



INSIGNIA OF THE 42nd RAINBOW DIVISION



Dedicated to the Rainbow Soldiers who have "WORN THE PATCH".

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Written and Edited by Martin L. Davis, M-222 Infantry
Graphics and Photography by William E. Clayton, E-222 Infantry
Typesetting by Joan H. Clayton, RDVA Auxiliary
Proofing and Contents by Eleanor P. Davis, RDVA Auxiliary
Published by Rainbow Division Veterans Memorial Foundation
Printed by Messenger Printing Company, St. Louis, Missouri

WITH SPECIAL ASSISTANCE BY

Raymond L. Deming, 232 Infantry
Hugo Grimm, 132 Sig. Co.
Theodore A. Johnson, H-232 Infantry
Michael P. Kaehler
Donald L. Segel, B-242 Infantry

SOURCE MATERIAL

"Americans All" by BGen Henry J. Reilly
The Rainbow REVEILLE, Vols. LX through LXIII
Minutes of RDVA Meetings and Reunions
History of the 42nd Division, WW II

Front Cover: Rainbow Division shoulder patches worn during World War I (1918)
and World War II (1943).
Back Cover: Camouflage patch worn by Rainbow National Guard (1985).

THE RAINBOW

by

Otto S. Martin, Sgt. Bat. D, 151st FA

I have often been told
There is a pot of gold
To be found at the end of a rainbow;
I know it's not so
But I still feel a glow
As I see in the heavens a rainbow.

It's not thoughts of treasure
That brings me this pleasure,
Whenever I behold a new rainbow;
'Tis the memories it brings
Which make my heart sing
And rejoice at the sight of a rainbow.

I recall marching lines
With bronzed faces etched fine
'Gainst the light of a far distant rainbow;
Where, along roads in France
Brave young manhood advanced,
Each broad shoulder wearing the Rainbow.

From Lorraine to the Rhine
This famed fighting line
Bore proudly the badge of the Rainbow;
And in War's grim game
Won honor and fame
To perpetuate forever the Rainbow.

Now oft when I despair,
Through the clear evening air
Comes the bright-colored hues of a rainbow;
And I thank God for one
Proud Heritage won:
I was one of the Men of the Rainbow.

*Since the beginning of man's awareness,
the rainbow, spanning the horizons, has been a mystic symbol,
displayed in the Heavens to signal the passing of yet another storm
and the birth of new hope for mankind.*

So it is today.

*Twice in this century, the Rainbow has signalled
to millions of people the end of tyranny and oppression,
and the beginning of new hope for a better world.*

The Origins of the Rainbow Division

If a novelist were asked to invent a story on how the Rainbow Division was conceived and named, he couldn't devise a more complex and unbelievable scenario than what actually happened.

In 1917, with France on her knees before the mighty German Armies, Russia on the threshold of revolution and England bleeding from the loss of so many of her brightest young men, it was obvious that the United States was the only power capable of turning the tide of war against the totalitarian government that sought to subjugate the peoples of Europe.

The war record of the Americans to date had been impressive indeed: they had fought as Colonials alongside British Regulars in King William's War, Queen Anne's War and the Seven Years' War. Then, they tested their steel against the British in the War of Independence and the War of 1812, and rounded out the nineteenth century with the Mexican War, the War Between the States and the Spanish-American War.

And, at the moment United States involvement in the European War was looming as a definite possibility, American troops, many of whom would see service with the Rainbow in Europe, were engaged along the Mexican Border, where they earned the title, "adobe" soldiers," because they were eternally covered with adobe dust. From "adobe," it was an easy translation to "a doughboy," and that was the affectionate title they carried to Europe and into the annals of military history.

Building an Army

The Hon. Newton D. Baker, Secretary of War, was faced with the problem of finding combat divisions to represent the United States in the European War. Poorly prepared for a war of that scope, the Army could muster no organized Regular Army Divisions, the regiment being the largest unit then in existence. National Guard Divisions available were the New York and the Pennsylvania State Guards, and the composite New England Guard Division, none of which was at strength or combat trained and equipped.

Then, Baker hit upon the idea of forming an All-American Division composed of State Guard Units from across the Nation. He had two valid reasons for forming such a Division. First, to send either the New York or the Pennsylvania State Guard Division into combat first would raise public opinion in that particular state against the sacrifice of their men while the other states were not contributing to the war effort, and public opinion in other states might well be directed against the War Department for selecting that state in preference to their own.

Second, an All-American Division from the Guard Units of many states would have the patriotic support of the entire nation.

