



Vol. LXXV

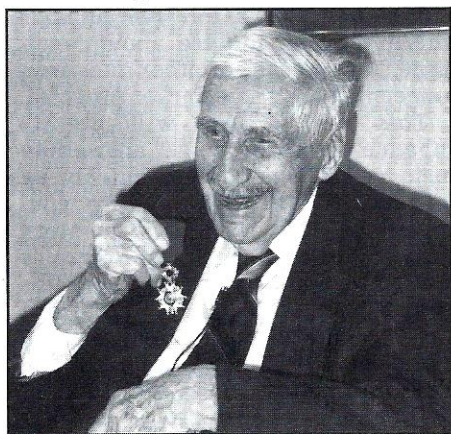
January, 1997

No. 3

Ed. note: The following article is excerpted from the Oct. 16, 1996 Los Angeles Daily News.

HERO FOR THE AGES

101-year-old receives French medal of honor



Paul Jarrett
COM - 166th Inf. 42nd Div.
1917-1919



Acting-Consul
General Philippe Vinogradoff and
Paul Jarrett

By Mary Beth Alexander
Daily News Staff Writer

Paul Jarrett insists he was simply fulfilling his duty when he enlisted in the U.S. Army nearly 80 years ago to fight in World War I.

Acting French Consul General Philippe Vinogradoff tells a different story - one of a brave soldier who risked his life to help liberate France from the Germans.

On Tuesday, at age 101, the Woodland Hills resident was recognized for that heroism. Vinogradoff pinned a shiny silver and blue medal, the Legion of Honor, France's highest military award to Jarrett's left lapel.

"I'm chagrined. It's almost amusing to imagine myself being grouped with all these (Legion of Honor recipients) I've heard about over the years," a humbled Jarrett said after a ceremony at the French Consulate in Westwood.

"Generally, I just tried to be a good citizen."

Jarrett received the award surrounded by a large group that included four daughters and dozens of grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all awed by his accomplishment.

"He's always given a lot in his life," said granddaughter Cindy Wolcott, 41, who flew from Idaho for the ceremony. "It's nice for him to get something back."

Jarrett, who celebrated his 101st birthday in June, enlisted in April 1917 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant four

months later. He was assigned to the 166th Infantry of the 42nd Rainbow Division.

Trained in hand-to-hand combat, he became an expert in trench warfare. He fought several battles throughout north-eastern France. He was wounded three times and in 1918 was awarded a Purple Heart. A year later, he received an honorable discharge.

Vinogradoff said Jarrett is one of only a select few American World War I veterans to have received the Legion of Honor.

Jarrett received the award thanks to the citizens of a small village, Nouvillier-les-Badonvillier, which he helped liberate.

When Jarrett returned to the town in 1988, he received a hero's welcome. And a year later, the town named a street after him, then asked the president of the French Republic to honor their hero with the Legion of Honor.

Jarrett's grandson Clark Jarrett has become a historian of his grandfather's life and is working on a documentary. He said other than the Purple Heart, his grandfather has received scant recognition of his accomplishments.

"This makes up for all the other medals he didn't get," Clark Jarrett said.

The Legion of Honor was created by Napoleon Bonaparte on May 19, 1802, as a general military and civil order of merit.

Recipients must have 20 years of civil achievement in peacetime - or have displayed extraordinary bravery in military service during wartime.

President's Report



Our President

- Photo taken early 1942, Age 19
- 2nd Infantry Division, Fr. Sam Houston, Tx

Fellow Rainbowers and Ladies:

Since my last report, Jane and I attended the Northeast Chapter meeting in Albany, New York, the New Jersey Chapter meeting in Wildwood, and the Pacific Northwest Chapter meeting in Long Beach, Washington. We traveled to Alabama where National auxiliary President, Mildred Fagiolo, and I represented Rainbow at the 49th annual celebration of National Veterans Day in Birmingham, and to Macon, Georgia, where I participated in the rededication of the 151st Machine Gun Battalion memorial. We also attended meetings of the Clearwater (Rocking Chair) and the Summerall Chapters here in Florida.

George and Elizabeth Williams were our hosts in Albany and a great time was had by all. Our national president elect, Bill Kenny, and his helpmate, Mary, were our hosts in Wildwood and they really know how to put on a reunion. Stan and Adeline Tellvik made us feel right at home in Long Beach, Washington. Bill and Pauline Magrillo took us in tow and we had an interesting tour of the cranberry bogs. Wally Neef and Al Zukunft, Rocking chair Chapter, says, "Y'all come to the Mid-Year." Joe Rosalia, sends his greetings from Orlando and wishes everyone well.

Rainbow was well represented at the National Veterans Day celebration and, as usual, Leon Praytor, and Guy and Aleen Walker were superb hosts. They took us on a tour of the city including the "Iron Man" mountain, the famous Alabama theater, and the Rainbow Viaduct. Aleen kept the group entertained with her excellent repertoire of humorous anecdotes.

The rededication ceremony in Macon was a resounding success. Mayor Jim Marshall welcomed us to the city and addressed the audience. PNP Jack Hildreth was the master of ceremonies and PNP John McGovern, PNP Ivan Wallace, and I were featured speakers. Through the persistent efforts of Charlie Fowler, the Memorials Officer, the memorial has been restored to its original beauty.

Charlie Paine and the "PhoneDisc" search group continue to locate prospective members. If you have not done so, please mail your dues to your chapter secretary or, if you are a member-at-large, to the national secretary. Remember our three R's: Recruit, Retain, Reinstate.

Yours In Rainbow
John Whisler

THE RAINBOW REVEILLE

Official Publication of the
RAINBOW Division Veterans

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THE RAINBOW REVEILLE

Published September, November, January, April
and June for/by members of the Rainbow Division
Veterans Association.

