

❖ WWII MUSINGS ❖

Volume 8 Issue 2

John D. Bowen, Editor

Mar/Apr 2000



BEST OVERALL MARCHING UNIT IN PARADE



The Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge marchers in the St Patrick's Parade in Washington DC really dazzled the on-lookers and the judges as they marched to the drum beat of the Randolph Macon Military Academy which preceded them. They were voted by the Parade judges as the Best Overall Marching Unit in the Parade on Sunday, 12 March 2000.

Never let it be said that ole soldiers have lost any of their luster of 55 or so years ago when they last had some close order drill. After a minute or two, the marchers had picked up the beat of the drum with their left foot and were off and in step (mostly)! It is amazing how you never forget that training of so many years ago. We were joined by two WWII Jeeps and a 3/4 ton WWII vehicle to carry the walking wounded. A tip of the Irish Top Hat goes to John Dunleavy, our National President, Syd Lawrence, MD/DC Chapter Past President, Poppy Popovich, our No. VA Chapter President, Neil Thompson, Benjamin Layton III, Mike Levin, Tom Dobinski, Francis Heppner, Bill and Mudge Greenville, Carl Brindle and his wife Betty, John Bowen and Ed Green who traveled all the way from North Carolina to march. A number of reenactors drove the vehicles

and carried the colors in their WWII uniform. It was quite a blustery day so it was helpful to have the reenactors carry the flags and were they snappy. The wind also made for cooler temperatures but as the veterans said, "this is nothing, remember we are Bulge Veterans." The public was particularly pleased to see these veterans with a little ZIP and rhythm in their step and applauded the group continuously all along the parade route. The trophy is well appreciated. Now the group will have to have monthly close order drill to maintain their reputation.

The unit was in position C25 and any of you with access to the Internet can see pictures of the parade at <http://come.to/irishparade>. A beautiful picture of the front of our marching unit was featured in the center fold of the Soundoff newspaper of

MILITARY HONORS AT FUNERAL

A funeral with full military honors is a ceremony laden with symbolism, some from ancient times.

At the service, seven riflemen fire a total of 21 shots. This is a holdover from earlier wars, when fighting was halted to remove the dead from the battlefield. When the three shots rang out, the battle would resume. A 21-gun salute is different, involving cannon and being reserved for heads of state.

Draping the casket with a national flag can be traced to the 18th century Napoleonic wars. Dead soldiers were carried from the field of battle on a caisson, covered with a flag. Today, the US flag is placed so that the blue field is at the head and over the left shoulder. The flag doesn't remain on the casket as it is placed in the grave, but is folded into a small triangle and presented to the family. Burial flags are obtained free from the VA, which provides almost a half-million of them annually.

The most emotional and recognized of military bugle calls, the eloquent and haunting taps, *(Continued on Page 10)*



Tom Dobinski & Francis Heppner lead our unit

OPERATION TIGER

The following article from the Department of the Navy, Naval Historical Center, Washington DC appeared in the Victory Division News, Dec 1999, 5th Armored Division Assn, Will Cook, Editor and was submitted by Dee Paris.

In preparing for the Normandy Invasion, the United States Army conducted various training exercises at Slapton Sands in Start Bay and in the nearby Tor Bay, beginning on 15 Dec 1943. Slapton was an unspoiled beach of coarse gravel, fronting a shallow lagoon that was backed by bluffs that resembled Omaha Beach. After the people in the nearby village were evacuated, it was an almost perfect place to simulate the Normandy Landings. The training was long and thorough. The culmination of the joint training program was a pair of full scale rehearsals in late April and early May.

TIGER was the code name of the training exercise for the Utah Beach assault forces under Admiral Don P Moon. It was held from 22-30 April 1944. The troops and equipment embarked on the same ships and for the most part from the same ports from which they would later leave for France. Six of the days in the exercise were taken up by the marshaling of the troops and the embarkation of the landing craft. During the night of 26-27 April 1944, the main force proceeded through Lyme Bay with mine craft sweeping ahead of them as if crossing the channel. Since the German E-boats, which were high-speed torpedo boats capable of operating at speeds of 34-36 knots, sometimes patrolled the channel at night, the British Commander in Chief, Plymouth, who was responsible for protecting the rehearsal, threw patrols across the mouth of Lyme Bay. These patrols consisted of two destroyers, three motor torpedo boats and two motor gunboats. Another motor torpedo patrol was sent to watch Cherbourg, the main ports where the German E-boats were based. Following the "bombardment" on Slapton Sands, the exercise "landings" were begun during the morning of 27 April, and the unloading continued during the day and the next when a follow on convoy was expected.

