



Vol. LXXVII

September, 1998

No. 1

Rainbow On-Line: www.rainbowvets.org

DULUTH A WINNER!

Over 600 Rainbowers attended a highly successful Reunion in Duluth Minnesota on July 8-12, 1998. The event was marred by the sudden illness of Chairman Herman Bergeth who made a fortunate rapid recovery in time for the Banquet. Co-Chairman Don Samolinski and his Wisconsin chapter committee carried on admirably.

The committee consisted of Don and Lois Samolinski; Royal and Marie Lunde; Donald and Genevive Beno; William and Eldrid Walken; William and Delores Feither; Bud and Maida Crown; Lloyd and Doris Peferman; Matt and Jean Kasberger, Wilbert and Alice Westrich and Wyman Mossholder.

The opening Business session advancing of the colors was featured by the sterling playing of the traditional bagpipes by the Duluth Scottish Heritage Pipes and Drums. We were welcomed by Mayor Charles Doty. That night, Thursday we were treated to a marvelous performance by the KIDS FROM WISCONSIN.

Friday's luncheon featured speaker was Ms. Christabel Grant who represents the Medal of Honor winner Richard L. Bong Heritage Center. Saturday there was a very moving Memorial Service which featured

Reverend Norm Forde's Reflections on Rainbow - a marvelous rendition and beautiful singing of Mayor Charles Doty who led us in "God Bless America" and the "Star Spangled Banner." The rendition of Taps was particular moving as the notes echoed and re-echoed through the Auditorium.

Once again PNP Ted Johnson outdid himself - you could hear a pin drop as he delivered "The Champagne Hour."

The Banquet was the culmination of the reunion. At the head table were Wolfgang Robinow, Pres. Elect Dick Tisch, Auxiliary Pres. Elect Delores Kallaher and her Red Cap 222nd President Clarence Griffith, Don and Jackie Schaeckle, Kurt and Ingrid Hurbodt, Don and Lois Samolinski, President Bill and Mary Kenny, Norm and Shirley Forde, Auxiliary President Mae Coyle and her Red Cap Charles Kelly and our own Lise Pommois. Our principal speaker Kurt Hurbodt's story appeared in the September 1991 Reveille. He and Lise Pommois were given certificates of Honored Membership. The President's reception gave us the opportunity for our farewells. Hope to see you all in Mesa. May the Good Lord bless you all real good!

President's Message



I am truly honored and very humble in light of my presidential predecessors. Not only did they make great contributions to the preservation of Rainbow ideals, but were outstanding citizens, and several were outstanding in combat. Many still continue to occupy key positions and still labor for the good of Rainbow. I can do no less than to endeavor with all my might to carry on their legacy in remembrance of those who gave their lives so that others could be free.

Though we all tried to do our best when called upon, I am truly aware of those who fought and bled in Rainbow's contribution as members of Task Force Linden. Sent to the front without artillery support, they were instrumental in the defeat of the last German offensive in the "Nordwind" thrust in Northern Alsace. I will always remember their joyful welcome when the artillery pulled into Luneville on February 8, 1945. We were, at that time, not aware of the casualties and hardship endured by TFL. We then felt that we would have preferred to be with you to help in your frightful ordeal (EDITOR'S NOTE: What a difference it would have made, as the artillery proved over and over how much they meant to us later on.)

At Duluth, it was voted by the membership to include the current 42nd Infantry Division (Mechanized into our RDVA as a separate chapter.) Our former president, Bill Kenny, was primarily responsible for the fruition of this objective, in accordance with Association recommendations. We can rest easy as we take this step. The National Guard is very proud of the legacy of Rainbow in two Wars.

I would like to compliment Bill Shurtleff and Dee Eberhart for inclusion of Rainbow in the Internet.

continued on pg 2

Living PNPS

1964-1965	Theodore A. Johnson
1971-1972	Charles F. Marshall
1972-1973	Herbert E. Klinedinst
1977-1978	Ivan H. Wallace, Jr.
1978-1979	Hugo E. Grimm
1982-1983	Vassil J. "Rube" Evanoff
1984-1985	John D. Carr
1985-1986	Carlyle P. Woelfer
1986-1987	Frederick W. Goldsmith
1987-1988	Dee R. Eberhart
1988-1989	John M. Keyser
1989-1990	Dolian Harris
1990-1991	Donald L. Segel
1991-1992	Rev. Robert F. Weiss, SJ
1992-1993	Jack R. Hildreth
1993-1994	Romeo J. Fagiolo
1994-1995	John J. McGovern
1995-1996	Vern N. Smith
1996-1997	John L. Whisler
1997-1998	William Kenny

Living PNAPS

Frances Marshall	1964-1965
Mary Brewer	1970-1971
Nan Klinedinst	1972-1973
Edith Sayers	1979-1980
Oriana Grimm	1980-1981
Jean Kemmerer	1981-1982
Winnie Baldock	1982-1983
Blanche Trout	1983-1984
Bea Miller Burge	1984-1985
Loretta Schneider	1986-1987
Pearl Segel	1987-1988
Catherine Woods	1988-1989
Pearl Emlett	1989-1990
Joanne Dart	1990-1991
Myrtle Wallace	1991-1992
Peggy Fleming	1992-1993
Beverly Koehler	1993-1994
Virginia Duhacsek	1994-1995
Betty Owen	1995-1996
Mildren Fagiolo	1996-1997
Mae Coyle	1997-1998

DUES 'R DUE!!!

**CUT-OFF-DATE
NEXT ISSUE
October 1, 1998**

THE RAINBOW REVEILLE

Official Publication of the
RAINBOW Division Veterans
Founder & Permanent Honorary President:
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ASSOCIATE CHAPLAIN:

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MEMORIAL OFFICER:

Charles Fowler, P.O. Box 64,
Londonderry, NH 03053-0064

HISTORIAN:

Donald L. Segel, 650 Jacon Way,
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

JUDGE ADVOCATE:

Theodore A. Johnson, 116 Merryhill Lane,
Ely, IA 52227

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS:

Gilbert Koehler, 1269 Manhoten Drive,
Tempe, AZ 85282

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP OFFICER:

Charles Paine, 3 Pinyon Lane,
Pinehurst, NC 28374-9492

1999 REUNION CHAIRMAN:

Charles Paine, 3 Pinyon Lane,
Pinehurst N.C. 28374-9492

LIAISON OFFICER: Norman A. Thompson
1739 S. Douglass Rd., Suite E., Anaheim, CA 92806

ARCHIVES: J. William Keithan, Jr.

