



Vol. LXXVII

April, 1999

No. 4

Rainbow On-Line: www.rainbowvets.org

A Very Enjoyable Mid-Year

The mid-year reunion was held on February 11-13, at Dobson's Ranch Inn in Mesa, Arizona. The weather was particularly delightful especially to those coming from cold and snowy areas. We had a turnout of approximately 156 Rainbowers who were not disappointed at the affair. Gil and Beverly Koehler put on their usual fine reunion, their fifth of such. Many enjoyed the early bird party and the delights of the hospitality room. There was a lot to do for those constrained to necessary business affairs. One treat was a trip to hear the largest Wurlitzer organ in the world and several trips to nearby casinos where some were lucky and some not so

lucky. There was plenty of time for socializing.

An enjoyable luncheon was provided and the banquet likewise was pleasing. Principal VIPS at the banquet head table were Reverend Ray and Grace Willemssen, Auxiliary President Delores Kalleher, Redcap and 222nd President Clarence Griffith, President Dick and Roseanne Tisch, Gil and Beverly Koehler, and President Elect Harold Melinek. After the banquet, festivities continued in the hospitality room far into the night. Fond farewells were taken as we promised to meet, God willing, again in Charlotte.

Day For A Knight France Bestows High Military Honor on WWI Rainbow Veteran

Irvin Schaeffer, 101, is the only surviving member of his company. He received his medal thousands of miles from the scene of battle, and 80 years later. He received the Knight of the Legion of Honor from Daniele L. Thomas Easton, Honorary French Consulate to Philadelphia. French President Jaques Chirac awarded his nation's highest military honor to all surviving allied soldiers to mark the 80th anniversary of Armistice Day Nov. 11.

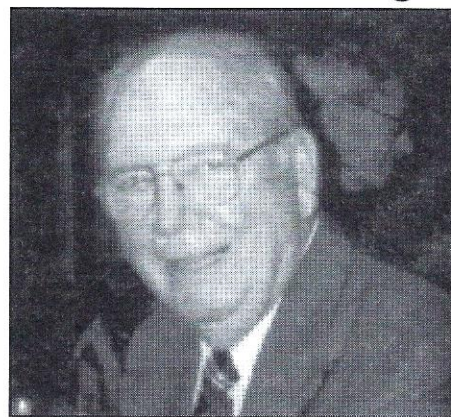


World War I veteran Irvin L. Schaeffer, above, received the "Knight of the National Order of the Legion of Honor" medal from Daniele L. Thomas Easton, honorary French consulate to Philadelphia, during a ceremony Friday in the Lutheran Home at Tipton.

In 1917, Irvin Schaeffer, a strapping 19 year old, enlisted in the National Guard in Reading, so he could be with his best friend, Carson Stover. They were assigned to Co. I, 4th Infantry Regiment which became part of the 42nd Division and was named the 150th Machine Gun Bn. during WWI. Eighty years later, the French Government is saying Merci Beaucoup by giving him the Legion of Honor. Schaeffer received his medal at the Henry Health Care Center where he resides.

Although Schaeffer can no longer walk, and is barely able to hear and see, he remembers the war, his encounters with German Troops and his role with the National Guard. He considered the other men in this company a surrogate family, so when he was gassed and hospitalized, Schaeffer went out of his way to return to his group. In the field hospital he realized he was to be transferred to another hospital in Paris. So he removed his tags, tied it to the buttons of the soldier next to him, and took that soldier's tags. The next morning he made it back to Company I.

President's Message



Our President - 1945

The February mid-year in Mesa was well-attended this year with over 160 men and women. Gil and Beverly Koehler did their usual fine job hosting a grand affair in spite of both of them having a painful physical problem. The food was exceptional for both the luncheon and Saturday banquet. My thanks to them and all those who helped to make it a memorable mid-year.

There was a full agenda of meetings. The RDVMF had three: C/Bylaws; Scholarships; and Board of Trustees.

The 13 PNPs present had two meetings prior to the executive committee meeting which went the full three hours. The results hopefully will assuage those who are fearful of the unknown. There were 41 members of the executive committee present.

PNP Vern Smith sent me a preliminary plan (copy to Ted Johnson) to consolidate some meetings and perhaps eliminate the initial business meeting. The idea being for officers and committee personnel to have more time for tours or Rainbow fellowship. We had planned to have him discuss it at the PNP's meeting, but they were so involved with other issues, that he never had the opportunity. I think his concept is very good and I have asked him to review and refine his plan for Charlotte. He has graciously agreed to do so.

The last time the national reunion date was reviewed for possible change was in 1992. PNP Hugo Grimm chaired the committee. I believe the deciding factor was that we still had a few WWI vets attending the national, so July

continued on pg 7

**CUT-OFF-DATE
NEXT ISSUE
May 1, 1999**

THE RAINBOW REVELLE

Official Publication of the
RAINBOW Division Veterans

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THE RAINBOW REVELLE

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SEND DUES' REMITTANCE SHEETS AND

MEMORIAL FORMS TO: Herb Butt, 16916 Geo.
Franklyn Drive, Independence, MO 64055
Subscription \$10.00

Chaplain's Prayer for Reveille

*Lord, make us instruments of your peace
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is discord, union;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy;
Grant that we may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
And it is in dying that we are born
to eternal life. Amen.*

Chap (Col.) Norman P. Forde
ret. RDVA Chaplain.

**Recommended For Every
Rainbow Book Shelf****Dachau-29th April, 1945 -
Rainbow Liberation Memoirs**

Edited by Sam Dann.

