

The BULGE BUGLE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION • VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

VOLUME VI NUMBER 4

THE ARDENNES CAMPAIGN

NOVEMBER 1987



“It was more of a house party than a membership meeting.”

Bill Mitchell, President, Central New York Chapter VBOB
Commenting on 7th General Membership Meeting, Syracuse, NY

See minutes
starting page, 3

**PLANS BEING DEVELOPED
FOR VBOB'S
“EUROPE in ‘88”
TRIP** (See minutes page 5)

50th

BELGIE
BELGIQUE



**EXCITING BLUE PRINTS FOR
BATTLE OF BULGE MUSEUM**

(See minutes page 5)

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



Bulge Bugle Staff

EDITOR - R. L. Lemmon,
Third U.S. Army Engineers

EDITOR -Washington Bureau
Elturino L. Loiacono,
10th Armored Division

VBOB Officers

ELECTED

PRESIDENT - George Chekan,
9th Infantry Division, 39th Regiment

EXEC. VICE PRES. - Wm. T. Greenville,
86th Chemical Mortar Battalion

VICE PRES. FOR MEMBERSHIP -
Neil B. Thompson, 740th Tank Bn.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR MILITARY AFFAIRS - Eugene G. Drouillard,
75th Infantry Division

VICE PRESIDENT FOR REGIONAL COORDINATION - Wm. A. Simpkins,
XIX TAC, 9th AF

TREASURER - Wm. R. Hemphill,
3rd Armored Division, 36th AIR

RECORDING SECRETARY - Dorothy S. Davis, Army Nurse, 57th Field Hospital

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY - Tom Gillis, 4th Armored Division, CCR

APPOINTED

GENERAL COUNSEL - Joseph Langbart,
99th Infantry Division

NATIONAL DIRECTOR, PUBLIC RELATIONS - Richard G. Guenter,
511th Engr. LT, Ponton Co.

HISTORIAN - Helen Berry, Widow of Walter E., 4th Inf. Div. 8th Inf.

CHAPLAIN - The Rev. George W. Hall, Jr., 94th Infantry Division

ASST. CHAPLAIN - Joseph Kropff,
16 FA OBS BN

FINANCIAL ASST. - George Karambelas,
84 Inf. Div.

LIAISON OFFICER FOR INT. AFFAIRS - Benjamin I. Twigg, 75th Inf. D.

PHOTOGRAPHER - Sam Silverman,
10 ARMD 11TK BN C

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

AUDIT - James Lipman,
8 FA OBS BN

BATTLE OF THE BULGE GALLERY - Dorothy S. Davis, 57th Field Hospital



From The President—

Sensational Syracuse Sojourn...

"I can personally highly recommend one of these affairs. There are no stuffed shirts and everyone accepts and respects each other as having shared something special..." eloquently writes P. F. Leslie, VBOB member from Changewater, N.J., about the 6th General Membership Meeting held in Syracuse.

Despite the continuous rain, the warmth of the Syracuse Chapter helped make this an enjoyable and successful 6th General Membership Meeting. Complete minutes of the event are recorded starting on page 3.

"Europe in '88"

Plans are now being researched for a September VBOB "Europe in '88" trip. It is being contemplated to hold the 7th General Membership Meeting during this visit to Luxembourg and Belgium.

Battle of the Bulge Gallery, Ft. Meade Museum

You will read that we need \$30,000 in "seed money" by this coming December to proceed with plans for the Gallery.

It is a must if we are to raise the total \$750,000 through our professional fund-raising means. If we are to perpetuate the greatest battle every fought by the U.S. Army we must be willing to lend our efforts and financial support.

VBOB Memorial Service



You are invited to attend our annual ceremony at the VBOB Memorial Plaque site, Arlington National Cemetery, this coming Dec. 16th at 11 a.m.

You will have the opportunity to witness the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. At this time a wreath will be presented by members of our organization.

Following this we will move to our Memorial Plaque site—directly across from the Amphitheater, for a Memorial Service.

Finally, I must report that our illustrious editor, Bob Lemmon was unable to attend the Syracuse GM meeting because of the flu bug. I point this out because Robert was due a personal thanks from the membership for his untiring interest in keeping us abreast of the happenings within our organization. Thanks Bob from all of us...and hang in there!

Yours in Comradeship...

George

GEORGE CHEKAN
President

VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

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REPORT OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

**QUALITY INN NORTH SYRACUSE, NEW YORK
SEPTEMBER 17, 18, 19--1987**

September 17, 1987

Over 180 members, spouses and guests from 24 states and the District of Columbia registered for the 6th General Membership Meeting of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, Quality Inn North, Syracuse, NY.

Not only was this the largest attendance ever for a General Membership Meeting, but it was also the first time a meeting was hosted by a chapter. Despite the rain outside, there seemed to be a special warmth and electricity inside, as old friends met--many had attended all 6 General Membership Meetings.

There were 110 signatures of veterans in the Unit Sign In Books. Again, the 75th Infantry Division won the "most members present" contest, with 11 veterans signed in. The 80th, 87th and 90th Infantry Divisions tied with 6 members each, present. Others present were as follows:

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 5 members | 106th Infantry, 2nd Armored Division |
| 4 Members | 1st, 26th, 28th, Infantry Divisions |
| 3 Members | 83rd, 84th, 94th, Infantry; 3rd, 9th Armored Divisions |
| 2 Members | 30th, 35th, 78th Infantry Divisions |
| | 82nd Airborne |
| 1 Member | 2nd, 9th, 69th, 76th, 90th, 103rd Infantry Divisions |
| | 5th Armored Division |
| | 101st Airborne |
| | 9th Air corps |
| | 11th TAC |

There were 23 veterans from Miscellaneous Groups, including 4 Army Nurses from Field Hospitals; 3 Associate members were registered.

The Central New York Chapter hosted this most successful meeting. Members of that Chapter staffed the registration desk, served as hosts to the incoming members and made guests feel welcome in the cheerful hospitality room. A big "Thank You" to Chapter President, Bill Mitchell and his assistant Al Noce, Sr !!

The meeting started with a "Welcome Mixer", on Thursday evening. Music and tasty finger foods plus the excitement of seeing old friends made the event a happy occasion.

September 18, 1987

The day's events started with a memorial service conducted by George Hall, Jr, VBOB Chaplain. The 49 members who passed away since the last General Membership Meeting, were remembered by the reading of their names and the placing of red roses in a wreath. Mrs Helen Berry (Widow of Walter Berry, a veteran of the Battle of

The Bulge) and Bernadine Quinn did the honors of placing the roses in the wreath. It was a special pleasure to have Ms. Quinn and her Mother attend the ceremony--Ms. Quinn's father, Edward J. Quinn (now deceased) had served in the 103rd Infantry Division, 411 Inf. Co B during the Bulge, and Bernadine had hoped she might meet someone from her father's unit.

The General Membership Business meeting was held from 1pm to 5pm. The meeting was called to order by George Chekan, President; followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Eugene Drouillard and the Invocation by Chaplain George Hall, Jr.

Members introduced themselves, giving their names and units served with during the Bulge. There were 85 members present at the meeting.

The following reports were discussed and approved:

Membership.....Neil B. Thompson
Military Affairs.....Eugene Drouillard
Chapters.....Robert Van Houten
Battle of the Bulge Gallery..Dorothy S. Davis
Newsletter.....Robert Lemmon (not present)
Treasurer's Report....William R. Hemphill

The complete Book of Reports is on file with the Recording Secretary.

An in depth report of the current status of the Battle of the Bulge Gallery was given by Dorothy S. Davis, Chairman. Efforts are progressing to build an addition to the present Fort Meade Museum, Fort Meade, Maryland--this addition will be used to preserve and display artifacts and written materials of the Battle of the Bulge. The Memorandum of Agreement has been presented to Fort Meade and plans are to have it signed by mid October. Conceptual plans have been drawn up by an architect and were on display at the banquet. The estimated cost to complete this gallery is in the \$750,000.00 range--of which \$30,000.00 must be raised by December 1/87. This amount is necessary to meet immediate cost of plans and procuring the assistance of a professional fund raiser as well as to indicate interest in the Gallery by the Membership. It was decided to form a "Founder's 500" group----- all of those making a contribution of \$500.00 to the Gallery by December 1/87 will be a member of this group, and the name and unit of the donor will be placed on a plaque to be displayed in the Memorial Lobby of the Gallery. Checks for \$500.00 may be made out to the "Battle of the Bulge Gallery", and sent to: Box 2516, Kensington, MD 20895-0818. This donation is tax deductible. A General Membership fund drive will be conducted soon--everyone's contribution will be needed!!!

