

ARMISTICE/VETERANS DAY 2019 HONORING RAINBOW SOLDIERS















# REVEILLE

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#### **CAMPAIGNS**

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

**CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE** Happy New Year! We wish our Rainbow family a healthy and prosperous 2020. Our foundation is in great shape financially and our membership is growing. We are well positioned for the future.

Headquarters 42d Division is mobilizing shortly and will be deploying to the Middle East for Operation Spartan Shield. The Division will command conventional U.S. Army combat forces in Kuwait, Jordan and other countries of the Arabian Peninsula. With all the current turmoil in the region we ask your prayers for the safety of all our soldiers during their deployment. The Foundation will support the family programs for the deployed soldiers where we can. More to follow on this.

The response for the 2020 RDVF 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tour of Europe has been strong. There are only two seats left. Please visit <a href="https://www.rainbowvets.org">www.rainbowvets.org</a> for information on securing your participation in this historic event. The RDVF scholarship season will soon be upon us. The 2019 selection process was highly selective and impressive with the quality of the applicants. We expect the same for 2020. Please note the submission dates this year on the foundation website.

Rainbow, Never Forget! Paul Genereux, RDVF Chairman



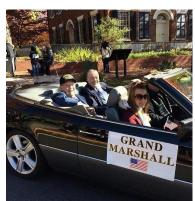




Photo captions and credits are on page 2

#### RAINBOW REVEILLE

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#### **FOUNDATION CHAIRMAN**

#### **FOUNDATION VICE CHAIRMAN**

Phil Pugliese
27 Estate Drive Castleton, NY 12033
<phillip.t.pugliese.nfg@mail.mil> (518)703-0465

#### **MEMORIALS OFFICER**

#### **FOUNDATION SECRETARY**

Kelly Fancher 51 June Lane Valatie, NY 12184-4908 <kelly.l.fancher.mil@mail.mil> (518)527-7011

#### FOUNDATION TREASURER

Peter P. Riley
22 Almond Tree Lane Warwick, NY 10990-2442
<rileycameraeye110@gmail.com>

#### **HISTORIAN**

Patrick Chaisson 508 Glen Avenue Scotia, NY 12302-1412 <patchais@aol.com> 518-641-2731

#### SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN

Gary Yaple
P.O. Box 531 West Stockbridge MA 01266-0531
<gyaple1@gmail.com> (585)507-8363

#### **EVENT COORDINATOR**

John J. Willsey
48 McDonald Dr Cohoes, NY 12047-1119
<john.j.willsey.civ@mail.mil> (518)496-2669

#### **REVEILLE EDITOR**

Suellen R. McDaniel 1400 Knolls Drive Newton, NC 28658-9452 (828) 464-1466 < jmac1400@aol.com>

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**EDITOR:** Suellen R. McDaniel (address above)

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# PLEASE REPORT DEATHS FOR MEMORIAL FILE TO NATIONAL SECRETARY

Kelly Fancher, contact info above With copy to REVEILLE editor, Suellen McDaniel

#### DUES FOR RDVF MEMBERS (\$25./annually; \$50.LIFE for WWII veterans; \$200.LIFE for all others)

may be sent directly to RDVF Treasurer, Peter P. Riley, USPS above; or online at <rainbowvets.org>



#### CHAPLAIN'S PRAYER

Almighty God, You have provided us a good land for our heritage. We pray that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of Your favor and glad to do Your will. Bless our Nation with honest industry and sound learning. Save us from violence, discord, pride, arrogance and every evil way. Defend our liberties and fashion into one united people the many brought here out of oppression and lost hope. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those who, in Your name, we entrust with the authority of government, that there may be justice with peace at home; and that, through obedience to Your law, we may encourage all nations to grant civil liberties to their people.