The book "29th April, 1945" is heartily
recommended. 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 is \$29.95 plus \$4.00 for the first
title, \$.75 each additional title. Texas resi-
dents add 7.875% sales tax.

The Deadly Brotherhood

By James McManus.

Can be ordered at any bookstore or
Presidido press.

**Surrender of the Dachau
Concentration Camp**

By Col. John Linden, U.S.A. (Ret.)

There have been numerous publica-
tions reporting in some detail on the sur-
render/liberation of the infamous Dachau
Concentration Camp. Unfortunately, in
many instances, those publications con-
tained erroneous information because the
authors failed to properly research that
about which they wrote.

To set the record straight for future
researchers on the subject of which U.S.
Army unit liberated the camp and to whom
the camp was surrendered, an extensive
search of Primary Source Official U.S.
Army Documents was conducted during
the period 1988-1998.

Anyone interested in knowing the
results, may order the book "Surrender
of the Dachau Concentration Camp 29
April. 45 - The True Account" by Col.
John Linden, U.S.A. (Ret.) for \$25.00 plus
\$4.85 S&H. You may pay by Visa, Mastercard,
check or money order. Mail to Sycamore
Press Ltd., P.O. Box 5263, 780 Elm Grove Rd.,
Elm Grove, WI. 53122.

(Completely compatible with Sam Dann's
book. Each supplements the other.)

**"The Final Crisis"
Combat in Northern Alsace
January 1945**

This book, by the late Dick Engler
(F Co./222nd Infantry/42nd Rainbow
Division) is the product of meticulous
research and tells in great detail the
untold story (in spite of all the memoirs
produced by the commanders of that era
and the historical tomes turned out by
their more literate staffmen and acade-
micians) of the 7th Army and Task Force
Linden in their unheralded magnificent
defense of Northern Alsace in what was
Hitler's last offensive of the war code
named "Operation Nordwind". Dick
served as a teenaged rifleman in his
infantry company and later also served
in Korea. He felt that he had a worthy
contribution to make to tell the story of
our generation in the end game of World
War II.

The battle for 28 days in the month of
January, 1945 was fought in the worst
weather conditions of snow, sleet and
below zero conditions experienced in
the last 40 years in Europe.

Worn, overworked and understrength
Infantry Divisions were called upon for
further sacrifices and green half trained
infantry task forces were thrown into the
maelstrom without artillery or other sup-
porting units. Crucial encounters from
the low vosges to the Alsatian plain are
dealt with at length and Rainbow battles
are faithfully biographed: Gamsheim,
Kilstett, Weyersheim, Offendorf,
Druseheim, Herrlisheim, Soultz-Forêt,
Sessenheim, Hatten, Rittershoffen,
Kaltenhouse, Neubourg, Schweighausen,
and the climactic battle of Ohlungen
Forest are depicted in stark detail.

A book that can be passed on to future
generations so the trials and great sacri-
fices in the cause for freedom are indeli-
bly etched in the written word. This
book should grace every Rainbower's
bookshelf.

You may order the book for \$29.95
plus \$4.00 shipping and handling, total
of (\$33.95). Make checks payable to
Aegis Consulting Group and note that
your order is for "The Final Crisis".
Mail to Aegis Consulting Group, P.O.
Box 51022, Ft. Monroe, VA 23651; Tel.
757-851-2777; Fax 757-851-9554, E-mail:
kebonn@norfolk.infi.net

Excerpt from "The Final Crisis"

Clashes of armor on the plain had left
steel hulks, from both sides, littering the
landscape like cattle caught in a killing
blizzard, villages at the vortex of
armored tornadoes had become rubble
ghost towns. And over wide stretches of
forested mountains, the trees had been
reduced to stubble a few feet high.
Alsace, the frontline province, was suffer-
ing. Now the snows came again, mercif-
ul, perhaps, in covering the recent
depredations of men and their machines
of destruction: but chilling and depress-
ing to soldiers and civilians alike who
had to endure the elements as well as
the fires of war.

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/night for single or double occupancy (either a king bed or two double beds). If you want a room for three persons the rate will be \$95.00/night and for four persons it will be \$105.00/night. There is a 12% tax. Special requests can be made for a wheelchair accessible room or a crib (no charge). 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.

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.

There are several fine dining spots located in the hotel - one (Applebee's) for a quick snack as well as a meal if you wear your RDVA name tag, you will get a 10% discount in price. Continental breakfast is served in the hotel lobby at reasonable prices. During lunch a pasta bar is located in the hotel lobby. Dinner meals can be enjoyed at Applebee's or the Bravo Ristorante.

Room Registration: If you are unable to get a room for Saturday night, call the Adams Mark on June 10th after 5 p.m. As another block of rooms become available then. Another alternative exists a hundred yards or so from the Adams Mark - Four Points Sheraton - ask the Adams Mark for the Sheraton phone number. The rates are higher there - \$89.00/ single/double: \$99.00 for three/night and \$109.00 for four/night.

Remember Charlie Paine's Phone number: 1-910-215-0357.

Notes From Chairman Charlie Paine

Many errors were made on tour information, but things are now corrected. Some of the corrections are:

1. On the front page where tours are described under Wednesday 2-5 p.m., the cost for a day with the Queen is \$21.00 **ONLY**.

2. On the coupon page, the top right tour - Wednesday 2-5 p.m. the cost is \$21.00.
3. Also, the next coupon down - The Antique/Boutique Tour on Wednesday, July 7, 2-5 p.m. is **ONLY** \$23.00

Further Comments:

1. The Blue Moon Dinner Cruise must have a minimum of 135 people and a maximum of 150. So sign up quickly.
2. Ad prices are per person per tour.
3. Tours not meeting minimum 30 days ahead of the reunion will be cancelled and you will receive a refund.
4. Checks and coupons to Charlotte Arrangements are the only way to schedule the tour. **NO CREDIT CARDS!!**

Charlotte Arrangements - 130-D N. McDowell St., Charlotte, NC 28204. Tel. (704) 332-8445.

