



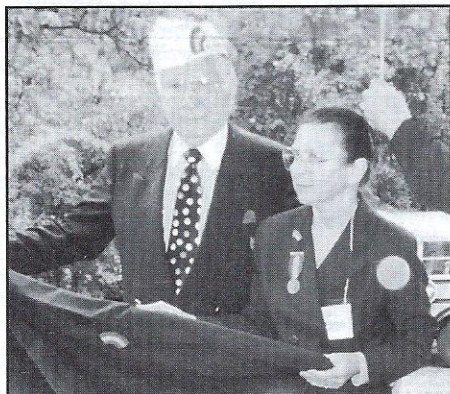
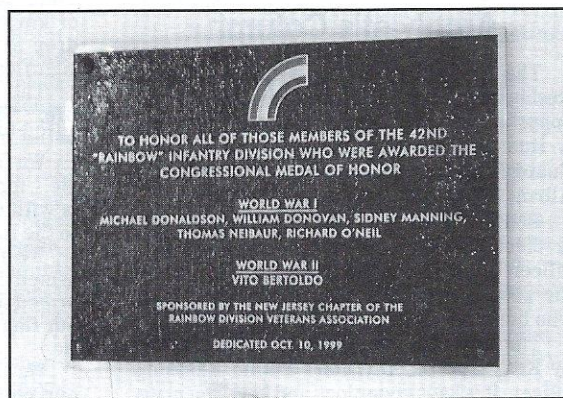
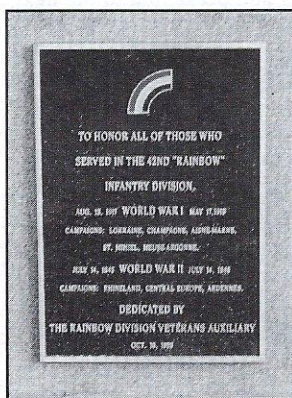
Vol. LXXVIII

January 2000

No. 3

Rainbow On-Line: www.rainbowvets.org

PLAQUE DEDICATION PAYS TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN WORLD WAR II HEROES



National President Harold Melinek
and Auxiliary President Barbara Eberhart

By JEFF GARRETT
Special to *The Mercury*

VALLEY FORGE – It was a day of remembrance for those who paid the ultimate price for freedom.

Representatives of the 42nd "Rainbow" Infantry Division Veterans Association gathered Sunday at the Freedoms Foundation to formally remember all of the division's soldiers and their contributions in freeing some 32,000 people held prisoner by Nazi Germany.

A plaque and monument dedication in and outside of the Henry Knox Building on the Freedoms Foundation campus was part of the 11th annual reunion of the Eastern Division. Between 60 and 80 of the division's members piled into the building for the unveiling of the plaque honoring those members who won the Congressional Medal of Honor.

"This monument honoring the 42nd Rainbow Division in two world wars is placed here on the Freedoms Foundation walkway on historic

grounds where American soldiers in the war of independence persevered through the cold winter of 1777-78, ill-clad, ill-fed, ill-equipped, ill-housed – conditions lasting throughout that winter," said Barbara C. Eberhardt, president of the division's auxiliary group.

"This is a fitting place to remember frozen ground, mud, hunger and suffering vividly fixed in the minds, never to be forgotten by our rainbow veterans," Eberhardt said.

For people like Charles Fowler of New Hampshire, getting this monument erected now, while some who it commemorates are living still, is an accomplishment in itself.

"This signifies the individuals behind the monument," Fowler said.

"Most monuments are erected for those who died or have passed away during or after a war. This one honors all who served, including the ones who are living."

For Rainbow Reveille Editor Ken Carpenter of Pasadena, Md., the memorial dedication meant that fellow members who participated in "Operation Nordwind," a battle highly overlooked and called the "second Battle of the Bulge," would get their just recognition.

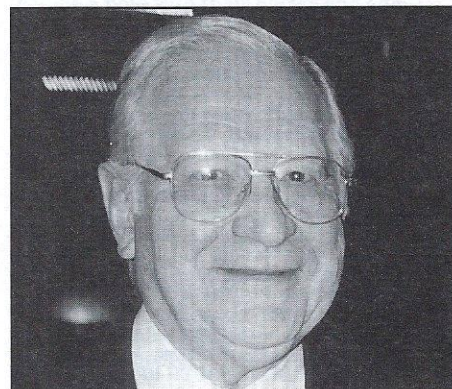
"If it hadn't been for this," he added, concerning the success of the operation, "there wouldn't have been a liberation of Dauchau."

"There's very little history written about them," he said, of a group that endured 131 days in combat, that suffered 3,800 casualties, had 800 killed in action, but captured four German cities and assisted in the capture of others toward the war's end in the winter of 1944-45.

Carpenter has a book titled "The Final Crisis" coming out soon describing the achievements.

Getting the memorials in place was a year-and-a-half-long process which the New Jersey Chapter of the Rainbow Division guided with allowance of the financial assistance from the National Auxiliary RDVA.

President's Message



Dear Rainbow Family and Friends,

Since my last report, a lot has happened. Edna and I attended the New Jersey Reunion at Valley Forge, PA. To all it was a very beautiful and eye-tearing event in the unveiling of the monument and the plaque at the Knox Library. The VFW Post 3612 supplied us with an honor guard, flags, a 21-gun salute, bugler to play taps, and the Auxiliary Chaplain to say the appropriate prayers. All in all it was a very beautiful and impressive ceremony. The only part that dampened the ceremony was the rain, and that stopped just as the unveiling ended. In attendance were five PNP's, National Auxiliary President Barbara Eberhart, three Auxiliary PNP's, and other National Officers.