However, Baker could find no support in Washington for his idea of a composite Guard Division. Undaunted, he presented his plan to General William A. Mann, Chief of the Militia Division, and to Major Douglas MacArthur, a young Engineer Officer attached to Baker's Office. Mann immediately endorsed the concept and MacArthur is quoted variously as saying, "Fine. That will stretch over the whole country like a rainbow!" On the spot, Baker named Mann as Commander of the new division and recommended MacArthur as Chief of Staff.

Later, when MacArthur, who was also press censor for the War Department, released the news of the new National Guard Division to the press, he again referred to the rainbow. One reporter said, " 'Rainbow!' There's the name for the Division. I shall call it 'Rainbow' in my dispatch." Thus, the **Rainbow Division** was named even though it had not yet been given a number.

The number "42" was given the new division by just such a strange series of events: The War Department had reserved numbers 1 through 25 for Regular Army Divisions; 26 through 41 were reserved for State Guard Divisions. There were those who argued that the new All-American Division didn't fit either category, Regular or State; so, as a compromise, The Rainbow Division was given the next available number, "42."

The Rainbow Division is Formed

The concentration of National Guard Units from 27 States began at Camp Albert L. Mills on Hempstead Plains, near Garden City, Long Island, New York, on August 29, 1917, and was completed on the 13th of September. The two month wait until embarkation would give the varied units time to get acquainted and establish friendships - or vent latent hostilities engendered by the War Between the States.

It was while the Rainbow Division was being organized at Camp Mills that the first Rainbow Insignia appeared. It was in the form of a large white flag, emblazoned with a rainbow in the seven colors of the natural rainbow, and the name "Rainbow Division" in block letters below. It was presented to Col. MacArthur by Mrs. William Cummings Story, a friend of his mother, and was flown wherever MacArthur's headquarters was located throughout the War.



This photograph, found in the effects of Sgt. William Sheehan, 116th Infantry Supply Company, shows the first Rainbow Flag at Camp Mills, September 17, 1917, surrounded by soldiers and guests.

(Photograph courtesy Michael Kaehler)

The white "MacArthur" flag was in sharp contrast to the blue government issue flags, and was conspicuous among the division and unit flags at General Pershing's address to the Rainbow Division on March 28, 1919, along the Rhine River east of the Remagen Bridge. The distinctive white flag also appeared on numerous newsreels of the day.



This photograph, from the files of the MacArthur Memorial in Norfolk, Virginia bears the caption, "Unfurling the Rainbow Flag at Rolampont, France, February 5, 1918."

Following the War, MacArthur took the flag with him to his new assignment as Superintendent of West Point Military Academy, and when reassigned to the Phillipines, had the flag crated and stored with other personal belongings in New York.

When, in 1926, the "MacArthur" Flag was received by the RDVA, The heavy white silk and brightly colored rainbow had deteriorated so badly during the years in storage that it had to undergo extensive repairs. It was shown briefly at ceremonies accompanying the reactivation of the Rainbow Division in 1943, and again at the deactivation ceremonies in 1946. The flag no longer exists, but the flagstaff on which it was mounted is in the possession of the RDVA Historian. Its silver band reads, "Presented to the Rainbow by Mrs. William Cumming Story - 1917."

The Glossbrenner Flag

At the National Reunion of the RDVA in Oklahoma City, OK, in 1939, a new Rainbow Flag was presented to the Association by Mrs. Minnie M. Glossbrenner in memory of her late husband. Their son, Col. Daniel I. Glossbrenner, Sr., served in the Rainbow Division as a 20-year-old captain of Battery B, 150th Field Artillery, and in World War II on the staff of General Eisenhower.



RDVA President Albert C. Hoyt presents the Glossbrenner Flag to Maj. Gen. Collins.

The Glossbrenner Flag was displayed at National Reunions and Executive Meetings until 1943, when, on July 14, it was presented to Major General Harry J. Collins, commanding the 42nd Division upon the reactivation of the Rainbow Division at Camp Gruber, Oklahoma.

The Florida Flag

When the Glossbrenner Rainbow Flag marched off to war, the RDVA was left without an official Flag for ceremonial purposes. So, at an Executive Committee Meeting on September 29, 1944, a new Rainbow Flag, complete with World War I battle streamers, was presented to the National Association by the Florida State Association.

The Florida Flag is still in use to this day, flying at every National Reunion, Executive Committee Meeting, at Ceremonies and at national events to signify the participation of officers and members of Rainbow Division Veterans Association.

