

## *Fifteenth Infantry Regiment*



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15<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment Association Newsletter

January 2004

# 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion to Host Rendezvous

by LTC John Charlton

The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion is currently in the final stages of our preparation for deployment to the National Training Center. Our rotation starts in January 04 and runs through the middle of February. It has been a real challenge recovering from our deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom and then turning around and immediately preparing for a NTC rotation. We have many new soldiers and leaders in the battalion. It isn't the same battalion I took to Kuwait and Iraq but they are just as motivated and just as willing to do whatever is necessary to accomplish the mission.

When we get back from NTC, we will be working hard to prepare for the upcoming 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment Association Rendezvous. We have been coordinating with 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion to find a time that supports both battalions' calendars. We were originally looking at doing it in April but the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion is at the NTC that month. Therefore, we are now looking at doing it from 18 – 20 May 03. Here is the tentative timeline of events:

### WED 18 MAY (Arrival Day)

1000 – 1400: Golf Tournament  
1300 – 1800: Hotel check-in  
1800 – 2000: Icebreaker at hotel

### THURS 19 MAY (Dedication Day)

0900 – 1000: China Room dedication  
1000 – 1130: OIF overview by Dragon 6 (discuss various battles, review maps, etc.)  
1130 – 1300: Lunch with soldiers in 3BCT DFAC  
1400 – 1500: LFX Demonstration  
1630 – 1700: China Gate Dedication  
1700 – 1900: Can-Do Right Arm Night (Ft. Benning O'Club)

### FRIDAY 20 MAY (Organization Day)

0900 – 1000: General membership meeting (Can-Do Conference Room)  
0900 – 1500: Sporting events  
1130 – 1300: BBQ in unit area with soldiers  
1300 – 1500: Sporting events/static displays (M2 Bradley, mortars, snipers, weapons)  
1500 – 1800: Soldiers released, free time  
1800 – 2300: Regimental Ball (Ft. Benning O'Club)

This will be an important event since we haven't been able to get both Battalions together for the Rendezvous in a couple years due to deployments. We also may not be able to get together in 2005 due to the potential for another deployment to the desert. Therefore, we have to maximize attendance at the 2004 Rendezvous and I'm sure it will be a great event. The China Room is in our new headquarters and we will be adding artifacts from Operation Iraqi Freedom. The China Gate monument (see page 8) has received a recent face-lift and will also be re-dedicated during the Rendezvous. Most important of all, Can-Do soldiers past and present will have the opportunity to recall our great legacy and join in some great camaraderie.

We will be working hard to put together all the logistics to support the event. We will pass other information along when it's available. For now, mark 18 – 20 May on your calendar and we will see you soon. Please complete the Registration Form on Page 11, send it to CPT Pike, and join us for a great Rendezvous.

## *The Dragon*

## Officers

The Dragon is the quarterly publication of the 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment Association. It is published in January, April, July and October. Neither its editorial nor articles content carry official endorsement of the Association. Input for the Dragon is due the 15th of each month prior to publishing.

Edward Dojutrek.....President  
Michael J. Horn.....Editor  
Lloyd D. Whitmer .....Treasurer

### Objectives of the Association

- To perpetuate and foster the history and traditions of the Regiment.
- To provide opportunities for uniting past and present members of the Regiment into a close and cooperative alliance.
- To promote morale and high esprit de corps among members of the Regiment.
- To acquire and maintain a repository of regimental historical memorabilia.
- To assist in the maintenance of monuments dedicated to the units of the 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment.

### Send dues and new addresses to:

Lloyd D. Whitmer  
7500 Mose Road  
Navarre, Ohio 44662  
330-756-2803

Annual dues \$10 for regular members and \$5 for active duty members, due October 1 each year.

Life membership: To age 60 = \$150; Age 61-69 = \$120; Age 70-79 = \$100; Age 80 and above = \$50.

### Send or Email news items to:

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## Chaplains Corner

By LTC Chuck Trout, Sr.

I am sure many of you have seen the following truths printed elsewhere, but for those who haven't, please read on:

It is the veteran, not the preacher,  
who has given us freedom of religion.  
It is the veteran, not the reporter,  
who has given us freedom of the press.  
It is the veteran, not the poet,  
who has given us freedom of the press.  
It is the veteran, not the campus organizer,  
who has given us freedom to assemble.  
It is the veteran, not the lawyer,  
who has given us freedom to a fair trial.  
and It is the veteran, not the politician,  
who has given us the right to vote.

