

The BULGE BUGLE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION ☆ VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

VOLUME IV NUMBER 3

THE ARDENNES CAMPAIGN

SEPTEMBER 1985

General Membership Meeting and Banquet

We are hoping to see you again and all the new faces. Come for the ceremonious, festive, educational and enjoyable three days and nights with the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge --- the greatest battle of the greatest war ever fought by the United States Army. You were an integral part of it and may only have known the little picture, but now you can learn about THE BIG PICTURE!

After forty years you can put the puzzle of that struggle together and follow where each unit fought during that remarkable, dramatic, controversial, costly and pivotal epic battle in our military history.

Ninety-five percent of the Allied casualties were American and drastically attests to our involvement. Our common plight was to fight!

PROGRAM PLANS FOR THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND BANQUET December 13, 14 and 15, 1985

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13th

- 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Registration
- 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Books & Authors & Auto-graph Session
- 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Photos & Displays
- 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Committee Meetings
- 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Reception

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14th

- 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
General Membership Meeting
- 10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.
Break
- 10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
Newly Declassified Films-Battle of the Bulge
- 10:45 a.m. - Noon
Prisoners of War and Their Experiences

Noon - 1:30 p.m.

Lunch

- 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Business Session
- 1:30 p.m. 1:45 p.m.
New Business
- 1:45 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
Comments by VBOB Members
- 2:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.
Reports by Committee Chairmen
- 2:45 p.m. - 3:10 p.m.
Reports on Publications and Books
- 3:10 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Nomination & Election of Officers
- 3:30 p.m.
Adjournment
- 5:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.
Dinner Theater, Alexandria, VA -- "Fiddler on the Roof" - \$31.00 per person (includes entree, dinner and bus transportation)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15th

- 10:30 a.m. - Noon
Memorial Ceremony, Arlington National Cemetery
- Noon - 3:15 p.m.
Lunch and Free Time
- 3:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
National Cathedral Program
- 5:00 p.m.
Return to Hotel
- 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Banquet Gala and Social Hour
- 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Dinner, Speeches and Installation of New Officers
- 9:00 p.m. - Midnight
Dancing & Reminiscing
- Midnight - Fond Farewells
Until Next Year!

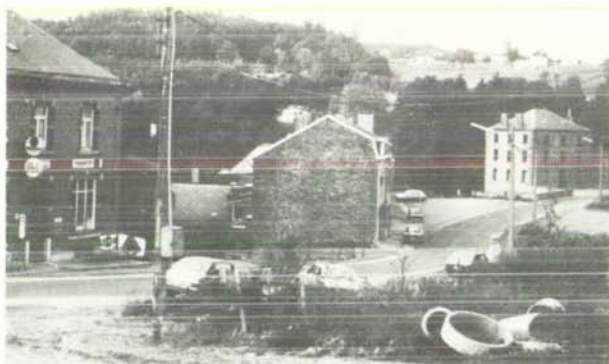
VBOB Officers and Staff

THE BULGE BUGLE is the official publication of Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. It is issued four times yearly.

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OUR OBJECTIVES ARE:

- * To foster international peace and good will
- * To promote friendship
- * To perpetuate the memory of the sacrifices involved
- * To preserve historical data and sites



Rencheux, Belgium in January 1945 and in October, 1983. Courtesy of CAM.



CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
 WASHINGTON

25 July 1985

Mr. Clyde D. Boden
 Veterans of the Battle of
 the Bulge
 Post Office Box 11129
 Arlington, Virginia 22210-2129

Dear Clyde,

It was good to hear from you again and thank you for your kinds words. You and your fine organization are performing a valuable service for our veterans. I truly enjoyed the evening we spent together.

Best wishes to you, your family, and all the members of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge.

Sincerely,

John W. Jersey, Jr.
 JOHN W. JERSEY, JR.
 Chairman
 Joint Chiefs of Staff

VBOB LIFE MEMBERSHIPS --

\$50 if age 70 or over

\$75 if age 50 thru 69

\$100 if under age 50

The ETO 40 Years Later ...by Joe Quade

Another eventful pilgrimage by the members of the 17th Airborne Division Association is now history. Ninety-two 17th glider and paratroopers, along with family members and friends, participated in an 18-day, seven country tour of places where they had trained and fought some 40 years ago. The troopers came from some 28 states including Oregon, Texas, Florida and Maine, covering the width and breadth of the United States.

The tour began with a four-day stay in England where two days in London gave the troopers and those who accompanied them an opportunity to see all the tourist highlights, including the Changing of the Guard, Big Ben, Piccadilly and Soho, as well as to see some of the excellent British Theater. Then it was off to Southern England to see the remains of the camp areas where the troops had been billeted back in 1943 - Camp Chiseldon, Ogburne St. George, Barton Stacey and Chilbolton. At Barton Stacey, where the 513th had been stationed, we were accorded a very fine tea by the British Regiment stationed there. At Chilbolton our hosts were the members of the local Women's Institute. The climax of our stay in England was a top-notch dinner dance hosted by our British counterparts, the British Paratroops of the Aldershot Branch. There were plenty of liquid refreshments, excellent food and exchanges of gifts.

Next it was across the Channel to visit the D-Day sites in Ste. Mere Eglise, St. Marie du Monde, Point du Hoc, Omaha Beach, Utah Beach and the American Cemetery where over 9,000 American servicemen remain buried.

Then it was on to Gay Paree for a much too short two-day visit. All the old haunts were once again seen including the Eiffel Tower, the Arch of Triomphe and of course Place Pigalle. The Lido and the Folies were visited by some of the troopers while the bulk of the group had a delightful cruise up the Seine with an excellent dinner and plentiful drinks.

All too soon it was time to leave Paris and head for that unforgettable area where we had our baptism of fire - the Bulge. One busload stayed in Houffalize and the other in Clervaux, Luxembourg. A fine