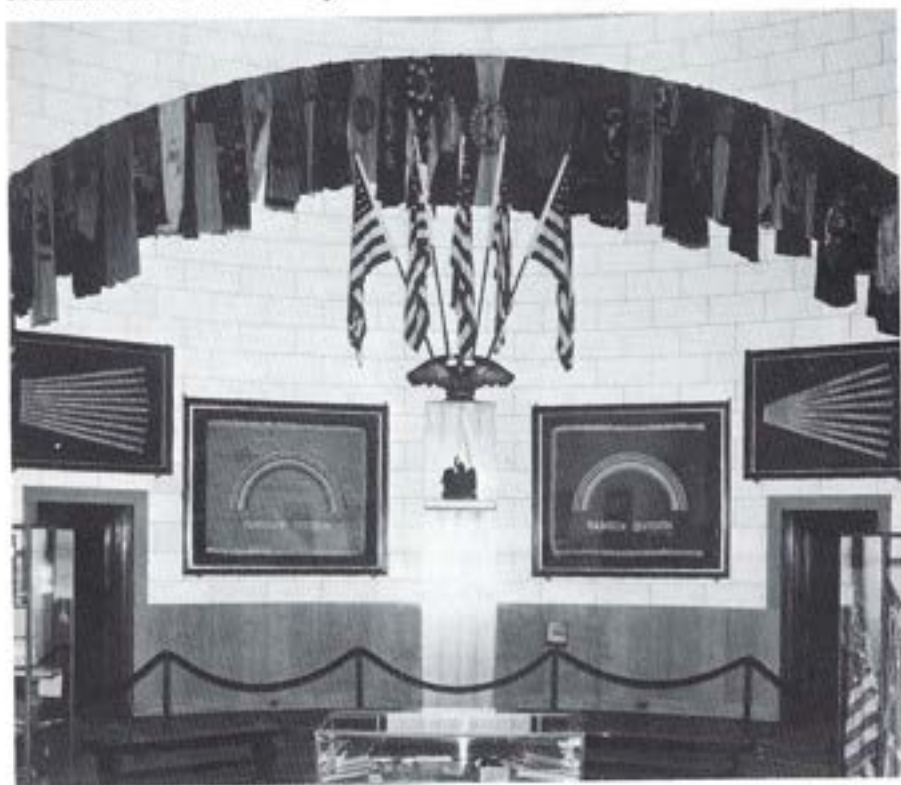
There are any number of so-called "Rainbow Flags" in existence, but none of them have been found to have any historical importance. There is a strange one in the MacArthur Memorial in Norfolk, Virginia, the upper half of which is red, the lower half blue, and a replica of the Rainbow shoulder insignia in the center.

And, there is a beautiful Rainbow Flag in the RDVA Historical files that has apparently never been flown, but its origin is unknown.

The Kansas City Memorial Museum

Following the return of the Glossbrenner Rainbow Flag and the State Flags by the World War II Rainbow Division, arrangements were made to create a Rainbow Shrine in the Veterans Memorial Museum in Kansas City, Missouri, to include World War I Flags and artifacts.

On February 27, 1947 one hundred Rainbow veterans of both wars gathered there to dedicate the Shrine. The ceremony was broadcast by the National Broadcasting Company network, and extensively covered by the press. Letters from General Douglas MacArthur, President Harry Truman and General Harry J. Collins were read by RDVA officers.



The Rainbow Shrine as it appeared when completed. The WW I Rainbow Flag and battle streamers are on the left, the WW II Rainbow Flag and battle streamers on the right, and the State Flags forming an arch over the display.

Unfortunately, in 1978, the Veterans Memorial Association voted to restrict its exhibits to World War I, and all Rainbow Flags were taken down and placed in storage. Negotiations are now under way by the RDVA Memorials Foundation to recover the Rainbow Flags and other items and find a permanent site for them.

The Rainbow Shoulder Patch

The official Rainbow Division shoulder patch was authorized by the Adjutant General of the A.E.F. on October 29, 1918. Many Rainbow men were wearing "unofficial" patches long before that time.



After the victory, General Pershing decorated Brigadier General MacArthur who is wearing the official Rainbow Shoulder Patch.

Unofficial Rainbow shoulder patches were devised by units and individual soldiers and, as a result, there was a great variety of shape, size and color. Some Rainbow patches of 1918 and 1919 were elaborate machine stitched, multi-colored patches of a full half circle, possibly attempting to emulate the colorful first Rainbow Flag. Many Rainbow soldiers made his own "patch" by cutting strips of colored felt, hand stitching them together to form the red, gold and blue of Rainbow. Each one was an expression of pride in being a Rainbow Soldier.

In 1943 when the 42nd Rainbow Division was reactivated, General Collins wrote an appeal to the Rainbow Division Veterans Association asking WW I veterans to send in their patches to the new Rainbow Division. Many responded, giving up a cherished symbol of their service in the Rainbow Division.