This Convoy T-4 consisted of two sections from two different ports. The Plymouth section, LST Group 32, was composed of USS LST-515, USS LST-496, USS LST-511, USS LST-531 and USS LST-58, which was towing two pontoon causeways. The Brixham section consisted of USS LST-499, USS LST-289, and USS LST-507. The convoy joined with HMS Azalea as escort and proceeded at six knots

WWII Musings is published for the enjoyment of WWII Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. It is based on the research of John D. Bowen, 613 Chichester Ln, Silver Spring MD 20904-3331 in the Unit Records maintained at the National Archives and Records Administration. Proper credit should be given both to the researcher and to the National Archives. Your comments are welcome. E-mail jdbowen@gateway.net

in one column with LSTs in the same order as listed above. When the convoy was maneuvering in Lyme Bay in the early hours of 28 April, they were attacked by nine E-boats out of Cherbourg that had evaded the Allied patrols. No warning of the presence of enemy boats had been received until LST-507 was torpedoed at 0204. The ship burst into flames, and survivors abandoned ship. Several minutes later LST-531 was torpedoed and sank in six minutes. LST-289, which opened fire at E-boats, was also torpedoed but was able to reach port. The other LSTs plus two British destroyers fired at the E-boats, which used smoke and high speed to escape. This brief action resulted in 198 Navy dead and missing and 441 Army dead and missing according to the Naval action reports. Later Army reports gave 551 as the total number of dead and missing soldiers. The final training exercise FABIUS took place between 3-8 May 1944, without any enemy attacks.

To keep the Germans from possibly learning about the impending Normandy invasion, casualty information on Operation TIGER was not released until after the invasion. On 5 August 1944, Supreme HQs, Allied Expeditionary Force released statistics on the casualties associated with the Normandy Invasion, which included information about the German E-boat attack on 28 April. This information was also published in the 7 August issue of the Stars and Stripes, the daily newspaper of the US Armed Forces in the European Theater. The Textual Reference Branch, National Archives & Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park MD 2074-6001, holds the originals of both these sources. Over the years, details on the training exercises and the resulting losses have appeared in such published sources as Samuel Eliot Morison's *The Invasion of France and Germany, 1944-1945* (1957), volume XI of his 15-volume *History of United States Naval Operations in World War II* and Roland Rupenthal's *Logistical Support of the Armies* (1953) and Gordon Harrison's *Cross-Channel Attack*, which are both part of the multi-volume series, *United States Army in World War*.

Thus, since August 1944, information about the training exercise commonly called Operation TIGER has been available to the public. The Naval records relating to Operation TIGER, which are declassified, are being transferred to the Textual reference Branch NARA. Before transfer, the Operational Archives Branch had placed all the naval action reports from this exercise on microfilm reel, NRS-601. This may be ordered from the Dept. of the Navy, Naval Historical Center, 901 M St SE, Wash DC 20374-5060.

More recent sources on this subject are : Ralph C Greene, and Oliver E Allen, "What Happened off Devon," American Heritage 36, No 2 (Feb/Mar 1985): 2635.

Related resources: Charles B MacDonald, "Slapton Sands: The 'Cover Up' That Never Was," Army 38, No. 6 (Jun 1988): 64-67. "US Toll in France is 70,009; 116,148 Total Allied Casualties." Stars and Stripes [European Edition] 4, no. 237 (7 Aug 1944): 1-2. (Includes a brief description of incident at Slapton Sands. By Operational Archives, Naval Historical Center, Washington Navy Yard, Washington DC

HEADQUARTERS 106TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO #443, US ARMY

27 January 1945

SUBJECT: Action Against Enemy, Report After

(Continued from last issue)

At 170630A December, the enemy succeeded in penetrating the sector of the 423rd Infantry in the vicinity of BLEIALF. He pushed some forces north from BLEIALF while other enemy forces advances south from ANDLER, the two forces effecting a junction in the vicinity of SCHONBERG during the morning. This cut direct communication by road and wire between the units east of the BLEIALF – SCHONBERG ROAD and the remainder of the division. The units cut off were the 422nd Infantry, 423rd Infantry, 590 Field Artillery, part of the 589th Field Artillery, Co B 81st Engineer (C) Bn, Co B, 331st Medical Bn, Co C, 820th TD Bn and Btry D, 634th AAA(AW) Bn (M). Radio communication was maintained with these units until late 18 December. Arrangements were made for supplies to be dropped by air but the weather was non-operational.