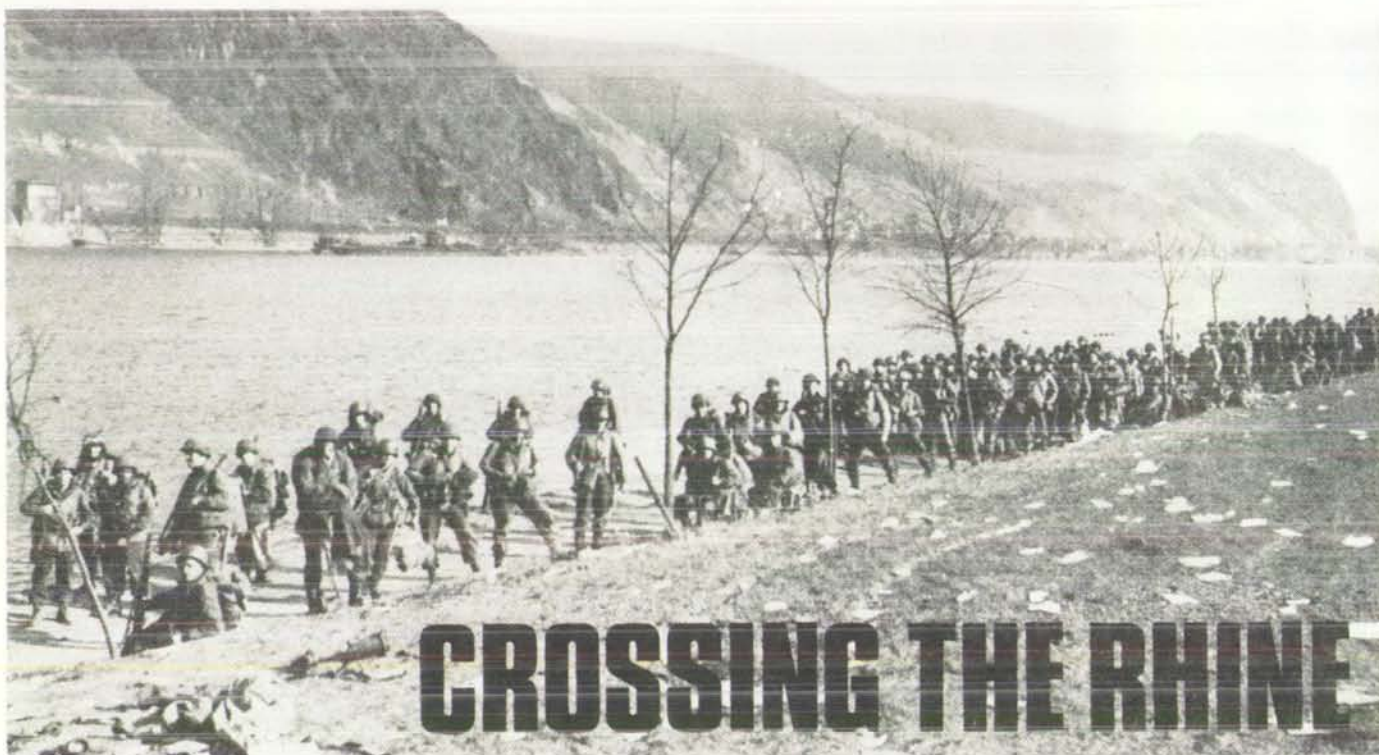
reception was given us by our friends in Houffalize where a visit was made to the square dedicated in our honor - Place 17th Airborne. The following day further honors were given us in the town of Clervaux, complete with band, vin de honneur, and the attendance of two high-level dignitaries - the U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg, John Dolibois, and the Luxembourg Minister, Emile Krieps. Both were good sports and earned a pair of U.S. Paratroop wings by jumping from the edge of the auditorium stage with the traditional shout - "Geronimo." The next day part of the group participated in the 40th anniversary celebration in Vianden while the other half visited the small town of Houmont where we are helping to rebuild the church that was destroyed while we were fighting in the area.

Next on our agenda was Wesel, the site of Operation Varsity back in March 1945 where we parachuted or crossed the Rhine by glider. We were greeted by our friend, Ted Wells, a British glider pilot who has settled in the Wesel area, and who gave us a very detailed explanation of the Operation Varsity and then conducted us on a bus tour of the DZ sites both for the paratroopers and the glidermen.

We enjoyed an excellent lunch of typical German food in the Niederrheinhalle in Wesel where our host was Herr Simon who had been a POW of the Americans. He really put out an excellent meal with plenty of cold beer to show his appreciation of the way he had been treated while a POW. In the evening we played host to several German paratroop veterans of World War II who had fought against us in the Wesel landing. This time we were shooting at one another with cameras and not with guns.

It finally came time to say goodbye to the military portion of the trip and become purely sightseers as we headed for four fun-filled days in Copenhagen, Denmark, with a wonderful climax of an excellent farewell dinner and a visit to the World-famous Tivoli Gardens. All in all, this 5th 17th Airborne pilgrimage back to the places where we had trained and fought was a memorable and emotional journey and one which those who participated will long remember.

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AFTER THE BATTLE, Battle of Britain Prints International Ltd.

GIs from the 2nd Division line up on the west bank of the Rhine in the First Army sector, awaiting transportation to cross the river (Associated Press).

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS-AT-LARGE ARE DELETED FROM VBOB CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

The VBOB Constitution had provided for fifteen Executive Council members-at-large each with three-year terms on a staggered basis. The By Laws concomitantly had provided for the mode of nomination and election. Because there were no nominations, implementation had been deferred with a proviso that in the absence or inadequacy of nominations again these provisions would become inoperative and deleted as of July 1, 1985. Since that eventuality occurred, Article XI of the Constitution and Article VI of the By Laws no longer refer to such Executive Council members-at-large.

...Joseph Langbart, General Counsel

ASSAULT CROSSINGS OF THE RHINE

1.	March 7, 1600	Remagen	US First Army, 27th Armd. Inf. Batt.
2.	March 22, 2200	Oppenheim	US Third Army, 5th Div. 11th Inf. Reg., 3rd Batt.
3.	March 22, 2200	Nierstein	US Third Army, 5th Div., 11th Inf. Reg., 1st Batt.
4.	March 23, 2100	Rees	Second British Army, 51st Highland Div.
5.	March 23, 2200	Wesel	Second British Army, 1st Commando Brigade
6.	March 24, 0200	Büderich	US Ninth Army, 30th Inf. Div., 119th Inf. Reg.
7.	March 24, 0200	Wallach	US Ninth Army, 30th Inf. Div., 117th Inf. Reg.
8.	March 24, 0200	Rheinberg	US Ninth Army, 30th Inf. Div., 120th Inf. Reg.
9.	March 24, 0200	Xanten	Second British Army, 15th Scottish Div.
10.	March 24, 0300	Walsum	US Ninth Army, 79th Inf. Div., 315th Inf. Reg.
11.	March 24, 0300	Orsoy	US Ninth Army, 79th Inf. Div., 313th Inf. Reg.
12.	March 25, 0001	Boppard	US Third Army, 87th Inf. Div., 345th Inf. Reg.
13.	March 25, 0001	Rhens	US Third Army, 87th Inf. Div., 347th Inf. Reg.
14.	March 26, 0200	St. Goar	US Third Army, 89th Inf. Div., 354th Inf. Reg.
15.	March 26, 0200	Oberwesel	US Third Army, 89th Inf. Div., 353rd Inf. Reg.
16.	March 26, 0230	Hamm	US Seventh Army, 45th Inf. Div.
17.	March 26, 0230	Frankenthal	US Seventh Army, 3rd Inf. Div.
18.	March 28, 0100	Mainz	US Third Army, 80th Inf. Div., 317th Inf. Reg.
19.	March 31, 0230	Speyer	First French Army, 3rd Régiment de Tirailleurs Algériens
20.	March 31, 0600	Germersheim	First French Army, 4th Régiment de Tirailleurs Marocains
21.	March 31, 0600	Mechtersheim	First French Army, 151st Régiment d'Infanterie
22.	April 2,	Leimersheim	First French Army, 9th Division d'Infanterie Coloniale
23.	April 15, 1100	Strasbourg	First French Army, 23rd Régiment d'Infanterie



About 20% of the speech President Reagan delivered on May 5 at Bitburg Air Force Base in Germany was the result of a telephone call from the White House to past president Clyde Boden for a humanizing story.