2226 Eastmont Way West, Seattle, WA 98199

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER:

Justine C. Walker, 30 Cherwing Rd.,
Yonkers, NY 10701

PHOTOGRAPHER:

William E. Clayton, 2200 Buck Trace,
Madisonville, KY 42431

REVEILLE CHAIRMAN: Herbert E. Klinedinst,
404 Cedar St., P.O. Box 206,
Three Oaks, MI 49128

President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

Already we have experienced dividends through the many "hits" experienced. We will continue to pursue the phone disk search for additional gains in all facets - especially membership in view of natural attrition.

There is no doubt where our Association gets its strength and vitality as one peruses our many chapter newsletters. I would like to remind all committee members to attend their respective meetings. Your input is needed greatly so that a balanced consensus on each and every issue can be more readily realized. I would, also, remind you that your dues are greatly needed to help in our goal to nurture the whole body in continued fellowship, camaraderie and Rainbow love!

In Rainbow,
Dick Tisch

Chaplain's Prayer for Reveille

O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light rises up in darkness for the Godly; grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what you would have us to do, that the spirit of wisdom may save us from false choices, and that in your light we may see light, and in your straight path may not stumble. AMEN.

CH(Col.) Norman P. Forde USA Ret.
RDVA Chaplain.

42nd Rainbow History Book

This may be the last call on the original reprint of the RAINBOW WWII HISTORY BOOK (BLUE COVER.) If you have been thinking about it, NOW IS THE TIME. Cost is \$30.00 which includes postage and handling. MAKE CHECK TO R.D.V.A. and mail to HUGO E. GRIMM, P.O. BOX 1200, LAKE SHERWOOD, MO 63357

**Dachau-29th April, 1945
Rainbow Liberation Memoirs**

Edited by Sam Dann

The book "29th, April, 1945" will be available in September, 1998. You may order now to procure this notable addition to every Rainbowners library. You may order from Texas Tech University Press, Box 41037, Lubbock, TX 79409-1037 USA - Phone (800)-832-4042 - Fax (806)-742-2979 - E-Mail: TTUP@ttu.edu. The cost of the book is \$29.95 plus \$4.00 for the first title, \$.75 each additional title. Texas residents please add 7.875% sales tax.

Recommended Reading

We recommend the book "AND WHO WILL KILL YOU" by Father Frederick Hoffman. This book describes the life of priests in the concentration Camp of Dachau. The author, a young Czeck priest was detained in Buchenwald and Dachau in the years 1940-1945. He became an important witness of the persecution of the clergy by the Nazie in the 1945 Dachau Trial. The book contains a com-

plete listing of the dead and living priests of all nations who suffered at Dachau and contains 16 articles describing individual sufferings and methods of torturing the clergy. Send \$23.00 (includes postage) to: Rev. Benton Thurmond - P.O. Box 337, Inex, TX 77968 - Phone (512)-782-3183 - Fax (512)-782-5547.

Just a Simple Soldier

He was getting old and paunchy
and his hair was falling fast.
And he sat around the Legion,
telling stories of the past.

O f a war that he had fought in
and the deeds that he had done.
In his exploits with his buddies;
they were heroes, everyone.

and 'tho sometimes, to his neighbors,
his tales became a joke,
all his buddies listened,
for they knew whereof he spoke.

But we'll hear his tales no longer,
for ol' Bob has passed away,
and the world's a little poorer,
for a Soldier died today.

No, he won't be mourned by many,
just his children and his wife.
For he lived an ordinary,
very quiet sort of life.

He held a job and raised a family,
quietly going on his way;
and the world won't note his passing;
'tho a Soldier died today.

When politicians leave this earth,
their bodies lie in state,
while thousands note their passing
and proclaim that they were great.

Papers tell of their life stories,
from the time that they were young,
but the passing of a soldier,
goes unnoticed, and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution,
to the welfare of our land,
some jerk who breaks his promise
and cons his fellow man?

Or the ordinary fellow,
who in times of war and strife,
goes off to serve his country
and offers up his life?

The politician's stipend
and the style in which he lives,
are sometimes disproportionate,
to the service he gives.

While the ordinary soldier,
who offered up his all,
is paid off with a medal
and perhaps a pension, small.

It's so easy to forget them,
for it is so long ago,
that our Bobs and Jims and Johnnys,
went to battle, but we know.

It was not the politicians,
with their compromise and ploys,
who won for us the freedom,
that our Country now enjoys.

Should you find yourself in danger,
with your enemies at hand,
would you really want some cop-out,
with his ever waffling stand?

Or would you want a Soldier,
who has sworn to defend,
his home, his kin, and Country,
and would fight until the end?

he was just a common Soldier
and his ranks are growing thin,
but his presence should remind us,
we may need his like again.

For when countries are in conflict,
then we find the Soldier's part,
Is to clean up all the troubles,
that the politicians start.

If we cannot do him honor,
while he's here to hear the praise,
then at least let's give him homage,
at the ending of his days.

Perhaps just a simple headline,
in the paper that might say:
OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING,
FOR A SOLDIER DIED TODAY.

author Unknown

Vol. LXXVII September 1998 No. 1

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:

November Issue - October 1, 1998

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

1999 National Reunion

Charlotte, NC - July 7-10, 1999

The 1999 National Reunion will be held in Charlotte, N.C. on July 7-10, 1999. The primary Hotel will be the Adam's Mark, 555 south McDowell, Charlotte, N.C. 28204. Tel (704) 372-4100 or 1-800-444-ADAM for any Adam's Mark. Fax (704) 344-8419. Rates are \$85.00/per person/per night for single or double -- \$95.00/person/per night/triple and \$105.00 quadruple. There is a 12% occupancy tax. Make your reservation directly with the Hotel -- be sure to mention you are with the Rainbow. Remember to make your reservation to depart on Sunday morning and not the Saturday Banquet night. Room rates are good for two days prior to and two days after the Reunion.

