

Fifteenth Infantry Regiment



15th Infantry Regiment Association Newsletter

October 2000

3rd Battalion Deploys

In Harms Way

3rd Battalion News from the Forward CP

by LTC Stephen Banach

Brcko - There is a US Base Camp within a few short kilometers of Brcko and the Croatian border. The camp was named after 1LT Robert M. McGovern, a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient from the 1st Cavalry Division who was mortally wounded on January 30, 1951, at Kamyangjan-ni in Korea while charging an enemy position.

McGovern is the largest of the base camps and was built right on the Inter-Entity Boundary Line (IEBL). Its patrols have a large Area of Responsibility (AOR) to cover and unlike most of Bosnia and Herzegovina it is mainly flat agricultural land. It is also an area that was very contested during the war and is heavily mined. The AOR contains, amongst other points of interest the town of Brcko as well as the Arizona road market place. Two areas which are closely monitored.

The patrols are made in armored Humvees though the troops do have Bradley armored fighting vehicles (AFV) and Abrams Main Battle (MBT) tanks with them.

"We have six days on patrol, going out up to three a

Harms Way continues on page 3.

Hello and greetings from Camp McGovern, Bosnia-Herzegovina. The China Battalion has been conducting steady state patrolling operations to enforce the provisions of the Dayton Peace Accord and the GFAP.

The soldiers of China Battalion began the road to Camp McGovern with Individual Readiness Training and a very successful rotation to the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, Louisiana. The Mission Rehearsal Exercise at the JRTC proved to be a great experience for the officers and men of the battalion. This experience also served as a team building and integration exercise for the soldiers of two very professional National Guard companies. The China Battalion integrated A/1-279 Infantry, of the Oklahoma National Guard and B/1-252 Armor, of the North Carolina National Guard. These soldiers quickly adapted the "Can Do" mentality and are serving with distinction along side the China soldiers.

The soldiers conduct daily presence patrols throughout the area of operations to ensure that the citizens have freedom of movement and a safe and secure environment to conduct normal life activities. The patrols conduct both mounted and dismounted patrols in the local towns. This enables the soldiers to interact with the citizens, talk to them and obtain a general feel for the environment. This process also ensures a partnership for peace and growth in this country.

The season is changing as we prepare for the onset of winter. The platoons are conducting classes and training on winter driving as well as the application of tire chains to enhance driver control during snow driving. The soldiers also find time to grab a few cards or send letters and email to loved ones. As we approach the winter season, we ask that you remember the China Battalion during the holidays. Keep these soldiers close in your thoughts and prayers, as they will be standing watch for our great nation this holiday season.

"CAN DO"



**Check your address label.
Don't forget annual dues.**

The Dragon

Officers

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 last day of each month prior to publishing.

John Burke.....President
Michael J. Horn.....Editor
Richard R. Guimond.....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 15th Infantry Regiment.

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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.

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NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION OF OFFICERS

In accordance with the Constitution and By Laws Association Officers are elected every two years. The next election will be conducted at the annual business meeting during the 2001 Can Do Rendezvous to be held in late spring.

Nominations are sought for a full slate of officers as follows:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer- **See special notice below**
- Four (4) Trustees

It is desirable to have two or more nominations for each office.

The term of office for elected officers is two years. The President is limited to one term. The Vice President and four Trustees are limited to two terms. There is no term limit for the Secretary or Treasurer. A term begins with installation of office at the Regimental Dinner during the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Reunion. As an exception the Treasurer's term of office shall begin on January 1.

Any member in good standing is eligible for office. If you are interested in filling any office, please come forward, ask to be nominated or nominate yourself. If you know someone that would serve the Association well in one or more of the positions, encourage them to permit you to place their name in nomination. Only members who have accepted nomination will be placed on the ballot.

Nominations will be accepted from the present through December 31 to allow an absentee ballot to be published in the January edition of *The Dragon*. Under unusual circumstances as determined by 2/3 vote at the business meeting, nominations may be accepted from the floor.

As this is written, the Nominations and Elections Chair is vacant. Submit nominations to the President, John T. Burke; address shown on page 2. Submit by December 31, 2000.

