



RAINBOW DIVISION
Veterans Memorial Foundation

REVEILLE

VOL. LXXXVII

JANUARY 2007

NO. 3

Rainbow On-Line: www.rainbowvets.org

Chairman's Message

This message for the January edition of the *Rainbow Reveille* will reach all of you after the Christmas holidays and the celebration of New Year's with its attendant emphasis on resolutions intended to make each of us better, happier, more positive, and productive members of society. Although most of these are individual goals, their net effect, when resolve is finally morphed into action, is an aura of both personal and societal good will.

Speaking personally of New Year's resolutions, I made a resolution over a month early and purchased a new 24-speed mountain bike as a Christmas present to myself (also over a month early). Now one-half hour (minimum) each day finds me merrily riding hills and trails, exercising hips and knees that no longer respond well to weight-bearing exercise like walking and hiking. The change in my sense of physical well-being is extraordinarily satisfying. Close friends say they like the increased energy that I've developed.

Now, abandoning personal resolutions and achievements and speaking as your Chairman, I am asking every one of you, especially those of you of properly aged vintage – think 70, 80, or even 90 some years – to **RESOLVE to remain, increase and/or become more active participants in Rainbow this year.**

Individual resolve is a strength, but group resolve is what underlies the strength of democracy; group resolve is what won the Battle of the Champagne by our forebears in WWI; group resolve ("Hold at all cost") carried the day for us in Alsace during the bitter winter of 1944-45. Group resolve in Birmingham in 1920 created our "Rainbow." Group resolve has held us wonderfully together for over 80 years.

And now we need group resolve to hold us together until our present-day 42nd Infantry Division com-

CAMPAIGNS

World War I: Lorraine-Champagne- Aisne-Marne- St. Mihiel-Meuse-Argonne.
World War II: Central Europe- Rhineland- Alsace-Ardenne.
War on Terrorism: Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Joint Reunion of the Eastern Region Chapter and the 42nd Division (Mech) Chapter

Some 40 older Rainbowners joined several hundred younger Rainbowners at the joint reunion of our Eastern Region Chapter and the HQ Chapter of the 42nd Division (Mech) in Troy, NY on the weekend of October 20-22. The reunion was held at the Best Western Rensselaer Inn. We old-timers assembled on Friday, settled in to our accommodations, got to know many of the young Iraq troopers, and enjoyed the refreshments in the hospitality room.

On Saturday morning, after a complimentary breakfast buffet, we departed by bus for the Saratoga Military Museum and afterwards to the Saratoga Casino for lunch and then back to Troy and more hospitality room activity.

That evening, a cocktail hour preceded the banquet at the Best Western, attended by 245 WWII and Iraq Rainbowners. Another 150 Iraq Rainbowners were turned down for the banquet because of limited space! Highlights of the banquet included many traditional toasts to officers of the Guard and honors to fallen comrades, a very impressive punch bowl ceremony, award ceremonies for 42nd Mech soldiers, and key talks by Maj. Gen. Taluto (now the Adjutant General of N.Y. state), Brigadier Gen. Paul C. Genereaux, new commanding general of the division, and Ted Simonson. Dick Tisch, our past national Rainbow president and now our Foundation liaison to the 42nd Mech, presented a sterling silver flag staff ring to the 42nd Mech. This ring had been given to Gen. MacArthur in 1917 by Mrs. Storey, a friend of Gen. MacArthur's

mother, for display on the Rainbow flag. Dick also presented a model of a memorial plaque to be cast in bronze honoring the 77 Rainbow troops who died in Iraq while serving with Task Force Liberty. The 42nd Division dance band provided music during dinner and "big band" tunes after dinner for those who wished to burn off some calories.

Sunday morning, we enjoyed another breakfast buffet and then went by bus to the 42nd's Troy armory where we saw many of the 42nd Mech's artifacts and memorabilia and had lunch with the troops at the armory mess.

It was a most enjoyable and educational weekend for all of us "old" Rainbowners, and we offer a hearty thanks and three "who ah's" to all of the 42nd Mech men and women who made us so welcome during our weekend with them in Troy. We hope to see them all become more active in the Foundation and look forward to their joining us next May in Ocean City, NJ at the Eastern Region Chapter reunion and then at the July reunion in Norfolk/Virginia Beach, VA.