The 7th Armored Div did not arrive by 170700A as scheduled. The Commanding General of CC"B," 7th Armored, and some reconnaissance elements of the division arrived at St Vith at 171520A. The reconnaissance elements were disposed in the late afternoon north and northeast of the town to protect the deployment of the division when it arrived.

Meanwhile, the Germans had pushed on through SCHONBERG towards ST VITH. The remaining combat elements available to the division (the 81st Engineer (C) Bn less 2 Cos., with part of the 168th Engineer (C) Bn, the Defense Platoon of Division HQs Company and one platoon of tank destroyers attached) were committed to the east of St Vith. This force stopped the German advance two kilometers east of the town at 171700A.

In the meantime, in the sector of the 424th Infantry, the enemy renewed his attack and by 170830A had occupied WINTERSPELT and pushed northwest towards STEINEBRUCK. This cut off the 106th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop and Troop B, 18th Cav Recon Sqdn in vicinity of MUTZENICH. CC"B," 9th Armored Div was committed in a counterattack when it arrived early 17 Dec, to stop and throw back this German thrust. This counterattack was successful in securing the crossing of the OUR RIVER at STEINEBRUCK and advancing to the north edge of WINTERSPELT, but against continuously increasing enemy resistance. To the north and south of WINTERSPELT the enemy continued to push in with tanks and infantry and he also was meeting with success in the sector of the 28th InfD to the south of the 424th Inf. At 171600A, CC"B," was ordered to withdraw to a defensive position northwest of the OUR RIVER and the 424th Inf was ordered to withdraw and defend west of the OUR RIVER on the south of CC"B."

After the arrival of the Commanding General, CC,"B" 7th ArmdD, and his advance elements during the afternoon of 17 Dec, he was placed in command of a sector to the north of CC"B," 9th ArmdD, including St Vith. Elements of the 106th InfD already in defensive positions around ST VITH were placed under his command. A counterattack to the east in the direction of ST VITH-SCHONBERG-AUW was planned for 18 Dec.

At 180215A, the 422nd Inf and 423rd Inf were ordered to move to the northwest and west against the enemy force in vicinity of the SCHONBERG-ST VITH ROAD and then continue to the area ST VITH-WALLERODE-WEPPELER. They were not successful in breaking through the German forces to their rear.

The enemy continued probing during the night of 17-18 Dec and early on 18 Dec renewed his attack. Tank and infantry units advanced against ST VITH from the east, northeast and north. A company of tanks and a company of tank destroyers were moved from CC"B," 9th ArmdD to the north of St Vith to hold the enemy until the arrival of the combat elements of CC"B," 7th ArmdD, which committed its elements as they arrived, so that by 180930A one battalion of armored infantry and two companies of medium tanks had been deployed. The engineer force east of the town maintained its position against repeated enemy assaults. The fight for ST VITH continued during the day but all German attacks were repulsed.

In the southern part of the division sector, CC"B," 9th ArmdD and the 424th Infantry completed their withdrawal to the west of the OUR RIVER and there maintained their positions during 18 Dec. CC"B," 9th ArmdD defended the sector just south of ST VITH and the 424th Inf on its south. Contact was made with the 112th Inf (28th InfD) which had been separated from the remainder of its division. At 181300A, boundaries were changed by VIII Corps giving the 7th ArmdD that portion of the 106th InfD sector north of the line HOUFFALIZE-ST VITH, (both inclusive to 106th InfD). The 14th Cavalry Group was attached to the 7th ArmdD effective 181300A.....

During the next three days (19, 20 and 21 Dec) a seesaw battle was in progress throughout the division sector. Heavy fighting continued around ST VITH and to the south. The 112th RCT, having been pushed back and cut off completely from its division, was attached to this division at 191600A. It was moved to the northeast and tied in with the southern flank of the 424th Inf, so that these two regiments held the shoulder of the German breakthrough to the south of the division sector. The 106th InfD passed to the control of XVIII Corps (Airborne) at 201600A. All enemy attacks were repulsed and the positions held with only minor changes throughout the sector.

By the night of 21-22 Dec, the fall of ST VITH became imminent and all units of the 106th InfD and 7th ArmdD were pulled back on Corps order to form a perimeter defense west of ST VITH and east of the SALM RIVER. This defensive position was maintained during 22 Dec.

(Continued on Page 9)

(Continued from page 7, 106th InfD December 1944 After Action Report)

REFLECTIONS

by Joseph Zimmer

These reflections were given by the author at the MD/DC Chapter of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge Association meeting, on Sunday, 13 February 2000, at the Ft Meade Golf ClubHouse. It was significant that at this meeting were three generations of one Bulge veteran and Joe starts by recognizing them. Joe served with Company B, 345th Infantry, 87th Infantry Division. His thoughts are shared with those who were unable to attend.

