

❖ WWII MUSINGS ❖

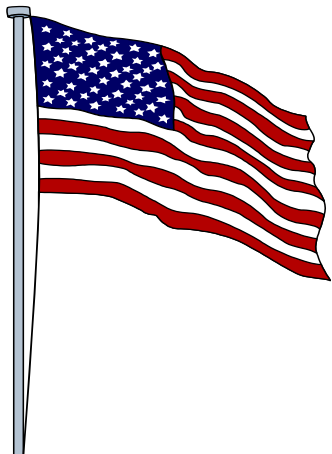
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John D. Bowen, Editor

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FLAG DAY, 14 June 2001



WWII MEMORIAL APPROVED

The Congress has passed and sent to the President for his signature, legislation that will stop all further review of the WWII memorial and authorizes the immediately start of construction for the World War II Memorial on the Mall in Washington DC at 17th Street NW.

It is expected that the President will sign the WWII Memorial Bill in a special ceremony on Memorial Day 28 May 2001. This would be an appropriate occasion as we stop to remember all who have sacrificed for our Country.

The Memorial is expected to be completed in 30 months in 2004.

GENERAL ORDER No. 11

5 May 1868

The 30th day of May 1868, is designated as Decoration Day... Let us then, at the time appointed, gather around their sacred remains and garland the passionless mounds above them with the choicest flowers of the springtime; let us raise above them the dear old flag they saved from dishonor, let us in this solemn presence renew our pledges to aid and assist those whom they have left among us a sacred charge upon a nation's gratitude, the soldier's and sailor's widow and orphan...

General John A. Logan

Commander-in-Chief

Grand Army of the Republic

General Logan is buried in the Soldier's Home Cemetery Washington DC

FLAG DAY

This coming June 14th will mark the 224rd birthday of our American Flag. Flag Day like Patriots Day (April 19th) is not a holiday but it is a time to fly our nation's colors. As former soldiers, this beautiful red, white and blue emblem has led this nation in peace in war. On Memorial Day it is fitting that the 3rd Infantry places this flag beside each deceased military persons grave in Arlington Cemetery to remember the many who gave so much in their service to our country.

It was not until 1777 that the Continental Congress adopted the Stars and Stripes pattern for our nation's flag and it took 100 years to first celebrate this flag and in 1949, President Harry Truman signed legislation making Flag Day a day of National Observance.

The current design has not changed since 1960 when the 50th star was added for the admission of Hawaii as a state. Each of the thirteen, alternating red and white stripes represent one of the 13 original colonies.

If you haven't an American flag they can readily be purchased at hardware stores and the VFW and American Legion. It should not be displayed after dark unless lighted.

The dry cleaning industry will generally clean your flag for free. Check with any cleaners and ask if they clean American Flags for free.

When the flag gets tattered and worn or cannot be cleaned it should be properly disposed of. It should be thrown in the trash. The Code suggests that "when a flag has served its useful purpose, it should be destroyed, preferably by burning." For individual citizens this should be done discreetly so that the act of destruction is not perceived as a protest or desecration. Many American Legion Posts hold Flag Disposal Ceremonies on June 14th, Flag Day, each year. This ceremony creates a particularly dignified and solemn occasion for the retirement of unusable flags. Those having 48 star flags should call the Editor for disposal information (301-384-6533).

Each honorably discharged veteran is entitled to a flag from the VA for their casket. A copy of your discharge is necessary and should be placed among your personal papers for your family to use at the time of your death. There is a certain honor and beauty to a flag draped casket and one should not hesitate to have it draped on a casket in lieu of those expensive flowers sitting on the casket half.

Info for this article came from a number of sources including Flag Etiquette by the American Legion and Sun Tzu org web site.

EDITOR'S CORNER

D-DAY

This June 6th marks the 57th anniversary of the greatest armada of fighting troops to storm the shores of Normandy. These brave men that went in with the first waves we are indebted to for their courage and fortitude though some would say they had no other choice. This is not to minimize the courage and fortitude that it took for all combat veterans in other invasions nor those who were to come ashore later to fight upon the continent. This invasion surely could have been another Dunkirk, where the British was pushed back into the sea, had we not been able to totally fool Hitler as to where the main invasion was to occur. Hitler believe that our main invasion was to be at Calais and figured that the Normandy affair was just a skirmish to distract the Germans from the main assault. Thus he would not release his 15th German Army until almost three weeks later when they were ineffective. Had we not fooled Hitler it is likely that we could have been pushed back into the ocean by the 15th German Army. General Eisenhower was prepared for that eventuality as he had handwritten a memo taking full responsibility for the failure of D-Day. This is one of those memos in the National Archives that exists but never occurred. Such a tenuous foothold had to be made when our troops were most vulnerable. This Memorial Day the families of Bedford, Virginia will honor with a dedication, their memorial and museum to so many of their young citizens that were in those initial waves, that day, that lost their lives. It is appropriate to remember again all those who participated in one of the greatest invasions of all times, and which began the final downfall of Nazism in Europe. In less than a year the Germans were driven back into their homeland and the war ended. It was the courage and sacrifice of those who landed that day, on the 6th of June 1944, that established the beachhead from which victory was to ensue. Many of those that survived would in a later day join in the greatest battle ever fought by the United States Army, the Battle of the Bulge, the final gasp of Hitler's Armies. On this Memorial Day, let us remember all veterans of all wars, who have died, especially those who made the ultimate sacrifice. We salute each of you for your service and remember your Triumph of Courage.

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

WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

It is encouraging that finally Congress has come to its senses and has passed the necessary legislation to get the construction of the WWII Memorial started right away.