The WW I patches, and the letters that accompanied them, are an important part of Rainbow history. Space limitation does not permit every patch and letter to be shown. The representative samples of Rainbow shoulder patches shown are actual size, with the names and units of the WW I Rainbow soldiers who proudly wore them.



My Dear Sir,

Enclosed is my shoulder patch that I wore during every battle of the Past Famous Division, and I am mighty proud of it and I do hope that the young chap that receives it will cherish it as I have, for it took me through many a close call from death.

This incident I must mention about: I was a runner for 8 months for Major Stanley (a damn brave fellow), and on delivering a message in the Chateau-Thierry drive to him, after a very hard time doing so, I located him in deep woods with nothing but a small cloth shelter over him and checking a field map. I started to salute and then a screaming shell came in that was going to land too damn close, so I dove for the ground. When I got up, I found that Major Stanley had not moved a muscle.

Very respectfully yours,

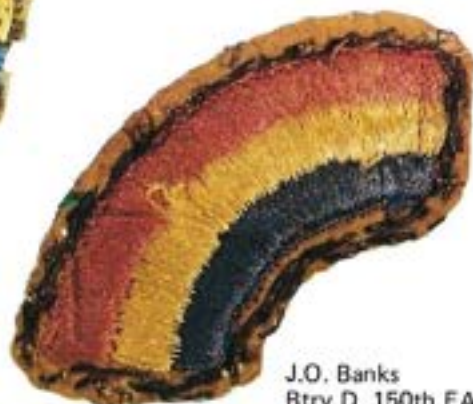
W.A. Sampson



James F. Burns
150th FA



Walter Frauenfelder
117th Signal BN



J.O. Banks
Btry D, 150th FA



Herbert F. Barnett
Co A, 168th Infantry



Dear Sir,

I have just read an article in the paper that you would like Veterans of the Old Rainbow Division to give their Rainbow insignia to men of your New Division. Mine is enclosed and you may give it to whom you please. However, it seems that if you should happen to have a "DePoy" in your division, then it would be somewhat of a coincidence that he should be privileged to wear it in this war.

I was a member of the old 3rd Iowa Infantry Machine Gun Company on the Mexican Border and was inducted into Federal Service in the 168th Machine Gun Company with which I served during all of its engagements. I received no wounds and no decorations, but did get some gas at Chateau Thierry.

I left the United States as Mess Sergeant, was later made a Line Sergeant and after the Armistice, was an instructor at the Clamy Machine Gun School, and because of this never accompanied my regiment in the Army of Occupation.

I have nothing spectacular to boast of, but I do most sincerely wish, at this time, that if I were a few years younger then, perhaps, I could wear the insignia myself.

It might interest you to know that my father was in the 168th Infantry (Ohio) in the Civil War.

Respectfully Yours,

*Albert D. De Poy
168th Infantry Regiment*



George H. Morgan
Btry C, 151st FA



J. M. Johnson



James P. Christy



Arthur Davis
168th Infantry



Dear General Collins,

Just to add a shoulder patch to your collection - a swell idea, and another method of connecting the Old to the New.

I was wounded on the drive to Sedan, the early morning of November 7, 1918. We had pulled up with the infantry in the night to the small town of Chelerry. At dawn, a fog which had settled during the night raised and we found our selves on the opposite side of the valley from the German positions - and they let us have it in no uncertain terms.

And just as a word of caution to the boys who like to go bareheaded: the shell fragment that hit me tore a fair sized hole in my helmet before connecting with my skull. So, no helmet, no soldier.

I would consider it an honor if one of your boys can wear this, as it means a lot to me. Good luck,

Sincerely yours,

*William R. Manson
formerly
1st. Lt., 149th F.A.*



E. J. Sadler
F Co, 117th Engineers



Hector G. LaReau
117th Sanitary Train



C. Howard Larsen
Pres. Long Island Chapter RDV



John L. Goble
Co A, 117th Supply Train



Dear Sir,

Am enclosing the shoulder patch taken from my uniform of the last war and ask that you give it to some member of the Engineers in your division. I've had considerable difficulty getting this from my daughter, or I would have sent it before.

Like all other former members of the 42nd, I know that the young men who now constitute the Division will make a name for themselves when they get to France. We haven't been too proud of the American Army as yet - while the Boche seem to be no better, they certainly seem to be good - and that will never do. The damned Dutchman never lived who could be better than a Rainbow. Please tell the "kids" we're betting that they'll prove that.

