

The BULGE BUGLE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION • VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

VOLUME VII

NUMBER 1

THE ARDENNES CAMPAIGN

JANUARY 1988

SPECIAL EDITION

EUR  **PE IN '88**



Announcing...

**BATTLEFIELD
TOUR OF THE
ARDENNES**

September 13-23, 1988



...IN CONJUNCTION WITH

VBOB's **GENERAL** **MEMBERSHIP** **Meeting**
In LUXEMBOURG

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

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Third U.S. Army Engineers

EDITOR - Washington Bureau
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10th Armored Division

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87th Inf. Div.

CHAPLAIN EMERITUS - The Rev.
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10 ARMDD 11TK BN C

COMMITTEE

AUDIT - James Lipman,
8 FA OBS BN

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



From The President—

EUROPE in 88...

At our General Membership Meeting (Syracuse, October 10, 1987) we asked for a show of hands of those interested in Europe being the site for our next annual get-together. An overwhelming response prompted the Executive Committee to pursue this venture.

Well, we did and the end result is that we will be in Belgium and Luxembourg September 13-23, 1988 for this unique meeting with its abundant hospitality and numerous battlefield tours and events.

Many of you will be going back for the first time since the end of WWII...43 years later. (Where are the snows of yesteryear?) We'll revisit the land of the bivouac and foxholes and reminisce about that very critical period in our lives...we'll renew longstanding friendships and pay homage to the men and women who made the supreme sacrifice.

VBOB Dinner and Memorial Service

Last Dec. 15 we held a dinner at Ft. Myer, VA. with over 100 people in attendance. The food was good, the camaraderie great and 10 VBOB members from different units gave brief and interesting talks on where they were December 15, 1944...43 years ago.

A VBOB plaque was presented to Mr. Ray Costanzo, Superintendent of Arlington National Cemetery, for his interest and cooperation in VBOB affairs.

We look forward to another interesting and nostalgic social gathering of this sort in the very near future.

Yours in Comradeship,

George Chekan
President

Our 43rd Anniversary

Appropriate ceremonies were held on 16 December to commemorate the 43rd anniversary of the beginning of the Battle of the Bulge. About 65 members of our organization met at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. At 11 A.M. we attended the "Changing of the Guard" by members of the 3rd Infantry — always a display of precision and perfection. The 3rd Infantry also honored the anniversary by presenting an Army Honor Ceremony. The sight of a company of troops marching up the steps from behind the Tomb and then flanking the monument on either side was a sight to remember. After the presentation of the Colors our National President, George Chekan, assisted by Eugene Drouillard, layed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The ceremony ended with the playing of "TAPS" by a bugler of the U.S. Army Band.

Our members then moved to the front of the Amphitheater as the carillon bell chimes were sounded. When the group was assembled our President called for the Presentation of the Colors and Eugene Drouillard led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag. Our Chaplain, Msgr. William F. O'Donnell then gave the Invocation. Several short speeches were made but what thrilled us most was the comment made by Gabrielle M. Howe. She said: "Our veterans deserve the respect that was normally reserved for kings." No truer words were spoken. A wreath was placed at our VBOB Memorial by Elturino (Lucky) Loiacono and Eva Popovich. Chaplain O'Donnell gave the Benediction, and one could hear the haunting strains of TAPS filtering through the silent tombstones as our ceremony came to a close.

Eugene Drouillard
Vice President
Military Affairs



VBOB TROOPS ARE ON THE MOVE AGAIN



Charles B. MacDonald

A WORD ABOUT OUR TOUR DIRECTOR...

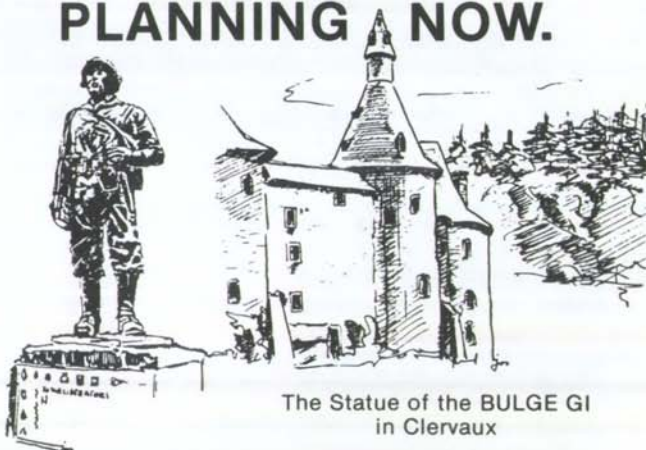
Charles B. MacDonald is not only a veteran of the Battle of the Bulge but also one of America's most respected historians.

He spent five years writing his latest book, *A Time for Trumpets*, making five lengthy trips to the Ardennes.

MacDonald, a VBOB charter member, will provide a detailed account of that wintertime assault that history records as America's biggest battle.

Sign up today ... and you'll be on your way!!

WE WILL CONDUCT A
BATTLEFIELD TOUR
UNDER THE DIRECTION
AND GUIDANCE OF OUR
OWN MEMBERS. WE
WILL TOUR BELGIUM
AND LUXEMBOURG AND
HAVE THE 1988
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETING IN
LUXEMBOURG CITY.
READ ON AND START
PLANNING NOW.



EUROPE IN '88

“WITHOUT A DOUBT, THIS WILL BE THE TOUR OF TOURS!!”

by Elturino L. Loiacono

On September 13, 1988, VBOB members will depart the United States on a fantastic trip back to the scene of the “biggest battle ever fought by the United States Army.” The Battlefield Tour was organized, planned and will be directed by our organization, VBOB. The director and tour guide for this memorable trip is Charles MacDonald.

As you read the itinerary you will no doubt recognize names of towns where your unit played an important part during those bitterly cold days of December 1944. The nice part of your next visit will be that you will get to meet some of the people or next of kin that you defended from German onslaught.

If you have never returned to the Benelux countries, you are in for a real treat. You will have the opportunity to see the countryside in all its beauty and not cold and covered with snow. You will receive and feel the warmth and gratitude of the citizens of Belgium and Luxembourg. You will meet the members of CRIBA (Belgium) and CEBA (Luxembourg) who have researched and documented all the actions of the Battle of the Bulge. They will let you know and show how much they appreciate the efforts that we young soldiers put forth 43 years ago. Those of you who decide to make this trip for the first time will understand more fully why some of your friends return to Belgium and Luxembourg two, three and four times. **It is almost like going home.** The welcome you will receive is just amazing.

I can say this with all honesty as this will be my third trip back. However, I must admit that I was not planning on a return trip this year until I heard Charles MacDonald's briefing on the itinerary. That's when I decided that I had to be on that plane on September 13, 1988 and be involved in the most informative tour I will probably ever go on. Not only that, I will be in the company of men and women that were tested in battle by doing more for their country than was asked and did it well. I am proud to have been a part of this piece of history and you should be proud, too. Forty-three years ago, would you have thought that someday you would return to the scene of that great battle?

Those of you who can should take advantage of this forthcoming tour of the battlefields. I know I am looking forward to going and my wife is, too. See you in Europe in September, 1988!!

Elturino “Lucky” Loiacono is the BUGLE's Washington Editor and is a member of the “Europe in ‘88” Planning Committee



(Sept 14)

EUROPE IN '88



BATTLE TOUR

September 13-23, 1988

Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge



ITINERARY

Day 1 (Sept 13)

Depart U.S. via Icelandair.

Day 2 (Sept 14)

Arrive Luxembourg City airport with transfer by tour bus to our hotel, the Pullman (formerly Holiday Inn). Evening cocktail reception and dinner in our hotel.

Day 3 (Sept 15)

Travel to Arlon, thence north along the route the 4th Armored Division took in relieving surrounded Bastogne. En route, we "attack" the town of Assenois to make contact with the defenders, visit sites in the town and the museum at the Bastogne memorial, Le Mardasson.