The legislation passed makes the construction on the Mall immune from further dilatory delays by folks with their own agenda and lack of respect for you our WWII veterans. The House passed their Bill with 400 Yeas, 15 Nays* and 16 Not Voting**. The Senate Vote was unanimous.

The Congress has spoken and has shown their appreciation once again of the service to our great country and of the sacrifices of you the Greatest Generation.

What some fail to realize with all this B - - - S - - - about vista and .history is that the Potomac River came almost up to 17th Street, the site of this Memorial and there was no Mall until well into the 19th century when the river was pushed back by back-filling to make the Mall that we know today. That is when they placed the Lincoln Memorial at the end of the landfill where it sits today. It is time to get on with the construction so that some of our WWII heroes will be able to see it completed.

* NAYS : Bereuter, Berman, Clay, Gilchrest, Harman, Hinchey, LaFalce, Lee, Miller Geroege, Oberstar, Snyder, Stark, Stupak, Taylor (NC), Waxman.

** NOT VOTING: Allen, Brady (PA), Fattah, Hall (OH), McInnis, McIntyre, Mollohan, Obey, Platts, Postman, Ros-Lehtinen, Sanchez, Slaughter, Souder, Whitfield, Young (FL).

We have published all of the Fact Sheets for Bulge Infantry Units but the 101st AbnD Fact Sheet that are available in the Archives Unit records.. For whatever reason it does not appear that the 2nd, 4th, 80th, 82nd are available though I continue to look for them in my research. The 101st AbnD will be published in December. I have begun a search for the Fact Sheets for the Armored Units in the Bulge. Though we have previously published histories of the Armored Divisions through the courtesy of the Armored Magazine, I thought it might be nice, especially for those who have been collecting these Fact Sheets to run the Armored Division Fact Sheets next. My preliminary search indicates that not all of the Bulge Armored Divisions have fact sheets. In the interim until I locate them, I have taken the liberty to publish in this issue a Fact Sheet for a non-Bulge Unit, the 38th Infantry Division which served in liberation of the Philippine Islands. The reason I have this one is because my son, David is presently a member of this Division in the Ohio National Guard. This division now serves the National Guard units of Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, and West Virginia, with I believe headquarters at Camp Atterbury IN. Speaking of Camp Atterbury, there is an outstanding Web Site run by Jim West for Camp Atterbury Indiana and the units that served there specifically, the 83rd "Thunderbolt" Infantry Division, the 30th "Old Hickory" Infantry Division, and the 106th "Golden Lion" Infantry Division all of whom served in the Bulge. The 92nd "Buffalo" Infantry Division of WWII. It also includes the Korean War Divisions of the 28th "Keystone" Infantry Division and the 31st "Dixie" Infantry Division which served there. The web site is www.indianamilitary.org

ACTION AGAINST THE ENEMY REPORT
HQ 26th Infantry Division
1-31 January 1945

The following report is a continuation from our last issue of the 26th InfDs After Action Report for January 1945 and concludes this After/Action Report. As stated in our last issue the text of the report was extremely difficult to read and in many cases the names of towns could not be deciphered or were really butchered. Record Group 407 National Archives & records Administration.

17 Jan 45 – Although no change in Trs on MLR was effected during the period, strong combat patrols operated in Z to front and contact was maintained with 90th InfD on left and 80th InfD on right.

18 Jan 45 – Div continued to improve present front line position and maintained active combat patrols. 1st Bn 104th Inf relieved 2nd Bn 104th Inf on Pos, 2nd Bn then displaced to Assembly area vicinity KAUNDORF as Regimental Reserve. 1st Bn 328th Inf relieved 2nd Bn 328th Inf on pos, 2nd Bn retired to Assy area vicinity BERLE as Regimental Reserve.

19 Jan 45 – Div continued to improve present front line position, maintained active combat patrols and completed plans and reconnaissance for attack in Zone to NE H-hour D-Day. 6th Cavalry Grp relieved 104th Inf on Position and assumed responsibility for Zone; 104th Inf displaced to Assy area vic KAUNDORF>

20 Jan 45 – During day and night 20 Jan 2nd Bn 101st Inf pushed forward to WILTZ River and reconnoitered for Bridge site in Zone. 3rd Bn 328th Inf pushed forward, established bridgehead across WILTZ River, secured high ground E of River and provided protection for supporting Engineers during construction of Bridge at (P 652565). Other elements of Div moved to more favorable positions preparatory to launching coordinated attack H-hour D-day.

21 Jan 45 – Div launched attack 0830 Jan 45 (two regiments abreast, 328th Inf on left 101st Inf on right) and forward elements advanced steadily against moderate resistance. 2nd Bn 101st Inf cleared and secured BRUHL and NOERTRANGE and organized high ground NE of NOERTRANGE. 1st Bn crossed WILTZ River and after securing high ground N of WILTZ entered the town from the W and in conjunction with elements of 6th Cavalry Group proceeded to mop up pockets of resistance in the town. 3rd Bn cleared area NW of WINSELER and reverted to regimental reserve vicinity NOERTRANGE. 2nd Bn 328th Inf cleared and secured GRUMELSCHEID and organized high ground NE of GRUMELSCHEID. 1st Bn advanced rapidly to high ground vic BRACHTENBACH while 3rd Bn provided security for Div left (W) flank and maintained contact with elements of 90th InfD. 104th Inf (Division Reserve) vicinity BOULAIDE-BASCHLEIDEN-ARSDORF continued program of training and reorganization.