You won't have Douglas MacArthur, true - nor will you have the famous "Down in your Hol" Johnson, or many others, but I'm sure the present officers can ably fill their shoes.

Wishing you and the Rainbow every possible success and honor, I remain,

Yours very truly,

*Jackson C. Reid
D. Co, 117th Engineer Regt*



George W. Rayburn
Btry C, 150th FA, 67th Bde



Rev. Norman B. Nash
Chaplain, 150th FA



Alfred H. Allen
Co A, 168th Infantry



Irving H. Silverberg
165th Field Hospital



Dear General Collins,

Bob Reno, National President of the Rainbow Division Veterans, wrote me several weeks ago suggesting that I send to you a Rainbow patch used by me during World War I. I have just been able to dig out of storage a uniform from which I have removed the patch. It happens to be an embroidered patch obtained in France, not the standard three-color design officially prescribed, and I am wondering if a patch of this type will be of any use to you.

I have added to my scrap book relative to service with the Rainbow Division a number of clippings from Tulsa, Oklahoma, papers about your activities, which I have read with a great deal of interest, and I am wondering how I might approach having my name added to your list to receive a copy of your Division Rainbow "Reveille?"

With every good wish for you personally, and for your Division, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

*Cooper D. Winn, Jr.,
C.O. 151 M.G. Battalion*



C. F. Sargeant
149th FA



Albert G. Brown
117th Ammunition Train



Walter J. Chamberlain
MG Co., 168th Infantry



J. Robert Norton
168th Amb Co



Dear General Collins,

I am sending you a Rainbow insignia of the rgt 42nd Rainbow Division from the First World War, of which I was a veteran. I am sorry I couldn't attend the Reunion of July 13-14, 1943. I was working very hard at a defense plant and could not get away.

Just a few words to let you know that I was in the 165th Infantry Supply Company all through the war. I was in almost every battle in the war from 1917 until 1919.

I have my uniform from the 1st World War, but I didn't want to send you that insignia, so I am sending the extra one I always had with me. It traveled all over the war.

May God Bless the New 42nd Rainbow Division in this war.

Yours very truly,

Edward Esberger



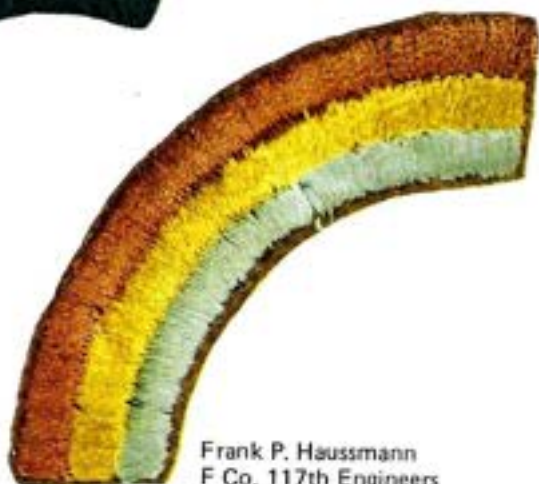
George C. Moran
168th Amb Co



Ivan V. Midkiff
Co H, 168th Infantry



William A. Weise
117th Trench Mortar Btry



Frank P. Haussmann
F Co, 117th Engineers



Dear General,

I just received my Rainbow Reveille and read the enclosed clipping asking for shoulder insignia (Rainbow) and souvenirs of the last war. Possibly I am late with them but having served over a year in this war, moved around before I received my commission in the Dental Corps, I am now sending them.

My greatest desire would be to serve with Rainbow, but knowing the War Department decree that no former member will be assigned to it, I know it is impossible.

My next greatest desire would be if this insignia is ever presented to a soldier, some way could be arranged that I could be present.

In conclusion, whoever receives this insignia must remember this: the members of the Old Rainbow were not super men; it was made up of lawyers, clerks, dentists, doctors, farm boys, ranchers and a few hoodlums. Many won decorations and made a name for themselves and put their names down in history.

Always keep in mind in battle (quoted from French General Henry Gouraud, now deceased):

"Kill and kill until they cry enough."

Sincerely,

Dwight J. McCormick



Noble D. Stanton
150th FA



Frank C. Mitchell
165th Amb Co



M. H. Nussbaum
149th FA, Hq Co.



Willard J. Hakes
Co E, 168th Infantry



Mr. Dear General Collins,

In a previous issue of the Rainbow Reveille, I noticed your request for old shoulder patches, insignia etc.

I have found several of these amongst my "souvenirs" and am happy to forward them to you to use as you will. (I don't see how you can though as they are quite dilapidated.)