Lunch on your own in Bastogne. Early afternoon wreath-laying ceremony at Le Mardasson, followed by a wine reception in the City Hall. Thence to the Schumann Crossroads, scene of heavy fighting by troops of the 28th and 80th Divisions, and to Ettelbruck and a monument to General George S. Patton, Jr. Dinner and overnight in Luxembourg City.

Day 4 (Sept 16)

To Osweiler and a monument to eight American divisions that fought in the vicinity, thence to Echternach and the Parc Hotel, Berdorf, scenes of epic stands by two companies of the 4th Division's 12th Infantry, and on to Hoesdorf and a monument to the 28th Division's 109th Infantry. On to Vianden, one of Luxembourg's most picturesque towns, and to the "Skyline Drive" and towns defended by the 28th Division's 110th Infantry. At Clervaux we see the monument erected in honor of the GI by the Cercle d'Etudes sur la Bataille des Ardennes (Study Group on the Ardennes Battle, or CEBA). A wine reception in the castle hosted by CEBA followed by lunch in the Hotel Internationale (cost not included) with officials of CEBA.

South along the valley of the Clerve River to Wiltz, the 28th Division's headquarters town, thence return by a particularly scenic route to the "Skyline Drive" and south to Diekirch and a visit to the impressive Bulge museum. On to the U.S. Military Cemetery at Hamm and General Patton's grave. Dinner and overnight in Luxembourg City.

Day 5 (Sept 17)

Up the Skyline Drive to Vielsalm and a monument to the 7th Armored Division and on to St. Vith for monuments to the 2nd and 106th Divisions. Through the Losheim Gap to Lanzerath, starting point for the drive of the infamous Kampfgruppe (Battle Group) Peiper and site of an epic stand by the I&R Platoon of the 99th Division's 394th Infantry.

Via Honsfeld, where Kampfgruppe Peiper first murdered American prisoners, to Bullingen and lunch in the Hotel Dahmen (cost not included) where the proprietor has numerous mementos of the battle. Thence via Losheimergraben crossroads, main battle site of the 99th Division's 394th Infantry, to the "twin villages" of Krinkelt-Rocherath, site of an epic stand by the 2nd Division and contingents of the 99th Division, and a look at your tour director's foxholes in a nearby forest.

Then to Dom. Butgenbach, where a battalion of the 1st Division stood firm and where a monument honors the dead of that division. Westward along a road which formed the final front line in this sector to the Baugnez Crossroads, scene of the Malmedy Massacre and a monument to the victims. Through much-bombed Malmedy to the First Army's headquarters town of Spa and to nearby Balmoral for dinner and overnight in the Dorint Hotel Ardennes, next door to the villa occupied by General Courtney Hodges.

EUROPE '88



Day 6 (Sept 18)

Return via Malmedy to Ligneuville, where we again pick up Peiper's route and where nine soldiers of the 9th Armored Division were massacred. En route westward to Stavelot we see a monument only recently erected honoring ten more men of the 9th Armored Division who were massacred by Peiper's forces. Through Stavelot, recaptured by the 30th Division's 117th Infantry, to Trois Ponts, where engineers blew two bridges in Peiper's face. In the beautiful valley of the Ambleve River, we pause for a picnic lunch (cost included). Thence to Cheneux, recaptured by paratroopers of the 82nd Airborne Division, and to Habiermont, where engineers again blew a bridge in Peiper's face.

Thence to a railroad station near Stoumont, point of Peiper's farthest advance, and through Stoumont, scene of heavy fighting by the 30th Division's 119th Infantry, to La Gleize where we visit the museum and view a Tiger tank.

Through woods north of the town past the site of one of two huge gasoline depots that Peiper failed to spot and back to Spa for dinner and overnight. After-dinner lecture by your tour director on the Battle of the Hurtgen Forest.

Day 7 (Sept 19)

A digression from the Ardennes to drive north into the Hurtgen Forest, scene of some of the most costly fighting of the war. Lunch on your own in the medieval town of Monschau. En route to Aachen, we see well-preserved segments of the dragon's teeth of the Siegfried Line. In Aachen, we visit the renowned Charlemagne Cathedral. Return to Spa for dinner and overnight.

Day 8 (Sept 20)

Via the American Military Cemetery at Neuville-en-Condroz, where most of the First Army's dead from the Battle of the Bulge are buried, to Liege and a wine reception hosted by the Centre de Recherche et d'Informations sur la Bataille des Ardennes (Center of Research and Information on the Ardennes Battle, or CRIBA).

South to Baraque de Fraiture, site of a strong stand by a miscellany of small forces, and then to Houffalize where we see a Panther tank. Via the beautiful valley of the Ourthe River to picturesque La Roche for lunch on your own. Thence via Hotton, where small contingents of the 3rd Armored Division stopped a German advance, to Verdennes where troops of the 84th Division's 333rd Infantry fought off the 116th Panzer Division.

On to Foy-Notre Dame where the 2nd Armored Division stopped the German spearhead only four miles from the Meuse River. Via towns that were the scenes of hard fighting by the 9th and 10th Armored Divisions on the northern and northwestern periphery of Bastogne, return to Luxembourg City for dinner and overnight.

Day 9 (Sept 21)

We drive again to Clervaux where we break into small groups and with cars and drivers provided by CEBA and CRIBA, visit places of special interest to individuals. Reassemble in late afternoon at Clervaux for return to Luxembourg City for dinner and overnight.

Day 10 (Sept 22)

The day will be devoted to the 7th General Membership Meeting. (Ladies will find shopping in Luxembourg City perhaps the most reasonable in prices to be found on the Continent.) In early evening we drive to the nearby casino-resort town of Mondorf-les-Bains for a farewell dinner with orchestra and dancing in the Casino 2000. Return to Luxembourg City for overnight.

Day 11 (Sept 23)

Our tour buses take us to the Luxembourg City airport for return flights to the U.S.

EUROPE '88

BATTLE OF THE BULGE TOUR September 13 - 23, 1988

TOTAL PRICE
Including Round Trip Fare
\$1550⁰⁰ per person
\$250.00 Single Supplement

Price includes...

Round trip airfare from the U.S. to Luxembourg City and return via Icelandair. (*One hour stopover each way in Iceland.*)

Rooms with twin beds in the 1st Class Dorint Hotel Ardennes and the Pullman (formerly Holiday Inn).

Modern tour buses equipped with toilets; also baggage handling.

As guides, the tour director and William C. C. Cavanagh, author of *Krinkelt-Rocherath: The Battle of the Twin Villages*, will alternate buses each day; if a third bus is required, another thoroughly knowledgeable guide will be provided.

Full buffet breakfast each day.

Full dinner each evening plus a farewell dinner the last night with orchestra and dancing in a casino setting.

Cocktail reception the first night and wine with dinners the first and last nights.

Vins d'honneurs (wine receptions) at Bastogne, Clervaux and Liege.

Wreath-laying memorial ceremony at the Bastogne memorial with band and color guard.

Admissions to the museums at Bastogne, Diekirch and La Gleize.

Copies in advance of *A Time for Trumpets: The Untold Story of the Battle of the Bulge*.

Price does not include...

Beverages other than tea and coffee and those noted above.

Any lunches; but to save time, fixed-menu lunches will be available on two occasions at the option of the individual and a cost of approximately \$15. (*One picnic lunch is included.*)

Any supplemental charges incurred in the hotels.

Gratuities for the bus driver (*none expected or accepted by the tour guides*).

Additional Information

- Cancellations can be made up to one month before the departure date with full refund except for a \$10 service charge. If there is a waiting list, the same \$10.00 charge for later cancellation; but if there is no waiting list, a \$125 cancellation fee to cover airline charges.