EDITOR RAINBOW REVEILLE:

Kenneth H. Carpenter, 7618 First Street,
Pasadena, MD 21122-3402

DEADLINE FOR COPY:

Apr. Issue - Mar. 1, 1997

June Issue - May 1, 1997

SEND CHANGE OF ADDRESS TO: Publishing
Editor: Hugo E. Grimm, P.O. Box 1200, Lake
Sherwood, MO 63357-1200

**SEND DUES/REMITTANCE SHEETS AND
MEMORIAL FORMS TO:** Herb Butt, 16916 Geo.
Franklyn Drive, Independence, MO 64055
Subscription \$10.00

Chaplain's Prayer Reveille January, 1997

*Father, as the old year ends and a new
year begins, forgive us for our failures in
days now vanished, and bless us in what-
ever we have truly striven for in days that
do not die. Keep us from vain regrets, and
let us face forward in the light of the best
that we have learned. Purge our hearts of
shallow self-confidence and of cowardly
fears, so that we may know that without
Thee we can do nothing but that in Thee
all things are possible. Amen.*

Norman P. Forde
RDVA Chaplain

We Get Letters

Dear Mr. Grimm:

First, I thank you for getting me on
your mailing list. It is incredibly
interesting to me to follow the remi-
niscences of veterans of the 42nd.

I have a request in that I would like
to run the following to see if anyone
can help with the "problem" posed.

I am looking for anyone connected
with XV Corps under the command of
General Wade H. Haslip (to which the
42nd was attached) during the push to
Dachau and Munich. More specifically I
would like to be in contact with anyone
who knows/remembers/or served with
Gen. Haslip's Provost Marshall during
that period. His name is James W.
Garner, Sr. James now lives in
Murfreesboro, Tennessee and is a friend
who has important and interesting sto-
ries to tell about the drive on Munich.

Any suggestions for other approach-
es to locating men who may have been
attached/assigned to Garner's advance
party would be greatly appreciated.

Anyone with information can con-
tact me as follows:

Lon Nuell, 3118 Damsel Court,
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Many thanks

Lon Nuell

Editor's Rainbow Man of the Year

Our selection of the Rainbow man of
the year is a lifelong, dedicated expo-
nent of Rainbow principles. He is con-
stantly promoting Rainbow in every
way. Almost singlehandedly, he recruited
and built up membership in what is
one of our strongest chapters, Co. H,
242d Inf. One of his projects is seeking
and visiting the resting places of
Rainbowers who have been interred in
some little known and neglected plot in
small private cemeteries. He has
gained publicity for Rainbow by help-
ing to initiate a local radio program
which stresses Veteran affairs. Through
his efforts he introduced your editor to
much material and persons which
greatly increased your editor's knowl-
edge, especially in the area of the
"Nordwind Offensive". A tip of the hat
and a salute to "Rainbow Joe" Neilson.

Editor's Whereabouts

Your editor will be in Florida
from the middle of December
1996 until the end of March.
Send material to: 116 Granada
Lane, Ponte Vedra, FL 32082 or
call 904-285-1163.

New 800 Number for VA Grave Information

The Department of Veterans
Affairs now has a toll-free number
where you can inquire about head-
stones for veterans or other questions
concerning the gravemarker program.

This new system will greatly
enhance the ability to get answers to
customers who need them quickly. By
calling 1-800-697-6947 you are con-
nected to VA's National Cemetery
Systems, Office of Memorial Programs
in Washington, DC. This line operates
from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Eastern
Time, Monday through Friday. Service
representatives can now supply imme-
diate information about the status of
applications, headstones or marker
delivery and general information
about the Memorial programs.

Who is Eligible for VA Burial Benefits

All veterans with discharges other
than dishonorable, their spouses and
dependent children are eligible for
burial in a VA National Cemetery. The
National Cemetery System operates
114 cemeteries within the United
States and Puerto Rico. Those eligi-
ble for a Government provided head-
stone or marker and Presidential
Memorial Certificate. Veterans and
their dependents may apply for all VA
benefits by dialing 1-800-827-1000.

No Time for Travel

A PW in describing his last
journey by rail in Germany (Jan
45), remarks, "In former days, it
could happen that one got to the
station and the train was gone.
Nowadays one gets to the train
and the station is gone..."

Source: 17 Abn Div Int Rpt.
Published in Annex #4 to accom-
pany 75th Inf Div G-2 Periodic
Report #105, 3 May 45. RG 407,
Unit Records, National Archives,
Archives II, College Park MD.

National Reunion - Knoxville, TN July 9-12, 1997

The National Reunion will be held in Knoxville, TN on July 9-12, 1997. The primary Hotel is the Holiday Select Downtown (525 Henley St. and Clinch Ave. Knoxville, TN 37902 - Tel. 423-522-2800), and the overflow will be the Knoxville Hilton (501 N. Church St., Knoxville, TN 37901 - Tel. 423-527-2300). Room blocks of 250 rooms, each night, are set aside at both hotels. Rates are \$75.00/per night single, double, triple, plus 13.25% tax. Reservation cutoff is June 7, 1997. There is a covered walkway and shuttle service between hotels. All meetings and the Banquet/dance will be held at the Holiday Inn. The Knoxville Amphitheater is reserved for the Memorial Service. Limited RV parking is available at both hotels. Southgate Campground is available for RVs needing hookups (\$15.00/night - Tel. 423-573-1837). McGhee Tyson Airport is serviced by Delta, Northwest, US Air, TWA and Texas Air. Free shuttle service from the airport to the hotels will be available.

Further information will be available regarding available tours. Registration is \$40.00/person. Forms were available at Little Rock. (your individual chapter newsletter will also provide forms.) If you still need a form contact Jim Pointer - Tel. 423-577-8222 or Bill Mayberry Tel. 615-484-2537. Completed forms and checks are to be mailed to KCVB-42D RAINBOW - Box 15012, 810 Clinch Ave., Knoxville, TN 37902.