23 Jan 45 – Throughout period 101st Inf and 328th Inf regrouped troops and maintained aggressive combat patrols destroying enemy in Zone to CLERF River. 104th Inf (Div Reserve) vic BOULAIDE-BASCHLEIDEN-ARSDORF continued program of training and reorganization.

24 Jan 45 – Div launched attack 240900 Jan 45, two regiments abreast, 101st Inf on right, 328th Inf on left. 101st secured bridgehead across CLERF River SE WEICHERDANGE, 2nd and 3rd Bns crossed CLERF River and organized high ground vicinity POLER; 1st Bn, Regimental Reserve, Vicinity KAUTENMUHIE. 1st and 3rd Bns 328th Inf crossed CLERF River and organized high ground E of CLERF River. 2nd Bn, Regiment Reserve, vicinity BOEVANGE-LES-CLERVAUX

25 Jan 45 – Div continued attack against increasing stubborn hostile resistance. 1st Bn 101st Inf in conjunction with elements 6th Cavalry Grp, cleared and secured CLERVAUX and during hours of darkness 2d and 3rd Bns reorganized positions on more favorable terrain SE of WEICHERDANGE preparatory to continuation of attack. 1st and 3rd Bns 328th Inf advanced steadily throughout period and cleared and secured URSPILT and REULER. 104th closed in Assembly area vicinity WILTZ and NOERTRANGE and initiated program of training and reorganization.

26 Jan 45 – 101st Inf continued attack 260900 Jan 45. MARNACH was cleared and secured as well as the high ground E of CLERVAUX and DRAUFFEL. During night positions were consolidated and strong patrols operated in Zone. 28th Inf continued attack 260600 Jan 45; KOCHEREY and FISCHBACK-LES-CLERVAUX were seized and secured. During night positions were consolidated and strong patrols operated in Zone.

27 Jan 45 – Elements 17th Abn Div and elements 6th Armd Div closed in 26th Inf Div sector and Rcn and plans were initiated for relief of 101st Inf and 328th Inf by these units. 104th Inf and 26th Cav Rcn Troop moved by motor from area vicinity WILTZ and NOERTRANGE to area vicinity BOULAT (MOSELLE), France. During afternoon and night relief of 101st Inf by elements of 17th Abn Div and relief of 328th Inf by elements 6th Armd Div were completed; 101st Inf and 328th Inf then displaced to Assembly Area preparatory to moving by motor to vicinity BOULAY (MOSELLE), France.

(Continued on page 6)

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, 22 Apr 2001, at the Ft Meade Golf ClubHouse. Joe served with Company B, 345th Infantry, 87th Infantry Division. His thoughts are shared with those who were unable to attend.

Since last we met, ten weeks ago, much has occurred to warm our hearts. Spring arrived and, many of us, able to do so, got outdoors more often to do needed Spring cleanup, planting and gardening. What a contrast to what we were doing 56 years ago, in the deep snows and dense woods of the Ardennes, like our speaker today, our own Colonel Doug Dillard, who's "Lost Battalion" finally received its long overdue Presidential Unit Citation Award, from Army Chief of Staff, General Eric K. Shinseki, at a Pentagon ceremony on February 23rd.

Our Chapter received the People's Choice Award at the annual DC St Patrick's Parade. This followed their winning last year's Best Overall Marching Unit Award. We can feel so proud of all those brave souls who participated, for their élan and special grace. Congratulations!!

Then we witnessed the events in the Straits of Taiwan, wherein we saw once again, our men and women in our armed forces, our diplomats and commander-in chief comfort themselves in a manner we can all be proud. We can all be grateful for how it all turned out, with the safe return of our 21 men and 3 women aboard the EP-3 Reconnaissance aircraft. We can cheer the 26 year old pilot, Shane Osborn, of Norfolk, Nebraska, whose skill, bravery and courage enabled him to bring his disabled plane to a safe landing on Hainan island.

We found out also that, in tearing down the old Memorial Stadium, built in 1954, and home to the Baltimore Colts and Baltimore Orioles, our posterity was destined to lose the wall dedicated to World War II Veterans. However, the façade will be integrated into a planned senior housing/commercial development. Efforts have continued to delay or kill the WWII Memorial on the Mall in Downtown DC with frivolous lawsuits. Over \$120 million has been raised. Once construction is underway, it will take another 2 1/2 years to complete. Looks like we're into 2004 at the moment. We deserve better, we summa cum laude grads of the school of hard knocks.

All of these tidbits are but a prelude to speak to you again about who we are. Since our Chapter's inception, we have had ten presidents who have taken the time to protect the legacy we represent. There are no blank pages to our story, nor should there ever be. True, the story is old and, yet with very few wrinkles, not weather-beaten either, nor too ancient to look at again. We are tempted often to dip in and out of the dream of memory to underline the tale, keeping it in focus, or, in as much focus as such emotional turmoil can achieve. We were always courting or floating with death, many times creating our own special kind of hell. We continue to feed, one presumes, on the excitement and, yes, the danger, of those years long ago, in the sunset of our lives. The bright sun we gave our world still warms us, and sparkles from time to time in memories and in our Chapter meetings. We mourn at the moment, the passing of one of our past presidents, Benjamin Layton, who left us in late February.

The fluid narrative of our stories and experiences, in epic proportions, the wretched aftermath of the dead, those wounded or captured, hold us together one more time by the intensity of their meaning. No other military organization had such an aristocracy of greatness, an aura of mysterious specialness – composure – intelligence – arrogance, a little something extra when it matters. When we each look back, we see our former selves, numerous as the trees in the Ardennes. As to death, we gave it only a quick glancing thought; make a mistake and you might die.