I often wonder in amazement as I watch God's divine plan.  
Each day He calls many veterans home while creating new ones  
in places such as Iraq.

Allow me to close with my favorite bumper sticker. "If you can  
read this, thank a teacher. If it is in English, thank a soldier!"

Bless you all in this the Holiday Season.



### Harold J. Taylor

Harold was reported deceased by the USPS. He served in HQ Co in WWII and was a Life Member since 1995.

### Bernard W. Abrams

Atlanta, GA

Bernard's death was recently reported as having died December 2001. He served in L Company in 1950-51. He was a Distinguished Member of the Regiment and a Charter Member of the Association.

### SPC Richard T. Davis

SPC Davis, from Saint Charles, MO died in Columbus, GA in July 2003. He had served with B Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, and had just returned from combat in Iraq.

## Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the 15th Infantry Regiment Association

Held September 18, 2003, at the Marriott Airport Hotel in Saint Louis, Missouri

President Ed Dojutrek called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM. He led the members in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

President Dojutrek gave a report on Leonard Lassar's health and stated that he and the members of the Association send their best wishes to Leonard.

Chaplain Chuck Trout offered the opening prayer.

The Secretary's report was prepared by Lloyd Whitmer and reported on the minutes of the annual meeting at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Buffalo, New York in September 2002. Copies of the report were provided to all members in attendance at this meeting in St Louis. After a brief discussion and review, a motion was made to accept the Secretary's report as written (John Burke). A second was received (Henry Burke). All present voted "Aye" to accept the Secretary's report.

The Treasurer's report (Financial Report dated January 1, 2003 through September 12, 2003) was completed by Lloyd Whitmer, Treasurer. Copies of the report were provided to all members present at the meeting. Among discussion items was a proposal to transfer \$500.00 from the raffle fund proceeds to the life membership fund. Following discussion of the report and the proposal, a motion was made (Richard Guimond) and seconded (Henry Burke) that the motion carry and the report be accepted as written. The members present voted "Aye" to accept the motion and the Treasurer's report as written. Henry Burke commented on the excellent manner in which Lloyd Whitmer has performed his duties as Treasurer.

The Membership report was presented by John Burke. John gave current membership totals. The totals covered World War II, Korean War, Cold War, Desert Storm, and Iraqi Freedom. John made special mention of the five China Hands who are in the membership. John reported that the new method of contacting delinquent members is working well. A reminder letter is sent with raffle tickets, encouraging the member to renew his/her membership.

John, who acts in an unofficial, but effective, capacity as the liaison to the active battalions at Fort Benning and Fort Stewart, Georgia, commented on the Monument Fund. John gave a brief history of the China Arch and how it has been maintained at Fort Benning since it was dedicated at the Infantry School in about 1939. John lives near Fort Benning and has been in almost constant contact with the active duty elements of the Third Infantry Division. He stated a new plaque has been ordered to replace one that was installed at the China Gate several years ago.

John also commented on the proposed 15th Infantry Regiment Rendezvous in 2004. He stated that 1st Battalion Commander is committed to hosting the Rendezvous in probably mid May 2004. The 3rd Battalion will also be represented and will participate, barring deployments. President Dojutrek thanked John Burke for his presentation and his excellent liaison

Minutes continues on Page 7.

## Mail Call



Herbert C. Sarver  
11913 Perry Hwy.  
Wexford, PA 15090

I recently received a phone call from John Burke during which we discussed my "What Were the Odds" experience.

I entered the Army service in September 1943 at age 18 and was sent to Camp Wheeler after 13 weeks training in telephone wire laying and maintenance.

In January 1944 I shipped out for overseas. Rumors were that we were going to Naples, Italy. However, out there somewhere German Wolf Pack subs were reported to be lurking. As a result we were directed to off-load at Casablanca, Africa after crossing the Atlantic unescorted on the USS Butner. We stayed there a few days and then boarded a 40 & 8 boxcar and traveled to Tunisia. There we were loaded on a Limey troop ship and off-loaded at the Cattle Ranch Replacement Depot near Naples. We then traveled by LST to Anzio where I was assigned to Headquarters Company, 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division.

Soon after being assigned to the 15<sup>th</sup> I received a letter from my sister revealing the news that my brother, Harry W. Sarver, had nearly the same address with it being 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry. What were the odds that this could happen? The many thousands of places Harry could have been sent, the many places I could have been sent, and we ended up as we did. Brother Harry served in the 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry from Salerno to Berchtesgaden. I served in the 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry from Anzio to Munich where a fall from a telephone pole ended my service, 12 days before the war was over.