We were pleased to have with us, Brendan Haggerty, Financial Development Officer, American Red Cross. Mr. Haggerty spoke to the group about various avenues of fund raising--and that most important at this time is to show the interest of the executive membership of VBOB by raising the \$30,000.00 to be used as "seed money" as soon as possible. In appreciation for his interest and support of VBOB, Neil Thompson presented Mr. Haggerty with an embroidered VBOB logo patch. A question and answer session followed these two reports.

After a short break William Greenville and George Chekan discussed the possibility of an "Overseas in '88" trip to Belgium and Luxembourg. A General Membership Meeting could be held in both of these countries. A chartered air flight will be considered with several days to be spent in each, Liege and Luxembourg. Meeting with various state officials and trips to the battlefields would be included in the trip. The length of the trip could be from 12 to 15 days (early September) and it was hoped that the cost could be held to approximately \$2000.00. About 45 persons indicated they would be interested in such a trip.

Other comments included:

- *If possible leave air fare open ended so those who wish to do so, could extend time overseas.

- *Govern size of tour group to the expected bus size.

- *Most air companies and travel agencies will tailor the trip to the using agency's requirements.

It was concluded that the president will appoint a committee to research the various possibilities for this trip and report their findings to the General Membership through the Bulge Bugle.

Comments by the Membership:

- *Neil Thompson--There are now 4537 listed members in VBOB, but there is a great need to recruit associate members such as sons and daughters of the veterans, friends of VBOB, and relatives of those killed in battle or since deceased.

- *Robert Van Houten--Plans to use unit/division reunions to recruit new members for VBOB and develop interest in forming new chapters around the country.

- *Eugene Drouillard--Discussed the dedication of the very impressive plaque, in honor of the Battle of the Bulge participants, on December 16, 1986 in Arlington National Cemetery.

- *William Hemphill--Informed the members that some of the office work is now being performed by "Mover's Information Service". This company collects the mail; sorts and sends mail to the appropriate person; records new members and other tasks as needed. We were most pleased to have the owners of that company, Ollie and Dale Chapman, join us at the VBOB Meeting.

Mr Hemphill also suggested that VBOB consider publishing a directory of the name, address and unit of the members. The members could be listed alphabetically as well as by unit and state. This suggestion appeared to have the approval of the membership.

- *George Hall--urged members to invite friends and veterans from other organizations to become members of VBOB.

- *Peter Dounis--Offered to lead the initiative in approaching the Postal Department to consider the issue of a VBOB Commemorative Stamp.

Clyde Boden, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the following slate of officers for the coming year--December 16, 1987 to December 15, 1988:

President.....George Chekan
Executive Vice President.....William Greenville
Vice President for Reg. Affairs....Robert Van Houten
Vice President for Military Affairs.Eugene Drouillard
Vice President for Membership.....Neil Thompson
Treasurer.....William Hemphill
Recording Secretary.....Dorothy Davis
Corresponding Secretary.....Beverley Van Houten

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept this slate.

The meeting was adjourned at 5pm by the president, George Chekan.

Octoberfest

The members enjoyed a buffet of tasty Octoberfest foods, good conversation and an evening of fun and dancing to the great music of a local Bavarian Band (who said we were too old to dance the Polka???).

September 19, 1987

Despite the clouds and occasional rain drops many of the members enjoyed the boat tour of the beautiful "Thousand Island" area of the St. Lawrence River. After the tour, the group enjoyed lunch at a lovely restaurant overlooking the river--returning back to the motel by 5pm.

The grand finale to the meeting was the evening cocktail hour and banquet. Architectural plans and artist's drawings of the proposed Battle of the Bulge Gallery were on display for this event. William Greenville acted as Master of Ceremonies for the banquet program. Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to the two past Presidents, Clyde Boden and Robert Van Houten by George Chekan.

Earle Hart introduced the speaker for the evening, Harold "Bud" Leinbaugh, co-author of the popular book, "The Men of Company K". Mr. Leinbaugh spoke about the writing of the book; the combat soldier; and about writing articles on "An Old Soldier Looks at the New Army". This most interesting presentation was enjoyed by the many "old soldiers" present.

An evening of dancing followed the banquet. The sixth General Membership Meeting ended with the Band and one of the VBOB members, William Tayman, leading the group in singing "God Bless America".

"It was the best meeting ever", could be heard throughout the lobby as, on Sunday morning, the members were bidding "goodbyes" to old friends and comrades.

(con'td from page 6)

Many people worked long and hard to make this a successful meeting, a big "thank you" to all of them
This long list includes:

- *Bill Mitchell.....President of the Central NY Chapter
- *Al Noce.....His most able assistant
- *William Greenville..General Chairman of the General Membership Mtg.
- *Delilah Dounis.....Chaired the many details of registration
- *Barbara Mitchell....Photographer
- *Registration Desk Volunteers:
 - Frank and Helen Sakowski
 - Edwin and Gloria Wildenaur
 - Bill and Lorraine Gorden
 - Don and Norma Gaffney
 - Alfred and Alda Carducci
 - Mudge Greenville
 - Virginia Scarpello
 - Dick Wright
 - Frank Minichillo
 - Ed Mudzino

Ed Waldron

- *Clyde Boden.....Provided guidance to the committee and conducted the "swearing in" ceremony for the new officers
- *Eugene Drouillard...Led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance
- *Harold Leinbaugh....Served as the speaker at the banquet
- *Brendan Haggerty....Gave a presentation on "Fund Drives" at the business meeting
- *George Hall, Jr.....Delivered several invocations and presided at the Memorial Service
- *Helen Berry.....Assisted with the Memorial Service
- *Bernadine Quinn.... Assisted with the Memorial Service

And of course a big "Thank You" to the President of VBOB, George Chekan----and to all of the VBOB Members who, by their presence, helped to make this meeting a memorable event!!!

Dorothy Steinbis Davis

Dorothy Steinbis Davis
Recording Secretary
Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge



SOUTH ELEVATION

SCALE: 1/8" EQUALS 1'-0"

CONCEPTUAL PLANS, BATTLE OF THE BULGE GALLERY, FORT MEADE MUSEUM



Malcolm Muszynski, a retired River Rouge firefighter and survivor of the Battle of the Bulge, which was fought during World War II, shows a photograph of himself and his three brothers which will be displayed in Michigan's Own Military and Space Museum in Frankenmuth. In the framed photograph are his brothers, Melvin, a twin, now of Southgate, and Clarence, of Wyandotte, who also fought in the battle with him. Their brother, Paul, now deceased, and also shown, was not in the war.

(Photo by John Simon)

Rouge veteran remembers biggest WW II battle

BY MARTIN MULCAHY
SPECIAL WRITER

To those born in the baby-boomer generation, the soldiers and the battles of World War II are only read about in history books and remembered on the dates of important war anniversaries.

To veterans of the war, and the civilians who supported it, those European and Pacific battles provided mixed feelings of pride, patriotism and a realization of the horror of war.

Former Sgt. Malcolm Muszynski, a River Rouge resident, remembers very clearly his war experiences. He is a World War II veteran of perhaps the most significant battle in American history, the Battle of the Bulge.

In addition to his being granted two Bronze Stars and a Purple Heart, Muszynski is notable for his and his two brothers' recent involvement in Michigan's

Own Military and Space Museum in Frankenmuth.

The Muszynski family was well represented in the war by three of the four brothers: Malcolm, his twin brother, Melvin, and Clarence, the youngest. Coincidentally, all three fought in the Battle of the Bulge, although regulations dictated that they fight in different divisions.

All three came through that battle unscathed, but each was wounded at some point during the war. All are alive today.

Muszynski's parents obviously had a good deal to worry about during the war years.

"My parents were very concerned for us," Muszynski said. "They were very apprehensive. We received letters from them two or three times a week."