John R. Walker
National Foundation
Rainbow President

For Sale for Holidays

1943 Camp Gruber Book – 32 pages of photos – \$5.00

Year of Progress by Gen. Collins – 28 pages – 5 1/2 x 7 1/2 – \$5.00

Trail of Rainbow Colored Map – 12 x 15 – \$5.00

All items prices include postage and handling. Mail orders to: Rainbow Division Veterans, Hugo E. Grimm, 32 Austin Hill Ct., Wentzville, MO 63385. Make checks payable to Rainbow Division Veterans Memorial Foundation, Inc.

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THE RAINBOW REVEILLE

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THE RAINBOW REVEILLE

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Chaplain's Prayer

A prayer for the new year:

Prayer attributed to St. Francis.

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injustice, 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 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.

Norman P. Forde

Chaplain

Birmingham

Veterans Day Celebration

Some 24 Rainbowners gathered at the lovely Sheraton Hotel on November 9th to participate in Birmingham's 59th annual celebration of Veterans Day. Our Rainbow involvement was ably coordinated and arranged by the efforts of John Wallace, Millennium Chapter, grandson of a WWI Rainbow veteran. We offer our sincere thanks to John for all of his time and hard work! The first evening, 20 of us gathered in the Atrium café of the hotel for dinner, then adjourned to the hospitality room for refreshments and conversation. Friday morning we boarded our bus, went to Shoney's Restaurant for a buffet breakfast, and then went to the Barber Motorsports Museum to view the spectacular display of hundreds of vintage motorcycles and race cars housed there. The museum staff kindly let us veterans in free. From there, we bussed around Birmingham and to the Rainbow Viaduct area for our Rainbow ceremony in honor of the 167th Regiment, the Alabama. Led by a bagpiper, we marched a block to the bridge site of the memorial plaque. Clarence Griffith gave the invocation. Tom Owen led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and John Walker, Foundation President, and Rose Pettus, Auxiliary President, gave short talks. John and Rose then placed a Rainbow wreath at the plaque. The bugler played taps and a closing prayer was given by Grace Walker, PNAP. We then proceeded back down the bridge following the bagpiper and color guard, and re-boarded the bus for our return trip to the hotel.

The banquet that evening at the Boutwell Auditorium was a festive and most impressive affair attended by over 1,000 people with some 80 distinguished guests on the dais (including John and Rose representing Rainbow). George J. Lisicki, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief of the VFW, gave the main address. This was followed by the pre-

sentation of the National Veterans Award to the distinguished Lt. Gen. Hal Moore (Ret.).

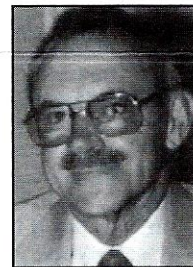
A solemn memorial service was held at 9 a.m. on Saturday at the Episcopal Cathedral of the Advent. At 11 a.m., the World Peace Luncheon assembled again at the Boutwell Auditorium with over 1,000 present. Newly re-elected Alabama governor, Bob Riley, addressed the audience, followed by a talk by Lt. Gen. Ronald Burgess Jr., Acting Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence.

The Veterans Day Parade commenced at about 1:45 p.m. and we Rainbowners rode proudly in our bus, led by Wilber Miller and Pete Pettus, dressed in their WWII uniforms and carrying the U.S. and Rainbow flags. The weather for the parade was cloudy, chilly and threatened rain - but didn't. After the parade, we again returned to the hotel and hospitality room for the evening. Sunday, of course, saw us returning to the four corners of the U.S. THE NEXT REUNION - LAUGHLIN, NEVADA, Feb. 20-22, 2007. Hope to see you there!

John Walker, President

Over the Rainbow So Long, Old Friend

Charles S. Fowler, 82, of Londonderry, NH, passed over the Rainbow on Dec. 16, 2006 at Parkland Medical Center in Derry, NH. He served in WWII in the Rainbow Artillery and the 4th Infantry Division Infantry. He participated in the battle of the Huertgen Forest and received the Purple Heart, Bronze Star and Combat Infantry Badge. Charley served for many years as the Memorial Officer for the Rainbow Association, overseeing the yearly Veterans' Day activities in Birmingham and Navarin Farms ceremonies honoring WWI Rainbow. He served as liaison to the 42nd (Mech) National Guard and was instrumental in the publication of the book describing Rainbow memorials.