Registration is \$40.00/per person and should be sent to Charles Paine, Chairman, 3 Pinyon Lane, Pinehurst, N.C. 28374-9492. Tel. 1-910-215-0357. Make check payable to: RAINBOW DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REUNION. Scheduled Tours are: Sunday, July 4, 1999: Overnight trip to Asheville, N.C. Return July 5 -- \$250.00/per person; Tuesday July 6, 1999 -- Historic Homes Tour w/lunch -- \$47.00/per person; Tuesday, July 6, 1999 - Discovery Place Tour \$28.00/per person; For Wednesday July 7, 1999 the following: Biltmore House Day Tour -- \$76.00/per person; Spence Shops State Historic Site and the N.C. Transportation Museum w/lunch; "A Day with the Queen" Tour w/lunch-\$34.00/per person (9:30 a.m.) and another at 2:00 p.m. (\$25.00). Antique/Boutique Tour--\$23.00/per person; On Thursday July 8 -- Blue Moon Dinner Cruise -- \$48.00/person. On Friday July 9, 1999-- A Day with the Queen -- \$23.00/per person and Reed Gold Mine -- \$33.00/per person. On Sunday July 11, 1999 -- Shop 'Til YOU DROP--\$35.00/per person, and an overnight trip to Charleston, S.C. to return Monday July 12th. You must deal directly with Charlotte Arrangements -- 130-D N. McDowell Street, Charlotte, N.C. 28204. - (704) 332-8445.

RV Hook-ups: There is parking at Adam's Mark but no hook-ups. There are two campgrounds about a half hour away, they are; Carrowinds Campground (704) 588-2600 and McDowell park campground, (County) (704) 588-5204.

There is no shuttle from the airport -- arrangements for a round trip can be made at the ground transportation area.

If you need registration or reservation forms contact Charlie.

Mid-year Reunion

Mesa, Arizona February 11-13, 1999

The Mid-year Reunion will be held in Mesa, Arizona, February 11-13, 1999 at Dobson Ranch Inn & Resort, 1666 S. Dobson Road, Mesa, Arizona 85202. Tel. (800) 528-1356. The room rates are \$90.00 per night single or double occupancy. (State and local taxes are 9.55%...) The rates will apply February 10-15, 1999. All rates include a full breakfast buffet each morning. When making reservations, please identify yourself as being part of the 42nd RAINBOW DIVISION REUNION #G 4526 in order to receive special rates. Give your name, address, telephone number and credit card number in order to guarantee late arrival. The hotel doesn't send confirmations, so please ask for your reservation number. Cut off date to receive rate is January 10, 1999.

The Dobson Ranch Inn is located at the intersection of I-60 and Dobson Road. The SuperShuttle is available to and from the airport for \$11.00 per person. They can be found outside baggage claim and depart every 5-10 minutes. A taxi is approximately \$17.00.

The registration is \$40.00 per person. The early bird party is on February 11; a luncheon on Friday February 12 and a banquet Saturday February 13.

Make checks payable to Mid-year 1999 Reunion and mail to Gil Koehler 1269 E. Manhattan Dr. Tempe, Arizona 85282. Tel. (602) 838-2816. Early registration is greatly appreciated.

There will be a night out Wed. February 10, 1999 to see and hear the largest Wurlitzer organ in the world. Dutch treat for food. Bus cost \$8.00 per person. Need \$8.00 per person by January 10, 1999 to schedule buses. Bus will pick us up at hotel at 3:30 p.m. sharp. Please make check out to Mid-year 1999 Reunion and mail to Gil Koehler same address as registrations. Negotiations are underway for a special discount from Southwest Airlines. Stay tuned.

Veteran's Day-Birmingham

Please contact Leon Praytor, 206 Raimund Ave., Bessemer, Alabama 35020. Phone (205) 525-7353 or Guy Walker, 260 Walker Road, Birmingham, Alabama 35215. Phone (205) 798-1542 for details and information.

1999 Ohio Reunion

The Ohio annual reunion will be held on May 27-28-29, 1999 at the Best Western Motel, 1858 N. Memorial Drive, Lancaster, Ohio 43130. Phone (614) 653-3040.

No Comrades

(Tulsa's "Last Man's Club" Leaves Wine)
(Excerpted from the Tulsa World Newspaper)

As far as anyone knows, the last of Tulsa's Doughboys has died and a bottle of wine waiting the last soldier to drink a toast to his comrades of World War I remains corked. The wine, a 20 ounce bottle of the German Blue Nun label, has remained in the kitchen cupboard of one of the sons of Amos Todd, who might have been the last survivor.

The bottle was wrapped in a brown bag with the words "This belongs to the survivor of the Rainbow Division's Last Man's Club". It was 90 years ago when the young men of Tulsa responded to the call to arms. From the National Guard's Tulsa Ambulance Company, they formed what was called the 167th Ambulance Company of the 117th Sanitary Train, 42nd (Rainbow) Division, American Expeditionary Forces.

The bottle of wine was purchased in 1952, by Ross Warner and was acquired by H. Everett Pope Sr. after Pope's death, in 1981, the bottle was passed on to Paul Havenstrite. "Every soldier's unit has one -- well not every unit, but the close knit ones," Havenstrite said in 1982, about the Last Man's Club. "We won't drink the wine until there's only one man left, maybe two," he said then. About a dozen were alive at that time.

William Havenstrite recalled that when his father died, neither he or his brother mentioned that they should open the bottle and drink it. But their mother said it had to be passed on to the last man. When Paul passed away, Mrs. Havenstrite told Don Todd to come and get the bottle, who held it for his father, Amos, who died in 1994, at the age of 97. Don said "My dad was the second-to-the-last man of the whole unit (not the division). His brother, Robert, was under the impression that his father was the last of the Tulsa Doughboys. Don recalled his father asking about his comrades. He would ask, "Donald, how are the boys from the Rainbow?" He would say that they were doing just fine. He couldn't just tell him they were dying one by one.