The Battle of the Bulge began the morning of Dec. 16, 1944, in the Forest of Ardennes, located in

(Cont'd. on Pg. 9)

Dad Sends A Christmas Greeting

Every moment experienced by Ted J. Breeden during his twenty-seven days of combat in the Battle of the Bulge was fuzed into his memory, but Christmas Day was the most ignominious.

As he lay on his back (soaking up a little sun) beside his recently dug slit trench overlooking the town of Grandmenil, three Lockheed P-38's flew into view.

A beautiful sight to a California boy who knew that back home two aunts, two uncles, his mother and father (Ted L. Breeden) were working overtime putting this type aircraft into the air.

But then as he gazed at the underbellies of the planes overhead, he unbelievably saw each aircraft release two small bombs. They appeared to be coming directly down his throat as he rolled into the protective cover of his trench.

The ground shuddered with the impact, but the actual explosion was on the road about twenty yards above his position. The explosion scattered remnants of a 75th Infantry Division supply truck into the trees and brush.

Somehow in the confusion of the day the pilots had failed to see the friendly markers or did not trust what they were seeing.

The senior Breeden certainly heard about the fiasco and has been reminded on numerous occasions during the past 42 years.

Incidentally, Ted (the younger) has just retired from this same Lockheed Company where he was employed in their Publications and Graphic Arts Department.

It's hard to hold a grudge.

...Ted J. Breeden, Co. I, 3d Bn,
289th Regt, 75th Infantry Division

"This is undoubtedly the greatest American battle of the war and will, I believe, be regarded as an ever-famous American victory."

*Sir Winston Churchill
addressing the House of Commons
following the Battle of the Bulge.*

THE FULL CIRCLE

On 24 July 1945 a certificate was prepared in the office of the Regimental Commander of the 333d Infantry authorizing WOJG Albert C. Carlin to wear Bronze Service Stars on his EAME Theater Ribbon for the following campaigns: Rhineland, Ardennes and Central Europe. It was signed by Edwin M. Thierry, 1st Lt, Adjutant.

This certificate was submitted by Al Carlin as proof of eligibility to join VBOB as a regular member. The full circle is that Ed Thierry, VBOB member, was one of our volunteer workers in VBOB headquarters prior to its reorganization several months ago. Ed remembers Al and plans to drop him a note. It's a small world.

...Wm. Hemphill

629TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

Dom P. O. Marino, a prospective VBOB member, requests information about his old outfit. Sorry-VBOB doesn't list a member from the 629th. Research indicates that it was a separate TD battalion, self-propelled, equipped with M-10's. It was organized 15 Dec 41 at Ft. Meade, MD and sailed from NYPE 1 Jan 44, landed in England 8 Jan 44 and France 2 Jul 44. The unit participated in the Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes-Alsace, Rhineland and Central Europe campaigns. It was attached to 9th Inf. Div, 28th Inf. Div, 2d Inf. Div, 5th Armd. Div, 75th Inf. Div and 82d Abn. Div. Anyone knowing information about this unit or its former members, please notify VBOB, P.O. Box 11129, Arlington, VA 22210-2129.

...Wm. Hemphill

ROUGE VETERAN REMEMBERS BIGGEST WWII BATTLE (Cont'd. from Page 8)

France and Belgium. It lasted 40 days.

"It was the last big push that Hitler staged to rid the (western) Allies of (their) Eastern Front (in Germany)," Muszynski said. "It didn't pan out that way. He had the weather to contend with, and the Americans were very determined."

In the battle, 100,000 Germans and 81,000 Americans were casualties. Soldiers fought in conditions Muszynski described as "miserable . . . it was the worst winter they had in 20 years. It was far below zero, and snowing all the time. And once we began, there was no lull to it. Fighting was continuous."

In spite of the horrible conditions and the tremendous loss of life at the Bulge, the war continued on for several months. "We were told that this was the last big push Germany had to make. But there was a lot of war left even after that," Muszynski said.

DOGFACE

Cold mud. Piercing rain. Hours marching.
No rest. Shouldered rifle, bandoliers.
grenades across his breast.
Feet wet and sore. Mind weary. His heart
sick. Cast to hell those this misery did
inflict.

Night his blanket. The muddy earth his
home. His body shivers. His heart weeps.
Lips give no moan.
He looks up to God and asks. When will it
end? The makers of this evil. Their day in
hell to spend.

Morning comes. The enemy is near. Hell.
He's here! Body cold and sore. Brain
alert. A heart in fear. Cracking of rifles.
The demonish screech of a shell. The
sight of blood. A call for aid. The brink
of hell.

The battle rages. Pain. Blood. And death
heroically prevail.
Victory comes. Hope of sleep. Something to
eat. Perhaps. some mail.
Day never ceasing in sacrifice. Misery and
pain. Will it ever end? Will life ever be
sane again?

...F. S. "Slim" Lychock-1946

Return of The Regiments

At some point in the Vietnam war, the U.S. Army
did away with the Regimental System and adopted
the Brigade format. When this happened most of
the famous regiments of WWII no longer existed.
Many professional Army people thought this was a
mistake.

All VBOB members that served can recall with
pride their division and regimental colors snapping
in the breeze at the head of the unit. The colors
along with the battle streamers were symbols that
generated a good deal of esprit de corps for the
outfit.

Within the past months the Army has
systematically returned to the Regimental System
(USARS). There will be sixty one active regiments
in the standing Army. Although we cannot fully ex-
plain how all of the regiments were selected, we
can describe how one was selected due to the fact
that our assistant editor was a former member of
that unit.

On August 28, 1987 E. "Lucky" Loiacono was
notified that the 54th Infantry Regiment had been
activated as a regular army regiment. The regi-
ment is represented by single training battalion,

MEMORIES

Cold - Cold - the wind chill
More than one way to kill.
Large trucks loaded with Airborne
Heading into the battle storm,
December seventeenth nineteen hundred
and forty-four.
Death knocking at the door -
They've done it again
Pushed right on through the Ardennes
Troopers alert to the fore.
One-third company on leave
One-third company in hospital
One-third company loaded up to go
Five-O-Eight
Eighty-Second Airborne Joe's
Pass through Stavelot-Malmedy-St. Vith
Stop to rest an hour at Bastogne
Screaming Eagles will call it home
But we to the North-to hold open the road
Cold, Cold and wind chill
Lock and load prepared to kill
The white snow soft and clean
Dulling out the anguish scream
No more chance to stop and dream
Up and out all alert
And death at every turn.
It was the beginning and the end
Called the Battle of the Bulge.

...VBOB Member Allan H. Stein,
508 Para Troop Infantry, 82d
Airborne Division

2nd Battalion, 54th Inf., station at Ft. Benning,
Georgia. In time of emergency two or three other
battalions would be added to bring it up to
regimental strength. The unit colors, battle
streamers and traditions of the old regiment will be
maintained by the new troops.

The 54th Infantry, as were some of the other
regiments, was selected because of the unit's com-
bat record in WWII and more specifically because of
its heroic stand in the defense of Bastogne dur-
ing the Battle of the Bulge while serving as the
20th, 54th and 61st Armored Infantry Battalions of
the Tenth Armored Division.

The veterans of the Tenth Armored Infantry Bat-
talions are very honored for having their unit
selected by the Army.



**VBOB NEEDS
YOUR SUPPORT!**

Please pay your dues promptly!

«TOP KICK» TOPICS

Troops, I sure am glad to see our young comrades getting some of the credit they deserve. The Vietnam vets gave all they had when Uncle asked them to lend a hand. Not all of them ran off to Canada because they didn't believe that the Vietnam War was not a just war. Some of the finest young men and women went to Southeast Asia and did the best they could - the best way they knew how.

Old Sarge here makes a point of getting into conversations with veterans of that war. It is interesting to listen to them. It is my philosophy that we WWII types should not try to compare wars. Theirs was very different from ours. Vietnam was a difficult and confusing conflagration. They deserve all the parades and accolades that we can give them. They are to be complimented for building the impressive monument in Washington, the second most popular sightseeing attraction in the Nation's Capital. (The Aero Space Museum is first).

You know, Comrades, somehow I don't remember the parade after WWII. I saw a newsreel of a large contingent of soldiers marching down the Champs-Élysées and a five-piece band and three girl singers when the USS Wheaton Victory landed in New York in March of 1946.