He served in the Army Reserve for 33 years, retiring with rank of Sgt. Major. He was active in the American Legion, VFW, and DAV and he served for many years in the Londonderry Creations of WWII monuments and many other local tributes.

Charley is survived by his wife, Helen, two sons, Brian and Craig, and three grandchildren. A funeral service was held at the Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium. Farewell, Charley, you will be sorely missed.

A Different Christmas Poem

The embers glowed softly, and in their dim light,
I gazed 'round the room and I cherished the sight.
My wife was asleep, her head on my chest,
my daughter beside me, angelic in rest.

Outside the snow fell, a blanket of white,
Transforming the yard to a winter delight.
The sparkling lights in the tree, I believe,
Completed the magic that was Christmas Eve.

My eyelids were heavy, my breathing was deep,
Secure and surrounded by love I would sleep
in perfect contentment, or so it would seem.
So I slumbered, perhaps I started to dream.

The sound wasn't loud, and it wasn't too near,
But I opened my eye when it tickled my ear.
Perhaps just a cough, I didn't quite know,
Then the sure sound of footsteps outside in the snow.

My soul gave a tremble, I struggled to hear,
and I crept to the door just to see who was near.
Standing out in the cold and the dark of the night,
A lone figure stood, his face weary and tight.

A soldier, I puzzled, some 20 years old
Perhaps a Marine, huddled here in the cold.
Alone in the dark, he looked up and smiled,
Standing watch over me, and my wife and my child.

"What are you doing?" I asked without fear
"Come in this moment, it's freezing out here!
Put down your pack, brush the snow from your sleeve,
You should be at home on a cold Christmas Eve!"

For barely a moment I saw his eyes shift,
away from the cold and the snow blown in drifts,
to the window that danced with a warm fire's light
then he sighed and he said "It's really all right,
I'm out here by choice. I'm here every night"

"It's my duty to stand at the front of the line,
that separates you from the darkest of times.
No one had to ask or beg or implore me,
I'm proud to stand here like my fathers before me.

My Gramps died at 'Pearl on a day in December,"
then he sighed, "That's a Christmas 'Gram always remembers."
My dad stood his watch in the jungles of 'Nam
And now it is my turn and so, here I am.

I've not seen my own son in more than a while,
But my wife sends me pictures, he's sure got her smile.
Then he bent and he carefully pulled from his bag,
The red white and blue... an American flag.

"I can live through the cold and the being alone,
Away from my family, my house and my home,
I can stand at my post through the rain and the sleet,
I can sleep in a foxhole with little to eat,
I can carry the weight of killing another or lay down my life with my sisters and brothers
who stand at the front against any and all,
to insure for all time that this flag will not fall."

"So go back inside," he said, "harbor no fright
Your family is waiting and I'll be all right."
"But isn't there something I can do, at the least,
"Give you money," I asked, "or prepare you a feast?
It seems all too little for all that you've done,
For being away from your wife and your son."

Then his eye welled a tear that held no regret,
"Just tell us you love us, and never forget
To fight for our rights back at home while we're gone.
To stand your own watch, no matter how long.

For when we come home, either standing or dead,
to know you remember we fought and we bled
is payment enough, and with that we will trust.
That we mattered to you as you mattered to us."

N.Y. TAG to Receive McLain Medal

Maj. Gen. Joseph J. Taluto, a career U.S. Army National Guardsman, has been named the recipient of the Association of the United States Army's Lt. Gen. Raymond S. McLain Medal.

Taluto, the adjutant general for the New York Joint Forces Headquarters, will receive the medal Oct. 9 at the AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition at the Washington Convention Center.

The McLain Medal is presented annually to a member of the National Guard for outstanding contributions to AUSA's goal of a seamless and component-integrated Army.

While commanding general of the New York Guard's 42nd Infantry Division (Mechanized), Taluto commanded the Rainbow Division and Multinational Division - North Central, Task Force Liberty, in its deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom Three.