Tom Hinkle, Veterans service officer supervisor with the Oklahoma Department of Veteran Affairs said about 120 World War I veterans are alive in Oklahoma. Tulsa's Doughboys chartered the VFW Post in 1922, but none are alive.

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(517) 362-8144

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1269 E. Manhattan Dr.
Tempe, AZ 85282
(602) 838-2816

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912 North Washington St.
Du Quoin, IL 62832
(618) 542-3759

NATIONAL WELFARE CHAIRWOMAN

Maryette McMillen
1545 Dodd Road
Niles, MI 49120-9452
(616) 683-1546

NATIONAL HISTORIAN

Nan Klinedinst
P.O. Box 206
Three Oaks, MI 49123
(616) 469-6918

NATIONAL SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Joanne Dart
3459 Pratt Road
Batavia, NY 14020
(716) 343-4147

NATIONAL AUXILIARY BULLETIN EDITOR

Peggy Fleming
2759 Pulaski Hwy
Columbia, TN 39401
(615) 388-4045

GOLD STAR MOTHERS CHAIRWOMAN

Orianna Grimm
P.O. Box 1200
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(314) 398-5962

NATIONAL PATRIOTIC RELATIONS

Meriana Gee
5731 Warm Springs
Houston, TX 77035-2425
(713) 729-8483

NATIONAL MEMORIAL FUND CHAIRMAN

Virginia Duhacsek
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President-Elect

We are pleased to announce that the President-Elect is Harold Melinek. Harold served with the 42nd Quartermaster Company. He and his lovely wife, Edna reside at 128 Irving Pl., Basking Ridge, N.J. 07920. Telephone (908) 604-9181.

2000 Reunion

The 2000 National Reunion will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Queen of Battle Award

This membership plaque is awarded by Company G, 242nd Infantry to the line unit having the most members, and is called the Johnny Frassel Award. It was won by Company M, 222nd Infantry.

John Carr Award

The winner of the John Carr Life Membership Award is Lou Hendricks.

Four Day Hotel Stay

The winner of the 4 day Hotel Stay was Charles Ledford.

Thanks From the Reveille Committee

The Reveille Committee wishes to thank the Ladies' Auxiliary of the 232nd Infantry for its generous gift of \$300.

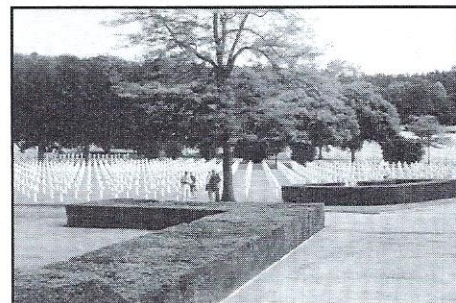
Unit Executive Committeemen-Presidents & Appointed

122nd Medical BN - Marty Pawlak
132nd Signal Co. - William J. Fortin, Jr.
142nd Combat Engrs. - Wilbur Miller
Med. Det. Sp, Trps. - Forest Jones
MP Platoon - Jerry Huntsberger
Division Band - Bernard Witry
222nd Infantry - (1.) Clarence Griffith
(2.) John Walker
(3.) William Flatt
Co. M-Yanke - Tillman Wheat
1st. BN-232nd Infantry - Charles Johnson
2nd BN-232nd Infantry - William Keithan, Jr.
3rd BN-232nd Infantry-James Pettus, Jr.
HQS. Co-232nd Infantry - Robert Custer
232nd Cannon Co. - Robert Hyde
242nd Infantry - (1.) Norman Thompson
(2.) Ted Simonson
(3.) James R. Warren
(4.) Tom O'Neill
Co. H-242nd Infantry - Paul Ross
Artillery - Joseph Smith

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Ralph Rundquist	William Clayton
Charles Ferranti	Thomas Heaton
Joseph Heelan	Vincent Klos
William Magrillo	Robert Martinson
Phil Oberkiser	Leon Praytor
Jay Price	John McCormack
Don Samolinski	William Shurtleff
Norman Usher	

St. Avold Cemetery



Rainbowers at Arc De Triumph



Letter From A Student and A Rainbowman's Reply

Dear Mr. Hihn,

My name is Kelly Menon. I am an eighth grade student in Troy, Ohio. My reading class has just finished the play The Diary of Anne Frank. Of course it would be impossible to understand the play if we didn't have the necessary background information on WWII. As we studied the war and read the play, it became obvious to us that our present society would be very different today if Hitler had won the war.

I am thankful for the freedom you and your comrades won for my generation. Even though I do not know you, I am grateful I have been given your name so that I can write and thank you.

I would also appreciate it if you could write me back so that I can learn more about you and what you did in the war.

Thank you again for serving our country.

Sincerely,
Kelly Menon

Dear Kelly,

First of all let me thank you for your interest. I was very pleased that you wrote and I wonder where you obtained my name. I would be interested in knowing.

I grew up in Baltimore, Maryland and in 1943 at age 19 was inducted in the Army at Fort Meade, Maryland following the Japanese attack on Pearl harbor. I was sent to Camp Crowder, MO., for basic training and then attended the Signal Corps training center there. From there a number of us were transferred into the Army's Specialized Training Program at the University of Denver. After several months at that location the program was closed due to political pressure and we were transferred to Camp Gruber, OK. Camp Gruber was the base of the 42nd Infantry Division which was also known as The Rainbow Division. I was now a rifleman in E company. Later I was transferred to headquarters Company 222nd Infantry Regiment as a wireman since I had worked for the telephone company before going in the Army. Wiremen were responsible for establishing and maintaining telephone communication between command headquarters and the battlefield.