- Travellers may elect to return on their own but unless in a group of 20 or more and returning to the same departure city, they must shift to Icelandair's normal APEX fare at a cost of approximately \$150-\$200 per ticket.

- Travellers continuing on their own into France must have a French visa. A 3-month visa is \$9. An application form will be provided for those who require it.

- Addresses and telephone numbers of hotels will be provided in advance of departure.

- Individual insurance will be available for those wanting it.

Note:

Plans are for two buses and a maximum number of 90 persons. If applications exceed 90, a waiting list will be established. If applications well exceed 90, a third bus will be added for an absolute maximum of 120 persons, else the group will become too cumbersome. Applications will be handled as received. Please, no telephone calls, for valid applications must be accompanied by deposits.

EUROPE IN '88

APPLICATION FORM

BATTLE OF THE BULGE TOUR (\$1550)
(SINGLE SUPPLEMENT — \$250)
September 13 — 23, 1988

Name(s) of applicant(s): _____

Address: _____

Home telephone: (_____) _____

- If single applicant, do you want a roommate? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- If yes, your age: _____ Smoker? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Do you wish to purchase individual travel insurance? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Do you intend to return with the group? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- For individual nameplates, _____
the first name(s) you prefer: _____

Your unit in the Battle of the Bulge (division or separate unit): _____

- ★ Deposit of \$200 per person required with application. Make checks payable to
Charles B. MacDonald/VBOB Tour
 - ★ Deadline for applications: 1 May 1988.
 - ★ Full payment due by 1 July 1988. Air tickets mailed in mid-August.
- WHAT DEPARTURE CITY DO YOU PREFER?**
(New York; Baltimore-Washington;
Chicago; * Orlando **

Mail to:

Charles B. MacDonald/VBOB Tour
5300 Columbia Pike
Arlington, VA 22204

*(Please send to this address and not
to the general headquarters office)*

* Because our airline has no Friday flights into Chicago, travelers for that city will be responsible for their return fare to Chicago from either New York or Baltimore-Washington or else delay return until Sunday, 25 September.

** Travelers from Orlando will have to depart one day early and pay extra hotel and meals of approximately \$60 per person in Luxembourg City.



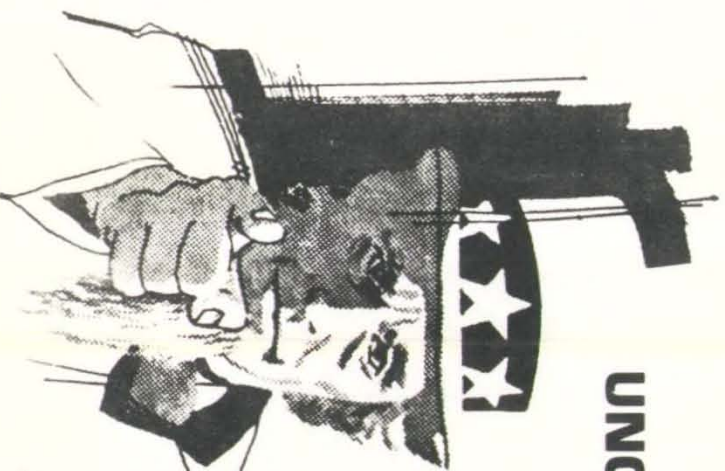
Your attention, PLEASE...

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



**UNCLE SAM NEEDED YOU THEN...
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.

EUROPE IN '88



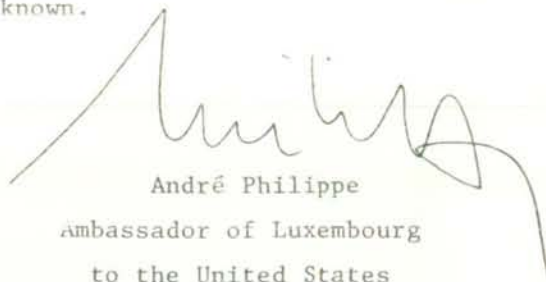
...A letter of welcome from the Ambassador

AMBASSADE DU GRAND-DUCHÉ
DE LUXEMBOURG
2200 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20008
(202) 265-4171

Message to the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge
in view of their 7th General Membership Meeting on September 22, 1988.

To the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge we in Luxembourg owe a debt of deep gratitude and will always extend to them the warmest possible welcome in our midst.

After having liberated the country on September 10, 1944 they had to stand up three months later against a last and desperate challenge from the enemy. Under the most unfavorable weather conditions and in a spirit of unequalled gallantry they first contained and later repelled this ultimate thrust from the harshest oppressor which the Luxembourg people had ever known.



André Philippe
Ambassador of Luxembourg
to the United States

Battle of the Bulge commemoration is sought

Maryland Gazette, 28 Nov 87

By RENEE STERN
Staff Writer

To the veterans who served in Belgium 43 years ago, the Battle of the Bulge — about six weeks of blood, cold and determined fighting — deserves commemoration.

An addition to the Fort George G. Meade Museum detailing Germany's last major attempt to break through the western lines would be the best way to remember that epic battle, a group of the veterans has decided.

With architects' plans and an agreement with Fort Meade officials in hand, the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge are seeking \$30,000 in seed money by Dec. 30 to get the gallery started.

Estimates place the total cost of the Battle of the Bulge Gallery at about \$750,000.

"We must get it done now or it will never be done by our group," said Dorothy Davis, a nurse in a field hospital during the battle and chairman of the group's effort.

The youngest of their veterans, she said, are in their 60s.

Plans are to open the gallery, to include exhibits and a small library, in time for the 45th anniversary of the battle's start on Dec. 16, 1944.

Al Shehab of Odenton, who served in a cavalry reconnaissance squadron during the battle, is now the liaison between VBOB members and Fort Meade officials.

"The post has been very cooperative," Shehab said.

Ms. Davis said one final hurdle remains: The Department of the Army must also approve the plans. "But I don't foresee anything obstructing that," she said.

The veterans' group formed in 1981, with goals including a place to store and preserve artifacts and documents relating to the battle.

"We looked at various places and decided Fort Meade would probably be the best place. It's near Washington, many who served in the battle trained there and it's the home of the 1st (U.S.) Army," Ms. Davis said.

First Army divisions bore the brunt of the German offensive until reinforcements were brought in to hold back the onslaught.

Of all existing Army museums, said Fort Meade curator Robert Johnson, his has the best tie-in to the battle.

The Fort Meade Museum, which tells the story of the post and of the First Army in two separate wings, already covers World War II, but the addition will allow more detail, Johnson said.

The Battle of the Bulge "is a pretty self-contained story," he said.

"We're really excited about it. We're glad they approached us and glad to be a part of it," he said, adding that without the veterans' efforts the gallery would not be possible.

Besides raising the money to build the addition, VBOB members will be in charge of collecting and designing the exhibits, Ms. Davis said.

A small collection already exists from efforts last year to fill a room turned over by the museum. But the space wasn't large enough, she said.

The \$30,000 the veterans are trying to collect now will go to hire a professional fund-raiser and an exhibit designer, she said.

Shehab said his squadron received a presidential citation for their efforts over the first three days of the battle to repel the Germans.

Confusion is what he remembers most about that time.

"We never realized the Germans had enough left to come on in such force," he said. "Whoever fired them up did a good job."

Working on the gallery, Ms. Davis said, has in one sense resembled a reunion.

"It's interesting trying to piece together where we (in the field hospital) were, because we rarely knew."

The veterans are seeking donations of \$500 to make up the initial \$30,000, with contributors making up a Founders 500 group.

Donors will be remembered with a plaque containing their name and unit — or the name and unit of someone who served in the battle — to be displayed in the gallery's lobby.

Anonymous contributors will be listed as "A Friend of VBOB." Large-scale fund-raising will begin next year to cover building costs.