The change of command of the 42nd Infantry Division (M) took place at Camp Smith, N.Y. on October 17th, and it was a very impressive ceremony. In attendance PNP Bill Kenny, PNP Dick Tisch, N.J. Past Commander Pat Gouda, and yours truly. Each General spoke very highly of the 42nd Rainbow Veterans, and Lt. General John M. Riggs, Commander of the First United States Army had the four of us stand up for an outstanding round of applause. The one command during the ceremony that brought me back 56 years with a smile and a tear was when I heard the words "Pass in Review." It was July 1943 at Camp Gruber when we "Passed in Review" for General Collins at the activation of the 42nd Infantry Division.

Rainbow was well-represented at the National Veterans Day in Birmingham, Alabama. I was honored as well as ANP Barbara Eberhart to be on the dais, and we also were on the reviewing stand as the parade went by. It was a very exciting and wonderful night. I can only say that if you can, go to Birmingham and see what you have missed all these years.

The new millennium is upon us and I look forward to seeing you in San Diego and Cincinnati.

Yours in Rainbow,
Harold G. Melinek

**CUT-OFF-DATE
NEXT ISSUE
March 1, 2000**

THE RAINBOW REVEILLE

Official Publication of the
RAINBOW Division Veterans

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THE RAINBOW REVEILLE

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EDITOR RAINBOW REVEILLE:

Kenneth H. Carpenter, 7618 1st St. & Main Ave.,
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DEADLINE FOR COPY:

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SEND CHANGE OF ADDRESS TO: Publishing
Editor: Hugo E. Grimm, P.O. Box 1200,
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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

Lord God, we ask for a special blessing on our land as we enter the years of 2000. After a century of great wars against tyranny, and the long cold war, we now strive for unity among nations and a time of peace on earth. To that end we in Rainbow commit ourselves to use our time and talents and experience gained in two wars to aid our country in its peaceful pursuits.

Norman P. Forde
CH (COL) USA ret.
RDVA Chaplain

Archivist's Column

The early November annual Hotel & Restaurant show in New York City provided an opportunity to take a day train beside the lovely Hudson River and visit the 42nd National Guard Mechanized Division Headquarters in Albany.

PNP Bill Kenny was unable to accompany or meet me there as planned. Commanding officer Tulato was off-premises and I was left in the good care of Warrant Officer John Kelly who has responsibility for their archives.

The materials are stored in a room shared by Kelly and the Division's Public Relations officer. It is kept under lock and key. The materials are somewhat small in number but adequately housed.

While I anticipated there would possibly be some materials available for accessioning for the RDVA's repositories, it was quickly learned that Kelly hadn't gotten the word or the RDVA had been misinformed.

Back in the Big Apple, a visit was made to the 69th Regiment armory. Contact took place with the C.O. and the Adjutant and the materials there was reviewed. Subsequent communication with the "Quartermaster" who will provide a listing of their holdings for the Association's "Finding Guide."

Some glimmer of understanding of the strong independence of the 69th Regiment from "Rainbow" took place. The Regiment has a long history, beginning before the Civil War and it was only part of the Rainbow during World War I. Politics and ethnicity are rampant. It somehow explains why the Times Square Father Duffy statue doesn't acknowledge his being in the 42nd.

Some time was spent in the city with the protégé of General William Donovan (WW I), whose 50-volume collection resides now at Cornell's Law School library. The collection will soon be listed in the RDVA's Finding Guide. Communication will continue and more information on the General will be sought.

We shall be at the San Diego mid-year reunion. It is urged that Rainbow materials be brought there for processing and accessioning. Look around for any Wartime items. Of particular interest to put up in the Archives is the correspondence written home while in Military service. It is an invaluable record of the thoughts and feelings of the G.I. for the edification of researchers and descendants.

Bill Keithan

Folding Our Flag

In a presentation during the Memorial Day 1998 ceremony Cheltenham Veterans Ceremony, Joan M. Engel, Rear Admiral, USN Nurses Corps, delivered a most stirring explanation of our Flag's significance at retreat. This was copied and submitted by Patriot Ed Oliver, Chapter 2222, MOPH who is an active volunteer at the Cemetery.

In the evening... the Armed Forces of the United States lower the flag at the Ceremony of Retreat after Taps have sounded. It is then folded in a triangular fold and kept under watch throughout the night as a tribute to our nation's honored dead.

And this flag... our beautiful Stars and Stripes is the honorable drape covering our Veterans as they take their final journey. The flag is folded and presented to the next of kin with humble reverence to the backdrop of "Taps"... Let me share with you the significance that each fold represents:

The first fold of the flag is a symbol of life. The second fold is a symbol of our belief in the eternal life.

We fold to the left in the shape of a triangle... for this is where our hearts lie... And it is with our hearts that we pledge allegiance to the flag as we did earlier in this ceremony.

We fold to the right as a tribute to our armed forces; for it is through these same armed forces that we protect our country and our flag from all enemies... foreign or domestic.

We fold again to the right as a tribute to our country... for in the words of Stephen Decatur: "Our country in dealing with other countries... may she always be right... but it is still our country... right or wrong."

We fold to the left as tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death... that we might see the light of day.

We fold again to the left as a tribute to womanhood... for it is their faith... love... loyalty and devotion that have molded the characters of the men and women who have served this great country.

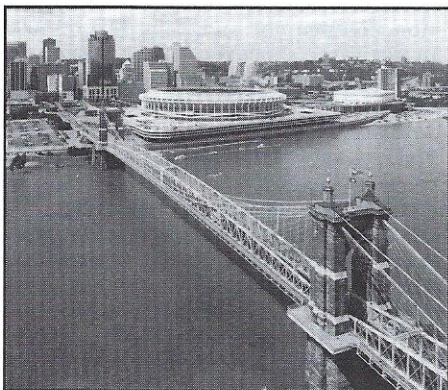
We fold to the right as a tribute to father... for he has given of his own son or daughter for the defense of our country since she was born.

We fold from the stripes toward the stars... for whereas the stripes represent the thirteen original colonies that founded our republic... they are now embodied in the fifty sovereign states represented by the stars.