Tri-State Reunion Iowa-Minnesota-Wisconsin April 29-30 & May 1, 1999

The Tri-State Reunion, hosted by the Minnesota Chapter and Auxiliary will be held April 29-30 and May 1, 1999 at the Days Inn Airport by the Mall of America. The Inn is located at 1901 Killebrew Drive, Bloomington, MN 55425. For room reservations call: 1-612-854-8400. One bed \$62.00 - two beds \$72.00, plus 12% tax. Complimentary shuttle to and from the airport. Individual reservations must be received by April 9, 1999. You are encouraged to make reservations early: You can always cancel if need be. Registration is very reasonable; \$15.00 in advance and \$20.00 at the door. Included is a dinner Friday evening; breakfast Saturday morning; Twin City Tour; bus to Casino and Banquet. Entertainment all three nights. Shopping across the street at the largest mall in America shuttle bus to and from the mall.

This may be the last fling for the Tri-State. Our ranks are getting thin. We realize that there are many Rainbow Friends that can not attend national reunions due to health, finances or long distance travel. Tri-State may give you the opportunity to see that Old Foxhole Buddy of yours that you have not seen for many years. We are looking forward to seeing a nice turnout of the Tri-State area people. Low registration should be a great motivator.

Send your advance registration to:

Vassil J. "Rube" Evanoff
5101 West 109th Street
Bloomington, MN 55437-3320

To All Rainbowers

It's 0600 the 1st Sgt. just turned the lights on in the barracks and bellowed "Grab Your Socks". It's going to be a blast for the next 2 N.J. Reunions. Just ask a member who has been there, and he will tell you what you have been missing.

Please mark your calendar with the dates of May 5-6-7 and Oct. 9-10-11, 1999.

We have a very active chapter with a paid up membership of over 60 Rainbowers. The Ladies Auxiliary is about 30 members strong and what a job they are doing.

The May meeting will be held at the beautiful Port-O-Call Hotel, Ocean City, New Jersey.

The October meeting will be at the Valley Forge Marriott Suites in Wayne, Pennsylvania.

So again circle the dates of May 5-6-7, and October 9-10-11, 1999.

We are looking forward to seeing you all there. Please tell other Rainbowers and friends. Tel. 215-234-4898 or 908-604-9181.

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.

Researcher Needs Help

Robert W. Kenny is a military researcher at Brown University. He presently is writing about the town of St. Johan, liberated by Rainbow Troops. He would like to know what units were involved as well as any eyewitness account or general knowledge about "The Kaserne at St. Johan."

You may reach Bob at: 67 Taber Ave., Providence, Rhode Island 02906-4127, Phone 401-831-3487.

Rainbower Seeks Gruber Album

Floyd H. Ellis served as a Tech. Sgt. in Co. F, 232nd Infantry with Task Force Linden. He was wounded at Wurzburg and never returned to the division. He missed any chance to get the Gruber Album and would like to have a copy. Any help or suggestions would be greatly appreciated.

Floyd H. Ellis
308 Castle Lane
St. Joseph, IL 61873-9313
Phone: 217-469-7607

Congratulations Hugo and Oriana!

We wish to extend our heartiest Congratulations to PNP Hugo and PNAP Oriana Grimm who celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on March 6, 1999. We wish them many more!

He Knows All About Those Military "Surgical Strikes"

(Dick Dougherty -

Rochester Democrat Chronicle.)

Whenever I see the adjective "Surgical" or "Pinpoint" next to the word "Bombing", I wince. Despite the ballyhoo about military technology, I regard bombs and shells as blunt instruments unsuited for surgical procedures. I would not want a bomb used to remove my prostate, for example.

I know a little about "Surgical" strikes from my brief career as a Field Artillery Survey Officer at Camp Gruber in Muskogee, Oklahoma in 1943. Between world wars, the army had come up with a technological breakthrough. Instead of guessing the distance and direction from guns to target and lobbing up a test shell or two, why not run a survey and construct a true firing chart? Ingenious!

Having recently lost my draft deferment by flunking out of engineering school, and the army being the army, I was the obvious choice to run a demonstration project. One day, our survey completed, I took my post on a hillside command post and explained the basic geometry to a less than rapt audience, including two generals, sitting in bleachers. On the vacant plain below us was the target, a huge pile of car bodies. Surrounding it was a flat, featureless, empty landscape. I explained that, at my command, shells would whistle overhead and vaporize the target.

With a flourish I later regretted, I cranked the phone and barked the command to "Fire For Effect". Four shells from the 105MM Howitzer Battery miles behind us whistled overhead. Fifty binoculars were raised simultaneously. The towering target stood there, majestically, totally unmolested! On the empty plain there was no sign of smoke anywhere. No Muffled Boom! Nothing! I got on the phone and ordered a recheck of the plotting and gun and fuse settings. Then we tried again. Same result. Nothing!

As the bleachers erupted in uncontrolled, hooting laughter, the Division Artillery Commander, a Colonel, said "Well, I guess it's back to the drawing board, Lieutenant." Colonels always get the best lines. Mine was a simple "Yes sir."

And that's how I came to be so promptly shipped overseas as an artillery forward observer, a pedestrian walking along with the infantry, instead of directing a team of surveyors behind the lines.

