

### Veterans Memorial Foundation Change of Command

for 42nd Infantry Division Story by: Spc. Rachel Sanzo - 42<sup>nd</sup> ID

**Dated: Sat, Apr 13, 2013** 

Photos/caps by Master Sgt. Peter Towse, 42<sup>nd</sup> ID



Maj. Gen. Patrick Murphy, (L) the Adjutant General for the State of New York, presents the colors of the 42nd **Infantry Division to** Brig. Gen. Harry Miller during the change of command ceremony of the Army National Guard division headquarters at West Point April 13.

WEST POINT, N.Y. --- New York Army National Guard Brig. Gen. Harry E. Miller took command of the multi-state 42nd Infantry Division during a formal change of command ceremony here April 13, 2013.

Outgoing commander Maj. Gen. Steven N. Wickstrom passed a guidon donned with traditional divisional colors at the United States Military Academy's Trophy Point Amphitheatre, representing the transition of command. Wickstrom assumed command of the 42nd ID in May of 2009, and led the division in assisting civilian authorities with the devastation resulting from myriad natural disasters over the years, including Hurricanes Irene and Sandy in 2011 and 2012, respectively.

"Maj. Gen. Wickstrom led the Division during one of the most complex and difficult time periods in all of its history," said Miller. "For that, he should be commended.'

Wickstrom was commissioned as a second lieutenant upon graduation from the United States Military Academy in 1981, and served primarily with infantry units in both the Active Army and the Army National Guard since then. In addition to retiring his role as 42nd ID commander, he retires from military service at the close of April.

"Today I joined the ranks of former 42nd Infantry Division commanders who led and served a wonderful group of Soldiers," said Wickstrom. "It is because of the great work of the Soldiers in this division that I can stand proud in such company and hold my head high. I extend my greatest trust to General Miller to carry on the legacy of this great division."

# EVEILE

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#### **CAMPAIGNS**

World War I: Lorraine-Champagne-Aisne-Marne-St. Mihiel-Meuse Argonne World War II: Central Europe-Rhineland-Alsace-Ardennes.

War on Terrorism: Operation Noble Eagle - Operation Iraqi Freedom -**Operation Enduring Freedom** 

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE Greetings, I am preparing these remarks in May for the June Reveille edition, but by the time you read this I will have been to and returned from France! Susan and I are looking forward to 12 days in Paris, Normandy and out to the East and the WWI battlefields. We are meeting Lise Pommois out in Reims where she will guide us through the many memorials to the WWI Rainbow Soldiers. For those that don't know Lise, she is a French born citizen who became a WWI and II Historian with a special interest in the 42<sup>nd</sup>. She is a special Lady and hopefully will be at our Annual



Reunion and Conference Sep 5-8 in Albany, NY. Also joining us will be Monique Siegfried another special friend of the Rainbow Division. Dr Siegfried has a Ph.D in History and is a special friend of the 42nd. We look forward to having these special guests and there will be more. Among them is the new 42<sup>nd</sup> Division Commanding General, BG(P) Harry Miller and the 42<sup>nd</sup> Division's Brigade Commanders. They will be in our hotel conducting a Division meeting and will be participating in some of our Reunion events. It will give us a great opportunity to meet the current leadership of our beloved Division. I hope you too will join us in Albany this September! We have a lot of exciting new business to discuss like new Memorials in NYC, Fort Drum and Fort Dix for those Rainbow Veterans of the Iraq and Afghan Wars. We have been working very hard on our website and sometime before September we should have it to a point where members will be able to log in, manage their account and buy something from our Store! While the registration for the Albany Reunion and Conference is in this edition of the Reveille, you can also register on line. As always just go to www.rainbowvets.org



God Bless you all. Rainbow Never Forget! Joe Taluto, RDVF Chairman

Photos below - April 13, 2013 **Trophy Point** United States Military Academy, N.Y. By Peter Towse, 42<sup>nd</sup> Division

#### As former Senior Commander

of Fort Drum, incoming commander Miller knows a thing or two about taking care of Soldiers. During his time at Fort Drum, he was responsible for the readiness, safety and well being of over 38,000 Soldiers, families and civilian employees. As commander of the 42nd ID, he assumes command of approximately 20,000 Soldiers assigned to the 50th Infantry Brigade Combat Team in New Jersey, the 86th IBCT in Vermont, the 197th Fires Brigade in New Hampshire, the 26th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade in Massachusetts, and the 27th IBCT, 42nd Combat Aviation Brigade and 369th Sustainment Brigade in New York. "General Miller is incredibly qualified to take over the division," said Maj. Gen. Patrick A. Murphy, the Adjutant General of New York State and reviewing officer for the change of command ceremony. "I look forward to seeing leadership taken into the next phase." The 42nd ID first organized in 1917



and deployed for combat service in World War I, World War II and Operation Iraqi Freedom. In addition to participating in the multiple wars fought, the division served integral roles in aiding first responders when the World Trade Center was attacked in 2001, and in aiding civil authorities as they dealt with major natural disasters over the years.

"Not only do I want to keep our division combat ready, but I want to make sure we are fully capable of supporting civilians in our homeland," said Miller. "I'm truly honored, humbled," and appreciative to have been trusted with the task."