In the Fall of 1944, the three infantry regiments attached to the 42nd Infantry Division were designated as Task Force Linden and sent expeditiously to Europe because of the worsening battle situation. We embarked at Camp Kilmer NJ., and landed at Marsille, France. We moved up the Rhone River Valley and were committed to battle near Strasburg in Alsace Lorraine and shortly became involved in the Second Battle of the Bulge as a result of an offensive operation by the German army which was called Operation Nordwind. We suffered many casualties at this time and were forced to retreat to a new defense line on the South bank of the Moder

river. This was a terrible time for us. The weather was very bad with extreme cold and heavy snow. The roads were icy and we lacked adequate cold weather clothing. However, the German attack was contained at that point and we were sent back in reserve to get replacements and were also rejoined with the other elements of the 42nd Division.

Following a brief rest we were back on the line and on the attack. We fought our way through the Siegfried line, across the Rhine river and into Germany. We advanced through Wurzburg, Furth, Nuremburg, and to Munich. Outside Munich was a town named Dachau. This was the site of a Nazi concentration camp with thousands of starving prisoners, hundreds of dead and a railroad siding with railcars full of the dead. Only one person was found still alive in all of those cars. This is something none of us there will ever forget. The war in Europe ended not long after that. We were sent to the Inn river valley near Innsbruck, Austria for a few weeks and then to Salzburg (famous for Mozart and his music). For a while we lived in the castle at Anif which is the castle in the small lake that appears in the initial frames of the movie "The Sound of Music." Our next assignment was to represent the United States as one of the Four Powers to occupy Vienna, Austria. I stayed in Vienna until the Spring of 1946. I had been very lucky not to have been wounded or killed in action as happened to a number of my comrades. In recognition of my service I am entitled to wear the European Theater Ribbon with 3 Battle Stars, the Combat Infantryman Badge and was awarded a Bronze Star medal. When I accumulated enough points to be sent home I was transferred to a Combat Engineer Battalion. We were loaded in railroad boxcars and spent 5 days in transit to LeHarve, France. There we were processed for return to the United States. We shipped out on a small cargo vessel, St. Albans Victory, to New York and Camp Kilmer (named for Joyce Kilmer who wrote the famous poem "Trees" and was killed during World War I) NJ. I was discharged at Fort Meade a week or so later. I had been away from home, relatives and friends for over 3 years and was mighty glad to be out of the Army and back in the USA. What a great feeling! As the years go back and I look upon the part I played in the War my conviction is that the sacrifices I endured were less than many but a lot more than most that were in the military services. The real heroes are in the graves along with the badly disabled which may still survive among us. These are the ones that gave the most so we can continue to live in freedom today.

I hope you find this of interest to you and your classmates. If you would like to find out more about what we did, how we lived and what we saw, please let me know. You can write, telephone (410) 592-7911 or my E-Mail address is Stu_Hihn@prodigy.com

Sincerely,
C. Stewart Hihn

The Combat Infantryman

What is a Combat Infantryman? He is almost always afraid because a few miles away an enemy artilleryman he can't see is about to kill him, or just the other side of a hedgerow, another enemy infantryman he doesn't know is going to try and kill him before he can kill the enemy. There is always the thought that even before he makes contact with the enemy, he might step on a mine and blow his legs off, finally, because of the way he sees other infantrymen become a casualty. he decides to employ all that he has learned in training, and even then, if his number comes, up, he will become a casualty.

He is always too cold or too hot; it is raining or snowing; his throat is parched with thirst. He is always tired and has the runs and his feet are sore. He is dirty and itchy, and his pack, rifle and ammunition chafe and bend his neck. his hands are always sore, either from the weather, blistered from digging, cutting them on a ration can, or burning them in the fire or Coleman stove. he has no privacy, he can't stay clean, so he doesn't worry about dirt. Getting hurt is something that happens constantly. He sprains an ankle, smashes a thumb in the bolt of his rifle, chips a tooth, gets frostbitten, or has a scratch or cut become infected. None of these qualify for evacuation, so he stays on the line. No fresh fruit, no milk, no bread, no liquor.

Casualties are predictable. The soldiers he has trained with and consider him "family", are killed. The new replacement is evacuated before becoming known by name. Medics work overtime striving to lessen suffering but they, too, become prime candidates for a similar fate. No time clock to punch. Days without washing, changing clothes, living in a hole or bunker, pirating sleep when he can. His face becomes pitted with pustules, eyes are bloodshot from candle smoke and twitching from nerves and fatigue. No one remarks how he smells because everyone stinks.

He tries to keep it hanging together when his friend is killed or loses an eye or hand and tries to forget what dead men look like hanging on barbed wire. he knows that a dead man is easier to carry than one who is wounded because he can set the dead man down while he rests.

He tries very hard to do his job because there are good men around him and it is a great country he is fighting for, and because he has pride. He is bound by duty, honor, country. This is how a combat infantryman lives.....and dies.

Mid-Year Air Line Arrangements

An agreement has been reached between Southwest Airlines and 42nd Rainbow Division veterans flying into Phoenix and back, between Feb. 7-18, 1999, for the Mid-Year Reunion. Identifier code E5219. Reservations must be made through Southwest Airlines Group and Meeting Desk at 1-800-433-5368-Mon.-Fri.-8:00am-5:00pm and Sat.-8:30am-5:30pm. RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE by no later than 5 days prior to first day of travel. Tickets may also be purchased through authorized travel agencies. Travel agents should follow the same above procedure as to phone number and identifier code. A 10% discount is offered on Southwest's already low fares.

Kriegsgefangen (Prisoner of War)

Charles W. Behm-Company H-242nd Inf.