Donations may be sent to Battle of the Bulge Gallery, Box 2516, Kensington, Md., 20895-0818. For more information, call Ms. Davis at 881-0356.



Arlington
National
Cemetery
16 Dec. 1987

Lucky Loiacono
and Eva (Poppy)
Popovich

Laying Wreath
on VBOB
Plaque

Photo by Sam Silverman

Members Speak Out

Willie G. Stem, Jr., Hq. Co, 507th Pcht. Inf. Regt, 17th Abn, writes of having gone into the auto body shop business after WW II. His work and church activities are his hobbies. He notes that he was in the Ardennes Campaign for 48 days without a hot meal, bed, bath or shave.

John A. Spendle, 15th Engr. Combat Bn, 9th Inf. Div, writes to report he's been a carpenter, then with Douglas Aircraft, then construction and finally his own roofing and siding business. He wouldn't trade his four years in the Service for anything... they were very tough, but he was "very proud to serve my Country."

Alfred H. Broadhead, Med. Det, 263d FA Bn, 26th Inf. Div, wishes to hear from WW II buddies Skirde, Berggren and Rice. Write him at Box 168, Rt. 1, Pittsboro, NC 27312.

Frank R. Herndon, Co. A, 104th Inf, 26th Inf. Div, asks if anyone knows his C.O. in Co. A - Capt. White. Anyone with this info may write to Frank at Rt. 3, Box 554, Spring City, TN 37381.

Michael C. Petrick, Co. M, 346th Inf, 87th Inf. Div, writes of having seen numerous VBOB patches at his recent unit's reunion sewn on hats, shirts and even their unit Chaplain's prayer stole, but mostly below the members' names on the "heart-side" of his unit's jackets.

Luther S. Winsor, 16th FA Obs. Bn, Hq, went overseas with VBOB's past President, Bob VanHouten, when he protected the bridge and bridgehead at Remagen. Following WWII he went into the forestry profession. Any VBOB members in Western Washington are asked to write Luther at 12705 - 95th Ave., N.W., Gig Harbor, WA 98335.

Reid W. McNary, 981st FA Bn, is trying to contact former buddies. At the end of WW II he remained behind in a hospital in Nice and did not return home until September 1945. Anyone who knew Reid is asked to contact him at 1054 University Ave., Salinas, CA 93901.

John D. Kearney, Co. B, 557th AAAAW Bn, 84th Inf. Div, has been appointed state vice chairman of the PA American Legion's Veterans Preference and Employment Committee. The PA Legion has 255,000 members.

Tommy R. Leonard, Co. A, 1303d Engr. Regt, recalls constructing a crossing, resurfacing a road and installing a flagpole for the Hamm Military Cemetery when two P-51s came in on a strafing mission. As they passed, black crosses were seen to have replaced the US star insignia... captured aircraft piloted by the enemy. Following the P-51s were three P-47s. Our aircraft guns opened fire, hitting one plane and causing it to crash. The P-47s, however, were friendly... US stars in full view.

Ted Karter, Co. L, 359th Regt, 90th Div, is looking for two men in a fox-hole during an artillery barrage on 9 Jan 45 and where he lost part of his left hand. One of the men was a sergeant. Ted was a replacement from the 42d Division and joined the 90th in mid-December 1944. Anyone with more details is asked to write Ted at 513C, Marion Ave, Punta Gorda, FL 33950.

Chalas E. Mirick, Co. H, 119th Inf, 30th Inf. Div, wishes to hear from anyone from his WWII unit. Contact him at Rt. 1, Box 352, Diana, TX 75640.

Wilhelm A. Hamre, Svc. Btry, 957th FA, 7th Corps, wishes to know if we have any other members of his unit. If so, please contact him at 1215 - 2d Ave, East, Williston, ND 58801.

Donald "Pat" Dore, Co. A, 52d Inf. Bn, was a prisoner of war in Stalags 2A and 4B and Lucky Strike. He is anxious to hear from other members of the 52d Inf. Write him at Box 561, Bangor, ME 04401.

Thad F. Conway, Btry, A, 575 AAA Bn, attached to 11th AD, Third US Army, wishes to hear from unit members. Write Thad at 72 Nach Ave, West Seneca, NY.

Max Hester, 75th Inf. Div, Hq Co, wishes to hear from unit members. He can be reached at 2331 N. 70th, Lincoln, NE 68507.



Members Speak Out

Walter A. Grabowski, 405th FG, 511th Sqdn has renewed the VBOB membership of his buddy, Victor Antonuccio, Co. H, 18th Inf, 1st Inf. Div. who a year ago received an Oak Leaf Cluster to his Bronze Star Medal - only 40 years late. Victor was also decorated by the French and Belgian governments.

Dean E. Frish, Co. C, 312th Engr. Combat Bn, 87th Inf. Div, practiced dentistry for 35 years before retirement. If anyone knows the whereabouts of A. B. Stone, who was a Medic from Kansas, please write Dean at Rt. 4, Box 57B, Mt Pleasant, IA 52641.

Zaro Calabrese, 3d Cav. Gp. (Mech), third U.S. Army has, since WWII, been involved with ABC TC and then serviced communications and television clients for the three major networks for 11 years, then back to ABC TC News and finally retired two years ago after service as an art director for on-air TV graphics.

Donald B. Dexter, Btry. B, 592d FA Bn, 106th Inf. Div. writes that he and his wife are travelling in and seeing the USA. He'd like to visit overseas again "if somebody will use a little 'back-bone' and straighten out those cry-babies overseas." He'd like to hear from unit members who may write him at RFD #3, Box 45, Hannibal, NY 13074.

Andy Semonco, Co. B, 2d Inf, 5th Inf. Div. retired from the coal company and is involved now in wood-crafting, the DAV and the Society of the 5th Division.

Walter A. Grabowski, 405th FG, 511th Sqdn, is looking for the whereabouts of T/Sgt Tom Flanagan. He also is looking for an 11th Armd. Div. and a 6th Cav. Gp. shoulder patch. If you can help Walt, write him at 5 Hampton Lane, Jamestown, NY 14701.

Robert P. Gabriel, Co. A, 394th Inf, 99th Inf. Div. writes that after trying to forget The Bulge for 20 years, he spent those next 20 years wishing to revisit it. Last September he and his wife did that for three delightful weeks in Belgium and Germany. Bob was a prisoner of war for some months.

Neil K. Farrell, HHC, 3d Bn, 422d Inf, 106th Div. stayed in the service after his liberation from Stalag IIIA, Luckenwalde. He retired, a Major, in 1965, having occupied the civilian job he served in during active duty-Operations Officers, Hq. III Corps, Ft. Hood, TX.

Charles E. Bailey, Hq. Co, 1st Bn, 112th Inf, 28th Div, joined the USAF in 1953 and retired in 1971 and back to the Army in Civil Service in 1973 and hopes his WWII combat friends will contact him at 2104 Ventura Dr, Colo. Springs, CO 80910.

M. R. Miller, Co. L, 393d Inf. Regt, 99th Inf. Div. writes that the Ardennes Campaign star was, of the four he earned, the "toughest, most dramatic and the most educating."

Clifford F. Duffy, Co. A, 358th Inf, 90th Div. is looking for a used 1903 Springfield rifle and a WWII 10-inch bayonet and scabbard. He can be reached at 518 - 4th Ave, NE, Independence, IA 50644.

James Brown, Co. E, 110th Inf, 28th Div, writes that he was captured near Clervaux and served time in POW camps 12-A, 4-B and 4-G and in work groups in Liepzig.

Roy F. Schlentz, Jr., Svc. Co, 116th Inf, 29th Inf. Div. writes that his unit was dug in on the Roer River - all attached and assigned heavy artillery was sent to the North shoulder of the Bulge. His unit was bombed by the Luftwaffe.