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#### REPORTING CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Missourian Publishing Company P.O. Box 336 Washington, MO 63090 c/o Angie C. Deaton deatona@emissourian.com **Loving God,** we approach You in all humbleness. While many things in our world cause sadness in many places, still we look to You for hope. And we have hope, and know that it is not in vain. Our confidence is in Your all knowing view of this world. Nothing man can do, will be a surprise to You. While man was created as a free moral agent, and he can do good or evil, we are reminded that bad things can happen to good people. Our view of the world is skewed by what we observe going on. You, on the other hand, not only see what is happening, but You know the end of all things. This is why we must resolve within ourselves, to always stand for those things that are right and good. As Rainbow family, soldiers, veterans, and Rainbow supporters, our prayer is for Your mercy, grace and protection, for this America that we so love. Amen. Earnie Owen, RDVF Associate Chaplain

#### SANFORD "SANDY" LEBMAN'S DACHAU COMMEMORATION SPEECH



The sixth in a series of speeches from 42<sup>nd</sup> Division WWII veterans requested by the "Friends of Former Dachau Prisoners" (FFDP), The Netherlands and coordinated by FFDP representative, Mr. Jaap Mesdag and Frank Burns, President, Pacific NW Chapter of the Our shared project is continuing. Please contact Frank RDVF. **Burns** further information: (206)frankdorothyburns@gmail.com This speech is under copyright to the FFDP and will be published on their website and the Rainbow Facebook Page in the near future.

On April 29, 1945, I, Technician Fifth Grade Sanford M. Lebman, 42<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, 42<sup>nd</sup> Rainbow Infantry Division and my team of three other soldiers were riding in our M8 armored car reconnoitering the area northeast of Munich, Germany. We were several miles ahead of the infantry, scouting the

area to see what we could find and then be able to radio back to headquarters what was needed to secure the area: i.e. infantry, artillery, etc. Mid-afternoon, we came upon a huge wall with a wooden gate and had no idea what it might hold inside. I was the radio/gunner in the turret, so I got out of the armored car and started walking towards the gate to investigate, thinking it might be a prisoner of war camp. At that moment gunfire showered down all around me to get us to leave, so I immediately jumped back up into the turret, closed the lid and ordered my driver to "rush the gate"! When we broke down the gate, we found many guards patroling the top of the wall and in a guardhouse on the wall and guard dogs **roaming the grounds.** I, and my team, with their machine guns, started returning their fire and eventually shot all the guards and their dogs! When we were able to again leave our armored car, we discovered that this was a concentration camp, with the crematorium very close by. We went into the crematorium and found that the inmates were so brainwashed, they would stop to salute us saying, "Heil Comrade," then go back and pick another body and throw it into the crematorium. My first thought was, could any of these bodies/inmates be any of my

Relatives!? We went back to our car, and I radioed headquarters what we had found and told them we needed many reinforcements to enter the camp to secure the other entrances and to try to help the inmates. That was April 29, 1945 and I am listed in their archives as being one of the first American Soldiers to enter Dachau Concentration Camp on that eventful day!

Last March, I received a letter from the Director of the Dachau Memorial Museum inviting my family and I to return to Dachau for the 65th Anniversary of the liberation of



Dachau this year on May 1st and 2nd [2010]. I was only 20 years old in 1945 and today I am 85. They told me in the letter that they did not want to wait for the 70th anniversary in lieu of the aging population of the survivors and liberators who were still alive that had been invited to return for this event. On the day of the ceremonies, I was given the honor of carrying the Rainbow Division wreath, along with Dee Eberhart, during the beautiful ceremony where hundreds of wreaths were presented. [photo: Sandy (R); Dee Eberhart (L) by Ludwig **Stoeckl]** At the main entrance gate wall on one side is a beautiful bronze plaque giving honor to the famed 42<sup>nd</sup> Rainbow Division and on the other wall is a plaque honoring the other division that entered through another gate, both liberating Dachau Concentration Camp, April 29, 1945.

After the war getting my life back on track was a real challenge, but since I had a young wife at home as well as my parents, three sisters and one brother, I managed as best as I could and joined my father in working in our hardware and paint store. Of course, never in my dreams did I ever think I would be diagnosed with PTDS (Post Traumatic Depression Syndrome) after I was in my '80s, but that's exactly what did happen. The Veterans Administration's doctors recognized it almost three years ago, and I am now 86, but my Primary Care doctors have never diagnosed it – obviously they are not all that familiar with it. They attribute it to my WWII experiences and have me on two special medications to control it and I visit with a Geriatric Psychiatrist every two or three months, and they say I am doing as well as can be expected. My Army career before Dachau was very intense - we landed in Marseille, France early January of 1945 and fought through many frightful battles up through France, across Alsace-Lorraine and down through Germany. I was the radio/gunner in the turret of an M8 armored car and lost two of them before driving up to the gate at Dachau

to reconnoiter what was inside. My armored car with three of us and a jeep with two other soldiers were the first to alert the 42<sup>nd</sup> Rainbow Headquarters as to what we had found and that was about 3 p.m. In the afternoon we understand that the division arrived at the main gate of Dachau at 5:58 p.m., 2 ½ hours later. We crashed down a wooden gate near the crematoriums and entered there. After Dachau, 29 April 1945, the war came to an end on May 8, 1945 and I wound up being stationed in Zell Am See, Austria until it was time for me to go home. I was only 18 when I went in and 20 at the war's end, thus being so young, the older soldiers with children at home got to leave first. I finally got back April 4, 1945. During my time in the war, I earned the Purple Heart, with two clusters and the Bronze Star for trying to save my seriously wounded sergeant. I carried him back to the medics, even though he was mortally wounded and much bigger and much heavier than I was.