After enlisting in the Army Air Corps in 1942, I was sent to Lowry Field as a student in armament school. Upon graduation I was kept at Lowry as an instructor and given a sergeant rating. I applied for ASTP and went to Denver University for a course in engineering. Suddenly, the ASTP program was closed, and I was sent as a private to Camp Gruber, Oklahoma, where I was placed in Company H, 242nd Infantry. In November of 1944, the three infantry units, without supporting troops, were shipped to France. We left Camp Gruber, arrived at Camp Kilmer, N.J., and went aboard the troopship "Henry Kaiser" November 25th, landing in marseilles on December 8th. We were known as "Task Force Linden." Without our artillery, we boarded trucks and traveled north, and arrived near Strasbourg, in a small village, where we spent Christmas. After Christmas, we were moved out to a hill facing the Rhine, dug foxholes, and told to stop any German attack. We had only small carbines, besides our heavy M.G.S and mortars, and our jeeps had 50 cal., M.G.S. We wondered how we were to stop tanks. It was very cold and we had to keep moving to keep from freezing. The Germans did not appear, so we moved back to our starting point. On the eventful 5th day of January, we were ordered out to attack the town of Gambenheim. We were told that although the Germans had crossed the Rhine, they were in very small numbers and could easily be routed. Lt. Streeter and I were in the front jeep, and when we reached the edge of some woods (Stainwald), I was told to get out and see that the following jeeps were dispersed. Soon we were across the bridge and saw a number of German tanks, blending in with snow. They were in a circle around us and they opened fire at once. We also received fire from German infantry. I dove into a nearby ditch and hugged the ground as shells burst and bodies seemed to fly in the air. Lt. Streeter tried to fire the mounted 50 caliber gun. I, later, saw him lying across the jeep with his head blown off. As the fire slowed, I attempted to crawl away from the action. I met some others, and we decided to go together. As we attempted to leave the ditch, we saw a line of German soldiers with rifles pointed at us. We had no choice, so we broke our carbines, and put our hands up. They marched us back to where our jeeps sat. It was a terrible sight. Those not fortunate enough to get away, were killed or taken prisoner. We were lined up and we thought they were going to kill us, too. However, they needed stretcher bearers to carry their wounded, so we were pressed into service. We marched to a small village where their medics were: Then we were put into a basement of a building. We were very cold and shocked, and wondering about

our fate. I was brought upstairs to meet a German officer. He asked me to sit, offered me coffee, and spoke perfect English. He said he had a cousin in Chicago whom he had once visited. He wanted information about our company, division, etc. When I just gave him my serial number and rank, I was taken back to the basement.

The next day we were marched through the Black Forest. It was very cold and our feet felt frozen, and we had no food. We marched through several small villages, and the people came out and shouted at us. They threw rocks and spit at us, calling us murderers. Soon, we came to Stuttgart, a large city, and were told to lay down on straw floors in some stables. They gave us some food, and took all our watches, rings, and personal items. We were then loaded into boxcars and they put so many of us in that there was no room to sit down. The conditions were terrible...no food, no water, no toilets. They would move the boxcars at night, and make us sit in the railyards during the day. Allied bombers hit the trains one day and the boxcar next to us was blown up. From Frankfurt we traveled north past Leipzig to Muhlburg on the Elbe, where we were placed in Stalag 4B. We arrived at night and those who could, came out of the boxcars: some died on the way. We were told to remove our clothes, take cold showers, put back our clothes, and go to the barracks. There we were left to find a place to lay on the floor. There were British prisoners there who had been there for a long time and they were very well organized. In the morning we went out for roll call, and we got a piece of black bread and a bowl of some sort of hot soup (mostly water with some greens in it). This was our daily procedure...every morning some could not rise for roll call and were carried outside to die, mostly from the cold and lack of food. I was very lucky, having been in the army two years prior to going overseas and had built up my body.

The days, weeks, and months went by. We were all lousy...little bugs biting us. The latrines were so full, we could not sit on the seats, but had to crouch over them. The Polish prisoners had the job of cleaning out the latrines. The camp guards were either old men or young kids...they seemed to want the war over - they had lost too much and had no desire to keep on fighting. At night, we laid on the floors and talked about home...our families, supermarkets, food. We wanted to survive and get home. At night we could hear our bombers hitting Leipzig and Berlin. We would cheer them on...it made us feel that the army was not far away and gave us hope to build on. Some Red Cross parcels made it to our camp and we would all share, finally, spring came and warmer weather made it possible for us to go outside and exercise. We all looked like bums; bodies full of lice, worn out, beards and lost weight caused this appearance. I went from 180 lbs., down to 95 lbs. We borrowed clothes from those who died.

One morning in May, we awoke for a

roll call and there were no guards - we could see none. Slowly, we came out of the barracks...what was happening? Then we saw the guards hanging from the gates, tied by their feet, and Russian soldiers riding horses and slashing at the guard's bodies. As we came out, the Russians said, "You are free to go." The Russians had taken over the camp...where was the U.S. Army? The Russians had women nurses who tended to the real sick prisoners: They offered to take us to their medical camp (we later learned that they received payment from the Americans for feeding and clothing us.) We just wanted to go home...they told us where the American lines were. Every Russian soldier we saw was a small, stocky man from rural areas. They slapped us on the back and said we were allies. We walked down the road to the nearest farmhouse and found the occupants had been shot and killed by the Russians. We found food in the cellar but it was too rich for our stomachs...we lost it all and came down with dysentery. At every farm we passed, if the people were still alive, they begged us to stay and save them from the Russians. We would rest in their barns...the Russians would come by and tell us that we were the victors...force us to sleep in the house and the Germans to sleep in the barn. As long as Americans were there, the Russians would not kill the Germans. The same people who had spit and threw stones now pleaded for our protection.

But we kept walking until we reached a bridge at the Elbe...the M.P.'s would not let us cross...we looked terrible. No dog tags, and bearded with dirty clothes - we could have been Germans trying to cross over. After answering questions such as "Who are the Dodgers?" "Where is Chicago?" "Who is the president?" We convinced them that we were Americans. We crossed the bridge: They removed our clothes, deloused us, gave us showers, shavers, G.I. uniforms, and had us report to a team of officers. We contacted the Red Cross and got a message home to our wives and families. My wife had received a telegram from General Collins stating that I was missing in action and she hadn't heard anymore.

After we were checked out, we were fed food such as eggmalts, boneless chicken etc., to fatten us up. They flew us to LeHavre in transport planes. We were given the choice of visiting England or shipping home. I said I wanted to go home right away. We were put on the "Admiral Nelson" and in five days were back in New York. I had volunteered to work in the galley as I was still hungry. The Andrew sisters and the Red Cross met our ship. We were given a month's furlough and boarded a train for home.