We fold to the left in the shape of a triangle... for in the eyes of a Hebrew citizen... this represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies in their eyes the God of Abraham... the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.

We fold again to the left in the shape of a triangle... for in the eyes of the Christian citizen... this represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies in their eyes... God the Father... God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. When our flag is completely folded... the stars are uppermost... which reminds us of our national motto: "In God We Trust."

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in... it takes on the appearance of a three-cornered hat ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General Washington and the Sailors and Marines who served under John Paul Jones... and followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States who have preserved for us the rights... privileges and freedom which we are experiencing today.



National Reunion

Cincinnati, Ohio

July 12-13-14-15, 2000

Our 2000 National Reunion will be held at the Cincinnati Regal Hotel, 150 West 5th St., Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. The dates are Wednesday through Sunday, July 12-15, 2000. Saturday is the night of the banquet. If you want to attend the banquet, be sure to make your hotel reservations to stay over Saturday night and depart on Sunday, the 16th. Rates are \$80.00/person plus 10.5% tax for single, double, triple or quad. Mention the Rainbow Division when making reservations. Rates are the same, two days before and two days after the reunion. Telephone numbers are: National Reservations 1-800-8888; Direct Hotel Reservations 1-800-876-2100 and the regular number is 513-352-2100. Parking at no charge. The shuttle service to and from the airport is \$12.00 each way. If you require a special room, it is important to register early.

Special plans are being developed for tours with special interests to you and will be in the next issue. We also will inform you of any R.V. accommodations. One special happening is that we will have Fred Olivi with us to share his experiences of his flight in the plane that dropped the final A-bomb on Japan. We also hope to have Ken Eidnes, a member of the "Enola Gay" crew that dropped the first A-bomb.

Registration is \$40.00/person plus an optional \$5.00 chance on a free 4-day hotel stay. Checks should be made payable to RDVA and together with the forms sent to Louis J. Hendricks, 6609 Mariemont Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45227-4234. Tel. 513-271-6125. Contact Lou if you need forms.

Driving directions to hotel: traveling north on I-75: stay in right lane while on bridge over Ohio River. Take Vine St. exit, turn left on Vine to 5th St., turn left to Plum St., turn left to 5th St. auto entrance. Traveling south on I-75: take 5th St. exit to auto entrance. Traveling south on I-71: take 3rd St./Elm St. exit, continue straight ahead on Elm St. to 5th St. auto entrance. Traveling east on I-74: take I-74 east to south I-75, exit 5th St. to

auto entrance. Traveling west on Rt. 52: take Rt. 52 west, merge I-71; take 3rd St./Elm St. exit, continue straight on Elm St. to 5th Street auto entrance.

Rainbow Division Veterans Mid-Year Reunion

February 3-4-5, 2000

San Diego, California

As the song goes, "California here we come", the Mid-Year reunion will be held at the Handlery Hotel & Resort, San Diego, California, February 3-6, 2000, phone 1-800-676-6567. The room rates for single, double, triple or quad accommodations are \$85.00 per night, suites \$175.00 per night. The rates are guaranteed three days prior to and following the Mid-Year. All rooms are subject to state and local taxes. When making reservations be sure to mention the 42nd Rainbow Division Reunion. The cut off date is January 3, 2000.

A cloud 9 shuttle service is available from the airport for about \$7.00 per person each way. Phone 1-800-9-Shuttle.

Registration is \$40.00 per person, and checks should be made payable to

Rainbow Division Veterans Assoc.

Attn.: Donald L. Segel, PNP,

650 Jacon Way,

Pacific Palisades, CA 90272-2897.

All tours for the famous San Diego Zoo, and Sea World, plus many other attractions can be made directly at the hotel desk.

Since this is the first event of a new century, let's all pitch in and make this Reunion one that will go down in Rainbow History.

Continental Airlines will be the official carrier for both the National Reunion and the Mid-Year. A 12% reduction in airfare from the lowest coach price is given to us by the airline. When booking your reservations please use the following: J-3 HRBL; code ZKGN. Tickets must be purchased 60 days in advance, and you will receive a 7% discount plus a 5% discount. You can also check with your travel agent about senior savings coupon good on two trips a year. Please register promptly, full refund if unable to attend.

Ohio Annual Reunion

May 24-25, 2000

Lancaster, Ohio

Best Western Lancaster Inn
1858 N. Memorial Drive
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

Mid-Year Reunion Program

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 2:

Registration 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Hospitality Room 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEB. 3:

Foundation C&BL 9 p.m. - 12 p.m.
PNP Lunch (Dutch Treat) Noon - 1:30 p.m.
Registration 10 a.m. - Noon
2 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Hospitality Room 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 4:

Memorial Committee 9 a.m. - 10 a.m.
Luncheon 2 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Hospitality Room 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.
8 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Scholarship Meeting 10:30 a.m. - Noon

SATURDAY, FEB. 5:

Executive Meeting 9 a.m. - Noon
Auxiliary Executive Meeting 9 a.m. - Noon
Lunch Break Noon - 1:30 p.m.
Foundation Trustee Meeting 1:30 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Church Service Protestant 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Church Service Catholic 5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Banquet 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Hospitality Room 8:30 p.m. - 11 p.m.

(TIL WE MEET AGAIN!)

We Get Letters

Dear Ken:

I am writing to inform you that on Sept. 17-18, I had major surgery - I had three ruptures. I want all to know that I am on the road to recovery. All I have is a heart and cancer condition. Between me and God, we will see it through.

Yours in Rainbow,

Jesse R. Harry

1548 Hilltop Dr., Garland, TX 75042-8411
CO. I, 222nd INF.

Editor's Note: Why not drop Jesse a note to show he is not forgotten?