Special Notice Regarding the Treasurer

Richard Guimond will complete his two-year term as Association Treasurer on December 31st and does not desire to offer for re-election. The Association is urgently seeking a successor to Richard. A new Treasurer can be appointed now with confirmation made at the next election. Richard is prepared to assist his replacement as long as necessary to insure a smooth transition. He has also offered to continue as Public Affairs Chairman and will distribute the annual raffle letter and tickets.

Requisites for the Treasurer position should be a general knowledge of bookkeeping and banking practices. He collects and disperses all Association money, prepares financial statements, manages Association bank accounts, and maintains a detailed bankbook. Having a computer and E-mail capability will be a plus in performing the duties of the position. Surely there are members out there that have the qualifications to do the job. Now they need to come forward and lend a hand to their Association.

Harms Way continued from page 1.

day, then comes three days of Force Protection, that is camp guard. We also maintain our tanks and go down to Eagle Base to train on the simulators. It keeps us busy and we haven't seen the weeks go by". Explained SSgt. Edmond Rouleau, an Abrams Tank Commander.

About 700 SFOR troops are based in McGovern, and even if at first view it is a bleak place, once inside visitors discover the work that has taken place to make the peacekeepers feel as much at home as possible. The garrison of Camp McGovern is lodged in the large, dark brown South-East Asia model huts (SEAHUTS). These large wooded buildings are flanked on each side by covered walk ways. The large rooms have a door going out to each side, and can house up to eight men.

They enjoy a large number of recreational and sports venues and there is an education center. Camp McGovern even boasts a mini shopping center, courtesy of AAFES and it's own "Rose Garden", here people have dedicated rose bushes to peace.

The troops in McGovern also have the chance to work with the SFOR contingents whose AORs border on theirs. The NORDPOL and Russian Separate Air Borne (RSAB) Brigades. These joint ventures and patrols allow the members of SFOR to get to know one another and discover the neighboring AORs.



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Looking for any info on Company M from their landing in North Africa thru crossing of Volturno river. My father, SGT Richard L. Warren, was a heavy machine gunner in the and was wounded possibly near Venafro, Italy. Any info would be wonderful. Thank you



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Looking for any info on John W. Pitts, MIA, last seen in December 1950.



Gilbert Conner
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Best wishes to our outgoing HCOR. Jim was my CO in Korea in 52-53. He saved my life along with WO Paul V. Dailey of Ashtabula, OH.



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My father, Robert L. Zeigler, served in Korea from around April 1951 to October 1951 in HQ or Company B. I'd like hear from anyone who may have served with him.



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I have been researching (for a novel) the battles in Alsace in WWII, especially the events of the 15th RCT. My grandfather was in Easy Co. Just recently my father received a letter from a veteran of E Co. In it he gave the name of the CO of Easy as Lt.

Mail Call continues on page 9.



Arnold Freedman

Dr. Freedman served in both the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the Regiment during the Korean War. He died 30 June 2000. A former university professor, Dr. Freedman recently wrote an article about the last combat action of the 2nd Battalion. He was member of the Association since 1997. He was 82 at the time of his death.

Albert Lumpkin

Albert who served as a PFC in Item Company in Korea passed away August 25, 2000. . He was member of the Association since 1995. He was 72 years of age.

Grant L. Howard

Grant passed away August 11, 2000. He was a member of Fox Company from Ft Lewis to Africa and Sicily. Grant was severely wounded. His wounds never healed properly. Reported by John Ethan.

Melvin Blythe

Mickey, of Antigo, Wisconsin, passed away in August. He served in Company I in WW II. He was a great soldier and well respected by his men. Reported by Herman Goke

Glen Lautzenhiser

Glen passed away in his sleep on June 7th. He is survived by his wife Geraldine and two sons. He lived in Adrian, MI. He was a Corporal in M Company in WW II. Reported by Geraldine Lautzenhiser



CHECK YOUR ADDRESS LABEL

This could be your last copy of *The Dragon*. If the label has 2000 after your name your 2001 dues were due on 30 September 2000. Send your dues right away to ensure this is not your last copy of *The Dragon*. Send your payment to the Treasurer at the Address shown on Page 2.