As to the use of force, the fine line between legitimized use of force and illegal use of force, it is just that — but I feel that wartime is legal use of force that must be used to conquer the enemy and ensure safety for future generations of people. My message for future generations would be that they honor the memory of the six million Jews and the six million non-Jewish political



prisoners. I have spoken to many 7<sup>th</sup> graders from our "middle schools" all over Ventura County [California} and they listen so attentively it is like they are mesmerized by my story. In addition, they ask the most intelligent questions and that shows they are very interested. The students of the future need to know about Dachau and all the other concentration camps as well as all about WWII. We are a dying generation and the facts about WWII need to be kept alive so that this will never happen again! I am 86 and on April 16<sup>th</sup>, (God willing) we will celebrate

our 67<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, having been married on that date in 1944, during a furlough I received at that time.

Photo – Sandy and his wife, Lois, 2010

Sandy Lebman passed 'Over The Rainbow' on January 31, 2013.

#### **COMMEMORATION**

Photo and message from **Jaap Mesdag, "Friends of Former Dachau Prisoners" The Netherlands** 27 April 2013 -

"We did have a good commemoration, with moving speeches. **Picture** is of one of the surviving female prisoners receiving a flower. She was imprisoned at the Agfa Werke (factory) near Munich and liberated by the Americans 30th April 1945. As a part of the ceremony the former prisoners - and after that the rest of the people attending - are given a flower and they walk between the taxus trees over the uneven stones with the names of many of the German prison camps.



Somewhere they put their flower in the taxus tree. The taxus trees symbolise the Lagerstrasse in Dachau KZ. All of the people meeting and sharing stories is always good. Positive was the number of youth attending, part of it through our cooperation with the project Namen statt

Nummern - Names instead of numbers, by which students write biographies of former Dachau prisoners, do research and interview the former prisoners and then write a biography for the memory book at Dachau.

Walt Brophy's granddaughter, [Rainbow Scholar Cassidy McCartney] was a guest in March 2013 in Dachau when the students were presenting biographies."



From Jaap Mesdag – Photo is of The commemoration at Kamp Amersfoort (Polizeiliches Durchgangslager).

"On 19 April 1945, a few weeks before the liberation, this prisoncamp was put in hands of the Red Cross, thus ending the brutalities of the Germans

against the prisoners. 54 former prisoners were attending the ceremony, and hundreds of 2nd and 3rd generation family/relatives or others. Many stories to be heard."

#### NATIONAL COMMEMORATION OF THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM



From Larry Rosen,
22 April 2013 —
Enclosing a photo taken
of myself (R) and
Romeo Fagiolo (L) with
two members of the 3<sup>rd</sup>
U.S. Infantry (The Old
Guard) who displayed
the Rainbow flag, when
we attended the annual
2013 Days of
Remembrance Program,
sponsored by the U.S.

Holocaust Memorial Museum, at the U.S. Capitol Rotunda, Washington, D.C. on April 11, 2013. This program honors U.S. Liberating divisions of concentration camps and Holocaust survivors, once a year. Romeo, former Rainbower from Headquarters Company, 242d Regiment, 2d Battalion, and myself, former Rainbower, from Headquarters Battery 542d Field Artillery Battalion, have both been attending this program for many years. I'm enclosing a Days of Rembrance program which usually follows the same schedule of prominent speakers, U.S. Army Band, Presentation of Flags of the Liberating U.S. Army Divisions, of concentration camps (Certified by the U.S. Army Center of Military History), including our 42d Infantry Division, and the 45th Infantry as liberators of Dachau on April 29, 1945, presentation of the Colors, both by the 3<sup>rd</sup> U.S. Infantry. Also an interesting Memorial Candlelighting ceremony by members of Congress, and Holocaust survivors is featured, as well as different memorial prayers. The Keynote address speaker was Eli Rosenbaum, Director of Human Rights Enforcement, who is involved in the capture of former Nazis who fled from Germany and resided in the U.S. and other countries. Romeo and I plan to attend the U.S. Holocaust Museum's 20th anniversary National Tribute to Holocaust Survivors and World War II Veterans, on April 28th and April 29th, 2013, at the US Holocaust Museum.