Dear Mr. Carpenter:

In Munich, a photographer from the *Chicago Times* took my buddy and my picture in front of the beer hall. It was supposed to be for Paramount News. Is there any way this film could be located? Also, is there any way I can get a replica of my old dog tags? How can I find out the name of the beautiful chateau on a lake near the border of Germany and Austria?

Samuel Banz

Springville, UT 84663

CO. E, 242nd INF. 347 1075N

Editor's Note: Can anyone help our buddy out?

Courtesy of the Texas Rainbow Roundup: The ABC's of Leadership: Ability to command; Bravery in action; Concern for his troops.

Unveiling Ceremony Held

On Saturday, October 2, 1999, at 10:00 a.m., an "Unveiling Ceremony" was held, recognizing the newly reinstituted "42nd 'Rainbow' Infantry Division Memorial Highway." The Highway is intended as a "living memorial" to all World War I and World War II members of the famed "Rainbow."

A number of Veterans of the 42nd Division was on hand for the occasion.

Program for the Ceremony included: Singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner" by William A. Veitch, a cappella, a moving rendition; recitation of an appropriate and emotional prayer was given by Jeff Bohannon; and, an address was given by Tom Owen, Regional Vice-President, "Rainbow" Veterans Association, of Richardson, Texas. Mr. Owen, a former Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army, gave an account of the "Rainbow" during World War I and World War II, emphasizing the World War II because he had been a Second Lieutenant during that part of his Service. Both, Mr. Veitch and Mr. Bohannon were Veterans of World War II.

"Old Glory," our flag, was present at the Ceremony in all her splendor.

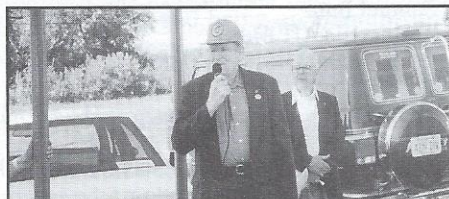
"The Unveiling" was accompanied by the breaking of a bottle of champagne in honor of the signs which were installed by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation. Basis for the new signs is Bill 2259, initiated by House Member Hopper Smith and Senator Owen Laughlin. Acknowledgment of, and appreciation for their efforts was made during the Ceremony. Representative Smith was present at "The Unveiling," resplendent in his uniform, that of a Major, United States Army.

Guests were noted from Garland and Dallas, in Texas; Broken Arrow, Oklahoma City, Muskogee, Tahlequah and other cities in Oklahoma.

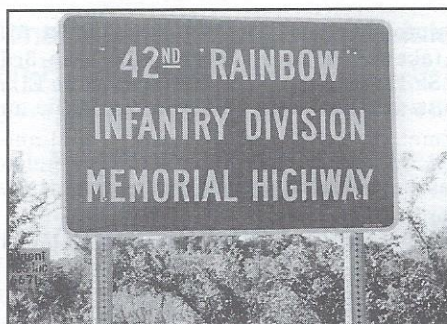
Master of Ceremonies for "The Unveiling" was Jack E. Westbrook, a "Rainbow" Veteran of World War II.

Members of Oklahoma Department of Transportation, from Muskogee; and, Broken Arrow Police provided traffic control during the Ceremony.

"The 42nd 'Rainbow' Infantry Division Memorial Highway" extends Eastward from the West Oklahoma State Line, near Arnett, Oklahoma, to its junction with Oklahoma State Highway 108, East of Stillwater; and, from its junction with Oklahoma State Highway 97, Eastward to the Easternmost Oklahoma State Line, a total of 292 miles.



VP Tom Owen gives principal address.



L to R: Jack Westbrook, Jeff Bohannon, and Bob Haggard.

Rainbow Colors Pass to New Leadership



By Capt. Richard Goldenberg
HQ, 42nd ID (Mech)

CAMP SMITH – On a brisk autumn morning, the 42nd Infantry, General Douglas MacArthur's very own Rainbow Division, welcomed its new commander for the new century.

On the parade fields of Camp Smith, New York, the division colors and subordinate unit guidons from all seven states stood in formation for a division review by Lieut. General John M. Riggs, the First Army Commander, reviewing officer for the change of command ceremony. Passing the leadership of the 42nd Infantry Division was outgoing commander Major General Thomas D. Kinley. Receiving the Division colors and the responsibilities of Rainbow command was Brig. General George T. Garrett.

Major General Kinley served as Division Commander since the fall of 1996. In just three short years, he has seen the 42nd Division rise to the very top of performance in New York State and the Army National Guard for Training. Major General Kinley saw the Division respond to more than a half dozen state emergencies, three annual training sessions, and the success of New York Governor George E. Pataki's GuardHELP initiative.

The highlights of General Kinley's achievements as division commander also include the notable success of the division leadership and staff at the Army's Battle Command Training Program evaluation of the Division's ability to plan, command, and control simulated combat operations. The deployment, following right on the heels of the division's response to the 1998 Ice Storm and Tornado recovery in upstate New York, validated General Kinley's ability to lead the Rainbow Division in peace or war. The exercise was so successful in fact, that the Rainbow Division returned to Leavenworth this past summer to support the training and evaluation of the 29th Infantry Division, Maryland Army National Guard. By doing so, the 42nd Division became the first National Guard Division headquarters selected to provide training as a higher headquarters to a fellow National Guard unit.

Brig. General Garrett, upon receiving the Rainbow Colors at Camp Smith, takes on the challenge of taking the Rainbow Division to even greater heights of achievement. As the Assistant Division Commander for Maneuver, he has overseen the training and operations for the Division that defines the Mechanized fight.

In just the past few years, the Rainbow has achieved unparalleled tank gunnery success on the newer ranges at Fort Drum and Fort Knox. Crews from Vermont's 86th Brigade are among the only one in the National Guard to successfully shoot Table Tank Twelve, a complex series of live-fire tank maneuvers at Fort Knox. The Buffalo area's Third Brigade achieved similar notoriety for its tank crew combat simulation training. The Division's 50th Brigade from General Garrett's home state of New Jersey similarly achieved success in its battle training program during the Division's Warfighter exercise in 1998 and the I Corps command post exercise this fall.