Taluto became the first to command in combat both guard soldiers and active duty soldiers since World War II.

With 22,000 soldiers deployed, Rainbow Division and Task Force Liberty conducted combat, security and stability operations in north-central Iraq from 2004 to 2005.

Taluto's military service began in 1965 as an enlisted soldier in the New Yorks Army National Guard and was commissioned in 1968 through the OCS program.

Rising from platoon leader to liaison officer, Taluto took over his first command in July 1975 of Company C, 1st Battalion, 210th Armor of the New York Guard.

Since then, he has commanded the 27th Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), was chief of staff of the 42nd Infantry Division (Mechanized), and deputy commander, maneuver, 42nd Infantry Division (Mechanized), all with the New York Guard.

In January, Gov. George E. Pataki appointed Taluto to the position of adjutant general of the state of New York.

"Our state will greatly benefit from the proven command experience, dedication, and qualifications that Major General Taluto brings," the governor said.

A Minefield Connection

Rollin Hurd's new book *A Minefield Connection* may be ordered from Rollin Hurd, 11015 - 108th Pl. NE, Kirkland, WA 98033; or e-mail dochurd@aol.com. The price is \$14.50 plus \$2.00 for postage and handling. Total \$16.50.



Mission of Task Force Liberty: Task Force Liberty conducts stability operations while transitioning counterinsurgency operations to competent Iraqi Security Forces and Ministries in order to establish a secure environment that permits Iraqi self-reliance. For the history of Task Force Liberty, Task Force Baghdad and a description of the 42nd Infantry Rainbow Division, its participation in Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom 2, Operation Iraqi Freedom 3 and its full engagement in the nation's



War on Terror since Sept. 11th, 2001, please visit this web site: www.42id.army.mil

Photos left: 42D ID display in lobby; photos center and right: Maj. Gen. and Mrs. Joseph Taluto, Honors, Toasts, and speakers. Bottom right: WWII Rainbow family members Julie Sturgeon, daughter of Ted Johnson, 232-H, and Lynne Lecrone, seated, daughter of Kenneth Lecrone, 242-Svc, Glenn and Vianne Fontana, son and daughter-in-law of Alfred A. Fontana, 222-Svc, standing.



Left: Ted Simonson, RDVMF Chairman



From Lynne Lecrone: "As a daughter of a Rainbower who was KIA, I enjoy participating in as many Rainbow activities as possible. So I headed to Troy, NY. It certainly was a nice experience to be with the Veterans and the National Guard that had been to Iraq. The one thing I really noticed was how the guard respected

the Veterans and wanted to talk with them about their days in the service. The Military Museum we visited was very interesting. They had a section of the museum dedicated to Rainbow in WWI, WWII, and present day. I especially thought the banquet honoring the men that served in Iraq was very moving. I thought it was so very important that the Rainbow organization presented a plaque to hang in the Armory, that listed the Rainbowers who lost their lives serving in

Iraq. I was so sorry I had to head home and could not go to the Armory. I know they were very busy preparing for the Veterans' visit."

[photo left: "February 21, 1919, members of the 167th Infantry, 42nd Division, taken in Sinzig, Germany", p. 19, 42D Rainbow Infantry Division, RDVA, 1987]



National Reunion
HOLIDAY INN EXECUTIVE CENTER-VIRGINIA BEACH
757-499-4400
July 10-15, 2007

The Holiday Inn Executive Center, located at 5655 Greenwich Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23462, is located between the Virginia Beach Oceanfront and Downtown Norfolk. The hotel is approximately ten minutes from the Norfolk International Airport.

The Holiday Inn Executive Center has 331 beautifully appointed guest rooms which offer cable TV, voice mail, coffee makers, iron and an ironing board. An exercise room, jacuzzi, indoor and outdoor pools provide relaxation year round for hotel guests. Complimentary coffee is served in the lobby each morning and at the front desk Monday-Friday you can receive your complimentary USA Today. Handicapped and non-smoking rooms are available. Please request these special accommodations when making your hotel reservation. Complimentary parking is provided for hotel guests. Check-in time is 3:00pm; check-out is at 12:00 noon. **Ashley's Restaurant** offers breakfast, lunch, and dinner, in a warm and relaxing atmosphere, serving contemporary and traditional cuisine. Room service is also available

The hotel provides complimentary shuttle service if you are flying into Norfolk International. There is a courtesy phone in the baggage claim area, which displays a code number for the hotel. Dial the number, and the hotel operator will send the van to pick you up free of charge. You may want to consider alternate transportation, as space is limited on courtesy services.