In time of prosperity fill our hearts with thankfulness and, in the days of trouble, trust You to be our help. Praise be to You, our God and Redeemer. Amen



Chaplain Raymond H. Willemssen, F/222 WWII First printed in the March 1988 issue of The Rainbow REVEILLE Photo presentation by photographer Béatrice Dahm

#### Captions for photos on page one

Top photo left panel - Photo 1 – At the Wreath presentation site of Camp Albert Mills, birthplace of the 42nd Infantry "Rainbow" Division WWI Memorial, Garden City, Long Island, NY Garden City Mayor, Theresa A. Trouvé (R) was presented with a plaque for the Village of Garden City for its continued support as were Village Administrator Ralph V. Suozzi and Superintendent of Public Works, Joseph Di Francisco. Photo by Division and Military Naval Affairs New York Guard Captain Mark Getman Photo 2 – Retired U.S. Marine Corps Sergeant Major Hubert "Bert" Caloud, superintendent of Oise-Aisne American Cemetery, near Fère-en-Tardenois, FR

Photo presentation by Béatrice Dahm **Photos 3 and 4 -** Fort Drum, NY COL Michael T. Bice, Joint Force HQ Latham NY; photo by Kelly Bessel, Airman & Family Readiness Program Manager 174th Attack Wing, NY Air NG; Fort Dix, NJ; photo by CSM Carmen Giamporcaro, USARMY NG NJARNG (USA)

**Photos 5 and 6** – Montgomery, AL Union Station Nimrod T. Frazer, author of Send The Alabamians, in front of Memorial; The Birmingham Rainbow Viaduct; photos sent by SGM Jeremy C. Birchfield Operations Sergeant, 1-167 Infantry Battalion

**Right hand panel** - Memorial wreath laid at Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis War Memorial "In memory of the Soldiers of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Division U.S. Army in World Wars I and II...."; photo and presentation by Ken Marshall, son of WWII Rainbow Veteran, Charles F. Marshall, C/122 Med Bn (RDVA Past National President) and Frances L. Marshall (RDVA Past National Auxiliary President).

DAHLONEGA, GA Veterans Day Parade Grand Marshall Arthur "Pete" Hardy (L) who served in WWII as a MSG in Company M, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 222<sup>nd</sup> Infantry, 42<sup>nd</sup> Division WEST POINT USMA wreath laid at statue of General Douglas MacArthur by Gurpreet Singh LTC, CM, NYARNG (R) and MAJ Tillistrand, 42d HHBN S3

NOTE - A wreath was also placed at the 151st Machine Gun Battalion Memorial, Coleman Hill, Macon, GA – no photo available

#### 15 YEARS AGO – 42<sup>ND</sup> ALERTED FOR COMBAT MISSION

#### By MG(R) Joseph Taluto

(MG Taluto commanded the 42<sup>nd</sup> Division from 2002 to 2006. He was commander prior to and during the mobilization and deployment of the HQ 42<sup>nd</sup> Division and most of its base units to Iraq in 2004/5. The major base units in the 42<sup>nd</sup> were the Aviation Brigade, Engineer Brigade, Division Artillery, Division Support Command, Division Artillery Brigade, Signal Bn, Military Intelligence Bn, and Military Police and Chemical Co).

February 14, 2004, Valentine's Day! I received a call at my home from MG Julian Burns, G3/5/7 Hq FORSCOM and was informed that the HQ 42<sup>nd</sup> Division and its base units (meaning the special Brigades, Battalions and Companies assigned directly under the HQ) would be called to active duty and serve in Iraq. Indeed, one year later to the day, the Hq 42<sup>nd</sup> Division took command of Multi-National Division North Central Iraq! That was 15 years ago. In honor of the men and women who made this historic deployment a success I will write a series of articles outlining the pre-mobilization, mobilization and deployment of the Division Has, its base units and the formation of TF Liberty. Articles will appear in the January, April and July edition of the Reveille.

These articles are not intended to recount every detail of the mobilization and deployment but rather are for the interested Rainbow faithful who served and supported the Division during this truly historic time. The information outlined in these articles is from my own notes, records and recollections. For those wanting more information, the history of the 42<sup>nd</sup>'s participation in the Iraq war is well documented in numerous military reports, books and in archives at the US Army Military History Institute (USAMHI) at Carlisle Barracks in Pennsylvania.