Editor's Whereabouts

Your editor will be in Florida from the last week in December 1999 until the middle of March 2000. Any correspondence should be sent to: 116 Granada Lane, Ponte Vedra, FL 32082. Tel: 904-285-1163 for that period of time.

The Battle of Neubourg and Ohlungen Forest

by Former T/Sgt. Richard Ward,
Co. M, 222nd Inf.

It was the morning of January 23rd before the 222nd made contact with the enemy and our patrols reported that the Germans were building up strength across the Moder River. The strength of the 7th Army was greatly reduced because all available manpower had been sent to help out in the Bulge. For that reason, we were stretched very thin: our battalion covered a front normally held by a regiment, and we had no artillery behind us.

The town of Neubourg was in the center of the sector defended by the 3rd Battalion. The 1st Machine Gun Platoon was to defend an area from Neubourg to the northeast. Our Platoon C.P. was in the basement of a house about 75 feet behind George Thompson's gun position, and George had dug his gun in about 100 yards west of the crossroad. My gun was 300 yards west of that. Those who were in the town had the advantage of the use of buildings. Most buildings in France are constructed with cellars or elevated foundations which provided protection from the weather.

Our guns were to support L Company riflemen. The ground was frozen to a depth of two feet. I selected a site for placement of our gun, but as soon as we got past the frozen earth, we hit water. Knowing that time was our enemy, we selected a higher site across a little road that ran into town and close to religious statue and cross. These "creches" are common sights in the fields and roadsides of France. It was against all our training to place a gun position near any landmark that could be used as a reference point, but we avoided our water problem. This put the rifleman a few yards behind us, so we were out there in no man's land.

There was a lot of activity across the Moder River, which was only a few hundred yards in front of us. On January 24th, it snowed again and the snow was over a foot deep. The temperature was well below freezing, and we were living in foxholes near the gun positions. At about 1800 hours, the Germans began shelling the town of Neubourg. This continued for about two hours. There was a lull and then the shelling, a German patrol, dressed in white, had crossed the river and attacked the riflemen to the right of our position, which was between George's gun and mine. L Company's light machine gun had been hit during the shelling, and both men were killed. Then, the Germans were firing directly into the foxholes of the men from L Company. Since the enemy was behind us, we couldn't use our machine gun, but we

managed to dispatch the entire patrol, except for one man, with our carbines. Later that night, the Germans swarmed across the river to strike all along our regimental front at all positions simultaneously. And it seemed like our gun placement was known and was the number one objective and its location known.

The Germans came repeatedly, out of the river bed, toward us. We knew that it was a standing order in the German Army that any "Lanser" who knocked out an American heavy machine gun would be awarded the Iron Cross. Billy Fitzgerald was manning the machine gun, while Alvin Boone and I were lying in a ditch that ran down the side of the road. Because it was so cold, Mathis, Suchy, Karolonek, and Gantt were all in a large foxhole next to the gun. The German troops came on in such numbers and so quickly, that they could not get out. Fitzgerald was firing the machine gun, which jammed after only a few bursts. Before we could clear it, the Germans were on us and passing on both sides of us. The Riflemen who had been behind us were either killed or left as we heard no shots from that area. The Germans fired automatic weapons at Boone and me, as we made our way, in the ditch, toward the wooded area behind us.

Our position was overrun, Billy Fitzgerald was killed, and the Germans tossed hand grenades into the foxhole next to the gun. Only Mathis and Suchy were wounded, and Karolonek suffered from concussion, but Gantt was unhurt. As Boone and I made our way down the ditch, snow was kicked in our face, by fire, with such force that I thought I was hit, but neither of us were struck. We made our way back to the Company C.P. in the town of Dauendorf. Although not wounded, I was in shock: my gun had been overrun and my squad had been badly mauled. At the C.P., Boone and I were given a warm place to rest, and I learned that the German advance had been stopped, and that we had inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy. We later learned that over seven hundred of the enemy had been killed and that M Company was instrumental in saving the town.

The next day, a battalion from the 79th Division moved up to reinforce us. They, with tank support, kept the enemy from any further penetration. On the evening of the 25th, the Germans gave up any incursions and settled down for sporadic artillery and small arms fire. During the night, they pulled back across the Moder. Our counterattack returned us to our former MLR.

The worst aspect of this battle was that we had little or no artillery support at all, while the Germans had the maximum and used it. Fire from our 60 and 83mm mortars helped, but could not begin to compare with their heavy artillery; and our ammunition supply was limited. On the 27th we were relieved by the 101st Air-

borne Division, and moved back to Einville, France and into Seventh Army Reserve. For the first time in 33 days, we had the joy of getting into a shower, shaving and getting new clothing.

Trail of the Rainbow

David Dann, son of Sam Dann who edited "Dachau, 29th of April, 1945," has produced a superb documentary regarding the 42nd Division. This production portrays the history of Rainbow from its inception and features a group of WW2 veterans. The film was shown on November 11, 1999 on a New York PBS station and was available in Connecticut. It is hoped that other TV stations across the country will follow suit so that everyone may get to see this tremendous achievement. David and Sam are deserving of plaudits for above and beyond. Videocassettes will be available for sale at the mid-year.

Father Duffy Ceremony

In honor of Veterans Day, a memorial ceremony was held in New York City on November 10, 1999 to pay tribute to the memory of Father Lt. Col. Francis P. Duffy, the heroic chaplain of the Rainbow Division in World War I.