Sarah, Paige, Kevin:

The introductions remind us of the 3 generations present here this Sunday. Let's stop and think about how quickly time flies, not in order to resign ourselves to an inexorable fate, but rather to make full use of the years we still have before us. We have witnessed the end of an historic century marked by lights and shadows and, with today's technology, if we chose, we saw celebrations around the world on TV to warm our hearts.

In our memories, we recall the stages and events of our lives, which are bound up with the history of this 20th century, now closed. We see the faces of countless people, some particularly dear to us women and men. They remind us of ordinary and extraordinary events of happy times and, of situations touched, yes, by suffering and loss. Seventy + is the sum of most of our years, or 80, if we are strong, with varying degrees of life's quality. No matter what however, we are grateful.

Mankind is immersed in time; he or she is born, lives, dies within time, or before their time, as many of our WWII comrades and friends. Birth establishes one date, the first of life, and death another, the last. The alpha and the omega, the beginning and end of our history on earth.

We may often forget in what period we were from – most of the 20th century now ended. Stephen Ambrose, Tom Brokaw, and countless others, hail us by their books and stories. Some of us were survivors of the flu epidemic of the late second decade, our parents, survivors of WWI, we and our parents coping with the Great Depression of the 30's; our own experiences as survivors of WWII and the Battle of the Bulge. Since then, in our contributions to the Cold War from 1949-1989, our parenting and so on.

We meet about six times a year or so, bonding always in memory of what we did and dedication to those who died in battle, and survivors who passed on subsequently. We paid the bills, and never asked which generation should share the burden for the benefits received. That was the American way then.

We never counted ourselves as ordinary threads in the tunic of our clothes, but as the color, those touches of vivid brilliance that gave fuller meaning and distinction to all that we did or became afterwards. Our wives or significant others made their contributions as well in all of this. We are grateful for their love, caring, and support given over their many years. Happy Valentines Day tomorrow, sweethearts, loved ones, we are still here because of you. A monument to true love.

The wrinkles on all our faces seem to tell a story. In them, the strength that has brought us to this point, the stubbornness that keeps us going and, the will to live, are surely evident. The true story of our lives are on our faces.

We have new leadership for our Chapter now. Let us get behind them to the best of our abilities in support of the ideals, meaning and goals of our activities and meetings. Take from this meeting, then, the meaning and purpose of why we come; to give honor, remembrance and dedication to that time we were at our best, solid contributors to a noble cause. We were this land's best security. Happy times til we meet once again.

ARMY TAKING ON NEW LOOK

The US Army is experimenting with new Combat Brigades which will be lighter and more mobile with 700 less people. They will be capable of deploying anywhere in the world in 96 hours. In order to accomplish this, the Army is trading in the Bradley fighting vehicles & the M-1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tanks for a "lighter, more mobile gun system, which is yet to be decided upon, which can be loaded onto a C-130 'Hercules' airplane."

Major Jack Murphy, Transformation Project Officer, of I Corps, at Ft Lewis, Washington said, "we don't necessarily need a tank, we need a gun that can blow holes in buildings and still keep up with a five ton truck." The initial Brigade Combat Teams are the 3rd Brigade, 2nd infantry Division and the 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division. Vehicles are being tested at Fort Knox to serve as the "interim armored vehicle" for the Brigades, while others are examining computer systems and hardware that will "connect" soldiers during operations. "Each Brigade will have three mechanized infantry battalions and a reconnaissance, intelligence, surveillance and target acquisition squadron, otherwise known as a RSTA," Major Murphy said. The initial Brigade Combat teams will have more robust and varied intelligence capability, from the military intelligence company down to the company level. This is not the Brigade that will find the fight by bumping into it," he said.

Computer software being used everyday in the home to browse the Internet, chat and download picture files and movies may be placed in each of the vehicles to allow real-time communication of information, such as the locations of minefields and enemy positions. Having those systems available is a combat multiplier. For example, soldiers who have discovered a damaged road will be able to take a picture of it and upload the image into the brigade intranet. In a matter of minutes, other units in the brigade will be able to plan alternative routes, while engineers begin making a plan for the reconstruction of the road, Murphy said/

This story is based largely from Army Link News Story by Sgt Tim Usrey, Army News Service, 2 Mar 2000, Ft Lewis WA.