The caller was referred to a Christmas 1944 story that appeared in the January 1973 issue of Reader's Digest, titled "A Truce in the Forest," about three American and four German soldiers who shared a Christmas Eve meal with a mother and son; this anecdote was used in the President's speech, an excerpt of which follows:

The hope we see now could sometimes even be glimpsed in the darkest days of the war. I'm thinking of one special story -- that of a mother and her young son living alone in a modest cottage in the middle of the woods. One night as the Battle of the Bulge exploded not far away, three young American soldiers arrived at their door -- standing in the snow, lost behind enemy lines. All were frostbitten; one was badly wounded. Even though sheltering the enemy was punishable by death, she took them in and made them a supper with some of her last food.

And then, they heard another knock at the door. This time four German soldiers stood there. The woman was afraid, but she quickly said with a firm voice, "There will be no shooting here." She made the soldiers lay down their weapons, and they all joined in the makeshift meal. Heinz and Willi, it turned out, were only 16. The corporal was the oldest at 23. Their natural suspicion dissolved in the warmth and comfort of the cottage. One of the Germans, a former medical student, tended the wounded American.

Now, listen to the rest of the story through the eyes of one who was there, now a grown man, but that young lad that had been her son. He said, "Then mother said grace. I noticed that there were tears in her eyes as she said the old, familiar words, 'Komm, Herr Jesus. Be our guest.' And as I looked around the table, I saw tears, too, in the eyes of the battle-weary soldiers, boys again, some from America, some from Germany, all far from home."

That night -- as the storm of war tossed the world -- they had their own private armistice. The next morning the German corporal showed the Americans how to get back behind their own lines. They all shook hands and went their separate ways. That happened to be Christmas Day, 40 years ago.

To the people of Bitburg, our hosts and the hosts of our servicemen: Like that generous woman 40 years ago, you make us feel very welcome. Vielen Dank (Thank you).



Robert J. VanHouten, left, VBOB President, is introduced by the Commander, Military Order of the Purple Heart (Greater Washington, D.C. Chapter 353) at a joint activity with local VBOB members.

A buffet dinner was followed by a performance of "The Spirit of America" presented by the 3rd United States Infantry (The Old Guard) and The United States Army Band (Pershing's Own) on June 8, 1985.

VBOB officers Wm. R. Hemphill and E. "Lucky" Loiacono are Past Commanders of Chapter 353, MOPH.

THE MEMORIES OF WAR

The memories always will remain
Of war that used to be.
A war that took us far away
To fight across the sea.

A war that left its many scars
That will not go away.
A war we will relive so oft
Until our dying day.

A war with sights we can't forget
No words can e'er portray.
A war that haunts our dreams at night
And in our thoughts each day.

The memories always will remain
Though try hard that we may,
To shut them from our inner thoughts
They will forever stay.

...Harold F. Mohn

CHAPTER NEWS

By Bill Simpkins,

Vice President for Regional Coordination

Every week I am delighted to receive telephone calls and mail informing me of the activities of our VBOB Chapters. Perhaps I should add that I am also somewhat astounded by the extent and variety of activities in which the Chapter members are involved.

Bill Schneider, V.P. for Membership of the Northern Wisconsin Chapter, told me recently that the Chapter now has 159 members. VBOB membership in that area is scattered over a wide geographic area and that would seem to pose a communications problem; however, the Chapter members have formed a very cohesive group. Meetings are scheduled four times a year at the VFW Post in Wausau. The December meeting was attended by 70 members, many of whom brought their wives and/or another friend. Some of the members drove as far as 90 miles. That really shows a great enthusiasm and determination which accounted for 118 people attending the meeting.

The Northern Wisconsin Chapter is typical of overall VBOB membership; many military units are represented and the one thing they all have in common is their never-to-be-forgotten experience through which they lived in the Ardennes Campaign. Bill Schneider said that some of the fellows sometimes get into round-robin bull sessions that bring back very vivid memories that have been hidden in their minds for many years. They are happy to be able to discuss these experiences with friends who shared the ordeal. On a personal note, I would like to relate to you something that happened at my unit reunion in 1984.

A friend came to his first unit reunion and we shared a table at lunch with our wives. His wife said she insisted that he attend the reunion. My pal took it from there; he had refused to attend previous reunions because he had tried to erase from his memory all of the terrible experiences that he had endured 40 years ago. He said that being with his old friends and being able to talk with them acted like a booster to his morale and self-image. It felt as if a great load

had been lifted from his shoulders.

We are not all affected in the same manner by an experience and very often we are rendering a great service to a friend by simply listening when he wants to talk about an experience that may have been painful. Perhaps that is one of the great advantages of belonging to an organization that affords us the opportunity to spend time with friends with whom we have so much in common.

Outstanding and obvious success in obtaining new members for the Northern Wisconsin Chapter aroused my curiosity and I just had to ask for the formula of their success. Bill stated that it is really very simple -- some home work and a sincere face-to-face meeting with a prospective member. Bill first determines the unit that the prospective member served with during the Battle of the Bulge. He then uses his copy of The Ardennes: The Battle of the Bulge by Hugh M. Cole, as a reference to ascertain every fact and detail about the unit as a factual presentation to the prospective member.

Emphasis is placed on the importance of the Battle of the Bulge as a pivotal battle in WWII in Europe and how it helped bring the war to an end. Then attention is drawn to the action and contribution of the prospective member's individual unit. This approach on a factual basis is working exceptionally well for Bill Schneider in his capacity of V.P. for Membership. Bill also points out something else that I am inclined to overlook all too often -- the age at which we all find ourselves, coupled with personality differences, means that many veterans who served in the Ardennes Campaign are somewhat reluctant to socialize a lot and spend a considerable amount of time at home. Taking this into consideration prompted Bill to take the time to seek out prospective members and take the time to visit them at their homes. That is a winning combination.

Of course Bill does not do it by himself. This Chapter is filled with enthusiasm. Roland Parquette is the current President and his leadership has been exceptionally valuable. Herbert Reinke is the Vice President and Irving Kolpetcke is the Secretary Treasurer. Together they make a close-knit, well-organized group of elected

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

(CHAPTER NEWS continued) officers who are going great guns. Each of these men is also active in other veterans' organizations and that is one big plus that helps them spark their own VBOB Chapter.

There was initially some reluctance on the part of other veterans' organizations to cooperate with VBOB Chapters. They learned that VBOB does not wish to compete with them, but our aim is to cooperate with them. We do, after all considerations, have the same goals and now realize that in unity there is greater strength. Many areas have a Joint Veterans Committee or a Joint Veterans Council which is composed of members from all of the various veterans' groups. They work in unison to achieve common goals such as visiting veterans in VA hospitals, providing transportation to and from VA hospitals for disabled vets, arranging and participating in parades on National holidays, assisting veterans in their search for jobs and many other commendable functions.

Perhaps the success of the Northern Wisconsin Chapter can best be summed up in the old saying, "Plan your work and work your plan."

The Central New York Chapter continues to roll along in its winning way. Herb Toscano is the Executive Vice President of the Chapter and he is in frequent contact with all of the other elected officers at VBOB's Arlington, Virginia office. Herb is also a national officer and holds the very important position of V.P. for Membership, which is a natural for him.