Prior to that fateful phone call on Valentine's Day, 2004, the Division was scheduled to prepare a Brigade size unit with a small Division Command and Control Cell (i.e. Tactical Command Post) for what had been an ongoing mission in Bosnia that the active duty Army had passed on to the NG. Other NG Divisional Brigades and their Division Command and Control Cells had already made the rotation and the 42nd would have its turn in the 2004/5 timeframe. Of course, the events of September 11, 2001 and the entry of US forces into Iraq in 2003 led to the Army planning another role for the NG! Prior to the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) The Army had undertaken a reorganization to transform the structure of its Divisions to a new modular design. A decision had to be made as to whether to continue the reorganization or to postpone it due to the onset of OIF. The Army decided to continue with the program but understood that they would need a NG Division for one rotation to provide time for the AC Divisions to complete transformation. In late 2003 and early 2004 the rumors were flying! Which NG Division would be selected? What would the criteria be? What mission would be assigned? Much speculation ensued. Many theories have been put forward as to why the 42nd was selected. You may have your own idea. While I do not have any absolute knowledge of the decision-making process, I too have my own theory!

Shortly after being notified of our pending alert and mobilization, the New York Army National Guard (NYARNG) held a Statewide Commanders Conference in Albany. It was at this Conference that then Army National Guard Director LTG Roger Schultz made the official announcement that the 42<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division would be mobilized and deployed to Iraq. While a mission was not announced it was widely held that it would be a Combat mission and that the Division would have command of Active Duty units. This was historic in two ways. First, no NG Division had been to combat and led by its own Commander in modern history and second no NG Division leadership had command of active units in a combat zone since WWII. A NG Officer named Raymond S. McClain, an Ohio Guardsman who attained the rank of LTG, commanded a Corps for a short time.



Shortly after the February conference, details started becoming available. Indeed, the Division would have a significant combat mission in Iraq in an area currently controlled by the US Army's 1st Infantry Division. It was made clear to me that 42nd leadership would have great leeway in forming the Division HO to meet mission requirements. I immediately requested a copy of the 1st Division HQ MTOE (Modified Table of Equipment is a document that outlines how many personnel will be assigned and what equipment is provided to that unit) and its wartime manning document (this document adjusted the MTOE to meet specific mission requirements). Upon receiving and reviewing both, the Division Staff and I realized just how much work we had in front of us to bring our HQ up to standard. The 42<sup>nd</sup> current MTOE was a 1980's version and very outdated. It called for a Division HHC of approximately 289 personnel while the 1st Division's current MTOE called for manning at 404. On top of that the 1st Division was in Iraq and working with a robust wartime manning document of 527 personnel! And that was just personnel. Equipment modernization was a whole other monumental task.



It was evident that the Hq 42nd and its base units needed additional personnel, some with unique skills not found in the NG, and allied equipment prior to deploying. This would become an ongoing process and the HQ and its base units would continue to have personnel assigned up to and even after

deployment. This presented training and cohesion problems as the Division prepared for mobilization, but due to great teamwork within the Division, among numerous State Adjutants General, The NGB and The Army Staff, we were highly successful bringing the Division HQ and its base units up to wartime manning and equipping levels.

For sure there were many moving parts in pre-mobilization. In addition to the constant process of cross-leveling personnel from other units into the HHC 42nd, medical screening of personnel was a major factor. Many assigned soldiers had medical issues that needed to be resolved prior to mobilization or had disqualifying medical problems. On hand Equipment was checked for serviceability while new equipment orders were extensive. On top of personnel and equipping, we had to develop a comprehensive training plan for the Division HQ. It was a difficult task as the mission requirements were vague at this point. Of course, basic staff training and team building were paramount but specific requirements were needed to sharpen the training program to ready for the mission ahead. We were in contact with the 1st Division during this time to ascertain what mission requirements on the ground where most important. This communication with the 1st Division would become a key component for getting the Division ready for combat.