People from all over America are drawn to Knoxville, situated in beautiful East Tennessee, adjoining the Great Smoky Mountains where breathtaking panoramas of ridges roll on forever to the mirrored surfaces of TVAs Great Lakes of the South. Knoxville is in the center of all this. Knoxville is easy to reach at the intersections of I-75, I-40, and I-81.

42nd Rainbow Division — Tour Reservation Options

Tuesday, July 8

Tour #1 — (8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.) Pigeon Forge, Gatlinburg & the Great Smoky Mountain National Park.

\$26.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

Tour #2 — (9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.) Technology & Museum of Appalachia Tour

\$39.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

Tour #3 — (8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.) Dollywood Theme Park

\$42.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

Evening Options

Option #1 — (4:30-11:00 p.m.) T.G. Sheppard's Theater in the Smokies

\$34.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

— including dinner at Great American Steak & Buffet before show

\$44.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

Option #2 — (4:30-8:30 p.m.) Dinner and show at Dixie Stampede

\$41.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

Wednesday, July 9

Tour #1 — (8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.) Pigeon Forge, Gatlinburg & the Great Smoky Mountain National Park.

\$26.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

Tour #2 — (9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.) Technology & Museum of Appalachia Tour

\$39.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

Evening Options

Option #1 — (4:30-8:30 p.m.) Dinner and show at Dixie Stampede

\$41.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

Option #2 — (4:30-11:00 p.m.) Lee Greenwood Theater

\$34.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

— including dinner at Great American Steak & Buffet before show

\$44.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

Thursday, July 10 Evening Options

Option #1 — (4:30-11:00 p.m.) Music Mansion

\$34.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

— including dinner at Great American Steak & Buffet before show

\$44.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

Option #2 — (4:30-8:30 p.m.) B.J. Thomas Theater

\$34.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

— including dinner at Great American Steak & Buffet before show

\$44.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

Friday, July 11

Tour #1 — (1:30-4:30 p.m.) Knoxville City Tour

\$23.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

Sunday, July 13

Tour #1 — (8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.) Dollywood Theme Park

\$42.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

Tour #2 — (8:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.) Day trip to Huntsville, Ala. to tour Space & Rocket Center

\$42.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

Tour #3 — (8:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.) Day trip to Asheville, N.C. to tour George Vanderbilt's Biltmore Estate

\$55.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

Tour #4 — Overnight stay in Nashville, Tenn.; Opryland U.S.A., Rachel's, Stardust Theater concert, Nashville City Tour and round-trip luggage handling

Single occupancy \$172.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

Double occupancy \$151.00 EA. x _____ = \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

*Note: Minimum of 30 people is required for each tour.

Make check payable to:
Steve Ellis Tour & Receptive Inc.

Mail to: Steve Ellis Tour & Receptive Inc., P.O. Box 383,
Pigeon Forge, TN 37868-0383

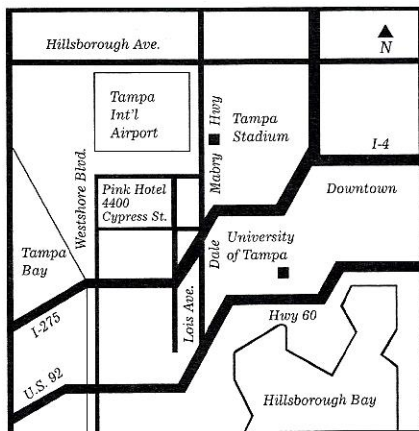
1-800-953-7469 • Fax (423) 428-8597

Mid-Year Reunion February 6-9, 1997

There has been a change in ownership; the Doubletree has been taken over by Westin. The toll free number has been changed to 1-800-WESTIN or 1-800-937-846. The direct number is 1-813-873-8675. Fax No. is 813-879-7196. Cut-off for reservations is now January 10, 1997. The address is still 4400 West Cypress St., Tampa, FL. 33607. Single and Double is \$95.00 Day plus 12% tax. We are still working on tours. You may check with Al Zukunft for further information.

Complimentary transportation to and from the Tampa International Airport will be furnished by the hotel. Use the courtesy telephone in the baggage pick-up area and dial #11.

Registration fee will be \$40.00 per person and will include registration, luncheon, and banquet. You are encouraged to pre register early. Make your check payable to Treasurer, Rocking Chair Chapter, and mail it to: Albert Zukunft, 1502 Bunker Hill Dr., Sun City Center, FL 33573. For registration forms contact Al.



Veterans Benefits Handbook Available

A handbook, "FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR VETERANS AND DEPENDENTS," has been updated with the latest data and is now available for \$3.70 postpaid. The 96 page booklet describes such VA benefits as medical care, education, compensation, pension, life insurance, home loan guarantee, vocational rehabilitation and burial assistance.

To obtain this booklet, send your check or money order in the amount of \$3.70 to: SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS, U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, WASHINGTON, DC 20402-9325. The stock number to order is ISBN 0-16-036128. It can be ordered with a credit card by dialing 202-512-1800 or FAX 202-512-2250.

Tri-State Reunion

Iowa will host the next Tri-state reunion in Cedar Rapids, at the Wyndham Five Seasons Hotel in downtown Cedar Rapids. The dates are April 17, 18, and 19, 1997, with the early bird get-together the evening of the 17th. The rate will be \$69.00 per night including tax. Free parking is available. To contact the hotel call 319-363-8161 or 1-800-996-3426.

Colonel Hackworth

Col. David Hackworth, author of "About Face" has written a new book called "Hazardous Duty". Published by William Morrow in bookstores at \$25.00.