Further, may I say that it was indeed a priveledge to be at Camp Gruber with you, Sir, and the Rainbow Division on July 14 last. The memory of it all I have since relived again and again until I know I shall never forget it! To you, Sir, may I say a personal "Thank You" for the treat and pleasantness which every last one of us Old Rainbowers enjoyed at your hands on the occasion of the reactivation of our beloved Rainbow Division.

To conclude, may I congratulate you, Sir, upon your promotion as Major General, US Army, and to you, Sir, and the officers and men of the Rainbow 42nd Infantry Division, I extend the Seasons Greetings!

Most sincerely and Respectfully Yours,

*Edwin L. Shatz
Battery "E", 149th F.A.*



Ira D. Claxton
Btry D, 149th FA



Harry H. Brown
C-117th Signal BN



Willis P. Snyder, Sr.



John T. Cola



Many of the handmade Rainbow shoulder insignia took their shape and colors from the Rainbow Flag. As you have seen on the previous pages, some of them were a half circle, and at least three of those shown were fabricated in seven colors.

The above flag is typical of the style and colors of all Rainbow Flags. This flag was later sealed in a glass case and hung in the Kansas City Liberty Memorial Museum to represent the Rainbow Division in World War I (see page 7). In spite of the care given the Rainbow flags by the Museum, this particular flag, according to those who have seen it recently, has faded to a pale gray from being exposed to light.

The statuette before the flag is a miniature copy of the heroic sized figures that crown the Navarin Farm Memorial near Suippes, France (see photograph on page 31). It was presented to the Rainbow Division Veterans Association by General Henri Gouraud during the Annual Rainbow Reunion at Indianapolis, Indiana in July, 1923.

The Navarin Farm Memorial is also the tomb of General Gouraud, who commanded the French Army, to which the Rainbow Division was assigned in 1918. Commemorative ceremonies are conducted at the Monument every July, with a representative of the RDVA always in attendance to lay a large floral cushion in the form of a Rainbow.

42nd RAINBOW DIVISION, WW1

Headquarters Troop	2nd Louisiana Cavalry
Headquarters Military Police	Virginia C.A.C.
117th Field Signal Battalion	Missouri
117th Amunition Train	Kansas
117th Supply Train	Texas
149th Machine Gun Battalion	4th Pennsylvania
117th Engineer Regiment	
1st Battalion	South Carolina
2nd Battalion	California
117th Engineer Train	North Carolina
67th Artillery Brigade	
149th F.A. Regiment	1st Illinois
150th F.A. Regiment	1st Indiana
151st F.A. Regiment	1st Minnesota
117th Trench Mortar Battery	Maryland C.A.C.
83rd Infantry Brigade	
165th Infantry Regiment	69th New York
166th Infantry Regiment	4th Ohio
150th Machine Gun Battalion	2nd Wisconsin
84th Infantry Brigade	
167th Infantry Regiment	4th Alabama
168th Infantry Regiment	3rd Iowa
151st Machine Gun Battalion	2nd Georgia
117th Sanitary Train	
Ambulance Section	
165th Ambulance Company	1st New Jersey
166th Ambulance Company	1st Tennessee
167th Ambulance Company	1st Oklahoma
168th Ambulance Company	1st Michigan
Hospital Section	
165th Field Hospital Corps	1st Dist. of Columbia
166th Field Hospital Corps	1st Nebraska
167th Field Hospital Corps	1st Oregon
168th Field Hospital Corps	1st Colorado

Chronological Order of Division Commanders

Maj. Gen. William A. Mann
 Maj. Gen. Charles T. Menoher
 Maj. Gen. Charles D. Rhodes
 Brig. Gen. Douglas A. MacArthur
 Maj. Gen. Clement A. F. Flagler

42nd RAINBOW DIVISION, WW11

222nd Infantry Regiment	}	Task Force Linden
232nd Infantry Regiment		
242nd Infantry Regiment		

Headquarters 42nd Division Artillery

232nd Field Artillery Battalion

392nd Field Artillery Battalion

402nd Field Artillery Battalion

542nd Field Artillery Battalion

142 Engineer (Combat) Battalion

122nd Medical Battalion

42nd Reconnaissance Troop

132nd Signal Company

742nd Ordnance Company

42nd Quartermaster Company

42nd Military Police Platoon

Division Headquarters and Headquarters Company

Division Commander: Maj. General Harry J. Collins

Commander, Task Force Linden: Brig. General Henning Linden



Review of the Rainbow Division Motorized Units on Rainbow Anniversary Day, 14 July, 1944 at Camp Gruber, Oklahoma. State Flags and the Division Colors face the reviewing stand.