By the way, I have been to Washington many times and have yet to find the WWII monument. Not to worry, VBOB Troops. We will have someday a museum (the Battle of the Bulge Historical Center) at Ft. Meade, Maryland, just outside of Washington which will be a monument in memory of all those who fought and died in the biggest battle ever fought by the United States Army. Think about it! The way I figure, everybody has to do his or her own thing. Now it's our turn. Any questions?

A Personal Insight Into Syracuse Meeting

This year was the first time a chapter has been awarded and charged with handling and developing the complete annual meeting program.

The sponsoring Central New York Chapter presented an interesting and spectacular event sprinkled with various mini-events that we will all remember for a long time. A group salute to those 35 people who made the meeting most enjoyable.

There were registrées from twenty four states and the District of Columbia, as well as former members of forty different military units, large and small.

The highlight for Thursday was the "welcome mixer" with "favorites of the forties" music.

On Friday morning we had our traditional Memorial Remembrance Service, conducted by Rev. George Hall, National Chaplain. The afternoon was consumed by our General Membership Meeting which included various reports, statements, comments and election of officers for 1987-88.

Friday night was the "Octoberfest" with German food and music (yah, das ist goot).

Throughout the meeting the hospitality room was crowded. Everyone enjoyed the snacks and drinks. The Malmédy Massacre tapes were shown many times on Saturday.

Saturday began with a tour/trip to One Thousand Islands and a visit to Bolte Castle in Alexandria Bay. The group withstood the bad elements and had a great time.

The gala banquet topped off the day's activities following a cordial cocktail hour.

Clyde Boden and Bob Van Houten were presented with framed, colorful certificates by President George Chekan for their faithful and loyal service to VBOB during their respective terms as president.

H. "Bud" Leinbaugh was the guest speaker and imparted words and thoughts that still linger.

The enthusiasm and inspiration shown and acquired at the meeting should propel VBOB into other states in the years to come.

The decision to cut the national umbilical cord attached to our previous meetings blossomed into northern ethnic hospitality. We will not forget it.

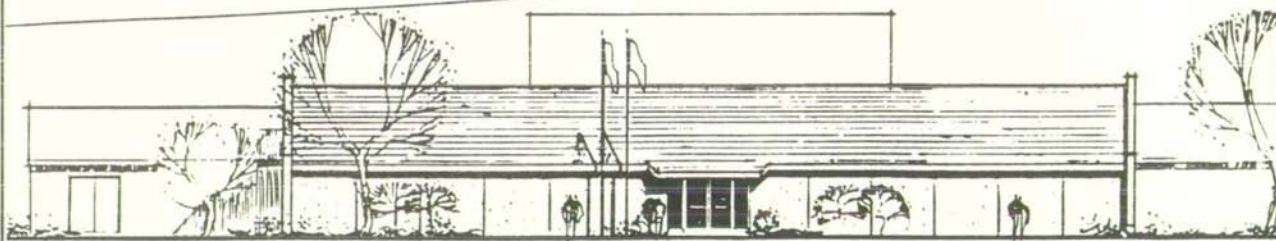
Pete Dounis



MEMORIAL SERVICE-GM Meeting.

Syracuse, N.Y., Sept. 18, 1987 - Helen Berry (left), widow of VBOB veteran Walter Berry, and Bernadine Quinn, daughter of deceased Edward J. Quinn, VBOB veteran, place carnations in wreath memorializing this past year's VBOB deceased.

OUR LEGACY



WEST ELEVATION

CONCEPTUAL PLANS, BATTLE OF THE BULGE GALLERY, FORT MEADE MUSEUM

In 1986 a small room in the Fort Meade, Md Museum was developed as the Battle of the Bulge Gallery. Early in 1987, it was decided that to properly preserve and display the artifacts and documents of this great conflict, more space was needed. Over the past 6 months Ft. Meade Officials and members of the VBOB Historical Committee have been working together to design the plans for an addition to the present Ft. Meade Museum, to be used exclusively for recounting the history of the Battle of the Bulge. Conceptual plans are shown above.

George Chekan, President, has appointed the following persons to the VBOB Historical Committee to provide guidance for, and implementation of, the plans for this project:

Dorothy S. Davis, R.N...Chairman
Col. Clyde D. Boden....Vice Chairman
George Chekan
M Gen. W.D. Crittenburger, Jr
Col. Eugene G. Drouillard
Judge John D. Goodin
Lt.Col. Richard Guenter
Earle R. Hart
Col. James H. Leach
Harold P. Leinbaugh
Charles B. MacDonald
Col. David E. Pergrin
Ms Eva Popovich
Col. Alfred H.M. Shehab
Lt. Gen. Dewitt C. Smith, Jr

Advisors to this committee are:

- Brendan Haggerty, Financial Development Office, American Red Cross
- Col. Anthony K. Holtry, Directorate of Plans, Training and Mobilization
- Robert S. Johnson, Curator, Ft. Meade Museum

The Memorandum of Agreement has been presented to Ft. Meade and the plans will be sent through channels to the Secretary of the Army for final approval. An architect has developed the conceptual plans, and the project is now at the "Fund Raising" stage.

The estimated cost for the project, including the plans, building, procurement of artifacts and documents and the employment of a professional fund raiser, is in the range of \$750,000.00. Of this amount, \$30,000.00 must be raised by December 30/87 to proceed with the project.

This \$30,000.00 will be used as "seed money", to pay for development plans, to meet costs of preparing materials for the proposal to be sent to the Secretary of the Army, to finance the assistance of a professional Fund Raiser---and, most important to show the extent of commitment to this project by the members of VBOB.

To raise this "seed money" in such a short time, it was decided to establish the "Founder's 500" group. Persons making a contribution of \$500.00 to the Battle of the Bulge Gallery by December 30, 1987 will be members of this group, and the name and unit of the donor will be placed on a plaque to be displayed in the Memorial Lobby of the Gallery. The contribution may also be made in the memory of a relative or friend who fought in the Bulge. If the donor wishes to remain anonymous, he or she will be listed as "A Friend of VBOB". Please complete the "Contribution Form" and send in with your donation.

(cont'd on page 13)

As soon as the Secretary of the Army has approved the project, a General Membership fund drive will be held--everyone's contribution will be needed. Information concerning this fund drive will be in the January issue of the Bugle.

We Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge have

a very unique opportunity--rarely do the troops who were there have this avenue available to tell their story of a battle!

It is truly now in the hands of a few (5000 members of VBOB) to insure that the deeds of the many (600,000 who fought in the Bulge) will be accurately recorded in history!

(CONTRIBUTION FORM)

"FOUNDER'S 500"

This contribution of \$500.00 to the Battle of the Bulge Gallery is made by:

Name _____ Tel.# _____

Address _____

_____ (city) _____ (state) _____ (zip #)

Please complete (print) one of the following to be inscribed on the plaque

☐ Name of donor (or donor and spouse if desired) _____
☐ Unit served with during Bulge _____

☐ In Memory of _____
☐ Unit served with during Bulge _____

☐ If you wish to be an Anonymous donor, the plaque will read
"A Friend of VBOB"

Make out checks to: "Battle of the Bulge Gallery"

Mail to: Battle of the Bulge Gallery; Box 2516, Kensington, MD 20895-0818

If you have questions you may call:
Dorothy Davis, Tel.# 301-881-0356
Clyde Boden, Tel.# 703-528-7913

CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTABLE

Examples of Inscriptions

**JOHN P. & JAYNE L. DOE
84 INFD 333 INF CO K**

**IN MEMORY OF
DAVID C. DOE
84 INFD 333 INF CO K**

Members Speak Out

Harvey Lutz, 110th Cannon Co, 28th Div, bartended for four years after WWII, ran a cab business for four years, drove a cement mixer for eight years, and spent 18 years as owner of a soda pop manufacturing company. He retired finally in 1978, plays golf and maintains a large garden. He has been back to the Ardennes area in 1984 and 1986. Harvey wishes to hear from former members of Cannon Co. between 11/25/44 and 7/45 -- write him a 14106 Davis Rd, Woodstock, IL 60098.