Regimental Dinner Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Reunion Burlingame, CA

The 8th annual 15th Infantry Regimental Dinner was held Saturday, September 2, 2000 at the San Francisco Airport Marriott, Burlingame, CA. A total of 161 members and their guests joined in an evening of comradeship. Attending members represented service with the Regiment in WWII, Korea and Ready Forces of the Cold War until the present. In addition many had served in Vietnam with other units.

Members of the 1-15 IN from Fort Benning performed the Regimental Color Guard. As always they performed superbly in their posting and retirement of the colors.

Recognition was made of the Association Founding Members present. They were MG Maurice Kendall (Ret), Jerry Cunningham, Edward Dojutrek, Leonard Lassar, George Mohr, and Whitney Mullen. A welcome was also extended to the newest Association member at the time, BG Michael Lepeilbet (Ret), who joined just minutes before the dinner.

A special welcome/recognition was given to members of the OP Harry Survivors Association who joined the assemblage for dinner.

ISG Alberto Albizu, Acting Sergeant Major of the 1-15 IN presented an update of activities ongoing with both the 1-15 IN and the 3-15 IN. His presentation was both interesting and informative and brought several compliments from the "old" soldiers.

The principal speaker, Henry Burke, gave a very interesting talk on his recollection of the time of his initial entry into the Army up through his first combat days in Korea. The talk was very interesting, laced with descriptions of humorous incidents.

Presentations of Association Plaques were made to the NCO and Soldier of the Year for the 1-15 IN, SGT Aaron Cook and SPC Mathew Luter.

A plaque expressing appreciation for Association support was presented to the outgoing Honorary Sergeant Major of the Regiment, Jerry Cunningham.

Regnard Burgess, a 39th Field Artillery veteran was honored for his support to the Regiment by the 1-15 IN in making him an Honorary Member of the Regiment.

James Evans, OP Harry Survivors Association, presented National Infantry Association awards of the Order of Saint Maurice Medallion to Patrick Burke, Past President of the OP Harry Survivors Association, and Warren Sessler, new President, OP Harry Survivors Association for their distinguished contributions and support to the Infantry.

The evening was punctuated by many expressions of "CAN DO" and "Hooah".

DON'T LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRE



John's Message

During attendance at the Regimental Dinner at the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Reunion in Burlingame, CA a few weeks ago I reflected on the past dinners in which Past President Edd Adam had attended. As Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice President he was instrumental in organizing dinners and other events over a 6-year span. His presence and assistance to all will be sorely missed. As the Past Honorary Colonel of the Regiment has so aptly put it, "let our success be our monument to Edd".

A report on the Regimental Dinner is shown as a separate article in this Dragon. However, I take this opportunity to express my thanks to the 1-15 IN from Fort Benning for their support with the Color Guard and to Henry Burke for his presentation of Korean Recollections. The attendees expressed their appreciation many times over. And my very special thanks to Richard Guimond who took over in mid stream and single-handedly coordinated the dinner with the hotel staff. He did a superb job.

In July we said "So long" to LTC Bob Pricone, Commander of the 1-15 IN for the past 2 years and said "Hello" to LTC Dennis Smith. LTC Smith has already demonstrated that he is dedicated to preservation of the traditions and history of the Regiment. An article on his background appears in this edition.

The 3-15 IN deployed to Bosnia in early September. Their peacekeeping mission will be most difficult and challenging. Our best wishes go out to them and their families. Their return is planned for around April 2000.

The NCO and Soldier of the Year of each battalion are honored each year with awards from the Association. The awards are named for Medal of Honor recipients from the 2 battalions respectively in WWII and Korea and are normally awarded at the Regimental Dinner held with the 3rd Division Reunion. The timing of the 3-15 IN deployment prevented their attendance. However, the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment LTG (Ret) Jared Bates made their awards on behalf of the Association at a Battalion BALL IN July. Photos appear in this edition.