Jack B. Bebout, 334th FA Bn, Svc. Btry, 87th Inf. Div. reenlisted in the USAF in 1948 and retired after 30 years' service, then nine years of college.

H. W. Butler, Jr., Hq. Co, 1st Bn, 424th Inf, 106th Inf. Div. served with the unit every day from 10 Dec 44 until Aug 45. He's been in the real estate business for the past 23 years.

Lawrence D. Hoornstra, Co. E, 117th Inf. Div, 11 years ago found the house in Trois Ponts where he slept during the Ardennes Campaign. He returned to the area last year and is planning to do so again this year.

BATTLE OF THE BULGE

Veterans who have not received the service medals to which they are entitled may obtain them by writing to "Commander, U.S. Army Reserve Personnel Center, ATTN: DARP-PAS-EAW, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63132." A copy of your DD 214 (Report of Separation) and also a copy of your Honorable Discharge should accompany your request.

EDITOR'S SQUARE

A REMINDER to readers: Please send payments and applications for membership to PO Box 11129, Arlington, VA 22210-2129 and not to the Editor.

Members Speak Out

Attalio A. Moscone, Co. M, 422d Regt, 106th Inf. Div, was a POW at Stalag IXB and is with the GSA in Washington, D.C. He highly praises the VA Medical Center in Washington where he appreciated the professional care and kindness he received.

Gordon Wallace, AT Co, 309th Inf, 78th Inf. Div, wishes to hear from former friends. Write him at 102 Aztec St., Prescott, AZ 86303. He's kept busy as an author and earning plaudits as a National and International race walker.

Russell E. Hall, 91st Chem. Mortar Bn. (4.2), writes that he found another unit member and VBOB member, Robert F. Fischer, Co. B. Russell also had a visit from the Karen family of Echternach, Luxembourg who were here to attend the 4th Inf. Div. reunion in Boston.

Gerald L. Shannon, Btry. A, 288th FA Obn. Bn, writes of having been on the southern flank - Platen, Eschdorf and Clervaux supporting the 35th and 90th Inf. Divisions, Third US Army. He'll retire next year as a history professor at Bethany College, KS.

Emerson H. Gross, Co. D, 47th Regt, 9th Inf. Div, has been very active in veterans' organizations since WWII and would like to hear from any unit members. Write him at 7515 Miller Drive, Bath, PA 18014.

Reunion~~~

14th Tank Bn, 9th AD, 5/23-27/88, Louisville, KY. Contact Dee Paris, 13110 Holdridge Rd, Silver Spring, MD 20906.

17th ABN Div Varsity Party, 4/8/88, Cumberland, MD. Contact Carl H. Leydig, 6-C Marshall Dr., Cumberland, MD 21502.

557th AAA Bn. Assn, 5/20-21/88, Harrisburg, PA. Contact Louis Edell, 2904 Oakcrest Ave, Baltimore, MD 21234.

644th TD Bn, 5/3-6/88, Kissimmee, FL. Contact Frank Arieta, 114 W. Catawissa St, Nesquehoning, PA 18240.

702d TD Bn, Co. C, 8/18-20/88, Super 8 Motel, Milwaukee, WI. Contact Earl Scholz, 4042 S. Caulfield Ave, St. Francis, WI 53207.

Co. A, 17th Engr. Bn, 2d AD, 5/5-7/88, Eureka Springs, AR. Contact Paul Bargant, Box 36, West Mineral, KS 66782.

86th Chem. Mortar Bn. Assn, 5/3-8-88, Orlando, FL. Contact LTC John B. Deasy, 1830 - 30th Ave, San Francisco, CA 94122.

83d Inf. Div (WWII), 9/8-10-88, Hershey, PA. Contact Robert Derickson, 3749 Stahlheber Rd, Hamilton, OH 45013.

James I. McGrath, Sgt. Major, 27th AIB, 9th Armd. Div, writes that his entire unit was captured in the Ardennes Campaign on 22 Dec 1944. Unit officers were liberated the same day; all EM spent the remainder of the war mostly in POW Camp VIII-A in Gorlitz, Germany. Following WWII, Jim spent four years in hospitals.

Arthur H. Steffensen, Co. I, 289th Inf, 75th Inf. Div, writes of joining his unit at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO; training in the Louisiana Maneuvers; Camp Breckenridge, KY and then The Bulge (Grandmenil, Vielsam, Salmchateau and the Colmar Pocket in Germany).

Thomas L. Garner, Co. D, 750th Tank Bn, wishes to hear from former comrades. Write Tom at RFD #1, Box 162, Indianola, OK 73552.

Dominic J. Demasi, Co. A, 137th Inf, 35th Inf. Div, signs up for a life membership in VBOB. A 100% disabled veteran (Ardennes Campaign), he has been back to Echternach three times.

Members Speak Out

Charles Bronner, 776 FA Bn, is looking for letters from buddies Charles J. Toothman and Roland S. Applegate. If you're out there, guys, please contact Charles at 118 Washington Ave, Maywood, NJ 07607.

Jake A. Tustin writes that his brother, Lauren, Co. B, 707th Tank Bn, attached to the 80th Inf, was wounded during the Ardennes Campaign. If anyone has any info concerning Lauren, please contact Jake at 510 Carson St., Brush, CO 80723.

Doyle E. Slayden, Sr., Co. C, 60th AIB, 2d Platoon, 9th AD, wishes to hear from anyone who served in the 2d Platoon and was taken prisoner with him. Write him at Rt. 1, Box S-14, Dearborn, MO 64439.

J. W. Gardner, Hq. Co, 422d Inf, 106th Inf. Div, spent time after his capture in the Schnee-Eifel in Stalag IIA until liberated by Russian forces. He's like to hear from other IIA (or Wagon Trip) buddies. Write Jim at 704 LaBelle, Shelbyville, IN 46176.

Joseph P. Mulligan, S-Btry, 324th FA Bn, 83d Inf Div, wishes to hear from other members of his unit. Write him at 737 Laurel Lane, Clifton Heights, PA 19018.

Harold W. Curtis, 94th Inf. Div, is trying to locate his buddy from E. Co, Frank Bunk. Write Harold at 106 Prospect St., Stoughton, MA 02072.

Paul W. Nethery, Co. E, 120th Inf, 30th Inf. Div, wishes to hear from unit members who remember him, especially Guy D. Long, Cleveland, OH. Write Paul at 535 Harris Pl., Louisville, KY 40222.

Lawrence R. Ellenich, Co. A, 254th Combat Engineers, ended his Army career in Pilsen, Czechoslovakia in 1945 and has been driving an oil delivery truck since.

Arthur Jackson, Jr., B Co, 20th AIB, 10th AD, doesn't agree with MacArthur's "old soldiers never die; they just fade away." Arthur is presently commander, 2nd Distr, VFW in Virginia, a Captain in the Virginia Defense Force, and a Sgt-at-Arms, Dept. of Virginia DAV.

Reid W. McNary, 981st FA Bn, VII Corps, First US Army, asks if anyone remembers the tank battles at Sterpigny and Chertain. Also, the 13th FA Obs. Bn. and their massacre. And also when German vehicles tried to pull out of the Bulge across the 3d Armored Division's direct front and were taken under fire by artillery of the 67th AF, 83d AF and 183d Field Arty. Bn. If any reader has any info for Reid, write him at 1054 University Ave, Salinas, CA 93091.

IT WAS DEC. 16, 1944 ...

Upon that gray December day
In nineteen forty four
The Germans launched their last great drive
To try and win the war.

The bitter battles that ensued
Where brave men gave their all
In that great battle of the Bulge
Today we do recall.

The wreckage and the carnage
Were everywhere in sight;
The wounded, dead and dying
Who now no more would fight.