**DUES REMINDER TO MEMBERS** of the Rainbow Division

Veterans Foundation, Inc. (RDVF) - The fiscal year of the FOUNDATION is from July 1 through June 30. Please send your annual dues to your chapter secretary at this time to be sure your Foundation and Chapter newsletters will keep coming on time! Please visit <rainbowvets.org> to access the information you will need to initiate or update your RDVF membership either online or by USPS; chapter and national contact information is also online. Atlarge membership (no chapter), options are \$10.00/annual dues and LIFE MEMBERSHIPS are now available as follows - \$50.00/LIFE for WWII Veterans; \$200.00/LIFE for all others. For multi-year membership payments and REVEILLE subscriptions BY USPS, please send dues of \$10.00/year to our Foundation Secretary, Melanie K. Remple 500 Campbell Lane NW Hutchinson, MN 55350-1485

### THE NATIONAL AUXILIARY MAY HAVE A NEW TITLE – THE RDVF CENTER FOR FAMILY SUPPORT



Shirley F. Kinsey, National Auxiliary President, 2012 – 2014 To the Board of Trustees of the Rainbow Division Veterans Memorial Foundation meeting in Norfolk, VA, March 2, 2013

Photo of Shirley (L) and Linda Owen, Past National Auxiliary President (R)

I would like to thank Chairman Joe Taluto for inviting me to speak briefly for the National

Auxiliary, and to say it is an honor for me to serve in the office of President as part of such a great organization of men and women that has played an important part of the history of our nation for almost a century, the 42<sup>nd</sup> Rainbow Division. My father served in the Rainbow Division in World War II, and it is a privilege to have met many of the men with whom he served, by becoming involved with the Rainbow Division Veterans **Memorial Foundation.** I attended my first reunion of the RDVMF in Virginia Beach in 2007, and in the six and a half years of being a member, I have grown to love and appreciate the Rainbow Division of the World War II era and now the Rainbow men and women of the current 42ID era. It was a highlight of my dad's life, and a great joy of mine, to see the camaraderie that he enjoyed even after the passing of several decades; I can only imagine how wonderful it would have been for him to have maintained that connection after he returned from the war in 1945, as did many of the soldiers who did become members of the Veterans Association and enjoyed the reunions through all the years since. I believe that when a man becomes a part of the war, the war becomes part of the man, and that those bonds formed from serving together are strong and enduring.

Since World War I, the women whose husbands were serving in combat served an important support role. A brief history of the Rainbow Veterans National Auxiliary defines that role. During WWI the women in each state and the District of Columbia that had a National Guard Unit in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Division joined together to comfort, share information, and prepare packages for their men overseas. When the war ended, while the Division was still in Europe, the Rainbow Division Veterans Association was formed. Soon after returning home, the men created state chapters. The women continued to get together when the veterans had their meetings, and subsequently affiliated with the men's state chapters as auxiliaries. In 1929 in Baltimore, the men presented to the women a constitution drawn up specifically for a national auxiliary. The majority of the women favored remaining as social groups only, and voted against its adoption. In 1932 at the Los Angeles reunion, the women approved the formation of a national auxiliary, and adopted the 1929 constitution. In 1939 the veterans granted a charter to the National Auxiliary Rainbow Division veterans. The state chapters gradually applied for National Auxiliary charters, and the National Auxiliary became a growing organization.

Membership increased as WWII veterans and families were integrated into the Association and Auxiliary. By 1970 when the average age of WWI men was above 70, WWI veterans promoted a Memorial Foundation. They observed the WWI guard diminishing in numbers, while there were no significant efforts underway to increase WWII membership. A charitable foundation was proposed, then approved, and in the fall of 1971 the Memorial Foundation was organized as a non-profit corporation with officers, a Board of Trustees, and Constitution & By-Laws.

Auxiliary members were integrated into the Foundation as members in 1989, and a special Auxiliary fund was contributed to the Foundation Restricted Fund. Women of the Auxiliary have positions on the Board of Trustees and play an active role in the affairs of the Foundation. The Veterans Association merged with the Foundation in July 2003.

The Mission of the Auxiliary is stated in Article Two of the National Auxiliary Constitution: "The objects of National Auxiliary, Rainbow Division Veterans shall be to inculcate and promote a spirit of patriotism; to lend aid and sustenance to the members of the Rainbow Division Veterans

Memorial Foundation and to members of the Auxiliary who are sick or in need; and in general to promote the interest of said Rainbow Division Veterans Memorial Foundation, Inc."

Membership in the National Auxiliary has declined steadily for the past several years, and the income has therefore declined as well. For many years the Auxiliary raised funds with a Bazaar held at the annual reunions, along with raffles and other fund raisers. The Bazaar became increasingly more difficult to continue, due to transportation problems, leftover items, and other issues; and it was decided to discontinue the Bazaar, although we do still have raffles and a 50/50 drawing at the reunions to raise funds.

In an effort to continue to have a viable and substantive role in the Foundation, the Auxiliary began in the Mid-year reunion in San Antonio, February 2012, to consider what changes might need to be made to still make a worthwhile and purposeful contribution to the Foundation. Again in Albany in 2012, the Auxiliary leadership continued discussion on how to play a vital role in the Foundation and find a way to renew growth and interest in the Auxiliary.