Late on 22 Dec, Corps ordered the 106th InfD and the 7th ArmdD to withdraw west of the SALM RIVER, through the 82nd AbnD which had taken up a defensive position along the SALM RIVER and the road running west from SALMCHATEAU. This withdrawal was effected on 23 Dec and the division moved to the vicinity of WERBOMONT. CC”B,” 9th ArmdD and the 112th RCT then passed to control of the XVIII Corps (Abn). The 592nd Field Artillery continued in general support as part of a Corps artillery group.

During the withdrawal west of the SALM River, a task force from the division, composed of elements of the 589th and 590th FA Bns, stopped and held the German advance to the north at BARACQUE DE FRAITURE and protected the right flank of the 82nd Abn Div and the XVIII Corps (Abn), until relieved by elements of VII Corps.

On 24 December, the 424th Infantry was attached to the 7th ArmdD and was again committed in the vicinity of MANHAY, where it took part in the final stopping of the German advance on LIEGE.

On 25 December, the 591st FA Bn and some of the service elements of the division were attached to the 7th ArmdD. The 592nd FA Bn was attached to the XVIII (Abn) Artillery.

By 30 December, all attached units except the 591st and 592nd FA Bns had reverted to division control. At the end of the month, the division was assembled west of the OURTHE RIVER in the vicinity of ANTHISNES for reorganization and resupply.

3. It is presumed that the 422nd Infantry Regiment, 423rd Infantry Regiment, 589th FA Bn, 590th FA Bn and the 106th Reconnaissance Troop were eventually overpowered by the German forces east of ST VITH and the bulk of the personnel captured about 19 or 20 December. The strength of the German attack in the division sector and the forces available to the division at the time prevented their being relieved. Attempts to supply the units by air failed because of the weather, although, as learned later, two drops were made but not within their reach. It is known that they were still in the fight early 19 December. It is also known that prisoners were taken by the Germans. However, the final chapter in the defense of the SCHNEE EIFFEL penetration of the SEIGFRIED LINE held by these units is not now known.

4. The estimated losses sustained during this period were 8490, including 415 killed in action, 1254 wounded in action and 6821 missing in action. A large part of the organizational equipment and most of the individual clothing and equipment of CT 422, CT 423 and the 106th Reconnaissance Troop were lost when these units were cut off in the SCHNEE EIFFEL region. It is believed that the bulk of the equipment was destroyed.

5. On 27 December, First US Army stated that the division would, until further notice, consist of the 106th Division less the 422nd Infantry, 423rd Infantry, 589th FA Bn, 590th FA Bn and the 106th Reconnaissance Troop. The authorized personnel strength of the division would be 409 officers, 30 warrant officers and 6130 enlisted men, or a total authorized strength of 6569. On 31 Dec, the actual strength of the division was 5534.

For the Commanding General

F I Agule
Lt Colonel, A.G.D.
Adjutant General

(Continued from page 7) 30th Infantry Division Fact Sheet

enemy, the German's purpose being to drive to the sea at Avranches and split the American First and Third Armies. The 1st Bn of the 117th Infantry Regt bore the brunt of the assault and was so hard-pressed that all available personnel was thrown into action. The battalion held fast. In a week the Nazi spearhead was broken and the enemy thrown back. In August 1944, the town Reuilly fell to the 30th and the Seine River was soon crossed. In September 1944, an offensive was started near Tournai and Brussels. In mid-September after the Albert Canal and the Meuse River were crossed, the 30th took objectives near Horbach, Germany and completed plans for the assault on the Siegfried Line. This attack opened 2 October 1944 and a breach was made the following day. Contact with the 1st Infantry Division was made 16 October 1944, and encirclement of Aachen was completed. The 30th continued on the offensive in Holland, Belgium and Germany. When Von Rundstedt attempted his breakthrough in December the 30th was rushed to the Malmedy-Stavelot area. Here the 30th gave such a muling to some of Hitler's best troops that the Germans called the Division "Roosevelt's SS Troops." After helping to stem the German winter drive, the Division moved to the Mont Vielsalm, Sart, Lierneux areas. The Roer was crossed in February and the unit headed for the heart of Germany. In March 1945, when the Rhine was crossed, the 30th was one of the first divisions to break out from the bridgehead and it led the dash encircling the Ruhr and trapping thousands of Germans. At war's end the Division was stationed at Saalfeld, Germany. Arriving in the US early in September, the Division trained at Ft Jackson SC under V Corps until inactivated.