And that's why I say don't talk to me about modern technology. Those shells are still up there somewhere. I'm sure of it.

The Tomb of the Unknowns

The Tomb of the Unknown stands atop a grassy hill at Arlington National Cemetery as the nation's most revered shrine to American Military Service. The gleaming white monument is dedicated to the countless anonymous soldiers who gave their lives for our country's freedom. The First Unknown Soldier was interred on Armistice Day, November 11, 1921. Unknown Soldiers from World War II and Korea were buried simultaneously on Memorial Day, 1958, in two identical crypts flanking the Unknown Soldier of World War II.

Congress authorized the entombment of an unknown from the Vietnam conflict in 1973. It was not until 10 years later that one body was certified unidentifiable, entombment took place on Memorial Day, 1984. On June 29, 1998, DNA tests identified this soldier. His remains were removed and presented to his family. The Vietnam crypt remains empty in the event that another unknown is discovered in the future.

The Tomb is guarded every hour of every day by an Honor Guard established in 1937. The 3rd U.S. Infantry, known as "The Old Guard" has been protecting the Tomb since 1948. Duty is voluntary and sentinels may leave to return to their companies at any time. Most view the duty as the highlight of their military careers.

The Sentinel's Creed

My dedication to this sacred duty

Is total and wholehearted

In the responsibility bestowed on me

Never will I falter

And with dignity and perseverance

My standard will remain perfection

Through the years of diligence and
praise

And the discomfort of the elements

I will walk in my tour in humble

Reverence to the best of my ability

It is he who commands the

Respect I protect

His bravery that made us so proud

Surrounded by well meaning crowds
by day

Alone in the thoughtful peace of night

This Soldier will in honored
glory rest

Under my eternal vigilance.

Archivist Column for the RAINBOW REVEILLE

(Bill Keithan, Archivist)

Prior to the recent mid-year executive committee meeting in Mesa, AZ, at least 30 'follow-up' letters were dispatched to as many potential sources of memorabilia assembled over the last 4 years. They have begun to produce results. Six collections or additions have already been received. Several boxes of books and other materials were delivered to the archives in Mesa by Historian Don Segel. There is sufficient material to be processed that it will take several months of processing.

Author Sam Dann has completed sending along this collateral material used for his recent book. That collection will now be sent to the Univ. of Nebraska to augment the special Dachau Collection located there.

PNP Bill Kenney has volunteered a source of duplication service for making VCR copies so that they can be entered in both primary archive locations.

After numerous attempts to reach the State of New York, Division of Military and Naval Affairs in Latham, NY to ascertain the status of Rainbow materials in their possession a recent response from Thomas Duclos, Curator of the State Military History Museum advises; "Our museum is into it's third year cataloging the artifacts and archival material in our armory system. We have uncovered hundreds of items. A librarian, archivist has been hired. The project is much larger than originally thought. When we finish you will receive a listing of all of the 42nd Division materials. Meanwhile, you could list us as a source and use me as the contact for answering any requests. Be assured that the veterans of 42nd Division are very important to us." When this collection is inventoried and described it will make a meaningful addition to the total Rainbow history for research and study.

SGM William Orten, Ret. USA, residing in Salzburg, Aus. has produced an outstanding booklet after completing extensive research titled; "Who Was Marcus Orr". You'll recall that was the name of the detention camp guarded by Rainbow on the outskirts of Salzburg in post WW II days. Mr. Orten has done a masterful piece of research and has offered copies to the Foundation for distribution. You will probably hear more from the RDVMF Inc. at a later date.

As always, you are entreated to send your memories and memorabilia to the Archivist for continuing to assemble Rainbow's history. Why wait?

In Memoriam

It is our sad duty to report the sudden Passing Over The Rainbow of Guy M. Walker. Guy served as the Vice-President of the Southern Region the past several years. He and his wife Aleen along with Leon and Mary Praytor were responsible for the tremendous job of hosting and making all arrangements for the Annual Birmingham Veteran's Day ceremonies. Everyone sang their praises for their marvelous efforts. Guy served with HQ 242nd Infantry in World War II. We extend our heartfelt sympathies to Guy's widow Aleen. Guy is survived by his daughter Molly; grandchild Miranda Trammel; sisters Juanita Atwood, Mary Lou Doss; and brothers Eugene & Pat.

The Death of Captain Harold Bugno

Sam S. Platomone

Co. K, 222nd Inf.

My involvement with the fatal destiny of Captain Harold Bugno commenced on the evening of January 24, 1945. Company K was dug in along the south bank of the Moder River near the city of Neubourg, in Alsace, France. The view to the front of our foxholes consisted of sterile, flat river bottom containing the benign Moder River as it trickled by. The slab culvert that provided convenient access to either side of the river had been destroyed before our arrival, but this would not serve as a deterrent to attacking German infantry. The river was too shallow and narrow where K and E companies were dug in. Logically, the primary thrust of the enemy would be right along this boundary. With the snow covered Ohlungen Forest stretching out behind our positions, providing an eerie environment for us, the mood was set for horrendous fighting that was to take place in the next few hours.

Our second platoon assignment was to prevent the Germans from crossing the river, and we were mandated to protect the third battalion's right flank. We were to hold at all cost. Darkness had already enshrouded us as I hunkered down in my foxhole, awaiting the inevitable attack. There was no doubt in my mind that I was sick enough to have been checked out by the medics. I had, foolishly consumed a canteen of water, two days before, without using water purifying tablets. Somewhere, I recalled a basic training instructor telling us that water from a fast moving stream would be safe to drink without being treated. I had scooped up the water from a fast moving stream and consumed it. I did not know that there was a large community up river. Now, I was paying the price with fever and chills as I stood in a soggy foxhole, in rapidly deteriorating weather, well aware that no man could be spared at this critical time.