Days were non-stop February through April. New information was received almost daily that drove even more requirements and raised yet many more questions. Where were we to mobilize? What additional units would be assigned? What was the actual mission? What were the deployment date(s)? The list went on!

In the next article we will answer these questions and discuss how the  $42^{nd}$  was to become Task Force Liberty!

(It should be noted that only one Infantry Battalion from the 42<sup>nd</sup> was mobilized and deployed at the same time as the Division. The Fighting 69<sup>th</sup> was mobilized but served under another Division within the Area of Operations. We were all disappointed that the 69<sup>th</sup> would not be assigned under 42<sup>nd</sup> control. However, The Battalion went on to distinguish themselves and we were extremely proud of their performance!)

Photos provided by COL Richard L. Goldenberg, Public Affairs Office, Joint Force HQ, NYNG

**Photo 1** – Combat Lifesaver Training **Photo 2** – Family members at the farewell **Photo 3** – Banner at the Troy (NY) Armory

#### DEPLOYMENT CEREMONY FOR TROY NY BASED RAINBOW DIVISION SOLDIERS 11 January 2020



New York National Guard Soldiers of the 42nd Infantry Division conduct a farewell ceremony held on January 11, 2020 at Siena College in Loudonville, N.Y. More than 1,500 Soldiers and family members turned out for the farewell ceremony, one of three held in the state. The 42nd Infantry Division headquarters, based in Troy, N.Y., mobilized for deployment to the Middle East later in the spring. More than 650 Soldiers participated in the farewell at three sites across the state. U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Matthew Gunther.

# 75<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY EVENTS and COMMEMORATIONS Hatten at 75 – The Big Picture

By Patrick J. Chaisson RDVF Historian

Three-quarters of a century ago this month, soldiers of the Rainbow Division were locked in bitter combat with elite German assault troops at a place called Hatten, France. Those who survived it remember Hatten as pure chaos.

Confusion reigns in wartime. Rarely does the frontline infantryman know where he is or what's going on. Making things worse, most of Hatten's defenders were experiencing battle for the first time.

It is no wonder, then, that the personal accounts left by Rainbow Division veterans often describe what happened there in January of 1945 as a series of unconnected memories: cold bunkers, terrifying shellfire, flamethrower tanks, running, digging, shooting, a wounded buddy's screams, the moment of surrender.

This article proposes to make some connections about the Battle of Hatten, which took place from January 9-20, 1945 in France's Alsace region approximately six miles west of the Rhine River. In it we hope to provide "the big picture", information not available to those troops 75 years ago.

The U.S. Army in Europe was, by New Year's Day of 1945, dangerously low on riflemen. A high casualty rate exceeded the flow of replacements, requiring unusual measures that were intended to bring combat divisions up to full strength. One such measure was the creation of Task Force Linden.

Named for Brig. Gen. Henning Linden, the 42<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division's assistant commander, this ad hoc formation consisted of approximately 9,800 soldiers who belonged to the outfit's three infantry regiments: the 222<sup>nd</sup>, 232<sup>nd</sup>, and 242<sup>nd</sup>. These "Rainbowmen" (as they called themselves) were rushed to France ahead of schedule, leaving behind for a time the

42<sup>nd</sup>'s field artillery, combat engineer, and service-support elements.

Task Force (TF) Linden was strong in rifles, mortars and machine guns, but lacked the long-range howitzers so necessary to defeat its German adversary. Those heavy weapons would have to come from somewhere else.

There was little time for the Rainbowmen to settle in after their arrival at Marseilles, France, in late December of 1944. By Christmas Day they had been assigned to VI U.S. Corps and were occupying the city of Strasbourg. The New Year found Brig. Gen. Linden's troops holding an impossibly-broad 42-mile line along the Rhine River north of Strasbourg.



Also taking place on January 1st was an enemy offensive known as Operation Nordwind ("Northwind"). A "spoiling attack", this action meant

to keep U.S. forces pinned down in Alsace and unable to react to other German assaults occurring farther to the north in Belgium's Ardennes region. For a full week, though, all remained quiet in the task force sector.