The event was organized by "The Coalition for Father Duffy," a group dedicated to the preservation and maintenance of the famous statue of located in Times Square. Following the invocation by the highly decorated chaplain, Lt. Col. Kane, the colors were presented by a unit from the guard, adorned in WWI uniforms. The bag-piper of the 69th Regiment, Joseph Brady, set a nostalgic tone with a stirring rendition of "Gary Owen." A moving address was then given by Gen. Joseph A. Healy, former commander of the 69th and the 42nd Rainbow Division. He summarized the life and accomplishments of Father Duffy and emphasized how this statue is a patriotic symbol which must not be moved from its long-standing site, the most highly visible area in all of New York. At the conclusion of the ceremony, a large wreath was placed by Gen. Healy and PNP, RDVA Bill Kenny who is co-chairman of the Coalition.

Also in attendance were officers of the 42nd Inf. Div. (M) in full dress uniform, representatives of the 69th Regiment Veterans Org. and members of the Rainbow Division Veterans Association - PNP Bill Kenny, PNP Dick Tisch, NJ Chap. Cdr. Pat Guida, and Pro Jud Walker.

Reporters from the print and broadcast media were active and excerpts of the event were televised by NBC on the evening news.

Actions of Anti-Tank Co./242nd Infantry At Hatten-Rittershofen, France-Jan. 9-12, 1945

(Taken from official records. This action earned a unit citation)

Meanwhile, Lt. McBride and Sgt. Feingold were organizing defenses against any further infiltration of the barns and buildings. Lt. McBride took the defenses to the north and Sgt. Feingold to the south. AT men acting as riflemen were placed at strategic points in the buildings, barns, and yards. Cpl. Moreschi was firing the 57 as fast as PFC Moore could pump the shells into the breech of the gun. At one time, about ten Germans were coming along the street hugging the sides of the buildings. Sgt. Veach directed fire to the spot and the first round killed four of the enemy. The others turned into a doorway where Cpl. Moreschi threw the next round. At this time, 1430 hours, Lt. Wells returned and informed the others that the 2nd Bn./242nd Inf. and supporting tanks had been alerted and could be expected to drive up the northern and southern flanks of the town. He also said that artillery would open up to keep the enemy from advancing. At 1440, the artillery opened fire but their range was short and the shells were landing in the zone of the TDs and the two squads. Shrapnel from the first shell hit S/Sgt. Veach in the thigh causing a severe wound. A rifleman standing next to him was instantly killed by the same burst. Cpl. Moreschi took charge of the squad (composed of PFC Moore, PFC Meyers, Pvt. Franklin and Pvt. Dunn). The former three had been members of the 1st Squad. Members of the two Squads were acting as a group. The second shell hit the TD covering the road to the west and set it on fire. The third squad, despite this, continued to blast away. When all the he was exhausted, PFC Bogue and PFC Meyers brought up he from the first squad truck. Then a shell burst across the street and shrapnel hit the first and third Squad trucks. Several pieces of shrapnel pierced the radiator on the first Squad truck. Lt. Wells said he was going to make a dash to contact Regiment. He wanted to report the artillery short rounds and bring up ammunition which was desperately low.

Once again, in the same Jeep, and with T/5 Abel at the wheel, he started out. At 1600, Lt. Wells, returned with small arms ammunition which was distributed among the men. He informed

Lt. McBride that aid was on the way at darkness. At 1615, Lt. McBride was called to direct fire against a group of enemy coming across the field north of the town. He placed men at different spots telling them to hold their fire until the enemy was 200 yards away. They were caught by surprise and they turned and fled, leaving 12 dead on the field. Meanwhile, enemy sniper fire was getting heavier. Lt. Wells said he was going to enter one of the houses from which the fire was heavy. He was last seen entering the door of the house at 1630. As darkness set in, enemy small arms fire decreased. The 1st and 3rd Squads stood by. At 2030, Lt. McBride informed the men that aid had arrived and gone into position on both sides of the town. At 2030, Lt. McBride told the men that aid had arrived and gone into position. The 1st and 3rd Squads were to remain in the area for the night. He had the two guns moved to high ground on the southwest edge of town. Gun no. 1 was placed to cover the field and draw to the southwest. It was in an open position, silhouetted by the burning buildings to the left and rear. The enemy held the high ground to the south and southwest. Gun no. 3 went into position 100 yards to the right of the 1st Squad, in a thinly wooded area covering the fields to the southwest. PFC Eisemann was placed as security near a knocked out Mark IV tank. He killed a German who was a member of the tank crew and had been playing possum in the snow. Temperature was five degrees below zero. During the night, things were relatively quiet except for enemy tank movement and patrols. At 0700, January 10th, Lt. McBride informed the men that he was going to the CP, in a truck, to get rations for the men who had not eaten in 24 hours. At 0800, the 1st Squad covered the withdrawal of some infantry elements and TDs to the southeast, where they took up positions to the rear of the AT gun. Cpl. Moreschi was informed of the 1st Squad move to new defense lines. As the 1st Squad moved, enemy mortar fire hit the spot they had been. Six more rounds followed the truck as it moved across the field. They met Lt. McBride who ordered both guns back to their original positions in Rittershofen. Enemy mortar and artillery