42nd RAINBOW DIVISION, 1985

NEW YORK NATIONAL GUARD, TROOP AND STATION LIST

42nd Division Headquarters	New York City
1st Brigade HQ	Troy
1st Battalion, 71st Infantry	New York City
2nd Battalion, 105th Infantry	Troy
2nd Battalion, 174th Infantry	Rochester
2nd Brigade HQ	New York City
1st Battalion, 69th Infantry	New York City
1st Battalion, 105th Infantry	Schenectady
1st Battalion, 107th Infantry	New York City
27th Brigade HQ	Syracuse
1st Battalion, 108th Infantry (Mech)	Auburn
2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry	Syracuse
1st Battalion, 174th Infantry	Buffalo
1st Battalion, 127th Armor	Buffalo
42nd Division Artillery HQ	Bronx
Battery E, 258th Field Artillery	Bronx
2nd Battalion, 104th F.A. (105mm Towed)	Jamaica
1st Battalion, 105th F.A. (105mm Towed)	Bronx
1st Battalion, 187th F.A. (105mm Towed)	Brooklyn
1st Battalion, 258th F.A. (155mm/8" SP)	Bronx
1st Squadron, 101st Cavalry	Staten Island
Troop D, 101st Cavalry (SCARNG)	Eastover, SC
42nd Aviation Battalion	Freeport
Company C (KYARNG)	Frankfort, KY
1st Battalion, 265th Air Def Arty (FLARNG)	West Palm Beach, FL
201st Weather Flight (NYAIRNG) (attached)	Westhampton Beach
42nd Military Police Company (-)	New York City
Detachment 1	Ossining
42nd Chemical Company	Brooklyn
102nd Engineer Battalion	New York City
242nd Signal Battalion	Hampstead
42nd Division Support Command	Brooklyn
42nd AG Company and Band	New York City
42nd Finance Company	New York City
42nd Division Material Mgt. Center	Roslyn
42nd Maintenance Battalion, HQ/Co A	Bronx
42nd Supply and Transportation Battalion	Brooklyn
102nd Medical Battalion, HQ/Co A	New York City

Division Commander: Maj. General Vincent R. Lanna

The Rainbow Division Veterans Association

While the Rainbow Division was serving as a part of the Army of Occupation along the Rhine River in 1919, a universal desire arose to perpetuate in civil life the bond of war-time comradeship by forming an organization of all Rainbow Division Veterans.

After preliminary meetings in January and February, a Convention was called in March, 1919, with representatives of each unit in the Division. They met in the Kur Theater in Bad Neuenahr, Germany, and there formed the Rainbow Division Veterans Association, which has ever since carried on and preserved the traditions of the Rainbow.

Col. Benson W. Hough, Commanding the 166th Infantry Regiment (4th Ohio), was elected Association President in its first year, and the first National Reunion of the Association was held at Birmingham, Alabama in 1920. Since then there has been a National Reunion every July. The Reunion in West Palm Beach, Florida in 1985 is the sixty-sixth.

Since its inception in Germany, the peacetime organization has dedicated its Reunions to renewing wartime comradeship and paying fitting tribute to our Rainbow dead, and the Veterans of World War II Rainbow continue the traditions established by the World War I veterans three generations ago.

The Rainbow Division Veterans Association now has fifty-six Chapters: Forty-two are Regional Chapters, based primarily on the State Guard Units that made up the Rainbow Division in World War I; the other fourteen are Unit Chapters, all of which are named for Units of the World War II Rainbow, and are composed almost entirely of men from that Unit. Many of the members of Unit Chapters also are members of Regional Geographic Chapters.

The very active Rainbow Division Auxiliary is composed of wives, widows, daughters and grand-daughters of Rainbow Division Veterans of both Wars, and many sons and grand-sons are Associate members of the Association.

Membership in the RDVA is limited to men who served in combat with the Rainbow Division during the periods August 13, 1917 until May 17, 1919, and after July 14, 1943 until deactivation, July 14, 1946.

Rainbow Memorial Foundation

In the year preceding the Hot Springs Rainbow Reunion of 1971, many Rainbow veterans supported the proposal of Past National President Daniel Glossbrenner to establish a Memorial Fund. Most saw a need to establish such a fund to guarantee the perpetual care of Rainbow memorials, graves and parks all over the world. The plan was adopted in Hot Springs, and the Rainbow Association authorized the organization of the Foundation under a specific set of rules now covered by the RDVA Constitution and By-Laws.

In October, 1971, an organizational meeting was held at Wampee Plantation, South Carolina. On November 5, 1971, the State of Indiana approved the Foundation as a charitable organization, and on November 7, 1971, the officers were elected in Indianapolis.