Should you require full hook-up service, please contact the following campgrounds for information, reservations and directions. Holiday Travel Park - 1075 General Booth Blvd., Virginia Beach, VA 23451 (757)425-0249. KOA Campground - 1240 General Booth Blvd., Virginia Beach, VA 23451 (757)428-1444.

Should you need to rent a wheelchair for the reunion, ScootAround rents both manual and power wheel chairs by the day and week. Please call their toll free number at (888) 441-7575 for details. All prices quoted include delivery fees.

Vendors, Schedules, and Prices are subject to change.

*****CUT HERE AND MAIL TO THE HOTEL *****

42nd RAINBOW FOUNDATION - HOTEL RESERVATION FORM
REUNION DATES: JULY 10-15, 2007

NAME _____ PHONE (____) ____-_____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____ APPROX. TIME _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

of rooms ____ # of people ____ Smoking ____ Non-smoking ____ Handicap Access ____ King Bed ____ 2 Double Beds ____
(If room type requested is not available, nearest room type will be assigned)

RATE: \$89 + tax (currently 13%, plus \$1 per room per room lodging tax) for Double or King.

CUT OFF DATE: 6/7/07 Reservations received after this date will be processed on space & rate availability.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Deposit is refundable if reservation is cancelled by 6:00pm on your arrival day. All reservations must be guaranteed by credit card or first night's deposit, enclosed.

____AMEX ____ DINERS ____ VISA ____ MASTERCARD ____ DISCOVER

CARD NUMBER _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature (regardless of payment method) _____

Mail to: Holiday Inn Executive Center, 5655 Greenwich Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23462

Where Is Markella?

by Ray Schumacher

She was a person not to be trifled with. And she worked in the kitchen (mess hall) of Company G, 242nd Regiment, 42nd Division. We first met after we had been through WWII as upper teenagers. It was in the Alp mountains of Austria in the little town of Ferleiten. The 4th platoon of G Company (then 17 soldiers) was assigned to a roadblock on the Hochalpenstrasse (High Alpine Highway). Our duties were to provide a U.S. Army presence between the American and British zones. We would stop all cars, perhaps 10 per day, and ask them where they were going, then let them proceed if not suspicious.

Markella was there when we arrived. She had been a practical nurse for the German wounded soldiers who had previously recuperated in the local hotel. She was of Greek origin, could not speak English, but could communicate in some German. No one fooled around with Markella. If she even thought you spoke a bad word, she would pick up that stove poker and chase you around the kitchen. She then gave you a lecture in whatever language came out of her mouth. You couldn't understand the words but you understood the meaning.

Perhaps the Germans had conscripted her when they were in Greece. Markella could have gone home after the war. But maybe she didn't have a place to call home. So she stayed in Ferleiten. When the winter snows came and the Hochalpenstrasse closed, she moved with us down to Niedernsil where the G Company CP was located. There she worked in the kitchen. She had a place to stay and plenty to eat which was more than many European people had in late 1945.

When Company G moved to Vienna in January 1946, we were housed in Grinzing. Markella was there when we arrived, ready to do kitchen work. She worked the kitchen as long as Company G was an organization. Some of us soldiers left in the spring of 1946 to return to America. I left in May 1946. Lloyd Teale and I received letters from Markella in fractured German. She could utilize the Army mail system by having soldiers forward her mail. When the Americans left, we lost track and have no idea what happened to her.

And here is more of the story.