The membership for the CNY Chapter is now 146. This Chapter meets monthly at the McChestney Park and Community Center which is owned by the City of Syracuse. Veterans' organizations play a very important role in the social, political and everyday life of all people in Syracuse. Accordingly, the VBOB Chapter there has drawn a lot of positive attention to itself by virtue of its continual activities. During the month of August, the Chapter had a booth at the State Fair in Syracuse for the purpose of disseminating information about the Battle of the Bulge and passing out membership applications. Members are active in the local program of visiting hospitalized veterans and VBOB is represented in every parade or other function on National or local holidays. The Chapter has

received many letters of praise from elected officials who serve on a local, State or National basis.

Thomas Donigan is the Chapter President and working with Herb Toscano, its Exec. V.P. and Tom, is Linda Chew, the Chapter's Secretary/Treasurer. I had the pleasure of meeting these fine elected officers at their organizational meeting in Syracuse and they can serve as role models for anyone seeking to hold an elected position in any veterans' organization.

It is interesting to note the outstanding cooperation that exists among all of the veterans' organizations in the greater Syracuse area. Perhaps that explains why each such organization is so outstanding, be it American Legion, VFW, Sons of Civil War Veterans, Jewish War Veterans, Catholic War Veterans or VBOB. All of these veterans' organizations, and a few others not mentioned, are active in civic affairs, youth programs, fund-raising activities and many other functions that reflect in a very positive manner on the community and its efforts to improve the quality of life for all of its citizens.

The Central New York Chapter and the Northern Wisconsin Chapter have both been the proud recipients of national flags from Belgium and Luxembourg which they display very proudly. The Central New York Chapter has had a VBOB Banner made that is displayed at meetings and other appropriate functions. It is very attractive and the members can be proud of their achievement to be the first chapter to have such a banner. Incidentally, VBOB's National office has a very fine official VBOB flag that represents a lot of positive efforts on the part of several of your elected officers. We are requesting prices for having it duplicated after receiving inquiries from the VBOB Chapters.

The cooperation among various organizations which was mentioned previously is not restricted to veterans' groups. Those units work closely with organizations such as the Lions Clubs, Rotary Clubs, Knights of Columbus, Elks and Moose Clubs and their auxiliary units. Proof again that in unity there is strength as well as success.

The Chapters produce their own newsletters and one I received for the month of June from the Central New York Chapter (CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

(CHAPTER NEWS continued) contains something that should be passed along to all of our members. I was not aware of it, but Mr. John Hricik, Director of the Veterans Administration News, Buffalo, N.Y., urges all veterans planning to travel overseas to check with the regional VA office to determine what benefits are available to them in foreign countries. Veterans with service-connected disabilities can obtain treatment or hospitalization in an emergency that will be paid for by the VA. Proper application and statements of disability must be presented to a U.S. Embassy or Consulate to receive such benefits.

We all appreciate this information and if any member is aware of other such little-known benefits for veterans, please pass the information along to THE BULGE BUGLE and it will be published. We will continue to look for great things from our Central New York Chapter.

The newest VBOB Chapter was officially recognized in September, 1984. It is the Maryland-D.C. Chapter and now boasts a membership of 175. The Chapter meets four times a year and is following a plan to have meetings in different parts of the State as a means of stimulating interest. The idea is working well under the Chapter's President, Neil Thompson, who is also very active in other veterans' organizations.

Neil is living proof of the old saying, "If you want something done, give the job to a busy person." Neil is a member of the Maryland Joint Veterans' Committee which meets at the War Memorial Building in Baltimore. He is also on the Veterans' Council of Anne Arundel County as well as a State officer in DAV.

The Chapter has embarked upon a commendable project that will require considerable effort, planning and travel. On each Memorial Day, Chapter members will place a wreath at each of the three Federal and five State veterans' cemeteries. Following the lead of the other Chapters, the Maryland-D.C. Chapter holds its meetings at local posts of other veterans' units throughout the State. Thus far, we have been hosted by the American Legion and the VFW; this is another example of inter-unit cooperation.

Neil is quick to point out that the members of the Maryland-D.C. Chapter are looking forward to hosting a General Membership

Meeting of VBOB. He told me that the members have had a lot of practice during the past four years working at our various functions, so being the official host would be a natural. He has a good point. The response to the Maryland-D.C. Chapter by other service and civic organizations has been very positive. Many have asked what they can do to assist us and the gestures were quite sincere, based upon the manner in which they work with other organizations such as ours.

Neil is presently working with his members on a project that will have far-reaching and a long-term positive influence on every member of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. As you know, Fort George G. Meade Museum formalized an agreement with VBOB that established the Ft. Meade Museum as the official depository for articles relating to the Ardennes Campaign, better known as the Battle of the Bulge. Neil's project is to establish a roster from which the local Chapter will have volunteers serve at the Ft. Meade Museum with an emphasis on assisting with the VBOB materials that are sent to the museum and on display.

This is a laudable goal and will serve to enhance the overall image of VBOB on a local as well as a National basis. It could very well be the pilot project that would see other Chapters - as well as individual members - offering their services to local museums, be they military or civilian.

What is the common denominator that exists in every VBOB Chapter? A quick response might well be "leadership." But let's consider that obvious answer only briefly. It is true that each Chapter is fortunate to have many individuals possessing leadership capabilities; however, I would like to believe that the single most important element that exists in each Chapter is the quality of enthusiasm on the part of each member. Without it, no organization of any type can exist or progress. The interest displayed by the members of our Chapters has convinced me that the best way for each VBOB member to get the most out of his membership is to be closely associated with other VBOB members. I cannot think of a better way of accomplishing this than by being active in a VBOB Chapter, whether on a local, State or regional basis. This will give us the opportunity to associate with friends with whom we share a very (CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE).

(CHAPTER NEWS continued) unique experience -- participating in the greatest land battle in which our Country was ever engaged. And we won this one and it helped bring WWII to an end.

We will observe that the individuals on whom we may call and expect positive results are, in all probability, presently active in other veterans' organizations or civic associations. Nevertheless, do not overlook the possibility that many of us who are not active have not been called upon to participate in organizing, managing and leading a group such as a VBOB Chapter. There is an amazing amount of talent in our membership rolls. Let's use it by affording our fellow VBOB members the opportunity to establish close associations and what better way than to have a local VBOB Chapter.

A kit has been prepared for members who wish to obtain some tips on establishing a VBOB Chapter. If you wish to receive one, write to Bill Simpkins, 2318 Mt. Royal Terrace, Baltimore, MD 21217.

History of Military Units

...Bill Simpkins

In 1982 I learned of the existence of 16mm microfilm containing the official history of my fighter squadron's activities during WW II. It took some doing to finally locate the film at Maxwell Field, Alabama in the Simpson Historical Library. Once it was acquired, a friend with a major supply of photographic equipment produced an 8x10" sheet of each of the 250 16mm frames. That was then photocopied as a means to preserve the material (photo paper can deteriorate rapidly unless stored under refrigeration).

The official history was originally classified as SECRET, but that had been changed. Some of the pages were almost illegible because the original typewriters were not in the best of condition and obviously old ribbons were used. Nevertheless, we managed to type some of the pages after deciphering the contents one word at a time. The result was a document that is living history.

The details and facts are such that it permits a person who was with the original

squadron to recapture every day and mission. Some of the material consisted of 16mm frames of black and white photos that were taken of different planes, runways and individuals involved in various forms of daily activity.