Although the members are the governing body of the Association, officers and trustees are elected to carry out the day to day operations. Other officers are appointed for specific functions. At this time there are vacancies in both categories with more to occur just around the corner. In addition to the Vice President vacancy the Treasurer position becomes vacant the first of the year. Vacant appointed positions are the Nominations and Elections Chairman, Membership Chairman, and Constitution and By-laws Chairman. And, as it has come across loud and clear recently, we need an Assistant Treasurer position. Elections to fill all the elected officer positions will be held during the next Rendezvous, with installation of office at the Regimental Dinner during the next 3rd Infantry Division Reunion. A separate article in this issue highlights the election process. I would like to make an appeal now for those that can to become more involved in the governing of the Association. You need not wait to be asked to serve. All you need do is step forward and say, "Can Do". If you know someone who you know would be an asset to the Association let it be known.

It may seem a little early now but with this being the last issue this year, let me wish all a joyous holiday season.

REUNIONS OPEN DOOR TO WW II MEMORIES

MANLIUS, NY MAN, FATHER AND UNCLE SERVED
US

Article by Dick Case of the Herald American Columnist.

Pat Heagerty spent a piece of Veterans Day at his kitchen table in Manlius with his wife, Freda, his granddaughter, Ryland and me. An album of snapshots and memorabilia is open in front of us; nearby is a wall lined with framed pictures, medals and fading pieces of paper. Sunlight flows through a big window. The room's bright and cozy. Coffee's on, and Pat's hundreds of miles and 50 years away.

We talk about war. The Big One. WW Two.

About when Pat--- retiring after 40 years of teaching middle school---was a dogface soldier, a mere kid himself, 18 just out of high school in Oswego and carried to strange places with strange men, enemies, who want to kill him. They almost did, three times, he says.

Freda and Pat were college sweethearts. They met when they studied to be teachers at Oswego State. She says it took Pat 40 years to get his tongue to where his brain had been, back in that mud and blood, in Italy, France and Germany in 1944 and 1945. "He couldn't talk about it for a long time," Frieda says. Pat nods. "About 10 years ago, he started going to reunions, and that opened it up for him."

Ryland's curious about the pictures, in Papa's book. Are they real? Yes, they're real. Very. No less than they were 50 years ago, for Pat and the other veterans. There have been other wars; history keeps unfolding. But if you were there, it never leaves you. For this retired dogface, take that literally. Pat points to his chin, neck and chest: "I still have some pieces floating around in there." They're fragments of a grenade a German threw at him in Italy in 1944.

Ryland wanted to know why we fought that war. The grandparents shrug.

"Both sides think they're right," Freda says. "And no one wins. We study war so it won't happen again." No one wins.

Pat got drafted three months after he graduated from high school. Shortly they trained him, gave him a rifle and put him on troop carrier to North Africa, then Italy. All that time he's thinking about his Uncle Tom, his mother's brother, Thomas Mulrenan, an Irishman who joined the British Royal Fusiliers. He was killed in France in 1918 when we had the first war to end all others. And his dad, Michael Heagerty, who made it through Europe and that same war, only to drown in the canal in Oswego when Pat was 8.

Mary Heagerty, from the Old Country herself, had to go back to work as a maid in rich people's houses in Oswego

when water made her a widow. When the next war overtook us, she watched her children, three sons, all she had, take the call. Pat, Mike and John came home.

Pat spent a month in a field hospital the first time he was wounded. He volunteered to rejoin his outfit---I Company, 15th Infantry, Third Division after he recovered. He got back in time to join the invasion of the south of France in the summer of 1944, an operation that started as "a piece of cake" but changed with the terrain as the company moved into the mountains.

One day, while Pat was dug into a hillside, "Bingo I got hit again. A shell went into my back I was bleeding internally." He stopped talking to let the lump go out of his throat. The hit still burned after all this time. He spent two and half months recovering from what was classified a severe wound. "I expected to go home," he said. "The nurse was asking me to buy her some silk stockings when I got there. Then, in mid-January, they told me, "You're going right back to your outfit." I was not to happy."

Pat found himself in a rifle platoon on the front pushing into Germany in early 1945. That was when he had his third look at death, this time very close and very personal. Pat and a buddy were walking through a bunker when the other man was shot. Pat started for help and ran into three German soldiers, their rifles pointed at him. "I thought I was going to get" he recalled. He waited a few seconds that seemed like a few hours. "They just turned around and walked away." Wow. Yeah, Pat says, shaking his head. That's enough of a near death experience to last a man a lifetime.