These Army Ground Forces Fact Sheets were prepared at the end of the war (1 March 1947) by The Information Section, Analysis Branch, Headquarters Army Ground Forces on each division. They may be found in Record Group 407, Unit Records, for each division, under the file number 3 (Division #) - 0 at the National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Rd, College Park MD.

WOMEN'S MUSEUM MOVING

Now that Ft Mc Clellan has closed, the US Army Women's Museum there has moved to Ft Lee VA and will reopen there in May 2001 in a new 13,315 Sq. Ft. museum. Ft Lee was once a WAC training center during WWII.

The museum will display and categorize women's contributions in the Army from the Revolutionary War to the current service in the integrated Army. In 1978, the Women's Army Corps ceased to exist as a separate entity.

Predecessor organizations such as the WAAC (Women's Army Auxiliary Corps) and the ANC (Army Nurses Corps "were military organizations with similar structure but with out Army rank, officer status, equal pay or Army benefits in 1942," according to an article by Ms Jerry G Burgess, Museum Director.

The WAC achieved full military rank in 1943, however, it was not granted to the Army Nurse Corps until 1944. The WASP's (Woman Air Service Pilot's) were civilian employees during WWI and finally received veteran status recently.

By the end of 1945, there was 57,000 nurses and over 140,000 WACs serving all over the world. Of these totals, special remembrance is given to the 201 nurses who died (16 as a result of enemy action) and 160 members of the Women's Army Corps died from various non-combat causes and 38 WASPs lost their lives. Nine nurses lost their lives in Vietnam, one as a result of hostile fire.

"Over the years, Army women have developed a camaraderie. Every two years since 1978, they came together at the WAC Museum, at Fort Mc Clellan to discuss their past experiences, to meet with former members of their units, or just to meet old friends to celebrate their shared legacy. This tradition will be carried on at Ft Lee and the first reunion will be announced on their website at <http://www.awm.lee.army.mil> "

At the present time all 5,000 of the museum's artifacts, archival material, photograph albums, more them 300 videos and more than 40 exhibits are in storage awaiting for the expected completion of construction in October 2000 when these items will be moved into the new building prior to the May 2001 opening.

The above article is extracted in part from an article by Ms Jerry G Burgess, Museum Director, Ft Lee VA, in the Quartermaster Professional Bulletin/Winter 1999. She is looking for donations of "paper history" such as military records and photographs from their service. Please contact Ms Burgess at 804-734-4327 or E-mail her at burgessj@lee.army.mil if you have items to donate.

(Continued from Page 5 – Military Honors At Funerals)

Was written in 1862 by Union Army Brigadier General Daniel Butterfield, who adapted it from a French infantry "lights out" call he considered too formal. The melody was often tapped out on a drum when there was no bugler, hence its name. Later that year, a Union Captain used the modified call as a substitute during a funeral for the louder rifle volleys that could betray his position to the enemy, camped nearby. Taps had found its way into US Army funeral regulations by 1891.

Courtesy PilotOnline – Military and Lance Renfro,
<warlib@pacbell.net>

Military Internet

Many of you have computers now and have an interest in resources on the Internet for web pages related to the military , WWII and history. This section will list various web page addresses for your convenience . This type of a column is only as good as the input it receives from those of you who have surfed particularly good or resourceful sites. Please e-mail any recommendations to jdbowen@gateway.net for future issues. All addresses start out <http://>

Ardennes-German View

[www.uwm.edu/cgi-bin/jpipes/search/search.cgi?
Q=ardennes&E=1&X=0](http://www.uwm.edu/cgi-bin/jpipes/search/search.cgi?Q=ardennes&E=1&X=0)

Army Bands Online

abonline.monroe.army.mil/history/default.asp

Attebury POW Camp Index

www.homestead.com/atterburypow/files/index.htm

Dictionary American Naval Fighting Ships

www.uss-salem.org/danfs/

Encyclopedia Smithsonian Armed Forces History

www.si.edu/resource/faq/nmah/military.htm

Fort Benning Major Units

www-benning.army.mil/fbhome/MAJORUNITS.html

Korean War Project

www.koreanwar.org

Military Historical Resources on the Web

www.MNSINC.com/cbassfrd/cwzhome/history.html

Military Reunions

[www.usmc.mil/reunions/reunions.nsf/army approved](http://www.usmc.mil/reunions/reunions.nsf/army%20approved)

National Infantry Association

www.columbusga.com/infantryassn/

Great American Web Site

www.uncle-sam.com/

TRADOC-US Army Training & Doctrine Command

www.monroe.army.mil

US Army OCS

www-benning.army.mil/fbhome/ocs/index.htm

US Army Women's Museum

www.awm.lee.army.mil

US Navy History

www.history.navy.mil

WFI Research Group

www.CNTN.net/wfirg

Veteran & Military Organizations

members.aol.com/veterans/warlib67.htm

3rd Armored Division Regiment Museum, Ft Carson CO

www.carson.army.mil/UNITS/3DCAR/museum.htm

4th Infantry Division

www.4thinfantry.org/gbarch2.html

82nd Airborne Division Museum, ft Bragg NC

www.fayetteville.net/museum/82ndairborne/

106th Infantry Division

www.mm.com/user/jpk

Fact Sheet of the 30th Infantry Division

TYPE OF DIVISION: National Guard. Troops from North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee.

