



Chairman's Message

What an awesome responsibility I have been granted. As Chairman, I am far from the most qualified, but I assure you, I will take this opportunity to give my best to Rainbow. I shared my reflections at the Memorial Service in Dayton, of what it was like to grow up in a Rainbow veteran's home, and attend reunions for the past 18 years. I would like to share it with the rest of you as well. For those who have heard it before, I beg your indulgence. I knew of World Wars I & II as a child. I played Army like all kids. I heard about Rainbow Reunions, starting in 1968, because that is when my parents began attending. I was at my first reunion in 1986 in Oklahoma City. It was not until 1992, in Milwaukee, that I attended my first Rainbow Memorial Service. The names of those who had passed over the Rainbow were published for all to see, and it really meant very little to me. I did not know these men. I continued to come, year after year after year. I became acquainted with Rainbower after Rainbower. Each subsequent memorial service became more and more important to me as I saw the names, of those I had come to know and love, being published in the memorial file. Although these were not "foxhole" buddies, they were men I had come to learn about... their past, as well as their present. So, it was through Rainbow, that I had a history with them. Maybe, it was watching a late night movie, such as "The Fighting 69th" and seeing men with a Rainbow patch on their shoulder, or seeing a World War II vet's car on one of our nation's highways, sporting a Rainbow decal on his window, or seeing the Rainbow patch worn by our current 42nd Infantry Division men and women, but I want to say, I've never been more proud to be an American and son of Rainbow. I was like many a boy, when he got that letter from his Uncle Sam that started out, "Greetings". I was reluctant to join the military, but I did, and I came home. The men of Rainbow were no different. You came home, but many did not. Those, we honor today, along with those who have passed over the Rainbow since that great war and especially all of those in the Memorial File we have before us today.

I have a great friend who now lives in Israel. We worked together for several years. His name is Haim Rahami. He is a Jew, and when we correspond, he usually closes his emails with the words, "God Bless America". I believe, he is privy to more information about the Rainbow Division, than anyone else in all of Israel. The Holocaust, and the liberation of Dachau, is a big deal to him. He knows about Rainbow, because I tell him about Rainbow.

This is my heritage. This is your heritage and this is your children's and grandchildren's heritage. As our current 42nd Division men and women salute and say, "Rainbow, never forget", my reflection of Rainbow, has become my vision FOR Rainbow... we must NEVER FORGET! --Earnest E. "Earnie" Owen, Chairman



PNP Ted Simonson receives certificate of appreciation from John Walker at reunion banquet (photo by Earnie Owen)

Message from John Walker DAYTON REUNION –A SMASH HIT!

July 8 – 11th saw some 200 Rainbowers invade the Holiday Inn North in Dayton, Ohio for our 65th Annual WWII Reunion. Yes, we are getting older, slower, more forgetful, harder of hearing, and with more aches and pains. BUT, by golly, we sure had a great reunion! Let's recap the activities for you.

The "Early Bird" gathering on Wednesday evening was enlivened by the harmonies of a great Barbershop Quartet as we renewed old friendships and reviewed personal events of the past year. On Thursday morning we piled into three buses and traveled to the Air Force Museum to review the history of Air Force flight, had a fine luncheon at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Officers Club and then returned to the museum for more sightseeing.

Our Friday luncheon was entertained by Martin Allard, Captain USN RET. He regaled us with fascinating stories of his Navy units' involvement with pirates off the coast of Somalia in the Persian Gulf. That evening at the combined units' dinner, Lee Ann Kinner, singer/guitarist entertained us during dinner. After dinner she provided music for our informal Rainbow quintet which harmonized on the best known WWII song "Lili Marlene". Members of the quintet included Linda Owen, Shirley Kinsey, Fritz Krenkler, Ray Schumacher and John Walker. This was followed by a song fest, joined in by everyone, of many of the all-time favorites.

The Memorial Service on Saturday morning was solemnly conducted by Reverend Earnie Owen, and Reverend Bob Weiss, S.J. who spoke about the Champagne Hour. Beautiful music was played and sung throughout the ceremony by the Campo family, ending with echo taps. It was so meaningful to Anna Campo, her daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren because (their husband, father, grandfather) Vincent had gone over the Rainbow within the past year.

The banquet on Saturday evening was a highlight of the reunion as always. Joe Dorsey acted as M.C. and had us all laughing at his rapid patter of stories and jokes. Four members of the 42nd Rainbow Division (National Guard) attended the reunion (Captain Ben Tupper, Sgt. Chris Connelly, SPC Jimmy Bedgood, and SPC Rachel Sanzo) and spoke at the banquet. Ludwig Stoeckl, the Dachau Jeweler who designed, crafted and donated the beautiful Purple Heart jewel to Rainbow last spring was a special guest of the reunion and spoke with great feeling at the banquet. Finally, a special tribute was paid to retiring Chairman, Ted Simonson, for his many years of devoted leadership in Rainbow. This tribute to Ted was made by John Walker in the form of a "mild roasting" and "This is your Life". Now, a brief recap of personnel changes: Chairman – Earnie Owen; President – Jim Clemons; V.P. – Esther Peirce; Asst. Sec. – Melanie Remple. Trustees for 3 year terms: Jim Clemons, Earnie Owen, Ted Simonson, Jim Schaefer, Dolores Kallagher, Robert Weiss, John Walker and Gene Wopata.