Rainbow Items For Sale

Rainbow stamps/roll \$4.50. WW2 History book (condensed copy 8-1/2 x 5-1/2) \$6.00. Window decals - copy of Rainbow patch - \$1.50 each - prices include postage. Gruber booklet \$6.00. Send check payable to RDVA. Mail to Hugo Grimm, P.O. Box 1200, Lake Sherwood, MO . 63357-1200.

Winter Storm

Copies of Lise Pommois' "Winter Storm" hard back edition are available. Contact Turner Publishing Co., P.O. Box 3101, Paducah, Kentucky 42002-3101. Tel. 502-443-0121.

DIRECTIONS FOR MID-YEAR REUNION

If you are coming from the:

NORTH: 275 South into Tampa, exit Lois Av. turn right, then an immediate left on Cypress St. We're 3 blocks down on the left.

SOUTH: 275 North to Lois Av. exit. Turn left go north to Cypress St., Turn left, we're 3 blocks down on the left.

EAST: I-4 west to Interstate 275 South, Exit Lois Av. Go North to Cypress St. Turn left, we're 3 blocks down on the left.

WEST: 275 North to Lois Av. Exit, Turn left go North to Cypress St. Turn left, we're 3 blocks down on the left.

My Ordeal

by Les Neal, L/232nd

Fort Louis was the actual name. Fransecki was a nickname. It was located on a rise overlooking the Rhine river, not too far from Sessenheim. It was the last fort south in the Maginot Line. It consisted of four levels of tunnels and no electricity. It was a large facility and was a very eerie place.

At night in the lower tunnels Germans were known to be present. We had to be ever on guard. We were here for about a week.

We were later moved to the south on the Rhine into positions just below the levee. Between the levee and the banks of the Rhine was a strip of floodlands. This strip was mined and booby trapped. I had the task of leading a patrol flushing this area in our sector. It took hours and was like walking on eggs. I had the training back in this country and qualified for the job. This was all done late at night in total darkness feeling for trip wires and avoiding mines. You also had to look up in the trees for snipers. After a time in this area, I was relieved and sent back to a rest area. (Note: This area was just out of La Wantzenau toward the Rhine River in the Forest Hanau.)

In answer to whether there were other units in the area: It was kind of a cloudy issue. There could have been. The strangest thing happened the following day. Late the morning of Jan. 4th we were loaded up and taken away from Gambenheim. We traveled for several hours. We were dropped at a place along the road and dug in for the night. Suddenly a jeep followed by some weapons carriers stopped. A captain got out and told us to load up. We traveled right back the way we had come. There we are in Gambenheim again late in the evening.

It was almost like they wanted the Germans to think we had pulled out for good then slipped us back in. We were all briefed and patrols set up. Security taken. We were sent right back to our original billets. At 2:00 AM the morning of Jan. 5th I went into position on the south edge and just east of town. Things were awfully quiet, too damn quiet. About 5:00 AM I was thinking about breakfast. (I was to be relieved at 6:00 AM.) All of a sudden flares lit up the sky and all Hell broke loose. We held on for around four hours and took a lot of casualties. I lost some close friends that morning. Our commanding officer, 1st Lt. Buck, had given his last order before he lost consciousness. He had both legs shot out from under him. He was a very courageous man. He gave the order to surrender.

When I surrendered I crawled across a road and up a ditch under heavy fire. The tracers were so close to my ass I could feel the heat. Lord willing I made

it. I leaned up against a building, burned all information, souvenirs and destroyed a BAR. Then sat there reliving my life in five minutes. Its a hell of a feeling, believe me.

We were grabbed by the Germans and I damn soon found out what "Mach Schnell" meant. They lined us up facing a building. The guy next to me lit up a cigarette and told me they said it was alright. I was the first man on the end and when I lit one up I took one drag and it was slapped out of my mouth. I was slapped in the mouth by a non-com. A German with a Burp gun would have mowed us down if I had made a move. Then all at once shellfire started lobbing in. This happened while the surrender was still taking place. The Germans moved us out in a hurry under heavy guard. Our radioman had asked for artillery fire on our position but it had come too late.

(Note: One thing of interest was that some of the German soldiers were in shirtsleeves. No coats or jackets. The weather was very cold. One soldier fired and carried a heavy machine gun and the ammo was wrapped around his neck.)

They took us toward the Rhine on the double. Two men were carrying Lt. Buck on a stretcher. The last I saw of him they were putting him inside a Pillbox where German medics were operating. The Germans took us on down to the Rhine. They split us up into working parties.

I paired off with our 1st Sgt. and had to carry cases of ammo from the river. They had a German Hauptman with a pistol at our heads following us. The second trip American P-51s came in strafing the area. I told the Sgt. at the count of three to pitch the crate to one side and jump to the other. We did and hit the ground. I looked back to see what happened to the Hauptman. He was there, grinning like he was glad we did what we did. He still had the pistol on us. (Note: We were taken across the Rhine below the Gambenheim bridge. They took us over in assault boats. Evidently they were preparing to make their big push.)

After the strafing, they put us into assault boats and crossed the Rhine. I have no idea how many died in the strafing. When we got to the other side we had to carry outboard engines (filled with gas), four men to an engine, on our shoulders for a distance of two miles.

The last trip was made by myself and three others in the dark. Afterwards three guards took us up into a field, told us to get on our knees and crawl into an empty food bunker. I wouldn't do it and told the others not to. I was quick to realize they were going to put us in there and bury us.

The German corporal laughed, then said something to the other two and they took us on up a road to a stone building.

Inside were some of the men from our company. We were exhausted and slept. About 3:00 AM that morning I heard a lot of artillery fire going out. Which later turned out to be German 88s. There were about ten of them close to the building.