This is the best I can do as far as remembering - it was over fifty years ago and my memory is not so good these days. I thank God for bringing me home safe. I have joined the Ex-POW Local Chapter and I find fellow soldiers that also lived through it.

"Rainbow is recognized by Oklahoma House and Senate

April 1, 1998

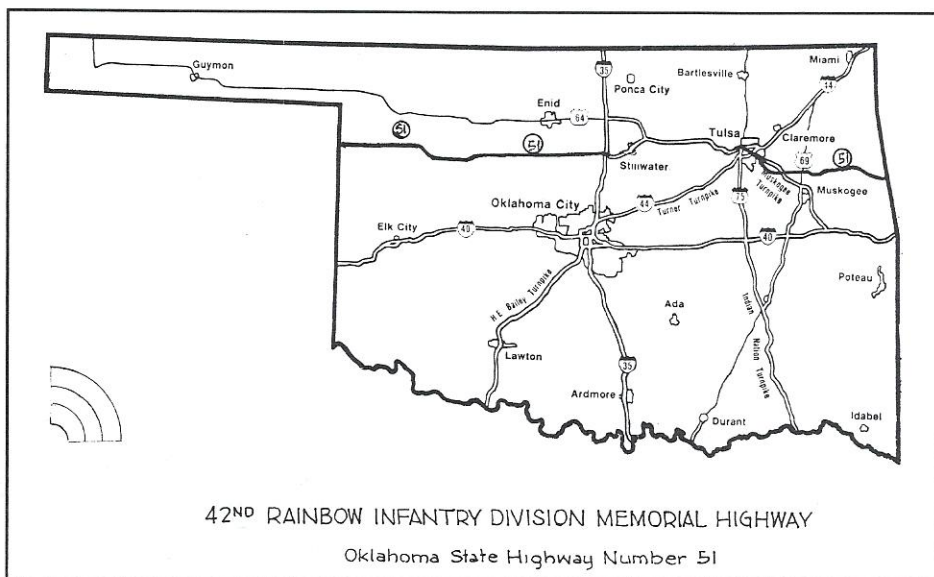
The Oklahoma House of Representatives and Oklahoma Senate voted to recognize State Highway 51 as "42nd 'Rainbow' Infantry Division Memorial Highway".

Standing behind Oklahoma Governor Frank Keating, from left to right, are: Senator Owen Laughlin, Jack E. Westbrook, William A. Veitch and Representative Hopper Smith. Bill Veitch and Jack Westbrook were members of the "Rainbow" Division during World War II, and, are members of "Rainbow" Veterans Association.

The signing of the Act took place in the Blue Room of the Oklahoma State Capitol in Oklahoma City, OK.



42nd Rainbow Infantry Division Memorial Highway



Letter to Jack Westbrook

<p>Hopper Smith State Representative District 57</p> <p>2300 N. Lincoln, Room 301 State Capitol Building Oklahoma City, OK 73105-4895 Office: (405) 557-7341</p> <p>Tulsa Address: 9923 S. Gore Avenue Tulsa, Oklahoma 74137 (918) 492-6071</p>	<p>COMMITTEES:</p> <p>Energy, Environment & Natural Resources Public Health Science & Technology Tourism & Recreation</p>
<p>House of Representatives STATE OF OKLAHOMA</p>	
<p>May 29, 1998</p>	
<p>Mr. Jack E. Westbrook 6626 S. 76th East Avenue Tulsa, OK 74133</p>	
<p>Dear Jack:</p>	
<p>Thanks again for all your help in getting HB 2259 passed. Although this recognition is inadequate compared to the gift of freedom made possible by the 42nd Infantry Division and others like it, I am hopeful it will lighten the "Spirit of the Rainbow."</p>	
<p>Enclosed are pictures taken during the bill signing and your visit to the State Capitol. Please accept my sincere gratitude and appreciation on behalf of the State of Oklahoma, for the sacrifices of lives and privations made by Oklahoma's Sons during World War I and World War II.</p>	
<p>Sincerely, <i>Hopper Smith</i> Hopper Smith State Representative</p>	
<p>HS:dt Enclosures: pictures</p>	

MO-Kan Wreath Laying



Members of MO-Kan Chapter of RDVA and auxiliary members laid a wreath at the Rosedale Memorial Arch this past Memorial weekend. They were accompanied by an honor guard of Eagle Scouts (grandsons of MO-Kan members). The wreath was presented as a prayer was said and taps was played in memory of our fallen comrades.

The Rosedale Arch is a replica of the Arch Triumph and is one of the Rainbow Division Memorials.

Left to right: Carl Phillips - Henry Barbosa - Gene Wopata - Herb Butt - Harold Cullum - Jerry Sirna - George Rhodes - Bob Wright - Don Borron - Ross DiSalve Troop #432

Jerry Sirna

New Jersey Chapter Meeting

The New Jersey Chapter will hold its Semi-Annual meeting on October 7-8-9, 1998 at the Port-o-Call Hotel, Ocean City, N.J. All Rainbowers and friends are invited. For more information call National President Dick Tisch at 201-635-2559 or National President Elect Harold Melinek at 908-604-9181.



Memorial foundation Report for September 1998 Reveille

Duluth Reunion

There were two general meetings of the trustees at the Duluth reunion, plus a meeting of the scholarship committee and a meeting of the ad hoc committee to revise the Constitution & Bylaws.

Scholarship Committee

The committee agreed on the following items. There were 10 second year scholarships not claimed this year. The money reserved for these scholarships was used to increase the number of first year scholarships awarded. This resulted in all qualified applicants receiving scholarships.

Second year scholarships will be eliminated in future years to permit an increased number of first year scholarships.

The scholarship application deadline will be moved to May 1 from the present date of May 13.