Unfortunately, those pages could not be reproduced on a photocopy machine, resulting in the loss of some 27 pages. The final result was 223 pages of material that was copied on both sides of Archival Bond paper to insure a long life of the document. This also made it more manageable for sending through the mail or UPS as well as reducing the bulk when placing it into a three-ring binder.

A neighbor who teaches history is a military history buff and was so impressed with the material that she also ordered a copy. The price of \$8.90 for a set of the complete document was considered a bargain by all of the fellows in our association.

You might look into obtaining the history of your WWII outfit and having it reproduced as we did. I do not know where the 16mm film is located for Army units; however, I believe you could learn by writing Public Information, Department of the Army, The Pentagon, Washington, D.C. There is some work associated with such a project, but I believe you will be very happy with the results.

Reunion ~ ~ ~

106TH QUARTERMASTER CO., 22 Sep 1985, Polish National Home, Hartford, Conn. All members of the 106th Infantry Division are welcome. (James Senatrot, 121 W. Main St., Vernon, Conn. 06066).

28TH INFANTRY DIVISION VETERANS, 19-21 Sep 1985, Fort Indiantown Gap, PA. (Leon H. Hancock, 28th Inf. Div. Vets Reunion, HQ, 55th Brigade, PO Box 109, Scranton, PA 18501).

561ST FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION, May 1986, Sheraton Plaza Hotel, Westport, St. Louis, MO. (R. P. Zwisler, 2810 Heidelberg Drive, Boulder, CO 80303).

90TH DIVISION, 4-6 Oct 1985, Leamington Hotel, Minneapolis, Minn. (Carl W. Manuel, 1017 N. 40th St., Ft. Smith, Ark. 72904).

The President's Report

You recently received a short President's Report on where we stand and what we hope to accomplish in the near future.

I cannot over-emphasize that our major concern is to have the funds to cover all the many things we hope to accomplish. While we do not want to drop anyone who fought in the Battle of the Bulge due to a financial hardship, we do ask our membership to keep up their dues yearly and perhaps even a little extra donation to defray the dues of those persons who are unable to pay.

The date of your membership due date is listed on the back page of THE BULGE BUGLE above your address. While we have not sent out bills, it may be necessary to do that to keep our members current. If you feel you would like to have a reminder, please let us know.

Our second task is obtaining funds to supply books for hospitalized veterans in Veterans hospitals. The hospitals have a great need in their libraries for reading material and it is our hope that as a veterans' organization, we can help supply more books. Since we have a number of authors in the organization, we have started with their books, but if we have sufficient funds, we can go to other authors. However, we would take the liberty to review such books as to their authenticity.

As President, I also want each member to feel free to send any articles pertaining to your experiences in the Battle of the Bulge that you feel might be of interest to our readers; perhaps even interesting people you met then or years afterwards, who were in that historic battle.

In closing, I want to invite each and every one of you to our December 13 - 15 General Membership Meeting here in Washington, D.C. There is a great program planned with lots of sight-seeing available for those who so desire, especially the women.

Respectfully,

Bob

GRAND DUCHESS CHARLOTTE OF LUXEMBOURG DIES AT 89

Grand Duchess Charlotte of Luxembourg, 89, who reigned for nearly 46 years and who was a beacon of hope for her people through her broadcasts to them from England during World War II, died of a respiratory ailment on July 9 at Fischbach Castle.

The son of the grand duchess, Grand Duke Jean and his wife Grand Duchess Josephine-Charlotte, met VBOB members on the occasion of a State Visit in November 1984. They and other members of the royal family have participated in VBOB and other veterans' events in Luxembourg.

Condolences on the part of VBOB members were expressed by Past VBOB President Clyde Boden to Luxembourg's Ambassador Paul Peters who extended his best wishes to all VBOB members.



A vet is...

America's war veterans come in a wide variety of sizes, shapes and ages. Their collective experience spans two world wars and several foreign conflicts. They have followed war mules through the mud of Flanders Field, dropped from landing barges onto the beaches of Normandy, faced the icy cold of Porkchop Hill and trudged the rice paddies of Mekong Delta.

But, regardless of differences in makeup and experience, all veterans share a common bond—a brotherhood of memory and hard-won wisdom which helps define their character.

A veteran is the first man up as the flag passes by on the 4th of July, and the last one down, for he has been a witness to the blood and tears which make this and all other parades possible.

A veteran is a man of peace, soft spoken, slow to anger, quick to realize that those who talk most about the glory of war are those who know least about its horror. He never jokes about war; he's been there, and still sees on memory's vivid screen the wounded and the dying, the widows and orphans; he knows first-hand that no war is good and that the only thing worse than war is slavery.

He is friend to all races of man, begrudging none; he carries with him the knowledge that it is not the man who is the enemy but enslavement and false ideologies. Those whom he once faced across the hostile battle lines, he now esteems as his brothers.

A veteran is at once proud and humble: proud of the fact that in 200 years no foreign enemy has set foot on American soil; and humble in the realization that many of his comrades who helped him make this lofty aim a reality, never returned.

More than anything else, a veteran loves freedom. He can spend a whole afternoon doing nothing—just because it suits him, and just because he has paid the price to do what he wants with his time. He also takes a personal pride in the freedom of others—in men and women attending the church of their choice; in friends voting how they choose; and in children sleeping quietly, without fear to interrupt their slumber.

A veteran is every man grown up a littler taller—a person who understands the awesome price of life's intangibles of freedom, justice and democracy. His motto is to live and let live. But, if he had to, if he had to choose between servitude and conflict, the veteran would once again answer a call to duty.

Because, above all—above all else—a veteran is an American.

Bonneville Media Communications

Up Front

with Willie & Joe

by Bill Mauldin Reprinted in The Stars and Stripes Courtesy of Bill Mauldin



"It's either enemy or off limits."

"Black Brass"

This book, says its publisher, Henry E. Dabbs, is an impressive record of black accomplishment and includes, in addition to its biographical entries (many with photos), a spirited essay about the history of the Black commander tradition. Also, a chronology, "Major Events in Black Military History, 1492-1984," is included, as well as a list of Black Congressional Medal of Honor recipients and their acts of valor (Civil War to present) and an extensive bibliography.

BLACK BRASS: Black Generals and Admirals in the Armed Forces of the United States (Afro-American Heritage House, 100 Craig Road, Freehold, N.J. 07728, \$14.95 postpaid). Introduction by Vice Admiral Samuel L. Gravely, Jr., the first Black admiral in United States History.

(Contributed by Thomas D. Gillis, VBOB Corresponding Secretary, Greenbrae, CA)

New Recruit?

We have all heard of the WAAC, but do we know one? Well, we have one in captivity. A few days ago, Pauline Reiher, an original member of the WAAC, volunteered for membership in VBOB. She is not quite as agile as she was in 1942, but still has the "get up and go" that she had during basic training. When you attend the Membership Meeting in December, take time off to visit the Smithsonian American History museum to view her WAAC uniform donated in 1983.

Pauline publishes SENIOR SCRIBES, a monthly magazine of 20 pages, which features nostalgia articles, poems, essays, recipes, household hints and whatever is submitted by its senior readers. A real bargain at \$5.00 per year. Write to her. She will reply as soon as she is finished with the envelope stuffing detail here at VBOB Headquarters.

...Bill Hemphill, Treasurer

BOB BOWEN is a
VBOB member

S AMONG THEIR SOUVENIRS



INTIMATE
HISTORIES FROM
DIARIES,
PHOTOGRAPHS
AND MEMENTOS



The dog tag at top names
the smiling couple.