The day I met up with my brother on Anzio he informed me a grade school classmate of ours was in the 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry. I searched for him and found he was in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, also serving in telephone communications as a field switchboard operator. On many occasions I laid wire to his switchboard. Again, "What are the odds"? Unfortunately he died of typhus overseas soon after the war ended. His name was Corporal Roy Beaty.

I would like to hear from anyone who served with anyone of us.

Frank S. Paul  
79 Butler Parkway  
Summit, NJ 07901

Thanks for reminding me of my dues. The Association officers are doing a good job.

Henry A. Barber III  
1667 Oakwood Ave  
Arcadia, CA 91006-1825

Based on John Burke's letter of August 26, 03 I am sending you a check to cover

**Mail Call continues on Page 5.**

## New Association Members

Todd M. Ballou  
1179 Lee Rd. #437  
Phenix City, AL 36870  
A Co. 1<sup>st</sup> Bn  
Aug 2003-Oct 2003

Harold A. Crawford  
10337 Shoshone Street  
El Paso, TX 79924-2624  
D Co. 1<sup>st</sup> Bn  
Mar 1951- Feb 1952

Robert Gallagher  
899 Osprey Drive  
Richmond Hill, GA 31324  
HHC 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn  
June 2002-Present

Michael D. Howard  
431 Midway Point  
Ellenwood, GA 30924  
HHC 1<sup>st</sup> Bn  
Jan 2003- Present

Rodolfo Martinez  
43714 Buckeye Rd.  
Temecula, CA 92592-3039  
Svc Co. 15<sup>th</sup> Regt.  
Oct 51- Sep 52

Marvin L. Pollman  
1177 E. Walnut Rd.  
Wymore, NE 92592-3039  
G Co. 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn  
1952-53

Darren A. Rapaport  
101 Running Ave.  
Fort Benning, GA 31905  
C Co. 1<sup>st</sup> Bn  
C Co. Feb 2002- Oct 2003

Ronnie L. Updike  
P.O. Box 2764  
Palos Verdes, CA 90274  
B Co. 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn  
1966-68



## Awards

By John Burke

In keeping with the Association objectives to promote morale and high esprit de corps among members of the Regiment the Association participates with the active units in a program of special appointees. In addition to recommending nominees for appointment as the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment and the Honorary Sergeant Major of the Regiment, the Association may recognize deserving individuals for their accomplishments by recommending them for appointment to distinguished or honorary positions. The primary mission of these special appointees is to perpetuate the history and traditions of the Regiment, thereby enhancing unit morale and esprit. Description and procedures for nomination are shown below:

### Distinguished Members of The Regiment.

Persons appointed to these positions are recognized for outstanding accomplishments in service to our Nation, our Army or our Regiment. An example would be a prior soldier of the Regiment recognized for his accomplishments while serving with the Regiment. Another would be a distinguished member of the civilian community who formerly served in the Regiment. Yet another would be a former member of the Regiment who significantly contributes support to the Association and the active units.

Honorary Members of the Regiment. This position is designed to recognize individuals who have made a significant contribution or provided a service to the Regiment, but who are not and have not been assigned as a member of the Regiment. Recognition of Active Army, USAR, or retired soldiers, their spouses, and civilians is appropriate.

Nomination and Approval Any member may submit nominations for the positions above. Nominations should be sent to the Association Secretary. Nominations will be reviewed and consolidated by the Board of Trustees for submission to the Advisory Board (Honorary Colonel, Honorary Sergeant Major and Active Duty Battalion Commanders) who will forward to the Chief of Infantry for the ultimate decision and preparation of proper certificates.

### **Mail Call continued from Page 4.**

a life membership. I am 81. I appreciate the good work you officials are doing. I was Commander of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion in Korea and my father commanded a company in the 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry in China.

Ben Elrod  
P. O. Box 736  
Riverside, TX 77367

Thank you so very much for the letter with my Life Membership Certificate and Card. I was looking forward to attending the Third Infantry Division Reunion but won't be able to make it. I have to have a pacemaker installed. My best to everyone attending. **Mail Call continues on Page 8.**

## Financial Report 01/01/03 thru 12/01/03

By Lloyd Whitmer

This unaudited interim report is published on the next page to give you an overview of our financial condition.