It has been suggested that the Auxiliary, with its leadership, membership, and funding, merge into the Foundation as the RDVMF Center for Family Support. The Center for Family Support, which would become a standing committee of the Foundation, would have its own budget line, established with current auxiliary funds and subsidized with fundraising events and by the Foundation operating budget.

It is the desire of the Auxiliary to promote the interest of the RDVMF, and in merging with the Foundation and serving as a standing committee known as the Center for Family Support, the original purpose and intent of the Auxiliary would be not only intact, but enlarged upon in the functions it would serve within the Foundation.

Some of the suggested functions of the Center for Family Support would include:

- 1- Forming a relationship with the Family Readiness Group (FRG) at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Division HQ, to convey the mission of the Foundation as relating to issues that impact families, as education/scholarship, deployment support, etc.
- 2- Developing a recognition program, as "Family of the month/quarter/year", where Rainbow families could be chosen to receive special recognition for achievements, support of the Rainbow, etc. This would include current active members or retirees, and WWII veterans.
- 3- "Sunshine" program of sending cards to ill, condolences, etc.
- **4- Thank you letters** for donations, help with projects, etc. utilizing a standard card/letter with logo.
- 5- Assist in fundraising efforts, whether at reunions, online store
- **6- Continue "Division Roots Project"** the service of researching requests that come in to identify unit membership, which has been done by Barbara Eberhart and Suellen McDaniel.
- 7- Teaching Patriotism and History.

As President of the National Auxiliary, I feel that I can speak for the membership in pledging to continue to help promote the RDVMF and serve the Foundation in whatever way is most beneficial to the Foundation and all of our veterans, both WWII and current era 42<sup>nd</sup> Rainbow Division. We want the current 42<sup>nd</sup> veterans to experience belonging to a support organization that is truly theirs as it is the WWII veterans', that they connect together and share decades of an outstanding and unforgettable military achievement in the history of our great nation.

#### From Minutes of Trustees Board Meeting

Saturday 2 March 2013 – Shirley Kinsey, Linda Owen and Susan Taluto, representing the Auxiliary, addressed the Board of Trustees. Shirley read a proposal from the Auxiliary to transition into the RDVMF and become their own Standing Committee – Center For Family Support. Their members would be grandfathered into the Foundation. The annual dues paying members would continue at \$5.00/year with the Lifetime Auxiliary members becoming

Lifetime members of the Foundation. The Auxiliary Historian would be under the umbrella of the Foundation Historian. Their function would include, but not be limited to, items 1-7 listed in their proposal. Tom Kinley made a motion, seconded by Marlene Krein to accept the proposal from the Auxiliary to join the Foundation as the Center for Family Support, contingent upon the vote of the Auxiliary at the fall reunion. Motion passed unanimously.

Melanie Remple, RDVMF National Secretary

### TROOPS, FAMILIES HONORED DURING FREEDOM SALUTE FOR POST-DEPLOYMENT NEW YORK NATIONAL GUARD SOLDIERS



Photo and Story by Spec. J.P. Lawrence, 42nd Division PAO QUEENS, N.Y. " More than 130 New York Army National Guard Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment and the 1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery Regiment celebrated

their return from deployments to Afghanistan, Kuwait and Bahrain during a Freedom Salute Ceremony April 28 in Queens, N.Y. The ceremony, held 90 days after Soldiers returned to their homes, honored both returning Soldiers and the families, and employers and friends who supported them. The Freedom Salute Campaign, which began almost ten years ago, is a wellness and retention program that has recognized more than 360,000 troops and supporters. To read full story, go to

http://dmna.ny.gov/arng/42div/42id.php?pic=1367263030



KANDAHAR- New York Army National Guard Soldiers assigned to Rochester's

assigned to Rochester's Detachment 1, Company B, 3rd Battalion 126th Aviation (Heavy Lift) load CH-47 helicopters onto a C-5 Galaxy as they prepare to return home to the United States following a nine-

month deployment in Afghanistan on April 20. The helicopters arrived at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Rochester on April 22. The Soldiers return to the United States for outprocessing at Fort Hood in May. Photo - 1st Lt. Benjamin Postle, B Co. 3-126 Aviation



KANDAHAR,
Afghanistan- New
York Army National
Guard Sgt. John
Stormm, a member of
Detachment 1
Company B 3rd
Battalion 126th
Aviation (Heavy Lift)
receives the Purple
Heart and the Air
Medal from Lt. Col.

Mike Higginbotham, the commander of Task Force Knighthawk during award ceremonies here on April 18. Stormm received a bullet wound during a resupply mission in Afghanistan. The Soldiers of the Rochester-based detachment are preparing to return to the United States in May after a nine-month long rotation in Afghanistan.

#### Photo - 1st Lt. Benjamin Postle, B Co. 3-126 Aviation

### RDVF MEMORIALS OFFICER REPORT 1 March 2013 Norfolk, VA Board of Trustees Meeting

**Memorial Events** – The following Veterans Day 2012 memorial presentations were held as planned: West Point, NY; Indianapolis, IN; Macon, GA

We did not have a presentation at Garden City on Long Island due to the impact of Hurricane Sandy. This is being reset with the support of the 1st Battalion 69th Infantry, date TBA.