Finally, our heartfelt thanks to Rose Pettus and her crew for a great Hospitality Room filled with good food and drink and good cheer and fellowship. Verna Krenkler also did a wonderful job of running the Bazaar. It was voted at the Auxiliary Meeting to stop having the Bazaar in the future. We are all grateful to the many that have supported it for so many years. And last, but certainly not least, we give special thanks to Pete Pettus for all his efforts and hard work in organizing a great reunion.

**NEXT YEAR OUR NATIONAL REUNION IS
IN NEW ORLEANS!!!**

Cutoff date October 1, 2009 for November 2009 issue.

THE RAINBOW REVEILLE

Official Publication of the
RAINBOW DIVISION VETERANS
Memorial Foundation

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**DEATH NOTICES for MEMORIAL FILE,
and \$10.00 DUES for RDVMF "at large"
members who do not pay dues through
chapters -**

TO SECRETARY HERB BUTT

16916 George Franklyn Dr.,
Independence, MO 64055

*To honor the memory of our departed
Chaplain and a great mentor, Norman
Forde, I offer this prayer given by him
after our September 11, 2001 National
tragedy. This prayer is timeless and very
appropriate for the time we are living
in now. Earnest E. Owen, Chaplain*

A Prayer for the Nation

Lord, we come to You on bended knee,
heads bowed and our hearts filled to
overflowing with grief for those who have
been injured or killed in this National crisis.

We ask You, Lord, to give courage and
strength to those who so bravely went to
their aid. We ask, Lord, that You give
them the endurance needed to help them
in the difficult task.

Give us strength to get through each
difficult day that faces each of us and our
country. Protect and guide our military in
their duties. Guide our President,
members of Congress, and all in authority.
We ask that with your Infinite, Wisdom you
guide them to right decisions.

And lastly, Lord, we ask that You allow us
all to now come together as a Nation, to
stand tall and united so that we might help
each other in our hour of need.

Amen.

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

A Stroll in the Rain

By William T. Kenny CO G/242D Inf.

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

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

We started out as I remember shortly
after noon. We were on foot and everyone
was wearing rain gear as it was a chilly,
drizzling day. There was a mist covering

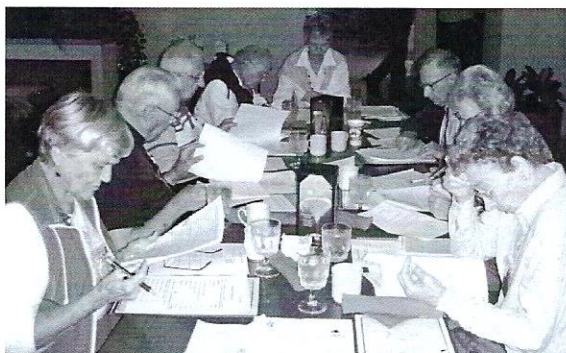
the landscape. We were as usual griping
about having to leave our dry quarters in
captured farmhouses to take what we
regarded as an inconsequential action.
About halfway to the town, we passed a
Pub (Rathskeller). There were a number of
bicycles parked out front. As the
conquering army, we confiscated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

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

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

The following morning a relief column
entered the town and the Germans
retreated. The bridge was still intact and
the town was secured. What started out as
our inconsequential stroll in the rain turned
out to be another small conquest on the
way to final victory. [R - Lt. Charlie Paine; L
- Pfc later Sgt Bill Kenny]





CONGRATULATIONS to the 2009 Rainbow Scholarship Winners, announced at the reunion at Dayton, OH in July. The 21 scholarships awarded are designated as R=Rainbow \$500., K= Kaiser \$1,000, J=Ted Johnson \$1,000, O=O'Connor \$1,000, D=Duhasek \$1,000. And 42D=\$1,000. to the following students:

R - **Kyle B. Barton**, Davenport, IA; R - **Elizabeth G. Fisher**, Columbus, OH; R - **Holly A. Fisher**, Columbus, OH; R - **Taylor G. Hoke**, Los Gatos, CA; R - **Kevin N. Hoerold**, Glenville, NY; R - **Elizabeth Knott**, Pemberville, OH; R - **Carolyn Kolb**, Hillsborough, NJ; R - **Alexandra Margol**, Nashville, TN; K - **Anne-Marie McLean**, Elmhurst, IL; J - **Mary Beth McLean**, Elmhurst, IL; R - **Kelly Moor**, St. Louis, MO; O - **Mary R. Moroney**, Baton Rouge, LA; R - **Shannon Pederson**, Lakewood, CO; R - **Nicole Petrie**, Kiel, WI; R - **Erin M. Pettus**, Blue Springs, MO; 42nd - **Carly Pinzini**, San Diego, CA; R - **Christopher Rossi**, Severna Park, MD; R - **Matthew Rossi**, Severna Park, MD; D - **Kelsey E. Taylor**, Gainesville, FL; R - **Jacob R. Twomey**, Dartmouth, MA; R - **Heidi N. Weaston**, Columbus, OH

[photo: final decision-making by the Rainbow Scholarship Committee at Dayton].

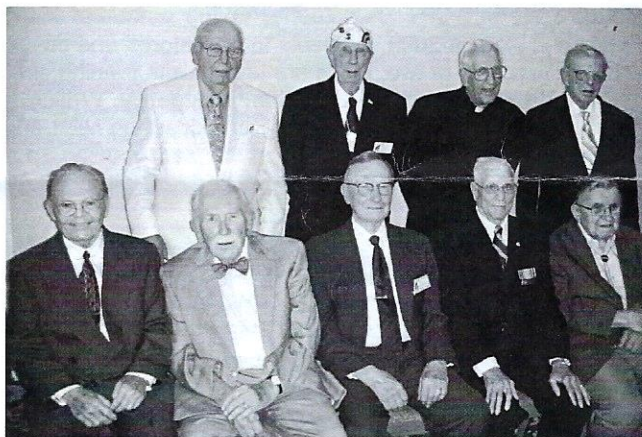
REPORT ON ARCHIVAL MATERIALS

At the Trustee's Meeting in July 2009 at Dayton some of the men wanted to know where the Memorabilia delivered to William "Bill" Keithan, National RDVMF Archivist, had been sent. By this letter I want to assure them that all materials are located where they are available to all to see and read. I was approached to try to go to Bill's home, as he is no longer physically able to continue as the Archivist, to remove all the material he had collected and send it on to the Archives and Museums Bill had been sending to. Wilbur and I went to Keithan's home once a week for two months and with the excellent assistance of Faye Keithan we were able to remove and ship all the material in their home. All of the material is now located in the following locations: MacArthur Museum in Norfolk VA; University Libraries Love Library in Lincoln NE; Liberty Museum WW-1 Kansas City MO; U.S. Army Military History Institute and Museum, Carlisle Barracks, PA; Veterans Museum in Chehalis, WA Yours in Rainbow, Ruby A. Miller 6801 82nd Street SW Lakewood WA 98499-2023 <rubyam@earthlink.net> [photo: Ruby and Wilbur Miller]



Past National Presidents of the RDVA/RDVMF At Dayton, OH Reunion July 2009

National Auxiliary, Top Row L - R: Esther Peirce, Marjorie Eaton, Myrtle Wallace, Grace Walker
Bottom Row L - R: Verna Krenkler, Barbara C. Eberhart, Rose Pettus, Winifred Baldock, Joanne Dart, Jean Kemmerer.
Not in photo: Frances Marshall



RDVA/RDVMF, Top Row L - R: Richard J. "Dick" Tisch, James R. "Pete" Pettus, Rev. Robert F. "Bob" Weiss, S.J., Donald L. Segel
Bottom Row L - R: Carlton T. "Ted" Simonson, Herbert A. Butt, Dee R. Eberhart, Ivan H. Wallace, Jr., Vassil J. "Rube" Evanoff.
Not in photo: Harold G. Melinek, Charles F. Marshall

PHOTO LOWER RIGHT: L - R MELANIE REMPLE, MILLENNIUM CHAPTER PRESIDENT; LINDA OWEN, NATIONAL AUXILIARY PRESIDENT; EARNEST "EARNIE" E. OWEN, RDVMF CHAIRMAN-ELECT

RULING BY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS "DEAR ABBY:

In May 2001, you printed my letter alerting former prisoners of war and their widows to the special veterans benefits available to them from the Department of Veterans Affairs. The response was great; many former POWs and their dependents now have their VA benefits because of that column. Now, as chairman of VA Outreach for American Ex-Prisoners of War, I write to alert all veterans (not just former POWs) of a recent VA ruling. On Sept. 23, 2008, Lou Gehrig's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), was made a presumptive condition for all veterans who served in our armed forces for at least 90 days. This means that the widows of those veterans who died of Lou Gehrig's disease in years past are eligible for the VA widows' monthly benefit, which is very substantial. Many people are not aware that a veteran's death due to this disease is now considered service-connected. One claim I handled recently involved an ALS death 46 years ago, in 1963. Yours in Rainbow, PETE [J.R. "Pete" Pettus, RDVMF PNP and current RDV Reunions Officer]