was falling in Rittershofen. Lt. McBride brought a new truck to the 2nd Squad. The Platoon Sgt., T/Sgt. John Lappe, on three occasions, under heavy fire, went from one position to another bringing rations, small arms ammunition, shoe pacs and hoods. At 1430, the 3rd Bn., 313th Inf., supported by tanks, took up positions to the right front of the 1st Squad and several hundred yards beyond. At 1500, the enemy cut loose with a terrific barrage of all types of shells. Enemy planes bombed and strafed. The 1st Squad gun was hit by shrapnel: one piece dented the cradle of the gun. At 1545, Sgt. Lappe, who was with the 3rd Squad, phoned the 1st Squad and told them they were being attacked by enemy infantry and tanks. They were holding the Germans off with small arms, 50 cal. MG, bazookas, and grenades. The 3rd Squad had already accounted for two tanks, and the 2nd Squad accounted for a half-track and light tank. He said he could see enemy infantry overrunning the 2nd Squad, and he said the 3rd Squad ammunition was running low. Then the wire went dead. At 1630, the barrage abated, somewhat, and S/Sgt. Feingold placed half the squad in a house to cover the field and road leading into town, while the other half manned the gun. During the night, Lt. Barratt, the recon officer, tried to contact the Mine Platoon and 1st Platoon to tell they were relieved, but could not find them. At 1730, January 10th, the 1st Bn. had been officially relieved. At 1500, January 11th, the enemy commenced heavy shelling again, and followed with infantry attack on three sides of Rittershofen. The 1st Squad, under MG, artillery, and small arms fire, moved to higher ground 500 yards west. They found the ground occupied by the 14th Armored Division which had its own guns in place. Lt. Barratt informed the 1st Squad that they had been relieved by the 2nd Bn./315th Inf. The 1st Squad made their way to Neiderbetschdorf. That evening, the 1st and Mine Platoons arrived. The 2nd and 3rd Squads of the 2nd Platoon made their way to Neiderbetschdorf. The 3rd Platoon stayed on the left flank of the 3rd Bn./242nd Inf. during the entire engagement until the move to Haguenau on January 20th.

Rainbow Division Enters New Millennium Resurgent

By Capt. Richard Goldenberg

TROY, N.Y. – As the 42nd Infantry crosses into the 21st Century, the men and women of the Rainbow have come nearly full circle, reflecting the veterans of the Great War and the Second World War.

Today's Rainbow is again a multistate division, comprised of National Guard soldiers across seven states. Just like the parade fields of Long Island more than eighty years ago, the members of the Rainbow show distinct pride in their diversity and the strength it brings.

The division is a key component to the Army's Warfighting capability. Just as the Rainbow soldiers of Europe in World War Two required teamwork between different combat arms, the force integrators of today achieved great success in training exercises such as tank and helicopter gunnery, mechanized maneuver training, and command post combat simulations.

What makes the Rainbow so distinctive and necessary in the new century is the key role the division plays in each of its respective states. Community support and emergency response have become paramount missions for the Rainbow, as the National Guard redefines Homeland Defense into its new role in America's defense.

On behalf of the new Division Commander, Brig. General George Garrett, the division Chief of Staff Colonel Joseph Taluto extends an invitation to Rainbow Veterans past and present to the Division Headquarters Chapter Mini Reunion House this June of 2000.

The social affair, now scheduled for June 9th through the 11th, will consist of a visit to the historic Saratoga Battlefield where the tide of the American Revolution turned in the colonist's favor. Also on the tour will be the new national cemetery recently opened in Stillwater and other sites near Saratoga Springs. A banquet with the famous Rainbow Division band Saturday evening and a Sunday tour of the division headquarters with a full equipment display will conclude the weekend affair. Details and costs for the weekend will follow.

The Division Headquarters Chapter of the RDVA also encourages any RDVA members seeking chapter affiliation in northern New York or the nearby region to contact the division personnel office at (518) 786-4459 for information on chapter affiliation with the Rainbow's National Guard.

Origin of the K-Ration

(Courtesy 5th Div. Assn. Newsletter)

As you were sitting in your foxhole in the rain, snow or blistering sun, did you ever wonder how those K-rations got their name? Who invented this waxed Cracker Jack box with the words "K-ration, one meal" stamped on it? For those of you who have lost hours of sleep puzzling over this burning question, the top secret information has been uncovered. Professor Ancel Keyes, director of the Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene at the University of Minnesota, developed these rations – so the name, K for Keyes: K-rations. Dr. Keyes was doing research on the link

between nutrition, diet and heart disease. He was asked to develop a field ration.

Following is a digest from his research paper "Rations for Airborne and Other Mobile Troops": The need for mobility of troops and supplies is recognized as a need for a field ration. Ordinary field kitchens are out of the question in most conditions. The new type "C" ration fills an important need but at 4 1/2 pounds per ration are too heavy and bulky for the fighting line units. The D ration is for emergencies only. A new type of ration is needed for front line troops. This ration must sustain them for one to four days for any single operation. Fighting efficiency is greatly impaired without a proper supply of food. Semi-starvation for only a day results in the derangement of the metabolism of the body. The D bar may aggravate this derangement. Requirements for a "blitz" ration may be summarized as:

1. Such a ration should be a fighting ration – not for emergency.
2. It must be compact and lightweight.
3. There should be a proper balance of nutrients without too much fat and with adequate proteins.
4. It must be adequate in total calories.
5. No cooking should be required.
6. It should be adequate in vitamins and minerals, notably vitamins A, C, and B vitamins, phosphorous, and potassium.
7. It should be resistant to prolonged exposure to extremes of climate.
8. It should not disrupt normal elimination of the bowels or derange the chemistry of the body.
9. It must be palatable and should be relished by the men, not only for a single meal but for a succession of meals.

A ration that will not be eaten is worse than useless. Fighting efficiency is greatly reduced. Variety is essential, which means varied consistency as well as flavor. Tests show that a daily ration for combat troops should be at least 3,200 calories.

Various mixtures were attempted and tested on hired subjects. An example of one of these mixtures is: rendered kidney knobs, prime oleo oil, seedless raisins, peanuts, cerelose, shredded coconut and salt. The biscuits also went through a number of alterations. The inclusion of good concentrated meat products resulted in a satisfactory biscuit.

The composition of the ration is as follows:

Meal 1 – Special biscuit, veal loaf, malted milk tablets, soluble coffee and sugar.

Meal 2 – Special biscuits, ham preparation, dextrose tablets, lemon powder and sugar.

Meal 3 – Special biscuit, dry cervelat sausage, bullion paste, D bar.

The report indicated that these rations could be safely recommended for large scale use. Some modification suggested a second type of biscuit and alteration of the spices.