The names of towns unknown before
Now came into the light,
Like Wiltz, Saint Vith and then Bastogne
That broke the German might.

In Belgium and in Luxembourg
The rows of markers white,
Bear names of men who in the Bulge
Gave all for freedom's light.

Harold F. Mohn

PAR EXCELLENT VBOB RECRUITER

Thomas L. Harris, 9th Infantry Division, HQ 60th Infantry, a Life Member of VBOB, has a unique distinction of recruiting 48 VBOB members since he learned of our organization. The staff has its hats off to you, Tom. Your efforts are most sincerely appreciated.

EUROPE IN '88

A CHANCE ENCOUNTER

Charles Cilley reported an interesting "chance encounter" between two men of the 291st. Engineer Combat BN. at the Sept. General Membership Meeting in Syracuse, NY. Mr. Cilley wrote, "I was witness to a remarkable episode on Saturday, Sept. 19, at the reunion. A native of Liverpool, Jack Depew, was eating breakfast when he heard on the radio that Veterans of the Battle of The Bulge were convening at the Quality Inn just down the street. Well, Jack had been in the Bulge with the 291st Engr. Combat Bn., so he grabbed a commemorative booklet the Bn. had published and headed for the motel. Jack was talking to one of the reunioners in the motel lobby when Charles Renson, East Hampton, NY, spotted the unusual, distinctive cover of the booklet he was carrying and asked, "Hey, were you in the 291st Engineers?" Jack and Charley had served in different companies, but had enough experiences in common to provide some good reminiscing (and to interest Jack in joining VBOB)."

Reprinted from The Washington Post
Friday, January 8, 1988

Dear Ann Landers:
This is a plea for compassion for the 71-year-old bore who turns every conversation into an opportunity to talk about World War II. He deserved better than you gave him.

I am not obsessed with the subject but I feel as he does. Nothing in my life was as important as my participation in that war. Although I have raised a fine family and owned a successful business, my service in that war was my only lasting contribution to the country that I love.

I talk about World War II, but only with those who were there. They are the only people who would understand. Forty years later, when I knelt among the crosses in Normandy, tears streaming down my face, people asked, "Did you know him?" I replied, "Yes, I knew them all."

Be patient with us, Ann. Our ranks are becoming thinner every day. Soon there will be none left of a generation that thought freedom was worth dying for.

If you print my letter, please withhold my name. I am—A Veteran in Rockport, Tex.
Dear Friend:

Your gentle message was received and duly recorded. I'm sure I'll be more patient with World War II stories from now on. Thank you for a lesson in compassion and understanding.

Reprinted from SOUNDOFF, Ft. Meade, Md. - November 5, 1987



George Chekan, president of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, and Col. John H. Valieant, Fort Meade installation commander, sign a memorandum of agreement. The gesture effectively kicks off the planning and construction of a new wing to the Post Museum dedicated entirely to the Veterans of The Battle of The Bulge. (Photo by Rich Franklin)



**VBOB NEEDS
YOUR
SUPPORT!**

**Please pay
your dues
promptly!**

**Sign up
a new
member!**

GALLERY UPDATE



The More Seed Money, the Better the Harvest

The Gallery Update of this issue of the Bugle shall be devoted to those caring donors to the "Founder's 500" fund who, together, have contributed \$25,000.00 in SEED MONEY!! The goal is \$30,000.00 and hopes are high that 10 more donations of \$500.00 will soon be contributed.

The contributions have come from a variety of donors--many are veterans of the Bulge, however there are also Units, as well as widows, friends and children who gave these gifts in honor and/or memory of a Bulge Veteran. The many thoughtful notes were a boost to the Historical Committee. A big "Thank You" to these Gallery Supporters, who have provided both money and encouragement!!

Frank N. Aldrich
Helen A. Berry
Frank R. Barone
Andrew Barr
Clyde D. Boden
Bank of Boston
Donald L. Breakiron
Major and Mrs. Scott E. Cantlon
Robert J. and Katherine K. Caskey
George Chekan
Charles D. Cilley
Blaquie and Elizabeth Culp
Dorothy Steinbis Davis
Sandie V. Davis
Vivian Demansi
Thomas J. and Lovinah M. Dobinski
Mrs. Jack Doherty

Colonel and Mrs. Eugene G. Drouillard
511 Engineer L.P. CO. Association
Edward M. and Frances S. Gibbs
William R. Gordon
William T. Greenville
LTC. Richard Guenter
Earle R. Hart
Anthony J. Ianniello
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William P. Tayman
Max Umansky
Carl F. Unger
Beaunous E. and Catherine P. Walk
Donald J. and Dorothy H. Watt
Ambassador and Mrs. Malcolm R. Wilkey
(American Embassy Montevideo)
Colonel and Mrs. James S. Wittman, Jr
Stanley A. and Agatha R. Wojtusik
Alfred H. M. Shehab

(Cont'd. on Page 18)

(Cont'd from Page 17)

A number of persons showed their support with smaller contributions, which are also very appreciated. Their names will be inscribed on a special page of "The Book of Appreciation", to be displayed in the Gallery.

Our "thanks" also go to:

Oscar and Jo Anne Brilliant
John K. and Tara L. Clifford
William Greenville
Mr. and Mrs. Brendan L. Haggerty
Pamela Jeffery
LTC. and Mrs. John K. Smith
John Synnestvedt
Robert T. Watson
Eva M. Popovich

A full scale fund raising effort will begin in early spring, 1988 for \$750,000.00, the estimated cost of the Gallery. You may want to talk with your Unit Association members about making a contribution to the Gallery Building Fund in the Unit's name!!

In the Gallery Update of the next issue of the Bugle there will be news about:

- *development of the blueprints for the building
- *organization of fund raising strategies
- *appointment of an Honorary Chairman of the Historical Committee

Again, "Hats Off" to the many contributors who provided the SEED MONEY so that we may HARVEST a Battle of the Bulge Gallery worthy of that historical event!!

Dorothy S. Davis
Chairman, Historical Committee

43rd ANNIVERSARY DINNER

On the Eve of the 43rd Anniversary of the beginning of the Battle of the Bulge, 100 VBOB members and their guests got together for a social evening at the Ft. Myer Officers Club to mark this important date. The social hour and dinner were arranged by Dorothy Davis, ably assisted at the door by Mudge Greenville, Helen Berry and Eva Popovich.

President George Chekan gave a welcoming speech, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, which was led by Eugene Drouillard. Our new Chaplain, Msgr. William F. O'Donnell gave the Invocation, after which dinner was served. All during dinner, Ms. Pat Fitzgerald rendered some very nostalgic tunes on the upright.

Charles MacDonald gave a talk on the "Military Situation, December 1944". Three minutes on "Where We Were" (Dec. 15) were allowed to the following:
Alfred H. S. SHEHAB - 38th Rec. Squ. MCC
CAV 1; Robert F. PHILLIPS - 28 INF 110

INF CO F; Dee PARIS - 9 ARMDD 14 Tank BN;
Peter F. LESLIE - 511 ENGR L PONTON CO;
Charles P. BIGGIO - 99 INF 372 F.A. BN;
Stanley A. WOJTUSIK - 106 INF 422 INF
CO G; Gabrielle M. HOWE - The Belgian
People; Elturino L. LOIACONO - 10 ARMDD
54 AIB BB; and Harold P. LEINBAUGH -
84 INF 333 INF CO K.

Dorothy Davis gave an update on our Gallery. "Seed money" is coming in but we need ever so much more. In fact, \$5,000 is needed to meet our initial goal before we can start discussing plans and professional fund raisers, and the development of blue prints for the 26000 square feet addition to the Ft. Meade Museum. (How about a concerted effort by all VBOB-ers to help bring OUR Gallery to full fruition!