With this, Bowen ate one
cup of prison broth a day.

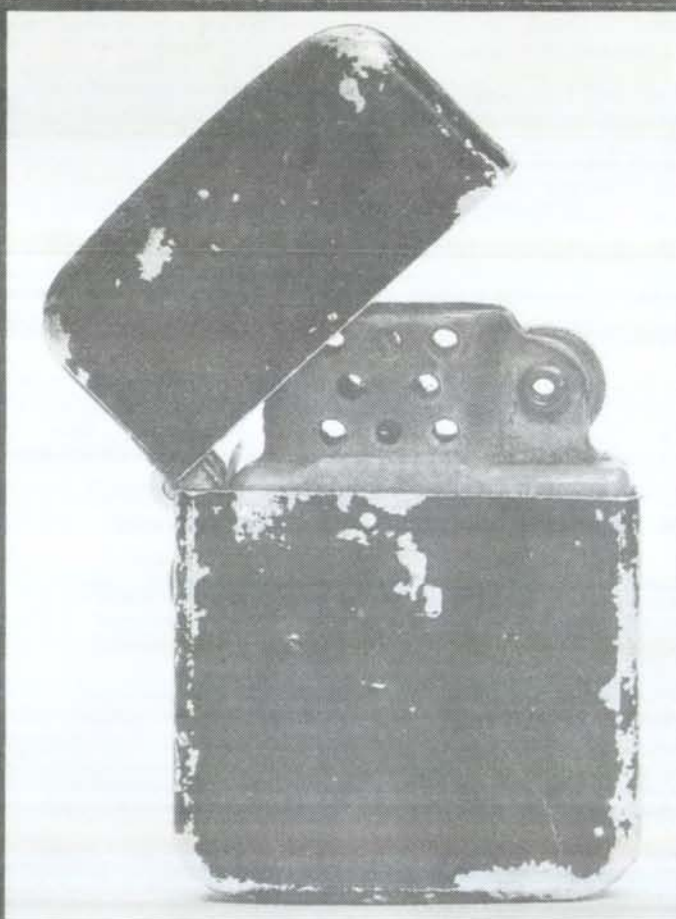


He saved an opener, lucky
quarter and cigarette case.

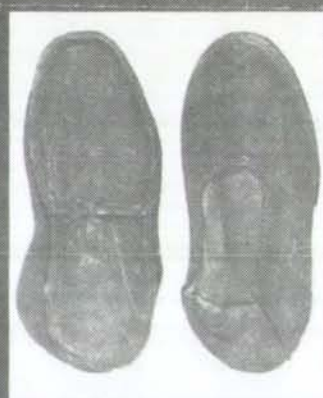
They were young, in a foreign land and often in great danger. Their ties to those they loved were tenuous—a letter, a snapshot from home the only links to their pasts. For veterans, those days are still vividly evoked by a few tangibles—things they took overseas, things they brought home.

Christine Bowen has the letters her husband, Robert, wrote her from Europe. "My darling," one began in 1944, "I pray that by next Christmas we shall be together." But by that Christmas Sergeant Bowen was a prisoner in a German field hospital with wounds that he got during the Battle of the Bulge—in his wrist, stomach and chest. Then a soldier friend of his wrote: "Dear Teeny, Long ago Bob and I made an agreement to write to one another's relatives in case one can't. I'm awful sorry...." From the hospital Bowen went to a camp. The POWs had no heat, beds, water to wash with or toilet paper. Bowen had a Bible, a money belt and the items at right. Five months later his wife learned that he was alive—barely. Today Bowen, 71, lives in Baltimore, where he chisels designs in brass, and he and his wife happily fish and golf together.

Reporting: Naomi Cutner



There was no fuel for Bowen's Zippo lighter. He traded his
two cigarettes a month for a guard's hard pumpnickel.



Bowen's felt slippers were
made by a Russian POW.



Bowen lent his pipe to the
confirmed smokers in camp.



With no hot water, his
plastic razor was useless.

After 40 Years--An Unexpected Reunion

An emotional greeting was extended to Nick and Odette Bourdoux as members and friends of the 557th AAA Battalion Association welcomed their Belgian friends with a standing ovation.

The setting was the 557th's banquet on May 18 during its 36th Annual Reunion at the Ramada Inn in Hagerstown, Md.

President Frank Doyle of Scranton, Pa said each year a new war story is told when he introduced Eric Neukirchner of Philadelphia. Eric recalled Nick joining A Battery's fifth gun section in the latter part of 1944.

Army clothing and equipment were given to Nick who quickly picked up military and other language and served as a good soldier for five months in combat in Belgium, Luxembourg, Holland and Germany, including the Battle of the Bulge.

Nick graciously responded and presented a medallion of Vise, Belgium, his home town, to President Doyle as a gift from the burgo-meister. He said:

Ladies and Gentlemen. Dear friends and veterans of the 557th AAA. Glad to meet you all.

As you know, my English is not perfect. I had very few practices in speaking your language since 1944.

Clyde Boden and Eric Neukirchner have told you about my story joining your company in October 1944 and the unbelievable "meeting again" I had with Eric, after 40 years, last July somewhere in Germany.

I am very happy to have found so many of you again today, after 40 years with no contacts, as we were all busy in different places; for my part, in Belgium.

I thank you very much for coming and also for giving me the opportunity to assist at the present reunion, which is a great pleasure for my wife and myself.

May I also give you the thankfulness of my home-town, Vise, that was liberated by the First U.S. Army in September 1944.

The article "NEW
BULGE MONUMENT

DEDICATED" which appeared on Page 17 of the last edition of our paper was written and contributed by Dee Paris, VBOB Life Member and a founding father of VBOB. His name was inadvertently omitted from the article.

VBOB members are invited to submit short summaries of the part their divisions or separate units played in the Battle of the Bulge. Please send them to R. L. Lemmon, Editor, THE BULGE BUGLE, 1247 Sycamore Dr., Jenison, MI 49428. As many as space permits will be published.

Annette Tapert, 10806 W. 2nd St., Fairfax, VA 22030 states "I am compiling an anthology of letters written home by American soldiers from the fighting fronts of WWI and WWII. All material will be treated with care and returned (photo copies acceptable). I understand how personal these letters are, but believe that the thoughts and feelings of men who fought for their country have historical value and should be shared with others."

DID YOU KNOW Private Herbert Owen Wright, 35th Division, 137th Regiment ASN 35085435? He was killed in action on January 11, 1945. If you knew this comrade please contact his son, who was one year old at the time -- Robert E. Wright, 318 Washington Place, Apt. 2, New Albany, Indiana 47150.

This medal is the symbol of our people thanking your people. Thank you again and let's celebrate this happy event together.

The sentimental reunion of old friends of 40 years earlier resulted from the efforts of Eric and Elfreda Neukirchner who "found" Nick while they were visiting relatives in Germany in the summer of 1984, by ways of a newspaper item.

...Clyde D. Boden

EDITOR'S
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War As I Knew It

In this most interesting book Third U.S. Army commander General George S. Patton, Jr. spoke of many things. In evaluating his WWII activities up to May 9, 1945, he wrote that the Third U.S. Army "had gone farther, captured more prisoners, crossed more rivers, liberated more friendly territory and captured more enemy territory than any army every before in American history."