Pat's war closed out with the end of combat in Europe in May 1945. I Company was in Austria at the time. The rest of his tour involved occupation duty until he was shipped home for the holidays. Then he went after a college degree on the GI Bill.

Pat has put together quite a collection of military souvenirs, most of them close to home. His little museum's in the den, along with the regimental histories and other chronicles. One frame holds a picture of his Uncle Mike and the telegram his mother received when her brother was killed France. Next to that is his father's picture when he fought with the 310th Infantry Division. There's the form letter he mailed home after he arrived in Europe: "I sailed safely."

In 1994, Pat went back to the old war zone in Europe for the reunion with his buddies in the Third Division, an outfit with the nickname "Dog-face Solders." They met Hillary and Bill Clinton, were toasted by some of the Frenchmen they'd liberated and met some of their ex-enemies, the Germans even. At one social event, Freda stood up and read a little essay she wrote about the trip, "Thanks for the Memories." It ended with these words: "Let the healing take place."

Did Pat see "Saving Private Ryan"? Old soldiers claim the movie's the most true and graphic, film of men at war. He had. "And I wish I hadn't," he said.



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Chaplains Corner

By LTC Chuck Trout, Sr.

As we see our dark curls turning white we realize that we may be getting a little older. Most of us realize how important some people have been to us all our lives. There is no better time than now to let those special people we love know just how we feel. I remember one person who waited a little too long to express her love for a young soldier. The following information was taken from her diary:

Dear Bobby:

Being alone as I am, I often think of the special times we spent together. I remember when you got your first car. I begged you to drive it and finally you let me. I side swiped a telephone pole and thought you would get really mad at me. But you didn't.

Our first date when you arrive on time to pick me up, I was not ready and made you wait for over an hour while I got dressed. I thought you would say, "Never again!" But you didn't.

The night of our senior prom when I spilled soda all over your tux and the front seat of your father's car. I thought you would kill me. But you didn't. Then you left for Korea. I made up my mind when you came home I was going to tell you just how much I love you. But you didn't.

The older I get, the more I am convinced that it was easier for us to serve in Korea than to be the mothers, wives and sweethearts who had to wait at home for our return.

There is no better time than now to tell those special people just what they meant and mean to you. That is what God would have us do.

God Bless all of you. Chaplain (LTC) Chuck Trout

CAN DO!!! Greetings and Salutations from all the CAN DO soldiers of the 1-15th IN BN. It is truly a great honor and privilege to command this prestigious battalion. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who made this command possible.

The battalion has been on many missions since I took command on 14 July 2000. Alpha Company deployed to Fort Campbell, TN to participate in a training exercise as the OPFOR for the 2d Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment. Bravo Company deployed down to Fort Stewart, GA to participate in Marne Focus as the OPFOR for the 1st BDE, 3rd ID in preparation for their NTC rotation.

Once again the CAN DO battalion had the distinct privilege to prove the Immediate Ready Company for the 18th Airborne Corps, starting with Alpha Company then followed by Charlie Company for the months of September through October. Bravo Company will support our sister tank battalion with a platoon for IRC during October. They will also support the Charleston Air Force Base Air Show, conducting a static display on the capabilities of the M2A2 ODS Bradley Fighting Vehicle and a rifle squad, as well as conduct a "HOT" combat offload of a Bradley from a C-17 aircraft, following a battalion airfield seizure by 82d Airborne Division. We all know that when the 1-15 IN battalion is called we CAN DO.

Bravo Company successfully completed their CALFEX live fire exercise, utilizing the combined firepower of the light infantry, mechanized infantry, mortars, artillery, armor, engineers, and Air Force F-18s. An awesome sight to see when all the pieces come together. The CAN DO Boxing Smoker was held on 28 September immediately after the CALFEX at Keiffurt Gym on Kelley Hill. Many CAN DO soldiers, friends, and family members were on hand to witness all fifteen Bouts that were fought that night. The activities were exciting and memorable for all that were watching and participating. Honored Guests in attendance were COL Cucolo, 3rd Bde Commander, Mr John Burke, 15th Regimental Association President, and Retired CSM Eddie Crook, 1960 Olympic Boxing Gold Medallist, who awarded medals to boxers after their bouts. The battalion plans to have a CAN DO Boxing Smoker each quarter.

