

January 2011

Fifteenth Infantry Regiment
"The Old China Hands"



www.15thinfregtassoc.org

January 2011

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow China Hands,

Happy New Year! I hope all of you had a wonderful holiday season and are looking forward to a great 2011.

2011 is a momentous year for our proud regiment as it celebrates its 150th anniversary since its constitution in May 1861. We plan to mark this great anniversary at this year's Rendezvous, which is tentatively planned to be held at Fort Benning in the first week of May in conjunction with Organization Day. We are still working on the plan, and waiting for a firm commitment from the 1st Battalion that they are willing and able to support it. I have also undertaken preliminary coordination with the Hilton Garden Inn Columbus as our hotel for the event. It is a very nice hotel, and the staff is absolutely wonderful. Frank Eaton, our 99 year young Old China Hand, is very much planning on coming, and Major General Kendall has also expressed his intent to join us after health challenges kept him from attending the Society of the 3rd Infantry Reunion and Regimental Dinner here in Virginia in September.

I had the great good fortune to be able to travel to Fort Benning along with Monika to attend the 1st Battalion's change of command on 6 January. It was great to say thank you and good bye to LTC Harvey, who has done a superb job in command, and to welcome LTC Kraft to the Regiment. LTC Kraft has a truly impressive record, and we are fortunate to have such a quality officer to continue the long tradition of excellence in the battalion. John and Elizabeth Burke joined Monika and me representing our Association at the ceremony. We also had the great pleasure of saying thank you and goodbye to Captain Andrew Lerch, who did a bang up job as the rear detachment commander and kept us well-informed and fully integrated into battalion affairs. He was a very gracious host for the recent December visit of MG Ramsey to the Infantry Museum and the China Room.

This year we continue to face the challenge of filling open positions within the Association, and replacing officers who have been asking to step down. I ask each of you to seriously consider taking on one of our open positions. Another challenge this year is getting more members to contribute articles and letters to the Dragon. Our editor pounds the bushes hard for newsworthy items. It would help a great deal were more of you to share your stories with the rest of us. We have gone a year without any nominations for Distinguished Member of the Regiment honors. I am sure we have members who know great former Can Do soldiers who deserve that great honor.

This 150th anniversary year of our Regiment's official birth is a great year for reenergizing our association, and reestablishing a strong relationship with our active duty battalions. I have offered LTC Kraft and his staff our strong support, and we continue to do the same with the 3rd Battalion. Please, give me your ideas, your suggestions, and your criticisms. Our association will only get better if all of us play an active role. Can Do! Tim

15th INF Regiment Association Founders
Ramon Clarke - Charles Crain - Jerry Cunningham - Michael Halik
Maurice Kendall - Leonard Lassar - Whitney Mullen - Raymond Taylor - Frank Yokum

The Dragon is the quarterly publication of the 15th 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.

ASSOCIATION OBJECTIVES

- 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 perpetuate and foster the history and traditions of the Regiment.
- To assist in the maintenance of monuments dedicated to the units of the 15th Infantry Regiment.

Send dues and new addresses to:
Bartolo Viruso, 116 Harriett Road,
North Babylon, NY 11703

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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HERMAN J. MILLER
180 Ashland Way
Fayetteville, GA 30214
1-15/HQ, Korea, CPT
DOD – Unknown
*Reported by His Wife,
Thomasina to Henry Burke*

HERBERT E. WOLFF
1080 Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96814
15th INF, Korea, GEN
DOD – April 17, 2009
*Reported by his son, Rick
Wolff*

OLIVER L. HARR
PO Box 86
Mandan, ND 58554
15th INF/C, Korea, CPL
DOD – Unknown
Reported by Lynn Ball

CHINA 6 SITREP

CHINA Families and Friends:

Hello once again from Ar Ramadi, Iraq. We are now through our sixth month of the deployment and are half way home! A lot has occurred in the three months since my last update. The Task Force continues to work hard with our Iraqi counterparts building the Iraqis' ability to secure their country.