Later that day I was taken with a bayonet at my back, into a room and shoved up to a desk. A German Capt. gave me a cigarette and lit it for me. Then asked questions. Of course he got my name, rank and serial number every time. He grabbed the cigarette out of my hand and yelled for the guard. I was taken outside to a leanto door and told to open it. I was then booted down a dark stairway into a wine cellar. I was so sore I could hardly move. When my eyes got used to the darkness I found there were others sleeping on the floor.

The next morning they came and took us outside. There were about forty of us. Our guards were a German Top Sergeant, who had the Iron Cross hung around his neck (equal to our DSC) and five other guards. We were starting on our long march, all of us on empty stomachs. The terrain wasn't too bad until we came to the mountains. The mountain roads were pretty slippery and packed with snow.

There were not too many breaks allowed, at times they were really pushing us. At one time late that afternoon they let us rest. One of our men heard a German farmer slopping his pigs. About five or six of our group took off followed by one of the guards. When they came back they were wiping slop off their mouths. AS hungry as we were most of us couldn't bring ourselves to this. We resumed our march in the darkness. At this time we were pretty well in the mountains. The trees were so close together I knew it had to be the Black Forest Region.

One of the guards pointed in a direction and said Switzerland was so many kilometers away. During the next rest period two men left the trail to escape to Switzerland. They started to sink out of sight in the crevice but we managed to get them back on the trail. The guards stood there and laughed. They knew no one would try that again. We continued on our journey, it was getting late and the snow started coming down pretty fast. One of our group was pretty heavy and his weight was beginning to tire him. Several were taking turns helping him along, but they were tiring so they had to quit. We didn't want to leave him to freeze so one of the men found an old wooden gate. We took several belts fastened together and took turns pulling him. I kept looking back and the snow was covering him up. There was no way he could have survived. the temperature was pretty well below zero.

(To be continued)

The Army's Greatest Invention

It was developed in just 30 days in the summer of 1942 by the Subsistence Board Laboratory in Chicago. Never in its 55 year history has it been known to break, rust, need sharpening or polishing. It is for those reasons that soldiers, past and present, have come to regard the P-38 C-Ration can opener as one of the greatest of Army inventions. It has had a multitude of names: the P-38, the Church Key, Dog Tag Bracelet, Bride's Best Friend, 10-in-one opener, to name a few.

C-Rations have long been replaced with the more convenient MRE's (Meals Ready To Eat) but the phenomenon of the P-38 continues to grow due to the 1000 other uses stemming from the ingenuity and creativity all soldiers seem to have. The P-38 is one of those personal tools that you keep forever and never want to lose. It is, of course, the smallest, most convenient and easiest to use of all can openers, works on any size can, even sardine and anchovy cans. It is the size of the P-38 that is impressive. It takes up practically no space, can be carried in a pocket or billfold. Almost impossible for the soldier to lose as it has a hole in it which allows him to hang it around his neck on his dog tag chain. Just as easily, it can be threaded onto a key or watch chain.

The most important use, of course, is the use it was designed for, to open those two cans of C-Ration which made up a breakfast, dinner or supper ration for the groundlogging infantryman. In brief, it was his access to food. Any GI who had ever had to open a can of C-Ration with a bayonet was an instant convert. The P-38 acquired its nomenclature from the 38 punctures made around the rim of the C-Ration can when the "Handy Dandy Little GI Tool" was used as a can opener. Others say it got its name because it opened a can with the speed of that famed P-38 Lightning Fighter of WW II built by Lockheed Corporation. The P-38 was the soldiers means for eating 90% of the time.

It was soon converted to many other uses such as a screwdriver and finger-nail cleaner. It was useful for scraping and cleaning boots. It was the ideal tool to field strip the M-1 Rifle and clean the finer components of the weapon. One nostalgic use of the P-38 came when a foil evergreen tree was decorated at Xmas in the CP bunker using brass ammunition casings, C-Ration cans and P-38's. The hole in it made it perfect for hanging as an ornament. The P-38 becomes a part of you. You remember field problems, at 0300 (3 AM), moving out in convoy and opening rations under a mortar or artillery

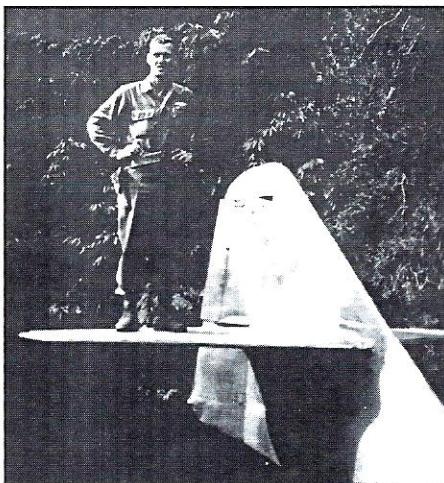
barrage. A P-38 has you reliving all the adventures that came with soldiering. Yes, the P-38 opened cans, but it did so much more. Any soldier will tell you that. Hung around his net, it became a part of him. He was never without it.

First Operational Jet Plan Ever Flown in the World—Nazi Twin Jet Fighter Plane, Messerschmidt 262

In May 7th, 1945 the 42nd. Infantry Rainbow Division and elements of an armor division, captured the big city of Munich, Germany, including the airfield where two of these jet planes were found.

These Nazi Jets flew faster than any American propeller-driven fighter plane. It was fortunate for the Allies that these jet planes did not come into action until the war was almost over.

Shown in the pictures are Sgt. J. R. Loggins, standing on the tail and front of the plane and Instrument Cpl. I. R. Vazquez in the other picture, both members of the 42nd. Infantry Division. COH/232d Inf.



