through 13 at Orlando, FL.

Anyone who served on land, at sea or in the air, with the Allied Forces from the initial landing on January 22 until May 25, 1944 is invited to attend.

For information write Joe Lombard, 1246 Old Mill Road, Orlando, FL



Receiving Awards of Appreciation from Fred Daugherty, chairman of the 45th Infantry Division Museum, are Ray W. Standifer, Dr. E. T. Dunlap, Dana Batey, Robert Morgan (also accepting Gen. Weber's award) and Chester Bishop (with award accepted by Mike Milligan).

Six are Presented Appreciation Awards by 45th Division Museum

Six men received awards of Appreciation for outstanding service to the 45th Infantry Division Museum at the business session of the annual reunion of the 45th Division Association.

Awards were presented by Judge Fred Daugherty, museum board chairman.

Honored were Col. Dana Batey, for obtaining and renovating historical Army aircraft; Col. Chester Bishop, for longtime service as secretary of the museum board; and Dr. E. T. Dunlap, for assistance in obtaining two tanks and a helicopter for the museum.

Others receiving awards were Maj. Gen. Robert M. Morgan, for outstanding support of the museum in its fourth construction phase; Lt. Col. Ray W. Standifer, Jr., for contribution of structural steel for the fourth construction phase; and Lt. Gen. Lavern Weber, for obtaining

historical artillery and tanks for the museum.

All are from Oklahoma City except Gen. Weber, Washington, D.C., who was then chief of the National Guard Bureau.

180th Infantry Soldier Sought

Major Hugh F. Foster III, of 14512 Walthall Dr., Colonial Heights, VA., in behalf of citizens of Niederwurzbach, Germany, is trying to identify and locate a particular soldier who passed through the town on March 18, 1945.

This soldier, apparently a member of Co. G, 180th Infantry, was temporarily captured in a bakery in that community. If you know who that soldier might have been, or if you were that soldier, Major Foster would appreciate hearing from you.

Subordinate Elements Meet With Association

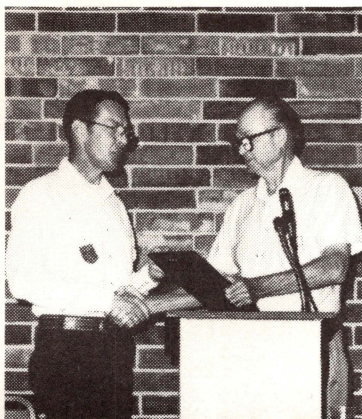
Many of the subordinate elements of the 45th Infantry Division have organized associations which meet under the umbrella and in conjunction with the Division association.

These include the 179th and 279th Infantry Regiments, the 160th Field Artillery Battalion, the division finance section, and other groups.

All these subordinate associations need the names and addresses of former members, some of which may have been uncovered in our membership campaign. A master copy of this list is available in Major Shackelford's office. In addition, the 45th Infantry Division Association is interested in having any names on your own list which may not be in the division master list.

Nix Continues Recruiting

John Nix is continuing his recruiting drive in the Kilgore, TX area and is producing results.



Robert Armstrong, who had served several years as national secretary of the association, is presented a plaque by Harlos Hatter. LTC Armstrong is on a one-year assignment with the National Guard Bureau in Washington.



Major General Robert Morgan, adjutant general of Oklahoma, reports on the state of the National Guard to persons attending the reunion.

New Items Are Contributed To 45th Division Museum

A number of new items have been donated to the 45th Infantry Division Museum in recent months.

Among the gifts are two German flags. One has the name of the Military Police platoon of the 180th Infantry Headquarters Co. inscribed upon it. The other is a German Labor Front flat of the Munchen District.

Another new item in the museum is a Nazi parade banner which was the personal standard of Adolph Hitler. Hitler's emblem is on one end and the national emblem is on the other. The banner has a gold bullion fringe.

Another Hitler item new to the museum collection is a diagram of his

mountain retreat at Obersalzberg. Also new to the collection is a wooden medallion from Herman Goering's home.

Three bronze sculptures new to the museum are entitled "Dog Face," "Rain," and "The Prayer."

An Air Force Elgin wrist watch, issued to pilots and navigators for accuracy in timekeeping in 1945, has been placed in the museum.

Also donated was an H-23 helicopter, given by parents of a young man killed in Korea.

A new major addition to the library were five bound volumes of Stars and Stripes, overseas newspaper.