Our meetings, commemorations, funerals attended, our museum and special tabled room, all capture the archive we employ to tell the world what actually happened. The conflict, horror, courage and bravery, memories of the dead and wounded, all fit the record well. It was a significant journey, we each performed very well and, the world has been applauding us since, even to this day. Finally, there is a fitting line from the musical "Carousel" that speaks to all of our effort. "You are not dead as long as someone who is alive, thinks of you, speaks of you." As Douglas MacArthur said fifty years ago in his closing farewell to the US Senate, "Old soldiers never die, they just fade away." - - - As Thercydides said at the funeral oration of Pericles (431 B.C.), "Heroes have the whole earth for their tomb."

impassable terrain in addition to a well developed and interlocking series of caves, pillboxes, tunnels and artillery emplacements. Here division troops defeated the Japanese in a series of bitterly contested engagements culminating in the seizing of the Marakina River line and the capture of strategic Wawa Dam, an important source of water supply to Manila. Division troops engaged in combat with the Japs in the bamboo thickets and mountainous terrain of the Marakina area up to and after V-J Day. The division was alerted for home in late September; elements arrived during October with inactivation shortly thereafter.

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.

WWII POINT SYSTEM

When the war in Europe ended how many recall the point system to get home after the war? General Marshal talked to the 79th Congress, 1st Session on Demobilization of the Army and stated that hoped to discharge on basis of 2 years of service and that we should release 450,000 in September 1945, 550,000 in October 1945 and thereafter 700 to 800 thousand each month until next Spring.

As of 1 September Officer Separation required the following points:

Colonels thru Majors	100 points
Captains thru 2nd Lt's	85 points
Warrant Officers	80 points

Enlisted Separation required 80 points however on 1 October the points required would drop from 80 to 70 points and on 1 November the points required would drop from 70 to 60 points.

Of course there was still a war going on in the Far East and the War Department had a Redeployment plan that was set-up in four categories for units:

Cat I those units to be retained as occupational troops.

Cat II those units to be transferred to an active theater, either directly through the US or transferred to the US to be placed in strategic reserve.

Cat III those units to be converted or reorganized (to include necessary activations and deactivations) and upon completion thereof to fall under Cat I or II.

Cat IV those units to be demobilized.

To assist in point system a Service Score Card was recommended by the Morale Services Division as follows:

1.	# of Months in Army	1 pt/mos
2.	# of Months Overseas	2 pts/mos
3.	# of Months in Combat Zone	3 pts/mos
4.	# of Wounds recvd per Purple Heart Award	6 pts/PH
5.	# of Children (Under 18)	12 pts/kid

However in a Statement by the Secretary of War Harry L. Stimson in a Press Release on 10 May 1945 the War Department Demobilization Plan was published. To each enlisted man & woman an Adjusted Service Rating Card would be given as follows:

1. Service Credit – 1 point for each month of Army Service since 16 Sep 1940 (This is the same as 12 points per year).
2. Overseas Credit – 1 point for each month served overseas since 16 Sep 1940 (This too is the same as 12 points per year).
3. Combat Credit – 5 points for the first & each additional award of the following for service performed since 16 Sep 1940:

a. DSC, DSM, Legion of Merit, SS, DFC, Soldiers Medal, BS, Air Medal, PH and Bronze Service Stars (Battle Participation Stars).

b. Credit will also be given for the following decorations awarded by the Navy Dept: Navy Cross, DSM, Legion of Merit, SS, DFC, Navy & Marine Corps Medal, BS, Air Medal and PH.

c. Credit will be given for those awards and decorations of a foreign country which may be accepted and worn under the War Dept Regulations in effect when the Readjustment Regulations are placed in operation.

4. Parenthood Credit – 12 points for each child under 18 years up to a limit of 3 children.

There would be :

One critical score for all Enlisted Men in Army Ground Forces and Army Service Forces.

One critical score for Army Air Forces.

One critical score for WACs

Holders of the Medal of Honor will be eligible for release upon their request.

Married members of the WAC will be released at their own request if their husbands have been separated from the Armed Forces and returned to civilian life.

Enlisted personnel would be processed at 22 reception Centers and if non-essential would be transferred to Separation Centers to be out in 48 hours.

Essential Enlisted Personnel would be held. These included such categories as Signal Corps, radar, crypto and translators.

Officers must pass a military necessity test and must be declared surplus by his theater commander.

By 1 December 1945, however a new policy was issued which did the following:

Combined ASR Score & length of service

Male Officers (excluding Medical Dept) ASR of 70 or 4 Yrs Svc.

WAC Officers ASR of 37.

Medical Dept Officers – No change for present.

Male Enlisted ASR of 50 or 4 yrs of service.

Female enlisted ASR of 32.

All enlisted fathers with 3 or more children under 18 years of age are eligible for discharge irrespective of length of service or

EULOGY FOR A VETERAN

Do not stand at my grave and weep.

I am not there, I do not sleep.

I am a thousand winds that blow.

I am the diamond glints on snow.

I am the sunlight on ripen grain.

I am the gentle Autumn rain.

When you awaken in the morning's hush,

I am the swift uplifting rush

Of quiet birds in circled flight.

I am the soft stars that shine at night.

Do not stand at my grave and cry,

I am not there, I did not die.

Author Unknown

Day of Flags

Day of Flag
Day of Sorrow
Wreath so round, and yet so hollow.

Little children with tears, they cry
"Mommy, Why Did Daddy have to die?"

He left with courage, he left with pride
Upon planes and tanks, he did ride.

There're no winners in war, you know.
It's the children's hearts
That are the first to go.

The children they left
Both large and small
To stand up straight
To stand up tall.

With Daddy gone
There was no guide
To show us honor and
Give us pride.