John M. Fusco, Co. C, 37th Tk. Bn, 4th Armd Div, teamed up during the Ardennes Campaign, after his unit became disorganized, with riflemen from various units - 90th Division, 359th Inf. Div, 82d Abn. Div, etc. At that time members of the Air Corps were given rifles and pushed up to the front. This group of fighting men were better known back then as some of the "battered bastards of Bastogne."

John A. Aller, Co. H, 331st Inf, 83d Inf. Div, served with his unit from Camp Atterbury, IN to Wittenburg, Germany (4/14/45) and was wounded the day his unit met up with the Russian forces. His assignment was what "hell was really like-no holds barred." John has been back to his WWII areas twice via car (no tour bus). A short wave enthusiast, John's call letters are W30JX, Sun City, AZ.

George A. Rezny, 68th Ord. Bn, 526 Ord. H.M. Co, Tank, recalls being called out to go on Detached Service night patrol in Norman's land from Eupen, Belgium 12/16/44. He was in the turret of an armored scout car and took prisoners in GI uniforms. He remembers the get-away jeep a quarter mile behind at all times. George timed buzz bombs over Verviers every half minute. On the first clear day in the area, he watched our bombers heading north with enemy anti-aircraft guns hitting a few and with enemy fighters flying south just over the trees.

R. D. Gindlesbergen never sees anything in "the Bugle" about the 2nd Armored Div. of which he is a lifetime honorary member. He would like to hear of anyone of C Btry, 78th Armd. Field Artillery; he was a member of the 5th Gun Section. Write him at 1684 Mechanicsburg Rd, Wooster, OH 44691.

George G. "Steve" Stevenson, Co. B, 103d Engr. Combat Bn, 28th Div, was captured 12/18/44 in Hosingen, Luxembourg, having held the town three days with Co. K, 110th Inf. before running out of ammo and supplies. He was taken to Stalag 4-B, then to 8A and marched ahead of the Russian army for 58 days starting 2/14/45 and then liberated 4/13/45 near Brunswick, Germany by 2d Armd. Cav. Recon. Co. Steve kept a diary of the towns he passed through and of incidents of shooting of GI prisoners and other atrocities. His evidence was used at the Nuremberg War Crime Trials. Any member of VBOB who was on the 58-day march is welcome to a copy of Steve's diary. Write him at 2211 Rosecroft Blvd, Fort Washington, MD 20744.

Zaro Calabrese, 3d Cav. Gp. (M), asks if anyone can confirm this incident. On 12/17 early a.m. his unit reached a town on the southern flank of the Bulge. His C.O, Capt. Chalif, was conferring in the street with some high-ranking officers among whom was a stocky, short, round-faced General who earlier had had his star ripped off his uniform by a piece of shrapnel.

Edward Rapp, Co. C & D, 35th Tank Bn, 4th AD, remembers that the light tanks of Co. D were the first into Warnach, Belgium, seven miles South of Bastogne late on Christmas Eve 1944. Ed was the gunner and his platoon (except for one tank) was knocked out and, along with an Infantry platoon, had to abandon the attack. Ed received the BSM with "V" device and the first of two Purple Hearts. On Christmas day the village was retaken with a larger force and after a lengthy battle.

F. S. "Slim" Lychock, Co. F, 2d Bn, 328th Inf, 26th Inf. Div, wrote a poem while in the hospital in 1946 entitled "Dogface." It is published elsewhere in this edition. Under the GI Bill, Slim became one of the first and very few male secretaries for seven years, then converted to traveling salesman and finally retirement, wondering what happened to the guys with whom he nearly froze to death on the march from Metz to Eschdorf, Luxembourg. A few of them got together and visited Luxembourg last year. They were able to find and photograph their old foxholes in the forest.



Veterans Administration

Q -- I am a veteran with a service-connected disability rated at 50 percent. I have received an injury which is not service connected, but which will require a prosthetic appliance. Will the VA supply this needed appliance?

A -- Yes. Any veteran with a service-connected disability of 50 percent or more may be provided with necessary prosthetic appliances for any medical condition.

Q -- My application for a VA pension was turned down several years ago because my income was too high. There have been some changes in my health and income over the last few years. Should I apply again?

A -- Entitlement to pension is based on your countable income which can be reduced by medical and certain other expenses. Also the income limitation is raised each year and your income may not have increased at the same rate. You should check with your local VA office to determine if you are now eligible to receive a pension.

CEBA Celebrates 15th Anniversary

Secretary Tillie Kimmes of CEBA, the Luxembourg-based Battle of the Bulge research organization, sent to VBOB a copy of the BULGE, a news-packed periodical marking the 15th year of CEBA's existence. In addition, a VBOB membership card in CEBA was received.

These thoughtful gifts were acknowledged by President George Chekan at the VBOB Executive Council Meeting on June 20th. He pointed out that Tillie and her husband, Roger, are well-known to scores of VBOB members whom they have hosted and led in Luxembourg and who met Tillie when she was a VBOB guest a couple of years ago.

...Clyde D. Boden

Be a Buddy ...

Sign Up a Buddy!!!



CRIBA Researches Missing GIs

André Hubert, Associate VBOB Member in Belgium, writes concerning CRIBA's continuing researches for American veterans known during the liberation of his country so anyone having any information on the following two service-men are asked to write the Editor, THE BULGE BUGLE.



---Samuel Bud Fein, a First Lieutenant, Hq, 14th F.A. Bn, pictured in a photo near a small observation plane near the end of January 1945. He was billeted in Beaufays (near Liège) and, in August 1945, was in Hasselt.

---On December 17, 1944, a Belgian man, working on a farm at Clermont (hamlet of la Viamerie near Henri-Chapelle) discovered some German paratroops hiding in the barns. He alerted a US unit in the barracks at Henri-Chapelle. The Americans took the Germans prisoner. The American field-grade officer (above) gave the Belgian man this picture. His name may have been Wm. Lichtenstein (or -berg or -busch) and said his ancestors came from Bavaria. The old Belgian man would like to know more about this American officer.

BILL SIMPKINS & TOM GILLIS RECOGNIZED FOR LONG-TERM SERVICE ++++++

Bill Simpkins, Vice President for National & Regional Coordination, and Tom Gillis, Corresponding Secretary, were saluted by President George Chekan at the VBOB Executive Council Meeting on June 20 for long and faithful service. Failing health and a combination of remoteness and volume of mail, respectively, have been cited as the reasons for nominating replacements.

Bill served with the 510th Fighter Squadron; Tom with the 4th Armored Division. Both are charter and life members of VBOB.

We wish them well and look forward to their continued interest and support. C. Boden

Personal Memorial Dedicated to Comrades

Last September Charles E. McGuire, Co. C, 187th Engineer Combat Battalion dedicated a personal memorial plaque honoring four fallen Comrades of his unit at the site of their deaths by the Old Windmill at Waldfeucht, W. Germany. Those immortalized on the plaque are Lt. Owen J. Jones, Cpl. Allen K. Bodtcher, T/5 Louis J. Combs and PFC Novie N. Ross. They died on 22 February 1945.

Chuck wants to convey his thanks and sincere appreciation to his comrades in Europe, active and retired, whose support and participation in the dedication made that day so memorable. These people are NATO Representative Capt. David J. Aqua, Executive Officer, NATO AWACS, Air Force Base, Beilenkirchen, Germany, who provided the Honor Guard, Rifle Squad and Bugler; VFW Commander, Germany, J. B. Virgil and Cdr. Bobbie Black and Comrades of Post 9659 who drove all the way from Steinwenden; our special friends from Belgium's CRIBA organization, Pierre Gosset, Cyrille Collard and Armond Lewis and to all the Americans whose attendance helped to make that day so special. Chuck's sincere appreciation also goes to the Waldfeucht Community Director, Helmuth Merkelbach. Without his friendship, support and dedication to the project it could not have taken place.

Officials from The Netherlands and German governments attended, along with hundreds of local people from both sides of the border who embraced the memorial as a community project and celebration.

Chuck is still searching for surviving family members of Lt. Jones and T/5 Combs. The Bodtcher and Ross families have been found. Any information or communication from former 187th Engineer Comrades would be appreciated. Write Chuck at 4909 Banner Road, S.E., Port Orchard, WA 98366. He invites VBOB comrades touring in southern Holland or the Geilenkirchen area of W. Germany to visit the memorial by the "Old Tholen Mill" in Waldfeucht. The mill is on the German Historic Register and is the only surviving wind-powered mill remaining in the Rhineland.