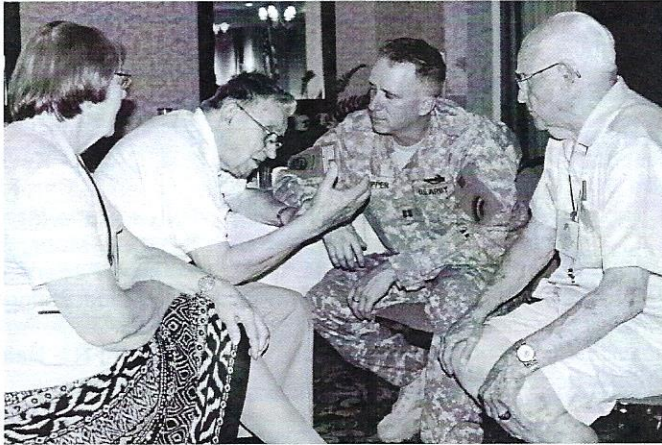
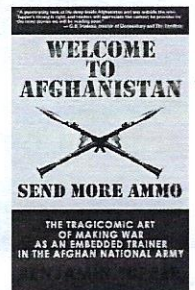


Photo right, Standing - Left, Harold Melinek, PNP; Right – Richard J. “Dick” Tisch, PNP and Liaison Officer. Seated left to right – members of the 42D Infantry Division SPC Jimmy Bedgood; CPT Benjamin Tupper, SPC Rachel Sanzo, SGT Christopher Connelly. **Photo left**, by SPC Rachel Sanzo. Capt. Benjamin Tupper, a public affairs officer with the 42nd Infantry Division from Syracuse, NY listens to stories of Rainbow Division veterans Vassil Evanoff from Bloomington, MN and Ivan Wallace from Pinetta, FL at the Rainbow Division Veterans Memorial Foundation's 65th Annual Reunion in Dayton, Ohio on July 11, 2009. L – R Dora Jones, Vassil “Rube” Evanoff, 222-I, CPT Ben Tupper; Ivan Wallace, 222-Med. To read the Sun. Jul 12, 2009 article accompanying this photo, “Rainbow Vets of Today, Yesterday” by 42D Infantry Division Public Affairs Specialist Jimmy Bedgood – go to <http://dmna.state.ny.us/index.php?id=1247514468>

[Editor's Note: CPT Ben Tupper is the author of the book, “Welcome to Afghanistan Send More Ammo”, published in August 2009, available in bookstores and on <Amazon.com> in September. From the jacket description: “Working in teams of two, ETTs are tasked with training, leading in combat, and mentoring the Afghan Army to victory against the thriving and brutal Taliban insurgency. Writing and recording from a remote outpost, Benjamin Tupper's boots-on-the-ground dispatches were broadcast on NPR and posted on Doonesbury's milblog The Sandbox. Now he takes us deep inside the intricacies of the war, opening up a unique and multifaceted view of Afghan culture, history, and war tactics.” A portion of the proceeds of this book will benefit Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America and Afghans4Tomorrow.



Letter from **BG Steven N. Wickstrom, Commanding General, 42 Infantry Division** read at the banquet by **CPT Benjamin Tupper** – “Dear Rainbow Division Veterans: I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to the members of the Rainbow Division Veteran's Association for your support of the 42D Division Family Readiness Group (FRG) and the Division during these difficult times. Your contributions and support of the FRG has directly helped numerous Soldiers throughout the Division while we are amidst this current conflict. I know you are aware of the sacrifices of our Soldiers. Your support of the FRG provides them and their Families with the added resources they need before, during, and after deployments. Our FRG is the link between units and Families when Soldiers are away. On behalf of the 42D Infantry Division and the Family Readiness Group, thank you for your support of our Soldiers and Families. Rainbow, Never Forget!”



May 3, 2009 at Parade Field, Camp Smith Training site, Cortlandt Manor, NY, **Change of Command Ceremony, 42nd Infantry (Rainbow) Division** – Brigadier General Paul C. Genereux Jr., Outgoing Commander and Brigadier General Steven N. Wickstrom, Incoming Commander; Reviewing Officer Major General Joseph J. Taluto, The Adjutant General New York State. In attendance were WWII veterans (seated L – R) Harold Melinek, 42D QM Co., Richard Tisch, 42D F.A.; standing (I – R) James Bartholomew, 242-H/SV, and Frank Dippo, 42D Div. HQ

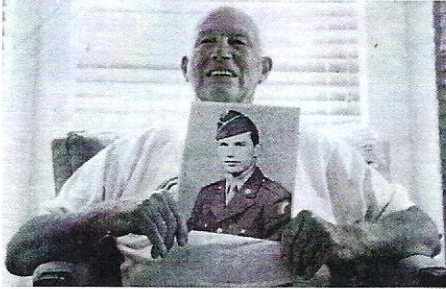


N.Y. Adjutant General tapped to lead Guard - From the Army Times, May 25, 2009 – Article by Michelle Tan – “**Major General Joseph J. Taluto**, who led the New York National Guard's 42nd Infantry Division into combat in Iraq in 2005, has been nominated for a third star and to become director of the Army National Guard. If confirmed by the Senate, Taluto, who is now the adjutant general of New York, will succeed Lt. Gen. Clyde A. Vaughn, who is retiring after almost 40 years in uniform.”