A special "Thanks" goes out to all who participated in our annual raffle this year; it bolstered our overall balance by \$2,666.00. Also several of our membership have made unsolicited donations totaling \$715.00; a portion of the raffle proceeds plus these donations have been transferred to our savings, for short term, in order to realize a small amount of additional income.

On April 22, 2003, I transferred \$15,000.00 from our Vanguard Fund to Unizan Bank, a local where I deal, and got a rate of 3% for 90 days. On July 22, 2003, I renewed the CD at a rate of 2.00% and transferred an additional \$3,000.00 from Vanguard. The balance in our Unizan Bank CD is now \$18,198.50. In January, I will try to negotiate for a better rate than the "money market" rate. Currently local banks are quoting me about 1.50% for ninety days.

Several of our members have converted to "life membership" this year. 100 % of the amount paid for life memberships, \$1,800.00, has been transferred to the "Life Membership Fund" account plus a generous donation of \$15.00 specifically earmarked by the donor for the "Life Fund." Also \$500.00 from the proceeds of our raffle was transferred to the "Life Fund." This money is being held in our account at Vanguard or in our account at Unizan Bank. All interest earned on our funds regardless of where they are deposited is credited to the "Life Membership Fund." The balance in the Life Fund is \$17,727.20.

All who attend our next Rendezvous at Ft. Benning will have an opportunity to see the new plaque at the China Gate that we purchased at a cost of \$808.92. John Burke was responsible for the design and placement of the plaque, I for one look forward to seeing it. The balance in the A&M Fund is now \$966.08; it is being held in our Vanguard Fund.

The officers of the 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment Association are allowed no reimbursement for salaries, travel, and food or lodging; they are allowed only "out of pocket" expenses for postage, phone, office supplies, etc.

### **Presidents Message**

By Ed Dojutrek

I am happy to report that the date(s) for the upcoming "Can Do Rendezvous" have been established. It will be held in May and hosted by the 1st Battalion at Fort Benning. The Rendezvous Registration and Reservation information is explained in detail on other pages. We have much planned for the occasion so every one should have a good time. Make your reservations early and hope to see you all at Fort Benning in May.

Our Association is running at a very smooth pace. Our finances have increased by several thousand dollars over the past several years due to the watchful eye of our Treasurer, Lloyd Whitmer. Membership is holding steady. I will not go into any further detail as the Officer's reports are being featured on other pages of this issue of the Dragon so I will not duplicate their statements.

At this time I would like to extend to all of the members of the Association my sincerest belated Happy Holiday greetings and wish you all, Love, Happiness, and Good Will for the coming year. God Bless you All.

**15th INFANTRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT**  
 JANUARY 1, 2003 thru DECEMBER 1, 2003

<b>INCOME</b>		
<b>BALANCE 1-01-03 in CHECKING ACCT.</b>		\$2,083.01
YEARLY DUES	\$3,535.00	
LIFE MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$1,800.00	
DONATIONS (General Fund)	\$515.00	
DONATIONS (Monument Fund)	\$200.00	
DONATIONS (Life Fund)	\$15.00	
RAFFLE	\$2,666.00	
MISC INCOME (Crests & Stickers)	\$78.00	
BANQUET - ST LOUIS	\$4,689.00	
2003 INCOME (to date)	\$13,498.00	\$13,498.00
<b>1-01-03 BALANCE PLUS INCOME to 12-1-03</b>		<b>\$15,581.01</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
REIMBURSEMENTS TO OFFICERS		
Lloyd Whitmer (postage & supplies)	\$164.63	
John Burke (postage, printing & supplies)	\$416.51	
Ed Dojutrek (Banquet & Supplies)	\$5,305.00	
MONUMENT/PLAQUE FOR CHINA GATE	808.92	
RAFFLE EXPENSES	\$640.46	
DRAGON EXPENSES 2003	\$1,742.62	
PAYMENTS to VENDORS (Monkman for Stickers)	\$198.50	
BANK SERVICE CHARGE (for returned check)	\$10.00	
TRANSFERRED to VANGUARD	\$3,000.00	
TRANSFERRED to VANGUARD (Life Fund)	\$500.00	
DOOR PRIZES ST LOUIS BANQUET	\$100.00	
RAFFLE WINNERS	\$800.00	
NAT'L CONVENTION AD	\$60.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES to 12-1-03	\$13,746.64	\$13,746.64
<b>CHECKING ACC'T BALANCE 12-1-03</b>		<b>\$1,834.37</b>
<b>BALANCES in VANGUARD and UNIZAN BANK ACCOUNTS</b>		
A&M FUND @ VANGUARD	\$966.08	
SAVINGS @ VANGUARD	\$4,928.00	
LIFE FUND @ VANGUARD	\$2528.70	
LIFE FUND @ UNIZAN BANK	\$15198.50	
TOTAL LIFE FUND	\$17,727.20	
SAVINGS @ UNIZAN (6 mo CD @ 2%)	\$3,000.00	
<b>TOTAL BALANCES 12-1-03</b>	<b>\$26,621.28</b>	<b>\$26,621.28</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH ASSETS as of 12-1-03</b>		<b>\$28,455.65</b>