... C. E. McGuire

BASTOGNE CHORALE VISITS U.S.A.

A group of VBOB members were among the invited audience who attended a concert given by "La Chanterelle Bastogne" at the Church of the Annunciation in Washington, D.C. on August 4th. In attendance were His Excellency and Madame Herman Dehinnin, the Belgium Ambassador, and Madame and Guy Lutgen, Burgomeister of the city of Bastogne.

"La Chanterelle" is a singing group composed of forty-four citizens of Bastogne whose ages range from seven to 77 years. The forty-fifth singer was an American young lady, Becky, who was an exchange student. Becky was the Mistress of Ceremonies.

The tour was a show of appreciation for the dedication and heroic achievements of the American soldiers during the Battle of the Bulge.

The Washington concert included a variety of selections such as "White Christmas," a solo by Becky and "Oh, Freedom," a black spiritual. Also included were French, Italian and other European sonatas. The concert ended with three encores.

Most of the chorale group were not even born before 1944, but all of them knew of the Battle of the Bulge. It is unfortunate that all veterans who took part in that epic battle could not share moments such as this.

...E. (Lucky) Loiacono



YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND
BATTLE OF THE BULGE COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS

As is customary, special VBOB activities are planned this year to commemorate the beginning date of the Battle of the Bulge, December 16.

This commemoration will be held starting at 11:00am Wednesday, December 16, 1987 with the impressive Changing of the Guard Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Arlington National Cemetery. After this ceremony, VBOB representatives will lay a wreath at the Tomb, followed by a memorial service at the VBOB Plaque, located just across the street from the Amphitheatre.

Attendees may park their cars at the Arlington Cemetery Visitor's Center, and transportation to The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier will be arranged.

On the evening preceeding these ceremonies, Tuesday, December 15, a social gathering will be held at the Fort Myer Officers' Club providing an opportunity to relax and enjoy the comradery of VBOB friends. An informal social hour (cash bar) in the Lamp-lighter Room from 7:00pm to 8:00pm will be followed by an 8:00pm dinner served in the historical Chaffee Room. A short program is planned for after dinner.

The cost of the dinner is \$15.00 per person. Checks may be made payable to: "VBOB Account/December 15 Dinner" and mailed along with the Reservation Form to: D. Davis, 6900 Tilden Lane, Rockville, MD 20852.

For planning purposes an early reply (not later than December 5, please) is requested.

All VBOB members and guests, especially those who live in, or might be in the Washington D.C. Metro area at this time, are warmly invited to attend these events.

RESERVATION FORM
VBOB DINNER, DECEMBER 15, 1987

Name _____

Spouse/guest _____

Address _____

_____ Tel.# _____

Number of Reservations _____

Total Cost at \$15.00 each: \$ _____

Make Check Payable to: "VBOB Account/December 15 Dinner"

Mail to: D. Davis, 6900 Tilden Lane, Rockville, MD 20852

Number attending the Wednesday Morning, December 16 events ☐

Members Speak Out

Raymond H. Sullivan, Co. I, 317th Regt, 80th Div. was wounded 1/8/45 at Ringel, Luxembourg while on patrol. He was liberated 3/27/45 from Stalag XII-A by the 9th Armd. Div. He completed Law School at Suffolk University in 1955 and is now retired due to disability. Ray also belongs to Ex-Pows and Amputee Veterans and is a Life Member of VBOB.

Clifford F. Gross, CCA, 7th Armd. Div, writes that he hopes to see us all in Syracuse. (Did he? ...Ed.) After the war, Clifford went to work as a steamfitter in NY City, but had to retire because of wounds received at St. Vith.

Roy D. Wolfe (units to follow) writes to say he and his wife have been back to Europe four times since 1981 and have made many friends with our CRIBA and CEBA comrades and always made a visit to General Patton's grave at Hamm. Ray served with the Third Armd. Div, Seventh Armd. Div, Eighth Armd. Div, Third Armd. Corps, 535th Armd. Inf. and then overseas with the Sixth Armored Division. "Armor All The Way!"

Wm. H. Pagel, Jr., Hq. Co, 1st Bn, 33d Armd. Regt, 3d Armd. Div. writes to forward his annual dues to VBOB "with the greatest pleasure. 'The Bulge Bugle' is a most enjoyable, well-written and edited publication. I especially enjoy the 'Members Speak Out' section. Very interesting stories in a very few words'." In June Bill celebrated his 40th wedding anniversary and the start of his 15th year of retirement from Federal Service after 35 years. (Thanks for your very kind words, Bill. ...Ed.)

Warren B. Dana, Btry. C, 334th FA Bn, 87th Div, is Director of Public Affairs for North Hills Passavant Hospital, Pittsburgh. He recalls the Battle of the Bulge as an obscene contradiction of beautiful, well-kept forests of evergreen and snow-covered fields and the devastation of war - black shell holes, shattered trees, ravaged buildings and the debris of combat. Then there was the struggle to survive in one of the worst winters in years.

Fred J. Harang wants to hear from other members of the 76th FA Bn. Write him at #4 Gair Dr., "beautiful" Maggie Valley, NC 28751.

Gerald F. Hoffer, 644th TD Bn, meets with his unit reunions each year. He and his twin brother, Harold, get together every afternoon for coffee and usually dig up the past since both were in the 644th. Jerry feels this togetherness worked out fine in the "Bulge" except the night Harold was trapped in Krinkelt.

Felice P. Gabrieli, Squad Leader, B Co, 168th Engr. Combat Bn, was with a group of battalions with the 8th Corps detached to the 106th Division. After discharge, he was a civil service firefighter and retired in June 1984.

George J. Pelletier, M Co, 345th Inf, 87th Division retired in July as a Sergeant in the Fitchburg, MA Police Dept. after 38 years' service.

Frederick A. Leigh, Co. A, 334th Regt, 84th Division, went from the Bulge to the Elbe. He served in the printing trade since the war and is Executive Secretary and past president of the 84th Railsplitters Society. After 40 years he is still looking for former A Co. men to get them on the roster. The Society now has over 3,000 members.

John K. Brier, Co. B, 738th Tank Bn. was a Platoon Leader near Waimies, Belgium. He is trying to locate other members of the unit (except for his gunner and driver whom he has located). Before the war was over, he assumed command of the company. Remaining in the Regular Army until retirement in 1970, Colonel Brier saw combat duty in Korea and served in Viet Nam. He has known Col. Charles MacDonald, Military Historian, since those days in Belgium.

John F. Lynn, H/H Btry, 76th Inf. Div. Arty, was a sports editor for the NY Post following WWII. After 38 years with The Post, he retired in 1984.

Norman D. Cohen, 511th Light Ponton Engineers, retired to sunny Florida after 40 years in the Garment Center in New York.



Though a former Army Engineer, I was guilty in a recent edition of THE BULGE BUGLE of spelling Ponton with three o's. While the Oxford English Dictionary recognized "Pontoon," we certainly don't, do we, Engineers? Mea Culpa, Mea Culpa!

EDITOR'S SQUARE

Back to the VBOB License plate (at least once more). In the last edition I could not recall the other VBOB member who decorated his car with such a plate. It didn't take long, however, for Life Member Don Robbins, 51st Engr. Combat Bn, 111th Engr. to set me straight. Don, his wife Martha, and I were among those stalwarts who enjoyed a trip to the Bulge area in 1986. Don drove a motorcycle during WWII (and still does after 43 years)!

Members are requested to let us know of any change in their telephone numbers since these are listed in our computer printout of members. Further, whenever members change mail addresses, their copy of THE BULGE BUGLE costs VBOB nearly five times the normal delivery rate, so please let us know where you are.

On page 13 of our July 1987 edition, VBOB member John P. Chenot, Jr., was identified with the 84th Inf. Div. I have been informed by Wm. W. Thompson, Co. E, 334th Inf, 84th Division that I committed another boo-boo. John Chenot was actually a member of the 8th Infantry Division. My apologies to John, WWT and the MP's who are here to take me away for a while.

Wm. F. Hanna, III, requests information about a 740th FA Bn in which his father, Wm. F. Hanna, served as a Medic from summer 1943 until December 1945. Contact him at 68 Duffy Dr, Taunton, MA 02780.