The Foundation has named many Rainbow sites as National Monuments. These monuments are eligible for Memorial Foundation support, and annual wreath laying ceremonies are sponsored at several of these monuments. Major programs since the Foundation began include the Rainbow Memorial Ampitheatre at Honors Park in Muskogee; the maintenance of the General Collins grave in Salzburg; the reprinting of the WW II history; the establishment of a Rainbow Scholarship and the funds required for this Rainbow Insignia publication.

Future programs include an audio history of WW II and funding to insure support of our Historical records and mementos which will be placed in selected archives and museums by the association. Through these activities, Rainbow Veterans hope to perpetuate the memory of the men and the causes for which they served and died.



Honor Heights Rainbow Memorial Ampitheatre, Muskogee, Oklahoma.

Rainbow Division Memorials

Navarin Farms Champagne Monument
Gen. Collins Grave, Salzburg
Gen. MacArthur's Statue, West Point
Gen. MacArthur's Tomb, Norfolk
Rainbow Monument, Camp Mills, NY
Rainbow Room, War Memorial, Indianapolis
151st M.G. Bn. Memorial, Macon, GA
151st F.A. Lakewood Cemetery, Minneapolis

Rainbow Memorial, Muskogee, OK
Grave of Col. Benson Hough, OH
Father Duffy Statue, Times Square, NY
Grave of William J. Donovan, Arlington
Illinois Monument, Chicago
MacArthur Memorial, Brownwood, TX
Mortimer, Jordan Monument, Birmingham
Rainbow Memorial Grove, Los Angeles



Navarin Farm



Aisne-Marne Cemetery, Chateau Thierry

Alabama

22nd St. Bridge Plaque, Birmingham
Rainbow Archives, State Capitol

California

MacArthur Statue, Los Angeles
Rainbow Exhibit, State Capitol, Sacramento

Iowa

Grave of Gen. Matthew Tinley
Grave of Col. Bennett
168th Inf. Plaque, Co. H, Oskaloosa
Flour Drive, Des Moines
McHenry Park, Des Moines
MacRae Park, Des Moines
Burke Park, Des Moines

Kansas

Rosedale Memorial Arch, Kansas City

Maryland

War Memorial Building, Baltimore

Michigan

Rainbow Room, Veterans Bldg., Detroit
Sasser Playground & Plaque, Detroit

Minnesota

Grave of Col. George E. Leach
Mendota Bridge, 151st F.A.
Watering Trough, 151st F.A. Horses

New York

Father Duffy Grave
Eternal Light, New York City

New Jersey

Fort Monmouth Memorial
Red Bank Monument, 165th Amb Co.
Wilbur Wilkerson Boulevard

North Carolina

Joyce Kilmer Forest, Nantahala

Ohio

Rainbow Cemetery, Lancaster
State Highway 42
Co. G 166th Inf. Memorial, Greenfield

Oklahoma

Rainbow Highway, State Highway 51

Pennsylvania

Joyce Kilmer Memorial, Pittsburgh
Co. A, 149th MG Bn Plaque, Easton
American Legion Post 588, Easton

South Carolina

Col. Monroe Johnson Plaque, Columbia

Wisconsin

Rainbow Memorial Park, Oshkosh

Washington, D.C.

Grave of William Brucker, Arlington
Grave of Leland Whitney, Arlington
Medal to Tomb of Unknown, Arlington

France

42nd Division Ave., Verdun
Aisne-Marne Cemetery, Chateau-Thierry
Oise-Aisne Cemetery, Fere-en-Tardenois
S. Mihiel Cemetery, Thiaucourt
Meuse-Argonne Cemetery, Romagne
Epinal Cemetery, Epinal
Lorraine Cemetery, St. Avold

OFFICIAL PRAYER of the RAINBOW DIVISION

Almighty God, we ask Thy approval of the duties placed upon us:

Let Thy wisdom, be our wisdom,

Thy strength, our strength;

Thy will, our cause.

Make our minds alert, our bodies strong, our thinking straight;

that through no lack of ours a shadow be cast

on our Division's bright past, nor its future light be dimmed.

*We commend the Rainbow Division, its commander and its men to Thee,
as an instrument of Thy righteous justice.*

As the Rainbow supports Thy heavens in wondrous beauty,

so grant that our Division shall support our nation

in the blue of its valor,

the gold of its love,

and the red of its sacrifice.

Amen.

John E. Kinney, Division Chaplain, Camp Gruber, Oklahoma, 1943

*"I do set my bow in the cloud,
and it shall be for a token of a covenant
between me and the earth."*

Genesis 9-13