As I pondered my foolishness and anguish over the loss of my closest friend and mentor, Sgt. Adolfo Morales, I girded myself for another sleepless night. Sgt. Morales had been horribly shot up as he fought a rear guard action, earlier in the day; a one man stand that enabled his 20 man patrol to reach our lines in safety. He was critically wounded with three bursts of enemy "Burp Gun" fire. While he had been evacuated, we were told that he probably would not survive. I would have been on patrol with him if I hadn't been sick. The clash that afternoon confirmed the presence of a large enemy unit in front of us.

To make matters worse: just before night fell, I field stripped my bar to clean and oil it. "Sad Sack" that I now considered myself to be. I accidentally dropped the pin that held the bolt together, in the ankle deep water that filled the bottom of my foxhole. I was still looking for it, after dark, finally giving up because of my frozen hands. Slapping the gun together, so I wouldn't lose any more parts, I was wondering how I could get to the command post for a spare part or another weapon. Now, the second platoon guide, Sgt. William Lewis, showed up. Before I could explain my problem, he told me that, somehow, the company had received an allotment of P.X. rations from battalion, and I was one of the few who hadn't received mine. With Sgt. Lewis covering for me, I hurried back to get another weapon and pick up my rations. As I approached the command post, the Germans launched a vicious attack across the Moder River.

Without going into great detail about the events of the ensuing battle, suffice it to say that only nine men of the second platoon survived. The rest were either killed or captured when the rampaging Germans stormed across the river in the wake of a tremendous artillery barrage. Sgt. Lewis was one of the men taken prisoner. I was just approaching the C.P. when the first 150 MM shell exploded in the trees above me. Immediately, I sought asylum in the C.P. which was already occupied by four others. The C.P. consisted of a cave dug into the side of a hill. The walls were shored with logs. In the center of a table and benches, and on the table sat a G.I. helmet with a burning candle affixed to the top.

Surmising that our forward defenses had been overrun, we young, confused citizen soldiers appealed to the ranking N.C.O. for guidance. The momentum of the spearheading Germans was spilling over in our direction. The unique jack hammer sound of the German "Burp Gun" was getting louder. If we were to survive, a decision had to be made quickly. Unfortunately, the man we looked to for leadership was in no condition to advise us. Not all men prove to be effective leaders under fire. It was obvious that we were going to have to act on our own. This is where the "field experience" we had been taught, in basic training, came into play. Perhaps my great amount of apprehension served as a catalyst: I strongly suggested that we all leave the dugout. As a Private First Class, I wasn't accustomed to giving orders, but I did state that I wanted to live to fight another day and was leaving. I grabbed MY bar and was the first man through the doorway. At that moment, a flare erupted silhouetting a German

infantryman cresting the hill to the left front. I was aware of him pointing his weapon at me as I desperately sought cover. Snow was falling as the flare floated down, as I hit the ground. I ran like blazes to the rear, jumping over a tree limb lying on the forest floor. My helmet flew off my head as I hurdled the tree limb. The German soldier skipped my helmet over the hill with a full burst. I joined the helmet immediately afterwards, grateful to be out of the line of fire. I was lucky that he started his burst on the high side; automatic weapons have a tendency to rise as they are fired. I and the rest of the group took advantage of the German's empty weapon to exit the dugout.

Together, and in an orderly manner, we fell back to the 3rd battalion headquarters, a short distance behind the MLR. Word had preceded our arrival. The enemy had pierced our defenses in the area defended by K Company's second platoon and E Company. The good news was that the rest of the line was holding. Stringent measures were quickly being taken to assemble a task force whose job was to plug the hole in the line. We second platoon survivors knew that our support was expected. The newly appointed Battalion Executive Officer, Captain Bugno was going to lead the group. We were going to have the leadership we needed.

Captain Bugno commandeered two M-8S and about twenty-five men who happened to be in the area. In a very efficient and low key manner, he rallied us, explained our mission, and put us in motion, but not before I traded my bar for an M-1 rifle that worked. Our point of demarcation was a road block that had been set up by Lt. Otto Yanke of M Company, in a successful effort to stem the German advance. He was later killed. Lt. Yanke warned us to be vigilant as we were entering No Man's Land.

Captain Bugno, standing in the hatch of the second M-8, ordered his hastily recruited force to move forward. As the two armored vehicles labored up the road of the heavily wooded terrain bordering the river bank, we stifled our anxiety, and proceeded to do the job. Engage and defeat the enemy. The darkness was made more profound by the heavy snowfall that, silently, added another layer to the already knee deep drifts that my friend, Robert Owens, and I were forced to struggle through as we attempted to keep our balance on the slope that constituted our left flank. Captain Bugno had made us left flank security when he recognized us as K Co. men (he had been formerly C.O. of K Co.). The two L Company men, on the right flank, were floundering as much as we were, aware of the importance of keeping up with the vehicles.

(Continued on page 7)

U.S. Huntington May 5, 1919

151st Field Artillery Homeward Bound - Brest, France to New York, U.S.A.

German is being spoken aboard the Huntington on this trip. It is not being spoken officially or grammatically, but the daily greetings of the soldier passengers to the Gobs in "Wie Gehts" and not "B on Jour" for about 1600 of the ship's passengers have just spent the winter in the Rhineland and have forgotten their French.