Changing of the Guard !

HUGO GRIMM – Patriot



Hugo Grimm has been appointed Publishing Editor Emeritus. He goes back to the year of 1978-1979 when he was the National President. His wife, Oriana, was the Auxiliary President the following year. Hugo continued serving Rainbow as the helper to everyone for 31 more years. His main job was the Reveille Publishing Editor but he was always willing to help when required. I don't recall Hugo being AWOL whenever anyone had a problem. He was always aware of how to fill a specific need. You always thought of Hugo first when you had a problem to be solved. He is my personal friend and has helped me in many areas whenever I needed him. We hope he has a very pleasant vacation!! Take care, Hugo!! God bless!!

Your former editor has now completed 21 years of service to Rainbow and hopes to continue more as Reveille Chairman (mainly as budget overseer of finance aspects getting true value for expenditures). He has filled this job for the last six years during Herb Klinedinst's illness and death. We now go back to the original concept of the management of finance. At present the Reveille committee (appointed by the RDVMF Chairman) consists of the Reveille Chairman and Publishing Editor. The Committee appointees are serving with the concurrence of the Trustees.

Ken Carpenter, Reveille Chairman
Your Reveille Chairman 1945



Thanks to Suellen – Reveille Publishing Editor. The Foundation has presented Suellen McDaniel with a certificate of appreciation for the many

areas she has worked in, diligently – this includes Membership Chairman, author of the three Regimental CDs (Secretary and fund raiser for the Millennium Chapter of the RDVMF), coworker with Barbara Eberhart on the job of tracing Rainbow descendants, and recently Assistant Editor of the Reveille.



RDVMF Welcomes Honored Member

In a well-attended ceremony at Munich, Germany on May 25, 2009 the RDVMF Honored Member Certificate was presented to Ludwig Stoeckl, (holding framed certificate) by veterans Frederick "Fritz" Krenkler, 222-HQ, Jim Clemons 242-K and J. R. "Pete" Pettus, 232-K. The certificate reads:

"THE HONORABLE LUDWIG STOECKL, ARTIST, JEWELER, GOLDSMITH IN FRIENDSHIP AND APPRECIATION FOR YOUR PURPLE HEART JEWEL GIFT TO AMERICA, HONORING ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES AND ESPECIALLY THOSE TROOPS OF THE 42ND RAINBOW DIVISION WHO LIBERATED YOUR HOME TOWN OF DACHAU AND THE DACHAU CONCENTRATION CAMP, AND FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR MILITARY FORCES WAGING WAR AGAINST INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM IT IS OUR PLEASURE TO PRESENT TO YOU THIS CERTIFICATE ATTESTING TO YOUR PERMANENT HONORED MEMBERSHIP IN OUR 42ND RAINBOW DIVISION VETERANS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, INC. (SIGNED) C. THEODORE SIMONSON, CHAIRMAN; ROMEO J. FAGIOLO, PRESIDENT".

In his acceptance speech, Mr. Stoeckl spoke of his reason for his gift: "If you would ask me why I did this – and you may rightfully interject that I'm no general, nor somebody of rank, nor a statesman or representative of my country, politician or such, I will tell you that it is my deepest conviction that every citizen who feels that something is important is able to do something for it, show commitment and is as well able to say "Thank you" and show such a sign of friendship. I felt and I feel this way, and that was my personal reason to do what I did." Mr. Stoeckl presented his Purple Heart Jewel to the RDVMF on June 15, 2008. The jewel is currently displayed at the Virginia Holocaust Museum.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In coordination with the Chairman, it is with humble honor at being elected at the Dayton Reunion to serve as President of the 42ND Rainbow Division Veterans Memorial Foundation. It is a function with great responsibility in continuing to preserve the historic and worthy ideals of the 42ND Rainbow Division while looking always to the future. Rainbow veterans association history began with the formation of the Rainbow Division Veterans Association at Bad Neuenahr, Germany in 1918 and has evolved forward today. Our extended family keeps

growing as history progresses, and most definitely includes the citizen soldiers of the current New York National Guard 42ND Rainbow Division, its many elements which, as noted by then Col. Douglas MacArthur so long ago, spreads across the Nation like a rainbow. Our duty, our job, is to remember and respect the past but also enhance the future of the 42ND Rainbow Division and its stated objectives as it marches on for the Nation and our dedicated historic ideals. Lastly, it was noted at the Dayton Reunion, the several 'extended veteran family' groups who were present to enjoy the camaraderie, the opportunity to participate and hear worthy presentations, tours of historic sites, make new friends, and just have a good time, did so. The Rainbow does good things. Next year the annual reunion will be in New Orleans, with of course various Rainbow events throughout the year. Rainbow, Sir, never forget.