**Regimental History following The Cold War**

By Tim Stoy

As of last our last installment, we were at the point in time in Germany(1991) when the First Battalion's color had moved to Schweinfurt , the short-lived Fifth Battalion having been re-flagged to 1-15 Infantry. The Second Battalion, having been inactivated in Wildflecken 3 October 1983, was reactivated on 16 June 1989 in Schweinfurt, with the 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry re-flagging to 2-15 Infantry.

Going back in time, the Third and Fourth Battalions had been inactivated in 1957, later been apportioned to the Reserves (the 63d Infantry Division in Santa Barbara, California) in 1959, and finally inactivated in December 1965. The Third Battalion was reactivated in June 1989 at Fort Stewart, Georgia, when the 3rd Battalion, 19th Infantry was reflagged to 3-15 Infantry. The Fourth Battalion had been reactivated in June 1987 at Fort Knox, Kentucky, as part of the 194th Separate Armored Brigade. This was accomplished through the re-flagging of the 5th Battalion, 54th Infantry to 4-15 Infantry.

These numerous changes and re-flaggings occurred as part of the Army's updated Regimental System, which foresaw soldiers being permanently affiliated with their parent regiments. After serving one tour with a battalion of the regiment in CONUS, a soldier would then move overseas for another tour with another battalion of the regiment. The 15th Infantry had been designated as one of the parent regiments to be retained, and the plan foresaw five battalions of the regiment dispersed between Germany, Fort Stewart, and Fort Knox.

However, just as this plan was being implemented, the Cold War came to an end. The Army rapidly pared the Regiment down to 3 battalions on active duty. The 1st and 2d Battalions in Schweinfurt, and the 3rd Battalion at Fort Stewart with the 24th Infantry Division. In 1990 the 4th Battalion was reduced to two companies on active duty, D and G Companies, 15th Infantry. D Company was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 10th Cavalry while G Company was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 10th Cavalry. They remained part of the 194th Separate Armored Brigade until it deactivated in June 1995.

The 3rd Battalion participated in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm from 20 August 1990 to 22 March 1991. Parts of 3rd Battalion also deployed to Somalia in 1993 during Operation Restore and Continue Hope while one company from the battalion deployed to Haiti to support Operation Uphold Democracy.

In July 1994, C Company and Battalion Headquarters, 1-15 Infantry, participated in the first ever post Cold War joint peacekeeping exercise with the Russian Army in Totskoy, Russia. Also in 1994 the Second Battalion deployed to the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to conduct peacekeeping operations as part of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force, assuming the Able Sentry mission. On 1 November 1995 the 1st Battalion assumed the Able Sentry mission and remained there until April 1996.

In December 1994 the Army announced another round of force structure cuts, removing two more divisions from the active force. The resulting reshuffle of unit flags had the 3d Infantry Division depart Germany to replace the deactivating 24th Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, Georgia. The 1st Infantry Division would replace the 3d Infantry in Germany. As a result, the First Battalion, 15th Infantry colors would move to a battalion at Fort Benning, Georgia, the First Battalion, 18th Infantry. Unfortunately the Second Battalion would be inactivated. The official end date for all changes by direction of the Army was 15 February 1996. As of that date, the Army counted the 1-15 Infantry colors at Ft. Benning. However, Task Force 1-15 Infantry, with the battalion colors, was still in Macedonia. The battalion retained its colors in Macedonia until it returned to Schweinfurt on 11 April 1996. On 12 April a reflagging ceremony was held in Schweinfurt, Germany, signaling the end of almost 38 years of consecutive overseas service by the First Battalion.

**Minutes continued from Page 3.**

activities. Henry Burke also made comments encouraging members to attend the Rendezvous as it is a great way to meet and enjoy Association and active duty events.

A motion was made (Whitney Mullen) and seconded (Richard Guimond) to accept the Membership report and the membership present voted "Aye" to accept the report.