The Stability Transition Team's efforts with the 1st Iraqi Army have yielded significant improvements. The Iraqi Ministry of Defense (MOD) inspected the 1st IA Division in early October and senior Iraqi Generals conducted a formal Readiness Inspection later in the month. The inspections focused on operational readiness- the IA Division's vehicle and equipment maintenance, its ability to provide required supplies and manage logistics requests, and several war fighting functions to include Soldier physical fitness and weapons maintenance and marksmanship. The STT has worked to improve 1st IA in each one of these areas. The largest improvement has come in the Iraqis' management of their maintenance program. Overall the Division did well on the inspection and "Can Do" Soldiers who partner daily with the Iraqis work steadily to improve the deficiencies that were noted.

The Scout Platoon is now partnered with the 1st IA Iraqi Commando Battalion located in Camp Fallujah. The Scouts' mission is to train the Commando Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers in Troop Leading Procedures, operational planning and basic Soldier skills.

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Several "Can Do" Soldiers attended the prestigious Audie Murphy board held in November. SFC Joseph Wertz, of Bravo Company, was selected as an Audie Murphy candidate by the Brigade Board. His name will now be sent to Forces Command where a final selection will be made. Our best wishes go with him. We are confident he will be selected.

At Fort Stewart the spouses participated in the Combat Spouse's Badge (CSB) Competition in late October. 17 wives came out to compete in the event. Spouses completed the Physical Fitness Test, litter carry and drill and ceremony. They also did scenario training in the Engagement Skills Trainer which is a virtual reality simulator that allows the participants to engage enemy forces with various weapon systems. The CSB Competition was an outstanding success that allowed spouses the opportunity to compete in events in which their Soldiers routinely train and participate.

During the Thanksgiving holiday all "Can Do" Soldiers enjoyed a specially cooked Thanksgiving Day meal. The cooks at each camp and outpost worked exceptionally hard to prepare turkeys, stuffing, potatoes, gravy, sweet potatoes, assorted vegetables and pumpkin pie. Colonel Louis Lartigue, our Brigade Commander, and CSM Joe Altman, our Brigade Command Sergeant Major, visited Fallujah for Thanksgiving. In true military tradition Soldiers of the Task Force were served Thanksgiving lunch by the senior Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers. We had a great time and everyone enjoyed the outstanding meals that were prepared. I look forward to my next opportunity to update all the former "Can Do" Soldiers, Families and friends who I know eagerly await our return. We continue to do great things in Ramadi on a daily basis.

Very Respectfully,

CAN DO! VANGUARD, OUT FRONT! ROCK OF THE MARNE!
LTC Jeffrey M. Shoemaker (China 6)
TASK FORCE 3-15 Infantry, 4th Advise and Assist Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division

MEMBERSHIP REPORT 04 JANUARY 2011

Currently the Association has 559 paid up members. In accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws annual dues become due on October 1st of each year for the following year. Members delinquent as of January 1st are dropped from rolls and mailing of The Dragon discontinued. Annual Dues Statements were mailed in September 2010 for the 2011 dues. Follow on notices were posted in the October 2010 edition of The Dragon. Follow-Up Dues Statements were mailed December 1, 2010 to delinquent members. As of January 1, 2011 there were 112 delinquent. Of that number, 96 are active duty. These members were dropped from rolls. Current membership by types and periods represented is shown below. *Members currently serving with the active battalions, 1/15- 62 and 3/15 – 22:

<u>Members By Type</u>		<u>Periods Represented</u>	
Regular Life	270	China Hands	2
Associate Life	11	World War II	97
Regular Annual	264	Korea	225
Associate Annual	<u>14</u>	Cold War	75
	559	Ready Forces	20
		OIF	115*
		Associate	<u>25</u>
			559

NEW MEMBERS

MATTHEW J. MCKENNA
303 HANOVER LANE
BRIGHTON, MI 48114
A, B, HHC 3-15 2002-2004

ARTHUR C. O'NEIL
12 HILLSIDE AVENUE
SO. PORTLAND, ME 04106
ASSOCIATE

KENNETH J. HARVEY
104 EAMES AVE
FT BENNING, GA 31905
HHC 2004-2006, 2008-2011

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New 1-15 CO LTC Nelson G. Kraft