In the fall of 2003 I started clearing out the attic at home and found my old address book written in 1945/1946. In it was a page written in Greek. I knew Markella must have written it. My daughter and son-in-law work in a place where translations are done. So I asked if it could be translated. The younger Greek people could not translate it. But an older person said it was written in Katharevousa, the pure Greek that his parents had learned in school. He pro-

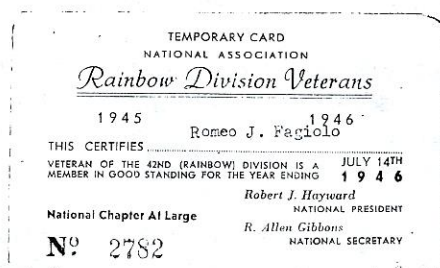
vided the translation. He thought the spelling left something to be desired and thought that, because of history, "colleague" might be more appropriately translated as "comrade or camaraderie."

Attached is a copy of Markella's writing and the translation.

4 April 1946

Today, 4 April, I, Markella Tsikoura, write on this paper these few words as a remembrance of a good brotherhood, to the best colleague I met from the American Army in Germany. I believe you too will not forget a good colleague from Europe when you open this notebook, you will remember all your colleagues from the war in Europe.

[initials]



Recently, I was sifting through the contents of my file cabinet. Papers tend to accumulate after a few years, and must be pruned occasionally. In the back of one of the drawers, I discovered a small envelope containing pictures and old membership cards. Closer inspection revealed that I had saved my first Rainbow Association membership card when I joined in Austria. The number, 2782, indicates that I was not the only Rainbower to join the Association, but I was pleased that I had kept it, for I have always taken pride in the fact that I have been a paid member since 1945.

Romeo

Herrlisheim

by Edward LaBurda, PFC,
Company G, 232nd Infantry Regiment

"I can't remember much but we sure had a battle in Herrlisheim. I don't think I ever saw so many Germans coming at us in all my later battles. I remember our commander getting wounded and he told us we could surrender or try to get out the best we could. We got in several battles after that and lost a lot more men, but I can't remember the towns. My family kept an album pertaining to my military service, and for your information, I am enclosing with this letter a copy of a newspaper article which tells of my Company G buddy "Stan" J. Pempek's and my 31-day experience behind Nazi lines. "Two Weary Yanks, Overtaken by Enemy Counteroffensive

in Alsace, Tell How They Lived 31 Days Behind Enemy Lines"... [excerpt from printed article] "When the Nazis overran Herrlisheim, Pempek and LaBurda were cut off up a blind street. They scrambled into a cellar and lay behind a coal pile, listening to Germans tramping and shouting in the rooms above. At length the Germans left the building and a civilian man and woman entered the cellar. They could not speak English. But by speaking German, by sign language, by copious tears and going through the motions of slitting their own throats, they made it clear they wanted the Americans to leave - without delay. 'They tried to push us out,' said LaBurda. 'They were crying and wringing their hands.' We wanted to stay until dark, but they insisted we go immediately. So we went out in broad daylight and ran down the street to another house. We asked the people there if they would let us stay with them but they refused and chased us out. So we went to a little shed and hid under the hay. An old lady saw us go into the shed. About 15 minutes later she came in with a German soldier. But he didn't find us. After he and the old woman left, we went out and looked for food and a better place to sleep." As can be imagined, Pempek and LaBurda weren't exactly sorry some time later when a heavy American shell whistled into town and wrecked the old woman's house. She wasn't in it at the time and they were, but they escaped unhurt although the house practically fell down to the ground. Hunting for food, Pempek and LaBurda did pretty well. They found two cans of C rations, a can of beans, a can of biscuits, and they rolled snowballs for drinking water. Then they went back to the haystack and lived there for a week. By this time the pangs of hunger drove them into action again. They decided to risk asking the old woman again for food. They crept into her house and found it empty. But they discovered a loaf of bread, a few cans of strawberries and cherries, and lived on these for the next few days. Then they went out foraging again. But they found only a few pieces of bread and spent several more hungry days subsisting on these. "One night," said LaBurda, "a big American shell landed right close to our shed. I had one-foot boot off. The shell knocked off Pempek's hat and I never found my boot again. Bricks were piled up to our knees. I asked Pempek if he was all right and he said Yes." The shell took the roof off the shed so the two boys moved to a nearby barn and went back to the old woman's house, searching for more food. This time their hunt took them to the second floor. While they were there, another big shell went through the ground floor and wrecked the place. Continuing artillery fire drove them to the cellar where they found wine and preserves. When the shelling died down they took 15 quarts of preserved cherries and plums back to