Prior to dinner, Bill Greenville was busy selling 50-50 tickets: half of the money collected to go to the Gallery Fund and the other half to the holder of the number drawn. Bonnie Drouillard reached into the bowl and drew out the lucky number. Would you believe it! The winner was Bill Greenville. The total collected was \$124.00. But that ain't all, folks! Bill donated his winnings to the Gallery Fund! Many, many thanks, Bill.

All the while dinner and "speeches" were in progress, Ric Emrich of Quality Video Productions was busy filming and video taping the proceedings. (Yes, he did get a dinner!) We understand the video tape is "good quality", and you will be hearing more about the availability of this tape.

A great big hand and thanks to Phyllis and Neil Thompson. Again they have donated beautiful centerpieces for this festive occasion. The arrangements were symbolic of the evergreen trees and snow in The Ardennes. A lucky and delighted winner at each table got to take the centerpiece home by discovering the "magic circle" stuck to the bottom of their bread and butter plate!

The festivities broke up about midnight, with the promise of "See you tomorrow at Arlington Cemetery for the wreath-laying."

-Eva M. Popovich, Public Relations



Kilroy says...

Please use the attached envelope to submit your dues.

THE BATTLE BABIES

On the German Border..one dark December '44
Where scarce you heard a cannon roar..
And on a line so very thin..
The enemy could walk right in!

Stood an Infantry Division of fresh green troops..
Supposedly just there as dupes..
To fool the Jerries whose main strength lay..
On an active front miles away!

When suddenly on 12-sixteen..
Of night and morn, just in between..
Like an avalanche from mountain side..
Came a thunderous, explosive tide!

Of heavy shells, tanks, and wild-eyed men..
With flashing bayonets--to our one-ten..
In numbers far as eye could see..
The "Elite" of Hitler's infantry!

Their mightiest counter-offensive yet..
Against GI's with ears still wet..
And now in this so-called "quiet zone"..
Lashed a greater fury than Hell has known!

On thru to Antwerp - their objective..
Spurred on by a maniac's invective..
Spatting orders - all troops availed..
Death of Fatherland, if this mission failed!

And so like madmen did they pour..
Their own killed and wounded, running o'er..
Thru the Ardennes, like beasts of prey..
To promise the "Fuehrer" a great new day!

When ruthless Nazis would rule the earth..
And gouge from free men, all their worth..
Even gold from teeth, and hair from head..
As from the countless Jews, now dead!

But suddenly, from midst the din..
And to Von Rundstedt's great chagrin..
This untried line of scared, cold men..
Rose from foxholes - just one to ten!

Lashing back with fury, unknown since when..
Washington's half-froze militiamen..
Steeled themselves as none before..
To silence the mighty British Lion's roar!

Fighting back, 'til blood flowed on snow like wine..
To smash the Prussians' race for time..
Enough, so when they ringed Bastogne..
McAuliff replied "Nuts," and sent them on!

Precious time they saved, 'til Patton's tanks
would bring..
The strength to break the iron ring..
The "Bulge" to flatten out again..
Back to where still held, these brave young men!

"Battle Babies," recently, to be sure..
But "case-hardened" now, like steel that's pure..
Their notch now blazed on history's line..
The valiant "Checkerboard Division - 99!!"

..Sid Salins, Co. H, 393 Inf, 99th Inf. Div.



This picture shows your past president, Robert J. Van Houten along with four other camp comrades on their day of liberation from Stalag IX A in Zeigenhain, Germany. They were all captured during the Battle of the Bulge. All except Van Houten were with the 28th Division.

**First Row: S. Sgt. John T. Clark (deceased),
Cpl. Robert J. Van Houten**

**Second Row: Sgt. Jack L. Freed,
Tec. 5 Eugene Schlegel, Tec. 5 Idus V. Owensby**

They plan a Stalag IXA reunion April 25-27, 1988 in Muskogee Oklahoma. Any person interested should contact either Idus V. Owensby, 3211 S. 27th Place, Muskogee, OK 74401 or Robert J. Van Houten, 3745 Chain Bridge Rd. Fairfax, Va. 22030.



Photo by Sam Silverman

President Chekan addresses VBOB members and guests at Arlington National Cemetery Dec. 16, 1987, marking the 43rd anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge. The president stands left of the permanent VBOB monument and in front of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Amphitheater.

Members Speak Out

Julian B. Burnside, Co. M, 423d Inf, 106th Div, captured and incarcerated in Stalag 4-B and Slaughterhouse 5, Dresden, writes to request contact with former buddies. Write Julian at 204 Vagts Lane, Land O' Lakes, FL 34639.

Frank McClelland, MP Combat Plat, 28th Inf. Div, writes of setting up a traffic control point at the Bastogne-Clervaux-Wiltz Road. Four young Luxembourg boys came to visit him and then proceeded into a wooded area. A moment later an explosion was heard from the woods. Three of the boys were found dead, one with an igniter cord from a German stick grenade in his hand. In subsequent visits back to the area, Frank found that the boys were ages 14, 12 and 10. The sister of two of the boys told Frank in a recent visit that an old man found the grenade and gave it to the boys, telling them it would make a good hammer.

Thomas F. Stack, 291st Engr. Combat Bn, wants to hear from former members. Write him at 2014 S. Federal, Boynton Beach, FL 33435.

James D. Erskine, 82d Airborne Div, volunteered in early 1942. He became a member of the 1st Bn, 506th Pzcht. Inf. at Camp Toombs and later at Camp Toccoa, GA. He broke a leg at the hip on the last training jump of the 101st Abn. Div. before going overseas. He commanded the perimeter guard in the Ardennes for Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway's 18th Corps Abn. Hq. He then crossed the Elbe and met the Russian forces at the Baltic.

Matthew J. Sweeney, 297th Engr. Combat Bn, writes of the special help he and his buddies received in Belgium a few years ago by the Andre Herions who later sent him "one of those great Michelin maps of the Normandy area."

Relford P. Shepherd, Co. G, 334th Inf, 84th Inf. Div. who lost both legs from injuries in January 1945 in Belgium is looking for three unit members - Curt Height, Sgt. Jackson and PFC Scarff. Write Relford at 107 Evonshire Dr, Arkadelphia, AR 71923.

Charles R. Miller, Co. A, 290th Inf, joined his unit during the Louisiana Maneuvers and remained with it until its return to Rheims. After stints with the U of Tampa and U of Florida, he spent 36+ years with the Florida Dept. of Transportation. He recommends returnees to Europe do it on their own and stay in Spa.

Dr. (DDS) Jack H. Charig, 511th Engr. Lt. Pon. Bridge Co, Life Member of VBOB (according to Laura N. Charig), was, at the induction station, when asked what type of work he did replied that he built bridges. Thus he was attached to the 511th Light Ponton Co and spent the remaining war years building bridges across Europe instead of in peoples' mouths.

Stanley E. Guzik, Co. C, 86th Chem. Mort. Bn, writes of his unit's reunion at Ft. Monroe, VA last April/May. He notes that VBOB's Bill Greenville is remembered as a thorn in the side of the Nazis in his capacity of Forward Observer on the front lines during the Ardennes Campaign. Bill is VBOB's Executive Vice President.

Edward Rapp, Co. D, 35th Tank Bn, 4th AD, recently relocated from NYC to Sun City West, AZ. He claims credit for guiding the NYC Chapter, 4AD, to become the largest and most active chapter with membership over 400.

Robert J. Mitchell, Hq Co, 137th Inf. Regt, 35th Div, writes that he was in and out of military service after WWII and retired in 1966. Former comrades are asked to write to Bob at 7737 Linsley St., Charleston Hts, SC 29418.

Harold L. Jennings, Co. G, 347th Inf, 87th Inf. Div, was with the unit as a machine-gunner until the unit was disbanded. Later, in the Reserves, he was a military escort for WWII deceased members, then served tours in Korea and Japan.