But memories
And pictures
And letters

We cling to and pray
That God in His Glory
Will shine from above
On the men in the service
And the children they love.

Shirley Ricker Theis

*Shirley lost her father in the Battle of the Bulge on 31 Dec 1944.
and lives in Candia NH.*

(26th InfD After/Action Report Jan 1945 Continued from page 3)

28 Jan 45 – 26th Inf Div (less 104th Inf and 26th Can Rcn Tr) initiated movement by motor from WILTZ-NOERTRANGE-BOEVANGE-LES-CLERVAUX to BOULAY (MOSELLE), FRANCE. 104th Inf, having completed Rcn, initiated relief of 379th Inf in SAARLAUTERN bridgehead sector. All units 26th Inf Div, with exception of 101st Inf, 26th Div Arty (less 102nd FA Bn) and 28th QM Co closed in area vicinity BOULAY (MOSELLE, FRANCE. 26th Inf Div relieved from command III Corps and now under command XX Corps.

29 Jan 45 – 101st Inf closed in vicinity COUME-HARGARTEN-FALCK at 0130. 104th Inf (plus 2nd Bn 328th Inf) completed relief of 379th Inf, in bridgehead sector vic SAARLAUTERN. 328th Inf (less 2nd Bn attached 104th Inf) completed relief of 378th Inf at 2145. 26th Div Arty relieved 95th Div Arty and command of all Arty in sector passed from CO 95th Div Arty to CG 26th Div Arty at 1000. Registration was completed and normal missions were fired. 28th QM and 726th Ord Co closed in new areas. 26th Inf Div having completed relief of 95th Inf Div. Command of sector passed from Cmd CG 95th Inf Div to CG 26th Inf Div 292400 Jan 45. The following units attached 26th Inf Div effective 292400 Jan 45: 5th Ranger Bn, 778th Tank Bn, Companies A & D 81st Chemical Bn.

30 Jan 45 – 26th Inf Div with 104th Inf and 328th Inf on MLR consolidated and strengthened defensive positions, established contact and line with flank units (3rd Cav Grp on left (N) and 106th Cav Grp on right (S)) and maintained active patrols throughout period to destroy enemy in sector. 101st Inf, Division Reserve, continued program of training, reorganization and rehabilitation.

31 Jan 45 – Div continued to strengthen defensive positions and strong combat patrols operated in sector, inflicting considerable damage on enemy personnel and material.

/S/

J. L. Pauley
Lt Col, GSC
A C of S, G-3

SENATOR GLENN'S GREAT ANSWER

You know, some people still don't understand why military personnel do what they do for a living. This exchange between Senators John Glenn and Howard Metzenbaum is worth reading. Not only is it a pretty impressive impromptu speech, but it's also a good example of one man's explanation of why men and women in the Uniformed Service do what they do for a living. An example of what those who have never served think of the military.

Senator Metzenbaum to Senator Glenn: "How can you run for Senate when you've never held a real 'job'?"

Senator Glenn: "I served 23 years in the United States Marine Corps. I served through two wars. I flew 149 missions. My plane was hit by antiaircraft fire on 12 different occasions. I was in the space program. It wasn't my checkbook; it was my Life on the line. It was not a nine to five job where I took off to take the daily cash receipts to the bank. I ask you to go with me . . . As I went the other day to a Veterans Hospital and look at those men with their mangled bodies in the eye and tell them they didn't hold a job. You go with me to the space program and go as I have gone to the widows and orphans of Ed White and Gus Grissom and Roger Chaffee and you look those kids in the eye and tell them that their dad didn't hold a job.

You go with me on Memorial Day coming up and you stand in Arlington National cemetery, where I have more friends than I'd like to remember and you watch those waving flags. You stand there and think about this nation, and you tell me that those people didn't have a job. I'll tell you, Howard Metzenbaum, you should be on your knees everyday of your life thanking God that there were some men –SOME MEN – who held a job. And they required a dedication to a purpose and a love of country and a dedication to duty that was more important than life itself. And their self-sacrifice is what made this country possible. . . . I HAVE HELD A JOB, HOWARD! 'What about you?'"

ROUND ABOUT WAY TO CAMP PHILLIP MORRIS

By George L Coates

The author of this first person account is our Chapter Member S/MSgt USAF, Retired who served with the 24th AACCS Squadron and lives in Severn MD .

Having spent most of World War II in an underground Air Traffic Control Center shared with the Royal Air Force, this young Air Corps radio operator was ready to move out of the fog. One early morning, just a few weeks after D-Day, I found myself loading with about half of our outfit, on a C-46, Dakota at Morton-Valis Airfield, near our center at Gloucester, England. We had spent almost two years, 12 on and 12 off, providing enroute control for B-17's, B-24's and B-26's (bombers). The most rewarding part of the war came to light. We had moved into the Mayor's Mansion (about 35 men) and only two weeks later a bomb was dropped about 2030 hours. That one completely destroyed our billet, which had been so graciously provided by Mayor Williams. The enemy had under-estimated our GI's, by 2030, the Mansion was empty. We gave up sleep for picture shows, fish and chips, pub crawlin', cards and romance. So, we didn't have a single casualty but did lose all our clothes and our happy home. Flying over the English Channel, we were told that Orly Airfield would be our next stop. An hour after landing, we trucked to a small village, Choisy (swasy) le Roi to a large chateau (Bard) which we soon learned was Heinrich Himmler's old headquarters. After surviving through the war with a British ration card, we were now allowed to get some mess hall chow. It was great! Luck of the draw and I wound up with Himmler's old blood stained room.