On January 7<sup>th</sup>, 1945, TF Linden's 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 242<sup>nd</sup> Infantry (2/242 INF) absorbed a vicious attack by the German 553d Volksgrenadier Division at a village called Gambsheim. Operation *Sonnenwende* ("Winter Solstice"), the second phase of *Nordwind*, had begun.



By January 9<sup>th</sup>, most of the 242<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment (commanded by Col. Norman C. Caum) was assembled in the small village of Hatten, just

north of Gambsheim. Caum's 1<sup>nd</sup> Battalion (1/242 INF), with Lt. Col. Edwin Rusteberg in command, held a string of pre-war French fortifications along Hatten's eastern edge. Lt. Col. Norman G. Reynolds' 2/242 INF took up a reserve position west of town as it reconstituted from earlier fighting at Gambsheim.

The first German thrust, preceded by a heavy artillery bombardment, occurred during the early hours of January 9<sup>th</sup>, 1945. It was primarily an infantry assault, carried out by foot soldiers of the 35<sup>th</sup> Panzergrenadier (PG) Regiment, 25<sup>th</sup> PG Division. Flamethrower tanks helped burn American machine gun and anti-tank crews out of their concrete pillboxes, which were then occupied by enemy riflemen.

The Rainbowmen fought back hard, however, even staging a counterattack that regained most of Hatten. But ammunition was running low and most of 1/242 INF's antitank weapons had been destroyed. In mid-morning, the Germans' second wave struck.



Over a dozen Mk. IV Panzers (tanks) and twenty halftracks carrying armored infantrymen appeared out

of the heavy fog, heading for Hatten's southern edge. They first overran the Regimental Cannon Company before hitting 2/242 INF's reserve position. By noon, close-quarter fighting between crack Panzergrenadiers and inexperienced Rainbowmen raged all throughout the village.

Private First Class Vito R. Bertoldo, from Decatur, Ill., rose to the challenge of defending Hatten that awful day. Normally a cook in Company A, he armed himself with a light machine gun and singlehandedly held off several attacks on the battalion command post by German troops. Even after being knocked down by the blast from an 88mm shell, Bertoldo kept on fighting until he was ordered to withdraw.

For his actions on January 9, 1945, Vito Bertoldo later received the Congressional Medal of Honor from President Harry S. Truman.



Both the 1st and 2nd Battalions were, by nightfall, in serious trouble. The Battle of Hatten had become a war of outposts, one in which outgunned American defenders fired their rifles and light automatic weapons from cellars and bedrooms against German assault troops armed with flamethrowers and medium tanks.

Many Rainbowmen fought on until their ammunition ran out – some managed to escape the enemy's grasp while others were forced to surrender.

Overnight, soldiers on both sides tried to rest while senior commanders rushed reinforcements forward. At 8:45 AM, six tanks and 200 infantrymen from the 21st Panzer Division struck U.S. forces north of town. They were fired on by African-American gunners belonging to the attached 827th Tank Destroyer Battalion, who blunted this attack and helped Col. Caum's 242 INF hold Hatten until assistance could arrive.

This assistance came in the form of a rifle battalion from the veteran  $79^{th}$  Infantry Division, which began to relieve the battered 1st and 2nd Battalions, 242nd Infantry Regiment, on January 10th. By dusk, those Rainbowmen not killed, wounded, captured, or missing in action had been pulled back into VI Corps reserve.

Other U.S. units, including elements of Maj. Gen. Albert C. Smith's powerful 14<sup>th</sup> Armored Division, battled for control of the region until January 20<sup>th</sup>. By then, Hatten had been flattened

For its valiant stand there, 1/242 INF was awarded a Presidential Unit Citation. This honor came at a high price, though. From a starting strength of 33 officers and 748 enlisted men, the unit was reduced to 11 officers and 253 enlisted men after 53 hours of fighting. Its sister battalion, 2/242 INF,

suffered 300 casualties out of 750 soldiers assigned in four days of brutal combat at Gambsheim and Hatten.