Only two letters of recommendation will be required instead of the present three. David Zoland and Joseph DeWitt were named as the 1998 Duhacsek \$1000 Scholarship awardees. David Ferraro and Daniel Johnson, who received first year Duhacsek scholarships, were awarded second year Duhacsek \$500 scholarships. There were 27 first year scholarships of \$500 awarded. These awardees are; Allison Braithwaite, Steven Dalton, Beth Dawson, James Eaton, Katherine Farley, Courtney Fuller, Bryant Gaither, Gretchen McNicol, Laura Melton, Joshua Nicholson, Matthew Pate, Amanda Parker, Elise Pech, Kelly Rice, Tana Retzlaff, Brennan Segraves, Jessica Sheffer, Kimberly Sisk, Mark Smith, Katherine Taylor, Joel Thompson, Rhonda Triplett, Joseph Twomey, Andrew Watts, Adam Winterberg, Brett Woodward, Christine Woodward.

scholarships of \$300 were awarded to Michael Fitzpatrick, Brooke Fuller, Edward Garlich, James Hemphill, Chad Kinsella, Melissa Kirkpatrick, Karla Krug, Jillian Lane, Carole Pommois, Todd Refling, Melissa Schwartz, David Segraves, Miranda Trammell, David Twiss, Andrea Usher, Kristina Watkins, Allyson Wilson.

The total expense of these scholarships is \$21,600.

Constitution & By-Laws

The ad hoc committee to recommend revisions to the Memorial Foundations Constitution & By-Laws made a number of suggested changes that were approved at the Foundation membership meeting. The most significant of these were: 1) Eligibility for Foundation membership of honorably discharged veterans and active duty personnel of the 42nd Infantry Division Mechanized. 2) Provision whereby the designation of "Honored Member" may be granted to those who have performed outstanding service to

Rainbow when appropriately sponsored and approved by the Board of Trustees, and 3) Provision whereby the Association's Permanent Honorary Presidents. General of the Army Douglas MacArthur, Major General Harry J. Collins, Brigadier General Henning Linden, and General Henri Gouraud, will, at the time of dissolution of the Association be memorialized as permanent Honorary Presidents of the Foundation.

The first officially approved "Honored Member" of the memorial Foundation is the eminent military historian and longtime friend of Rainbow, Mme. Lise Pommois.

Trustee Meetings

Harold Melinek & Barbara Eberhart have become ex officio Foundation members, as Association president-elect and Auxiliary first vice-president. Frances Hutnik was recommended by the Auxiliary to replace the late Myrtle Evanoff, and Ted Simonsen was nominated to replace Bill Keithan, who had resigned. Both were elected at the Foundation membership meeting.

Contributions to the Memorial Foundation, May, June & July Scholarship Operating Fund

In memory contributions: June Carlson, \$100-husband Dale; Mary A. Domaigne, \$50-George H. Domaigne; Rocking Chair Chap., \$50-Florence Johnson; Anonymous, \$500-Douglas MacArthur; 232nd Aux., \$10-Jack Refling; 232nd FA Bn., B Btry, \$70-Robert Mitchell; Tom Owen, \$40-Frank Sporer & Max Hunter.

Other contributions; Mrs. Carl Segraves, \$100; George A. Jackson, Jr., \$500; Vincent Compo, \$500; 242nd Aux., \$200; Donald Schaezle, \$222; PNW Chapter, \$300; 232nd Aux., \$1,000.

Scholarship Endowment Fund - "500 Club"

Stanley Hasterlo, \$100; Sidney Singer, \$100; Jack Masters, \$100; Ruby & Wm. Miller, \$400; James Pettus, \$500; Walter & Elinor Peirce & Susan Gallagher, \$1,500; Loretta Schneider, \$200; John Keyser, \$100; Wilford Shurtleff, \$100; Carlton Johnson, \$100 (contributions from Jack, Bill & Carl are in memory

of Joe Bridgers); Herb & Nan Klinedinst, \$100 (in memory of Jack Refling); Dr. Samuel Kelly, \$100; Richard Tisch, \$100; Harvey Snapp, \$50.

Other Scholarship Endowment Fund Contributions

In memory contributions; Forest Scott, \$25-Rinaldo Purceli; M/M Danny Diaz, \$25-Joseph Bridgers; Rosemary Sweigart, \$12.50-Myrtle Evanoff; Ted & Shirley Johnson, \$50-Jack Refling, \$50-Myrtle Evanoff.

Other contributions; Artillery Chap., \$300; 222nd Aux., \$175.94; Charlotte mid-year reunion donation, \$500; Ivan & Myrtle Wallace, \$50.

Foundation Endowment Fund, "500 Club"

Field Art. Aux., \$500; Charles Fowler, \$200; Harvey Snapp, \$50.

Foundation Endowment Fund

In memory contributions; 2nd Bn, 232nd Inf., \$25-John Cardillo; Paul Graham, \$50-Glen Domino & James Campbell, Edward Schweigert, \$10-David Strum; C.C. Elder, \$100-Joe Bridgers; The following are in memory of Myrtle Evanoff; Gil Koehler, \$10; Murphy Insurance Co. \$30; Clyde & Donna Haines, \$25; James & Loretta Gallea, \$25; Phil & Margie Hajen, \$25; David & Victor Engstrom, \$20; Mary Walker, \$20; Ronald Grothe, \$20; James Sondberg, \$20; Maxine Winge, \$20; James Sandberg, \$20; Willard & Adrienne Nelson, \$15; Richard & Elizabeth Anderson, \$10; Leslie Sonnebend, \$10; Francis Krueger, \$10; Dale Kleven, \$10; Odean Nelson, \$10; Paul & Owen Frosig, \$10; Florian & Mary Jo Sterner, \$10; Kathryn Sylvester, \$5; M/M Milburn Swenson, \$5; Miscellaneous Memorials, \$798; Rosemary Schweigert, \$12.50; Ivan & Myrtle Wallace, \$25.

Other contributions; 222d Aux., \$175.94; Richard Free, \$50.

Foundation Operating Fund

Col. Leonard Morley, in memory of Dale Carlson, \$25; Jacob Kizirian, in memory of Myrtle Evanoff, \$100; PNW Aux., \$200; Kurt Harbott, \$1,000. ("500 Club" contributions should be sent to Beverly Koehrer, 1269 Manhattan Dr., Tempe, AZ 85282).

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SUELLEN R MCDANIEL
1400 KNOLLS DR
NEWTON NC 286589452

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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