LTC Nelson Kraft officially assumed command of the 1-15 INF on 06 January 2011. LTC Kraft graduated from Bowling Green State University and was commissioned in 1994. He is a graduate of the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Combined Arms Service and Staff School, and the Air Command and Staff College, where he earned a Masters degree. His past assignments include Rifle Platoon Leader and Company Executive Officer with the 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry at Camp Hovey, Korea; Company Executive Officer with the 2nd Battalion, 54th Infantry at Fort Benning, Georgia; Brigade S1 with 1st Brigade, 10th Mountain Division, S3 Air with the 1st Battalion, 87th Infantry, Company Commander of Company C, 1st Battalion, 87th Infantry, and Company Commander of HHC, 10th Mountain Division – all at Fort Drum, New York; Small Group Instructor at the Infantry Captains Career Course and Chief of Urban Operations at the U.S. Army Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia; Battalion S3 and Executive Officer with the 2nd Battalion, 30th Infantry and Brigade S3 with 4th Brigade, 10th Mountain Division – all at Fort Polk, Louisiana. LTC Kraft's last assignment was Aide-de-Camp to the Commander, NATO Training Mission Afghanistan at Camp Eggers, Afghanistan. LTC Kraft has deployed to Afghanistan three times in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, first as a Rifle Company Commander 2001 to 2002, next as an HHC Commander in 2003 and most recently as an Aide-de-Camp in 2010. He deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as a Battalion S3 and Executive Officer 2007 to 2009. His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal (1OLC), the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (2OLC), the Army Commendation Medal (3OLC), the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Army Achievement Medal (4OLC), the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Valorous Unit Award (1OLC), the National Defense Service Medal with service star, the Afghan Campaign Medal with two service stars, the Iraq Campaign Medal with service star, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal with Arrowhead device, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Korea Defense Service Medal, the Overseas Service Ribbon with numeral 2, the Army Service Ribbon, the NATO ISAF Medal, the Airborne, Air Assault and Pathfinder badges, the Combat and Expert Infantryman Badges and the Ranger Tab. LTC Kraft is married to the former Kathy Moser. They have two children, Madelynn and Nate.



Colors and Guidons



LTC Kraft Receives Colors From COL Jones



(L-R) LTC Stoy, Kathy Kraft, LTC Kraft, Monika Soy, Jeanette Sanders, MAJ Sanders

FAREWELL TO CSM MARK MOORE – DRAGON 7



CSM Mark E. Moore completed his duties as the senior enlisted Soldier in 1-15 Infantry on 01 December 2010. During his time as the Battalion Command Sergeant Major, he led the unit through two deployments in support of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. His

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crowning achievement was bringing every Soldier home alive following deployment to OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM VII. His tactical and technical expertise was second to none and his ability to train Soldiers contributed to the overwhelming success of the best Battalion in the Army. He will be missed by every member of the organization. He assumed duty as the Fort Benning Garrison Command Sergeant Major on 02 December 2010. CSM Moore is a native of Lakeland, Florida. He enlisted into the Infantry in 1990. CSM Moore is a graduate of the Primary Leadership Development Course, Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course, Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course, and the Sergeants Major Academy. CSM Moore holds two Associate Degrees, one from Excelsior College in Administrative Management and one from Troy University in Business Administration. He is currently working on his Baccalaureate Degree in Business Management with Troy University.

His past unit assignments include Rifleman in Delta Company, 4th Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment in Germany; Team Leader in Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry Regiment at Fort Irwin, California; M2A2 Gunner and Squad Leader in Charlie Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, GA; Senior Drill Sergeant at Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 50th Infantry Regiment, Infantry Training Brigade at Fort Benning, GA; Platoon Sergeant at Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, Fort Benning, GA; First Sergeant at Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division at Camp Hovey, Korea; First Sergeant of Alpha Company and Headquarters Company of 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, Fort Benning, GA; Operations Sergeant Major of 2nd Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division at Camp Casey, Korea; Operations Sergeant Major for 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, Fort Benning, GA, and Command Sergeant Major of 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd BCT, 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Benning, GA. His deployment experience includes OPERATION DESERT SHIELD/STORM while serving with Delta Company, 4th Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment in Germany; OPERATION IRAQI I, OPERATION IRAQI V, and OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM VII while serving with 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd HBCT, 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Benning, GA. CSM Moore's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal (with Valor Device), the Bronze Star Medal (service w/Oak Leaf Cluster), the Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with 11 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with nine Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Good Conduct Medal (5th Award), the NCO Professional Development Ribbon with numeral 4, the National Defense Service Medal with bronze star, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the Korean Defense Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Global War on Terror Expeditionary and Service Medals, the Iraqi Campaign Medal, the Kuwaiti Liberation Medal (both Kuwaiti and Southwest Asia), the Southwest Asia Service Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Valorous and Presidential Unit Award, the Combat Infantryman's Badge (2nd Award), the Expert Infantryman's Badge and the Drill Sergeant Identification Badge, Basic Parachutist Badge, and the Ranger Tab. CSM Moore is also a member of the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club. CSM Moore is married to the former Debra Weese and has two daughters, Nicole and Brittany.