Ordered to hold at all costs, the Rainbowmen of TF Linden demonstrated an unyielding spirit that would distinguish their combat record throughout World War II. A captured enemy commander paid what might be the best tribute to these troops when he reportedly said "[Hatten] was the best defensive fighting the German officers had seen during the war."

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8a670975dee6.filesusr.com/ugd/61d112 823c010c1099445a9c bfd41d00a1fe34.pdf as an excellent introduction to the 11-day battle at Hatten-Rittershoffen in January 1945.

**Photo One:** Rainbow soldiers occupy pre-war French fortifications in Hatten – January, 1945 (Photographic History of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division in World War II) **Photo Two:** A smoke cloud in the distance represents Hatten on fire, 9 January 1945 (National Archives)

**Photo Three:** Flammpanzer 38(t), like those used by the 25<sup>th</sup> Panzergrenadier Division against TF Linden in Hatten (National Archives)

**Photo Four:** Private First Class Vito R. Bertoldo, A/242 INF, 42<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division, receives the Congressional Medal of Honor from President Truman in a ceremony held at the White House on 18 December 1945 (New York Army National Guard)

### 75<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF LUNÉVILLE, FRANCE September 13 – 15, 2019

By SFC Alexander Contini (Retired)



Sergeant Robert J. Contini, New York Army National Guard, stood at attention at map grid coordinates 48641532-06616429 in France and sounded Taps. The French were dedicating a memorial monument at that exact location to honor those American soldiers who sacrificed their lives to liberate this area of Lorraine. The battle took place in the Forêt de Parrov 75 years ago.

The monument honors the fallen of the 79<sup>th</sup> Infantry

Division, the 749<sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion, the 773<sup>rd</sup> Tank Destroyer Battalion and the 106<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Group.

Sergeant Contini was invited by the French memorial committee to participate because his grandfather, Victor M. Contini, served there with the Medical Detachment of the 121st Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron of the 106th Cavalry Group. Victor survived the war. The 106th Cavalry Group often provided the cavalry screen for the 42nd Infantry Division as the division moved through Bavaria and into Austria.

Sergeant Contini served as a trumpeter with the 42<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division Band at the beginning of his military career. He is currently a member of New York's 1108<sup>th</sup> Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company.

Sergeant Contini participated with a color guard and honor platoon from the French 53° Régiment de Transmissions (53rd Signal Regiment), Brigade de Transmissions (Signal Brigade) – Lunéville, France. Additionally, Frenchmen who reenact American WWII units brought their restored military vehicles to add realism to the ceremonies. Several jeeps, weapons carriers, deuce and a half and a halftrack formed a convoy into the forest to the monument from the Village of Lunéville. They followed the same dirt roads travelled by the units in September 1944.

This ceremony wasn't the first time Robert has honored fallen American soldiers in France. In 2018, he accompanied the 42<sup>nd</sup> Infantry (Rainbow) Division Veterans Foundation on their mission to honor that Division's soldiers who fell in World War I. Robert sounded Taps at several American Cemeteries and joined in placing memorial flags on each soldier's grave.

Photo contributed by Alexander Contini

Sergeant Robert J. Contini sounds Taps at a ceremony in the Parroy Forest, France to honor those American soldiers who fell while liberating the area 75 years ago

**NOTE:** In the **Forêt de Parroy** lies an unmarked grave, the site of one of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Division's most poignant losses, its original marker, that marks the site of the dugout in which members of Company E, 165<sup>th</sup> Infantry (The "Fighting 69<sup>th"</sup> NY), 42<sup>nd</sup> Division were entombed by a German barrage on 7 March 1918 has been lost to time. These men were immortalized by SGT Joyce Kilmer in his poem, The Rouge Bouquet.