Dale E. Cooksey, Co. A, 110th Inf, 28th Inf. Div, wishes to hear from any former comrades. Write him at 4600 NE 43d Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64117.

Anthony Miceli, Co. A, 174th FA Bn, wishes to hear from former unit members. Write Doc at 247 SE 46th St, Cape Coral, FL 33904.



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

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)	17.50	x _____ = _____
V 2A	Video Cassette (VHF) (NOTE)	17.50	x _____ = _____

TOTAL PURCHASES: \$ _____

Note:

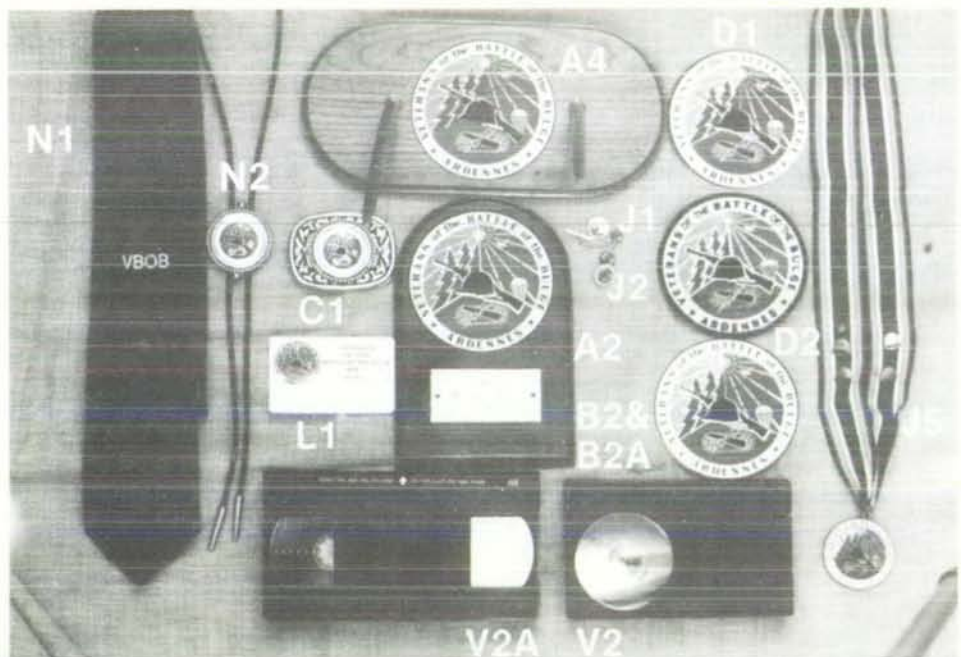
• V2 & V2A are over
 2 hours of Syracuse
 GM Meeting

• Stars are to be
 worn on Medallion by
 LIFE MEMBERS ONLY

• Above price includes
 engraving of plaque

• \$2 minimum order

• \$2 postage & handling



NEW! NEW!! NEW!!!

BELT BUCKLES & BOLA TIES

The shipment of Belt Buckles and Bola Ties was well received. Due to their popularity by our membership a new shipment has been ordered. Order early!!!

VIDEO CASSETTES of the General Membership Meeting in Syracuse

Bill Greenville, VBOB's GMM General Manager, hired a professional video man to tape all the GMM affairs at Syracuse. He has assembled over two hours 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.



Members Speak Out

Robert F. Fischer, 3rd Army, XII Corps, Co. B, 91st Cml. Mortar 4.2 Bn. and his wife celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in West Germany. While there they visited Luxembourg for three days and were hosted by CEBA members, Erica and Camille Kohn. They found it a unique experience visiting monuments, memorials, museums and actual places where Robert served in 1944-1945. At one place near Osweiler they were conducted to the position Co. B was in on the night of December 23rd on arriving in Luxembourg. After 43 years they found four gun pits and many fox hole indentations at the edge of a field where the woods had grown forward about 20 years. What a thrill! Their CEBA hosts were most gracious and showed them many interesting places. A trip they will never forget. They are looking forward to the General Membership Meeting in Syracuse.

James W. Wendel, Co. I, 112th Inf, 28th Division, writes to sign up as a Life Member of VBOB and to thank the VBOB staff for the "wonderful job you are doing." Jim was wounded in the Hurtgen Forest in November 1944. He'd like to hear from other Co. I buddies. Write him at 918 S. Cowen St, Garrett, IN 46738.

Wilhelm A. Hamre, Svc. Btry, 957th FA, 7th Corps participated in the Normandy invasion and all the way to the Battle of the Bulge. Discharged in 1945, he joined the ND Highway Patrol for 20 years, then as a county Veterans' Service Officer for 17 years. Wilhelm writes of enjoying with his wife a return to Normandy in 1984. They attended the Normandy dedication with President Reagan, Queen Elizabeth and French President Mitterand. Wilhelm would like to hear from other 957th members. Write him at 1215 - 2d Ave, East, Williston, ND 58801.

Roscoe Putnam, a machine-gunner in the 80th Div, 318th Regt, 2nd Bn, Co. G was wounded in January 1945 at Burschied, Luxembourg on a snowy Sunday morning. "I enjoy THE BULGE BUGLE very much," Roscoe reports.

Alfred C. Reynolds, Hq. Co, 422d Bn, 106th Inf. Div, was captured during the Ardennes Campaign. On reaching Stalag IXB, he was lucky to be alive. During his interment a number of men died due to malnutrition. Al would like to hear from old buddies. Write him at 1601 Maddok St, Belen, NM 87002.

Harold W. Dorschner, Co. C, 134th Inf. Regt, joined his unit as a replacement (Cpl) 12/24/44, became a POW 1/45 outside Lutrebois, was liberated in 5/45, discharged in 12/45, reenlisted 8/46 to serve in seven of the United States and Korea, Japan, Viet Nam and Germany. He retired, a Lt.Col, in July 1970, then 15 years with a credit union in Frankfurt, Germany. He finally retired for good in 1/86 and remains a resident in Germany. (Any reenlistment in sight, Harold? ..Ed.)

Harold E. (Gene) Cunningham, Jr, Div. Arty Air Officer of 99th Inf. Div. writes to say he's a 1/3rd owner of a golf and country club, has three children, five grandchildren and celebrated his 50th wedding anniversary in June.

Vernon Bass, Co. A, 129th Regt, 7th Armd Div, after WWII completed 26 years of military service and served in Korea for two tours, then as Senior Inf. Instructor, N. Mex. Mil. Institute for four years, served as Aide-de-Camp to the Governor of New Mexico, then completed 14 years' service in manufacturing and finally retired in March 1983.

R. Ed Harsfield, Asst. Bn. Surgeon, 423d Inf. Bn. Med. Det, 106th Div (you know what happened to us, he states) was incarcerated in a POW camp followed by two years in the hospital. He wound up with 25 years with DOD as a Principal Contracting Officer and retired from the USAF in 1975. Ed writes that, after POW camp he "felt like the guys from Nam. But thank God now America is waking up and giving their 'thanks' to the Nam Vets, the VBOB and POW's and others. Let our organization flourish."

VETERANS of the BATTLE OF THE BULGE



P.O. Box 11129

Arlington, Virginia 22210-2129

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JANUARY 1988

HELP US GROW ...

VBOB continues to grow each month. However, given the fact that we are over 4,500 strong and there are many thousands more veterans who fought in that historic battle, we are not growing fast enough.

What we need is one on one contact. Each of us should designate ourselves as Public Relation individuals and personally recruit new members. If each of us would sign up one member we could grow at a better rate. Let's move out and get a buddy to join VBOB.

If you need applications ask headquarters; we have plenty.

GET A NEW MEMBER!

Detach and Mail

Annual Dues
\$10

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE
P.O. Box 11129, Arlington, Virginia 22210-2129

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