RICHARD GUIMOND AWARDED THE FRENCH LEGION OF HONOR

Afraid World War II would pass him by; Richard Guimond enlisted in the Army in 1942. He went on to see some of the hardest fighting of the war, landing at Anzio, participating in the liberation of France, and dashing across Germany. On November 5, 2010 Guimond was presented the French Legion of Honor Award for his service in the liberation of France in World War II. The award, the highest decoration bestowed by France, was presented in a ceremony conducted by France's Consul General in Chicago, Graham Paul, at the Union Club in Chicago. In 2004, on the 60th anniversary of the allied D-Day landings in Normandy, then French President Jacques Chirac opened the award to soldiers of other nations who had participated in the liberation of France from the Nazis. Guimond served in L Company, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment from March 1943-October 1945. At the time of the invasion of Southern France, Operation Dragoon, his unit landed in Saint Tropez, August 15, 1944. They liberated Nice, Nancy, and much of the Vosges Mountains. Just before Christmas, the unit was ordered to the Colmar Pocket, a region where the borders of France, Germany and Switzerland meet. Advancing against tough resistance mounted by SS Nazi fanatics, Guimond was wounded by grenade fragments in house-to-house fighting on Christmas Eve 1944. He recovered well enough to rejoin his unit for the dash across Germany, crossing the Rhine and liberating Dachau Concentration Camp. "I feel very good about what I did," says Guimond today. "I'm proud of my service." Some of his toughest combat came in Italy. He landed in Casablanca, on the west coast of Africa, took a 40/8 (40 men or 8 horses) boxcar train trip across northern Africa. Traveling by boat into Italy, he joined the 3rd Infantry Division, which would land in Anzio. "The first 10 days (at Anzio) were quiet," Guimond says, "then all hell broke loose." Guimond's Company was ordered to break through the encircling German lines. They were a spearhead, the first to attack., followed by other troops. Out of 172 men, Guimond was one of only 13 in his company alive and able to fight at the end. The Anzio operation, he said, was under-powered from the start, with not enough men. Cautious generalship also left American troops near the beach when they might have advanced inland earlier. Guimond

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also went into Rome, which had been evacuated only days before the Normandy landings. Guimond ended World War II as a Staff Sergeant, commanding a light machine gun section. "We got promoted because we had lived longer than most, he once said. Guimond has returned to the scene of his World War II heroics. In 1994, on the 50th anniversary, he was part of a 21-day long tour of sites, along with three busloads of veterans, where the 3rd Infantry Division had fought. Guimond, 86, with his wife Ruth now resides in Kankakee, IL and is a retired assistant fire chief. He is a Distinguished Member of the 15TH Infantry Regiment Association and is a former Trustee and Treasurer of the Association.

1-15 WELCOME HOME CELEBRATION



(L-R) Ferril Jones, Benjamin Walker, Leonard Lessor, Rear Detachment Commander CPT Lerch, and 1-15 IN CO LTC Harvey

The 1-15 Infantry celebrated their redeployment from a year tour in Iraq on 21 October 2010. The event was designed to allow the Battalion's Soldiers and Families to enjoy an afternoon together and celebrate their return. The event was held at the National Infantry Museum. In the afternoon the entire battalion, soldiers and families, turned out for a casual affair. There were games, food galore, music, contest and just an all around good time for all the families. In the evening the Officers and Senior NCOs gathered at the Museum for an informal dinner in the museum. The Battalion Commander recognized several leaders for their service with appropriate awards ceremonies. There was also a Hail and Farewell, saying "So Long" to those departing for other assignments and welcoming newly assigned personnel. A group of Association members joined in the celebration from the Columbus-Phenix City area Benjamin Walker and wife Melba Jean, Ferril Jones, John and Elizabeth Burke. The group included Leonard Lessor, who travelled from New Hampshire for the event. His modes of travel involved private auto, bus and taxi to the airport in Boston, flight to Atlanta, rental car to Fort Benning and then return by the same modes.