Jim Clemons, President

Reunions Officer Report

Dayton Ohio Reunion – Attendance at Dayton was up to 203 from 145 at Salt Lake City. We had several very large family groups which really helped. We had a few problems as always, but all in all it was a very good reunion. The tour to Wright Air Force Base was really great. The Officer's luncheon that we had there was very good. Most of us saw the Nazi flag that the 222ND captured in Schweinfurt, in a display case with the explanation of how it came to be there. The entertainment at the early Bird Party and the Unit Dinners was very good also. The hospitality room was smaller than we hoped for but we made out alright with it. We had lots of help from the ladies and men who worked very hard. The trustees voted to accept New Orleans for the 2010 reunion. We had two proposals and we will check out the hotels to see which of the two is best for us. We are expecting a large group again next year.

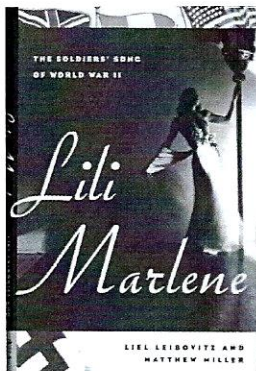
Pete Pettus, Reunions Officer.

NOTICE TO RAINBOW DIVISION KZ DACHAU LIBERATORS –

IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE AN INVITATION TO A REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY AT THE CAPITOL ROTUNDA, WASHINGTON, D.C., APRIL 15, 2010, PLEASE NOTIFY SHELBY QUEEN, SPECIAL EVENT COORDINATOR, U.S. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM, 100 RAOUL WALLENBERG PLACE SW, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024-2126

E-MAIL: SQUEEN@USHMN.ORG

AND INDICATE YOUR 42ND RAINBOW DIVISION WWII STATUS. THE SAME ADDRESS APPLIES IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND BUT WOULD LIKE TO BE PLACED ON AN ACTIVE LIBERATOR LIST MAINTAINED BY THE MUSEUM OR UPDATE YOUR PREVIOUS CONTACT INFORMATION WITH THE USHMM IF IT HAS CHANGED.



Lili Marlene -The Soldiers Song of World War II

by Liel Leibovitz and Matthew Miller,
Publisher: W.W. Norton & Co. 248
pages; 2008

Recommended Reading - The story of the song, those who made it famous, the Third Reich's attempts to keep it from being heard, and its impact on soldiers regardless of nationality.

LILI MARLENE

Verse I

Vor der Kaserne, vor dem grossen Tor
Stand 'ne Laterne; und steht sie noch davor,
So woll'n wir da uns wiedersehn,
Bei der Laterne woll'n wir stehn
Wie einst, Lili Marlene, Wie einst, Lili Marlene

In the dark of evening where you stand and wait
Hangs a lantern gleaming by the barrack gate.
We'll meet again by lantern shine
As we did once upon a time,
We two, Lily Marlene, we two, Lily Marlene

Devant la caserne
Quand le jour s'enfuit,
La vieille lanterne
Soudain s'allume et luit.
C'est dans ce coin-la que le soir
On s'attendait remplis d'espoir
Tous deux, Lily Marlene, tous deux, Lily Marlene

English Verses 2 - 5

Our shadows once stood facing, a tall one and a small.
They mingled in embracing upon the lighted wall,
and passers-by could see and tell
Who kissed my shadow there so well,
My girl, Lily Marlene, My girl, Lily Marlene

Then came the trumpet blowing retreat to you and me.
My love, I must be going or else three days C.B.
("confined to barracks.")
And so I whispered "Cheerio!" Oh, darling, how I
hate to go, My sweet Lily Marlene, My sweet Lily Marlene

The golden lantern burning knows you well and true,
Your walk so soft and yearning, the bright desire of you.
But ah should you lose your soldier dear, who then will
stand and kiss you here,
Who then, Lily Marlene? Who then, Lily Marlene?

Your dreaming lips caressing like sunshine in the south,
A hot red rose confessing its secrets to my mouth.
Oh, when the mists of evening rise,
I love the light in your dear eyes,
My own Lily Marlene, My own Lily Marlene.