WWI Heroes Ed Geaney, Sr. and Dick O'Neill

Ed. Note:

As you know we have an ongoing project involving locating former Rainbowners. In this way, we are informed of the death, oftentimes of some Rainbowner who may or may not have been a member of the Association. Then, from time to time we print their names under the listing of "Honored Dead". In the November issue we listed, under 242d Infantry the name of Edward J. Geaney, (Col.) Hqs. We are happy to report that Ed sent us a letter (Nov. 21, 1996), stating that he is in reasonably good health and enjoying retired life. He says it is possible that his name was confused with that of his father, First Sgt. Edward J. Geaney, Sr., who passed away in 1961. Ed's father and uncle, Richard W. O'Neill both served, during WWI in Co. D, 165th Inf., 42d Div. Their battalion was commanded by the legendary William J. (Wild Bill) Donovan. For their actions, during the Battle of the Ourcq River, July 27-30, 1918, Ed's father was awarded the DSC and Croix de Guerre, and Dick O'Neill received the CMH and Croix deGuerre. Ed's father and uncle were both severely wounded in this battle and sustained wounds in other WWI engagements. These medals were actually conferred on November 20, 1921 by Marshal Ferdinand Foch. A review, honoring the recipients, was held on the Fordham University campus, by the 16th Inf., NYNG.

We are sorry about the error, but happy to receive the above information. These men are truly "Honored Rainbow Dead".



Left to Right: Sgt. Dick O'Neill; 1st. Sgt. Ed Geaney Sr.; Marshal Foch; Father Duffy (half of his face is obscured); and LTC Costigan.

A Stroll in the Rain

by William T. Kenny COG/242d Inf.

This story takes place sometime during late-april 1945 outside the town of Gunzenhausen in southern Germany as the war was winding down. "G" Co. of the 242nd Regiment, 42nd Division had been in heavy combat since the first of the year fighting our way through Alsace and crossing the Rhine on the first of April, Easter Sunday.

That morning I was told to report forthwith to company headquarters by a messenger. When I arrived, Charlie Paine, who had recently received a battlefield commission, was in charge of the second rifle platoon. He was in conference with Captain Campbell. They were poring over some field maps of the area. I stood around until they were finished and finally I was told that we were to enter a town four or five kilometers arhead of the front lines. There was a strategic bridge crossing the Allmuhl River in the center of the town. According to intelligence reports, the town had been abandoned by German forces. The bridge was thought to be still standing but it was believed to have been mined. I was to lead a machine gun squad attached to Charlie Paine's second platoon.

We started out as I remember shortly after noon. We were on foot and everyone was wearing rain gear as it was a chilly, drizzling day. There was a mist covering the landscape. We were as usual griping about having to leave our dry quarters in captured farmhouses to take what we regarded as an inconsequential action. About halfway to the town, we passed a Pub (Rathkeller). There were a number of bicycles parked out front. As the conquering army, we confiscated them. Some of the fellows, including myself, jumped on our new transportation and continued on our journey. As we neared the first houses on the outskirts of town, we noticed there were fortifications in the form of trenches along both sides of the road. We were flabbergasted to see that they were manned by German soldiers. We didn't know whether to shit or go blind. Then we realized that they thought we were a German patrol returning because we were on bicycles which they thought belonged to them. Lt. Paine thought the best thing to do at this point was to continue to our objective as fast as we could.

When we arrived at the bridge, I proceeded to try to find a good position covering the bridge from one of the homes along the river. I tried to force entrance into one of the homes along the river. I tried to force entrance into one of the houses, but the door

was securely locked. I could hear voices inside and I threatened to blow the door down if they didn't open it immediately. At this point an elderly, officious German man opened up and started screaming obscenities at us. "This is my home and what right do you have to break in here?" We pushed him aside and immediately went upstairs to find a good position for our gun. Unfortunately I couldn't find one that was suitable. We then proceeded to the house next door. This house had been vacated and offered an acceptable spot for us to set up our machine gun. It was getting dark by this time. We soon realized that the Germans were now aware of our presence. We spent the balance of the night fending off their continuous attacks.

In the meantime, Charlie Paine and another man from the second platoon were able to de-activate the explosives under the bridge by severing the main wires. The Germans continued trying to bring up more explosives to the bridge, but all of their attempts resulted in them getting killed without successfully completing the destruction of the bridge.

Teh following morning a relief column entered the town and the Germans retreated. The bridge was still intact and the town was secured.

What started out as our inconsequential stroll in the rain turned out to be another small conquest on the way to final victory.

Anyone Know The Donator?



Charley Browns Hickory Tree
Chatham Township, N.J.

Dick Tisch dropped into a cafe in N.J. and noticed the Rainbow articles on the wall. The owner did not remember the name of the donor.

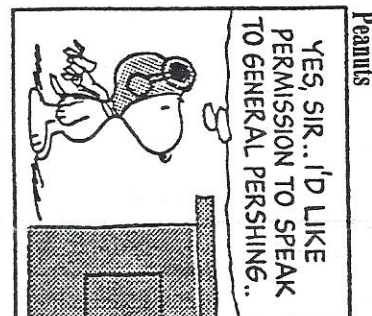
Best Company Award

On behalf of the "Rainbow" Division Veterans Association, COL (Ret) Carlyle P. Woelfer, presented the General of the Army Douglas A.

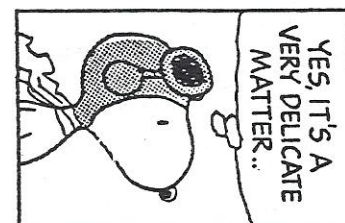
MacArthur Best Company award to Co. B 1st Bn. 172nd Armor at Ft. Knox, Kentucky.