FLAVOR OF NAPLES

Contributed by George Burks

(Originally Published in the New York Times on July 3, 1994)



Fifty years ago, in July 1944, I was a young company officer with an infantry division in Italy training for the invasion of southern France. My regiment was encamped 10 miles north of Pozzuoli. Army cooking was beginning to pall, so several of us vowed to seek out fine

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Neapolitan fare. What ensued was one of my great gastronomic disappointments. When we finally made it into the steam bath that was Naples in July, we found the few restaurants able to operate were already overcrowded with members of units stationed in town. After much wandering, we were approached by a Neapolitan who offered to guide us, for a fee, to a place virtually unknown (translation: black market). Lire changed hands and we were led to an apartment house. More lire changed hands and we were ushered into what was once a commodious living room, serving as a dining hall with tables and chairs wall to wall, all occupied by military personnel. We were served with fanfare and excitement that could only presage the arrival of a masterpiece of Italian culinary art. What we got was steak and eggs. That was my one and only attempt to augment Army rations in Italy. It has been my wish to return to pay my respects to many comrades still there, in the American cemetery at Nettuno. I'm sure they would find it ironic that a travel article stressing food might be just the incentive. If it comes to pass, it will be in no small part because of Ms. Fant's article. GEORGE S. BURKS Englewood, N.J.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

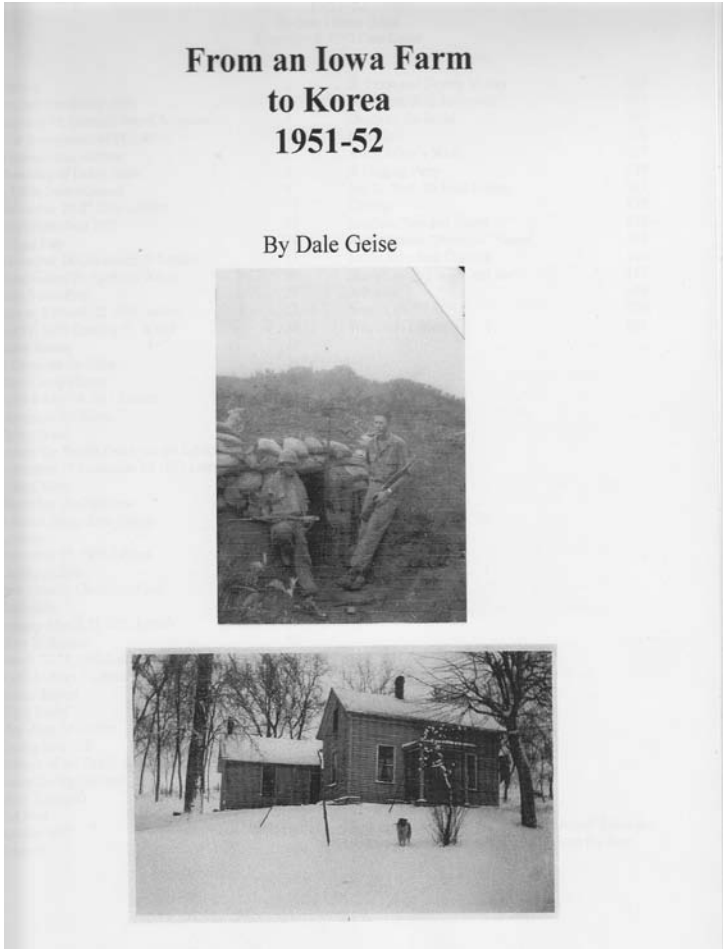
The Society of the Third Infantry Division 92nd Annual Reunion