75<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE 16 December 1944 – 25 January 1945



This plaque reads: Valleys, hills, forests and villages of the Ardennes, you have seen them pass, fight, suffer and fall. Under the stars of their flag, liberty was marching Photo presentation by Béatrice Dahm

**NOTE:** Members of the 9<sup>th</sup> Division included men who trained in the 42<sup>nd</sup> "Rainbow" Division at Camp Gruber, OK and were transferred in the early months of 1944 to become reinforcements in combat zones.

One of these men was SSGT Raymond Carlyle Blanton trained in Company B, 1st Battalion, 232nd Infantry Regiment. He was killed in the Huertgen Forest in October 1944 and declared missing in action. His niece, Nancy Fraker, wrote of her experiences in finding the location of his death. In the last sentences of this article, she wrote, The war time picture we have of Carlyle in uniform was taken while he was training with the 42nd Infantry Division, also known as the "Rainbow Division." A huge rainbow bridged the highway to the airport, and on arrival allowed us the rare experience of driving through it.

Nancy's excellent remembrance and trail of her search is here: https://othinfantrydivision.net/nancy-fraker/

#### ON WINGS OF SOARING VALOR Invitation to the National WWII Museum By Hilbert Margol

At the October meeting of the Atlanta WW2 Roundtable, it was announced that the Soaring Valor program was inviting all WW2 Veterans, who had never visited the WWII Museum, in New Orleans, together with a guardian of their choice (guardians have to be younger than 71 years of age), who could qualify for an all-expense paid trip to visit the Museum. The Gary Sinise Foundation, creator of the *Soaring Valor* program, together with American Airlines and the World WWII Museum,



would cover expenses of the 3-day trip. I selected my son, Jerry, as my Guardian. Betty Ann, my wife for over 71 years, our daughters, Robin and Michelle, daughter-in-law Laurie and son-in-law, James, joined us on the trip.

Four other WW2 veterans qualified for the trip, but only Jack Cox, 36th Division, ended up going, together with his Guardian, Pat Waldron, and Jeff Johnson, representing the WW2 Roundtable.



We departed Atlanta, on different flights, on Tues.,12-3-19, (returning on 12-5-19). Upon arrival at the New Orleans airport, a Limo driver greeted us and transported us to the Sheraton Hotel, which is

located adjacent to the French Quarter, and only four blocks from the museum. ground transportation was available, both Wednesday and Thursday to visit the museum, return to the hotel, and to the airport for our trip home. Touring the museum, accompanied by a Docent who explained the different exhibits and answered our questions, resulted in a truly memorable experience.



Since I was a gunner on a 105MM Howitzer, in Btry. B, 392nd FA, 42nd Rainbow Division, seeing a similar weapon on display, brought back many memories. Each WW2 veteran undergoes a video interview, to be included in the museum archives. The National WWII Museum consists of multiple connected buildings and is dedicated to telling the American experience – why it was fought, how it was won, and what it means today. It

is ranked as the #3 museum in the United States and #8 in the world. Any interested WW2 veteran can request an application, to qualify for the trip, by contacting via e-mail:

tom.gibbs@nationalww2museum.org or by mail: The National WWII Museum Att: Tom Gibbs 945 Magazine Street New Orleans, LA. 70130

#### Photos by Jerry M. Margol

**Photo 1** – L-R Jack Gross, Museum Docent, Robin Macke, Jeff Johnson, WW2 Roundtable Rep., Pat Waldron, Guardian, Michelle Swislow, Laurie Margol and James Macke. L-R in wheelchairs: Jack Cox, WW2 vet, 36th Div., Betty Ann, Hilbert **Photo 2** - Betty Ann and Hilbert with statue of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

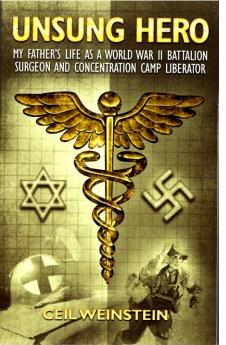
**Photo 3** - Picture of me near the 105MM Howitzer. Like the one that I trained on starting at ROTC at U of FLA., and throughout my military experience.