President Dojutrek discussed proposed changes to the Association's by-laws. The proposed changes are to Article VI - Management. Specifically, sections 6.6; 6.6.1; 6.6.2; and 6.6.3 with respect to the method of filling vacancies in elective offices in the Association. The proposed changes to the constitution and by-laws were published in the Dragon - 15th Infantry Regiment Association newsletter in January 2003. President Dojutrek produced the return ballots from Association members affirming concurrence with the proposed by-law changes. There were 20 ayes and 1 nay vote. The proposed by-law changes, as stated, will be added to the Associations constitution and by-laws as directed by the membership by their votes.

New Business- (1) Election of officers to the vacant positions of Association Vice President and Association Secretary. John Burke made a motion that Jim Drury be elected to the office of Vice President. The nomination was seconded by Martin Markley. The Association members present voted "Aye" to the election of Jim Drury to the office of Vice President. Jim Drury accepted the position. President Edward Dojutrek nominated Richard McKiddy for the position of Association Secretary. John Burke made a motion to accept the nomination of Richard McKiddy as Secretary. The motion was seconded by Nile Stuart. All members present voted "Aye" to the election of Richard McKiddy as Association Secretary. Richard accepted.

**Minutes continued on Page 10.**

Mail Call continued from Page 5.

Chad Ruggles  
1044 NE 178th  
Portland Oregon 97230  
503-665-6554

I am looking for info. on my grandfather who died in 1988. His name is Claude "Cyke" Ruggles. I know he served in the 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry. He was decorated with a Bronze Star and also received two or three Purple Hearts. He served in France, North Africa, and went to Iceland I believe. He never spoke of the war to anyone in his family. Any info would be greatly appreciated.

Cecil H. Martin  
3661 Nonpareil Rd.  
Sutherlin, Oregon 97479

I was a radioman in C Company in Korea. I thoroughly enjoy reading the Dragon and appreciate the effort put forth by the Association. I'm looking for a guy in my Company called Stitch. On the night of April 17, 1953 while on patrol with LT Walls, we were in a firefight. I was hit at the time but did not realize it. Several days later I discovered a piece of shrapnel in my lower left leg. I'd appreciate hearing from anyone who remembers stitch or the patrol.

John G. Charney  
2047 Lafayette St  
Pittsburgh, PA 15218

I'm looking for anyone who may have known my father, PVT John Charney, 33673925. He served in the 15<sup>th</sup> during WWII. He was killed January 18, 1944.

Henry Perry  
8488 New Salem #65  
San Diego, CA 92126-2339

I've been doing a little research on my own for Oliver Blanc-Brode who is now living back in Paris. While here in the states he was a professor at Yale and had been gathering as much information as he could regarding the battle of Montelimar in southern France, where he is originally from. He plans to write a book regarding the battle. I got in touch with him from an article in "The Watch on the Rhine" that stated that he was looking for anyone who had been there at that time. I was wounded in Montelimar and had some information for him. I also had a small booklet that was sent to me back in the late 40's called "The Record", it was a brief history of the US 15th Infantry from 1813 to 1945. In it was an entry regarding the campaign for France and it gave a small write up



regarding the battle of Montelimar of which I sent him copies. Do you have any documented information that covered that battle in more detail and/or any pictures regarding it and the southern France invasion?

Rueben Reeves  
198 Tansboro Rd  
Berlin, NJ 08009-1904  
856-767-1189

I tremendously enjoyed reading the article by Tim Stoy on the history of the 15<sup>th</sup> during the Korean War. I enjoyed reading this because I was a part of this Korean War. I was a young eighteen-year-old private when I began my duties in war and I came home as a sergeant. I was with Love Company from June 1953 till November 1954. Reading this article brought back a lot of unforgettable memories. However, the purpose of this letter to you is because I would like to purchase, if possible, a copy of a year book the regiment put out in 1953 that contains pictures of the company's and names of the men who served in this war. This yearbook was a hardback publication with a black cover containing the 15th Infantry. I am asking this favor of you because I have misplaced my yearbook and I have had no luck in finding it. This was a very wonderful book to me and I have greatly missed not having one to help me recollect all the memories. Any help in finding a copy of this book that I would be able to purchase would be very helpful and appreciated.