September 8- 11, 2011

Astor Crown Plaza Hotel

New Orleans, LA

BOOK REVIEW



From an Iowa Farm to Korea 1951-1952

By

Dale Geise

Association member, Dale Geise, has compiled an archive of firsthand accounts of his tour with K Company, 15th Infantry Regiment from 1951 to 1952. Written in the verbiage and style of the frontline combat soldier, Mr. Geise recounts both the boredom and sheer terror that all combat infantrymen have faced in all wars. This narrative is full of personal photos, personal letters, newspaper clippings, official military correspondence for example. Geise credits his mother for the Depression era mindset of keeping anything and everything that might come in handy one day. Many of our Korean War association members will easily identify with what Mr. Geise has shared so personally. The cost of the book is \$17 which includes S/H. Mr. Geise makes no profit on the book. To order your copy, contact Dale at:

1051 X Avenue, Boone, IA 50036-7476
(515) 292-5533

COL WILLIAM E. RYAN, JR. AWARDED THE FRENCH LEGION OF HONOR DURING BATTLE OF THE COLMAR POCKET OBSERVANCE IN ARLINGTON, VA



COL Houdet Awards COL Ryan The Legion of Honor



Colmar Pocket Veterans Join COL Houdet in Rendering Honors at The Tomb of The Unknown

Association Life Member and WWII veteran Colonel William E. Ryan, Jr. was awarded the French Legion of Honor on 4 December 2010 during a banquet in Arlington, Virginia commemorating the Battle of the Colmar Pocket. Colonel Ryan was a Lieutenant in I Company, 3rd Battalion from November 1944 to July 1945, serving through the Colmar Pocket fighting December 44 to February 45, and being wounded during the penetration of the Siegfried Line in March 45. The award was presented by Colonel Brice Houdet, Military Attaché of France. Consul General Michel Schaffhauser from the French Embassy also presented awards. Colonel Ryan was one of seven WWII veterans who fought in France honored with the Legion of Honor that evening. Colonel Henry Bodson, who as a Captain served first as Battery Commander and then 39th FA Battalion Liaison Officer to the 15th Infantry Regiment during the Colmar fighting, also received the Legion of Honor in this ceremony.

Colonel Ryan was participating in a two and half day commemorative historical seminar which honored the veterans and units which fought in the Battle of the Colmar Pocket. The event was sponsored by Monika and Tim Stoy of Outpost Europe of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division and the French Embassy in Washington, DC and was held in the Hyatt Arlington, Rosslyn, Virginia. 21 veterans from all the units which fought in the Colmar Pocket – 3rd ID, 28th ID, 36th ID, 75th ID, 12th AD and the 1st French Army - joined a distinguished panel of historians to discuss the importance of the very tough battle in the Colmar Pocket. As all our WWII veterans know, the Battle of the Bulge to the north of Colmar and Strasbourg has received the majority of attention in WWII history in our country. Representatives from the 3rd Infantry Division, the Division Commander of the 75th Battle Command Training Division, Major General Regua; and the Division Commander of the 28th Infantry Division, Major General Marchi, participated in honoring these great veterans.

Highlights of the event, along with the awards banquet and seminars, were a wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns, an award presentation on behalf of all Colmar Pocket veterans to the Museum of the Unknowns, and a wreath laying at the 3rd Infantry Division Monument. The group was particularly honored to have Colonel Charles P. Murray, Jr., Medal of Honor recipient from the 30th Infantry Regiment during the fighting outside Kaisersberg; General Frederick J. Kroesen, who served as a Lieutenant with the 254th Infantry Regiment which was attached to the 3rd ID during the Colmar Pocket battle; and Major General Lloyd B. Ramsey, who commanded 3/7th Infantry in the Colmar Pocket, participate. These three great veterans, as well as all participating veterans shared personal memories of their Colmar Pocket experiences throughout the seminar.

Colonel Ryan shared his memories of the fighting for Bennwihr and Hill 216 in December, his recollections of LT Victor Kandle, and the very tough fight on the I'll River and at Maison Rouge in holding the bridgehead there in the face of vicious enemy armored and infantry counterattacks during Operation Grand Slam January 1945. Charles Condron, Association member and 15th Infantry Regiment veteran, was escorted to the event by Joe Herron, son of the late Edward D. Herron, a 15th Infantry Regiment veteran. We were also very touched to have the niece of a 15th Infantryman who was killed in the fighting on 24 December 1944, Herman Engel, Mrs. Marjorie Hatchell and her husband Dennis, join us to honor her uncle and to learn about the operations in which her uncle was KIA. Should any of our WWII veterans remember serving with him, please contact Tim Stoy and he will help you get in touch with Marjorie.