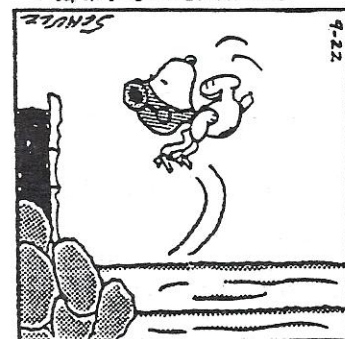
Photo by - SFC Jeannine Mannarino 42nd ID



Peanuts



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By Charles Schulz

The Saga of the Segel Twins

by Grace Stephens

Ronald Segel and his twin brother, Donald, were prisoners of Germany during the winter of 1945. Over the course of several interviews Ronald told of their experiences. Instead of a prison camp, the brothers were among fifteen to twenty prisoners who were marched from site to site working as forced labor. "We stayed in barns, schools, shacks; food was non-existent," Ron said, "and freezing cold. Our feet and hands were frost-bit. We didn't have any winter boots and it was the coldest winter since World War I." The civilians treated them with even more brutality than the guards. "As we marched by or worked in the street and fields they hit us with shovels, threw rocks."

The brothers' sojourn began years earlier when Ron heard the news of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor. "I was eager to 'get the Japs.' I was very naive," he said, "I didn't know the strength of their army or their determination." In their hometown of Cleveland, Ohio, the boys had always tinkered with electrical and engineering devices so Ron thought he'd like to be a part of the Signal Corp. All through high school he knew he'd be joining the military. At eighteen, just after graduation, Ron enlisted in the voluntary army. Donald, younger by five minutes, followed his older brother. The Army recruiter told him he would be sent to engineering school at the Army Specialized Training Program at Fargo, North Dakota.

After basic training at Fort McClellan, Alabama, the brothers were sent to Army College, but instead of engineering school they found themselves in the infantry, assigned to the 42nd "Rainbow" Infantry Division at Camp Gruber, Oklahoma. There, they learned house to house fighting and scouting.

Before the horror of war fell on them there were moments of fun. Also stationed at Camp Gruber was Allen Funt, best known as host of the "Candid Camera" TV show. One day as part of a minstrel show, Funt asked Ron to bring him their commanding colonel's hat whereupon he poured it full of chocolate pudding then told Ron to return it to the colonel.

By November of 1944 the entire Division had qualified for combat duty but only a task force was sent for over seas duty. The brothers were reassigned together and left aboard the troop transport, General Black, and arrived at Marseille, France. Just after arriving they met a Moroccan from the French Foreign Legion. "He asked if I'd like some bread and wine," Ron said, "he bought the bread and gave it to a friend to hold while he went for the wine. When

the Moroccan came back the friend was gone with the bread. When the fellow caught up with the guy who'd taken the bread, he stabbed and killed him."

From Marseille, they joined forces moving north to Luxembourg where they fought the Germans in the Battle of the Bulge. Their task force had been sent over with no artillery, no anti-tank weapons and no support troops. They weren't adequately prepared for the weather or country. "The European battles had depleted the Allied Army so much that the Army mainly wanted 'warm bodies' to fill the lines," Ron said. Returning South, their regiment was sent to Strasbourg to hold it 'at all costs.' General De Gaulle, concerned that Germany would re-take the town causing the free-French forces to lose confidence and revolt against the Allied Command, needed American troops.

In the out-skirts of Strasbourg near the town of Hatten, the regiment held a five mile front. The German army was advancing over the Rhine River with tanks, flame throwers and heavy artillery. Against this onslaught Ron and Don's regiment had only M1 rifles and a few hand grenades and no support "We called for air support but the weather was so bad; most of the time it was overcast and they couldn't fly." The Allied task force held off the Germans for three to four days in the last major German offensive in the war. As Ron was moving from foxhole to foxhole he had the misfortune of standing directly in front of one of the barricades when it was struck by a shell and exploded. He was hit by shrapnel and buried under debris as it fell back to the ground injuring his back and legs. At the time he didn't realize how badly he'd been hurt. As the battle wore on, the Allied troops withdrew to the town where they fought house to house. Though the battalion had held off three divisions, they were eventually surrounded and captured. The Segel brothers were near the Command Post when a German flame thrower was aimed at it, so they jumped through a coal chute down to the bin in the basement. Don has since gone back to that house and saw the foundation, and looking at the dimensions, could not figure out how they could have fit through the small hole, especially while wearing field gear.

Because they were never in a regular prison camp they did not receive Red Cross or other care packages. The only clothes they had were the ones they were wearing the day they were captured. They had no washing. They had no food or water. They drank the water out of the trenches along the side of the street or if there was snow, scooped some of it up. "When we had to use the toilet we just did it right there in the street." The prisoners would march between work sties, up to a hundred miles. The guards would ride in vehicles. "But the worst were the

civilians who believed the Nazi propaganda," Ron said.

Ron remembered one of their work details. "We were assigned to an aircraft motor factory [Wonderer Motor Fahrroller Motor Factory]. Our assignment was to use the gauges to measure the accuracy of the parts as they were manufactured for the aircraft motors." With experience working in factories in high school, the brothers knew enough so that they could deliberately reset the gauges. The manufactured parts would be off by just enough so as to not fit together rendering the part useless. The prisoners would continually vex their captors as much as possible.

Since they traveled all the time, Ron and Don met soldiers from almost all the Allied forces. During the rare times when the prisoners could talk among themselves, they talked only about food. Ron doesn't remember writing it, but he has a notebook where he listed, in alphabetical order, all the foods that the men talked about. Written in the block letter style of an engineer and with a fountain pen, the foods are divided into categories: breakfast, meats, vegetables, juices and desserts.

That book was so important to Ron that even after escaping captivity he had to go back to get it. "It was toward the end of the war and the guards were starting to get a little lax," Ron said about their escape. After a couple of days they were crossing a bridge one night when they were stopped by some Germans. Pretending to be French, they recited fake French from the play "Of Thee I Sing" which they had learned in summer theater. It was after that that Ron realized he did not have his book. He told Don they'd have to go back. Returning to their prison, they walked in through the front gate expecting to be shot on sight. A few days later they found out through the grapevine that they were to be killed, so with the help of the British, they escaped again. This time they continued on until reaching a British work party who hid them until Americans arrived. Ron and Don, still together eventually made it to Le Havre where they boarded the "Admiral Benson" bound for New York.