NICKNAME: "Old Hickory"

SHOULDER PATCH: An oval monogram OH containing the Roman numeral XXX in the center all in blue on a maroon field. The OH represents the Division's nickname, "Old Hickory" and the numeral the division's numerical designation. The "Old Hickory" Division shoulder patch was designed by 30th Division troops of WWI in honor of President Andrew Jackson, Tennessee statesman who led troops from Tennessee and the Carolinas in the War of 1812.

HISTORY: The division was formed from National Guard units from the four states named above in October 1917, at Camp Sevier, NC. After a brief training period in the US, the 30th went overseas for combined training with the British. In Aug 1918, elements took over the canal sector southwest of Ypres, Belgium, holding there until an Allied offensive opened up late that month for the entire Ypres Lys sector. During the Somme offensive in Sep and Oct 1918, the division helped break the Hindenburg Line near Bellicourt and later participated in the battle of LaSalle River. The 30th's Field Artillery units fought separately, taking part in the St Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne offensives. The division took 3848 prisoners and suffered 8954 casualties.

INDUCTION DATE: 16 September 1940.

INACTIVATION DATE: 25 November 1945 at Camp Jackson, South Carolina.

COMPONENT UNITS: 117th, 119th and 120th Inf Regts; 30 Cav Rcn Tp (Mecz); 105 Engr Combat Bn, 105 Med Bn. Div Arty: 118th, 197th and 230th FA Bns (105 How) and 113th FA Bn (155 How). Sp Tps: 30 QM Co, 30 Sig Co, 730 Ord Co (LM), Hq Co, MP Plat and Band.

TRAINING UNDER ARMY GROUND FORCES: Began its training at Fort Jackson, SC, and in June 1941, took part in Tennessee maneuvers. During Oct and Nov 1941, the Division participated in the Carolina Maneuvers. On 9 Mar 1942, the 30th came under the control of the Army Ground Forces after having changed its station to Camp Blanding FL. In May 1943, the Division transferred to Camp Forrest, TN and in September of the year took part in the Second Army maneuvers held in Tennessee. In November 1943, it went to Camp Atterbury, Indiana..

DEPARTED U.S. FOR FOREIGN DUTY: 11 February 1944.

OVERSEAS TRAINING: Resumed training immediately after arriving in the United Kingdom, much stress being placed on amphibious operations.

DATE ENTERED COMBAT: DIVISION 15 Jun 1944 FIRST ELEMENTS 10 Jun 1944.

COMBAT DAYS (DIV): 282.

BATTLE CREDITS: (Division) Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes, Central Europe.

RETURNED TO US: 21 August 1945 (Hq).

SUCCESSIVE COMMANDING GENERALS: Major General Henry D. Russell from 31 Dec 1940 to Apr 1942; Lt Gen (then Major General) William H. Simpson from May to Jul 1942; Major General Leland S. Hobbs from 9 Sep 1942 to Sep 1945; Major General Albert C Cowper from Sep 1945 to inactivation..

DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATIONS: 1st Bn, 117th Inf for 7 Aug 1944 action at St Barthelay, France; 117th Inf for 7 Aug 1944 action in France; 1st Bn 117th Inf for 2 Oct 1944 action in Germany, 1st Bn, 120th Inf for 8-12 Oct 1944 action in Germany; Co E, 117th Inf 16 Oct 1944 for action in Germany; 1st Bn (reinf) 119th Inf for 19-21 Dec 1944 action in Belgium; Co K 120th Engr Cmbt Bn for 6-12 Aug 1944 action in Normandy; 1st & 2nd Platoon AT Co, 120th Inf for 6-12 Aug 1944 action in Normandy and 2nd Bn 120th Inf for 6-12 Aug 1944 action in Normandy.

CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR WINNERS: 1st Lt Raymond O. Beaudoin, Co F 119th Infantry Regiment for 6 Apr 1945 action near Hamelin, Germany; S/Sgt Paul L. Bolden, for 23 Dec 1944 action at Petit-Coo, Belgium; Sgt Francis S. Currey, Company K, 120th Infantry for 21 Dec 1944 action near Malmedy, Belgium; S/Sgt Freeman V. Horner, Co K, 119th Infantry for 16 Nov 1944 action at Wurselen, Germany; Pvt Harold G. Kiner, Co F 117th Infantry Regiment for 2 Oct 1944 action near Palenberg, Germany; S/Sgt Jack J. Pendleton, Co I 120th Infantry Regiment for 12 Oct 1944 action near Bardenberg, Germany.

FOREIGN AWARDS: Awarded the Belgian Fourragere for 4-10 Sep 1944 action in Tournai, Lourain, Waterloo and Tongres area, and for 17-25 January 1945 action at Malmedy, Belgium, per Belgian decree 1393, dated 20 Nov 1945.

COMBAT HIGHLIGHTS: The 30th came ashore in Normandy on 15 Jun 1944, spearheaded the St Lo breakthrough and kept in the forefront all the way into Paris and into Germany. It was one of the first to enter Belgium and Holland. Its first mission on landing in France was to secure the high ground north of the Vire et Taute Canal. Le Ray soon fell before the rolling 30th and the mission of clearing the north bank of the canal was completed by 17 June. On 7 July the Division moved forward again, crossing the Vire River and penetrating as far as St Jean-de-Day. Beginning 25 July the 30th took part in one of the war's memorable actions, the St Lo breakthrough. Advances were slow in July, but by 6 August the 30th relieved the 1st Infantry Division near Mortain. Suddenly the Division was attacked by five armored divisions of the

(Continued on page 5)

BULGE UNIT REUNIONS

16-20 May 2000, 97th Signal Bn Assn, Lafayette LA Best Western Hotel. Contact

Secretary at 757-464-0513, 3608 Dupont Circle, Virginia Beach VA 23455, Web Page www.kilburn.org/97thsigbn

1-4 Jun 2000, 26th Inf "Yankee" Div, Hampton Inn, Westport MA. Contact George Linthicum, 2605 Orchard Dr, Broomall PA 19008, 610-356-9552

6-10 Jun 2000 750th Tank Bn, Louisville KY, Contact John R. Walker 817-926-0925.

6-10 Jun 2000 101st Abn Div Assn, Ft Campbell KY, Contact D. Herrington.

28 Jun - 2 Jul 2000, 526th

Armd Inf Bn, Boise, ID Contact Glenn Damron.

23 -26 Aug 2000 31st InfD, Radisson Inn, Colorado Springs North, CO. Contact Leo Logel, 2060 Fox Run Road, Dayton OH 45459-3416, 937-435-1679.

31 Aug - 4 Sep 2000 National VBOB Reunion, Colorado Springs CO. Contact: Nancy Monson, PO Box 11129, Arlington VA 22210-2129, Tel 703-528-4058.

1-5 Sep 2000, 1st Inf Div Society, Philadelphia PA, Contact Ed Burke 215-661-1969.

6-10 Sep 2000, 83rd InfD Assn., Friar Tuck, Catskill NY. Contact Pat Di

Giammerino, 36 Border Rd, Malden MA 02148-1104, Tel 781-322-2754.

7-11 Sep 2000, 106th InfD, Airport Marriot, St Louis MO. Contact Armed Forces Reunions, Inc, PO Box 11327, Norfolk VA 23517

10-17 Sep 2000, 87th Inf Div, Fairview Park Hotel, Arlington VA. Contact Earle Hart, Div Commander, 610-366-9079 or Dorothy Davis, 301-881-0356.

13-16 Sep 2000, 28th InfD Pennsylvania National Guard Heritage Assn, Fort Indiantown Gap Annville, Hill Top Club.

Contact Raymond P. Perks 215-632-3403

20-22 Oct 2000, 167th Signal Photo Co, Houston TX. Contact Steve Baldwin 281-452-3425.

15-16 Dec 2000, Commemoration of the 56th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge, by BOB Historical Foundation and Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, Arlington VA and Arlington Cemetery, VA. Hotel accommodations at Sheraton Park Hotel, Arlington VA. Contact Ms Dorothy Davis, 301-881-0356.

Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, MD/DC

John D. Bowen, Editor

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Silver Spring MD 20904-3331

MARCHER & WWII MUSINGS

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NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

Sunday 9 April 2000

Ft Meade Golf ClubHouse
Off of Mapes Road

Contact Neil immediately!

FIRST CLASS