I chatted with the French maid and she related how she had been raped and abused by Himmler and his drunken staff on many occasions. It must have been a very traumatic experience, as even then her face reflected the pain. I became angry. Little did I know, that I would see him in person at the War Crimes Trials in Nuremberg, Germany, in August 1947. I carried a lot of hate for that animal, for the first-hand story from the French maid just stuck in my mind.

The smell of burned human flesh seemed to come alive after even a slight rain, as there had been many times it had occurred in past weeks. Many did not become aware that it was part of the sanitation workers job to resort to this procedure. The romance of Paris wore thin and rotation points had accrued to a point of excitement about a return to the Zone of Interior. Special Orders #56 announced, on 13 October 1945 that those named would be proceeding via railhead Barfleur, France to Camp Phillip Morris. We were trucked to Paris, boarded a 40 & 8 and clickedy-clacked at about 40 mph in the direction of LeHavre. We reached the point of transfer to the rail siding sometime in the night. We slid off the wooden seats, off to the ground and continued to slide down the steep hillside until we reached the Quonset huts. We were stopped at the entrance to the huts and instructed to establish our column order & bunk order to maintain this order for boarding the vessel. We got shots, short order and money change in that order. It was interesting to observe, that those of us who had a small amount of francs should fall to the rear of the line, so that those with extras could pass them back to us less fortunate. In truth, I believe everyone cashed in the max allowed. It was not quite daybreak when we looked below to see a Liberty Ship "John W. Brown" very well concealed on the west bank of the Seine River. Little did I know at the time, I would one day be welcomed aboard to recite poetry on the John W. Brown, as it happened two years ago on Veteran's Day, so when Volunteer Captain Brian Hope was issuing me a boarding pass, I advised him that I had Special Orders, #56 from World War II. I was given very preferential treatment throughout the voyage up Patapsco River to the foot of federal Hill, near the Inner Harbor, Baltimore, Maryland (Veteran's Day 1999).

The trip from Camp Phillip Morris to South Hampton, England was a bit longer than normal due to rough sea. On arrival, we debarked from the John W. Brown and boarded a train which took us to Burtonwood until 12 December, then returned to Southampton, where we boarded the aircraft carrier, Lake Champlain, a huge and stately vessel, for our final leg of the trip to USA. There were 5,200 of us and most were assigned bunks (5 high) on the hanger deck. With a cruising speed of 30 knots, the voyage was expected to take about 5 days, but the North Atlantic had a big surprise for us. The first couple of days were smooth sailing, then the water condition changed from a choppy to a rolling sea. Suddenly word came from the skipper to batten down all hatches and to observe strict safety measures . . . The swells were in the neighborhood of 20 feet and speed of the vessel reduced by half. The size of this ship, companioned by all these GI's minimized the worry factor. A short while later, vibration began, signally that the props were coming out of the water, placing the vessel in more peril. In the matter of a couple of hours, the swells increased to 60 feet and speed reduced to 5 knots, barely enough to maintain steerage. The comfort level disappeared and fear was imbedded in everyone's face, then came words from the skipper, "Attention All Personnel . . . We have done everything possible to restore operation to a safe level , but we are in danger of losing our ship . . . So I am asking everyone to offer their silent prayers that we may be able to survive this storm." AS he spoke, the vibration increased and the sounds of popping rivets filled the air, along with mumbling from some very frightened humans. Although I did not get seasick, I witnessed many hundreds of GI's who became violently ill. Too many men skipped meals for too long a period of time and pad dearly for their mistake. A few hours after the skippers message the storm was showing signs of abatement and waves reduced to about 30 feet. Our prayers had saved our lives and on the 8th day, we were in sight of the Statue of Liberty. Even then, the skipper had to remind the troops to retreat from the flight deck to check the listing. The Lake Champlain had gone into the record book, as surviving the roughest storm in the Atlantic in 80 years. Many publications cited the event in past years and great men have referred to "The Champ" as a magnificent ship. My personal thanks to those patient enough to share my story.

We welcome your first person accounts or memories, The Editor.

ACTIVE ARMY MAJOR MANEUVER UNITS

*Have you wondered what has happened to your old unit?
Generally these units now carry your patch under a new name.*

1st Inf Div	“Big Red One”	W u o r z b u r g
Germany		
2nd Inf Div	“Indianhead “	Cp RedCloud, Korea
1st Armd Div	“Old Ironsides”	Bad Kreuznach, Ger
3rd Inf Div	“Marne”	Ft Stewart GA
1st Cav Div	“The First Team”	Ft Hood TX
4th Inf Div	“Ivy”	Ft Hood TX
10th Mtn Div	“Mountaineer”	Ft Drum NY
25th Inf Div	“Tropic Lightning”	Schofield Brks HI
82nd Abn Div	“All American”	Ft Bragg NC
101st Abn Div	“Screaming Eagles”	Ft Campbell KY
I	Corps	Ft Lewis WA
III	Corps	Ft Hood TX
V	Corps	Heidelberg Germany
XVIII	Abn Corps	Ft Bragg NC
2nd Armd Cav Regt		Ft Polk LA
3rd Armd Cav Regt		Ft Carson CO
172nd Inf Brigade		Ft Richardson Alaska