The Battalion will execute the Expert Infantryman Badge training and testing as well as the Expert Field Medical Badge in October, followed by gunnery where we will qualify our Bradley crews and conduct squad live fire exercises in November.

In January, we are back in the field for Hammer Focus here at Fort Benning, followed by a Marne Focus exercise down in Fort Stewart in March and April. This training is in preparation for battalions deployment to Fort Irwin, CA to the National Training Center in May. Once again, it is great privilege commanding the 1st Battalion 15th Infantry Regiment and I am looking forward to meeting as many former CAN DO soldiers at our next Regimental activity.

DRAGON 6

Members in the news

CPT Jon Ring the former commander of B and HHC of the 1st Battalion was reassigned to American Somoa. I didn't know the Army had anybody in that part of the World. I hope Jon's duty isn't too rough.

COL Tad Davis took over as the Garrison Commander of Fort Bragg, NC. Tad is the former commander of the 1st Battalion at Fort Benning. The Installation Change of Command occurred on 1 June.

Application For Membership 15th Infantry Regiment Association

___ New Member _____ Renewal
 (Date)

Last Name _____

First Name _____

Middle Initial _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____ - _____

Telephone (_____) _____

Rank _____ ASN _____

Units served in: _____

Dates served in 15th 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, 15th Infantry Reg't Association.

Mail to:

Treasurer Richard Guimond

Use the appropriate seasonal 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.

Mail Call Continued from page 4

Robert A. Wann. My documentation shows that Lt. Wann came over from Reg'tal I&R and became CO of Easy on 13 Jan 45. If I could make contact with Lt. Wann about Easy Company during his service in command of the company I would greatly appreciate it.

Ronald Malloy
18 School Street
Washington, New Jersey, 07882
908-689-1999
Jets57East@webtv.net

Seeking info on PVT George Malloy, 32777092, Service Co., Killed in France Sept. 10, 1944. Please if you can help me, any and all info including service records He was my mother's brother. Never met him, but feel that I know him Thank You Very Much

Paul Vanderbush
107 Briarcliff Rd.
Cheektowaga New York 14225
pvanderbus@aol.com

Trying to locate the following members of Co A 1st Bn (Harvey Barracks, Kitzingen, Germany 1967-1969)
David Burkacki - Philip Giorgio - Thomas Boos - Leonard Boren
Any help is greatly appreciated. Thank You

Norman J. MacIntyre
10620 SW 27th Ave Sp# A-33
Ocala, FL 34476

Thanks so much for all the cards, letters and calls I received following my recent back surgery. I'm having a little trouble getting over the surgery, but I've been a Can Do soldier for over 59 years. So I Can Do. Thanks again fellows, it's great to know your thought of by so many. Thanks guys!!!

James J Blake Jr
954-989-3701
6900 SW 10 Street
Pembroke Pines FL 33023
general1969@aol.com

I am looking for any and all information on my Dad (deceased, as of September 20, 1997), Sgt. James J. Blake, ASN 20110313. He was a member of the 3rd Infantry Division Association. In World War II my Dad served with Company K in Normandy, Northern France and the Rhineland. He was wounded in action on April 14, 1945. I have a copy of his discharge papers and Honorable Discharge Certificate. Any info would be appreciated, as I would like to add it to the family history that I am doing. I, and two of my brothers, served during (and IN) Vietnam. My Dad served in WW II. My Grandfather served in India and in South Africa during the Boer War with the Royal Dublin Fusiliers of the British Army. Guess you could see we are a military family!

Jeff Danby
1621 Bridgewood Ct.
Defiance, OH 43512
(419) 784-4027
jdandy@inos.com

I am trying to locate members of Company L of the who remember fighting in a small town called "Allan" in Southern France on August 27th 1944. This town is southeast of Montelimar by about 5 or 10 miles. The commander of this company at the time was Captain James Coles. The battalion commander was, I believe, LTC Thomas R. Davis.