Casualties in these encounters are listed as follows:

	THIRD ARMY	ENEMY
Killed	21,441	144,500
Wounded	99,224	386,200
Missing	16,200	
P.O.W.		*956,000
Non-Battle Casualties	111,562	
TOTAL:	248,427	
Light Tanks	308	
Medium Tanks	949	1,529
Panther/Tiger Tanks		856
Guns	175	3,454

* Those taken in actual battle prior to midnight of May 8-9. Subsequent to that date the taking of POW's was not a sporting event, so it was not recorded, although the numbers went into the millions.

Throughout these memoirs Gen. Patton was most praiseworthy of the XIX Tactical Air Command. (Take a bow, Bill Simpkins, VBOB's V-P for Regional Coordination).

This book offers many recommended actions to be taken in "the next war" based on experiences gained during World War II.

. . . Ed.

BELGIAN ADMIRER OF U.S. ARMY SEEKING WWII MEMENTOS

Roger Stas of Herstal, Belgium has a collection of U.S. insignia, badges and other items.

He would like to receive U.S. Army insignia of rank and branch, unit shoulder patches, and autographed pictures of Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge in WWII uniforms.

Roger is a friend of fellow Belgian, Nick Bourdoux, who spent five months in combat as a member of a gun section of the 557th AAA Battalion of the 84th Infantry Division.

Mementos should be sent to:

Roger Stas
Rue de la Tombe, 11
B. 4400.
Herstal, Belgium

...C. Boden



U. S. GOVERNMENT BOOKS

Dee Paris provides a copy of the latest U. S. Government "Books" Catalog Number V-5 of publications for sale by the United States Government Printing Office - all eight pages of it.

Believe me, it is most interesting! I have found five books which I shall order in the near future.

Orders may be charged to your MasterCard or Visa account.

To obtain a copy of the catalog, direct your request to: Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Dept. 33, Washington, D.C. 20402. GPO stocks supplies of 16,000 books at present and operates 24 bookstores all around the country where you may browse through the shelves and take your books home with you. These bookstores are listed in the catalog.

Write now, right now!!

Members Speak Out

Richard P. Zwisler, Boulder, CO, (561st FA Bn) is putting together the story of his unit's encounter during the Battle of the Bulge when it was in the area of St. Vith. He was also involved in "Operation Koblenz" (THE BULGE BUGLE, September 1984).

Helmer Winger, 90th Division, sends a clipping from The Houston Post concerning his visit to the Ardennes area. "Any desire to settle scores for the deaths of lost comrades has eroded with the passing of time for German and American soldiers who fought each other at the Battle of the Bulge..." says Winger, who was a communications Sergeant. He vividly remembers that "it was so cold, and the snow was so deep, and everybody had dysentery. We got so weak that we could hardly walk in that snow. The guys would drop their overcoats and some of their heavy gear because they just couldn't carry it along with their weapons during the day. They just hoped that at night they'd find either some dead GI or dead German and take an overcoat off him." Winger has made a number of visits back to the Bulge area in recent years. His most recent visit included three other Houstonians who were members of the 26th, 30th and 99th Divisions.

Edward Linderman, 99th Division Band, and his wife, of Grand Rapids, MI provide newsclips of their visit with his Belgian friends, Gilbert and Mariette Collinet and

grand-daughter, Marielle Truillet. Ed met Gilbert in Verviers, Belgium shortly after the Battle of the Bulge. The night before the start of the battle, Linderman and the Division's stage band were playing with songstress Marlene Dietrich for American soldiers in Eupen twenty-five miles away. Three years ago the Lindermans visited Belgium; this year the Collinets repaid the visit. During the visit here, the two families relived some of their Belgian experiences--they met when the U.S. Army's 99th Division took cover in Verviers.

BOOKS FOR VETERANS ADMINISTRATION PATIENTS

At the Executive Council Meeting of VBOB in July, we were informed of two important matters in our efforts to provide books for inpatients at VA hospitals. The publishers of Charles B. MacDonald's latest book, A TIME FOR TRUMPETS, have agreed to make the book available to us for distribution to VA hospitals for \$13 per book, delivered to a central VA distribution center. The VA will distribute the books for use to hospitals we select or do so on a basis selected by the VA. The choice is ours.

Members of the Executive Council contributed funds to purchase 22 books as a pilot activity. We will have the opportunity of inscribing a dedication page from VBOB, from a VBOB Chapter, or from an individual if he or she elects to do so.

This is an opportunity for us to do a little something for our comrades who are patients in VA hospitals. Remember the saying, "There but for the grace of God go I?" Let's remember our less fortunate friends and make this gesture to show them we really care.

Please send your contributions to Clyde Boden at VBOB Headquarters in Arlington, VA. Make check payable to "VBOB VA Book Fund." Also let Clyde know if you wish to have a page with a personal message from you or your Chapter.



SOLDIER ++++++

I was that which others did not want to be.
I went where others feared to go, and did what others failed to do.
I asked nothing from those who gave nothing, and reluctantly accepted the thought of eternal loneliness should I fail.
I have seen the face of terror; felt the stinging cold of fear; and enjoyed the sweet taste of a moment's love.
I have cried, suffered pain and hoped - but most of all, I have lived times others would say were best forgotten.
At least someday I will be able to say that I was proud of what I was -- a soldier.

Author
Unknown

VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

P.O. BOX 11129
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22210-2129
(703) 979-5270

24 July 1985

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BUGLE: I hope everyone has enjoyed our latest newsletter, The Bulge Bugle. We feel our editor, Bob Lemmon has done a superb job presenting all the facts and comments that came in from our members.

MEMORIAL DAY: So far this year, we have continued to recognize our fallen comrades on Memorial Day at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington Cemetery.

BOOKS: Several of our members have authored books and copies of these will be donated to Veterans Administration hospitals as time and funds permit. We will keep you informed of our plans so that members who desire to donate toward this project may do so. (Return clipping on Page 18).

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: All members are encouraged to make plans to attend our December 13-15 meeting. The plans are developing for a great schedule of events to take place at the Sheraton Hotel in Crystal City, Arlington, VA. This location is directly across the Potomac River from Washington, DC. A METRO subway station is located in the Crystal City Underground just across the street from the Sheraton. The METRO provides fast clean and safe transportation to various parts of Washington with stations located near the White House, the Capitol, the Smithsonian Institution buildings (Aero-Space, Natural History, American History and Art Museums), Archives, the FBI building and the downtown shopping and entertainment centers.

THEATRE: A new event has been added to our schedule for Saturday night. We have arranged reservations for those who desire to attend the West End Supper Theatre for dinner and presentation of "Fiddler on the Roof". (Return clipping on Page 18).

UNIT REUNIONS: I know many of you have attended your unit's reunions. Bev and I attended our first one this year. My outfit, the 16th Field Artillery Observation Battalion, held its second reunion at Fort Mitchell, KY. It was the first time since my capture some 40 years ago, that I was reunited with most of my buddies. I was thankful to see so many of them so bright and cheerful- older, like all of us!

FLASH: All members are entitled to know what is happening at VBOB headquarters. It is our hope that soon we will be able to send short letters to supplement The Bulge Bugle. The first one is scheduled for next month and will discuss our financial situation.