Daughter of Former Division Head is Writing Biography

Anne Frederick-Hicks, daughter of MG Robert T. Frederick, a former wartime commanding general of the 45th Infantry Division, is researching and accumulating information for a book, which she will be writing early in 1983 on her father.

She would like to hear from persons who served under General Frederick, and who might be able to provide her with information which may be helpful to her in preparing her manuscript.

General Frederick commanded the division from December, 1944 until mid-September, 1945. Earlier he had commanded the First Special Service Forces, a Canadian-American commando type outfit, trained for arctic and mountain combat.

Anecdotes, recollections, first person experiences, and specific pro/con criticism of tactics during battle will be compiled as research for the book.

Write the general's daughter at 557 East Crescent Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94301.

We Seek Prospects For Association

Do you know of prospective members of the 45th Infantry Division Association?

Your most helpful effort would be to solicit and obtain memberships, but you can also help simply by turning in names of prospects to Leon Shackelford, national secretary (3501 Military Circle NE, Oklahoma City 73111).

It is not necessary to solicit the new membership, if you prefer not to. Simply give Leon the names, addresses and former units of any former Thunderbirds you know. They are all around you, and many whom you see regularly are not on our list of former T-Birds.

Widows of T-Birds May Become Members

All widows of former 45th Infantry Division Association members are eligible for membership in the association.

The same rule applies to Thunderbird widows which applied to Thunderbird wives and husbands.

45th Division News

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Hal Adamson, Jr. President
Leon Shackelford Secretary
Pendleton Woods Editor

Address news contributions and other correspondence to Editor, 45th Division News, 45th Infantry Division Association, 3501 Military Circle NE, Oklahoma City, OK 73111.



Maffei Drawings Made Available

Would you like a limited edition Norman Maffei World War II combat sketch.

Norman is making them available, signed, and numbered (up to 200) to former 45th Division members.

Two prints of Thunderbirds in action, each custom individualized and signed, are available, in singles or in pairs, for \$5.00 each, plus 75 cents postage for each order.

One dollar of the purchase price is being donated by Norman to the 45th Division Museum.

Norman, who served in the 45th Division Artillery in World War II, made the sketches while in Italy with the division. He also drew pictures of the division Stateside and in North Africa.

His collection of pictures is now on



MG Robert Morgan, adjutant general of Oklahoma, presents the Oklahoma National Guard Soldier of the Year award to Master Sergeant Walter J. Owens, Hq. 189th Field Artillery Battalion.

Life Member Dues To Be Invested

The 45th Infantry Division Association, at its annual 1982 business meeting, amended the constitution and by-laws to provide that all life membership dues be invested and that only the earnings from that investment be used in the operation of the association.

This action makes mandatory a policy which the board of directors of the association established as an operation procedure in the fall of 1981, at the beginning of its national membership drive. Prior to that time all membership dues — life and otherwise, were placed into the general operating budget.

Now is the time to consider making your own a life membership. You can do so for only \$75.00, and your dues will provide annual income for the association in perpetuity.

exhibit in the special exhibits room of the 45th Division Museum.

Norman's pictures are very popular among veterans. One man from Texas ordered a sizeable quantity for permanent display in an American Legion post.

If you would like to order prints, write Norman Maffei at 7 First Avenue, Franklinville, N.Y.



Thunderbird Deaths

JERRY DON ROOF

Jerry Don Roof, who served as a sergeant first class in the 700th Ordnance Maintenance Co. during the Korean War, and who was a technician at Fort Sill when the Guard was mobilized, died in Lawton recently.

WILLIAM J. EARP

William J. Earp, who was a member of Service Co., 179th Infantry during the Korean War, and who was Supervisor of Engineers at Tinker Air Force Base following the war, died in Oklahoma City. He is survived by his wife, a son and a daughter.

FLOYD W. SHELTON

Floyd W. "Shorty" Shelton, who was a member of Service Co., 179th Infantry, in the Korean War, died last fall of cancer in Carlsbad, N.M. He is survived by his wife, Neosha, and two daughters.

SAM SANTANGELO

Sam Santangelo, formerly with the 157th Infantry Regiment, died recently.

PRESTON J. C. MURPHY

Preston J. C. Murphy, one of the most distinguished soldiers in the history of the 45th Division, died in early January after long illness. Colonel Murphy was the only Thunderbird to command a regiment of the division both in World War II and Korea. Entering World War II with the Colorado National Guard he became wartime commander of the 179th Infantry. By divisional request, he returned during the Korean War to become chief of staff and later 279th commander.

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