World Trade Center (WTC) Initiative — There is ongoing support and coordination with Tribute WTC Visitor Center and the National 9-11 Memorial. Our intent is to set conditions for the future installment of a plaque to commemorate the service and sacrifice of Rainbow Division and other forces in response to the 2001 terrorist attacks and the Global War on Terror at home and abroad.

I have identified and introduced Guard 9-11 WTC responders with both organizations for oral histories that have already begun. These will be used for on line and gallery exhibits at Tribute and at the National 9-11 Memorial.

I continue to support Tribute by encouraging Guard 9-11 responders, both serving and retired, to consider becoming volunteer tour guides and docents at the Tribute Center. Volunteers will be able to represent the Guard and tell their history and that of the Rainbow through in-person story telling on tours and in the gallery.

I continue to introduce and further relationships between these groups and the Guard via Manhattan based units, the RDVMF and the wider veterans' community.

This includes paving the way for Monique Seefried with the RDVMF and the NYARNG for the National WWI Centennial Commemorations under development.

**Future** – I will be completing coordination by email for Ludwig Stoeckl's participation as our representative for the annual wreath laying at Dachau on the anniversary date. Ludwig has forwarded a form for me to review and complete on behalf of the foundation.

I continue my work with the NYS Military Museum and Veterans Research Center in Saratoga Springs. The temporary 9-11 Response, Iraq and Afghanistan exhibits that were in the Museum have been taken down in order to reset the exhibit hall for the major Civil War exhibit that is now under construction. Once this is completed I will be embarking on efforts to reset NY's "Faces of the Fallen" wall and initiating new efforts for the following exhibits:

Task Force Trade Center and Empire Shield following the terrorist attacks; Task Force Hunter in Iraq in 2004 (2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 108<sup>th</sup> Infantry); Task Force Wolfhound in Iraq 2005 (The Rainbow Division At War); Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix in Afghanistan 2008 (27<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade Combat Team)

### Future presentations under development now for the Military Museum:

An all woman program dealing with Iraq and Afghanistan veterans to include Rainbow Division Troops; IEDS – How our troops faced and overcame them; Training and mentoring Iraq and Afghan forces; Lastly, as the Chair of the Town of Malta, NY Veterans Committee working to host a salute to the troops on Armed Forces Day 2013. The Rainbow Division Headquarters is being invited.

Respectfully submitted for the Board's review.

#### Paul A. Fanning, Memorials Officer

#### RAINBOW DIVISION VETERANS MEMORIAL FILE

**DEATHS REPORTED SINCE MARCH 2013** 

**BARRETT**, Clifford J. Co. H-222<sup>nd</sup> Infantry BELL, Irving S. Btry B-392<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery BORGARDING, William Co. G-222nd Infantry BRECHUE, Frances H. H1B-222nd Infantry **BRETZ**, Martin Frederick Co. L-242<sup>nd</sup> Infantry CUTLIP, Billy K. H1B-242<sup>nd</sup> Infantry DIGIORGIO, Philip E. Co. E-232nd Infantry DROST, Michael Co. A-232<sup>nd</sup> Infantry ERDMAN, Stanley Co. B- 242nd Infantry EVANOFF, Vassil "Rube" Co. I-222nd Infantry FERRAIOLI, Anthony A. Co. B-222<sup>nd</sup> Infantry GOFF, Arthur Co. H-242<sup>nd</sup> Infantry GREER, James R. Co. M-232<sup>nd</sup> Infantry HAGGARD, Robert Hq Co. & Co. B-222nd Infantry **KERKHOF**, Paul 742 Ordnance Co LARAGH, James J H1B-242<sup>nd</sup> Infantry LAW, Harold G. Co. E-242nd Infantry MOORE, William W. HQ- 222nd Infantry PALERMO, Nicolas Co. G-222<sup>nd</sup> Infantry PERELMAN, Robert H2B-232nd Infantry RICHARDSON, JR., James M. 142-B Combat Engineers **SCHORR,** Arthur Co. C-242<sup>nd</sup> Infantry SEDLAK, John P. Med Det-222<sup>nd</sup> Infantry WALLACE, Ivan H. Jr. Med Det-222<sup>nd</sup> Infantry WISE, Edwin W. AntiTank Co.-232<sup>nd</sup> Infantry ZILDJIAN, Robert "Bob" Cannon Co.-222nd Infantry

Rainbow is more than the color in the sky – more than the sunlight shining on the rain. It is to us, a symbol of the strength and character of the finest fighting men in America; a symbol of our love of country and comrades, transcending the love of life itself. As God gave the rainbow to man as a sign of eternal promise, so have "Rainbowers" accepted it as their pledge in turn, that Freedom – Equality – Justice – and Humanity – shall prevail. For all this, many of our comrades, under the tender coverlet of Old Glory, have been carried to the End of the Rainbow. In tribute to their services and sacrifices, these final words are said in farewell.