their barn. They remained in hiding there four more days and LaBurda went out hunting again. He went into a house only to find that a German soldier had entered the same place only a minute behind him. Here luck did LaBurda a good turn. The German was suspicious and was searching through the house. LaBurda, pressed for time, couldn't find a better place to hide than under a bed. But the German didn't bother to look under this particular bed and never found LaBurda. When the German disappeared, LaBurda hot-footed it back to the barn. "That same day," he said, "a large number of Krauts moved into the town and six moved into the house near our barn. I found three sacks of apples and a bag of Christmas nuts which lasted us six more days." The day before the American troops came in, LaBurda and Pempek came upon a veritable windfall – 50 pounds of bacon and four loaves of bread which they found in an empty house. Meanwhile, the Germans suddenly pulled out of Herrlisheim and LaBurda saw men in American uniforms coming down the street. They were cautious because they knew Germans sometimes use American uniforms, so they waited awhile. "Then," said LaBurda, "I saw an officer. I could see his bars on his shoulders. I hollered and asked if he was an American. He replied, 'Yes, what do you want?' I was crying when I ran out into the street to meet him. We were lucky to get out alive because the Americans bombed and shelled the town most of the time we were there."

We Get Letters

I am an archeologist working at Camp Gruber and have located a site of five small, medium, and large concrete bunkers that I believe were used in a training exercise, perhaps for the Normandy invasion. The largest bunker is about 40 feet square and 12 feet tall and surrounded by earthen berms. All have blast damage on the exterior walls from multiple demolition charges. I would like to contact anyone who may have been involved in training exercises involving these bunkers. The information will be included in the archeological report I am writing for this site.

Charles Neel
cneel@gggroupinc.com

This I Believe

by Robert A. Heinlein

I am not going to talk about religious beliefs but about matters so obvious that it has gone out of style to mention them. I believe in my neighbors. I know their faults, and I know that their virtues far outweigh their faults.

Take Father Michael down our road a piece. I'm not of his creed, but I know

that goodness and charity and lovingkindness shine in his daily actions. I believe in Father Mike. If I'm in trouble, I'll go to him.

My next-door neighbour is a veterinary doctor. Doc will get out of bed after a hard day to help a stray cat. No fee--no prospect of a fee--I believe in Doc.

I believe in my townspeople. You can knock on any door in our town saying, 'I'm hungry,' and you will be fed. Our town is no exception. I've found the same ready charity everywhere. But for the one who says, 'To heck with you-- I got mine,' there are a hundred, a thousand who will say, 'Sure, pal, sit down.'

I know that despite all warnings against hitchhikers I can step to the highway, thumb for a ride, and in a few minutes a car or a truck will stop and someone will say, 'Climb in, Mac--how far you going?'

I believe in my fellow citizens. Our headlines are splashed with crime, yet for every criminal there are 10,000 honest, decent, kindly men. If it were not so, no child would live to grow up. Buisness could not go on from day to day. Decency is not news. It is buried in the obituaries, but it is a force stronger than crime. I believe in the patient gallantry of nurses and the tedious sacrifices of teachers. I believe in the unseen and unending fight against desperate odds that goes on quietly in almost every home in the land.

I believe in the honest craft of workmen. Take a look around you. There were never enough bosses to check up on all that work. From Independence Hall to the Grand Coulee Dam, these things were built level and square by craftsmen who were honest in their bones.

I believe that almost all politicians are honest... there are hundreds of politicians, low paid or not paid at all, doing their level best without thanks or glory to make our system work. If this were not true we would never have gotten past the thirteen colonies.

I believe in Roger Young. You and I are free today because of endless unnamed heroes from Valley Forge to the Yalu River. I believe in--I am proud to belong to--the United States. Despite shortcomings from lynchings to bad faith in high places, our nation has had the most decent and kindly internal practices and foreign policies to be found anywhere in history.

And finally, I believe in my whole race. Yellow, white, black, red, brown. In the honesty, courage, intelligence, durability, and goodness of the overwhelming majority of my brothers and sisters everywhere on this planet. I am proud to be a human being. I believe that we have come this far only by the skin of our teeth. That we always make it just by the skin of our teeth, but that we will always make it. Survive. Endure.