ARMY NG DIVs & ENHANCED BRIGADES

27th Inf Brigade	Syracuse NY
28th Inf Div (Mechanized)	Harrisburg PA
29th Inf Div (Light)	Ft Belvoir VA
29th Inf Brigade	Honolulu HI
30th Inf Brigade	Clinton SC
31st Armd Brigade	AL NG
32nd Inf Brigade	WI NG
33rd Inf Brigade	IL NG
34th Inf Div	St Paul MN
35th Inf Div	Ft Leavenworth KS
38th Inf Div	Indianapolis IN
39th Inf Brigade	Little Rock AR
40th Inf Div	Los Alamitos CA
41st Inf Brigade	Portland OR
42nd Inf Div	Troy NY
43rd Inf Brigade	Maine & Vermont
45th Inf Brigade	Edmond OK
46th Inf Div	MI NG
48th Inf Brigade	Macon GA
49th Armd Div	Austin TX
53rd Inf Brigade	Tampa FL
76th Inf Brigade	Indianapolis IN
81st Inf Brigade	Seattle WA
116th Armd Brigade	Twin Falls ID
155th Armd Brigade	Tupelo MS
218th Inf Brigade	Newberry SC
256th Inf Brigade	Lafayette LA
278th Armd Cav Regt	Knoxville TN

ARMY RESERVE DIVs &

REGIONAL SUPPORT COMMAND

9th Regional Support Command	Ft DeBussy HI
63rd Regional Support Command	Los Alamitos CA
65th regional Support Command	San Juan PR
70th Regional Support Command	Ft Lawton WA
75th Div (EX)	Houston TX
77th Regional Support Command	Flushing NY
78th Div (EX)	Edison NJ
79th Army Reserve Command	
80th Div (IT)	Richmond VA
81st Regional Support Command	Birmingham AL
83rd Army Reserve Command	
84th Div (IT)	Milwaukee WI
85th Div (EX)	Arlington Hts IL
86th Army Reserve Command	
87th Div (EX)	Birmingham AL
88th Regional Support Command	Ft Snelling MN
89th Regional Support Command	Wichita KS
90th Regional Support Command	N Little Rock AR
91st Div (EX)	Ft Baker CA
94th Regional Support Command	Ft Devens MA
95th Div (IT)	Oklahoma City OK
96th Regional Support Command	Salt Lake City UT
97th Army Reserve Command	
98th Div (IT)	Rochester NY
99th Regional Support Command	Oakdale PA
100th Div (IT)	Louisville KY
102nd Army Reserve Command	
104th Div (IT)	Vancouver WA
108th DIV (IT)	Charlotte NC
7th Army Reserve Command	Schwetzingen Ger

*Note: Locations cited are for Unit Headquarters
(EX) stands for Exercise
(IT) stands for Institutional Training*

Military Internet

Listed below are some additional web sites of interest on Military matters. Please e-mail any recommendations to jdbowen@gateway.net for future issues. All addresses start out <http://>

3rd Armored Division

www.home.eathlink.net/~crcorbin/

Cemeteries of USA Includes Military Cemeteries

www.interment.net/us/index/htm

Cigarette Camps- US Army - Covers all the camps.

www.skylighters.org/special/cigcamps/cigbib.html

Map Collection of David Rumsey

www.davidrumsey.com

POW/MIA Dissertation

www.aiipowmia.com/research/wadley.html

Hyperwar - a Hypertext History of Second World War

www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/index.html#usa

Fact Sheet of the 38th Infantry Division

TYPE OF DIVISION: National Guard. Troops from Indiana, Kentucky and West Virginia..

NICKNAME: Cyclone Division. While the division was in training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, during World War I its tent city was leveled by a storm. It promptly became known as the Cyclone Division. After its action at Bataan during this war, the men of the 38th began to use the phrase "Avengers of Bataan" as a divisional nickname.

SHOULDER PATCH: The patch is in the form of a shield divided vertically into a field of red and a field of blue. In the center of the shield, in white, are the letters "C" and "Y" interlocked.

HISTORY: The division was organized and trained at Camp Shelby MS and overseas between September and October 1918. The division was overseas for six months, but during that period it was skeletonized and its personnel were sent to other units. It never saw action as a division in World War I. The last element of the 38th to return to this country from France was demobilized by June 1919. The 149th Infantry Regiment was formally the 2nd Kentucky Infantry, which was commanded by Daniel Boone, frontiersman. The 138th Field Artillery Battalion was the former colonial 1st Kentucky Infantry and at one time was commanded by George Rogers Clark, old Indian fighter. The 152nd Infantry Regiment identifies itself with the 2nd Indiana Regiment which was organized in 1810 and saw service at Tippecanoe.

ACTIVATION DATE: 17 January 1941.

INACTIVATION DATE: 10 November 1945, Camp Anza California.

COMPONENT UNITS: 149th, 151st and 152nd Inf Regts; 38th Cav Rcn Tp (Mecz); 113th Engr Combat Bn, 113th Med Bn. Div Arty: 138th, 139th and 163rd FA Bns (105 How) and 150th FA Bn (155 How). Sp Tps: 38th QM Co, 38th Sig Co, 738th Ord Co (LM), Hq Co, MP Plat and Band.

TRAINING UNDER ARMY GROUND FORCES: The division was organized and trained at Camp Shelby MS and had its first maneuver exercises during the Third Army maneuvers which were held in Louisiana in September 1941. On 9 March 1942, the 38th came under the control of the Army Ground Forces and was assigned to the IV Corps of the Third Army at Camp Shelby. During 1942 the 151st Infantry regiment was sent to Ft Benning GA for extensive training and to act as school troops for a six month period, rejoining the division in September 1942 to take part in the Third Army's Louisiana maneuvers. In November 1942 the entire division was moved to Carrabelle FL to learn amphibious warfare under instructors back from the invasion of North Africa. In March 1943, the 38th moved to Camp Livingston LA. During its training period in this country the division furnished eight cadres, parts of 13 task forces and produced between 4000 and 5000 officer candidates.