The men from the Rhineland are in the Headquarters of the 67th Field Artillery Brigade, with Brigadier General Geo. G. Gatley in command, and the 151st Field Artillery Regiment, Col. George E. Leach commanding. The 151st has 48 officers and 1438 men aboard. The other artillery regiments in the 67th Brigade, the 149th and 150th, are also on their way home, but they are on the Leviathan and Mount Vernon. These artillerymen are members of the Rainbow (42nd) Division, and are proud of it. The 42nd is the first division in the army of occupation to embark for home.

Minnesota is the home state of 151st, which was the first Artillery regiment of the Minnesota National Guard until Uncle Sam called Wilhelm's bluff. About 400 of the men are from Minneapolis, 200 from St. Paul, and 400 from smaller cities and towns of the Gopher state.

The regiment claims to have been on the lines longer than any other regiment in the A.E.F., for in addition to serving in every engagement in which the Rainbow Division participated, it supported the 4th Division on the Vesle River, the 89th Division at Beny, the 32nd at Montfaucon and north, the 1st, 2nd, and 77th divisions in the Argonne. Beginning in February 1918, when the Rainbow Division went in the Luneville district in Lorraine, the service, in line, was practically uninterrupted by any little thing like a rest camp. After four months in Lorraine, in which the men learned a lot of things they thought new and the regiment had its first battle casualties; the regiment was attached to Gourard's Fourth French Army and was north of Chalons sur Marne when the Germans launched their last big offensive on the night of July 14th.

The Rainbow was the only American division in that defensive battle in Champagne and it suffered heavily. The guns of the 151st. French 75's, were busy with hardly a stop for five days into that fight. From Champagne, the 151st went directly by train to Chateau Thierry and there went into action with the 42nd and participated in the bloody battle on the Ourcq River. The division was relieved after the heights to the north of the Ourcq were taken, but the Artillery was attached to the incoming 4th division and the 151st was in for weeks more fighting on the Vesle.

After a few days rest near Toul, the regiment went in with the 42nd at St. Mihiel. The division, in two days, reached its objective in front of the old Hindenburg line, and here the infantry of the Rainbow was relieved and the artillery was attached to

the 89th Division. On Oct. 1st, the 151st started on the march for the Argonne; participating, on the way, of fighting east of Verdun. In the Argonne, it fought with the 32nd Division at Montfaucon, and then went with the 42nd on the drive through Romez, Cote de Chatillon, and Landres. At different times, in addition to its work with the 42nd in the Argonne, the regiment was fighting with the 1st, 2nd and 77th Divisions. When the Armistice was signed, the 42nd had entered the outskirts of Sedan. From Sedan, the Rainbow Division marched through Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany to the Rhine River north and west of Koblenz. The 151st has been quartered in villages and cities in the Ahr River Valley since early in December. Most of its members have sailed on the Rhine River under the American flag, but everyone would rather sail the ATLANTIC Homeward Bound!

The Glory Road (Co. L/222nd Inf.)

Submitted by Justin Walker

Another year has come and gone
And Company L is hanging on
It's true we're old and somewhat lame,
But combat-ready just the same
There was a time, as new recruits
We roamed the camp in combat boots.
With healthy hips and healthy knees,
The ten mile hike was just a breeze.
But now ten blocks in the Gruber sun
Would have us all in Nine-One-One!

On the rifle-range, with perfect sight,
We hit that bull's-eye day and night.
But now, alas, our eyes have flaws,
The best we'd get is "Maggie's Drawers."

But let's not dwell on aches and pains,
Let's talk about our great campaigns,
- Those glory days of long ago
When the Rainbow served in the E T O

You all have stories, tell them now.
Tell of Hatten, Hagenau.
Mention Wingen, Gamsheim,
- Etched in memory for all time.

The foe unleashed a mass attack
To drive the forward units back.
The die was cast, in snow and frost.
"Hold this line at any cost."
And when it came, the final blast,
- Against all odds, the line held fast.
Nothing else can e're replace
The stand we made in North Alsace.

**Heroic Deeds Deserve A Cheer.
They Get More Heroic Every Year!**

We Get Letters

Ken:

My daughter, Jeannette, who sang for us, is an Honorably Discharged Vet from the 42nd Division National Guard; she attained the rank of Technical Sergeant. She also served four years in the Navy as a Chief. Can we get her into the association as a regular member? She would be the first woman member.

Wilson Lavoy

Ed. Note to Executive Board

How about considering this fellows?

Dear Mr. Carpenter:

A telephoner from the state of Kansas wanted a more thorough description of the album. He stated that an album of engineers was published about that time so here goes: Dark navy blue cover; the Rainbow Division 42-Logo; on the inside first few pages, The Army & Navy Publishing Company; Army & Navy Publishing Building; Baton Rouge, LA. 1950. It contains pictures of the 232 Regiment; Medical Detachment. My photo appears on page 87. It contains pictures of the battalion. I was attached to Company A during the Sessenheim battle treating the wounded until captured by enemy.

I hope description is adequate.

I thank you.

Respectfully yours,

Benedict J. Mucha
4916 Emmet Road
Lynchdurst, Ohio 44124-1171

What We Can Learn From Geese

Fact No. 1: As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift draft from the bird following. By flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds a greater flying range than if one bird flew alone.

Lesson No. 1: People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they're going quicker and more easily because they are traveling on the strength of one another.

Fact No. 2: Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front.

Lesson No. 2: If we have as much sense as geese, we will stay in formation and be willing to accept help when we need it and give help when it is needed.

Fact No. 3: When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies in the point position.

Lesson No. 3: Geese instinctively share the task of leadership and do not resent the leader.

Fact No. 4: The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

Lesson No. 4: We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging and not something else.