#### A HISTORY PRESERVED

From Damien Bauer, French historian, battlefield guide and re-enactor, Alsace, France



"I helped the towns of Dauendorf and Neubourg during an exhibition in November on the history of the two villages. I took care of the WWII part with, in particular, a beautiful and large panel on the 42<sup>nd</sup> Division. I will hopefully organize a trip in period attire along the front line, Schweighausen Neubourg held in January 1945 by the 222<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment of the Rainbow Division. I will surely do it on 25 January 2020." damien bauer <a href="maglo67@hotmail.fr">naglo67@hotmail.fr</a>



Through a lucky twist of fate, a Russian immigrant's son becomes a liberator, rather than a victim, of a Nazi concentration camp. In this biography of Dr. Alvin Weinstein, his daughter reveals startling discoveries of heroism from his unspoken past as an American medical officer who, in one week, rescued 100 prisoners who were just days from death.

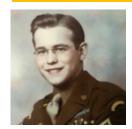
This story traces the arc of her father's life in light of his exemplary service as a battalion surgeon, 222<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 42<sup>nd</sup> Infantry "Rainbow" Division in World War II. The heart of the story includes his shocking experience at

Dachau Concentration Camp and Lebenau Prison during the final days of the war. Published October 2019, it is available to be ordered on <a href="https://www.amazon.com/">https://www.amazon.com/</a>.

All proceeds will go to *Doctors Without Borders*.

# WWII RAINBOW MEMORIAL LIST Deaths Reported since October 2019

DORRIS, James F. GRANT, Lewis Edward HANCOCK, Larry E. Sr. MOYER, Charles W. RAPP, Kenneth E. RUSSELL, William H. A/222<sup>nd</sup> Infantry L/222<sup>nd</sup> Infantry HQ/222<sup>nd</sup> Infantry unit unreported D/122<sup>nd</sup> Medical Bn B/142<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Combat Bn



We thank the family and friends of Bill Barton for their reminder and correction of his WWII 42<sup>nd</sup> Division unit. Bill served in Company G, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 242<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment and was a *Combat Cook*, the title of his wartime Memoirs, kindly sent by his daughter, Judy Taylor.

## **National Auxiliary Deaths Reported**



Imogene P. Harris wife of Ewell B. Harris 42<sup>nd</sup> MP Platoon and B/232<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment

If you would like to make a contribution by U.S. mail, please send your gift to the RDVF Treasurer, check payable to RDVF and mailed to:

Peter P. Riley

22 Almond Tree Lane Warwick, NY 10990-2442 We may also support Rainbow online at <rainbowvets.org> All gifts are gratefully received and acknowledged Rainbow Division Veterans Foundation, Inc. Contributions 10 October 2019 – 10 January 2020 SCHOLARSHIP and FOUNDATION Endowment and Operating Funds

#### **Foundation Operating**

John Pederson – 100. In memory of Karen Pederson; a  $42^{nd}$  WWII veteran – 20. In honor of Herman W. Prescott, M/222

#### **Scholarship Operating**

Dorothy Boyer – 50. In memory of Donald Boyer, D/232

#### **Scholarship Endowment**

The Eastern Region Chapter of the RDVF – 1,800. In honor and memory of Harold Melinek,  $42^{nd}$  Quartermaster Company WWII; Rose M. Carter-Pettus – 250. In memory of James R. "Pete" Pettus, K/232; Sally Staszewski – 5. In memory of Chester A. Staszewski; Ken Goldhoff – 25. In memory of William Lahmann, HQ Btry  $542^{nd}$  F.A.; Barbara Miller – 40. In memory of C. Stewart Hihn, HQ/222; Charles J. Palmeri – 150. In memory of LT Antonio Manniello and PFC Clarence Fuqua  $232^{nd}$  Infantry WWII; Family and friends of Judy Taylor – 150. In memory of Evelyn Barton, widow of William C. "Bill" Barton G/242 and James C. Schaefer, I/232; Mayland Crosson – 200. In memory of Evelyn Barton, widow of William C. "Bill" Barton G/242 and James C. Schaefer, I/232