My grandfather, Lt. Edgar R. Danby, was the platoon leader for the 3rd Platoon, Company B, of the 756th Tank Battalion. His tank platoon was attached to Company L/15th Inf. Reg. that day when he was killed. His tank was knocked out by a German tank hiding in a cemetery just north of town by about 400 yards. He and his turret crew were killed instantly, but the driver and bow gunner of his tank escaped and were subsequently captured. There were two other tanks from the 3rd Platoon that participated in the battle, but his was the only American tank knocked out that day in Allan.

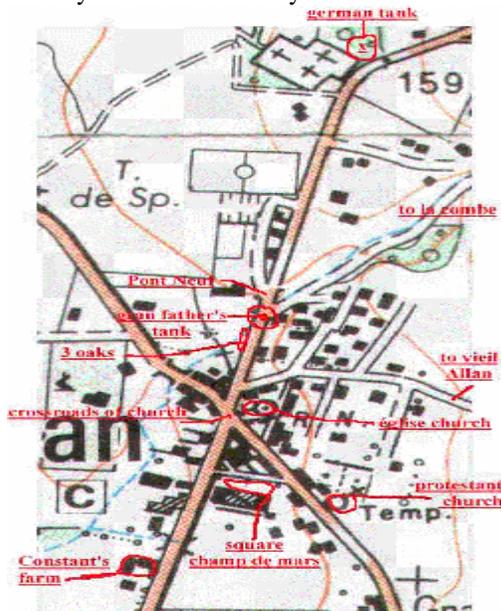
I have a journal account from a French resident of Allan who witnessed the battle. It is quite detailed, giving an hour by hour account of the day's events. It talks of an American patrol of about 15 men who went down into a creek ravine near the cemetery at about 3:00 p.m. and came under attack. The journal account says that these men were killed or captured and did not return. It says that my grandfather then moved his tank to support this patrol before it was hit about 100 yards north of town on a small bridge over the creek. One of the men who got out of my grandfather's tank and was captured was a man by the name of Hubert S. Shew. He has since passed away, but his relatives tell me that he was captured along with about 15 other men (the missing patrol?) and held as a POW until the end of the war.

The battle for town was fairly intense at times, with some shelling of farmhouses, some "cat and mouse" between opposing tanks in the town's narrow streets, and the destruction of a German tank east of town. There were several firefights, particularly at the main intersection of town near the Catholic Church. There was also a firefight in the western gardens, with the Germans seeming to take a heavy beating. The main concentration of German activity seemed to be, however, in this cemetery just 400 yards north of town. This enemy force seemed to halt the American advance through town for a few hours, and I believe that the patrol was sent to scout out its strength and location. During the day's events, the Company radio was knocked out and the radioman was severely wounded. When night came, the town was safely under American control, but communications had been cut off. Captain Coles took his jeep with the wounded radioman and sped south of town back to

Mail Call continues on the next page.

the Battalion command post. He came storming back in a maintenance tank with a radio, crashing a German roadblock on the way back into town. For this action he received the Distinguished Service Cross.

Here is a map of Allan, France. North is toward the top. Note the Cemetery at the top and the location of my grandfather's destroyed tank at the middle. The missing patrol was located along the creek (blue line) up toward the cemetery. The American attack came late morning from the southern entrance of town, with Infantry at first gaining and securing the "Constant farm" near the bottom, The German tank was destroyed near where it says "to vieil Allan"



I am hoping that these events might be familiar to some of the members of the 15th. I would love to hear from some of the infantrymen present that day and remember or kept journals/photos and can give me more information about the battle. Does anyone have any rosters of Company L from this time? Does anyone know the names of the men captured or killed in that patrol near the cemetery? Does anyone remember the tank's movements that day, or the destruction of my grandfather's M4A3? Please contact me at the address above.