Test results said that the men were in better shape at the end of the test than counterparts on Garrison rations. Conclusions were that the rations packed as three meals would provide 3,600 calories and the weight of each meal would be 11 ounces. The Wrigley Chewing Gum Co. of Chicago had a contract to make thousands of the K-rations.

An interesting side-light is a note from the wife of a WWII veteran. She worked on the K-ration assembly line at Kellogg's, putting packets of toilet paper into the boxes. She and the other girls would often

include a note with their names and addresses. She never received a reply. So now, as Paul Harvey would say, you know the rest of the story.

Reunion in Vienna

by Herman Prescott – Co. M, 222nd Inf.
(Reprinted from the M Company,
222nd Inf. Newsletter)

I was one of the people in the first group to go to Vienna. When I wrote home and told my folks, my mother asked me to look up her half sister whom she had not heard from in 26 years.

When I looked up her address, I determined that it was in the Russian zone. Our commanding officer obtained a pass for me from the Russians and gave me a Jeep to get there. When I reached the address it was clear that the area had been badly damaged by bombs and shells, and I approached the building with a good deal of apprehension.

It was a fairly large apartment building, and their name was still on the directory. They were on a top floor and, of course, the elevator didn't work, so I had to hike up. When I knocked on the door the woman that answered uttered my mother's maiden name. To say I was stunned would be an understatement. After about a half an hour, I was able to get across to her and her husband who I was. They were overjoyed.

I found out that they had survived a huge tank battle that had taken place down the length of their street, which accounted for all the damage I had witnessed. I presented the husband with a pack of cigarettes and you would have thought I gave him a million dollars. I arranged for another trip to visit them and with the cooperation of our kitchen staff was able to bring them some real coffee, oranges, and other staples which they had done without for a number of years. It had been 15 years since they had seen an orange, much less taste one.

I visited them one more time before I was sent home. I learned, after discharge, that she had passed away shortly after my last visit.

My Last Parade

Let the bugle blow, let the march be played
With a forming of the troops for my last parade

The years of wars and the years of waiting
Obedience to orders unhesitating
Years in the states and the years overseas
All woven in a web of memories
A lifetime of service passes in review
As many good friends and exotic places too
In the waning sunlight begin to fade
With the martial music of my last parade

My last salute to the service and the states
Before I'm laid to rest and take my place
To my Rainbow brothers marching away
I'll gladly pass on the orders of the day
Though uncertain of what your future may hold
Still, if needed, before you grow too old
Keep your saber sharp, your powder dry
Lest you be recalled to duty by and by

So let the bugle blow, fire the evening gun
Slowly lower the colors, my rest has just begun



Contributions

Foundation Endowment Fund - "500 Club"
Robert B. Clemens, \$100, 4th Installment.

Foundation Endowment Fund
G.W. Whitmire, \$2,000, 4th Installment of \$10,000 pledge.

Foundation Operating Fund
Scott B. Thompson, \$100, in memory of Frank ZeHerower, Co. E, 232nd Inf.

Scholarship Endowment Fund
Joseph A. Smith, \$10, in memory of John Dudley, C Btry, 393 FA; Betty Owen, \$40, in memory of WW1 widows; Maude Damon, Doris L. Caswell, Mary Craig, B Btry, 392nd FA, \$40.

Scholarship Operating Fund
Faye E. Keithan & Marilyn Hosterlo, \$40, in memory of John & Nancy Keyser's daughter-in-law; Texas Chapter Aux., \$10, in memory of Doris L. Caswell; Tom Owen, \$25, in memory of Harold McNelly, Co. M, 232nd Inf.; New Jersey Aux., \$25, in memory of Joan Creveling; Errol R. Beauchamp, \$100, in memory of C.B. Thompson; Stephen Magocs, \$52.32, in memory of grandfather, Leroy Reynolds.

Battle of the Ourcq River

The names La Croix Ridge Farm, Meurecy Farm, Hill 212, Sergy, and Seringes-et-Nesles, are famous in the history of the WW1 Rainbow Division. They are the sites of offensive action against heavily fortified German positions

along the Ourcq during a ten day period spanning July 25-August 3, 1918. The Rainbow crushed the veteran 4th Prussian Guard division, but at the cost of almost 5,500 casualties.

Today, this area is much the same as in 1918. Just an hour's drive from Paris and 20 miles northeast of Cheateau Thierry in the Champagne country. Outside the village of Seringes-et-Nesles lies the second largest WW1 American Military Cemetery called Oise-Aisne and the graves of over 8,000 men reburied there by the French after the war ended. Almost 400 are from Rainbow, including Joyce Kilmer, who was killed nearby.

The Rainbow Division has no memorial in the entire area commemorating the deeds and sacrifices of those who fell. Eighty-two years later it seems something should be done to rectify this omission. Contact has been made with several French citizens who have considerable knowledge of WW1 and the Rainbow who agree that the Rainbow should have an appropriate memorial. A possible site has been suggested near the American cemetery.

A proposal is being developed for submission to the Memorials Committee with the expectation that they will bring it before the Memorial Foundation at the San Diego mid-year meeting for approval. Target date for a dedication ceremony will be Memorial Day, 2001. Leave the date open for a trip to France. In the Springtime.

Scholarship Program

Send requests for scholarship applications to Chairman Ted Simonson at 220 Highland Terrace, Los Gatos, CA 95032. Telephone and fax (408) 354-0718; e-mail is tigerted@richochet.net. Completed scholarship applications, including ACT or SAT scores must be sent to the Chairman by May 1st each year. Final semester grades are not required.



The Final Crisis: Combat in Northern Alsace, January 1945

by Richard L. Engler

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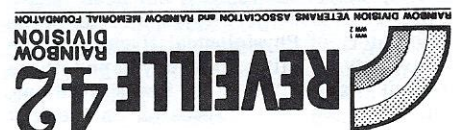
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