DEPARTED U.S. FOR FOREIGN DUTY: 3 January 1944 for Hawaii.

OVERSEAS TRAINING: Division received further training in Hawaii where it also did defense duty.

DATE ENTERED COMBAT: DIVISION 29 January 1945 **FIRST ELEMENTS** Late December 1944

BATTLE CREDITS: (Division) New Guinea, Southern Philippines and Luzon..

RETURNED TO US: 30 October 1945.

SUCCESSIVE COMMANDING GENERALS: Major General Robert H Tyndall from Jan to Apr 1941; Lt General (then Major General) Daniel I Sultan from Apr 1941 to Apr 1942; Major General L C Jones from Apr 1942 to Feb 1945; Major General William C Chase from Feb to Jul 1945; Major General Frederick A Irving from Aug 1945 to inactivation.

DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATION: Company E, 151st Infantry for 27 Mar - 4 Apr 1945 action in Philippine Islands..

CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR WINNER: Pfc William H Thomas, Company B, 149th Infantry Regiment, for 22 Apr 1945 action in the Zomballes Mountains, Luzon P.I.

COMBAT HIGHLIGHTS: Spearheading the drive which annihilated Japanese forces on Bataan, in the battle that liberated Luzon, is an achievement of which men of the 38th are justly proud. The division first saw action in Leyte December 1944, when the 149th Infantry Regiment was sent into Leyte P. I., for a month of mopping-up campaigning. It then moved on to Luzon, P. I., to make its now famous Subic Bay landing on Bataan Peninsula on 29 January 1945. Division troops poured in for 16 days of fierce action to smash through an intricate maze of Japanese fortifications at Zig-Zag Pass, key defense to the rapid reduction Bataan Peninsula. While one division regimental combat team made an amphibious landing at Mariveles, on the tip of the Peninsula, another force struck swiftly down the east coast through Balanga, Pilar and across the neck of land to Bagac the March of Death route -- to gain control of the entire peninsula. Some units of the 38th then landed at D plus 4, on Corregidor to assist in the defeat of the strong Jap garrison there. The division was then divided up into three regiment combat teams. One force mopped up remnants of enemy troops on the Bataan Peninsula. Another regimental combat team plus a provisional company organized from the 38th division artillery, struck north and west of Zig-Zag Pass against powerful Jap defense in the Zambales mountain ranges, while the third regimental combat team was charged with the reduction of enemy defenses on the remaining three islands -- Cabello, Fort Drum and Carabao -- guarding the entrance to Manila Bay. Later sent to the Marakina watershed, the Cyclone boys worked in May 1945, to free Eastern Luzon from the Gaps and helped preserve Manila's water supply. This involved fighting in the Sierra Madre mountains northeast of Manila to oppose Jap forces drawn up behind the Shinbu Line, an area defended by almost

(Continued on page 4)

BULGE UNIT REUNIONS

5-7 Jun 2001, 26th Inf "Yankee" Div, Cape Codder Resort, Hyannis MA.

Contact Robert R Raney 27 Forest St, Peabody MA 01960-4138 978-531-2257.

4-8 June 2001 30th InfD Cape May NJ. Contact Warren Cadiz, 154 Montgomery Ave, Oceanside NY 11572.

21-23 June 2001, 202nd Engineer Combat Bn , Middletown OH. Contact Gordon F Wilson, 5931 Daybreak Terrace, Baltimore MD 21206, 410-866-8291.

14-17 June 2001 300th Engineer Combat Bn Holiday Inn Select, Dallas TX. Contact Frank

Neuhauser 214-328-3005.

19-21 July 2001 631st Tank Destroyer Bn Pittsburgh Airport Marriott, Pittsburgh PA. Contact Frank Braden, 161 State St, Coreopolis PA 15108.

13-18 Aug 2001 11th ArmD Kalamazoo MI., Contact 11th ArmD 2328 Admiral St, Aliquippa PA 15001.

18-21 Aug 2001, 84th InfD, Radisson Hotel, Branson Missouri. Contact Daryl Mitchell PO Box 136, Nixa MI 65714.

5-9 Sep 2001 75th InfD The Double tree Hotel, Denver CO. Contact James Warmouth, 6545 West 11th St, Indianapolis IN 46214,

317-241-3730.6-10 Sep 2001, **106th InfD, Fairview Park Marriott, Falls Church VA.** Contact Marion Ray, 704 Briarwood Drive, Bethalto IL 62010 618-377-3674.

26-29 Sep 20010, 83rd InfD Assoc., Holiday Inn Hampton Roads Hotel, Hampton Roads VA. Contact Pat Di Giammerino, 36 Border Rd, Malden MA 02148-1104, Tel 781-322-2754.

26-30 Sep 2001 35th InfD Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando FL. Contact 35th InfD, PO Box 5004, Topeka KS 66605.

28 Sep - 3 Oct 2001

Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge Convention, Four Points Sheraton Downtown, Orlando Florida. Contact Nancy Monson, VBOB Hqs PO Box 11129, Arlington VA 22210-2129 703-528-4058.

15-16 Dec 2001, 57th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge, by BOB Historical Foundation and VBOB, Arlington VA and Arlington Cemetery, VA. Hotel accommodations at Four Points Sheraton, (Washington DC/Pentagon), 2480 South Glebe Rd, (I395 at Glebe Road) Arlington VA. Contact Ms Dorothy Davis, 301-881-0356.

Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, MD/DC

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MARCHER & WWII MUSINGS

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NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

Sunday 10 June 2001

Ft Meade Golf ClubHouse
Off of Mapes Road

Contact Neil immediately!

FIRST CLASS