From The Rainbow Farewell

We acknowledge and honor the devoted service to Rainbow of these Rainbowmen who served as Presidents of the Rainbow Division Veterans Association (now Foundation) – and are "over the Rainbow" in 2013 - Ivan Wallace, RDVA President 1977-1978

Vassil "Rube" Evanoff, RDVA President 1982-1983 Frederick W. Goldsmith, RDVA President 1987-1988



photo - veterans of the 222<sup>nd</sup> Infantry from the Spring reunion at Ocean City, NJ of the RDVF Eastern Region Chapter. Sent by Emily Marcason-Tolmie, granddaughter of 242<sup>nd</sup> veteran, Ben Viola. L-R -Bud Gahs; Nick Mattera; John Walker; David Bell; Rich Marowitz; Steu Hihn

#### From Frank Burns, Pacific NW Chapter President –

from our April chapter meeting and reunion in Kent, WA. We had five vets and about twenty people including family members who stayed at the hotel for the entire event. About thirty-eight people



attended our Saturday night banquet including two more vets.

### Photo L – R : Dee Eberhart, Bob Martinson, Wilbur Miller, Frank Burns, Lloyd Soule

At the banquet, we surprised Dee and Barbara with the celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary. They only knew something was up when more of their children, grandchildren, and a niece and nephew arrived. After the banquet, at the hotel, Dee and Barbara's daughters read messages from well-wishers who couldn't attend. There were decorations and cake, champagne, and live music, as well as the Auxiliary raffle, and traditional toasts.

**Katie Eberhart adds,** "The live music was accordion, keyboard and flute played by my sisters Cory and Barbie. (Cory switched between accordion and keyboard; Barbie played flute.) Other people sang. Many of the songs were from the '40s or earlier."

#### A STORY OF INGENUITY by Steu Hihn, HQ Co., Comm. Platoon, 222<sup>nd</sup> Infantry, 42<sup>nd</sup> Division WWII

It all started when the Comm. Platoon arrived in Vienna and found themselves billeted at 42 Geyer Strasse. This was a four-story apartment house on the outskirts of town, the 222nd I&R Platoon and other HQ troops also moved in with us. Since the war was over and except for guarding a very strategic wooden shoe factory we had little to do. Soon we found that Vienna was a great place to party and was truly a city of wine, women and song. We also found out that our parties were subdued with only Pepsi to drink. Additionally, we noted that some troops in the city were provided with periodic allocations of beer and other stronger beverage, which could enliven our spare time activities. Then we learned that somebody in Division of Regimental HQ had decided that only Commissioned Officers would be well behaved enough to partake of alcohol and there would be no ration of strong beverages to NCOs or troops. Following this revelation, for some unknown reasons, bottles began to disappear from a large locker in the building where our officers lived. This was deemed too risky and better source was essential. Fortunately one of our comrades at Geyer Strasse had been in the beverage business in a backwoods location near his hometown. He laid out his plans. All we should need is a still, a lot of wine and heat. Well, the gods descended on us and the Vienna Municipal Gas Company decided their system was safe enough to be activated. Next, the I&R was assigned the mission of locating the still, which they rented using a few cartons of smokes and candy bars. Now the wine was a bigger problem. Again I&R had the answer. Wine was plentiful in the cellars and the villagers were happy to barter. A truck was full of food and off we went to trade for wine. The first two trips went off fine but on the third our truck broke down. We were fairly deep in Russian territory and **should not have been there.** We could not get our truck started. A

answer. Wine was plentiful in the cellars and the villagers were happy to barter. A truck was full of food and off we went to trade for wine. The first two trips went off fine but on the third our truck broke down. We were fairly deep in Russian territory and should not have been there. We could not get our truck started. A small car approached with three Russian soldiers and could not get around us so they kept blowing their horn. Finally they discovered our problem and got out of their car with a tire pump and a small wrench. They lifted the hood and blew out the fuel line and the truck started fine. They also advised us that we had better get back where we belonged. They also told us that a war with Russia and England was imminent and we were in a bad spot. We said our goodbyes and headed back with our wine to Vienna. That was our last trip but the still and the trucks were still operating when I was transferred out to head home. Just in case you need to know, chocolate, smokes and toilet paper seemed to be the best to bargain with. YES – TOIILET PAPER!!

## RDVF 94<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REUNION <u>ACTIVITIES REGISTRATION</u> FORM ALBANY, NEW YORK THURSDAY – SUNDAY 5 – 8 SEPTEMBER 2013

\*\*ACTIVITY FEES MUST BE PAID BY CHECK (TO REUNIONS OFFICER, JOHN J. WILLSEY BY FILLING OUT THIS SHEET and MAILING to: Reunions Officer, John J. Willsey, 48 McDonald Dr, Cohoes, NY 12047-1119

<u>OR</u> BY CREDIT CARD AT <RAINBOWVETS.ORG> click on ANNUAL REUNION AND FILL OUT THE INFORMATION BY 17 AUGUST 2013 TO GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY; a Group Code for online registration will be posted.