DUES: Even before the finance letter is mailed I must remind all members to keep their dues current. If you don't know your status-- First look at the mailing label on this letter. The date above your name is the date your dues are or were due. We use a revolving date so you will always get a full year for dues paid (like a magazine subscription). If you are past due (we don't like the word delinquent) pay now for '85. We do, however, appeal to you and hope you will volunteer to erase any past-due dues. If you can't resolve your status- write us a note and we will provide additional information.

COMMITTEE: I have appointed a blue ribbon committee to study our financial condition. Remember, most of the work at National headquarters is done on a volunteer basis. We want your money to return to you in news, services and memorial activities. We also have a hardship program for those members who have problem which precludes them from payment of dues. We want to hear from you- we do not want you to be 'past due'.

REMEMBER: You have joined one of the most unique organizations in the world. Your initiation fees were paid by you and your fallen comrades in 1944-45. As a member you have a voice in our future. Please support the organization so the organization can help those who desire to remain affiliated with us.

Your President,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob".

Robert J. Van Houten



*"By th' way, what wuz them changes you wuz gonna make when
you took over last month, sir?"*

THE FOLLOWING ARE PROVIDED FOR YOU TO FILL OUT, CLIP OUT AND MAIL OUT -- TO VBOB HEADQUARTERS:

VBOB (Books), PO Box 11129, Arlington, VA 22210-2129

I DESIRE TO DONATE _____ COPIES OF "A TIME FOR TRUMPETS".
Inclosed is my check in the amount of \$_____ to help defray
the cost of these books. Please inscribe the following
name(s) on the label to be inserted. (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Name: _____

Address: _____

=====

RESERVATION:

VBOB (Meeting), PO Box 11129, Arlington, VA 22210-2129

I desire to attend the WEST END Supper Theatre to dine
and see "Fiddler on the Roof", 14 December 1985. Inclosed
is my check in the amount of \$_____ for _____ individuals (at
\$31.00 per person). We must confirm advanced reservations
and therefor must receive your payment not later than 15
September 1985. Thank You

Name: _____

Address: _____

=====

INQUIRY FROM CRIBA — — — — —

Page 14 of our May 1985 edition contains an article with this same headline. M. Andre Hubert, member of CRIBA and Associate Member of VBOB has asked us to attempt to locate two more GI's.

A Belgian woman would like to have news of the whereabouts of two soldiers who were in Malmedy on 12/12/44 when she was a six-year-old girl. Pictures given her during an evening at her grandmother's home are shown here.

The upper picture is inscribed on the reverse: "N. Hospital. To Adrienne from Bob. Dec. 12, '44." The lower picture is inscribed "Souvenir for Adrienne" and signed "King" who was a friend of Bob's.

Any information regarding the above two GI's may be forwarded to VBOB and will be relayed to M. Hubert.

No information on the four soldiers referred to in our May edition has been received to date.

M. Hubert closes his latest letter to our Editor with the following: "If some day you come to Belgium and if you want to see the places where you were at that time, it would be a pleasure for me to show you around those places." Thank you most kindly, M. Hubert. ..Ed.



VETERANS of the BATTLE OF THE BULGE

P.O. Box 11129
Arlington, Virginia 22210-2129

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September 1985 Edition



Application for Membership

VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE
P.O. Box 11129, Arlington, Virginia 22210-2129
Annual Dues \$10
DONATIONS ARE WELCOME

Name _____ Birthdate _____

Address _____ Phone (____) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Unit(s) to which assigned during period December 16, 1944 - January 25, 1945 (Div, Regt, Bn, Co) _____

Campaign Ribbons and Battle stars awarded _____

Wounded _____

Captured _____

Make check or money order payable to VBOB and mail with this application to above address.

VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

P.O. BOX 11129
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22210-2129
(703) 979-5270

4 September 1985

SUBJECT: TAPS

TO: ALL VBOB MEMBERS

It is with great sorrow that we must report the loss of Thomas P. Donigan, president of the Greater New York Chapter of The Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge.

Thomas P. Donigan was 65 years of age when he died 15 August 1985. He had been a patient at St Joseph Hospital in Syracuse, NY for several weeks. Services were conducted at St Rose of Lima in Syracuse. He was buried with full military honors in Woodlawn Cemetery on the 19th of August. Thomas is survived by his widow, Margaret, one son, a daughter and 4 sisters.

Thomas was a member and former commander of Post 43 of the 80th Division Veterans Association and a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He was a member of Company B, 305th Medical Battalion, 80th Infantry Division during the Battle of the Bulge.

Notices have also been received during the month of August of the following:

Jeremiah Junior King, 631 TD Bn., 2 August.
Richard T. Martin, 390 FA Bn., 94 INFD, 11 August.
Percy M. Smith, 317 INF, 80 INFD, 26 July.
Garland D. Singer, 21 FA Bn., 5 INFD, 28 January.
Eugene R. Mathie, 95 QM Co., 95 INFD, 30 July.

They will be sorely missed. Our condolences to the families. May God grant them Eternal Rest. Amen

Sincerely,

Robert J. Van Houten
Robert J. Van Houten
President

From _____

Zip _____

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge
P.O.Box 11129
Arlington, VA 22210-2129

Your attention, PLEASE...



Use this convenient envelope
to pay NOW and help maintain
our VBOB Association

Your dues are \$10.00

Make check or money order payable to
Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge

Thank You

Dear Comrade...

Our annual dues are the main source of income for VBOB. If the arrow on the back cover of this newsletter indicates that you are in arrears, won't you please use this convenient envelope to pay your dues and help support our wonderful and meaningful organization.

And "Kilroy" says:

While you're at it...how about putting a note in the same envelope and letting VBOB know what you've been up to these past 41 years. Don't forget to mention what outfit you were in. You may just get your name in the newsletter.



Place
Stamp
Here



Sheraton
Crystal City Hotel

SHERATON HOTELS & INNS, WORLDWIDE
1800 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22202

Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge

December 13-15, 1985

Single: \$55.00 Double: \$55.00
Triple: N/A Quad: N/A

Suite Rates Available Upon Request.

Please Print

Name _____
last first

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Arrival Date _____
day of week month date

Departure Date _____
day of week month date

Please Reserve _____ room(s) for _____ person(s)

NAMES OF PERSONS SHARING ACCOMMODATIONS

Reservations must be received at the hotel by 11-29-85

Reservations received after this date will be accepted on a space and rate available basis only.



Sheraton Crystal City Hotel

FIRST NIGHT DEPOSIT OR MAJOR CREDIT CARD

FOR ANY ARRIVAL AFTER 6 PM

A guaranteed payment assures you that a room will be held for your day of arrival. The room will become available for resale if you have not registered by 6:00 AM THE FOLLOWING MORNING. You will be billed for the first nights room revenue if the reservation is not cancelled before 6 PM on the day of arrival. Please ask the clerk for a cancellation number (703/486-1111).

GUARANTEE INFORMATION: (Please Print)

Firm Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Business Phone _____

Credit Card _____

AX, VISA, MC, DC, CB (circle one)

EXPIRATION DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

CHECK OUT TIME IS 1 PM; ROOMS WILL NOT BE READY
FOR YOUR ARRIVAL UNTIL 3 PM.