**Editors Note: Please let me know if you have a copy of this book. I would like to convert it to an electronic format and post it to the internet for everyone to read.**

### Norman J. Macintyre Honored

Norman J. Macintyre was recently honored at the Third Infantry Division Reunion as the recipient of the Society of the Third Infantry Division's most prestigious award, the Audie Murphy Achievement Award. The award was presented to Norman in recognition for his Army service and for his lengthy outstanding service to the Society. His contributions included serving as the Society Sergeant at Arms at all their general membership meetings for several years. He now also holds the unofficial title of Poet Laureate of the Society. Norman served in I Company, WWII and is a Founding Member of the 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment Association. A poem he penned a few years back, "The Third Division", is shown in this edition. Norman attended all the Can Do Rendezvous until a couple of years ago but hasn't since due to illness. As Norman was unable to attend the Reunion, Whitney and Myrtle Mullen personally delivered and presented the award to Norman on their return trip from the Reunion.

### Membership Report

By John Burke

In accordance with The Association Constitution and By-Laws annual memberships commence on October 1st and expire the following September 30<sup>th</sup>. A grace period until January 1<sup>st</sup> allows for payment of annual dues for the next year. For a number of years it was policy to publish notices for payment of annual dues in the July edition of The Dragon and follow-up with a letter to those not paid by September 1<sup>st</sup>. This year the policy was changed. In addition to posting a notice in the July edition of The Dragon a notice with a pre-addressed envelope to the Treasurer was sent to annual members in August announcing that dues should be paid by September 30<sup>th</sup>. The response was much more satisfactory than the prior policy. A final reminder was posted in the October edition of The Dragon to those with an expiration of 2003 and who had until January 1<sup>st</sup> to pay dues and insure continuous membership. As of the cut-off for this edition of The Dragon there are a few who have until January 1<sup>st</sup> before being dropped from rolls. With approval of the Board of Trustees, those paying back dues may be reinstated with continuous membership.

### Members By Type

Regular Life	194
Regular Annual	384
Associate Life	1
Associate Annual	<u>11</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>600</b>

### Periods Represented

China Hand	5
World War II	171
Korean War	282
Cold War	63
Current Forces	67
Associate	<u>12</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>600</b>

### Application For Membership 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment Association

New Member  Renewal

Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Units served in: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates served in 15<sup>th</sup> IN: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of membership desired

Regular Annual  Active Duty Annual

Associate Annual  Life  MOH

China Hand  World War I

Complete application. Mail with check or money order payable to the Treasurer, 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry Reg't Association.

Mail to: Treasurer, Lloyd Whitmer at the address found on page 2.

### Dues Schedule

Annual dues \$10 for regular members and \$5 for active duty members, due October 1 each year.

Life membership: To age 60 = \$150; Age 61-69 = \$120; Age 70-79 = \$100; Age 80 and above = \$50.

## The Third Division

I guess we were a lucky bunch,  
 us men in white and blue.  
 If the good Lord taught us anything,  
 He taught us how to fight.  
 In World War I we held our ground  
 Like rocks along the Marne,  
 And stopped the dreaded Hun's attack  
 Till he could not go on.  
 In World War II we were called again  
 To whip old Hitler's supermen.  
 We chased them out of Africa,  
 Sicily, Anzio, Rome.  
 Then so we'd lose no respect  
 We chased them right back home.  
 In Korea we fought the Chinese hoards  
 We fought them to a draw.  
 Then in a meeting held in Panmunjon  
 Said we would fight no more.  
 Now we're in the NATO Force  
 To make our country's stand.  
 We're trained, we're proud, we're confident,  
 Each woman and each man.  
 We haven't been tried in combat yet,  
 We hope we never will.  
 But we're the Third Division.  
 We've our heritage to fill.  
 Our dream as Non-Combatants  
 Came quickly to a halt,  
 when Saddam Hussein and his murderous crew  
 caused us again to go to war.  
 Although not as a unit, as the Third Division is known  
 We supported our Divisions committed to the foe.  
 We are proud that we were chosen to support them in the fight.  
 Our chance to protect our Heritage came almost overnight.  
 We've done our part in Desert Storm  
 To prove our worth once more.  
 So the mighty Third was called again  
 As our country went to WAR.  
 Now when this life is over,  
 and from this world we must part,  
 The Good Lord will remember  
 That we have done our part.  
 Open up those gates Saint Peter,  
 I know these Doggies well.  
 They are from the THIRD DIVISION,  
 THEY HAVE SPENT THEIR TIME IN HELL.