Chairman's Message

continued from page 1

rades-in-arms and Millennium Chapter progeny can take over the continuing task of maintaining our beloved organization.

What is needed from each of us?

RESOLUTION!

1. **Resolve to attend every Rainbow gathering possible** – Chapter, National and Birmingham.

2. **Resolve to contact old friends and comrades of Rainbow** – encourage them to join you in attending functions. The fun and satisfaction is in the people we know, the memories and sharing, the fondness we hold for each other.

3. **Resolve to make Rainbow decisions early** – build other activities around your Rainbow schedule. Make reservations for planes and lodging and pay registration fees early. Cancel them only if and when circumstances require it.

4. **Resolve to be present to welcome the next generation of Rainbowners** – show them the way and deep satisfaction of participating in Rainbow activities.

5. **Resolve to be strong rather than make excuses** – Take Clarence Griffith, for example – 93 years old, flies from southern California to Birmingham, gets to the hotel and back to southern California **by himself** – and shares every activity in Birmingham with a group that was made better, happier and tremendously enjoyable with his wit and charm. Many others were as envious as I. What a "Rainbowner."

Resolve makes winners in sports, business, politics and in life. Resolve now to keep "Rainbow" on the "Winning Streak" it has maintained since 1920!

Ted Simonson, Chairman

I believe that this hairless embryo with the aching, oversize brain case and the opposable thumb, this animal barely up from the apes, will endure longer than his home planet--will spread out to the stars and beyond, carrying with him his honesty and insatiable curiosity, his unlimited courage and his noble essential decency.

This I believe with all my heart.

Written by Robert A. Heinlein in 1952, for Edward R. Murrow's *This I Believe* program. Virginia Heinlein chose to read it when she accepted NASA's Distinguished Public Service Medal on Oct. 6, 1988, on Mr. Heinlein's behalf (a posthumous award).

Contributions to Memorial Foundation

FOUNDATION OPERATING FUND

Charles Fowler, 50, in memory of Mildred Fagiolo.

SCHOLARSHIP OPERATING FUND

James & Delinda Garlich, 3,000, in honor of Dad, Sgt. Edward J. Garlich; Mr. & Mrs. C.K. Mutchler, 500, donation.

Donations always welcome!

**Make checks out to "RDMF" and send to
Jon Janosik, 3389 Kingston Lane,
Youngstown, OH 44511-2031.**

96 Years Young

Hi Ken,

Long-time Rainbower Walter Pierce, former 542nd F.A. Battalion Sergeant Major, was 96 years "young" on December 20, 2006.

I suggest that we pass the word around to all Rainbowers who know Walter to send him a card or give him a call.

I'm sure he would be glad to know he is remembered.

Address: 400 Waverly Oaks Road,
Waltham, MA 02154. Phone: 781-893-0170.

*Yours in Rainbow,
Larry Rosen
542nd F.A. Bn.*

In Memoriam

Major General Harry Hart Treadaway passed away on May 7, 2006.

He was born in Wadesboro, NC, and attended local public school until he entered the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY, where he was a member of the class of 1947. During his 41 years of service in the United States Army, he earned a degree in Engineering from North Carolina State University. After retiring from the Army, he worked for DuPont for several more years. He spent the last 15 years of retirement in Ponte Vedra, FL.

He is survived by his wife of 35 years, the former Virginia Impara of Mt. Vernon, NY; a daughter, Patrice Hurt, of Chester, VA; a son, Randy Treadaway, of Wadesboro, NC; and a sister, Betty Canipe, of Morven, NC. He was predeceased by a brother, Bill Treadaway, of Mooresville, NC.

Memorial services, with full Military Honors, will be held at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in his name can be sent to the Mayo Clinic, at 4500 San Pablo Road, Jacksonville, FL 32224.

Editor's note: Harry served with the 222nd Inf. in Europe.

42nd Rainbow WWII History Book

We have reprinted the original WWII History Book in limited number. The book that was first published in 1946, has 166 pages and bound paper back in 8 1/2 x 11 page format. The cost of \$22 includes shipping and handling.

This would make a great gift for the younger generation.

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