From New York Ron took the train to California where he recuperated in a Military Hospital in Santa Barbara. At the time he just wanted to get out and go home so he did not tell the doctors about his back pain or the injuries suffered when the embankment fell on him. For the next forty years Ron never told anyone he had been a prisoner of war. He never talked about his experiences. As a result Ron suffered from the classic effects of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD): nightmares, depression, panic attacks, withdrawal, workaholic, anxiety, no social interaction and more. As the

(Continued on page 8)



The Memorial Foundation received contributions of \$13,959 during October and November. The December contributions were not received before the deadline for this issue, but should be substantial when contributors remember that December 31st is the last day to make tax deductible contributions for 1996. The donations were as follows:

Scholarship Operating Fund - In memory of Robert Snodell, Delores Feithan, \$10. In memory of Willis Redding, 232nd Aux., \$10. In memory of Eugene & Warren Johnson; J-Tec employees, Ted Johnson, Jon Janosik, Irma P. Johnson, the Harrisons, the Marios, John McGovern, \$376. In memory of Stephen Janosik, John & Rosemary McGovern, \$50. 1996 National Reunion, \$500. Jack Refling, \$200. Ted Johnson, \$50. Total = \$1,196.

Scholarship Endowment Fund - In memory of her husband, Fred Goodman, Natalie Goodman, \$25. Anonymous \$10,000. Total = \$10,025.

Foundation Operating Fund - In memory of Bob Snodell; Mo-Kan. Chapter, \$10. Ted Johnson, \$103. William J. Lowenberg, \$100. Morton J. Barnard (Mollner Foundation), \$1,000. 1996 Reunion, \$500. Total = \$1,713.

Foundation Endowment Fund - Pledge payment, Basil Manley IV, M.D., \$100. In memory of John Rothermel; Sam McGill, Eddie Kaiser and Stanley Blasko, \$100. Field Art. Aux., \$500. Total = \$700.

MacArthur Plaque - Dee Eberhart, \$100. William Boyd, \$175. In memory of Steven Janosik; John and Rosemary McGovern, \$50. Total = \$325.

Scholarship Chairman Dorothy Smith reports that the requests for scholarship applications continues at a high rate. It would help her if a self-addressed envelope is enclosed with the application requests. The large number of applications need continued generous donations to the Foundation, in order to be able to grant scholarships to every quality applicant.

PNAP Beverly Koehler has been requested to design a pin for her "500 Club" recognizing those who will give or pledge \$500. She is being assisted by Virginia Duhascek, Norm Thompson, Dee Eberhart and Ken Carpenter in designing the pin and recommending guidelines for the award.

The rededication of the 151st Machine Gun Battalion Memorial in Macon, GA on November 12th, went very smoothly, thanks to the spade work by Memorial Officer Charles Fowler. Foundation President McGovern presented a check from the Memorial Foundation for \$1,000 to Mayor Jim Marshall of Macon as a

promised assist and "thanks" to the city for their restoration of the memorial. Association President John Whisler related the history of the 151st, and PNP Ivan Wallace gave the story of the memorial, which was originally dedicated in 1922. Mayor Marshall made a very warm response to the Rainbow men. He was a marine during Vietnam and received a Purple Heart. His grandfather was on MacArthur's staff and his father saw action in both WW2 and Korea. PNP Jack Hildreth was MC for the program. PNAP Betty Owen and Tom were among the other Rainbowners that came from the Veteran's Day in Birmingham to attend the event.

The Rainbowners stayed for discussions with the firing squad from the Georgia National Guard and the Macon residents who came to the dedication. One of the Guardsmen was an expert piccolo player and he entertained the group before and after the ceremony.

This restoration and rededication was the culmination of many years of encouragement of the city of Macon, by a series of Rainbow Memorial Officers. It is very laudable that the city of Macon, which has the budgetary problems of all cities, financed most of the cost of this project. It is also a good example of the Memorial Foundation's mission to "support, maintain & subsidize" the memorials of both wars.

POW Medals Available

The Pentagon has announced the offering of a few Prisoner of War Medal featuring an eagle ringed with barbed wire and bayonets, to honor some 142,000 US troops captured in four wars.

The medal will be issued at no cost to any person who was taken prisoner of war and held captive after April 5, 1917. The medal can be awarded posthumously to legal next of kin.

Eligible persons may call 1-800-873-3768 for more information.

The Saga of the Segel Twins

(continued from page 7)

older brother Ron felt that by becoming a prisoner he had failed his brother and let down America. Don, on the other hand, talked about his experiences and has suffered the effects of the war experience and being a prisoner of war a little less profoundly.

Even though Don has had less dramatic effects of the war experience both he and Ron attend "Prisoner of War Therapy and Support Program" at the West Los Angeles VA Medical Center.

Although Ron recognized he was "different" from others he did not relate his problems to his war experiences. Even during visits to the DAY Hospital in 1972 when he was between jobs for four weeks, he did not mention the war. By 1985 he could no longer function in society and his doctor referred him to the Mental Health Clinic. He was given medication but it was his introduction to Elvera Hornung, counselor at the therapy group, who made a profound difference in his life. "She saw me and immediately recognized that I needed help. She took my hand and led the way into her office and comforted me," Ron said. At the Program he was finally able to talk about his experience with others who shared the same feelings. He attended the weekly sessions habitually with Elvera or Jim Dwyer, the other counselor. Although he still is a long way from full recovery, he does not hesitate to praise them for saving his life.

CUT-OFF DATE
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