EASTERN REGION ANNUAL REUNION

14-15-16 October '09 Ocean City, NJ at the Port-O-Call Hotel
All Rainbowers, Family and Friends are most welcome.
For more information call:

Bud Gahs	Bill Connell	Harold Melinek
(410) 665-1091	(585) 586-2990	(908) 604-9181

Letter from Art Niedzielski, brother of
Capt. Harold Bugno, 222-K, killed in
action near Neubourg, France on
01/26/45. Art contributed family photos of
his brother to be included in the **History of
the 222D Infantry Regiment on CD:**



"Your package arrived in the mail today.
Many thanks. I'm sure my nephews and
nieces will be very interested. I will burn
copies and send them out. Thank God for people like you who do
not forget the men and women who gave all they had for their
country."

[photo of Capt. Harold Bugno]



222nd INFANTRY REGIMENT



242nd INFANTRY REGIMENT

**UNIT HISTORIES ON CD
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The 242D Story will be
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At \$7.00/CD we are keeping
costs as low as possible with just
the amount necessary to
reimburse our Millennium
(Rainbow Family) Chapter
treasury for expenses; donations
toward future projects such as these are always welcome
and appreciated. Ordering information on page 8.

NOTICE- To discuss items which may be included on
the agenda at the Trustees' Meeting at Birmingham,
please contact RDVMF Chairman Earnie Owen.
[see contact information on page 2]

VETERANS DAY BIRMINGHAM CELEBRATION

Since **Veterans' day 2009** is on **Wed November 11**, that means
that the activities will start on Tuesday Morning the 10th of
November and end on Wed evening and the people will depart
on Thursday. Those of us that arrive on Monday afternoon or
early evening will have a BBQ dinner in the hospitality room.
That will probably be most everyone. The bus will take us to a
Breakfast on Tuesday morning. Then we usually have a tour
and have the wreath-placing ceremony at the Rainbow Viaduct.
Lunch is on our own and will be followed by the trustees
meeting. The banquet is that evening around 7 pm with a
distinguished guest reception at 5:30 pm. The next day is the
memorial service at the Episcopal Cathedral of the Advent.
Service starts at 9:00 am. People then walk to Bautwell
Auditorium and have luncheon. The Rainbow Bus will be there
and after the lunch the Rainbow people will board the bus and it
will enter the parade. **For details, contact Reunions Chairman
Pete Pettus or visit <<http://www.rainbowvets.org>**

Crucible of Fire

Note: The article below consists of a digest of the experience of a rifle company during the Battle of Ohlungen Forest. Complete justice cannot be given due to lack of space. It is hoped, however, that the threads of the story are intact, in order to pay tribute to their gallant endeavor.

(Excerpted from the "Combat History of Company K, 222D Infantry")

The 25th of January, 1945, proved to be a memorable day for the men of Co. K. A twenty-man OPLR was cut off and a covering force sent out was pinned down. Here, Lt. Woelfer, C.O., called on our only available artillery, Regtl. Cannon Co. for fire. Excellent spotting resulted in the enemy taking cover and slaking their own fire. Under additional covering fire from a light machine gun, the OPLR withdrew, with Sgt. Morales bringing up the rear. Sgt. Morales was severely wounded, and four volunteers, Lt. Berg, Pfc Kriz, Pfc Shephard, and Pfc Gaby took a litter and went out to where Morales lay. This required crossing 200 yards of flat open country in plain sight of the enemy. This mission was successfully completed. Subsequently, a trip to the aid station with men wounded from the group was fraught with peril with the coming in of several volleys of large caliber artillery. Additional casualties were incurred.

Men from the mortar section and men from the 3rd platoon began moving to the right to fill a gap between the 2nd and 3rd platoons, made by earlier casualties. About this time, a very heavy barrage hit the right flank and a heavy fire fight broke out in the E Co. area, to the right. Wire communication was destroyed, and remained out most of the night. About a battalion or more hit the 2nd Plt. Other enemy troops broke through E Co. and came in behind the 2nd Plt. Around the old mill.

All of the fighting at this time was taking place in a dense woods, with deep snow, and no moon. We had no artillery support, and no way to contact them, if we had. The Germans had ample artillery, and outnumbered us badly. In addition, enemy troops were wearing white camouflage suits. Elements of the 3rd Plt. were surrounded. At this time, Lt. Yanke, Plt. Ldr. Of the HMG Plt. in our area, withdrew his section from the right area of the 3rd Plt. and moved it to the right flank of the company now exposed by the breakthrough, so as to prevent the enemy from using the road that ran from Haguenau to Neubourg behind the MLR. His machine guns did an excellent job, and were very instrumental in helping us hold what we did. For his gallant leadership in both his own platoon and the 3rd Plt., after Lt. Harper was wounded, and his valiant efforts to keep the wire communications in by personally repairing the breaks, he earned the DSC.