Name and Unit/Chapter (Member and Guest) You Wish to Appear On your Nametag	Choose Activities/No. of People/Amount Due	
	Guided Tour Governor's Mansion	No Charge
	Guided Capitol Tour	No Charge
	TF Liberty Reception	
	Guided State Museum/Monuments Tour	:
ARRIVAL DATE:	RDVF Banquet & Radio Show	
*Participants in 42d Commanders Call should contact Division G3 Office for any questions *ALL TOURS HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE/TRANSPORTATION PROVI	TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$  DED	
THIS YEAR DURING REGISTRATION YOU WILL BECranberry Chicken (stuffed	with cornbread and cranberries) ts) and Crab Stuffed Sole Medallions	ET SEATING
Activity Fees:		
<ol> <li>TF Liberty Reception \$20.00 per person (Beging)</li> <li>State Museum Tour \$5.00 per person</li> </ol>	ns 1800)	



### RAINBOW DIVISION VETERANS FOUNDATION 94<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL REUNION 2013 HOTEL REGISTRATION INFORMATION

WWII, MILLENNIUM CHAPTER, TF LIBERTY, PAST AND PRESENT MEMBERS OF THE 42<sup>ND</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION – JOIN US FOR ALL OR PART OF THIS HISTORIC ANNUAL REUNION!!

Where: Albany Hilton, 40 Lodge Street, Albany, NY 12207

When: 5 – 8 September 2013 (Thursday – Sunday)

4. Donations/Sponsorship and of course, "Feed the Kitty" for the Hospitality room

Cost: \$110.00 Double Occupancy per night plus applicable taxes (Breakfast included)

Arrival Airport: Albany International Airport (Free Hotel Shuttle Service)

Arrival Car: Parking Garage Available with Validation

3. RDVF Banquet and Radio Show \$50.00 per person

Arrival Train: Rennselaer Amtrak Station (Free Hotel Shuttle Service)

\*\*GET YOUR RESERVATIONS IN BY AUGUST 17<sup>TH</sup> 2013 TO GUARANTEE ROOM RATE OF \$110.00\*\*

To make reservations: Call Albany Hilton direct at TEL: 518-462-6611. Reservations are to be made Under Rainbow Division Veterans Foundation (RDVF). Please identify yourself as a member of the Rainbow Division Veterans Foundation (RDVF) or participating in 42d ID Commanders Call to receive this special rate.

#### RAINBOW DIVISION VETERANS FOUNDATION, CONTRIBUTIONS TO FOUNDATION

#### March 15, 2013 - May 15, 2013 FOUNDATION OPERATING FUND

KRGV-TV, for Jack Westbrook – 100.00; Margie Semore, for Robert Haggard - \$100.00; Goldie Kivens – 20.00 If you would like to make a contribution, please send your gift to the RDVF Treasurer, Check payable to RDVF and mailed to:

#### BENJAMIN PETTUS 640 NE Lake Pointe Dr. Lee's Summit, MO 64064-1367

Memorial gifts will be acknowledged personally and also in the next issue of REVEILLE. If you would like an acknowledgement of your gift to be sent to the family of the person whom you are honoring, please include their name and address when you send your contribution.

All are gratefully received and acknowledged. **We may also support Rainbow online at <rainbowvets.org>.** 

Please send Death notices for Memorial Publication and for our records to Foundation Secretary,

Melanie K. Remple 500 Campbell Lane NW Hutchinson, MN 55350-1123 <a href="mailto:sarahembelchane">taremple@hutchtel.net</a> (320) 587-1123

#### RDVF 94<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REUNION ALBANY, NEW YORK THURSDAY – SUNDAY 5 – 8 SEPTEMBER 2013 GENERAL OUTLINE OF ACTIVITIES

WWII, MILLENNIUM CHAPTER, TF LIBERTY, PAST AND PRESENT MEMBERS OF THE  $42^{ND}$  INFANTRY DIVISION – JOIN US FOR ALL OR PART OF THIS HISTORIC ANNUAL REUNION!!

Hospitality Room (Light snacks and Beverage) Opens Thursday September 5, 2013 at 1600

Thursday 5-8 Sep: Registration from 1400-1700 Daily/Informal Welcome in Hospitality Room Friday 6 Sep: Morn: Committee/Trustee/Auxiliary Meetings/Tour of Governor's Mansion

Aft: Tour New York State Capitol

Eve: Task Force Liberty Reception (Cocktails and Hors D')

Saturday 7 Sep: Morn: Full Business Agenda (Trustee and General Membership)

Aft: 42d ID Commanders Call/NYS Museum Tour or Albany Jazz Festival

Eve: Banquet and WWII Radio Show with the 42d ID Band (Cocktail Hour at 1800)

Sunday 8 Sep: Departure

\*\*Albany Jazz Festival is being celebrated in Albany's Washington Park and is a short ride via Shuttle from the Hotel (this is an additional activity "on your own)

EXCELSIOR COLLEGE - VETERAN WEBINAR SERIES: "You're Back --- What's Next?" By Judy Reed, M.Ed. The Center for Military Education has offered a webinar series to support veteran education and veteran transition to the civilian work force. Upcoming Webinar: Veteran and Military Friendly Degrees To register for this free Webinar go to: <a href="https://bit.ly/veteranswebinar">bit.ly/veteranswebinar</a>. Excelsior College has an education partnership with

Rainbow Division Veterans Foundation. For more information on the partnership go to: http://www.excelsior.edu/rainbow-division-veterans-memorial-fund

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