Fact No. 5: When a goose gets sick, is wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to earth to help and protect it. They stay with their disabled companion until it is able to fly again or dies. Then they launch out on their own or with another formation to catch up with the flock.

Lesson No. 5: If we have as much sense as geese, we too, will stand by one another in difficult times and help the one who has dropped out regain his place in the formation.

Creators Syndicate

(Continued from page 5)

Wisely, Captain Bugno had deployed his soldiers with one half on one side of the road, and the other half on the opposite side with the proper interval between men. One artillery shell was not going to obliterate the patrol. We hadn't advanced fifty yards when PFC Bob Owens suddenly stopped. Apparently, he had seen something that was hidden from my view. Wit the snow melting on my glasses, it was difficult to be as observant as Bob. It was snowing quite heavily, and unless a flare went off, it was almost impossible to see anything. With the noise emanating from the armored cars, the enemy had no problem detecting us. Several seconds later, a guttural shout of "Kamerad" sounded out. Bob had seen a German soldier who wanted to be taken prisoner. At that moment a flare lit up the terrain. The events that followed are imprinted in my mind forever, much in the manner of an action scene in "Rambo" movie where Sylvester Stallone decimates an entire opposite force single handedly. Would that I could have reacted in the swash-buckling style of Mr. Stallone. This was real life, however, with all the weakness of human nature.

On a shelf of ground about ten yards to our left front, I saw what had attracted Bob's attention: nine enemy soldiers, dressed in white hoods and parkas, blending in with the snow, opposed us. They appeared to be confused - rather than being deployed as they should have been, they were all bunched together. Obviously, they were just as cold as we were, and I entertained the thought of an easy surrender on their part. It didn't happen that way. With the flare at the top of its arc, we were all visible to one another, the German soldier, in a prone position, behind a machine gun, squeezed the trigger of his weapon shattering the stillness. Three rounds left the muzzle of the gun, the second being a tracer. Its heat almost burned my nose and upper lip. Realizing how close I came to being killed, I froze up. How much better for me had I been a "macho" soldier in complete control. Thanks to the coolness of Bob Owens, my life was spared. Firing from the hip with his M-1, Bob impacted eight rounds into the bunch of Germans, his first bullet killing the machine gunner, who would have blown my head off if he had been able to traverse. As I stood, transfixed, utterly devoid of feeling, I observed Bob drop to one knee, deftly remove a clip of ammunition from his web belt, and smoothly insert it into his weapon. From a kneeling position, he fired another eight rounds into the Germans, and

then moved to his right to join our main body. It was at that point that I came out of my mesmerized state and emptied my weapon into the mass of humanity that Bob had already neutralized.

As soon as Bob and I moved down to the road, Captain Bugno ordered the gunners in the armored cars to fire their 37MM canons in the direction of where the firing had erupted. The confirmation was over in a matter of seconds: so were the lives of eight German soldiers. Captain Bugno and Sgt. McGrath trudged up the incline to see what was left. They brought down one wounded German prisoner who was sent to the rear under guard. As we moved forward, I positioned myself behind the armored car in an attempt to absorb heat from the exhaust into my fingertips. My hands were so numb that I could hardly hold onto my weapon. We hadn't advanced fifty yards when another German to our left front with a perfect field of fire, pummeled both armored cars with a long burst of heavy machine gun fire. The six tires on the left side of both vehicles exploded, rendering both vehicles immobile. The German, a persistent opponent, continued to pour a withering fire in our direction. Many of the bullets ricocheted off the vehicles armored plates, ultimately killing and wounding several of our men. As I crouched behind the rear section of the 2nd vehicle, I became aware of bullets chipping the ice around my feet, causing me to fling myself into a snowdrift on the right side of the car.

Clinging to the rear wheel of the M-8 for cover, I couldn't help but admire the tenacity and professionalism of the German machine gunner and his squad as they battered us with bullets and he, all the while, calling us "Yankee Sons of Bitches". His command of English was pretty good and he dared us to get by him. Any time one of our guys moved, he would fire in the direction of the crunching snow. In spite of the intense cold, he appeared to be on a "High" either from adrenaline or schnapps. Most of the German prisoners taken that night were found to have schnapps in their canteens. At least it didn't freeze as the water did in my canteen.

If Captain Bugno and his crew members had attempted to crawl out of the armored cars, they would have been killed. Luckily, the opposing force did not have a Panzerfaust. While we were bogged down, some of our wounded bled and froze to death. This young man was learning all about "war being hell."

TO BE CONTINUED

President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

remained the month for the national reunion. This is no longer the case and it would seem for many reasons that late September or early October would be a much better time for all. Vice-President Herman J. Bergeth spoke at the executive committee meeting about how he could have saved \$20 per night per room without negotiating in Duluth, if it were not in July. Better deals could also be made for food, and airfares could be cheaper. The weather and the timing would be better for older progeny to attend. July and August are considered prime vacation months and are the most expensive in which to travel. The reunion date in July also conflicts with those who want to vacation for that month.

In my January President's Message I asked for ideas to enhance and encourage the participation of older offspring in our reunions. I received no input from anyone, which indicates to me that the progeny issue is not really important. The purpose was that eventually some of them would carry on the function of the Memorial Foundation and be on the Board of Trustees. I believe that some of our progeny would be more likely to participate if our most important meetings took place on Saturday and Sunday. This way they would only have to take one day off from work, or none if they arrived Friday night.

Unfortunately, the executive committee in Mesa ran out of time and patience to discuss the Vern Smith proposal or any of the above. However, all of you who read this column have three months to send me your opinions.