During this period, the 2nd Plt. was undergoing a heavy artillery barrage, followed by an overwhelming infantry

assault. Only nine men, under T/Sgt. Chambers, were able to make their way back. The rest of the surrounded platoon fought until their ammunition ran out, and most were captured.

In the 1st Plt. area of Neubourg, things were hot and heavy. The strength of the attackers numbered about 1,000. One squad of the LMG section and part of a platoon of L Co. assisted the defending 1st Plt. All told, we had about 80 men to hold off an attack launched by a regiment. The 2nd Plt. was even worse off. Part of the 1st Plt. was covering the Neubourg Mill and the wall surrounding it. The rest was deployed along the edge of the village right of the small wood in which the 3rd Plt. area started. The Plt. and the left section of HMGs were having a field day. Despite the flat terrain, the Germans kept coming. Here, the 60mm mortars really did a fine job.

After the wires went out, Lt. Woelfer, his runners, and radiomen moved out on the MLR with an SCR 300 radio, but the antenna was shot off, making it useless. At Neubourg, an armored car was commandeered and under the leadership of Lt. Woelfer, they headed toward the 2nd platoon, after checking out the 3rd platoon. They ran into Lt. Yanke's roadblock. Lt. Yanke pointed out several enemy they had stopped, which promised a hot reception ahead. The M-8 and its crew now proceeded into enemy held territory. A crew of 7 Krauts and a light machine gun were quickly taken care of, when another machine gun opened up. The position was outflanked and completely wiped out. Moving down the road the M-8 had no more ammo and two flat tires. A withdrawal then took place. That night the Kraut artillery was extremely heavy inflicting many casualties in and around the 1st platoon C.P. Our reply was negligible.

Another M-8 armored car was procured and prepared to move out. As they approached the roadblock set up by Lt. Yanke, they encountered an L Co. patrol led by Captain Bugno, Bn. Exec. Lt. Woelfer was instructed to report back to the Bn. C.O., and Capt. Bugno took over the M-8. He set out to drive the infiltrating Krauts out of the area. Here, Pfc's Owen and Platamone accounted for many dead. The patrol had to pull back under intense opposition. About this time, a tree burst killed Capt. Bugno and three L Co. men.

Back at the Co C.P., things were rough. It was filled with fatigued and half frozen men. The next morning, things got a little more quiet, but the Krauts had not quit. Sixty-eight were flushed out of a house in Neubourg. The afternoon of 26 January, the 3rd Bn. of the 314th Infantry came up to help us out, and started to hack at the pocket the Krauts had made in the Ohlungen Forest. Casualties were heavy, and many prisoners were taken. We covered the left flank, which was on the side of the enemy, as the attack moved along the MLR and the road behind it. The men from

the 79th wondered how we had managed to hang on as much as we had. The next evening, we were relieved by elements of the 101st Airborne. The 1,900 yards once defended by K Co. was now covered by three different companies.

Earlier in the day, while out looking for the missing men, Lt. Woelfer and Lt. Yanke hit an anti-tank mine with their jeep. Lt. Yanke later died of wounds received and Lt. Woelfer was wounded. When the company finally assembled and marched out of that now silent and eerie valley of death, 3 officers and 120 men who had gone into the line. The men were dead tired, hungry and numb with cold. Three days of continuous shelling and the screaming terror of night fighting in the deep snow, against overwhelming odds, could be seen on their faces. Within, they were proud, having done a superb job, but many an eye was misty and many lips mumbled prayers of thanks, as they thought of their many buddies that were left behind.

Last Full Measure

Reveille Chairman's Note: In the Battle of Ohlungen Forest, there were many examples of gallantry and outstanding leadership. However, the example set by Lt. Otto Yanke is one that would be almost impossible to emulate. Tragically, Lt. Yanke was killed when the jeep he rode in struck a mine. Typically he was in the company of Lt. Woelfer, searching for survivors. For his actions at Ohlungen Lt. Yanke received a D.S.C. He should have been given the Congressional Medal of Honor

Lt. Otto Yanke commanded an M Co., 222nd Inf. machine gun platoon, supporting K Co. His men said, "He meant survival to us." He managed to keep control of his platoon throughout the battle, moving constantly, from gun crew to gun crew, bringing order and news, and just talking to his men. He made them understand that they were not alone; they were a part of his team that must be the backbone of this defensive line; and, truly, those heavy machine guns spoke all night, with an authority that belied the thinness of the line.

Yanke kept the easternmost gun of his platoon in position, even when the riflemen to its right had been overrun. To cover the flank, exposed by the breakthrough, he moved one gun, manned by Sgt. Roger Peck, from the edge of the woods, down to the main road. There, it could fire down that road, and stop the German advance from the east, on Neubourg. Peck's gun became the blocking position against the Panzer-Grenadiers moving to envelop Neubourg.



The family of Lt. Yanke has made this photo available to be printed in the Story of the 222D Infantry Regiment on CD, now available.

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