John Andryc, Co. C, 434th Armd. FA Bn. and Tony Wachinski, Co. A, 38th AIB, both from 7th Armd. Div. write to say that John sports on his car an Ohio license plate which reads "VBOB 44." Any more of you out there with "VBOB" plates?

A Gen. George S. Patton, Jr. Museum is in planning to open 11 Nov 88 in Chiriaco Summit, CA. More info later, hopefully, as plans develop.



Ft. Myer, VA, 23 June 1987 -- Clyde D. Boden, right, VBOB's first president, pays tribute to Jimmie and Marion Leach at a VBOB social gathering.

NEW ARDENNES BOOK

Danny S. Parker, Associate VBOB Member and Research Assistant in VBOB's Charles B. MacDonald's A Time for Trumpets, is planning a new book tentatively to be titled The Ardennes Campaign and scheduled for publication next March. He is also planning a detailed book covering the Ardennes battle in great detail and slated for publication on the 50th anniversary of the campaign in 1994. Danny would like to receive any anecdotes, correspondence and especially photos for both book projects. VBOB members and others may send such materials to him at 801 - 12th Ave., Helena, MT 59601. Good Luck, Danny. ... Ed.

Members Speak Out

Eugene H. Dyches, Bn. Sgt. Maj, 630th TD Bn, writes of his unit's engagements from Normandy (St. Lo), across France, Belgium and Luxembourg; then Aachen, the Hurtgen Forest, Bastogne, the Ardennes, Comar and the Saar Valley. He provides names of five buddies from his home town as possible new members of VBOB. (Thanks, Gene; applications went out to your buddies on 9/6/87. ...Ed.)

James E. Griffith, Btry. C, 229th FA Bn, 28th Inf. Div, was a radio operator with part of an FA Observation section re-treating with a squad from 3d Bn, 112th Inf. Regt. His group fired upon a truck with no muffler, bringing up supplies, which was thought, in the fog, to be an enemy tank. A few days later they found friendly troops. Jim would like to hear from others who were there. Write him at 1917 Maize Dr, Wooster, OH 44691.

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John M. Brand, Hq. Btry, 16th FA Bn, 9th Armd. Div. remembers the Screaming Meemies well. He was captured near St. Vith while with the 52d Inf. Bn. He was liberated by 45th and 36th Div. units from a prison camp just outside Nuremburg, Germany.

James E. Griffith, Btry. C, 229th FA Bn, 28th Inf. Div. was a radio operator with part of an FA Observation section re-treating with a squad from 3d Bn, 112th Inf. Regt. His group fired upon a truck with no muffler, bringing up supplies, which was thought, in the fog, to be an enemy tank. A few days later they found friendly troops. Jim would like to hear from others who were there. Write him at 1917 Maize Dr, Wooster, OH 44691.

Herman R. Porter, Co. B, 630 TD Bn, 28th Inf. Div. writes of his capture in Wiltz, Luxembourg 20 Dec 44. He and his wife returned to that area two years ago. He'd like to hear from others captured in Wiltz. Write Herman at Rt. 1, Box 639, Alma, AR 72921.

Gordon Zicker, Hq. Co, 423d Inf, 106th Inf. Div. reports that he was one of the small group of POWs in Slaughterhouse Five in Dresden, Germany. He's been retired from a banking career for a year and a half now and involved in local/state POW affairs.

Harry F. Baker, 407th Bomber Sqd, 92d Bomber Gp, 8th US Air Force, writes of seeing very little in our newsletter of air support of the Battle of the Bulge. He does, however, mention the problem of overcast at the time which "made it impossible to support the Group troops correctly. As soon as weather let up, the 8th AF was very much present to help-- the B-17s will always be very dear to me." (Thanks, Harry - we needed this. ...Ed.)



**Veterans
Administration**

Q--I used my VA home loan entitlement in 1969 to purchase a home. I now want to sell this home and buy a larger one. Do I have any remaining entitlement?

A--The maximum home loan guaranty entitlement was raised to \$27,500 in 1980. The amount of any additional entitlement is the difference between \$27,500 and the amount of entitlement used on prior loans

Q--Is there a time limit to file for reimbursement for the cost of a non-Government headstone placed in a private cemetery?

A--Yes. The claim must be filed within two years of either the date of burial or the date of purchase of a privately purchased headstone or marker.

Q--My husband was cremated and his ashes were scattered without interment of any portion of the ashes. May I still obtain a memorial marker for him?

A--Yes. The memorial may be erected in a private cemetery or memorial section of a national cemetery.

The Veterans Administration's national cemetery system maintains approximately 1,650,000 gravesites. The number of burials will be 54,000 and is expected to rise to 56,000 next year. Burial in any VA national cemetery having space is available to veterans discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. An eligible veteran's spouse and dependent children are also allowed burial, even if they die before the veteran. Questions regarding burial in a national cemetery or other VA burial benefits can be answered by the nearest VA cemetery or regional office. Toll-free numbers are listed under "U.S. Government" in most telephone directories.



VBOB ORDER BLANK

CUSTOMER NO: _____ RECORD NO: _____ DATE RECEIVED: _____
 GROUP A NO: _____ GROUP B NO: _____
 (Above for office use only)

Please ship the following items to:

NAME: _____
 (first) (last)

ADDRESS: _____
 (no) (street) (city) (state) (zip)

| GROUP A | ITEM | PRICE | QUANTITY | TOTAL |
|---------|--------------------------|---------|-----------|-------|
| A 2 | Plaque 5"X 7" * | \$18.00 | x _____ = | _____ |
| A 3 | Plaque 5" Dia(Not Shown) | 11.00 | x _____ = | _____ |
| A 4 | 2 Pen VBOB Desk Set | 21.00 | x _____ = | _____ |

* Please engrave Brass Plate with:

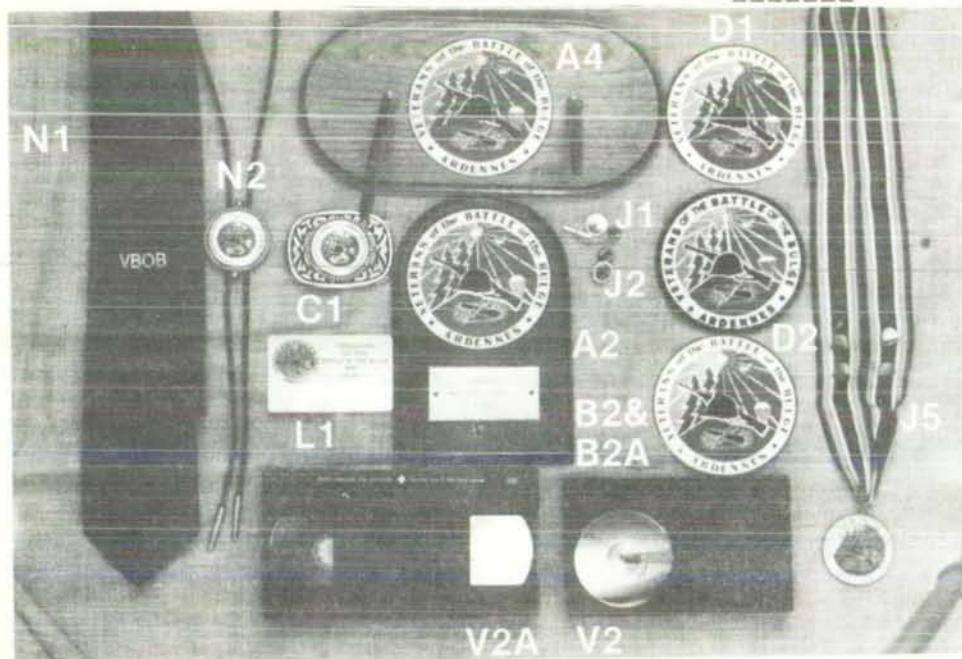
NAME: _____ (not to exceed 30
 UNIT: _____ letter/numbers/
 UNIT: _____ spaces each line)