Norman J. Macintyre  
 CWO US Army(Ret)  
 Platoon Sergeant, Co. I  
 15<sup>th</sup> Inf Regt, WWII



## Minutes continued from Page 7.

Mail in Ballots for Elective offices. President Dojutrek presented twenty-two returned ballots which were published in the January 2003 Dragon. The ballots were all marked affirmatively and returned via mail for the election of following offices: President (nominee Edward Dojutrek); Treasurer (nominee Lloyd Whitmer); Trustees (nominees Roger Lochman, Pat O' Connor Jr., and Henry Burke). The ballots were given to the Secretary.

Nomination of Distinguished Members of the Regiment - Whitney Mullen discussed the process of nominations of members and stated that it had been a few years since an Association member had been nominated for the honor. John Burke stated that nominations can come from the Association, but it is an active duty function of the Regiment that has authority to bestow the honor. All present agreed that is behooves us, as an Association, to be cognizant of members who might be worthy candidates for nomination. No action was taken after the discussion.

Questions from the floor reference placing e-mail addresses of all members who have e-mail addresses in the Association's website. The question generated discussion in the meeting. It was pointed out that all members might not agree to the placement of their e-mail addresses on the website. It was concluded that there appeared to be no reason not to list those who are in agreement. No motion was forthcoming and no action was taken on the issue at this time.

President Dojutrek commended all members for their active support and all office holders for their assistance during the past several months in preparing for the current reunion. President Dojutrek called on Association Chaplain Chuck Trout to give a closing prayer. Chaplain Trout gave a prayer and blessing, especially mentioning the Rock of the Marne soldiers who were injured and lost their lives in Iraq.

President Dojutrek closed the meeting at 4:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by Richard N. McKiddy  
 Secretary

## Books Worth A Look

**That Body of Brave Men** by Mark Johnson. This book describes the action of the 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry and the other US regiments during the Civil War.

**The Not Forgotten War** by Nicholas Dick, Jr. depicts combat in the eyes of a Dog Company soldier in Korea.

**We Called It War! The Untold Story of the Combat Infantry in Korea** by Denzil Batson is a rice paddy view of the war in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon of Fox Company.

## Rendezvous Registration and Reservations

**LODGING:** A block of rooms has been reserved for May 17-21, 2004 at the Four Points Sheraton at the Columbus Airport. Reduced room rates of \$63.00 plus applicable taxes, have been arranged. Reservations must be made directly with the Four Points Sheraton at **706-327-6868**. Do not call the Sheraton national number. Reservations must be made prior to 3 May 2004 to obtain the reduced rate. Inform the reservation clerk that you are with the 15th Infantry Regiment Association. Reduced rates are available prior to and following the event, subject to available rooms. The Four Points Sheraton provides transportation to and from the Columbus Airport. A daily buffet breakfast is provided for \$5.95. (Military Retirees may arrange lodging on a space available basis at Fort Benning, Phone 706-689-0067 or [www.benningmwr.com](http://www.benningmwr.com))

**GOLF TOURNAMENT:** May 18th. You must register in advance by indicating on the registration form below. Green fees will be paid at the Fort Benning Follow Me Golf Course. Reasonable prices vary depending on military or civilian status. Teams will be formed with a mix of active duty and other veterans.

**RENDEZVOUS REGISTRATION:** Registration is required in advance by completing and submitting the form below prior to 1 May 04. In extenuating circumstances, registration can be made the afternoon of May 18th at the Sheraton. A \$10.00 registration fee (single or couple) is charged to defray administrative and Icebreaker expenses.

**BARBEQUE:** Cost for the Organizational Day Barbeque will be \$10.00.

**REGIMENTAL DINNER :** May 20th. The menu choices for the Regimental Dinner are Tournedos of Beef and Chicken Marsala. Prices are shown on the Registration Form below. Please indicate the number of your menu choices.

**Please complete the form below and make your check out to the 1-15 IN OSAF Fund. Mail your check and registration form by 1 May 2004 to:**

CPT Christopher Pike  
6000 River Road , 1103  
Columbus, GA 31904

Call CPT Pike at 706-544-2920 if you have any questions.

## Registration/Reservation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Golf: \_\_\_\_\_ Check here if you desire to enter the golf tournament. Total number of golfers:\_\_\_\_\_.

Event	Number	Price	Total
Registration Fee	1	\$10.00	\$10.00
Organizational Day and BBQ		\$10.00	
Regimental Dinner			
Chicken Marsala		\$25.00	
Tournedos of Beef		\$25.00	
Enclosed is my payment for	→		

15<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment Association  
Michael J. Horn, Editor  
1833 Walker Ridge Drive  
Marietta, GA 30064-4193

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