Steve Canterbury
4696 Empire Way
Greenacres, FL 33463
(561) 969-9939

I'm seeking info on my father or anyone that fought alongside him. His name was Willie Canterbury he fought in North Africa and he was at the invasion of Anzio. He also fought alongside Audie Murphy going out on patrols with him. Audie used to call him "Cannonball" because his last name was Canterbury. But like a lot of soldiers my dad did not like to talk about specifics. I was hoping that you could direct me to someone that didn't mind sharing their stories about that specific time and place. Also I have a military picture of him that I can e-mail to you if you would like. Thanks

Support the 3rd Battalion in Bosnia

In September the 3rd Battalion from Ft Stewart deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina in support of peacekeeping operations. Everyone is encouraged to write to these current members of the Regiment. Please show your support and lift the spirits of these fighting men by writing to the address below.

Any Soldier
3-15 IN
Operation Joint Forge
Camp McGovern
APO AE 09789

1st Battalion Changes Command

On July 14th, 2000 the 1st Battalion at Fort Benning, Georgia held a Battalion Change of Command. The outgoing commander was LTC Bob Pricone. The incoming commander is LTC Dennis Smith.

LTC Dennis Smith was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Infantry from Stone Hill College. His career began with the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) in Fort Stewart, Georgia where he served as a Rifle and Anti Tank Platoon leader. He later served with the 3rd Ranger Battalion 75th Ranger Regiment at Fort Benning, Georgia as a Platoon Leader. Upon assignment to 10th Mountain Division (Light) Fort Benning, Georgia and Fort Drum, New York, he served as the 2nd Brigade Assistant S4, Battalion S4, and Company Commander for 2nd Battalion, 14h Infantry. He later served at the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, Louisiana as a Battalion S4, Company Senior Maneuver and Battalion TOC Observer/Controller. LTC Smith later served as a strategic plans officer for U.S. Army Pacific prior to becoming the Battalion S3 for 2nd Battalion 27th Infantry, and Brigade S3 for 3rd Brigade 25th Infantry Division (Light), Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Most recently he served as a senior watch officer and Chief of the Information Warfare Division, U.S. Army Element, Joint Intelligence Center, Pacific Command.

LTC Smith's military education includes the Infantry officer basic and advanced course, the Marine Amphibious Warfare School, and the Command and General Staff College. LTC Smith's awards include the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation medal with silver oak leaf cluster, Army Achievement medal with two oak leaf cluster, National Defense Service Medal, and Army Service Ribbon. LTC Smith's other awards include the Ranger tab, Expert Infantryman's Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, and Air Assault Badge.

LAST DUES REMINDER

Keep your membership current. Send your dues payment for 2001 to the Treasurer today.

Burlingame Photos courtesy of Jim Jarboe and John Burke



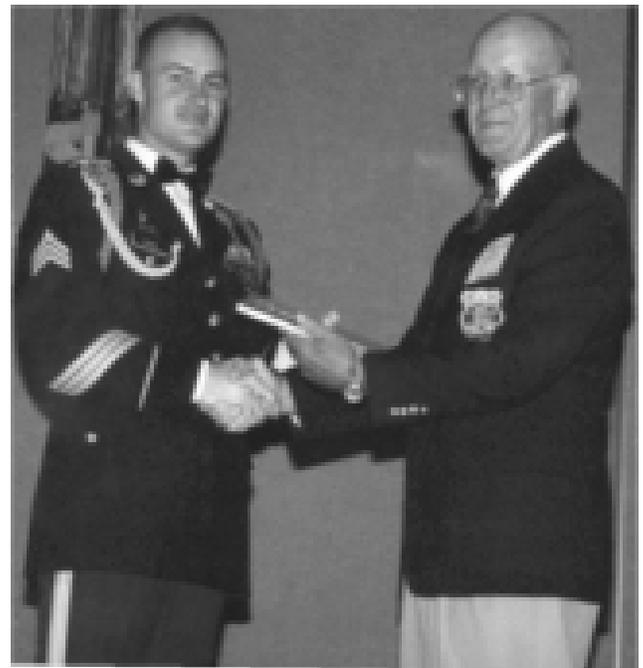
Warren Sessler receiving the Order of St. Maurice in Burlingame from James Evans.



James Evans presents Patrick Burke with the Order of St. Maurice while Mrs. Burke assists



1st Battalion Soldier of the Year SPC Matthew Luter receiving an Association award from John Burke



John Burke presenting SGT Aaron Cook, 1st Battalion NCO of the Year, with an Association award.

125th Infantry Regiment Association Newsletter

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