| GROUP B | ITEM | PRICE | QUANTITY | TOTAL |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------|-----------|-------|
| B 1 | Patch 2 3/4"Diam(Not Shown) | \$ 2.50 | x _____ = | _____ |
| B 1A | Patch (W/clutch)(Not Shown) | 4.00 | x _____ = | _____ |
| B 2 | Patch 4 3/4" Diam | 6.00 | x _____ = | _____ |
| B 2A | Patch (W/clutch) | 8.00 | x _____ = | _____ |
| C 1 | VBOB Belt Buckle (NEW) | 12.50 | x _____ = | _____ |
| D 1 | Decal 4" Diam | 3/ 1.00 | x _____ = | _____ |
| D 2 | Logo 4" Windshield Logo | .50 | x _____ = | _____ |
| J 1 | VBOB Lapel Pin (W/clutch) | 7.00 | x _____ = | _____ |
| J 2 | VBOB Tie Tac (W/c.bar&chain) | 7.00 | x _____ = | _____ |
| J 3 | VBOB Tie Bar (Not Shown) | 7.00 | x _____ = | _____ |
| J 5 | VBOB Medallion (W/ribbon) | 32.00 | x _____ = | _____ |
| J 9 | Life Mbr Stars(Medallion) | 2/1.00 | x _____ = | _____ |
| L 1 | LIFE MEMBERSHIP CARD(NOTE) | 100.00 | x _____ = | _____ |
| N 1 | VBOB Neck Tie (Close Out) | 5.00 | x _____ = | _____ |
| N 2 | VBOB Bola Tie (NEW) | 12.50 | x _____ = | _____ |
| GROUP C (Special Order) | | | | |
| V 2 | Video Cassette (Beta)(NOTE) | 25.00 | x _____ = | _____ |
| V 2A | Video Cassette (VHF)(NOTE) | 25.00 | x _____ = | _____ |

TOTAL PURCHASES: \$ _____

Note:

- V2 & V2A are approx. one hour of Syracuse GMMeeting.
- LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES: See back cover of BULGE BUGLE.
- Stars are to be worn on Medallion by LIFE MEMBERS ONLY.
- Above prices include postage and engraving of plaque.



NEW! NEW!! NEW!!!

**BELT BUCKLES & BOLA TIES
and
VIDEO CASSETTES
of the
General Membership Meeting
in Syracuse**

★ The shipment of Belt Buckles and Bola Ties was well received at the 6th GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (GMM) in Syracuse, New York. Wright Robinson, our Sales Manager, reported a lively trading session each time he displayed his wares. The picture at the bottom of the VBOB ORDER BLANK includes both items. Order up so Wright will have to re-order.

★ Bill Greenville, VBOB's GMM General Manager, hired a professional video man to tape all the GMM affairs at Syracuse. He has assembled about an hour of highlights from the tape he shot. The cassette is advertised in the VBOB Order Blank. Order one before Bill corners the market and threatens to raise the price.

★ Some of you haven't seen the VBOB Life Membership card. We have included it in the picture of items for sale. There is no better bargain than a Lifetime Membership, especially if you order yours before 30 November. Also, each year you will save on postage you would need to renew an annual membership- and postage rates are going up soon.

Members Speak Out

Jack C. Gerts, Recon. Sqdn, 38th Cav, 102d Cav. Gp, is anxious to hear from former unit members. He plans to retire in Phoenix, but in the meantime, write him at 3712 N. Bell, Chicago, IL 60618.

Harry E. Brusell, Co. A, 393d Inf, 99th Inf. Div, writes to update us on what he's been doing since he was a rifleman/bazookaman in WWII. He was wounded and evacuated to England, joined the Air Force ROTC Program, served in Japan and retired in grade of Colonel in 1984. He'd like to hear from any survivors of his squad or platoon. Write him at 24071 Fir Ave, Moreno Valley, CA 92388.

Leonard G. Boeker, 103d Engr. Combat Bn, 28th Inf. Div, sends a newsclip of his revisit to the Bulge in 1984 where he was taken prisoner. Despite apprehension of revisiting the area, he received a warm welcome in Hosingen, Belgium. With a head wound and 27 pieces of shrapnel in his left side, he had been left for dead by his buddies in the Ardennes Campaign. In a box car prison, he survived an American forces air bombing on Christmas Eve and escaped into -25 degree weather only to be quickly recaptured by the enemy. Leonard was truly impressed by the gratitude shown by the people of Luxembourg during his recent visit there.

Robert L. Kitchen, Hq. Co, 422d Inf, 106th Inf. Div. was captured in 1944 and served time in Stalags 3, 4, 12 and 1, suffering a concussion and hearing loss when the Allies bombed the boxcar in which he was held.

Melvin A. Jay, Hq. Co, 84th Inf. Div. attended his division's reunion recently in Colorado Springs with 759 other unit members which held an "Old Uniform" contest in which 24 members could still get their uniforms on and button them up! One unit member has attended all 42 of the unit's reunions.

Elmer H. Grant, Co. B, 8th Tank Bn, 4th Armd. Div, served in Normandy, Brittany, Southern France, the Rhineland, Luxembourg, Belgium, the Ardennes and in Czechoslovakia.

Elmer H. Janosko, Co. B, 310th Sig. Op. Bn, 9th Army, is enjoying retirement, does favors for his neighbors and attends church services daily.

Robert L. Cole, Co. C, 47th Inf, 9th Inf. Div. writes of having moved into Monchau on the north hinge of The Bulge on 18 Dec. 44 and then pulling harrassing actions until the end of January. After WWII he has been in the railroad business and is presently a VFW post commander.

Robert W. Brown, Co. C, 141 AAA Bn, returned to Ohio U. for a degree in animal husbandry. In 1973 he was milking 2,966 cows and had over 6,000 animals of all sizes. Then into the jewelry business in El Paso. He also raises and races horses. Though a life member of VBOB, he sends a donation of \$50. Thanks, Bob.

Edward Omdahl, 561st FA Bn, attached to 8th Corps in support of First and Third US Armies near St. Vith, promises to drum up more VBOB members at his unit's reunion next May.

Frank J. Rozsitch, 557th AAA Bn, 84th Inf. Div, attended his 38th unit reunion in May. Retired nine years ago from his auto and radiator shop, he is now helping his son in the professional disc jockey business. "Never a dull moment," he writes.

Sidney Goodman, Co. M, 110th Inf, 28th Inf. Div. visited Belgium a few years ago and Australia last year with American POW's. During the Ardennes era, he was held at 9-B and at Berga. While there he was a "dolmecher" (interpreter).

Earl D. Terry, Co. L, 357th Inf, 90th Div. wishes to hear from unit members who served at Dillinger and in the Bulge when he was wounded at Prum, Germany. Write Earl at 624 Robindale, Fairfield, TX 75840.

LTC Richard M. Grant (USA Ret), H/H Co, 99th Inf. Div, is a Connecticut Yankee in Florida the past six years as Chief of Staff, Florida Order of the Purple Heart.

Larry E. Bright, Btry. B, 777th AAAW, Third US Army, wants to hear from WWII buddies. Write him at 9912 Mitchel Ct., St. Ann, MO 63074.

Monroe E. Duke, 422d Cannon Co, 106th Inf. Div, captured during the Ardennes campaign by enemy forces, wants to hear from former comrades. Write him at 3137 Chelsea Road, Sacramento, CA 95864.

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WE NEED YOU NOW...**



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

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 43 years. Don't forget to mention what outfit you were in. You may just get your name in the newsletter.

VETERANS of the BATTLE OF THE BULGE



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November 1987 Edition

SPECIAL NOTICE!

★ *BEAT THE DEADLINE* ★ *SAVE MONEY* ★ *BECOME A LIFER*

As noted on page 14 of the previous issue of THE BULGE BUGLE (July '87) the cost of LIFE membership fees is going up. The current schedule of fees (Age 49 and below-\$100; ages 50 thru 69-\$75; age 70 and above-\$50. These rates will remain in effect until the end of FY'87 (Nov. 30, 1987). Effective 1 December 1987 new fees will be in effect.

The new LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES may be raised 20% to 40% in accordance to actuarial tables. MAIL YOUR REQUEST TODAY!! Your check and a note stating your age and requesting LIFE MEMBERSHIP will do it!!

Detach and Mail

Annual Dues
\$10

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VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE
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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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Campaign Ribbons and Battle stars awarded _____

Wounded _____

Captured _____

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