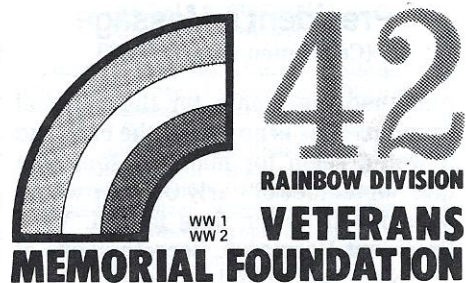
Would it help you to attend more reunions if we changed the month? (Spring or Fall?) If you don't attend national reunions anymore or very often, then it shouldn't be a problem to change the date. If that applied to you, please say so.

I encourage the Ladies' Auxiliary to participate in this survey. A simple postcard will suffice.

Thank you for your consideration and help in this matter.

As of February 26, we had 1902 members. In the 1997-98 year we had 2244 total membership.

Yours In Rainbow,
Dick Tisch



Memorial Foundation Report April 1999

Scholarship Committee

It was proposed that the committee give more emphasis to essays and goals when evaluating scholarship applications. It is expected that an increase in applications will occur because of increased publicity.

Bill Shurtleff, who operates the web-site and is also in charge of fund raising, asked that a five year plan be prepared, outlining the number and cost of scholarships for those years. Father Bob Weiss, Ted Simonsen and John McGovern will prepare the five year plan. Mary Kenny, Gloria Walker and Dottie Smith will work with Bill Shurtleff on fund raising. Peg Igoe resigned from the Scholarship Committee and Gloria Walker was appointed to replace her.

The Committee voted to designate George Jackson and his daughter, Alice Pruning, as emeriti members of the Scholarship Committee. George was a co-founder of the scholarship program, was chairman for many years and has been a generous contributor. Alice worked with George on follow-up on past scholars.

Scholarship applications are available from Dorothy Smith, 513 Mountain View Ave., Hurley, NY 12443. Please send a self-addressed envelope.

The Other Dachau Book

In the November Reveille, while promoting the Sam Dann Dachau book, we mentioned that Col. John Linden's book on Dachau was not a Foundation project. This was not intended to denigrate. Col. Linden's book or the part that Gen. Linden played in the Dachau liberation. The Linden book has been very well received by the many Rainbowers who have read it, and it effectively punctures the Sparks' propaganda balloon.

C&BL Revision Committee

The Constitution and By-laws Ad Hoc Committee to revise the Memorial Foundation constitution met in Mesa to again review the constitution changes that will be necessary to cope with the membership changes that will occur in the next ten years as the number of living WW2 Rainbow soldiers approaches zero.

A number of suggestions were made, producing Draft #3, which will be

presented to the trustees in Charlotte for review. After notification to members of major changes, the final vote by members to complete the constitutional changes is expected to be held in Cincinnati in July 2000.

Contributions to Memorial Foundation

Scholarship Endowment Fund

12/1/98 to 2/28/99

In memory contributions; Fred Matthews, Texas Chapter - \$100, Dorothy Monsen, New Jersey Chapter - \$50.

500 Club; Tom Owens- \$500, Robert Clemens - \$100, S.M. Singer - \$100, W.C. Shurtleff - \$100, Harvey J. Snapp - \$50, Stanley Hasterlo - \$100, Dr. Samuel W. Kelly - \$100.

Scholarship Operating Fund

John F. Spaulding - \$100, Justin C. Walker - \$100, Pacific Northwest Aux. - \$200. In memory contributions: Grandfather Leroy Reynolds, Stephen Magocs - \$52.32; Jack Stigal, Albert Zukunft, Macdowell Sanders, Ella Bradoc, 232nd Aux. - \$10 each; Helen Thompson, MP Aux. - \$50; Donald Hathaway, Pacific NW Chapter - \$25; Lowell McMillen, South Bend Chapter - \$25; Pvt. Thomas Rocci, Royce C. Rich - \$100.

Foundation Endowment Fund

George W. Whitmire, \$2,000 - 4th pledge payment; In memory of Orville J. Anderson, Elvira Anderson - \$50; Richard Tisch - \$100; In memory of Albert Killan, Ethel Killan - \$100.

500 Club; Harvey J. Snapp - \$50; Betty Owen - \$500.

Foundation Operating Fund

Sam Dann, 1st royalty on "Dachau, 29th April, 1945", \$520.65; Alvin R. Calhoon - \$200; James R. Malone - \$50; Stillman F. Sawyer - \$100; Illinois Chapter - \$100; Champagne Organizations, Dee Eberhart - \$100; In honor of Ted Johnson for Holocaust presentation, Columbus, OH Jewish Historical Society - \$100; Basil Manley, IV, M.D., final payment on pledge - \$100; In memory of Sam Jennings, Helen Thompson and Dick Kiefer, Theodore A. Johnson \$25 each; In memory of Fred Matthews, Tom Owen - \$50.

The "500 Club" has collected \$22,000 from its inception to December 31, 1998. Addendum - Dick Tisch = \$100.00 toward \$500.00 Club. For scholarship annuity fund in memory of Dorothy Monsen, Wyckoff Schomp and Guy Walker.

500 CLUB PLEDGE FORM

Name _____
Last First M.I.
Address _____
Unit _____
Amount of Donation: (Check one) \$500 ☐ \$100/5 yrs. ☐ Larger ☐
Which Endowment Desired? (Check one) Foundation ☐ Scholarship ☐
Signature _____

Please make checks out to: **RDVA MEMORIAL FUND.**
Mail to: Beverly Koehler, 1269 Manhotten Dr., Tempe, AZ 85282

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