Treasurer's Report 01JAN2011

Checking Account:	
Balance as of 01/01/10:	\$ 6,337.61
Deposits:	
Dues:	
2,080.00	
L.M.	
1,050.00	
Gen.Fund	
220.00	
A & M	
65.00	

DISBURSMENTS:	
Dragon Printing	2,378.37
Postage & Mailings	1,431.07
Yahoo	265.40
Bak Ser.Fee	130.00
Ret.Dinner Checks	304.00
Dinner	4,597.08
Brushes	1,631.25
TOTAL:	\$10,737.17
BALANCE IN CHKG;	\$ 3,305.44
as of 11/30/10	

LIFE MEMBERSHIP ACCT:	
28,881.56	CD
A & M Acct	.
3,065.00	
Gen Fund	
9,112.58	
VANGUARD ACCT	
\$ 12,177.58	TOTAL

15TH INFANTRY REGIMENT HALL OF VALOR



2LT ROBERT CRAIG

Near Favoratta, Sicily, 11 July 1943

CITATION

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life, above and beyond the call of duty, on 11 July 1943 at Favoratta, Sicily. 2d Lt. Craig voluntarily undertook the perilous task of locating and destroying a hidden enemy machinegun which had halted the advance of his company. Attempts by 3 other officers to locate the weapon had resulted in failure, with each officer receiving wounds. 2d Lt. Craig located the gun and snaked his way to a point within 35 yards of the hostile position before being discovered. Charging headlong into the furious automatic fire, he reached the gun, stood over it, and killed the 3 crew members with his carbine. With this obstacle removed, his company continued its advance. Shortly thereafter while advancing down the forward slope of a ridge, 2d Lt. Craig and his platoon, in a position devoid of cover and concealment, encountered the fire of approximately 100 enemy soldiers. Electing to sacrifice himself so that his platoon might carry on the battle, he ordered his men to withdraw to the cover of the crest while he drew the enemy fire to himself. With no hope of survival, he charged toward the enemy until he was within 25 yards of them. Assuming a kneeling position, he killed 5 and wounded 3 enemy soldiers. While the hostile force concentrated fire on him, his platoon reached the cover of the crest. 2d Lt. Craig was killed by enemy fire, but his intrepid action so inspired his men that they drove the enemy from the area, inflicting heavy casualties on the hostile force.

PVT HERBERT F. CHRISTIAN

Near Valmontone, Italy, 2-3 June 1944

CITATION

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at risk of life above and beyond the call of duty. On 2-3 June 1944, at 1 a.m., Pvt. Christian elected to sacrifice his life in order that his comrades might extricate themselves from an ambush. Braving massed fire of about 60 riflemen, 3 machineguns, and 3 tanks from positions only 30 yards distant, he stood erect and signaled to the patrol to withdraw. The whole area was brightly illuminated by enemy flares. Although his right leg was severed above the knee by cannon fire, Pvt. Christian advanced on his left knee and the bloody stump of his right thigh, firing his submachinegun. Despite excruciating pain, Pvt. Christian continued on his self-assigned mission. He succeeded in distracting the enemy and enabled his 12 comrades to escape. He killed 3 enemy soldiers almost at once. Leaving a trail of blood behind him, he made his way forward 20 yards, halted at a point within 10 yards of the enemy, and despite intense fire killed a machine-pistol man. Reloading his weapon, he fired directly into the enemy position. The enemy appeared enraged at the success of his ruse, concentrated 20-mm. machinegun, machine-pistol and rifle fire on him, yet he refused to seek cover. Maintaining his erect position, Pvt. Christian fired his weapon to the very last. Just as he emptied his submachinegun, the enemy bullets found their mark and Pvt. Christian slumped forward dead. The courage and spirit of self-sacrifice displayed by this soldier were an inspiration to his comrades and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces.

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